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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.*

REVIEW OF THE WEEK—

	PAGE
Testimonial to Dr. Livingston.....	26
Sir Robert Peel in Cap and Bells	26
Sanitary Matters	26
State of Trade	27
Ireland	27
The Orient	27
America	27
Nicaragua	28
Murder of the Archbishop of Paris.....	28
Continental Notes	28
The Bank Forgeries.....	29

Our Civilization.....	30
A Noble Act of Daring.....	32
Naval and Military	32
Accidents and Sudden Deaths.....	33
Obituary	33
Miscellaneous	33
Postscript.....	35

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

Will the Senate Ratify?.....	35
Legal Resistance in France	36
The Living Romance of Fraud.....	36

Contents:

British Policy in China	37
Ministers in Vacation	38
The 'Fun' at Southampton	39
Insurrection against the Income-tax ..	39

OPEN COUNCIL—

The Moon's Motion	39
-------------------------	----

LITERATURE—

Summary	40
The English of Shakspeare	40
Monarchs Retired from Business	41

Poets and Plagiarists: Alexander Smith.....	42
Memoirs of Richard Cumberland	43

THE ARTS—

Mr. Wilkie Collins's "Frozen Deep" ..	44
---------------------------------------	----

The Gazette	45
-------------------	----

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

City Intelligence, Markets, &c.....	45
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

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Review of the Week.

THE whole world sometimes seems to take to the game of "high jinks"—to put its tongue into its cheek and befool itself by making a jest of the most solemn affairs. The Plenipotentiaries sitting in Paris to settle the Bolgrad difficulty, and coolly preparing future traps; Sir ROBERT PEELE, colleague of Lord PALMERSTON, lecturing on the Brummagem magnificence and impudent pretensions of Russia; the unfrocked priest VERGER carving Archbishop SIBOUR's heart by way of retributive justice, and a final argument against the Immaculate Conception; the German States arranging to keep Prussia and Switzerland from getting at each other in mortal combat; Mr. Superintendent BOWRING bombarding the Chinese, as a compulsory mode of making them receive his visiting card—these are incidents which make the Review of the Week read like an account of a nightmare.

The Conference in Paris settled exactly those things which the superiors of the Plenipotentiaries had already settled elsewhere; that is to say, with the help of an abundance of maps produced in December, to correct the bunglings which the Russian Plenipotentiaries gladly witnessed in March, the assemblage solemnly retraced a new and practicable boundary, keeping Russia back from the Danube. But when they came to settle the evacuation of the Principalities by Austria, the evacuation of "the internal waters of Turkey" by the British fleet, and "the final execution of the treaty," they could only discuss, and write down that they had settled something, leaving the event to the chapter of accidents. The meeting in Paris was a solemn mystification, following on the mystification of March and April last, and prefatory to the mystifications of April or May next, when the Plenipotentiaries will meet again and discuss what they have not done.

Sir ROBERT PEELE's lecture at Birmingham is a commentary on this slowly consummated Treaty of Peace with Russia. The system of that magnificent Empire, he makes out, is a gigantic lie. The Czar is engaged in an hereditary attempt upon the liberty of Europe, just as his subjects are engaged in a constant attempt to cheat the traveller. They made Sir ROBERT pay 60*l.* for a dinner, 100*l.* for the hire of a horse, and, in fact, performed upon Sir ROBERT such tricks as make us ask whether their success proves the cleverness of the Russians, or something

else? Their only magnificence, according to him, consists in the magnificence of their knavery; and if Sir ROBERT was a dupe, he had colleagues in the Paris Conference. But if Sir ROBERT sees through the trickery, how is it that his colleagues are so blind? How is it that he can describe swindlers who excel the REDPATHS and SAWARDS of our criminal life, and yet his chief, Lord PALMERSTON, permits us to be formally bamboozled in Paris? Is not this like a nightmare incident?

Like a nightmare, most certainly, is that scene in which Archbishop SIBOUR enters to bless the assembled congregation of a church, and is literally stuck by a butcherly agitator who had been expelled from the priesthood. It is MERCURIO who says that "men wear their necks about them!" The French are a mercurial people, and they will completely appreciate this hint, that if dignitaries in church, or out of church, are tyrannical—or even if they put down the absurd pretensions of turbulent subordinates—they may be made accountable in a very dangerous and painful manner.

King FREDERICK WILLIAM of Prussia threatens to go to war for a toy. He claims a right of rebellion for those who sympathize with him in Switzerland; a right of rebellion which would unquestionably justify any Orleanist in France, any Montemolinist in Spain, to raise an insurrection, without liability to be tried for the crime! The Powers cannot hit upon any expedient to arrest a King that is only marching to attain his right; until at last they find that he cannot travel from Prussia to Switzerland without trespassing upon intermediate ground; and the people of that intermediate ground intimate, in a sufficiently intelligible voice, that they intend to forbid the trespass. Here is a godsend! Austria and France are relieved from their difficulty because Baden, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria, expecting no profit from the Prussian recovery of Neuchâtel, decline to facilitate the passage of Prussian troops. So there is a prospect that the affair may be settled.

The story of the Canton bombardment has now been related to the public officially. Even now, however, we should prejudge the conduct of our authorities did we express a definite opinion before more complete information arrives. Having begun, at the latest date Sir JOHN BOWRING was still going on. YEH, Imperial High Commissioner, affects good manners at least. Being at peace with our honourable nation, as he said, he had instructed the soldiers not to resist us! He persuaded the "fierce" natives of Quang Tung to

spare us; and only drew the attention of Superintendent BOWRING to the brutal fact that in return for this Christian treatment we had "contused" the Chinese. The Imperial High Commissioner, who piqued himself on the propriety of his manners, ends this "necessary communication" by wishing Mr. Superintendent BOWRING "prosperity!" Having been smitten on one cheek, YEH not only turns the other, but also his pigtail.

We have by the *New York Herald* a full account of the treaty between this country and the United States, and on the Central American point, and the details rather disappoint us. The Senate was going over the matter very carefully, but so slowly as to suggest a doubt whether the opponents might not after all withhold the ratification. This would be deplorable. But if it should so happen, it must be ascribed to the construction of the Treaty. We have, however, handled that subject in a separate paper.

In the meanwhile we do not withhold a very strong approval of the choice made by our Government of the new Minister at Washington. The man is Lord NAPIER. The name was privately circulated last week, but it has now been expressly and publicly avowed. Lord NAPIER has not generally been known beyond the diplomatic circle; but he is a man of high standing, excellent character, and good abilities. He is now in the prime of life; and even the *Daily News*, which strongly objects to him, admits that he is dignified, courteous, and liberal. All these are qualities that will be highly appreciated in the United States. Lord NAPIER's rank even will be a guarantee to the Americans that our Government does not underrate the importance of the post at Washington. The fact that the *Daily News* objects, will probably do the Minister no harm in Washington; for, on the other side of the Atlantic, our most respectable contemporary is not regarded as a friend.

Mr. JOHN LANG records an affecting scene at Broadstairs—the return of the life-boat, the Mary White, after a third trip to save the remnant of the crew perishing on the wreck of the Northern Belle, an American ship. The danger and the exertion of the the two first trips are such as those only can understand who are familiar with the elements in their destructive fury; the third trip was undertaken in a spirit of patriotic sacrifice: the master had refused to leave his ship; the pilot to leave the master; and the life-boat crew set out to persuade them. The generous men were repaid by success. The American mission

hoisted on the life-boat as it was borne to quarters was a noble revenge for HARTSTEIN's gallant pride in striking his flag to a British officer.

The splendid prosperity which brings abundance to the prosperous classes is offering temptations to the predacious class. Most of the movements at home are exactly those of last week continued. The agitation against the Income-tax goes on. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON has been conferring with Mr. COBDEN, which implies a further union for the promotion of education. The controversy on transportation proceeds, and Colonel JEBB is in the field vindicating the existing system, which both sides declare to be bad. But the movement which goes on with the most vigour, energy, earnestness, and devotion of party, is the great fraud and thief movement. We have new instances of fraud this week, and a capital account of SAWARD's frauds. Indeed, from the garotter, who sticks his left elbow in the small of your back, and places the hollow of the right elbow around your throat in front, to the member of the Stock Exchange who has levanted, we have every variety of depredation carried on with spirit and enterprize. The City article of the *Times* notices, that frauds upon public securities are much more common than they were supposed to be; but we do not know that the private securities are at all more spared. Policeman COMPTON is discovered to have an intimate knowledge of the inside of premises, the outside of which he ought to have known, the inside of which he ought not to have known anything about. But, as we learn at the trial this week, policeman COMPTON was a thief. "Handy-dandy!" says the old cynic, "which is the justice, which the thief?"

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. LIVINGSTON.

A MEETING, very fully attended, was held at the Mansion House on Monday afternoon, to consider "the project of presenting a testimonial to Dr. Livingston, in approbation of the services rendered by him to commerce, science, and civilization, by his discoveries in South Africa." The Lord Mayor presided, and among those present (besides the distinguished traveller himself) were the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Victoria, Mr. Raikes Currie, M.P., Mr. Gregson, M.P., Alderman Challis, M.P., the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Sir Roderick Murchison, Colonel Sykes, Baron Damier (Haytian Ambassador), Sir C. Wentworth Dilke, Mr. S. Gurney, Sir Peter Laurie, Sheriffs Mechi and Keats, Mr. J. Dillon, Mr. Gordon Cumming, Dr. Risdon Bennett, the Rev. Canon Champneys, the Rev. Thomas Binney, Alderman Rose, Alderman Wire, Mr. J. P. Gassiot, &c. In the body of the Egyptian-hall were the Lady Mayoress and a large number of ladies.

After addresses from the Lord Mayor, the Bishop of London, Mr. Raikes Currie, and the Rev. Canon Champneys,

Dr. Livingston, who was received with great enthusiasm, gave a brief account of some of the districts visited by him, confining himself, however, mainly to a geographical description. He stated that he intended to write an account of his travels, to which he referred those present for more minute information. The Zambesi river, he said, would form a great highway into Southern Africa. If they entered this river, as they might do, in a steamer of light draught, the country on each side would be found flat, covered with coarse grass and a few cocoa-nut and mango trees, forming a delta much larger than Scotland, and intersected with numerous streams. About fifty miles up the river was about a mile broad, and on the right hand was a well-wooded country. Proceeding upwards as far as Senna, they would find a large mountain, beyond which the river was between one and two miles broad. For at least five months in each year the water was very deep, and even during the rest of the year there was a deep though rather winding channel. At that period there was a large space of shallow water, but the river never became dry. Until one came to a gorge further up, the river was a very large one. Then there was a range of hills beyond, through which the river found a narrow passage, but the water was excessively deep. As soon as one passed through this gorge, one came to a beautiful mountainous country, all the mountains being covered to their summits with ever-

green trees. The valleys were exceedingly fertile, and, indeed, all the country to the north was of the same character. There grew the sugar-cane; and cotton and indigo grew wild. Some interesting specimens of fibre he had brought home with him. On passing through the gorge, one came to a coal-field, some of the seams of which showed the traces of volcanic action, for they were charred. There were altogether on the surface eleven seams, one of which he measured, and found to be fifty-eight inches in diameter. Round this coal-field there was a gold-field; gold in a state of very minute diffusion was found in the streams. About twenty miles beyond the village called Tete was a small rapid. If this were surmounted, one could go one hundred and fifty miles beyond, and the district round about there he might call a paradise for hunters, because he never saw anything like the quantity of game in any other part of the South. He knew all the country through which Mr. Gordon Cumming and others had hunted, and it produced nothing like the number of elephants which were in the district beyond Tete. Here, too, the country was exceedingly fertile. Unfortunately, there had been Kaffir wars in that region, the natives being led into them by people of Portuguese extraction, and, as they had no mother country to bear the expense, the Portuguese had been rather hotly pressed, and had, in fact, been shut up in their fortress at Tete for something like two years. These Portuguese were not at all so degenerate as they were usually represented. He had found them most hospitable; many of them were very intelligent and friendly men, and he believed that in trade and commerce they would be as trustworthy as any other people. With respect to our own Kaffir wars he did not mean to say much; but they had always wanted a *Times* commissioner out there, and he believed that if one of these gentlemen had been entrusted with a mission before the last war this country would have saved more than 2,000,000*l.* sterling. (Cheers.) He esteemed the people of the Cape, the descendants of the Dutch; they were a most intelligent and hospitable people, and had adopted a system of education such as we, somehow or other, could not manage to get introduced in England. The frontier farmers suffered very much from a Kaffir war, but then we ought to distinguish between the frontier farmers with their cattle and the farmers who took commissariat contracts. He ventured to say that these latter gentlemen never lost a penny by a Kaffir war; on the contrary, he was certain that they became enriched by one. (Hear.) Beyond Tete, in about 28 E. longitude, the country was beautifully watered and undulating; a few years ago, it was densely inhabited, but now it was nearly depopulated. Ascending the ridge here met with, one came to a height of about four thousand feet above the level of the sea, and then began a gradual and almost imperceptible descent, until one came into a valley wonderfully supplied with rivers. The whole country was low in the centre, with elevated sides. After an extended observation, he saw clearly that this was the shape of the country, but he found afterwards that he had been forestalled in this, for Sir Roderick Murchison had broached the same hypothesis in a speech which had been sent out to him during his travels.

Sir Roderick Murchison and others addressed a few observations to the meeting, and the following resolutions were unanimously carried:—"That this meeting, consisting of merchants, bankers, and others, the citizens of London, hereby present to the Rev. Dr. Livingston their sincere congratulations on the signal care and protection of Divine Providence vouchsafed to him throughout his prolonged and perilous labours in exploring the interior of South Africa; and the meeting cherishes the gratifying assurance that the important discoveries of Dr. Livingston will tend hereafter greatly to advance the interests of civilization, knowledge, commerce, freedom, and religion among the numerous tribes and nations of that vast continent."—"That this meeting, highly appreciating the intrepidity and perseverance of Dr. Livingston in his extended and dangerous journeys, deems it incumbent to originate a pecuniary tribute as an expression of their admiration and gratitude for his disinterested and self-denying labours in the cause of science and philanthropy."

The subscriptions announced in the course of the evening amounted to upwards of 400*l.*, the Lord Mayor heading the list with ten guineas; the Bishop of London, ten guineas; the Bishop of Victoria, three guineas; the London Missionary Society, 100*l.*; Mr. Raikes Currie, ten guineas; the Hon. A. Kinnaird, ten guineas, &c.

Dr. Livingston has received the freedom of Hamilton. He has also been made an Honorary Fellow of the Glasgow Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, of which he was already a licentiate.

SIR ROBERT PEELE IN CAP AND BELLS.

The new library in Adderley-park, Birmingham, was inaugurated on Monday evening by a dinner given to the members of the late bazaar committee, and subsequently by a meeting in the Museum Room, at which were present Lord Lyttelton, Lord Leigh, Sir Robert Peel, M.P., Mr. Adderley, M.P., Mr. McGeachy, the Mayor of Birmingham, Mr. Charles Radcliff, and numerous friends of the institution. The great attraction of the night was a promised lecture by Sir Robert Peel on the subject of his experiences in Russia, in which the

lecturer made a very singular exhibition of himself. We give a few extracts, a summary being out of the question:—

"I passed along the shores of Finland, and arrived within gunshot of that great fortress which Sir Charles Napier did not take. (Loud cheers, laughter, and hisses.) Some gentlemen express dissent from what I state, but I believe it is strictly and literally true. (Laughter.) I saw that mighty fortress rising before us. I reflected naturally upon the past and upon the great distinction that might have resulted from any successful operations against it. We then advanced up the Neva, that great and mighty river which flows by St. Petersburg. We arrived at St. Petersburg sufficiently tired by the journey, and expecting to be overcome by the heat. Although it was in the middle of summer, it was bitterly cold; the weather was very changeable, like everything else in Russia, and I had the greatest difficulty to keep myself warm. St. Petersburg is built on piles, and is always very subject to the east-wind. (Laughter.) When the east wind blows, St. Petersburg has a chance of being done away with, as the public expected Sir Charles Napier would do away with it. (Laughter.) At all events, it then stands a good chance of being sunk in the water. It is not a very magnificent city, and does not strike one by its fine streets and buildings, after all. It has nothing else but granite floors, with outside all paint and stucco. Its edifices are a great deception, as are most things else we have heard of in Russia. (Laughter.) . . . The Marble Palace is so called because it is built of granite. (Laughter.) It is the residence of that 'frank and open-hearted sailor,' Constantine. How I laughed when I read that description of Constantine's character. (Laughter.) You may remember what has been said about the distinguished Admiral Constantine. With all respect to his Highness, I must say that I never saw a man who gave me less of the impression of a 'frank and open-hearted sailor.' (Cheers and laughter.) It is all soft sawder, you know. (Laughter.) . . . There was not much to keep us in St. Petersburg, for we were so horribly fleeced by our innkeeper. (Laughter.) I have lived a great deal in that way, but I never in my life came across a man with such enormous ideas of the principles of 'doing.' (Loud laughter.) I am a man who am satisfied with little, but our dinner every night cost us 60*l.* sterling. (Roars of laughter.) It was perfectly monstrous. If I had not been in Russia, I should have lived with the police, but I gave up that notion after witnessing the manner in which Russian constables knock people about. (Laughter.) The police use a sort of great antique fork, which they stick into their unfortunate victims, and then leave them on the ground, instead of taking them to a lock-up or something of that kind." (Laughter.)

This was the way in which he travelled:—"There was no postilion ready for one of the six horses when we stopped at one post-house; but the director insisted that we must have six horses and six riders, and, to supply the vacancy, rushed into the crowd which had collected, seized the first person, put him upon the horse, and started off again. The man had no stockings or shoes on, but that did not matter (laughter); he soon got into a dreadful state from riding, and dropped off the animal. The horses frequently became tired, and, when they fell down exhausted, were left by the roadside. The postboys suffered the same treatment when they became unable to perform their duties. (Laughter.) I do not think I ever enjoyed travelling so in my life." (Laughter.) Of the Governor of Nishni he reports that he "never saw such a brick while he was in Russia." But he (Sir Robert) did not understand Russian, and was therefore, he said, in the position of the man in the comic song, who went to France without having learnt "the lingo," which caused him to "repent of it, by jingo." This set him (Sir Robert)

"Staring like a fool, silent as a mummy—
There I stood, looking 'nation like a dummy."

(This quotation was hailed with bursts of merriment.) He "never saw a man with such a capacity for drinking as this brick of a Governor;" but he did not seem the worse for it. General Surochokoff was "a common man, whose sole anxiety was to impose on people who trusted him," and who cheated him (Sir Robert). He saw some lovely Circassian women, and "was nearly engaged twice by some of them." (Laughter and cheers.) He purchased caviare at 100*l.* per pound; but it was nasty. The Emperor Alexander is a mild looking man, who receives a "God-like homage" from his people. Sir Robert gave several particulars of the coronation, much in the same strain, and concluded in the midst of vehement cheering.

SANITARY MATTERS.

The following is from the quarterly supplement to the Weekly Returns of Births and Deaths in London:—

"The number of deaths registered in London during the quarter was 14,118. On comparing this result with the numbers returned in the last quarters of 1852-55, and taking the growth of the population into account, it will be seen that the public health was tolerably good; and, as regards children, the reduction of mortality from some of those diseases which waste infant life appears to show that it was rather better than usual. But the comparison now made shows only an improvement which

may be temporary, not that superior and permanent condition of health which only measures that promote the moral and physical well-being of a populous community can effect."

The Weekly Return states:—

"In the week that ended on Saturday, the deaths of 1497 persons—viz, 761 males and 736 females—were registered in London. In the first week of the year, during the period 1847-56, the average number of deaths was 1321, and if this is raised in proportion to increase of population, for comparison with the number in the present return, it becomes 1453. The deaths now recorded exhibit an excess of 44 over the corrected average.

"The number of deaths registered last week is augmented to a very considerable extent by deaths in reference to which inquests had been held having been entered in the register-books in more than their just weekly proportion. Many of such cases were not registered till the end of the quarter, though they had occurred and been investigated by the coroner at earlier dates. 25 deaths were referred last week to burns and scalds, 16 to hanging and suffocation, 29 to drowning, 48 to fractures, 7 to wounds. 45 deaths were returned of persons 'found dead,' or who died suddenly from an unknown or unstated cause. Under these heads, and a few others, the excess will chiefly be found.

"Last week, the births of 1025 boys and 948 girls—in all 1973 children—were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56, the average number was 1598."

STATE OF TRADE.

THE trade reports for the opening week of the year are all of a steady and satisfactory character. At Manchester, the manufacturers hold extensive orders, and the market altogether has a healthy appearance, the rapid rise in the staple at Liverpool constituting the only cause of anxiety. At Birmingham, where the possibility of a reduction this quarter in the price of iron was recently contemplated, the question now is as to the expediency of an advance. For the present, however, it has been resolved to abstain from any alteration. In the general occupations of the place there is full employment, especially in connexion with the home and the Australian demand. Rice, Harris, and Son, glass manufacturers, have been declared bankrupts; but the fact that this, like most of the other failures of the period, has arisen, not from temporary, but from long-standing causes, is indicated by the report that there are scarcely any assets to meet the liabilities, which are estimated at 20,000*l*. The Nottingham advices state that the lace and hosiery trades have been interfered with by the holidays. Meanwhile, orders are accumulating, and prices are extremely firm. In the woollen districts there has been no change. Stocks are below an average, and confidence is general.—*Times*.

The Stock Exchange committee met on Friday week, on the question of confirming their recent resolution regarding the Great Northern Railway Company, and resolved that it should be discharged, the committee being duly informed that the Great Northern Railway Company has at length registered certain transfers of Great Northern and East Lincolnshire Railway stocks, the registration of which, according to indubitable evidence received by this committee, was refused by the secretary of the Great Northern Railway Company, although there were no valid grounds for supposing that the holders of such stock were parties to any frauds committed by the company's servants.

IRELAND.

THE CASE OF MR. KNIGHTING.—The inquiry respecting the property of James Montgomery Knighting, recently employed as transfer clerk by the Great Southern and Western Railway Company, and convicted and sentenced to six years' penal servitude for extensive frauds and forgery, has been brought to a close, the jury bringing in a special finding, which extended over several skins of parchment, and which set forth all the property, real or personal, of the convict. It stated that the property in Bishop-street, Ashe-street, Parkgate-street, North Lotts, and in the counties of Meath and Longford, belonged to J. M. Knighting at the time he committed the offence of which he was convicted. The finding stated, as to the personal property, that all the bonds, judgments, bills, promissory notes, and I O U's, representing about 12,000*l*, belonged to the convict at the time of his conviction. These documents will not, it is stated, realize anything like the amount appearing on the face of them. It was not for the jury to give any finding as to the value. The crown, it is understood, will surrender to the railway company its right to Knighting's personal property, which, however, is not expected to realize anything like the sum stated above; but, if the convict survives his few years of penal servitude, he will come out to enjoy his fee-simple and freehold estates, producing some 300*l*. a year or upwards, in the possession of which the company, who had been plundered by him of that and much more besides, will be unable to disturb him.—*Daily News*.

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE MR. LITTLE.—A highly influential meeting was held on Monday at the Mansion House, Dublin, for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the bereaved mother and sister of the late Mr. Samuel

George Little. The Lord Mayor presided, and the gist of the resolutions was that the funds collected should be applied to the purchase of an annuity of at least 100*l*. a year for the benefit of Mrs. Little for her life, with remainder to her daughter in the event of surviving her mother.—Superintendent Grey, of the detective police, has indignantly denied the statement that the police authorities had recourse to clairvoyance to discover the murderer of Mr. Little.

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.—The Lord-Lieutenant has appointed Mr. Kernan to the office of Clerk of the Crown for the county of Leitrim, in the room of the late Mr. Kernan, uncle to the new official. The *Evening Mail* sarcastically remarks that "it is scarcely necessary to say that the newly appointed clerk is a Roman Catholic. There is nothing like beginning the new year well."

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

A GREAT many documents, extending to very considerable length, and having reference to the dispute with the Chinese authorities at Canton, were published in the *Gazette* of Tuesday evening. Several of these—more especially the despatches of Admiral Seymour—go over the same ground as those previously published. The more important parts refer to the discussion between Commissioner Yeh and the English authorities with respect to our right to object to the boarding of the lorcha by the Chinese. Yeh, in answer to a letter of Mr. Consul Parkes, writes:—"It is clear that the officers had good reasons for seizing these men, amongst whom there are several great offenders. Woo-Agin, Le-Mingtae, and Leeang-Keenfoo, must be again very strictly examined; but I have directed that the Assistant Magistrate Hen take the remaining nine, namely, Leang-Apaon, Leang-Meike, Leang-Atae, Leang-Agew, Leang Aow, Ho-A-pih, Yuen Ake, Leang-Kingjen, and Tang-A-Kee, and return them to their vessel. As to what (the Consul) states relative to the lorcha being reimbursed the expenses consequent on her detention, I find that as the lorcha was built by Loo-Aching, who obtained a register for her through Polo (Mr. Block), to whom he paid one thousand dollars, she is not a foreign vessel (lorcha), and it is useless, therefore, to enter into any discussion respecting her." In a letter from Sir John Bowring to Mr. Parkes, Sir John says:—"The question contains two important inquiries: first, the rights of the vessel in question; and, second, the conduct of the Chinese authorities. It appears, on examination, that the Arrow had no right to hoist the British flag; the license to do so having expired on the 27th September, from which period she has not been entitled to protection. You will send back the register to be delivered to the Colonial Office. But the Chinese had no knowledge of the expiry of the license; nor do they profess that they had any other grounds for interference than the supposition that the owner is not a British subject. You will inform the Imperial Commissioner that I require an apology for what has taken place, and an assurance that the British flag shall in future be respected; that forty-eight hours are allowed for this communication, which being passed, you are instructed to call on the naval authorities to assist you in enforcing redress. If these representations fail, the senior naval officer will be authorized to seize and keep in his possession one of the imperial junks, which he will hold until redress be obtained."

Writing to Mr. Parkes, Commissioner Yeh says:—"It had been ascertained by the previous examination, that this lorcha is not the property of a foreigner, and at the time when the naval officers seized the twelve men, and brought them to my yamun, I directed that they also should be examined as to the matter, and they stated that when they went to the lorcha to seize the men, they saw no foreigner on board; that at that time no flag had yet been hoisted on board the lorcha; that they heard that the flag was stowed away below, but they themselves saw nothing of it. Therefore they seized the men and brought them away. Hereafter, Chinese officers will on no account, without reason, seize and take into custody the people belonging to foreign lorchas; but when Chinese subjects build for themselves vessels, foreigners should not sell registers to them, for if this be done, it will occasion confusion between native and foreign ships, and render it difficult to distinguish between them." In another communication to the same correspondent, Yeh writes:—"Hereafter, if any lawless characters conceal themselves on board foreign lorchas, you, the said consul, shall of course be informed of the same by declaration (from the Imperial Commissioner), in order that you may act in conjunction (with the Chinese authorities), in the management of such affairs. Nine of the twelve men who were seized on the 10th day (8th October) were returned on the 12th day (10th October) to you the said consul, but you refused to receive them.* At the present moment, the examinations of ten of these men have been taken and completed, and these men shall be immediately given over to you, the said consul, if you are content to receive them." Yeh also states that they "have clear proof that, when the

* It is asserted on our side that the men sent back were not the men seized, and that, at any rate, they were not sent in the manner demanded.

lorcha was boarded, her colours were not flying. How, then, could they have been taken down?"

The last document given in these despatches is a copy of a summons sent to a Mandarin commanding the Bogue Forts, on the 12th of November, and signed by Admiral Seymour. It runs:—"The British Admiral wishes to spare life, and is not at war with the Chinese; and as it is necessary for him to hold possession of the Bogue Forts until the conduct of the Viceroy Yeh can be referred to the Emperor at Peking, one hour will be given for the purpose of clearing out; if this offer is at once accepted, boats will be permitted to pass to and from the mainland and the Wantungs. In this case, the forts will remain uninjured, ready to be returned in the same state to the Chinese when these differences are over; and the rebels will neither be allowed to pass the Bogue Forts, nor to enter them whilst in our possession." At the expiration of an hour, the answer came:—"The Admiral commanding the Bogue Forts cannot give them up, as he would lose his head, and he must therefore fight."

PERSIA.

The subjoined is published as a correct version of the Ultimatum proposed by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Persian Ambassador, which consisted of three points only:—The present Grand Vizier was to be dismissed, and the new Vizier, with a deputation from the Court, were to conduct Mr. Murray to his residence on his return in great state, and then the Vizier was to retract all that had been written to the Ambassador on the Hashim affair. Herat was to be immediately evacuated by the Persian troops, and compensation paid to the inhabitants. Persia was to cede a portion of its coast to the Imam of Muscat, and, until that were done, England would occupy Bender-Akbar and Bender-Abassi. M. Gopcevic, of Trieste, has contracted to furnish the English army operating in Persia with all its supplies of grain. The Kurds have offered to Mr. Murray, the late British Minister at Teheran, to make war upon Persia. —The official *Gazette* of Teheran publishes an article, accusing Mr. Stevens, our consul, of taking hurried flight from Bender Buschir on account of his inability to face his creditors. "He was afraid," says the Persian editor, "that, had he officially announced his departure, his creditors would have thrown impediments in his way." The debts, it seems, were contracted by Mr. Stevens's brother; but the consul made himself answerable for them. "The editor," continues the Persian *Gazette*, "ventures to assert that if Mr. Stevens had announced his departure officially, the Government of the Shah had rather been itself his security with his creditors than to let him dishonour himself on account of a question of money, and to permit that the British consul should become the object of a great humiliation. The Government of the Shah has never seen anything else in him, but a constant source of intrigues and disorders. He has never enjoyed great esteem at Teheran. We believe that he was informed of the state to which Herat was reduced, for he had always entertained secret relations with Issa Khan and the defenders of Herat."

AMERICA.

THE news from the United States still has reference to the intended negro insurrection, and we continue to read of arrests, executions, and floggings to death. In Congress, the discussion on the President's message has been continued and adjourned. The application to the President by the gentlemen connected with the Atlantic telegraph to solicit his patronage to the scheme, has been crowned with success. The President has issued an order for the arrest of Cornelius K. Garrison, Charles Morgan, and General William Walker (the Nicaraguan Walker), to answer the Accessory Transit Company in a plea of trespass for converting and disposing of the goods and chattels of the company to the value of 1,000,000 dollars, and also a further sum of 1,000,000 dollars damages for interrupting their business. There has been a large meeting in New York for the purpose of devising the proper manner and seeking the means to send material aid to Walker. Contributions of food have been sent to his army, which is in a wretched condition of famine and semi-nakedness. One thousand rifles have also been sent. At the earnest request of Walker's disordered envoy, Goicouria, Mr. Roberts, of the United States Steamship Company, has consented to let one of his steamers call at Greytown, to relieve the Filibusters.

The steamship Knoxville, of the Savannah line, has been destroyed by fire at New York while lying at the pier.

In the New York money-market, the demand continued active and the supply adequate at 9 to 10 per cent. for first class thirty to sixty days' paper, 12 to 15 per cent. for second class.

A case is pending between the Foreign-office and the Brazilian Government (says the *Times* City article of Tuesday) regarding an illegal arrest and imprisonment of Mr. E. G. Swann, a British subject, while prosecuting a voyage in a private schooner to the Upper Amazon and the intermediate ports and districts. The event took place at Breves, in the province of Para, where, upon Mr. Swann refusing to haul down the British flag, his vessel was seized, and he was consigned to the prison of the place by Senor Lacorda, the chief municipal au-

thority. The conduct of Lacerda appears to have been in the highest degree offensive, and, after undergoing many perils and annoyances, Mr. Swann was compelled to seek refuge with the British Consul at Para.

NICARAGUA:

THE TREATY BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* gives the following as an analysis of this Treaty:—

By the first article of the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain, the contracting parties agree jointly to propose to the republics of Nicaragua and of Costa Rica the arrangements contained in the following articles:—

A territory comprised within the following limits shall be set apart for the Mosquito Indians. And then it goes on to establish the boundary. The boundary is to be designated and marked by two commissioners, to be appointed, one by her Britannic Majesty, and one by the President of the republic of Nicaragua.

By article third, the Mosquito Indians, confining themselves within the territory designated, shall enjoy the right to make, by their national council or councils, and to convey into effect, all such laws as they may deem necessary for the government and protection of all persons within the same, and of all property therein belonging to their people, or to such persons as have connected themselves with them. Their rights of property and of local government within the territory defined shall be recognized, affirmed, and guaranteed by the republic of Nicaragua, in treaties to be made by that state with the United States and Great Britain respectively; and the republic of Nicaragua in each of these treaties shall stipulate and engage that it shall enact laws to prevent the purchase of lands from the Mosquito Indians and the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors among the said Indians, and the said republic shall protect them from all inroads, intrusions, or aggressions along their western and northern frontier. The Mosquito Indians shall not be able to cede their territory of rights to any other state without the consent of the United States and Great Britain, each separately expressed; it being, however, understood that nothing shall preclude the conclusion of such voluntary compact and arrangements between the republic of Nicaragua and the Mosquito Indians, by which the latter may be incorporated and united with the former; but it shall be stipulated, in such case, that the said Mosquito Indians shall enjoy the same rights, and be liable to the same duties as other citizens of the said republic of Nicaragua.

By article four, all the territory south of the river Warcoe, or Segovia, not included within the limits of the reservation set apart for the Mosquito Indians, shall, without prejudice to the rights of the republic of Honduras, or to any question of boundary between that republic and the republic of Nicaragua, be recognized and declared to be within the limits and sovereignty of the republic of Nicaragua on the following conditions:—The republic of Costa Rica shall retain for its citizens the freedom of navigation up and down the river San Juan, from its mouth to the mouth of the Sera Pique river, with liberty to enter and quit the port of San Juan or Greytown with their vessels and to store their cargoes in that port, and without being subject to any duties of import or export, tonnage duty, or other tax or public charge whatever, except for light money and other necessary port charges. The republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica shall allow the territorial disputes between them, and the limits or extension to be given to the town of San Juan or Greytown, if the same cannot be amicably adjusted between themselves and that town, to be settled by the arbitration of the United States of America and Great Britain, who, in any doubtful point, shall be able to call for the decision of a third party. All *bona fide* grants of land for due consideration made in the name and by the authority of the Mosquito Indians, since the 1st of January, 1848, and lying beyond the limits of the territory reserved for said Indians, shall be confirmed, provided the same shall not exceed in any case the extent of one hundred yards square, if within the limits of San Juan or Greytown, or one league square if without the same; and provided that such grant shall not interfere with other legal grants made previously to that date by Spain, the republic of Central America, or either of the present States of Central America; and provided further, that no such grant within either of the said States shall include territory reserved by its government for forts, arsenals, or other public buildings. This stipulation is in no manner to affect the grants of land made previously to the 1st of January, 1841. The republic of Nicaragua shall constitute and declare the port of Greytown or San Juan a free port and the city a free city, though under the sovereignty of the republic, whose inhabitants shall enjoy the following rights and immunities:—The right to govern themselves by means of their own municipal government, to be administered by legislative, executive, and judicial officers of their own election, according to their own negotiations; trial by jury in their own courts; perfect freedom of religious belief and of worship, public and private. The municipal government

shall lay no duties on goods exported, nor any duties on goods imported, intended for transit across the Isthmus, or for consumption without the city, nor any duties of tonnage on vessels except such as may be necessary for the police of the port and the maintenance of the necessary lighthouses and beacons; provided that the present condition shall not interfere with or prevent the levy of a temporary duty on imports for the purpose of the payment to the Mosquito Indians as stipulated in article 5; exemption from military service, except for the defence of the city and within the bounds of the same.

Art. 5 provides that the republic of Nicaragua shall enter into positive treaty stipulations with each of the two governments of the United States of America and Great Britain, that it will make the grant of freedom to the city of Greytown, or San Juan, subject to the condition that the municipality of the said city shall, as soon as organized, pass laws and ordinances levying by tax or duty on imports, some reasonable sum to be paid half-yearly to the Mosquito Indians, by way of annuity for a limited period, as an indemnity and compensation for their interest in the territory recognized and declared by the first clause of article 4 to be within the limits and sovereignty of the republic of Nicaragua.

By article sixth, her Britannic Majesty and the republic of Nicaragua shall, within six months after the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty, to be concluded between them in virtue of the present arrangements, appoint each a commissioner for the purpose of designating and marking out the inland boundary separating the territory to be set apart for the Mosquito Indians. They shall also appoint each a commissioner for the purpose of deciding upon the *bona fides* of all grants of lands; they shall further appoint each a commissioner for the purpose of determining the amount, the period of duration, and the time, place, and mode of payment of the annuity to be paid to the Mosquito Indians according to the stipulations.

Article seventh provides that the commissioners shall meet at such a place or places as shall be hereafter fixed. After they shall be respectively named, and before proceeding to business, they shall make and subscribe a solemn declaration that they will impartially and carefully examine and decide upon all the matters referred to them for their decision. The commissioners to appoint a third person to act as arbitrator or umpire in any case or cases in which they may themselves differ in opinion.

Article ninth provides that the two governments bind themselves in case the republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, or either of them, should refuse to accept the arrangements contained in the preceding articles, not to propose or consent to any other arrangements more favourable to the refusing party or parties.

(Signed) G. M. DALLAS.
CLARENDON.

To this analysis is added in the same paper the text of the only three Articles (the first three) which have as yet been agreed on.

MURDER OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS.

A STARTLING crime has been committed in Paris by a priest acting under the influence of revenge. The Archbishop of Paris was officiating pontifically last Saturday, in the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont, at the *novena* in honour of the festival of St. Geneviève, the patroness of Paris. The 3rd of January, the day on which the saint is supposed to have died, is always observed as the first of a series of nine days' devotions, masses, &c. On the present occasion, at half-past five in the evening, the Archbishop was accompanying a procession of the lady patroness of St. Geneviève when, as he was passing the outer door to enter the principal nave, and was turning round to give his blessing to the persons assembled in the lower part of the church, a young man advanced, and exclaiming, according to one account, "No goddess!" but, according to another, "A priest should not be allowed to starve!" stabbed the prelate twice in the chest with a long Catalan knife, having previously drawn his victim's robes aside. The Archbishop started back a few steps, ejaculated "*Ah, malheureux!*" and sank, covered with blood. M. Surat, the grand vicar, gave him absolution on the spot, and he expired almost immediately. The assassin, it is said, watched his dying victim with a smile. He had made an attempt to escape, but was instantly collared by a *sergent de ville*, who overthrew him, with the weapon in his hand. Several of the congregation also seized on and nearly strangled him. He was asked why he exclaimed, "No goddess!" to which he answered, "Because I do not believe in the Immaculate Conception, upon which subject I explained myself in the pulpit. I wished to protest once more against so impious a doctrine." He was then conveyed to prison; but, although he replied with great calmness to every question which was put to him, he is considered to be mad. A Sister of Charity, who had observed the movement of the assassin, and who attempted to throw herself between the Archbishop and him, was wounded in the hand.

The criminal's name is Verger. He was a priest of the diocese of Meaux, and had been several times suspended from the exercise of his functions—once for writing a violent pamphlet against the Procureur-Imperial of Laon, and another time for the ecclesiastical offence to which he referred when interrogated in the

church. The dogma in question he regarded as idolatry. He has been seen at the doors of the church of the Madeleine, with a placard on his breast, bearing accusations against his superiors, and stating that he was perishing of hunger. The Archbishop, it seems, had refused to reinstate him; and he therefore came to Paris on Christmas-eve, probably with a design to commit the assassination. For some days he passed his time in reading at the public libraries; and, when arrested, his paletot (for he was dressed as a layman) was stuffed full of written papers. It is said that he had once before entertained an idea of murdering the Archbishop, but had abandoned it. He was evidently a man of habitually excitable and violent temper, as he had already been pointed out to the Paris police for having threatened a parish priest.

The church where the crime was committed has been placed under an interdict until the expiatory ceremony shall have been performed. The outside of the edifice was on Sunday hung with black; and on that day no high mass was chanted in any of the churches throughout the metropolitan diocese. In its place, a low mass was celebrated, after which the clergy sang the seven penitential psalms.

The Archbishop was in his sixty-fifth year. He was promoted to the Archdiocese of Paris by General Cavagnac in August, 1848, as successor to Archbishop Affre, who was killed in the insurrection of June in that year. Singularly enough, the Abbé Surat, who received the late prelate in his arms on being stabbed, also caught the previous Archbishop when he was shot. Verger's victim is spoken of as a man of high Christian virtues.

According to the *Times* Paris correspondent, it is not true that Verger exclaimed "No goddess!" at the moment he gave the blow, or that he was suspended for preaching against the Immaculate Conception. His suspension, says this writer, was on account of general misconduct, as indicated in a quarrelsome and brawling disposition and great laxity of morals. The Archbishop of Paris refused to remove the suspension which had been pronounced by the Bishop of Meaux. "At the same time, he treated him with much kindness. He entreated him to be cautious of giving scandal, to amend his life, to avoid in future the errors which had brought down punishment on him; and he hinted that the restoration of his functions would depend on his own conduct in future. In the meantime, the Archbishop gave him 300*fr.* to provide for his present necessities, and informed him that he should do all in his power to save him from falling into destitution. The Archbishop on subsequent occasions relieved his wants, but still declined, from conscientious motives, to remove his suspension. It is said that Verger very lately wrote letters in which he acknowledged the kindness and charity of the Archbishop, while at the same time, according to his own declaration, he was preparing for the crime he had just committed."

Some interesting particulars are given in the *Patrie*:—"The assassin passed several hours in the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont the day he committed the murder, to choose a place where he might strike his victim most securely. His first intention was to stab the Archbishop when seated on his pontifical throne. For this purpose he offered the beadle money to allow him to take his seat during the sermon near the stalls occupied by the clergy, and which place, he said, he occupied every year during the ceremonies. The beadle refused. Verger then thought of a bench whence he might strike the Archbishop in a narrow passage. The prelate passed close to the assassin on his entrance. Verger waited for his going out, but the Archbishop went out by another door, and Verger was again disappointed. It was then he went to the nave, where he accomplished his fearful project." It is said that, during his examination, he wept, and confessed the wickedness of his act.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Conferences proceed somewhat slowly. There was no meeting either on Friday week or for some following days. A difficulty is said to have arisen on the subject of the compensation to be given to Russia for sacrificing Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents. It was found necessary to refer this matter to the respective Governments. This prevented any meeting on Friday week, and the further delay took place (if we are to credit the accounts from Paris) owing to England and Austria not being prepared to announce the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities and of the Black Sea immediately after the signing of the Protocols, or until the new line of Russian frontier shall have been verified on the spot by the Commissioners. It is calculated that this cannot be effected under two months. The Conferences closed on Tuesday—a fact which is thus announced in the *Moniteur*:—

"Inspired with the resolutions of the Congress, and wishing to conciliate all interests, the Conference, by unanimous consent, has decided that the frontier line shall follow the Vale of Trajan as far as the river Yalpuck, leaving Bolgrad and Tabak to Moldavia, and that Russia shall retain on the right bank of that stream the town of Komrat, with a territory of about 300 square versts. The Isle of Serpents has been considered as belonging to the mouths of the Danube, and it has been agreed that it goes with their destination.

The Conference has recognized that it was the intention of the Congress to re-establish by Art. 21 of the Treaty of Peace, in their former condition, the territories situated west of the new boundary, and to conform itself to the provisions of the negotiators of the peace, it has decided that those territories shall be annexed to Moldavia, with the exception of the Delta of the Danube, which returns directly to Turkey. It has been decided, moreover, that, on the 30th of next March at latest, the fixing of the boundary shall be effected, and that at that same date the Austrian troops and the British squadron shall have evacuated the Danubian Principalities and the internal waters of Turkey. The Commission of the Principalities, the members of which are already at Constantinople, may therefore at that period proceed to the provinces, and fulfil the mission entrusted to it. As soon as that Commission shall have terminated its labours, it will render an account thereof to the Conference, which will meet at Paris, according to the terms of the 25th Article of the Treaty, to sanction, by a convention, the final agreement come to between the contracting parties relative to the organization of the Principalities."

The reception at the Tuileries on the evening of Friday week is reported as unusually splendid. The Emperor conversed a good deal with the Prussian Ambassador on the subject of Switzerland; and a pacific settlement of the dispute is now considered probable.

"It is said," writes the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, "that the French Government has determined to abandon Tahiti, finding that it costs much and produces nothing; but, on the other hand, it is seriously occupied with the creation of the newly-founded colony, New Caledonia. This island is rich and the climate healthy, and it is appropriated to receive a portion of the French colony of Guiana. A permanent garrison of seven hundred or eight hundred men is to be established there. The French Government is likewise much occupied with the development of the colony of Senegal. An expedition has been sent from Algeria to ascertain the practicability of establishing a communication between those two colonies by land."

The *Bulletin des Lois* announces that a fresh credit of 1,800,000*fr.* has been opened for uniting the Louvre with the Tuileries.

A clockmaker of Chauny (Aisne) has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for using insulting expressions towards the Emperor and Empress, and also for having said that the man who in 1848 shot the then Archbishop of Paris deserved the cross of the Legion of Honour.

AUSTRIA.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna has established an ecclesiastical censorship. An *index expurgatorius* is to be published.

The Empress is confined to her apartments at Venice, owing to a severe cold, caught in returning from Pola. Her Lord Steward, Prince Thurn and Taxis, is also very ill from the same cause, proceeding, in his case, from getting chilled while looking at pictures in the churches of Venice.

It is stated that Count Buol and Barons Bach and Bruck have been summoned by the Emperor to Italy.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Government has issued a circular addressed to its agents at London, Paris, Vienna, and St. Petersburg, stating, with reference to the Neuchâtel quarrel, that the order for the mobilization of its troops fixes January 15th as the date for that military movement. After this, it is stated, the King will consider himself obliged to follow up the step alluded to by "rapid action," and that he cannot thenceforward "stop midway." "The aims that the Prussian arms will then have to strive after will affect the situation of Neuchâtel itself." The King, however, "will retain as his constant guide the intention, at the close of this conflict, of seeing Switzerland secured in a situation among the States of Europe the more honourable and independent as it will then offer her the guarantees of order and tranquillity." This circular is dated December 28th, 1856.

The *Mercure de Souabe* states that the permanent Committee of the Chamber, in reference to the demand made by certain Deputies, unanimously declared itself in favour of a protest against the passage of Prussian troops. The Committee, moreover, required a communication of the present state of the negotiations on the subject. The Assembly of the Bourgeois have just presented a petition to the King, praying him to avoid the dangers that threaten the material interests of the country.

SPAIN.

By a royal decree, dated the 31st ult., an extraordinary credit is granted to the Minister of Finance, in order to cover the general expenses attendant on the sale of the national domains.

The *Gazette* publishes a decree entirely suspending the law of the 23rd of May, 1856, relative to the redemption of spiritual and temporal appointments.

The Government sanctions the cession by M. Salamanca to the Grand Central Company of France of the line of railroad from Almansa to Alicante.

RUSSIA.

Some ships of the English squadron are on the point of sailing for the Circassian coast, in order to demand of the Russian authorities the restitution of the cargoes of those boats which were lately captured by the Russian General who took possession of the fort of Soujouk Kaleh.

Marshal Radetsky is stated to have died suddenly at Vienna, of apoplexy. The news, however, is doubtful.

SWITZERLAND.

Colonel Barmann, Minister of the Swiss Confederation in Paris, returned on Friday week from his visit to Berne. He brought with him a communication from his Government.

The trial of the Neuchâtel prisoners is fixed for the 19th inst. A deputation from the Royalists at Neuchâtel has proceeded to Berlin to pray that there shall be no war.

A summary of some half-dozen letters which have been received by the Bavarian and Frankfort papers from Switzerland, is thus given by the *Times* Vienna correspondent:—On the 24th ult., 40,000 men were already posted on the frontiers of Basle and Schaffhausen, and on the following Tuesday 140,000 men had announced to the cantonal authorities that they were on their way to the posts which had been assigned to them. The frontiers towards all the conterminous states are strictly guarded, excepting those towards Austria. The inhabitants of Tessin know that during this season of the year they have little or nothing to fear from their formidable neighbours, and the Austrians themselves confess that during the winter months it would be sheer madness to attempt to enter the mountainous parts of Switzerland. On the 24th, all the higher public schools in Switzerland were closed, and it was settled that they should not be reopened until the storm had blown over. In the evening of the same day the students of Zurich had formed a free corps, and the young people in the other cantons have since followed their example. "Switzerland is in no want of men of whom to form a powerful army, but there is a great dearth of officers, as the authorities will not accept the proffered services of the so-called 'Emigration.'" The horses which are to be used for the artillery in Zurich, Thurgau, Basle, Aargau, and Schaffhausen are to be kept in constant readiness for service. "Although the wealthy manufacturers and merchants declare that peace is the greatest of blessings, their patriotism is such that almost all of them have offered to do military service." On the 27th, several complete battalions and corps of riflemen, which were on their way from Appenzell and St. Gall to Schaffhausen and Stein, arrived by railroad at Winterthur; but they only remained there a couple of hours so impatient were they to reach their destination. The Swiss are buying up very large quantities of corn and other necessities of life, as they foresee that their neighbours will indirectly assist Prussia by blockading their frontiers and cutting them off from all communication with the other world. Great activity prevails in the arsenals.

It has been stated, in answer to the complaints made by European Liberals of the support given by hired Swiss soldiers to Continental despotisms, that the Swiss Government has no power to control the acts of its citizens, and cannot be held accountable for the bad taste of individuals. Naples, it appears, no longer deals with the Federal or cantonal Governments, but only with crimps.

"Austria," says a Berlin correspondent of the *Nord*, "has endeavoured to render the movements of the Prussian army impossible, by sustaining, in a circular despatch addressed to the German Governments, under date of the 24th of December, that the Diet is alone competent to authorize the passage of Prussian troops through the territory of the Confederation. That pretension has, however, been disavowed by the Governments of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Baden, which have definitively authorized the passage of these troops through their States."

"Some new and interesting details," says the *Indépendance Belge*, "have reached us respecting the mission of Dr. Furrer. It has been stated that its sole object was to negotiate a loan. We now learn from Berne that Dr. Furrer was sent to Germany on the receipt of a despatch from the Swiss Consul-General to the effect that the Duke of Saxe Coburg Gotha had expressed a wish to act as mediator between Switzerland and the Court of Berlin. Hitherto, however, it appears that the steps he has taken have not succeeded." The mission to Berlin of Mr. Fay, the American Minister at Berne, is supposed to be equally unsuccessful.

TURKEY.

The Sultan has assured the Persian Ambassador of his pacific intentions. It is said that the Shah is forced to carry on the war by the fanaticism of the population. The tribes of Astrabad have offered cavalry to the Persian monarch.

The Turkish Government has contracted a loan of 80,000*l.* with the Ottoman Bank. "Mr. Falconet, the chief manager of the Ottoman Bank," says the *Times* Constantinople correspondent, "was called on, and asked for the loan. As usual, secrecy was promised, but in this instance not kept, and two other native houses were not only informed of the loan itself but even of the

general conditions. But, as these were drawn up according to European (not Galata) calculations, both the other houses declared the terms impossible. Thus the Ottoman Bank remained alone in the field. If this was in itself calculated to show the difference between the European and native way of doing business, the difference became even more striking in the regulation of the details. The loan was at first to be paid in monthly instalments, extending over three months, but when it came to a discussion of details, Ali Ghalib Pasha, who was charged with the transaction, extended the period for the payment to seven instead of three months. At this concession, of the importance of which the Turkish Minister seemed scarcely aware, Mr. Falconet immediately lowered his terms without being asked, causing naturally no small astonishment to the functionary, who most probably never had a transaction in which he was honestly treated. When the two native houses saw that the business was concluded, against their prediction, they went to complain to the Grand Vizier against the transaction as a most pernicious one; fortunately, the Grand Vizier, after inquiring into the matter, was easily convinced of the contrary, and the loan was concluded. Thwarted thus in their schemes, the native bankers hoped to make the Ottoman Bank pay on the Exchange for the advantage it had gained with the Government, and up went the exchange several piastres. But they soon found out that even on 'Change Europeans are sometimes a match for Galata; for what was their astonishment to find that, instead of selling, the Ottoman Bank bought; measures had been already taken to make the bank entirely independent of the whims of the Galata Exchange."

ITALY.

The Pope is very disconsolate with respect to the state of the Catholic Church in Mexico and Switzerland; and he has therefore issued an allocution, in which he bitterly complains of the sequestration of Church property by the Government of the former country. The permission accorded to all sects to practise publicly their religious rites is denounced as "an abominable measure, calculated to undermine the most holy Roman Catholic religion." His Holiness likewise declares all the measures which it has taken against the authority of the Apostolic Chair to be null and void. The Mexican statesmen are then reminded that the Church has the power to punish severely those persons who disobey her behests. With respect to Switzerland, the Pope has to bewail the numerous encroachments of the civil authorities on the rights of the Church. He concludes by denouncing those priests who do not obey the injunctions of their supreme ecclesiastical ruler.

The session of the Piedmontese Chambers has been opened by King Victor Emmanuel in person. His Majesty's speech was greeted enthusiastically, especially the allusions which it contained to the great national cause of the independence of Italy. With reference to the Budget, which is to be presented by Count Cavour, for the year 1857, it has been announced that the income of the past year was sufficient to cover the expenses. The Minister of the Interior proposes certain important reforms in the administration; but it is foreseen that great difficulties have to be encountered in carrying them into effect.

The Neapolitan war steamer Charles III. has blown up or been blown up. Forty men were killed.

GREECE.

A letter from Athens, dated the 20th ult., speaks of a communication from Mr. Wyse, the English Minister, to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Wyse, like the other foreign ministers, had received an official invitation to attend at the opening of the Greek Parliament by the King in person. According to the letter alluded to, Mr. Wyse declared that, as the representative of the oldest and greatest constitutional power in Europe, he could not attend the inauguration of a parliament formed under the most flagrant violation of the institutions of the country; that for several years consecutively he had had occasion to protest against the violation by the Government of his Hellenic Majesty of the constitution which the Greek nation had unanimously given itself; that at the present moment he eagerly embraced the opportunity offered him of once more protesting, and of recapitulating all that he had previously said on the malversations and immorality of the functionaries whom the Greek Government seemed to consider it an obligation to select, as also against the system, so long practised, of governing a nation despotically with the forms of a constitution. For these and other reasons Mr. Wyse thought it becoming to his dignity, as the representative of Great Britain, to abstain from witnessing the opening of such a Parliament as the present.

THE BANK FORGERIES.

A FURTHER examination of James Anderson and James Townsend Seward, the men charged with several forgeries upon City and other banks, took place at the Mansion House last Saturday. The chief witness in this case, as in that of the great bullion robbery, was an accomplice of the accused, who is now in prison for another offence; and his evidence bore a singular re-

semblance to that of Agar in the previous case. It exhibited the same remarkable system of co-operation which exists between professional thieves; the same subtly contrived and ingeniously-elaborated plans, extending over considerable periods of time, by which the unsuspecting are led into the snares. Attwell, the convict in question, gave his testimony at great length on Saturday; but the most important parts are here reproduced. He said:—

"I have been convicted of forgery, and sentenced to transportation for life. I know both the prisoners, Anderson and Saward. I knew Saward first, and became acquainted with him about twelve months back. About that time I had in my possession some blank cheques and some cancelled cheques. These were the produce of a burglary committed on Mr. Doe. I showed them to a person named Saunders, in the Old-street-road. I went to his house a second time, and Saward was introduced to me by Saunders." It was then agreed between Attwell, Anderson, Saward, and Saunders, that the blank cheques should be filled up for various amounts, and the cancelled cheques destroyed. This was done, and it was next arranged that those of the filled-up cheques, which were on Messrs. Barclay's, should be taken to that banking house by a person usually employed on such errands, and called "the sender." "We then went to a private house, where Anderson had taken a private room. This was in Leman-street. Anderson went in. I waited near the house. It was agreed that I should watch the man who should be sent to the bank, in order to see whether the money would be paid or not. After I commenced my waiting, another man went into that house. He came out again, went to Barclay's, and I followed him. He took the cheque for 46*l*. 15*s*. 6*d*. with him. I saw the money paid. The man brought the money back. I communicated with another man, who went to a public-house, where Anderson was waiting, to see if the money would be paid. The money was paid in two or three 10*l*. notes and some gold. After Anderson got the money, he came back to Leman-street. He came out again, and I joined him. We went towards the Eastern Counties Railway, where Anderson was to meet another young man, who was to present the other cheque. I went with Anderson to an eating-house opposite the station. Anderson met the young man by the platform, and took him into the eating-house, and sent him with the cheque for 95*l*. 17*s*. 6*d*. I saw the money for that cheque put on the counter. It was paid partly in 10*l*. notes. My duty was to see the young man safe back with the money. The young man was going over London-bridge instead of going back to the railway. I went and touched him on the shoulder, and told him he was going the wrong way. He said no, he was only going to his last employer's to see whether Anderson had sent for his character. Anderson at that time passed by another name. He changed his name on each cheque. I don't know the name Anderson then passed under. I said to the young man, 'There is a gentleman waiting for you at the railway. He is very particular, and he tries his servants in this way before he employs them.' (Laughter.) I went back with the young man, and we met Anderson, who took the young man into a public-house with him. I did not join Anderson, and I afterwards met Saward. He gave the banknotes to Saward. We went to the neighbourhood of the Hackney-road. Saward said he would take the notes himself, and sell them to, I think, a man named Hall. Anderson, myself, and two other men, waited at a public-house in a street in the Hackney-road, while Saward was away. He went out, and subsequently returned with gold. That gold was divided between us five. Saward did not say who Mr. Hall was. He said he knew him. Saward said that, if ever I should meet with anything, I was to communicate with him or Mr. Saunders, and that if he had anything he would communicate with me. I gave him my address. I was then living in Cottage-lane, City-road, under the name of Hawes. I was living there with a young woman who passed as my wife." The conspirators also took apartments in Oakley-crescent, City-road, and near the New River, in order to give an appearance of respectability; and Anderson used to disguise himself with a wig and false whiskers. The next cheque was upon Messrs. Smith, Rayne, and Co. It was presented by a young man employed by the forgers for that purpose; but the clerks refused payment. Attwell was watching a little way off; and, seeing the cheque dishonoured, he informed his companions, and they all made off.

The third victim was "a banker at the corner of the Haymarket" (Attwell did not seem to know the name). Saward had sent there for a book, and had got one. Three persons took three separate cheques to that banking-house, and they were all paid, the produce being divided among the confederates. Attwell, some time afterwards, received a note from Saward, and, meeting him, had some conversation about a bill of exchange for 818*l*. 17*s*. 10*d*, drawn by W. P. Jennings and Co. on Samuel Dobree and Sons, due the 5th of April, and to be presented at Hankey's. A young man was sent to the banking-house with this bill, and was watched by Attwell. The bill was not paid.

"Last April," continued Attwell, "I went to Mr. Turner, a solicitor, for the purpose of employing him on

some professional business. Before I went, I saw Anderson and Saward, and the latter said that, if he could get a cheque signed by Mr. Turner, he had got some blank cheques of Gosling's, where he banked, which could then be filled up. In order to get his signature, Saward proposed that I should take an I O U (for some supposed debt due to myself) to Mr. Turner, for him to write for payment. When Mr. Turner received the money (which might be left in hand for a few days) he would pay that money to his banker, and when I went I should receive a cheque for the money. I went accordingly, and took an I O U for thirty odd pounds, and gave Mr. Turner instructions to recover the payment. The supposed party who was indebted to me was a Mr. Hesp, in whose name a lodging was taken in the Bagnigge Wells-road, where any letter sent to him in that name might be received. Some days after I went to Mr. Turner to know if he had recovered payment of the debt. I advanced the money for the debt to be paid, and it was paid by my brother to Mr. Turner. I was told, when I went to the solicitor, that the money was paid, and the clerk paid me in cash instead of a cheque. I communicated the result to Saward, and he said we must wait some little time, and try to do it again. At the latter end of May, I heard from Saward of a person whom I now know by the name of Hardwicke. Saward told me he was going to meet a person in the neighbourhood of Farringdon-market who had lately come over from Australia with some business for him (Saward) to do. By 'business' I understood him to mean forgery. Saward, Anderson, Hardwicke, and I, met at Farringdon-market. Anderson was called 'Bob.' Saward said he had known Hardwicke for several years—before he went to Australia. Some documents were produced among us at the 'Beef-house,' near Pott's vinegar yard, Southwark Bridge-road, after we left Farringdon-market. The landlord had nothing in the house, and he sent out for some beef for us. We met several times after at the 'Beef-house' for the purpose of discussing 'the business.' On one of these occasions, Hardwicke produced a bill and some blank printed forms. The bill was one for 1000*l*, drawn by Crossman and Co. of Hobbart Town on Kinaird and Co., accepted by them, and payable to Messrs. Heywood. The blanks were three sets, two 'first,' two 'second,' and two 'third.' Hardwicke also produced some old bills filled up, which he gave to Saward, who took them away with him. I did not see the 1000*l*. bill before the day on which it was presented for payment.

"On a Saturday in June, the bill affair came off, and we all met at a public-house in the Old Street-road. Anderson was there, dressed up as usual. We then went to a public-house in Eaglefield-road, Kingsland. Anderson afterwards went to the lodging. Before he did so, a 20*l*. note was produced by Hardwicke. Saward asked for pen and ink, which were brought in by a female, who apologised for the room not being ready for the reception of visitors. A name and address were written upon the note by Saward, and it was given to Anderson, who took it to the lodging. It had been arranged that this note was to be given to the young man to take to the Bank of England to get changed. Anderson came back to the public-house, and we understood that the young man had been sent to the Bank. While waiting the return of the young man, the bill for 1000*l*. was produced, and a date was put across it. When the young man returned, Anderson brought in two foreign bill stamps. Saward stuck a stamp upon the back of one of them, and wrote the indorsement on it in my presence." On the bill being taken to the bank, it was refused.

"On Monday, the 16th of June, I went to Mr. Turner again. Hardwicke had agreed to advance a much larger sum of money than was formerly advanced. I took an I O U to Mr. Turner, for upwards of 100*l*, the name of the supposed debtor being Hart. I took the I O U from Saward. An arrangement was then made to get a lodging where letters in the name of Hart would be received. I gave Mr. Turner instructions to write for payment of the I O U. Some person whom Hardwicke employed paid the money and took up the I O U. A few mornings afterwards, Hardwicke, Saward, Anderson, myself, and a fifth man met near Mr. Turner's office. The fifth man had found the blanks in Mr. Turner's pocket. (A laugh.) I believe I went into Mr. Turner's office, and was told he was out, and that I must call again. I told this to Saward in Red Lion-square, where he was waiting with the others. While we were talking, a gentleman passed, and Saward said, 'That's Mr. Turner,' upon which I followed Mr. Turner back to his office. I received the cheque, and signed the receipt. The amount of the cheque was 103*l*. 8*s*. 10*d*, and was upon Messrs. Gosling and Co. I signed the receipt in the name of W. Hunter. I gave this name so that we should get the letters H-U-N in Mr. Turner's handwriting in the cheque, in case we wanted to forge the word 'hundred.'"

The prisoners were remanded till Wednesday, when Attwell gave several additional particulars of similar knaveries, down to the time of his arrest. His testimony was confirmed by his confederate, Hardwicke, and by one of the young men employed to take the forged cheques to the banking-houses. The inquiry was then adjourned for a week.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE sittings of this court were resumed on Monday. In the Recorder's charge to the grand jury, he made some observations, in connexion with Redpath's case, on the facility with which brokers buy stock which they might be justified in suspecting is not honestly come by. "This sort of speculations could only be carried on through the medium of the established brokers connected with the Stock Exchange; and he could not help thinking that it was the duty of those gentlemen to exercise a little more caution in such transactions, particularly when they were dealing with persons who were in the position of Redpath and others whose cases had recently been before the public. It was clear that a very little inquiry on the part of the brokers who had been concerned in some of these transactions must have satisfied them that the parties with whom they were dealing had no means of paying their losses except from the coffers of their employers, and that if those employers had been made aware of the course of proceeding in which they were engaged, they would not have been retained for a moment in the position of responsibility which they had occupied. It appeared to him that the same caution should be observed in transactions of this kind as would be exercised by all honourable men who were dealing with any property or goods belonging to others, and that the same care should be taken to prevent the chance of being supposed to have any share in a guilty transaction. He was aware that there was no law applicable to the subject; but he knew that the brokers of the City of London, as a body, were men of the highest honour and integrity, and he felt assured that it was only necessary to direct their attention to the matter to induce them to exercise a greater degree of caution than had certainly been exercised in many of these cases."

Philip Henry Arthy, a fashionably dressed young man of twenty, pleaded Guilty to a charge of misdemeanour in having obtained goods and money by false pretences. There were several other indictments, some of which charged him with the offence of forgery; but these were withdrawn. Arthy was sentenced to hard labour for eighteen months.

John Burke was charged with obtaining money by false pretences. He had carried on a very impudent system of fraud, by representing that he was employed by the Commissioners of Sewers for the City of London, and in that capacity applying to different tradesmen, stating that the drains to their houses were out of order, and that he would make them 'all right' for a small sum, and by this means he obtained different sums of money, though it turned out that there was nothing the matter with the drains, and that the whole proceeding was a scheme to obtain money by fraud. The jury found the prisoner Guilty, and he was sentenced to nine months' hard labour.

Felix Hué, a Frenchman, was acquitted of a charge of indecent conduct towards a little girl in a lane turning out of Upper Thames-street.

Robert May, a well-known thief, was found Guilty of stealing 44*l*. from Stephen Rose. The victim was a countryman, who had come up to London to see the cattle show, and, falling into the hands of May and another man (not in custody), they persuaded him that they were townsmen of his. While they were all drinking at a public-house, the sharpers told Rose some wonderful story about a legacy, of which he was to receive 20*l*, to be distributed among the poor of his neighbourhood, on condition that he gave evidence of being a man of capital and respectability. The poor fellow was soon persuaded to produce 44*l*, and the sharpers were not long before they changed purses, and made off with his money. He pursued them, however, and caught May; but the man who had got the money escaped. May was sentenced to one year's hard labour.

Jacob Israel, a young Jew, has been tried for a felonious assault upon a girl of eighteen, named Julia Colton. The poor girl was an idiot; and several medical men were examined to show that she was not in a state of mind to give assent to the act. The jury, however, were not satisfied of this, and they acquitted the accused.

Charles Williams, John Bryan, and William Cole, were tried for a garotte robbery, of which the particulars have already appeared in this journal. The two first were found Guilty, but sentence was deferred. Cole was acquitted.

Henry Carr, alias Thomas Baker, shopman, pleaded Guilty to a charge of stealing handkerchiefs and other goods, to the value of 60*l*, the property of his masters. He was sentenced to penal servitude for four years, and groaned heavily when he heard the sentence.

Anthony Flood, a labourer, but a person of gentlemanly appearance, and stated to be of middle-class origin, pleaded Guilty to forging and uttering an order for 10*l*. Sentence was deferred.

Christopher Stannard, a cabdriver, was tried for manslaughter, in causing, by means of his own drunken incapacity, the death of a young woman who was riding in his vehicle. He was found Guilty, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

John Compton, a young man who had been in the police force, was tried for a burglary in Welbeck-street, while he was yet a constable. One night, when he was on his beat, he roused the owner of the premises, to which some new buildings were being added, told him the outer door of that part was open, and, going in, called his attention to the fact of a robbery having been committed. Subsequent facts rendered it probable that Compton was himself the thief. He suddenly became very "flush" of cash, which he spent in a most profuse and reckless manner; he had been missed from his beat by his brother constables about the time of the robbery; he was much agitated and confused when he returned to the station; and he attempted to bribe one of his sergeants who had perceived that he had a large quantity of silver. He was found Guilty, and sentenced to transportation for life.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

The January General Sessions commenced on Monday, when Daniel Sullivan was convicted of a brutal and unprovoked assault on William Draper, in Long Acre, the particulars of which appeared in the *Leader* of Dec. 27. He was sentenced to hard labour for a year.

Thomas Beall, seven years of age, who was convicted last week at Clerkenwell of having stabbed another boy named Charlton, was brought up for judgment on Tuesday. It was stated by the boy's father, when the case was tried, that the matter would never have occurred if his stepmother had taken care of him and his brothers and sisters, five in number, but that she was given to dissipated habits, the result of which was that neither he (the father) nor the children had anything in the world but what they stood up in. The prisoner's own mother died of the cholera when he was but five months old. The Assistant Judge admonished the prisoner, and cautioned him not to use a knife against any one in future. He sentenced him to six days' imprisonment, which having already expired he was discharged, and given over to his brother, a lad of fifteen years of age, who was told to take him home and tell his father to give him a good flogging.

Mary Herrigan and John Regan were indicted for unlawfully assaulting and beating William Thorne, a constable of the metropolitan police force, while in the execution of his duty; and Regan was further indicted for unlawfully assaulting and wounding George Anderson. The facts of the case we have already published. Regan was sentenced to hard labour for eighteen months, and Herrigan to imprisonment for four months.

AN INVALIDED RUFIAN.—An instance of misplaced leniency, recently communicated to the *Times* in a letter from a correspondent, is made the subject of a leading article in that journal on Monday. A convict, named George Holmes, has been allowed to leave prison before the expiration of his sentence, on account of alleged ill health. "This poor invalid," says the *Times*, "is described in the local journals as 'the terror of the neighbourhood, in which he had long resided,' he was suspected of the murder of Mrs. McKnight. A few days after the murder, in the immediate neighbourhood of the spot where that murder had been committed, this worthy creature 'met in broad daylight a child travelling on the high road. He dragged her up a dark lane, brutally assaulted her, and then robbed her.' Strangely enough, the sentence pronounced upon this abominable ruffian was one of imprisonment for only two years. It was pronounced by a barrister who was acting as judge for the day, to the very general disgust of all who heard it. Well, George Holmes was consigned to York Castle, but as soon as he found himself within the walls of that building, his formerly robust health began to decline apace. There was, no doubt, a craving after his accustomed beer-shop and the other little excitements in which his heart delighted. His liver was affected, and then his lungs; and he contrived to make out so good a story to the doctor, and the doctor to the Visiting Justices, and the Visiting Justices to the Home Secretary, that in five months' time he procured his freedom. Change of air and liberty were the two indispensable conditions for preserving to society one of its brightest ornaments in the person of George Holmes. The Governor gave him some money, and, no doubt, every care was taken that the interesting convalescent should be provided with every little comfort his situation might require. Away he went, and we hear of him in a very few days at a beer-shop, where he was given into custody for endeavouring to pass away a bad half-crown." Some remarks on the subject were made at the West Riding Sessions; but no result was come to. It was also alluded to at a meeting of the magistrates of the Bradford division, when a resolution was come to to the effect that, inasmuch as her Majesty's pardon had been conferred upon Holmes, nothing could be done in his case, but that, in the opinion of the bench, it would in future be expedient if the Secretary of State for the Home Department would first inquire into the antecedents of a criminal before her Majesty's clemency was extended to him. Holmes, the pardoned convict, has returned to his old haunts in the village of Hawkesworth, and is living a life of idleness. His presence causes great terror to the peaceable inhabitants.

A CHARITABLE INTERPRETATION.—"Civis" commu-

nicates to the *Times* the following story:—"A gentleman sitting with two or three friends in his dining-room is all at once informed by one of his servants that 'somebody is trying the door!' On cautiously listening, he finds that there is something going on at the door, and on issuing suddenly forth collars a man on the doorstep. The cook, who has been watching in the area, swears the man so collared is the one who has been engaged for some time 'doing something at the door.' The man is given in charge, is recognized by many of the force as a thief and as a companion of thieves. Fortunately, nothing is found upon him but some silver, a pipe, a cigar, and some lucifer matches. The presiding magistrate before whom he is taken this morning is astounded to hear that any one could ever have been locked up on any such charge! 'The men might have been lighting his cigar!' The cook swears to him, the master of the house collars him, and the police recognize him as an old acquaintance; but at ten o'clock at night he is only lighting a cigar at the lock of a street-door. The worthy magistrate is astounded at such a charge being insisted on, and the householder who made it and the policeman who took it are ignominiously dismissed."

FORGERY AND EMBEZZLEMENT.—Henry Autey, clerk in the office of Mr. Martin Cawood, Secretary of the Leeds, Bradford, and Halifax Junction Railway, was placed in the dock of the Leeds Court-house last Saturday, charged with purloining three several warrants from the office of the company, forging the name of Thomas Thompson Cunliffe Lister, Esq., of Beamsley Hall, near Skipton, to these warrants, paying them away, and appropriating the money to his own use. He was committed for trial.

A GAROTTER KILLED IN EDINBURGH.—A youth who serves as a shopman at Edinburgh is now in custody under a charge of killing an Irish labourer, who, in company with four other Irishmen (according to the account given by the young man), attacked him in the streets at night, on his refusing to give them money. It appears that they attempted to garotte him; that he took out a clasp-knife, and struck about all round; and that finally he escaped, leaving one of the men dead on the pavement. He was not then aware of the fatal catastrophe, but he told a policeman of the encounter, and he was subsequently apprehended. The other Irishmen are also detained, pending an inquiry.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.—William Sewell, a commercial traveller in the employ of a corn miller at Bramley, is now under remand on a charge of embezzling various sums, amounting to upwards of 400*l.*, from his master. Another commercial traveller, named Thomas Cullingworth, employed by a spirit merchant at Huddersfield, has been committed for trial, charged with embezzling three boxes of cigars.

VOLUNTARY TORTURE.—A convict in the county gaol of Cardiff attempted a few weeks ago to murder one of the warders by striking him on the head with a large piece of firewood. A day or two afterwards, he endeavoured to strangle himself, but was rescued just in time. His next feat was one of a most amazing character. It was found that the pupils of his eyes were greatly scratched. The medical man was perfectly baffled in his endeavours to ascertain the cause; but at length it was found that he had a small piece of glass in his pocket, with which he had lacerated the pupils to such an extent that it is doubtful whether he has not destroyed his sight. His object, he said, was to be sent out of the country. He is a ticket-of-leave man, and had been convicted of a burglary.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE FORGER.—The convict Robson has been suffering in the infirmary of Newgate from severe illness, and for two or three days he was entirely deprived of his mental faculties. He is under the care of Mr. Gibson, the surgeon of Newgate, and is now improving.

DEDEA REDANIES.—Father Laurence, the Roman Catholic priest who administered the last offices of religion to the convict Dedea Redanies, writes to the papers to say that some of the details of the execution of that culprit are incorrect. It appears that he did not give any evidences of a Mahometan fatalism, nor exclaim, a few minutes before his death, "I shall soon be in the arms of my dear Caroline;" that he made no mention of the names of his victims for the last two days of his life; that he slept well, instead of ill, on his last night; and that he exhibited a very devout demeanour, and an appearance of sincere sorrow for the crimes he had committed. His not taking any refreshment on the morning of his execution is referred to a religious feeling.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.—Two young men, stated to be eighteen years old each, and both apparently active and powerful, were charged at the Mansion House with attempting to pick pockets in the streets. They were well known to the police; and, after having been sentenced to three months' hard labour, the Lord Mayor made some remarks on the great increase of crime, and the necessity that exists for devising some better means of disposing of our convicts. He asked Mr. Pearson, the City Solicitor, what was to be done; and that gentleman replied:—"If our legislators would have the courage to enforce a sound system of prison discipline, no difficulty would arise in disposing of our criminals. If industrial occupation were provided in district prisons, and criminals were taught that if they did not work they should

not eat—if prisoners were compelled by the produce of their own hands to pay the costs of their own prosecution and punishment—it would be found that the criminal class could maintain itself by a process that would be at once primitive and reformatory." Stating the various species of imprisonment by which a criminal graduates in wickedness, the City Solicitor continued:—"Humanity will not kill him, false kindness will not cure him, and the world will not receive him; yet he is a man, and must be somewhere. It is bad legislation that has made criminals what they are: by its influence they have graduated from trifling offences to the gravest crimes, and such will ever be the case unless you provide industrial prisons in which they may be inured to labour, and never discharged until they have acquired fixed habits of industry, proving that they can and will maintain themselves." The Lord Mayor asked the City Solicitor to put his opinions on paper. Mr. Pearson replied:—"I am here, as your Lordship knows, upon other business, and am not prepared with documents to prove the statement; but the fact is, that the present Government is unteachable and untractable on this subject. Seven years ago, Sir George Grey promised that my system of prison discipline should have a thorough investigation and a fair trial, and nothing has been done, that I am aware of, towards the fulfilment of the promise. It is the press and the public to whom I shall next make my appeal. The press is nobly leading the way by preparing the public mind, and the public must follow the course which the press is opening. In obedience to your Lordship's wishes, I will in two or three days lay before you a detailed statement of my opinions upon prison discipline, transportation, and tickets of leave; and if your Lordship will call a public meeting to consider these important questions, I shall be proud to take part in the discussion."

THE ALLEGED ABDUCTION CASE AT BATH.—The hearing of the case "Yescombe v. Roche and another" in the Bath County Court, the particulars of which we gave in our last paper, was resumed on Friday week, and concluded on the following day. According to Mademoiselle Koch, she left Mr. Yescombe's house on account of ill-treatment, and went to Mrs. Madocks's, where Mr. Roche treated her like a gentleman. The jury, after an absence from court of rather more than an hour, returned with a verdict against Mr. Roche, on the count for harbouring: damages, one farthing. They also expressed a unanimous opinion that the case ought never to have been brought into court. The verdict was received with applause. The plaintiff then withdrew another action against Mr. Roche for trespass, of which he had given notice. Mr. Walter Savage Landor gave evidence on Saturday; but his testimony did not materially affect the case.

COUNTY POLICE AND THE GAROTTE.—It was resolved at the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions, on Monday, to make a small addition to the Dudley and Stourbridge districts. Some observations were then made on the prevalence of outrages against the person, on which Sir John Pakington remarked that undoubtedly a good deal of crime was being committed in various parts of the country just now; but nevertheless he thought there was a panic in the public mind on the subject. Everybody was talking about outrages by ticket-of-leave men and of garotte robberies. He thought this arose from a panic, and that it would be removed and forgotten in three months. Lord Lyttelton agreed with Sir John Pakington that a great deal of alarm existed in the public mind on the subject, but said they must not forget that they had still the worst part of the winter to go through. Captain Bennett, who submitted the motion to the Court for the increase in the Dudley force, said that the inhabitants in that district were afraid to venture out after nightfall, and even working men after receiving their wages dared not go home alone. He and his brother magistrates had had as many as seventy cases brought before them in one day. Sir John Pakington resumed the subject the next day, and spoke to the same effect as before.

THE SAMARITAN INSTITUTION.—The charges against Mr. Surr Edward Pack Barber, the secretary to the Samaritan Institution, were proceeded with on several days during the present week, and a great deal of testimony against him was given by some girls who had been in the habit of going to the place; but what they stated one day they denied another. The girls stated that Mr. Barber had offered them remuneration if they would swear that they had received relief from the Institution; but Mr. Alderman Carden said their testimony could not for a moment be depended on.

A WOMAN FOUND DEAD IN A RAILWAY ARCH.—The body of a woman, about thirty years of age, was found on Sunday evening lying dead upon a heap of rubbish in an arch belonging to the Blackwall Railway Company. The poor creature, who was without shawl or bonnet, and appeared to be utterly friendless and unknown, was seen in the morning alive by two other women who entered the arch. They left for a short time to procure some food, and on their return she was dead. A medical man, who had been called to see the woman, having given his opinion that death was caused from destitution and exposure to the weather, the jury at the inquest returned a verdict accordingly, the coroner directing the police authorities to prevent desti-

tute persons in future from inhabiting so wretched a place.

MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS BY A COUNTY MAGISTRATE.—William Hollis, Esq., who has been for many years a justice of the peace, was summoned a few days ago before the Chepstow magistrates for misapplying the funds of the Shirenewton United Friendly Society, of which he was trustee, until lately removed from office. Upon the information being formally read over, Mr. Hollis pleaded guilty to the charge contained in it, and he was ordered by the magistrates to refund the amount, 56*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, together with a penalty of 10*l.*, and 8*s.* 6*d.* costs, and, in default of payment, to be committed to the House of Correction at Usk, and there be kept to hard labour for six weeks.

EXTRAORDINARY MURDER.—A murder has been committed at Merthyr under the roof of the coroner, Mr. Overton. The name of the deceased is Gwennlliam Lewis, and circumstances point strongly to her husband, John Lewis, as being the assassin. He has been arrested, and awaits the result of an inquest on the body of the murdered woman. Lewis and his wife resided at a house in Merthyr in which Mr. Overton, the coroner, had his offices. The occupancy of the premises by the Lewises was a permissive one, arising out of the circumstance of the deceased acting as housekeeper to Mr. Morgan, a solicitor, who also had offices on the premises. On the day of the murder, Mr. Morgan left his house at about three in the afternoon, and did not return till about eleven at night. On entering the house, he was called down stairs by Lewis, and found that Mrs. Lewis was murdered. The husband's face was scratched, and his prevaricating answers throw considerable suspicion on him.

MORTALITY ON BOARD A MERCHANT VESSEL.—Captain Seymour, the master of the ship *Duke of Portland*, appeared before Mr. Selfe, at the Thames police-office, to answer a demand made upon him by a seaman, named Smith, who claimed a balance of 40*l.* for his services on a voyage from Hong Kong to Santa Cruz, the Havannah and London. The man had, it appeared, shipped for 5*l.* per month, the payment of which the captain had resisted to the amount of twenty dollars, in consequence of Smith having, by his own indiscretions, contracted a disease which incapacitated him from doing any work during a considerable part of his voyage. Had there been proper medicines on board, the seaman might have recovered from his illness, and he had applied at the Havannah three times for his discharge, but was refused. Captain Seymour, in reply to this, said the yellow fever was raging at the Havannah when his ship was there, and it would have been certain death to the complainant if he had sent him on shore. It afterwards appeared that the sickness and mortality on board the *Duke of Portland* were very great, as not less than one hundred and thirty-two Chinese had died either from yellow fever or exhaustion on the passage from Hong Kong to Havannah, and as many as two hundred had been ill at the same time. Many more of them died after their arrival at Cuba. The Spanish agents at the latter place carried on a most disgraceful slave traffic, by hiring Chinese from their own country to work in Cuba. As regarded Smith's case, Mr. Selfe said he could not allow him any wages for the time he was off duty, because he had contracted a disease at Hong Kong six weeks after he had joined the ship, and he should only allow one-half the deductions which the captain sought to make while the man was able to do some duties. He made an order for the payment of 22*l.*, which was immediately paid.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDES BY WOMEN.—A girl, named Harriette Jilkes, about seventeen years old, was charged at the Worship-street police-court with attempting to commit suicide. The case exhibited one of those reckless acts that girls of the prisoner's age occasionally commit, with or without an adequate reason, and was only worth notice on account of the praiseworthy conduct of a policeman, who rescued her. The man was on duty in the Kingsland-road, about one o'clock in the middle of the day, when he heard the voice of a woman exclaim, "I can bear this no longer;" and immediately afterwards she leapt from the edge of a stone wharf into the Regent's Canal, at a point where the water is nine feet in depth. She sank at first, but speedily rose to the surface, and the policeman pulled off his outer coat, and plunged into the canal after her. She immediately clutched violently hold of the constable, who could swim only very little; nevertheless, at the imminent hazard of both his own life and the young woman's, he forcibly pushed her from him, and, notwithstanding her desperate efforts to lay hold of him again, managed to struggle with her to the bank of the canal, where they were dragged out by some people who had by this time collected there. The girl was immediately taken to the workhouse, but a whole week elapsed before she was sufficiently recovered from the effects of her immersion to be able to appear in court. It then came out in evidence that the accused had formed an attachment to a young man whose family had said something about the girl which had affected her character, and had therefore led to the commission of the crime with which she was charged, but which she now appeared very sorry for, and promised never to attempt a second time. Ultimately, the young woman was given up to her friends, who said that they would look after her. The magistrate warmly praised the

courage and intrepidity of the officer, who had so nearly lost his life in saving that of the girl, and handed him a sovereign from a member of the Athenæum Club, using the initials "P. H. E.," the gentleman expressing himself in terms of admiration of the constable's conduct. Another young woman, named Julia Manning, was charged, at the Lambeth police-court, likewise with an attempt upon her own life, by throwing herself from Hungerford Suspension Bridge into the river. Like the girl in the preceding case, she was prevented from carrying out her intention by a police constable, who happened to be on duty on the spot at the time. According to the statement of the accused, a young Scotchman, who had been paying court to her (though she was married), had gone to Edinburgh, at which she had become so distressed that she had taken to drinking, and had committed such excesses that she scarcely knew what she was about. She therefore hoped that Mr. Norton would discharge her. When, however, she was brought up on remand the following day, her mother stated to the magistrate that her daughter was married, but had been separated from her husband on account of ill-usage. Mr. Norton thought that the prisoner's attachment to the Scotchman looked very strange; however, as she expressed great regret at what she had done, and promised not to attempt to commit suicide a second time, he consented to discharge her. A third case of attempted suicide by a woman came before the Thames magistrates; but in this case the accused, a careworn looking woman, named Martha Duke, was also charged with administering poison to her son, a child five years old. When brought to the London Hospital, she told Mr. Burch, the resident medical officer, that she was in much distress of mind and great destitution when she took the poison and administered it to her little boy. She also said that she went down to Yorkshire a few weeks since to bury her father, and while she was away her husband committed suicide. Since that melancholy event, she had attempted to obtain a living by needlework. Owing to the miserable remuneration given to her for needlework, and to mental depression and physical destitution, she had no means to support herself and child, and she could find no other refuge than suicide. She was remanded.

FORGERIES IN CONNEXION WITH PUBLIC SECURITIES continue to transpire. A member of the Stock Exchange has absconded, against whom a warrant has been issued for forging a power of attorney for the sale of 500*l.* Consols, and it has been ascertained that he has obtained an advance of 2000*l.* from a person with whom he had dealings upon forged certificates of four hundred shares of the Peel River Company. They are said, however, to have been so imperfectly executed that they ought not to have deceived any one. The seal of the Company was wanted, and the name of the pretended holder was fictitious. They were, therefore, detected immediately on presentation. The company were previously about to call in all their certificates for the purpose of issuing new ones under the Limited Liability Act, and in consequence of this event they have advertized their intention to take that step immediately. —*Times City Article.*

HER MAJESTY'S GRACIOUS PARDON.—The Rev. John Davis, the Ordinary of Newgate, has just furnished us with particulars of the sad history of a certain John Markham, who, when walking in Oxford-street, was mistaken for James Anderson, the man who is now under examination at the Mansion-house upon the charge of having defrauded the City banks. Markham and Attwell's brother were tried together for forgery. Markham was convicted and sentenced to four years of penal servitude, while his companion was acquitted. It was a case of mistaken identity—the lawyers and police had got hold of the wrong man. The poor creature was obliged to sell every little article of furniture he possessed in the world to provide for his unsuccessful defence. His wife was reduced to the deepest distress, and the man himself suffered actual imprisonment for six months. When the matter came to be looked into, the detectives found that they really had made a mistake, and that John Markham was not James Anderson. The result we give in Mr. Davis's own words:—"By the exertions of the late Under Sheriff Rose, whom I gladly assisted, such evidence was placed before the Secretary of State that, after its careful examination by the detective police, the unhappy John Markham was, with Mr. Mullen's consent, on the part of the bankers of London, pardoned by Sir George Grey, and liberated." —*Times.*

A NOBLE ACT OF DARING.

MR. JOHN LANG contributes to the *Times* the annexed thrilling and affecting incident of the great storm which has just passed round our coasts:—

"On Monday, the 5th instant, at 8 A.M., an American ship, the *Northern Belle*, of 1100 tons, bound from New York to London, with a general cargo, came to an anchor off Kingsgate, and distant from the shore about three quarters of a mile. . . .

"At 8 A.M., it was feared that the ship would part from her anchors and come on shore, and a message was despatched to Broadstairs to that effect. The Broadstairs boatmen, who are renowned for their alacrity, immediately harnessed themselves to the truck on which

the lifeboat—the *Mary White*—is always ready, and proceeded to drag it from Broadstairs to Kingsgate, a distance of two miles, over a heavy and hilly country. . . .

"At 11.30 A.M., the multitude assembled were destined to witness a very painful sight. A Margate lugger, called the *Victory*, was hovering about the ship in the hope of rendering her some assistance, when a huge sea struck her and she suddenly disappeared from our sight. She and her crew (from twelve to fifteen in number) went down, and were no more seen. Another lugger, the *Ocean*, of Margate, had at 6 A.M. put five hands on board the *Northern Belle*. . . .

"Between 10 and 11 P.M., the ship parted with her anchors and drove upon the rocks. At this hour, it would have been utterly impossible to launch the lifeboat, for the hail, sleet, and snow prevented the men from seeing any object whatever; and the spot whence it would be necessary to put off was distant more than half a mile. When day broke, at between 6 and 7 o'clock this morning (Tuesday), an awful sight was revealed to those on the cliffs and on the beach. With the naked eye we could discern twenty-three men lashed to the rigging of the only mast left standing. What these poor creatures must have suffered during the night the reader will readily imagine.

"At half-past seven A.M., the lifeboat, the *Mary White*, was manned. . . . Ten brave men pulled through a boiling surf and raging sea, which several times hid them from our sight, and filled us with alarm for their safety. When seven out of the twenty-three men upon the wreck had been got into the lifeboat, it was found necessary to cut her adrift and disentangle her from the ship. With these seven men the boat returned to the shore amid the cheers of the many persons assembled on the beach.

A second lifeboat, which had also been wheeled from Broadstairs, to be ready in the event of the first lifeboat being lost, was now launched, and went off to the wreck. She succeeded in bringing away fourteen. The two remaining were the captain and the pilot, who had been taken in at Dover. The former declared that he would rather die than leave his vessel, and the latter expressed a desire to remain and perish in the old man's company.

"After an hour and a half had elapsed, the lifeboat for the third time left the shore in order to persuade these two men to save their lives. After much difficulty, the crew of the boat succeeded in inducing them to come off the rigging and go to the land. To describe the scene on the beach when it was known that all hands had been saved is beyond my power. A more affecting scene was seldom witnessed. There were tears of gratitude shed by the Americans, tears of joy and of pride by the Broadstairs boatmen. Benumbed as the shipwrecked men were, they could scarcely partake of the refreshment which was provided for them in the little warm parlour of 'The Captain Digby,' the solitary inn which stands upon the cliff at Kingsgate.

"There is a little episode connected with the saving of these men's lives which I am tempted to chronicle:—At 3 o'clock P.M. this day (Tuesday), the *Mary White* was dragged upon her truck by three horses into Broadstairs. In the boat sat her gallant crew. Tied to an American oar was the American standard, which was so recently hoisted as a signal of distress. The tattered flag fluttered over the broken bows of the *Mary White*. It was thus that the boat passed through the streets of Broadstairs, amidst the joyous shouts of the inhabitants of the town."

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE ARCTIC.—Some fishermen engaged on the western edge of the Grand Bank, about fifty miles from land, have hooked a wreck, which is supposed to be the American mail steamer *Arctic*, which sank in 1854.

SHIPWRECKS.—The New York and Liverpool packet-ship *New York* went ashore on the night of the 19th ult., two miles from Basnegat inlet. Next morning (say the accounts from America), the second mate and six men succeeded in landing with a rope in one of the ship's boats; the passengers were afterwards landed in safety. The captain (McKinnon) was brutally ill-used and seriously injured by seven of his crew, while endeavouring to suppress insubordination. He snapped a pistol at one man; it missed fire, and he was knocked down, and but for the mate, who stood over him, would have been murdered. The mate also was in great danger, but one of the mutineers took his part. Next day, the man was killed by his comrades. For four days and nights, the emigrants, three hundred in number, remained without shelter or food of any kind on the bleak coast. In the same gale, the brig *Tasso*, of St. John's, Newfoundland, was wrecked. Four of her crew and two men who had gone off from the beach were drowned attempting to get ashore. The brig *E.D.*, bound from Pernambuco to Liverpool, was wrecked on the 8th of October. Some of the crew were drowned, but others escaped to an island, where they endured dreadful agony for some days, and were at length rescued by the barque *Melbourne*.—The ship *Clima*, of London, struck on one of the Thousand Islands at the entrance of the Java Straits on the 30th of June, and went down. The crew were saved.

DISASTROUS GALES.—A fearful gale from the north-east raged along the coasts on Saturday and Sunday, causing a great many shipwrecks and great loss of life. Among the vessels lost, with all hands, is the Point of Ayr life-boat, off Rhyl, the particulars of which sad catastrophe are thus communicated from that town:—The lifeboat was ordered out on Sunday morning to a vessel in distress. The boat was launched, manned with thirteen practised boatmen, and started towards the unfortunate ship. When opposite Rhyl, the boat was struck by a gust of wind, and capsized. Ten of the men were instantly drowned, while the remaining three managed to creep up, and were seen on the keel of the boat for upwards of forty minutes, when at last they were washed off, and met the same fate as their comrades. What makes the unfortunate case more melancholy still is, that this happened in the daytime, and within a short space from the sea-shore. The Rhyl boat was out at the time, and did not return until about two o'clock, having saved four men from a brigantine, out in distress opposite Abergele. The gale has also been excessively violent at Cardiff, not merely on the sea, but on the land. Several houses were blown down, and trees uprooted; and a great amount of damage was done to property; but no lives were lost.—The sacrifice of life off Hartlepool has been fearfully great, five vessels having foundered during the height of the gale, with all hands. Another vessel, the brig Empress, Captain Smith, of Sunderland, was dismasted, went on the Longscar Rocks, and then was driven on the Seaton Beach; and out of a crew of twelve only four were saved. Another, the Mary Harvey, belonging to Colchester, was cast ashore, and two of the crew perished. More than fifteen vessels have been lost or stranded in the vicinity of the harbour. The hands of the Joven Dolores, of Ipswich, which was driven ashore near the East Pier, reported that they saw three vessels founder; but the fearful sea that was running prevented all aid being rendered to the crews.—Another melancholy loss is that of the Ostend Mail Packet Violet, in its passage from Ostend. The gale was accompanied by violent snow, and the vessel, probably mistaking the Gull light for the light on the North Foreland, ran aground on the Goodwin Sands, and went to pieces. Three were found lashed to a lifebuoy at sea, quite dead. It would seem that all hands have been drowned.—We are pained to say that a great many other casualties—too many, indeed, for us even to mention—have been attended by loss of life. It will be learnt, also, with regret that the submarine electric cables across the English Channel have been damaged by a vessel dragging her anchors across them during the wind-storm.—A lamentable wreck, caused by the violence of the hurricane, is reported from Guernsey. The barque Boadicea, of Shields, has been beaten to pieces on the Totnez Rocks, and nine of the crew perished.

THE CELT.—The Union Screw Company's steamship Celt, Captain Clint, bound for the Brazils, has been twice obliged to put back to Southampton—owing, on the first occasion, to some damage to her machinery; and, on the second, to a leak having been sprung. The facts of the case are undergoing investigation.

MORE WAR SHIPS.—Two new men-of-war have just been commenced at Pembroke. They are the Gannet, 8 guns, screw, of 580 tons; and the Greyhound, 17 guns, screw, of 880 tons. The following is a list of the ships now building, which show a squadron of great size and weight of armament:—Howe, 121 guns, 1000 horse-power; Windsor Castle, 116, sailing-ship; Revenge, 91, 800 horse-power; Aurora, 51, 400 horse-power; Immortalité, 51 guns, 600 horse-power; Melpomene, 51 guns, 600 horse-power; Orlando, 36, 800 horse-power; Doris, 32, 800 horse-power; Greyhound, 17, 200 horse-power; Gannet, 8, 150 horse-power. This reserve squadron will carry 574 guns. The Orlando will be the longest frigate in the service, being 300 feet in extent. The Doris is the second of the new class 32's, and sister ship to the Diadem.

THE LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—Some of the life-boats of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, during the awful gale which visited the coast last Sunday, were instrumental in saving many lives from shipwrecks. The crews of the several life-boats spoke in the highest terms of their qualities. It is a gratifying fact that, during the thirty-three years this institution has been established, only one fatal accident—and that occurred more than twenty years ago—has happened to any one of its life-boats.

COURT-MARTIAL ON AN OFFICER.—A court-martial has been sitting for the purpose of trying First Lieutenant John Martley Sadleir, Royal Marines, Light Infantry, on the charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. First—For having neglected to pay his mess debts and subscriptions; the whole of the debts still remaining unpaid, although he had been repeatedly ordered by Colonels Childs and Dwyer to liquidate the same. The sentence of the Court will not be promulgated until after the approval or otherwise of the Admiralty.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A COLLISION of a fearful character took place on the night of Thursday week in the Shugborough tunnel, near Stafford, between a goods train and coal train, causing considerable damage to property, and severely injuring the driver and stoker of the coal train.

An Irishwoman, engaged at the Bute Docks, Cardiff, has met with an appalling death while attempting to steal some coal. We learn from the local papers that the coal is tipped into vessels by means of large shoots, and at one end of these are heavy weights, acting as a counterpoise. These weights, on the shoot being emptied, fall into large wooden trucks, at the bottom of which is nailed a strong board. In order to facilitate the stealing of coal, the woman had removed this board, and had placed her head and hand into the trunk for the purpose of pulling down the loose coal, and, while she was in the act of doing so, the weight descended, and not only struck her a terrible blow on the head, but confined her in the trunk for at least a quarter of an hour, notwithstanding that every exertion was used to extricate her. When she was taken out, it was found that her head had been smashed, and death must have been almost instantaneous.

Mr. Carter concluded an adjourned inquiry at the Railway Tavern, Kingston, on Tuesday, respecting the death of George Watson. It appeared from the evidence of an engine-driver named Porter that he was in charge of a passenger train which left Waterloo station at 10.45 P.M. on Friday week. Some obstruction was found on the line at the Kingston cutting, near the Maldon station, and a porter who proceeded to the spot found the body of Watson lying on the permanent way, near the wooden bridge. After a long inquiry, the jury brought in the following verdict:—"That the deceased was accidentally killed by a railway train passing over him from falling through the bridge, and there is every reason to believe he was disabled from a fall from the said bridge, which is so constructed and insecure, that any person slipping or tripping upon it would probably fall into the cutting; and the jurors recommend the widow and children of the deceased to the kindest consideration of the railway company; and the jury also express their opinion that no blame whatever is attached to the engine-driver."

An inquest was held at Warwick Quay, near Warrington, upon the body of Timothy Maloney, who was killed upon the London and North-Western Railway. He was a platelayer in the employ of the company, and was engaged in repairing the line when he saw a train coming up. He crossed over the line to avoid it, when a coal train belonging to the Ince Hall Coal Company came up on the line where the poor fellow was then standing, and he was knocked down by the engine, the whole of the train passing over him. He was picked up lifeless. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.

A Mr. Wallace, a silversmith, has been killed by the fall of a capstone at a new building now being erected in Cornhill.

OBITUARY.

THE RIGHT REV. DR. WILSON, Bishop of Cork, died on Monday morning at the episcopal palace, St. Finn Barr's.

DR. ANDREW URE, F.R.S., died on the 2nd inst., at the house of his son in Upper Seymour-street, Portman-square. Dr. Ure was born at Glasgow on the 18th of May, 1778, and had consequently entered upon his 79th year. He studied both at Edinburgh and Glasgow, and in 1803 graduated in the university of the latter city. In 1805, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry to the Andersonian University of Glasgow.

MR. BROTHERTON, M.P., the champion of short hours in "the House," died suddenly on Tuesday from disease of the heart, while riding in an omnibus in Manchester. He was seventy-three years old.

LORD MILFORD died at Picton Castle, Pembrokeshire, last Saturday, aged fifty-six. He leaves no heir, and the title becomes extinct.

SIGNOR CRIVELLI.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Signor Crivelli, which took place on Wednesday, December 31, at his residence, 71, Upper Norton-street, Portland-place. Signor Crivelli came to England in the year 1817, with his father, who was engaged as the principal tenor at the King's Theatre. From that time he has dedicated himself to the profession of teaching singing, and directly acquired a great name, which he maintained with increasing reputation up to the moment of his death. Since the foundation of the Royal Academy of Music in 1823, he has been the principal professor of singing at that institution, and almost all our present singers have been his pupils. Signor Crivelli has also written a method of singing, *L'Arte del Canto*, which is considered the best work extant. He leaves behind him a celebrated name in the profession, and was beloved and esteemed by all who knew him.—*Times*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EMIGRATION FOR 1856.—The total number of persons who have left Liverpool during the year 1856 was 128,566, of whom 112,716 took their departures in 317 vessels, termed emigrant ships, or "under the act," of an aggregate tonnage of 434,473 tons, and 15,850 persons in 319 vessels, of an aggregate tonnage of 336,111 tons, "not under the act." The emigration of 1856 exceeds that of 1855 by 8448. Of these 112,716 persons, 87,996 were English; 5519 Scotch; 61,828, or more than one-half, Irish; 5254 natives of other countries; the remainder, 2119, being cabin passengers,

who are not classified. The total emigration to Australia during the year was about 22,800 souls, of whom no less than 11,165 were sent out in vessels belonging to Messrs. James Baines and Co.'s Black Ball line; 5337 by Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson's White Star line; and 1360 by Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co.'s Eagle line of packets.

SWISS PATRIOTISM IN LIVERPOOL.—A meeting of Swiss residents in Liverpool was convened on the evening of Thursday week by Mr. E. Zwiilchenbar, Swiss Consul at this port, for the purpose of instituting a subscription for the wives and families of those at present under arms pending the anticipated war between Prussia and Switzerland. The meeting was held at the Consul's office. Although the circular convening the meeting had been issued but a few hours, about thirty gentlemen were present. Much enthusiastic patriotism was manifested, and upwards of 500*l.* was at once subscribed. The subscription is still open. A great number of Swiss, both from Liverpool and Manchester, are returning home for the purpose of resisting the aggression upon their country.

THE REPRESENTATION OF GREENWICH.—Sir William Codrington presented himself on Monday night before a meeting of the electors of Greenwich, to state the opinions on which he offers himself to them as a candidate. He avowed himself a Liberal and a Reformer; an advocate of the repeal of church-rates, of the admission of Jews to Parliament, and of the abolition of the additional war per-centage on the income-tax; and an opponent of the ballot. With respect to the additional ninepence on the income-tax, he would not say that the remission should be altogether unconditional at the present moment. He was ready to support the remission, provided the faith of the country was maintained; but only on that proviso. In answer to a man who spoke from the body of the hall, General Codrington said he was decidedly not prepared to abolish flogging in the army. At this, there were mingled hisses and cheers. To an interrogatory from the same person as to whether the General would extend flogging to officers in the army—a question which caused some amusement—Sir William said he would decidedly not do so (*disapprobation*), and for this reason, that the people to deserve flogging as officers were not in the army. Sir William has since held some other meetings. Mr. Sleight has also addressed the electors.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—An appeal was heard in the Court of Chancery, on Friday week, from a decision of Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, refusing the prayer of a petition presented by six of the creditors of the bank. The petition asked the Court of Bankruptcy to direct the official assignee to petition the Court of Chancery for an order finally to wind up the company, and to appoint a receiver. The Lord Chancellor delivered judgment, and dismissed the appeal, but without costs.—The arguments disputing the adjudication in bankruptcy were heard yesterday (Friday), and ended in the adjudication being annulled.

THE NEWCASTLE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE has received a letter from the East India Office, which says:—"Your letter, dated the 5th instant, addressed to the Chairman, inquiring, 'On behalf of the Newcastle Committee for Investigating the Action of Diplomacy,' whether the information be authentic that a hostile expedition from Bombay has been ordered against Persia, has been laid before the Court of Directors of the East India Company. In reply, I am directed to refer you to the answer which you have received to a similar letter sent by you to the Commissioners for the Affairs of India." The same committee has also received a letter from the Board of Control, which reads:—"In reply to the letter which you have addressed to the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, 'On behalf of the Newcastle Committee for Investigating the Action of Diplomacy,' I am directed to refer you to the answer, which, as the Board are aware, you have received to a similar letter sent by you to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs."

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—A special meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday at the Guildhall. The members met at twelve o'clock, and were engaged for about five hours in discussing whether it would be advisable to take a portion of the site of the Fleet Prison in Farringdon-street for the erection of offices, or whether for the present they should merely make arrangements for the temporary accommodation on their premises in Greek-street; but they separated without coming to any definite conclusion on the subject.

OPPOSITION TO THE INCOME-TAX.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Bridgewater, convened by the mayor, Mr. J. Ruddock, was held in the Guildhall of that town on Monday. There was a large attendance of the principal merchants and professional men of the place present, as well as the two members for the borough, Colonel Tynte and Mr. Follett. The speakers addressed the meeting at some length against the continuance of the present amount of income-tax for more than one year after the terms of the treaty of peace had been agreed to, Colonel Tynte observing that he did not think Lord Palmerston's Government would do so. After resolutions had been proposed and carried, a petition disapproving of the continuance of the additional ninepence, and of the present unfair mode of assessing the tax, was adopted.—A meeting with a similar result

has been held at Frome.—Other meetings have been held at Leicester, Cambridge, &c., against the continuance of the present income-tax beyond next April. At Lancaster, Sir Joshua Walsley was present, and spoke strongly upon the impolicy of continuing the tax in its present shape.

BERMONDSEY PURIFIED.—Great efforts have recently been, and are still being, made to cleanse and purify Bermondsey. Great changes for the better are already effected—a fact which those who knew Bermondsey as it was will be rejoiced to learn.

A PIECE OF SCOTCH BRAG.—The *Glasgow Herald* recently published the particulars of some large casting at the foundry of Mr. Neilson. After describing in glowing terms the vastness of the undertaking, the excited Caledonian penman spluttered forth this boast—that the work just accomplished was “a work which all the iron-workers in England refused, the like of which none of the iron-masters of England ever saw.” Hereupon, Messrs. H. and M. D. Grissell, of London, write to the *Times* (which had quoted the Boreal bluster) in these terms:—“No doubt the *Glasgow Herald* perfectly agrees with Professor Blackie (now of some notoriety) that we are an ‘inferior nation.’ But I would add, that the *Glasgow Herald* knows nothing of English iron-workers or English iron-masters, and that we could easily find him fifty workers and masters who would make but a light question of the task Mr. Neilson has no doubt so ably performed; and that, among many others, it was not refused by, because not offered to, Yours very respectfully, &c.” Really, the vanity, the restless self-assertion, of these our noisy neighbours amounts to a kind of national disease, which might make the subject of a very interesting medical discourse. Their vanity is not even amiable, since it is allied to gratuitous impertinence. We are inclined to address our northern cousins in the words of an old song, as the best advice they can receive:—“Cease, rude Boreas, blustering railer.”

IN RE HUMPHREY BROWN, M.P.—The petition for adjudication of bankruptcy in this case was disposed of in the Bankruptcy Court last Saturday. The Commissioner held that the petitioning creditor's debt (that of the Royal British Bank for about 40,000*l.*) had been proved, as also an act of bankruptcy. Adjudication of bankruptcy was accordingly made. Mr. Patrick Johnson is the official assignee. Messrs. Linklater and Hackwood are the solicitors in the case. The assets available for the creditors are said to be of considerable amount.

PAPER PENCE.—The issue of packets of omnibus tickets, at a reduction of 10 per cent. on every sovereign's worth taken, commenced on Thursday week. In the course of that day, upwards of 10,000 tickets were sold at one place only, the central office of the company at Charing-cross. The inconvenience of carrying halfpence will by this simple means be entirely spared to omnibus passengers. Several large drapery firms have declared an intention of availing themselves of these tickets, as the pleasantest small change for their lady-customers.

THE STORM IN THE METROPOLIS.—A violent storm of wind passed over London last Saturday. It had been blowing rather freshly all day; and at evening the force of the wind increased, and continued until after midnight, blowing a perfect gale. The Thames was lashed into a furious state, and a great many of the barges and small vessels were sunk, driven against one another, or sent adrift. Several persons in the streets were injured by falling tiles and chimney-pots; and some of the trees in the parks were uprooted or seriously damaged. The gale was also very violent on the coasts, where it caused several casualties which we have chronicled in our Naval and Military columns.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF LYON SAMUEL.—Judgment in this case, the facts of which have already appeared in the *Leader*, was given on Monday by Mr. Commissioner Goulburn, who believed that the bankrupt and Peter Dimond had been acting in confederacy for the purpose of cheating the creditors. He felt bound in duty to remand the bankrupt to prison. Samuel, who had been very noisy on previous occasions, received this judgment with respectful silence, and notice of appeal was given by his counsel.

AN INSOLVENT THROUGH POLITICAL ANIMOSITY.—An insolvent debtor, named Lucas, stated before Mr. Commissioner Phillips on Monday, that ever since the last general election, when he voted for the Conservatives, his business (that of a licensed victualler) had been gradually decreasing. He belonged to Macclesfield; and the Commissioner said he must be removed to Chester at the creditors' expense.

CHRISTMAS HOSPITALITY.—Miss Burdett Coutts, on the night of New Year's Day, entertained to supper a large number of working men and women and some seven hundred children belonging to the parish of St. Peter's Stepney.

SUICIDE AT WOOLWICH.—A frightful occurrence took place on Monday morning at Woolwich Dockyard. One of the labourers employed in the chain testing department, arrived at his place of labour at seven o'clock A.M., and was the first man to whom a ticket was delivered. He proceeded towards the chain wharf, where, standing between the posts of the marine sentry and the police-constable on duty, he was seen to draw a clasp-knife deliberately from his pocket, with which he inflicted a deep wound in the region of the heart. Immediately

withdrawing the weapon and casting it on the ground, he plunged headforemost into the Thames. It being high water at the time, the body was not discovered until the tide had receded, when it was found imbedded in the soil of the river, six hours and a half after its immersion. There appears to be no doubt that the man was insane; and the morbid tendency of mind was probably excited by the fact that his brother-in-law had committed suicide last week.

MR. COCKSHOTT.—The Board of Customs has appointed Mr. Cockshott to the vacant office of Chairman of Surveyors in the port of London. This gentleman was the first to bring the decimal system of weights into practical operation in this country by its partial introduction into the Customs.

THE VICARAGE OF CRIPPLEGATE.—Archdeacon Hale has resigned the living of the vicarage of Cripplegate, which he has held for the last ten years. In the early part of last week, the archdeacon forwarded his resignation to the Bishop of London, and he has received an official notification that it is accepted. The living is in the gift of the Chapter of St. Paul's, and is valued, it is said, at 1800*l.* a year.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT.—It is now stated that there is no foundation whatever for the rumour that Mr. Sidney Herbert has inherited any part of the property of the late Prince Woronzoff.

IN RE SEACOLE AND DAY.—Thursday was appointed for the last examination of these bankrupts—the former being the lady so highly extolled for her humanity and generosity to our gallant soldiers in the Crimea during the late war. The examination was passed without the slightest opposition.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—A private meeting was held on Thursday, in the Court of Bankruptcy, the object being to discuss a great number of proofs on the part of shareholders, who desired to prove as creditors against the estate. The examinations were not concluded during the day.

AUSTRALIA AND THE WEST INDIES.—The last mails from these colonies do not bring any news of importance.

AN AMERICAN FORGER.—A man, named Huntington, said to be descended from the “Pilgrim Fathers,” is now being tried in America on several charges of forgery to an immense amount. The defence was that the accused was insane. He had been religiously brought up, and had at one time acted as a Sunday school teacher; but he had exhibited a great propensity to destroy things, out of a morbid curiosity to know their composition. Setting up in business, he started a vast number of schemes, some of them of the wildest character, but never kept long to anything. He then got into pecuniary difficulties, and committed the forgeries with which he was charged. “His furniture,” said his counsel, “was of the most costly description, and he had an immense iron safe filled with expensive silver plate, and it was said even gold spoons. He purchased jewels worthy of an emperor, and gave them away with frightful prodigality. He sported fine horses and equipages. All his forgeries, however, were bungled. He frequently left out one of the names of the firm, sometimes put in an extra name, and sometimes reversed their order. He had signed names himself when he could have got the genuine ones by asking for them. He had raised money on forged securities at sixty per cent., and lent it at eighteen and even seven. He kept no books during these transactions from which the extent of his affairs could be ascertained with any approach to accuracy. He used forgeries in some instances to obtain money on credit, when no security would have been required or asked. He took no measures to prevent his arrest in case the forgeries should be detected. His design was to remain in New York, or the vicinity. All his extravagant purchases, with trifling exceptions, were made for cash upon forged paper, when he might have made them upon credit. He committed crime to pay debts from which he had been already released. He omitted to destroy evidence of his forgeries. He procured an honest, inexperienced person—a relative—to prepare notes which he subsequently converted into forgeries. He accumulated no property for himself or family. He made no preparation for defraying the expenses of his defence in the event of exposure. Since his arrest, he has sent to several persons who have suffered by him, soliciting money to aid him in his defence. On his first indictment he was bailed with 20,000*dols.* by two of his alleged victims as securities—one of whom was Charles Bolden and the other Harbeck. He was suffered to go at large a whole day without making an effort to escape. He met these two alleged victims by appointment, and admitted that nearly all the commercial paper he had delivered to them was forged. He wept over this state of things, and Bolden and Harbeck wept with him—probably the first time in many years. The next morning, while yet at large, he made a voluntary assignment to them, excluding all other creditors.”

ELECTION NEWS.—Mr. Baillie Cochrane has been returned for Lanarkshire without opposition.—By the death of Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart., which occurred last Thursday, a vacancy is caused in West Kent. It is said that Charles Wykeham Martin, Esq., of Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, father of P. W. Martin, Esq., the Liberal Member for Rochester, will be brought forward by the Liberal party, with a good prospect of success.—Mr. A. W. Kinglake, the author of “Euthen,” is a can-

didate for Newport, Isle of Wight, in the room of Mr. Biggs, resigned.—The electors of Salford are said to be preparing a requisition to Mr. E. R. Langworthy, to allow himself to be put in nomination for the representation of the borough, in the room of Mr. Brotherton, deceased.

DR. WOLFF ON HERAT.—The Rev. Dr. Wolff delivered a lecture last Monday evening, at Leamington, on the religious and political condition of the countries of the East, in connexion with the second coming and personal reign of Christ. Speaking of Herat, he said that the British Government “made an infamous treaty, a dishonourable and disgraceful treaty, with Yaar Muhammad Khan, the Chief of Herat, by which treaty the British Government assisted Yaar Muhammad Khan in 1840, against the Persians, who besieged Herat in order to liberate their 300,000 slaves scattered in and around Herat, Bokhara, and Khiva! They sent—he repeated the British Government sent—the skilful officers Majors Pottinger and Darcy Tod to Herat, in order not only to prevent the Persians from liberating their countrymen from slavery, but also in order to enable Yaar Muhammad Khan and the Turcomans to make more slaves, under the protection of the British artillery. The people of Herat, of course, succeeded, and Yaar Muhammad Khan, addicted to every crime not to be mentioned, and a murderer besides, threatened to kill Darcy Tod, if he should refuse to give him money. Poor Tod was obliged to fly from Herat, and on his arrival in India the Government most basely disgraced that brave officer as a coward, who died most bravely afterwards in battle against the Sikhs, under Generals Lord Gough and Hardinge.”

SUICIDE.—A Mr. J. Winter, living on Tower-hill, and but recently arrived from Brighton, has killed himself by swallowing laudanum. He had been in a very desponding state of mind for some time past; but the cause of his depression is not known.

LORD NAPIER has been appointed as English Ambassador to Washington.

A ‘FAST’ CLERGYMAN.—The reverend gentleman from Leicestershire who was robbed last week in Stamford, after spending some hours in a public-house where dancing was going on, has not yet recovered the property stolen from him. Thus his unseemly predilections have lost him his watch, and also, it is said, the respect of the bishop, who has been made acquainted with the whole of the circumstances. It is further stated that the rev. gentleman's self-willed conduct had previously attracted the notice of his superiors in the Church.—*Stamford Mercury.*

BEIGANDS AT A RAILWAY STATION.—As the omnibus which conveys passengers to the Serravalle and Gavi Railway (Piedmont) was on the 28th ultimo turning a corner at no great distance from the station, it was suddenly attacked by five robbers, who forced the passengers to give up all they had about them, one parting with 600*fr.* in gold. Having made this capture, they proceeded to a nook at a short distance from the road, where they thought themselves safe, to divide the booty. Here, however, they were discovered by two carabinieri, which threw them into such consternation that, without the slightest attempt at resistance, though they were well armed, they took to flight. The carabinieri pursued them, and overtook two, with whom they commenced a struggle of life and death. One of the ruffians managed to get out his stiletto, with which he dealt his antagonist a blow, which might have proved fatal had not the sheath fortunately stuck to the weapon; nevertheless, the carabiniere was staggered by the violence of the blow, and let go his hold, so that his prisoner escaped. The other thief was overpowered and manacled; in his pocket they found a certificate of good conduct, signed by the Syndic of Pozzuolo, for a passport to France. The others had not been captured up to the latest account.

EXPLOSION OF A PORTABLE GAS CARRIAGE.—The Paris papers describe a curious accident. One of the large vehicles employed to convey portable gas stopped at an early hour on Sunday morning at the Café de Paris, in the Rue Rambuteau, and delivered a supply. The man in charge of the vehicle, in order to ascertain the quantity given, imprudently placed a lighted candle so near to the vessel placed on the cart that the gas in the pipe which communicated with the reservoir caught fire. Two surgens-de-ville, who happened to be near, with great presence of mind immediately caused the vehicle to be removed to the open space at the entrance of the Rue Beaubourg, so as to isolate it; and when this was done the horses were unharnessed. A few seconds later a column of flame shot up to a prodigious height, higher than the roofs of the houses; then a tremendous explosion took place; and, lastly, a mass of flames burst forth.

ODONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—The first meeting of this society was held on Monday evening, at 32A, George-street, Manover-square, when a large muster of the leading practitioners of dental surgery, both in town and from the country, met together. Some preliminary business having been gone through, the President, Mr. Cartwright, delivered an address, in which, after glancing at the progress of dental surgery during the last century, he took a review of the present position and prospects of the profession, and strongly urged the necessity of a liberal education, in conjunction with the special qualifications required for those who would practise this department of surgery with credit and success. The then referred to the

circumstances connected with the presentation of a memorial to the Council of the College of Surgeons by certain members of the profession (including himself), stating the reasons which led to the adoption of that proceeding. The advisability of maintaining the connexion of dental with general surgery was strongly insisted upon, and it was held that a voluntary separation from the College of Surgeons could not but be disadvantageous to the body of dentists. The great need of a society, formed on the model of other scientific societies, as a point of union amongst the practitioners of dental surgery and as a medium for the communication of experience and the discussion of professional subjects, was pointed out, and the president concluded by expressing his conviction that these objects would be fully attained by the establishment of the Odontological Society.

LONGEVITY DESIRE OF A BAD REGIMENT.—The life of the Rev. William Davies, rector of Staunton-upon-Wyed, vicar of All Saints, Hereford, who died in 1790, aged one hundred and five, displays one of the most extraordinary instances of departure from all those rules of temperance and exercise which so much influence the lives of the mass of mankind, that is probably to be found in the whole records of longevity. During the last thirty-five years of his life, he never used any other exercise than that of just slipping his feet, one before the other, from room to room; and they never after that time were raised but to go down or up-stairs—a task, however, to which he seldom subjected himself. His breakfast was hearty, consisting of *hot rolls, well buttered*, with a large supply of tea or coffee. His dinner was substantial, and frequently consisted of a variety of dishes. At supper he generally ate hot roast meat, and always drank wine, though never to excess. Though nearly blind for a number of years, he was always cheerful in his manners, and entertaining in his conversation, and was much beloved by all who knew him. He had neither gout, stone, paralysis, rheumatism, nor any of those disagreeable infirmities which mostly attend old age, but died peacefully in the full possession of all his faculties, mental and corporeal, save his eyesight. Like most long-livers, he was very short of stature.—*The London Quarterly Review* for January.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The great poultry show, which has been announced for some time past at the Crystal Palace, is to open to-day (Saturday). The show will take place in the wing of the building leading from the railway corridor to the Palace, and in the large tower at the end of that wing. Although slightly inferior in numbers to the late Birmingham display, this show will fully equal it in the quality of the poultry and pigeons exhibited, and will far excel it in the ampler space and better light at command. One important class of fancy animals—rabbits—which were unrepresented at Birmingham, will form a very important part of the show at Sydenham.—*Daily News*.

MINUTE MEDUSE.—There is one group of these creatures in which a different class of phenomena present themselves. The polype developed from the embryo in the egg throws out branches like the freshwater species, without secreting a horny investment. But, after a time, each polype undergoes a new change. It casts away its terminal ring of tentacles: numerous parallel constrictions of its waist cause its body to resemble the flounced dress of a modern belle. The constrictions nearest the free extremity, successively deepen, until that extremity becomes detached; as if a transverse slice had been cut off, carrying with it one of the flounces. This slice, which becomes a free independent Medusa, is followed in succession by others; until nothing remains but a stump-end of the original animal. Nothing daunted by these successive slicings, the fragment throws out from its free extremity a new ring of tentacles, and develops a new array of lateral branches; each of which, in time, undergoes the same fission as the original polype; so that, by the end of the season, the latter has, directly and indirectly, originated more Medusæ than we could easily number. But let not awe-stricken Malthusians imagine that this is the end of the mischief! What has occurred is but a preparation for the true work of multiplication. As we have said, these Medusæ are to the polype what dices flowers are to the plant. Each female produces eggs innumerable. The whole is an institution for dispersing what would become a surplus population; and would delight the Emigration Commissioners, did not its perfect action paralyse them with despair.—*The London Quarterly Review* for January.

DERBY SPRING RACES.—These events are fixed for Thursday, February 26 (weather permitting). The following stakes will be contested for:—The Scarsdale Stakes of 5 sovs. each, with 25 sovs. added, for 2-yr-olds; the Harrington Plate (a handicap), with 30 sovs. added, for 3-yr-olds and upwards; a Selling Plate (flat race) of 20 sovs. added to a sweepstake of 5 sovs. each, for 3-yr-olds and upwards; the Midland Steeple-chase of 50 sovs., added to a handicap of 10 sovs. each; a Hurdle Race of 50 sovs., added to a handicap of 5 sovs. each; a Selling Hurdle Race of 25 sovs., added to a sweepstake of 5 sovs. each. The stewards have not yet been announced.

THE WEATHER IN PARIS.—A very decided change has taken place in the weather, which has all at once become much colder. A considerable quantity of snow fell on Monday night in the neighbourhood of

Paris, and yesterday morning the roofs of the houses were all white. During the day, the state of the atmosphere was exceedingly wintry, and the difference between temperature then and that of the day before was very marked. It is worthy of notice that the prediction of the weather made about a fortnight ago by the Abbé O'Donnelly expressly mentions January 6th as the day on which the change to a decidedly colder state of the atmosphere was to commence.

C. J. MARE AND CO.—The works lately the property of C. J. Mare and Co. are about to be carried on under the Limited Liability Act, by a joint-stock company, to be called the Thames Iron and Ship-building Company. The shares are to be of 5000l. each, to be paid up in cash within a month, and the entire amount has been subscribed by fourteen persons of good commercial standing in London. The property was purchased of the estate of Mare and Co. by Mr. Peter Rolt.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, January 10.

SWITZERLAND.

SWITZERLAND accepts the new French proposals, and the Assembly has been convoked for the 14th instant. It is understood that England supports those propositions.

"The following," says a letter from Bern of the 3rd, in the *Indépendance* of Brussels, "is the most trustworthy version of the negotiations for the pacific solution of the question. England, we are assured, completely approves of the last proposition made by the Emperor Napoleon, which is to this effect:—'The Federal Council is requested to release the prisoners solely out of regard for the friendly sentiments of the Emperor. The Emperor, in return, engages to endeavour to obtain from the King of Prussia the complete renunciation of Neuchâtel. Should the King of Prussia refuse to negotiate on this base, the Emperor will oppose any aggression on the part of Prussia against Switzerland, and will defend the independence of Neuchâtel.'"

NAPLES.

Baron Bentivenga, the leader of the late Sicilian revolt, was shot near Palermo on the 20th December. He died with great courage, and requested permission to be shot with his eyes uncovered. This favour was, however, refused him. Previous to dying, he made a will in favour of his mother and brothers, and then partook calmly of a cup of coffee. He declared himself the sole instigator of the late rebellion, and implored the mercy of the King on behalf of the other prisoners.

TURKEY.

Redschid Pacha has concluded a loan of twelve millions sterling with Mr. Wilkins, the representative of a body of English capitalists. The loan is negotiated at par, and the interest is fixed at six per cent. Six or eight millions sterling are to be advanced to the Government, and the remainder will be devoted to the organization of a bank, the regularization of the coinage, and the withdrawal of the paper money.

PERSIA AND RUSSIA.

The Shah has sent an autograph letter to the Czar, to request his advice and assistance.

A rumour has prevailed at Constantinople that the Circassians had defeated a Russian corps of 10,000 men, near Beyduk.

THE ENGLISH FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

According to intelligence of the 2nd instant, received at Trieste from Constantinople, the English squadron has received instructions to hold itself in readiness to return to England on the first order to that effect.

PROFESSOR SAFFI'S LECTURES.—The two lectures on "Italy as It Is, and as It Is to Be," by Professor Saffi, will be delivered at the Literary Institution, Edward's-street, Portman-square, on Thursday, January the 15th, and Thursday, January the 22nd. Great interest has been excited by the announcement of these lectures by the ex-triumvir of Rome.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, January 9th, 1857, including season ticket-holders, 6358.

THE FUNERAL OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS is to take place to-day.

Mr FREDERICK GURNEY, a gentleman of considerable property, was found yesterday morning dead in the Regent's Canal, Camden-town. He was about fifty-six years of age. When he left home, he had with him a gold watch and two diamond rings; and these were missing from the body. A suspicion of foul play is consequently engendered.

MALTA.—A frightful storm occurred at Malta on New Year's Day. Four ships foundered at sea; and three hundred vessels of all sizes have been wrecked against the wharfs and piers.

COUNT DE MOURV is, it is said, about to marry the daughter of the Princess Trowbetzky, of St. Petersburg.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. M.—We shall be happy to receive the communication alluded to for the "Open Council" of the *Leader*. The residuary letters in type on the Moon Controversy we shall publish as space permits, but we must consider the discussion closed in our columns.

The Rev. Dr. Wolff's letter is unavoidably omitted this week.

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. We do not undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

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.**

WILL THE SENATE RATIFY?

By our last advices from America we learn that the Senate had been for three or four days engaged in discussing the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, to settle the joint action of the two Powers in the difficult questions of Central America. This long discussion is somewhat ominous; it tells us what we are not surprised to observe,—that a difficulty had occurred in persuading the senators to ratify the treaty.

One cause of difficulty might present itself in the fact that Great Britain had not taken any steps to renew diplomatic relations on its own part with the Republic; for, of course, at that date Lord NAPIER's appointment was not known, and we have not yet the trans-Atlantic telegraph.

We see, also, many points in the treaty which might make the representatives of the American States pause in finally accepting it. Since we do not intend to maintain these points, it will quite suffice to indicate them. The treaty recognizes the territorial possessions of the Mosquito Indians, and to the extent to which they extended before, which the Americans had all along denied. It ratifies "*bonâ fide* grants of land" made by the Mosquito Indians for consideration, "although beyond the limits of the territory reserved for them;" namely, a hundred yards square within the limits of San Juan, or Greytown, or one league square—*nine* square miles beyond the limits of the town. What is this but sanctioning grants made by the Indians in territory over which they have no authority,—grants of land nine times the size of Hyde Park? Article the ninth "provides that the two Governments bind themselves, in case the Republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, or either of them, should refuse to accept the arrangements contained in the preceding articles, not to propose nor consent to any other arrangements more favourable to the refusing party or parties." This looks like a very preposterous restraint upon the two parties to the treaty. We can scarcely suppose that Mr. DALLAS perceived the whole bearing of it so clearly as it will be perceived in the Senate. The treaty recognizes the whole encroachment of British Honduras to the Siboon river, and the western boundary of the British settlement, if within two years it be ratified by the State of Guatemala. This affirms what the United States have always denied; and if the sting is taken out of the affirmation by the last condition, that condition only creates an opportunity for Great Britain and the United States, or the adventurous representatives of the two powers, to plunge into intrigues within the state of Guatemala for the purpose of accomplishing

or defeating the boundary. There is an evasiveness in the mode of restoring the Islands of Ruatan, &c., to Honduras, as if it were not a restitution of property misappropriated, but a free gift for certain purposes of policy.

All these are objectionable points which might very well make the senators hesitate before they give their assent. We can scarcely understand how Mr. DALLAS can have admitted them into the treaty. We may guess, indeed, at one simple reason. Probably Lord CLARENDON and he sat down with a strong desire to settle everything; then, on every successive point, the party most interested made a proposal, which the other was anxious to accept; and for once, at least, the Englishman has proved sharper than the Yankee. At all events, GEORGE M. DALLAS has developed strong powers of assent. We certainly do not state these points as objections; we only notice them as points upon which the Senate may object. It will give us great satisfaction if the Senate should, nevertheless, give its ratification. The British Minister has endeavoured to take little advantages here and there; but, after all, the largest interests remain subject to the greatest influences. England has incurred the usual consequence of sharp practice in small matters, and her influence in Central America is decidedly waning. On the contrary, the influence of the United States must continually advance and consolidate itself. On the other side of the Atlantic it will do so with more rapidity and with more certainty, in proportion as it brushes these paltry questions out of the way; and the ratification of the treaty would secure for the United States new facilities, without creating any obstacles that they could not at the proper time trample down.

LEGAL RESISTANCE IN FRANCE.

We have preferred not to prejudge the question between the party of action and the party of abstention in France. We have expressed a simple repugnance to the proposal of taking an oath of fealty to the Empire. It has presented itself to us as a difficulty, also, that the facilities for fraud enjoyed by the Government will enable it, at the approaching elections, to cast the slur of incapacity upon the body of French Liberals. The points at issue are:—Can a Liberal nominee, without disgrace, accept an oath of personal allegiance to LOUIS NAPOLEON? and, Can the Liberal voters make a fair show of strength, in spite of the forgeries and false representations that will be resorted to to conceal the extent of their activity? If these objections can only be quibbled away, we confess that we would rather see the party idle, than see politicians degenerating into casuists, forsaking their morality, their dignity, and their prestige. But, if it be possible for the French Liberals to enter the Legislative Chamber without compromising their honour, and if the elections can really be influenced to an appreciable extent by their interference, then, we say, such a result would be for France a sign of returning health and hope. The perplexities of opinion on this subject must, of course, be solved on the spot, by observations taken locally, so that it would be mere assumption, on the part of an English journalist, to lecture the Liberals of Paris. We have, indeed, no right to advise that any set of men, in a foreign country, should imitate the periodical torpors of certain animals, or feign death when they fear an encounter. Still less can we deny that the practice of abstention has often been carried to the extent of sullenness and puerility by those who have no idea of power in any other form than that of supremacy. Such a policy, as the

party of action argues, is not merely hostile to the Empire; it is hostile to all government, and while encouraged in France, will for ever prevent the growth of a sound and solid constitution. Abstention has been adopted extravagantly by the French Liberals—at the polling booths, and even in the Assembly, under the monarchy and under the Republic, and it is the policy which would best satisfy the Emperor himself. Practically, also, it is urged that action should now be recommended, in order that the minority and the majority should agree. We think it may be said that the preponderance of opinion is vastly in favour of voting at the forthcoming elections. The young members of the party have generally, throughout France, determined to procure bulletins, if possible, and offer their suffrages in favour of their own nominees. Many of the elder members have assented to this course, which has thus become the plan of the large majority. Indolence would be mistaken for apathy; political feeling would stagnate; the Emperor, commanding a corps of legislative delegates, would have leisure to consolidate the basis of his throne. Moreover, who knows when a catastrophe may arrive? The election, even, may bring it about. Thus, were General CAVAIGNAC notoriously chosen by Paris, and were the returns to be falsified, who could measure the results of the public indignation? When the first elections took place after the *coup d'état*, it was the conviction of every intelligent mind that the returns from the Faubourg St. Germain were falsified; and the Government incurred considerable risk, although France still lay stunned by the act of stupendous treachery and bloodshed that had been perpetrated. Now, however, the air is heavy with omens menacing to the Empire. The dagger of VERGER has proved that the assassination of a great public functionary is possible in the aisles of St. Etienne-du-Mont. What then? the Parisians inquire. The Orleanists and Bourbonists must have selected their agents indiscreetly, or so much immunity would not have been enjoyed in another quarter.

We have said that the chiefs of the Liberal party, almost without exception, have decided to vote. This is admitted by our friends of the opposite opinion, although they believe that few persons counsel the acceptance of the Imperial oath. They are told that it is essential to seize upon every opportunity for reviving public spirit, that a demonstration would, at this moment, produce a signal effect upon the country and the Government; that LOUIS NAPOLEON may be driven to employ such artifices and acts of force as will undeceive and disgust all honest men; that he may even hazard a new *coup d'état*. Nevertheless, it is maintained by the advocates of abstention that the return of a hundred or a hundred and fifty candidates would be necessary to create a chance of results so serious. Such an opposition, skillfully led, might render arbitrary government impossible, and, as LOUIS BONAPARTE, if not an arbitrary ruler, is nothing, might render back to France her dignity and her freedom. But not a tenth of this number, probably, will be elected. Paris, Lyons, and other large cities will be swamped by the small towns and rural districts, whose prefects and police will gag and hunt the populace in herds to the balloting urns, and will complete the triumph of the Emperor by forging as many bulletins as are necessary to "the elect of the nation." Thus, the Empire will appear to be a second time acclaimed by France; the paltry minority will be published; and "See how universal suffrage acts" will be thrown in the face of the Liberal party. Let abstention be adopted, however,

and the result will be the same. It is not the trick of the Emperor to be unanimously supported; if the Liberals do not supply a real opposition, the Government will supply one of a farcical kind, and will point to the humiliating minority. Consequently, whether the Liberals vote or not, LOUIS BONAPARTE will repeat the millions-of-votes deception, the only alternative being whether a few Liberal candidates shall be set up like puppets, to be knocked down like slaves; or whether men of character and authority shall stand forward, and, challenging the Empire to make good its professions, claim the suffrages of the nation.

We must content ourselves, at present, with stating these opposite views. We fully appreciate the advantages of political action, while we recognize the embarrassments at which many of the Liberals hesitate. On one point, however, there can exist no possible doubt. When the time for deliberation is past, when the moment for decision arrives, it will be the duty of the minority to aid the majority in a plan for working out the political restoration of France; or, at least, not to impede its operations, or disavow its principles.

THE LIVING ROMANCE OF FRAUD.

We insist on it as a proved fact, that no man can tell amongst his acquaintance who is guilty of offences against the law and against the ordinary sense of morality, even to the degree of the gravest crimes. In business, no man can tell amongst his connexions who is honest and who is deceiving him, cheating him even to the extent of felony. It is true that in private friendship you may arrive at such a knowledge of a man's character, his feelings, motives, and habits of action, &c., inasmuch that you may be as sure of him as of the sun. But the ordinary tests of acquaintance in this world of politics and of business fail to furnish any guarantee of what we are pleased to call respectability. We trust to false tests—to wealth, or to the appearance of wealth, and we are punished for our servile worshipping of wealth and appearances by the deceptions to which we expose ourselves. Scarcely a week passes without adding to the number of great swindlers who avail themselves of this prevalent vice in society. This week we have for the first time an intelligible story of the swindler HUNTINGTON in the United States; we have clear accounts of the frauds of PAUL on the London Union, and several minor frauds or thefts by the emulators of ROBSON, with the connivance of the auditor class. This week again we have a clear explanation of the manner in which SAWARD carried on his depredations.

His plan was this. He got possession of some cheque-book; then he procured the autograph of some person dealing at the bank whence this cheque-book issued. His devices for the purpose were very ingenious. If the customer of the bank was a lawyer, some friend of SAWARD's went to that lawyer's upon business, and managed to obtain a cheque—an honest cheque, which was duly paid, and accounted for. But then the lawyer's signature, and his manner of writing words, were drawn forth and imitated in the purloined cheques. Some yokel from the country, or young man just turned loose from business, was employed to present the cheque, one of SAWARD's confederates watching the stranger to prevent his evasion. This mode of business brought in a very handsome income.

Neither of these swindlers, however, had half so successful, safe, or lucrative engagements as those which may be obtained by imitating a more regular form of commerce. One of the shortest modes to a manufactured

revenue appears to be to get up a bank; and the beauty of proceeding by the regular forms of business is, that you can make tools of the most influential men. You may employ in your own behalf the servile worship of wealth and appearances. "The Story of the British Bank—How we got it up, and how it went down—by One Behind the Scenes," is amongst the most interesting romances of commercial life; and no part of life has been so productive in romance, lately, as the commercial. From the internal evidence of the pamphlet which we quote,* we infer that the author is Mr. JOHN MENZIES, who was for a time the secretary to the bank, and for whom, in fact, the authorship of the scheme is claimed. His idea was, to introduce into London "the Scotch system of banking," with its cash credits and its mode of deposit, extremely convenient to the ordinary tradesman. In passing, we will observe that the plan is very suitable for Scotland, and probably for small provincial towns, where men acquire, in ordinary business and in their social meetings, a direct personal knowledge of each other; but it is unsuitable for London, where the classification of society has very little relation to habits of business; where the customers of the same bank, for example, may be total strangers to each other by sight and by name, and where it is nearly impossible to delay business by inquiries into personal character or connexions.

The idea, however, was natural, and had points to recommend it. Mr. MENZIES mentioned it to a Mr. EDWARD MULLINS, of Great James-street, Bedford-row, a pushing solicitor, who was to get together influential supporters. Mr. EDWARD MOXHAY was induced to believe that he could convert his unappropriated Hall of Commerce to banking purposes, and he for a time joined the party. But painful is the story of men who were drawn into the scheme, and who backed out of it, some after the first inquiry, not deigning even to send an announcement of their withdrawal. Mr. MOXHAY was amongst the temporary supporters; Mr. JOSEPH HORNBY, of Liverpool, was director of the British Bank for a short time; Mr. GEORGE CRAWSHAY, the eminent ironmaster, listened to a conversation; Sir ROBERT CARDEN received a deputation; but these, and other men of substance, figured on the scene only for a very brief period. We may, in some instances, guess at the reason of this taciturn coolness.

One of those who was thought a 'catch' for the project was Mr. JOHN MACGREGOR, M.P. for the City of Glasgow, formerly connected with the Board of Trade, a great authority in economy, commerce, currency, and such practical wisdom. He was able to talk with rhetorical force on the merits of "the seestum;" for Mr. MACGREGOR has the advantage of a strong Scotch accent, which imparts emphasis and a certain dignified homeliness to the expression of practical sentiments. Mr. MACGREGOR had no property qualification for a seat as director; but a gentleman who joined the enterprise offered to qualify him. At one of the meetings of the Banking Company, a Liverpool paper was produced containing the report of a great Protection Meeting, at which a leading speaker stated that the Honourable Member for Glasgow had been connected with a firm which failed in business at Liverpool, and that the creditors had been offered a composition of something like 7½d. in the pound. Even the gentleman who would have qualified the defaulting M.P. himself, ultimately

failed, and the chairman of the embryo bank was among the last to receive that test of his fitness to be a director! It seems to have been got up amongst the other directors, in order to prevent the injurious effect of a report that the *Chairman* of the scheme had retired for want of means.

Long did the project languish, there were meetings in taverns, private-rooms, clubs; but there was little vitality until Mr. RICHARD HARTLEY KENNEDY, afterwards the Alderman, entered it. The real life of the project, however, in its ultimate form, was a friend of whom Mr. MACGREGOR had often talked—Mr. HUGH INNES CAMERON. This gentleman had been introduced by the honourable member for Glasgow. He had formerly managed a branch bank in Ross-shire; he had an intimate knowledge of "the seestum," and a very emphatic mode of address, not unadorned with pious allusions. We have seen more than one pious banker; and Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL appears to have had a splendid rival in the manager of the Royal British Bank. Mr. CAMERON became the leading speaker of the meetings. He was employed to draw up prospectuses for publication. He procured a person to contract for the advertising of the bank; another gentleman was induced to take shares on the prospect of being its printer. Mr. MENZIES, the secretary, was sent on a visit to Newcastle, where an unusual number of shares were taken up on a promise that a branch of the bank should be established in Newcastle. It is true that the friends down there who invited the deputation proved to be without influence; still, active touting obtained a good promise of support; and this was due, as well as the first idea, to Mr. MENZIES. Before the bank had been established, however, a change took place in its personnel. Mr. HUGH INNES CAMERON wrote a statesman-like letter to Mr. EDWARD MULLINS, the solicitor of the bank, saying—"You your own good self must be our R. B. B. Secretary, at all events *pro tem.*;" and Mr. MENZIES was politely turned out, with a compensation of 400*l.* for his trouble.

At last the Royal British Bank was opened for business in November, 1849, with a paid-up capital of 50,000*l.*, reduced by preliminary expenses, cost of buildings, fittings-up, &c., to something like 17,000*l.* The capital was to have been 100,000*l.*, but as that could not be raised, Mr. CAMERON and his coadjutors consented to begin with the smaller plant. It was quite enough to work upon.

When the Bank broke down, a debt of 30,000*l.* was brought out as due to the Bank by the General Manager. He had himself proposed that his salary as manager should begin at 1250*l.*, and rise by 250*l.* a year; also with a per-centage on the profits of the bank. But he had got something else out of the establishment. As soon as he was manager, the National Bank of Scotland, for whose branch at Edinburgh he had been agent, began to press for payment of a large debt, contracted in the shape of a greatly overdrawn cash credit. To Sir JAMES MATTHEWSON he owed 5000*l.* for rents collected on that gentleman's account, and not paid in. Bills were drawn on a person in Ross-shire, discounted at the bank, and employed, as far as they could go, to meet the Manager's liabilities. It is supposed that Mr. CAMERON was partner in the speculative operations of a builder who had a discount at the bank of 10,000*l.* A Baronet to whom the General Manager was deeply indebted, had a cash credit to the amount of 10,000*l.*; an accommodation which puzzles and perplexes people, since the Baronet was a man of immense wealth, and not at all likely to need such an accommodation, unless it were as a kind of security for the

Manager's liabilities. Mr. MULLINS, the joint solicitor and secretary, who had a cash credit to the extent of 4000*l.*, overdrawn, besides advances to the extent of 8000*l.* or 9000*l.* more, lodged securities consisting chiefly of scrip in various defunct joint-stock companies—the Chartered Land Mining and Refining Company; the Patent Brick and Tile Company. A cash credit on a security in the Cefn Gwynne Iron Works, to the extent of 10,000*l.*, began that speculative series of advances for utilizing the works which ended in sinking 100,000*l.* Throughout all these transactions, men of the greatest respectability are found intermingled with these active projectors. One man whose position compelled him to understand manoeuvres of which he could not approve, appears literally to have become insane from trouble of conscience. The scenes described by "One Behind the Scenes" are more like incidents in a play than a story of London trade. A cheque paid in by a depositor finds its way into the pocket of one of the most conspicuous in the management; and when revoked by the depositor, after a long while, it is paid in in the form of cash, the cheque itself never appearing again!

"Within a day or two of the grant of the charter, Mr. Kennedy expressed a desire to have the books and accounts of the bank up to that date gone over and examined. This announcement was communicated to Mr. Mullins, who, immediately afterwards, made his appearance in the secretary's room, in a state of great trepidation, his face pale, and his lips quivering with emotion. He addressed him thus:—'I say, Menzies, they mean to go into the books and accounts to-morrow.' 'What of that?' was the answer of the secretary; 'all the moneys received by me on account of shares have been regularly entered and paid by me into the bank. So far as I am concerned, therefore, I care not how soon Mr. Kennedy goes over the books.' After a short pause, Mr. Mullins resumed, 'The fact is, Menzies, when I was down at Newcastle, I received payment of 50*l.* on account of the bank, which I was obliged to use, having a bill unexpectedly returned upon me. This, with other payments on account of shares (naming the parties and amounts), makes me due 130*l.*, for which I shall now give you a cheque, which you can pay immediately into the bank, and no one but yourself need know anything about the matter.' He then wrote the cheque, which was duly paid into the bank. If these were not the precise words used on this occasion, they at least convey the substance of the conversation."

The *mauvais sujets* in the "Arabian Nights," Abou Hassan and his wife, who alternately pretended to be dead, that the Caliph and his favourite Queen may grant to the survivor a present for funeral expenses, did not contrive a more barefaced conspiracy than those who ultimately remained in possession of the Royal British Bank. The story shows us that it was from first to last a pauper undertaking, dressed up with great buildings and handsome furniture; while those who really managed it were guilty of the practices which we have in part illustrated. But amongst those who assembled at its Board as directors, amongst those gentlemen who met at commercial parties or social dinner-tables, it would have been quite impossible before the disclosures to point to one or the other and to say—That man is the great merchant of high integrity, and that man is the swindler.

BRITISH POLICY IN CHINA.

AN impartial account of the recent events at Canton will be more useful to our readers than any vague criticism on the conduct of the Chinese or British authorities. On the 8th of October last the Arrow, a small vessel at anchor at Canton, was boarded by a Chinese officer and a party of soldiers, who, in spite of the remonstrances of the master, an Englishman, hauled down the British flag, seized and bound twelve of the crew, and carried them away in a war-boat of large size and heavy armament. Upon being informed of this proceeding, the British Consul, Mr

* *The Curious and Remarkable History of the Royal British Bank, showing "How we got it up," and "How it went down."* By One Behind the Scenes. Effingham Wilson.

PARKES, repaired on board the war-boat, and, treating the affair as an unfortunate mistake, explained to the officers in charge that they had violated a treaty, offered an insult to the English flag, and incurred a grave responsibility. He then requested them, if they had any charge to prefer against the captured crew, to bring them to the Consulate, where the case would be fully investigated. They declined this offer, and intimated that they would employ force if Mr. PARKES attempted to take the men under his protection. The affair therefore, unhappily, went further. Mr. PARKES complained to YEH, the Imperial High Commissioner, stating in courteous terms the details of the day's occurrence, and requesting him to restore the men to their vessel, when, if accused of any crime, they would be arrested, conveyed to the Consulate, and submitted to a legal examination. At the same time, he represented the claim of the captured vessel to compensation. The Commissioner's reply accused three of the prisoners of piracy, but exonerated the other nine. In the correspondence that ensued it was first alleged that the vessel was Chinese, and not foreign, though ultimately (sixteen days after) YEH admitted the untruth of this assertion; "when she was boarded by the Chinese soldiers they were not aware that she was a foreign lorch; she was originally a Chinese vessel." It was shown, we think satisfactorily, that the British flag was flying at the time of the capture; although the owners of the vessel, by neglecting to renew her certificate, had forfeited her right to protection. Her forfeiture of British rights, however, conferred no new rights on the Chinese, it being clearly a question for the British authorities whether they would protect a shipowner who had not paid up his taxes. The Chinese had no knowledge of the lapse, and therefore acted as though no lapse had occurred. The lorch, to all intents and purposes, was a British vessel, carried the British ensign, and was attacked by the imperial war-boat with a piratical disregard, not only of the general law of nations, but of a special clause in the Treaty of 1848, which stipulates that Chinese malfaisants taking refuge under the British flag shall invariably be claimed through British authorities. Instances are on record of Chinese criminals escaping from Canton, seeking sanctuary on board English merchantmen, and being delivered up, on the formal demand of the Imperial police. Why was not this course pursued by YEH in October last? or, when an error had been committed and explained, why did he refuse to set himself right, and confide the prisoners to the Consulate, in the keeping of the law?

We have now to examine the conduct of Admiral SEYMOUR. The affair took place on the 8th of October. Three days elapsed before he interfered. He then seized a war-junk, and for twelve days contented himself with having made that demonstration, and with showing his ships of war within range of the Commissioner's eye. He then took possession of some of the outer forts, the Chinese firing the first shot. Little blood was shed, and a number of important works were captured. Meanwhile, the Chinese were continually importuned to negotiate, but refused. Two days after, the Chinese attempted to repossess themselves of their fortifications, but, of course, failed. Two more days elapsed, when Mr. PARKES, in addition to his original demands, required for all foreign representatives the same free access to the authorities and city of Canton as is enjoyed under treaty at the other free ports. To this no reply was made, whereupon the Government buildings were bombarded with one gun, while the Barracouta

shelled the troops on a neighbouring hill. The politest people in the world immediately procured a reward of thirty dollars for the head of every Englishman. By slow degrees the city was placed at the mercy of the vessels in the river. The Imperial fleet—not more effective in war than so many Swiss cottages afloat—was also battered to ruins, or towed down the river.

There the quarrel stood when the despatches left Canton. It seems undeniable that an act of offence was committed by the Chinese, the only question being, whether the British authorities did not proceed to unjustifiable extremities for the sake of exacting reparation. Was it proper to bombard a great city and attack an imperial flotilla on account of a dispute with a local governor? We think that Sir JOHN BOWRING and Admiral SEYMOUR might have made their ground more tenable by waiting until the case had been laid before the Central Government. But in that case, would it ever have been laid before the Central Government? Might not the twelve prisoners have lost their heads in the meantime? Did the Chinese ever admit themselves in the wrong, or yield a point, except under compulsion? It would be a mere burlesque to negotiate with them, as with Russians or Turks, or other half-educated nations. They are incapable of diplomacy. They entered into a solemn engagement, in 1847, to admit British "officers and people" freely into Canton at the expiration of two years, and when reminded of their agreement, appear as insensible as Kaffirs to the meaning and value of a treaty.

It is difficult to deal with such a nation; but it would be impossible to maintain any intercourse with them at all if they were to be allowed to appeal to the barbarous principles of their polity, their antipathies, and their jealousies, to justify the direct and systematic infringement of a treaty, while the English, on their part, were satisfied with a protest and a rupture of relations. The Chinese Government does not care for 'relations.' It would rejoice if every foreign vessel in the waters of the empire were to weigh anchor, sail to the West, and disappear for ever from the sight of the Yellow People.

MINISTERS IN VACATION.

A NEW fashion has been set in the manners and customs of our Cabinet Ministers. It is one that, if carried forward, may be extremely advantageous to the country. They have assumed a much more free and easy position towards political society. Even 'out of the House,' they talk politics, make no reserve of their opinions, and converse *de rebus*, as if they were in an omnibus. At the dinner-table in Forfarshire, the other day, amongst his tenantry and neighbours, Lord PANMURE discussed the forthcoming military estimates, and pledged himself to bring in a demand twenty millions less than last year. In conversation with Mr. LANKESTER, an active mover in Southampton election matters, Lord PALMERSTON critically discussed the comparative merits of the Liberal candidates; and being in a friendly fashion challenged by Mr. ANDREWS to repeat what he had said, Lord PALMERSTON cheerfully obeyed, with an advice to the electors of Southampton not to elect Mr. ANDREWS. The advice was obliquely and amusingly addressed to the said electors through the said ANDREWS! I have a great respect and regard for you, says Lord PALMERSTON, but if you leave Southampton you will neglect your business; and you have not shown the requisite ability to consider and weigh the important matters that come before the House of Commons. This is frank and friendly; and, what is worse for Mr. ANDREWS, it may be true!

Now there is, probably, no man in the country that could enlighten us more on the state of public affairs, the condition of the public offices, the prospects of the future, than Lord PALMERSTON, if he would only come forth and converse with us upon the subject in this friendly after-dinner fashion. For instance, he might tell us the history of the North-East American boundary question; tell us all about those NESSELRODE conspiracies in which he is said to be engaged; explain his former anti-Austrian tendencies; give us the secret history of the *coup d'état* in Paris; inform us why he favoured the absorption of Schleswig-Holstein into the Danish kingdom, against all German right and European expediency; explain how it is that having undertaken to support the claims of Sardinia before the European Congress, the disposal of that matter was left to Count WALEWSKI. In fact, he might tell us a good deal about Count WALEWSKI, and the present French Court; elucidating the mystery of our having called Naples to account, with no results. If Lord PALMERSTON would only be as frank and explicit on these important topics, as he has been on Mr. ANDREWS's qualifications for coach-building in Southampton rather than law-making in Westminster, it would be very amusing, and very useful to the nation.

One of Lord PALMERSTON's colleagues has gone a little further than himself. Sir ROBERT PEEL has, to a certain extent, done the very thing that we desiderate from the Premier. He has turned Russia inside out, and exposed to us all the hollowness, the humbug, the brutality, the low, vulgar ostentation and coarse barbarity of that great empire. Sir ROBERT PEEL had peculiar opportunities for collecting the materials of his exposé. He accompanied Lord GRANVILLE's extraordinary mission to assist at the coronation of the Emperor ALEXANDER; and his diplomatic position secured him introductions. He had the pleasure of seeing the Archduke CONSTANTINE, and is thus enabled to report to us that the man whom Sir CHARLES NAPIER described as a frank sailor is a cunning Russian, his friendly language being all 'soft sawder.' Sir ROBERT went inside the white palaces of St. Petersburg, 'all outside paint and stucco.' He saw the 'marble palace,' which is only granite. There never were such cheats as the Russians; it is not only the innkeepers, who charge you 60% for a dinner, but a General Officer, SUROCHOKOFF, trades as postmaster, and charges you 100% a horse for a carriage to go four hundred miles on a road where you travel at the rate of fifteen, sixteen, or seventeen miles an hour. Sir ROBERT discovered the truth of Mr. URQUHART's representations, that the Czar has constant and hereditary 'designs on the liberties of Europe,' because, so long as two years ago, the Emperor removed a collection of pictures from Kertch; proving that he expected the British there. And having been inside the formidable works at Cronstadt, Sir ROBERT PEEL is able to report that Admiral NAPIER might easily have entered. He does not say whether the failure is ascribable to want of resolution, to want of capacity, or to politeness towards the Russians. Sir ROBERT PEEL completely shows up Russia and her system, and in doing so he necessarily shows up the British Admiral and Admiralty, of which he is a junior Lord; the Paris Conference and the British diplomacy,—at the head of which is Lord CLARENDON; and the conduct towards Russia of our whole Government,—at the head of which is Lord PALMERSTON, Sir ROBERT's colleague and chief.

Members 'move for returns' in the House of Commons, with a view of getting at some

information on subjects reserved from the public eye and ear; but we shall know better henceforward, for we see from these precedents what is the proper course. Do not move for a return in the House of Commons, but invite your Minister to dinner, get him on his legs, and out it will all come. It is much the most complete and instructive form of 'returns.' Do not move an Address to the Crown, but simply, over the dinner-table, poke fun at your Minister, or make him angry, and he will 'rise to reply.'

THE 'FUN' AT SOUTHAMPTON.

AN essay was once written to prove that civilization is hostile to the arts. It spoils the landscape, invents unpicturesque hats, takes all the Lalla Rookh drapery out of ladies' attire, trims a man's face until HOLBEIN himself could not make it heroic, throws brick-built viaducts across the woody hollows in which we met and the valleys of paradise, abolishes Gretna-green, renders Chancery-lane more formidable to the wayfarer than Hounslow-heath, and quarters a Scotch regiment near the Acropolis. To these unsightly contrasts must be added the degradation of a Southampton feud into Cockney 'fun.' The reporters, genii of the long-resounding line, declare what 'deplorable bitterness' has been created, what friendships have been shaken, what animosities scowl across the street; yet there is no bloodshed—nothing but unpictorial riot and ungrammatical bluster. Not an elector has been killed with a shot from a revolver; not a bowie has been drawn; not a mask has been seen in the streets. Instead of this, an unfortunate official is dismissed; the WEGUELIN advocates send a threatening circular to the Custom-house staff; and, in the midst of the trashy exhibitions, Lord PALMERSTON rises through the floor, disguised as an iron-monger, and laughs in the face of ANDREWS. ANDREWS is not content. He *encores* the noble lord, and will have the laugh repeated. So PALMERSTON repeats it, with aggravation, all tending to show that he thinks WEGUELIN a more respectable man than the honoured Coachmaker of the locality. But the Coachmaker's friends are delighted, gather round their champion, despise the insinuations of the judicious bottle-holder, and vow that all the bullion in the Bank of England shall not make WEGUELIN member for Southampton. They are right, probably. ANDREWS took the lead from the first, and has hitherto kept it, though, as BUTLER is, metaphorically speaking, buying up all the unsold goods in the market, there is a chance that one or other of the Liberal candidates may be thrown overboard by a party of his own friends anxious to save the borough.

It must be repeated, however, that the struggle is not dramatic—not half so dramatic as an 'intertribal' fight among the Cherokees, or an engagement at the Tipperary 'station,' or a Lord GEORGE GORDON Riot. There are no bursts of 'tintamarre and jingle-jangle,' no hearts bleeding from their bitter wounds, though daggers and wormwood are plentifully talked of by the local orators. It is the belligerence of bill-stickers. Ten boys rush out of an office, fiendishly shouting, with "WEGUELIN will betray the Ballot" glowing in red capitals upon a prodigious placard. Half an hour later, similar fiends are scaling their light ladders, and tearing those paper banners from the wall, and up goes "ANDREWS has always opposed the Ballot," gigantically printed in blue. "BUTLER is the true Reformer" flaunts above, with "WEGUELIN for Southampton," "ANDREWS for Southampton," BUTLER for Southampton," "Electors, will you be deceived?"

"Electors, will you be represented by a stranger?" "Read PALMERSTON'S opinion of ANDREWS," "No Moneyocracy," "No Railway Interest," until the eye wanders over a patchwork surface of incoherency—BALLOTELINDREWUTLERDOWN WITH BUTLER ANDREWSALMERSTONAMPTONLOCALETRAY!

'Funny,' but not heroic. There is a political fair at Southampton; the booths are not yet open; the performers have not addressed the vast multitude; but money is in circulation; trade promises to be brisk; the three principal speculators will probably devote from 12,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* to the interests of the city of their love; the scot-and-lot, charged from the brewhouse and the distillery, will hoarsely articulate while they can, in public parlours, on the merits of the munificent. FALVEY will, very properly, wear the flame-coloured, devil-embroidered buckram of a martyr until his case is reconsidered; the clamour of public meetings will precede the backdoor clink and rustle of legal tenders, and Southampton will not care one tittle what 'principles' it sends into Parliament. Like a plain-dealing landlord, it lets the premises, and asks few questions.

Elections being under notice, let Southampton take warning from Lanark, where Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE, who wrote a virulent book against the Italian Liberals, recanted on the hustings; and let Greenwich take a hint from Southampton, and not let the thing go for less than its value. The constituency knows CODRINGTON, but who knows 'Colonel' SLEIGH? Really, what with bribery, intimidation, family nominees, and personal objects, we have a pretty Parliament; it is wonderful good fortune that brings forward, simultaneously, SLEIGH, CODRINGTON, COCHRANE, ANDREWS, WEGUELIN, and BUTLER, all ready to protect us from quackery and corruption. We shall next have GEORGE THOMPSON once more, and we shall then expect to see a Mahratta dance performed on the floor of the House of Commons. Nothing is impossible. Is not Major REED an honourable member? Are there not two candidates for Greenwich? Is not Southampton now 'on view,' and to be 'put up' shortly?

INSURRECTION AGAINST THE INCOME-TAX.

THE counties, as well as the towns, are rising against the Income-tax. The movement is rapid and general. Scarcely a member of Parliament will come down in February without one or more petitions against the amount of the tax and the method of levying it. Few persons ask for its abolition. What they require is that it shall be lowered to a peace level, and fairly adjusted. If that is done, they will pay; if not, they will insist on repeal. The deprecatory arguments of Whig journals have had no effect in moderating the enthusiasm of the agitators, who compose the great body of tax-payers throughout the three kingdoms. And it is likely that the Tory opposition, having no principles of their own, will be eager to represent a cry which promises popularity to them and embarrassment to the Administration.

By whomsoever supported, by whomsoever attacked, the Income-tax must go, unless it be remodified upon honest principles. In its actual shape it is an intolerable burden. You may point to the expenses of the Russian war; but this impost, levied principally upon small incomes, is not a fair means of paying them; you may show the advantages of clearing off our heavy accounts before 1860; but the clearing off should be shared by all classes in an equal ratio. We have no guarantee that, when we have paid sixteenpence in the

pound on precarious as well as on fixed incomes for three years to come, the Ministers then in office will be more equitably disposed than Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS. No good security is offered for this fiscal Reform Bill at three years' sight. Now, while the country is warm upon the subject, is the time for action, in and out of Parliament. Remember, that even should the Budget of the year be framed with no view to the modification of the Income-tax, a simultaneous and vigorous agitation may still defeat the purposes of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Sir CHARLES WOOD was once compelled to withdraw his scheme, after it had been submitted to the House of Commons—four great metropolitan meetings sufficing to change the plans of the administration.

A single illustration places in the clearest light the injustice of the Income-tax, as now levied. No professional income is worth more than three years' purchase. Few incomes arising from permanent property are worth less than fifteen years' purchase—the product being as one to five; yet the per-centage levied is the same on both. Even supposing, however, that a professional income of 150*l.* a year, capitalized, were worth as much as 500*l.*, while a permanent income of 150*l.*, capitalized, were worth only 2000*l.*, what would be the difference, supposing the tax were commuted, by one year's payment of sixteen pence in the pound, upon the whole?

The professional man would pay 35*l.* The owner of property would pay 140*l.* Yet, under the existing law, they pay 140*l.* each, that which is worth 500*l.* being taxed to the same extent as that which is worth 2000*l.*

This constitutes the glaring injustice of the Income-tax. The public, we hope, will not desist from agitating against it. It is more ingeniously devised than any other tax existing for extorting the most from those who can afford to pay the least. Under pretence of being direct and equal, it is systematically unequal in its operation, while, instead of being direct, it is evaded by concealments and subterfuges of every kind.

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

THE MOON'S MOTION.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

December 15, 1856.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to say, as a last word, that if Mr. Steel thinks he can give a mathematical disproof of either of my statements—viz. 1. That the moon does not rotate on her own axis; and, 2. That the sidereal day is not the measure of the earth's rotation—I, or some one of my co-adjutors who have likewise had a Mathematical Education, will be happy to maintain them against him. As a popular journal is not a fitting medium for such discussions, I have arranged for the insertion of any such communication, signed by Mr. Steel in, the *English Journal of Education*. What that gentleman may effect for the credit of science when he begins to reason, it were premature to say, but he will not help it by sneers.

I am, sir, yours truly,

J. SYMONS.

VOLUNTARY STARVATION.—A debtor in the County Gaol, Gloucester, named William Frankiss, aged fifty-six, died on Sunday, the 28th ult., reduced almost to a skeleton from having refused for some time to take the proper amount of nourishment. He had been imprisoned since September, 1853, and being unable to procure, out of his own scanty means, sufficient food for himself, was offered the prison fare, which for a long time he refused to take. Ultimately he consented to take some; but it was too late. Lockjaw ensued, and he died.

* I will be bound by the definition of these terms given in "Barlow's Mathematical Dictionary."

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*.

On our table, as on the table of many a club and reading-room, lies a pile of periodicals, which would furnish matter for weeks of leisure if life had no more serious demands than that of whiling away the hours; and certainly the great majority of our readers would eye this pile with something of that envy which moves a small boy standing outside the pastrycook's shop, and contemplating the wealth of tarts that have so little power over the pastrycook's desires. In his impatience, one of these readers might take up the *British Quarterly*, and having gone through the historical narrative which sets forth the "Great Oyer of Poisoning"—not without a passing reflection that those were terrible times, and that there is considerable satisfaction in the consciousness of living in times when judicial proceedings are so infinitely superior—he might be led by such train of thought to open the *Westminster Review* and read the article on "English Law: its Oppression and Confusion," because however he may be disposed to glorify the present age in contrast with the days of old, he must think meanly of it in contrast with the ideal in his mind, especially as regards Law. Or he might turn to another article in the same Review, attracted by the title, to learn what was revealed of the "Mysteries of Cefalonia," and there he would be both amused and astounded at finding a THACKERAY in the Ionian Islands, painting society there with the same keen, wholesome satire, and with a sterner purpose, than THACKERAY. It is a very remarkable paper indeed; and the extracts given from the Greek satirist fully account for his excommunication by the Greek Church. The tone in which he addresses his Holiness has an earnestness no reader will mistake, while a certain THACKERAYISH humour plays about the sentences. Read this sketch of the Greek Priesthood:—

"In the bosom of our community, Right Reverend Father, there are to be seen certain persons wearing long, full, black dresses, large beards, their hair unshorn after the fashion of women, and a hat like a pot without a handle upon their heads. These, your Holiness, have renounced the world; that is to say, they have renounced the burdens of the community, and yet live amid the community, singing, eating and drinking, and doing nothing. Nor is that all—idleness and solitariness easily slide into overbearingness: they maintain that they are the depositaries of all religion, and as such desire in the name of the religion to exercise authority over us.

"Now, if the Protestants allow their priests a certain authority, that does not seem to me at all strange. The priests of the Protestants are men of education, learning, and morality; so that their society is profitable, and the slight authority they possess beneficial. But for own priests, how can we, if we have any sense, admit them into our houses, and allow them any authority over our families? Their ignorance is proverbial (*ignorante come un prete greco!* is a European phrase); their morals, before and after their ordination, are notorious to us all; and their education is that which they picked up in their various unordained capacities of porters, boatmen, shopmen, or servants. Your Holiness need not tell me that the Holy Spirit by virtue of ordination has cleansed them from the old man, and created in them the new man; your Holiness and I may believe this, but there are many who don't!"

This last touch is admirable. Here is a passage as applicable to Ireland as to Ionia:—

"Among the other articles which are sold in these religious repositories are the prayers for the sick. Whenever one of his parishioners' wives has a sick child, the minister, who has previously taught her the necessity of such prayers under the circumstances, receives twelve, fifteen, or twenty obols for performing one—for urging God to restore to health the child of the woman who has given him the aforesaid obols.

"Let your Holiness suppose that you had received power as vicegerent of the Most High, to heal according to your own judgment, whenever benevolence or charity might move you thereto. Suppose that my child was sick, and that I and his mother came before you on our knees, weeping out our very hearts' blood; that you saw us wailed with our griefs, and sorrowing for the danger of a being that (under God) we ourselves had created, a darling on whom we had set all our love and all our souls; even if your Holiness in your wisdom did not think fit, or if your heart was not moved to grant our request, you would at least not hear our cry with indifference, and your door would open to us none the less easily on any other occasion. But if, in place of going myself to seek you, I were to pay somebody else sixpence to go instead and petition you to save my child from the danger—how much would you value such a prayer? As I conjecture, you would count it a sixpenny petition. You would hear it with due contempt, and would be wroth with the utterer and with me. Surely, God is not moved either by the conjurations of witches, or by the set forms of priests. He is only pleased with the utterances of the heart; and that is a worship which none can offer better than he who has the grief in his heart. Paid-for prayers profit nobody except the receiver of the money paid for them."

Having had enough of political and ecclesiastical matters, the reader may wish to refresh his mind with a little literature, and for this purpose he again recurs to the *British Quarterly*, and reads a pleasant retrospective review of Sir THOMAS BROWNE, one of the quaint worthies of our Literature; or he may be attracted by the article on WORDSWORTH in the *National Review*, a philosophical disquisition on a subject which seems inexhaustible; having learned with this writer to enter into WORDSWORTH's meditative spirit, he may pass on to another article in the same review, on BALZAC, a poor article indeed, made up from LEON GOZLAN's charming little volume, *Balzac en Pantoufles*, but as the majority of readers have not seen, and will not see the volume, the article will put them in possession of some amusing details, and somewhat modify their conceptions of the great novelist, who, by the way, is very pedantically and unfairly treated in the last *Revue des Deux Mondes*. In the *National* also there is a defence of Mr. SPURGEON, and an attempt to show why SPURGEONISM and CALVINISM impress thousands in spite of common sense, and let us add, in spite of healthy moral instincts. On the whole this is, in our opinion, the poorest number the *National* has issued, containing no one article likely to excite much attention.

The reader, if attracted by science and its applications, will find in the *Westminster* a paper on "Boiling Water," containing an account of the Geisers of Iceland, and some of the curious phenomena of boiling water—a paper valuable for its matter, but heavily written—and in the *British Quarterly* a paper on "The Smoke Nuisance—its Cause and Cure," which to all inhabitants of large cities will be of great interest. The politics and polemics of the Reviews will also find readers; but more literary inclinations will lean towards the article on "Worldliness and Other-worldliness" in the *Westminster*, wherein the poet YOUNG is criticized as man, poet, Calvinist, and moralist.

Having come to the end of these Reviews, he may attack a fresh pile, and begin with the new Magazine, the *National*, a sort of pictorial *Household Words*, with matter of various tastes. Mr. SHIRLEY HIBBERD tells an interesting anecdote in his account of his Aquarium. The fish, crabs, reptiles in his tank are mostly furnished him by a wandering amphibious naturalist, who daily wades in the Lea or New River, and, although stone blind, is an expert huntsman, groping about with his hands, and thus catching the prey; which done, he quits the water with his sole companion, a dog, and without stopping to dry his clothes wanders off in search of purchasers.

THE ENGLISH OF SHAKSPEARE.

The English of Shakspeare illustrated in a Philological Commentary on his "Julius Caesar." By George L. Craik, Professor of English History and Literature in Queen's College, Belfast. Chapman and Hall.

PROFESSOR CRAIK has done for Shakspeare what scholars have for centuries been doing for the ancient classics, but what no one hitherto has had the ingenuity to devise or the courage to execute for our greatest classic. Among the many erudite but almost worthless books written about Shakspeare, this small volume is conspicuous for learning, judgment, purpose, and direct utility. It consists of three parts. The first part, containing the Prolegomena, narrates the ascertained facts of Shakspeare's personal history, and the probable dates of the works; discusses the sources for the text of the Plays; enumerates the Shakspearean Editors and Commentators, and enters into the intricate subject of the Mechanism of English verse and Shakspeare's prosody. The second part contains the philological commentary. The third part is devoted to a reprint of *Julius Caesar*, according to Professor Craik's recension of the text, with the novel and ingenious contrivance, which will doubtless hereafter be followed, of numbering the speeches. In the Greek plays the lines are numbered, and every student is aware of the immense benefit derived from this practice; but in the Greek plays the speeches are constantly of so great a length that nothing less than numbering the lines would serve the student's purpose; in modern plays, the brevity of the speeches, and the frequent occurrence of speeches less than a line in length, often merely of a word or two, suggest the propriety of Professor Craik's plan.

There is no one, except the happy possessor of a text utterly without notes, who has not been irritated by the obtrusive twaddle, and the non-explaining ingenuity of explanation, which, under the guise of commentary, editors foist upon Shakspeare's pages. In seven cases out of every ten the student gets no instruction on the point which perplexes him. Nothing is elucidated. What was dark before has become still more obscure. The editor has displayed his acquaintance with old copies and black letter literature; meanwhile, the difficulty remains the same. In Professor Craik's commentary the student will find genuine erudition turned to a genuine purpose; there is nothing set down for the sake of display; authors are not quoted upon the slightest provocation; parallel passages are only adduced as cumulative evidence. The object of the commentary is the English language, its structure, its meaning, its licences; and no student of the English language and of Shakspeare will read it without clear profit. A passage or two will display the nature of this commentary, and for the sake of fairness, we will not select the best, but the most typical passages:—

If it be aught toward.—All that the prosody demands here is that the word *toward* be pronounced in two syllables; the accent may be either on the first or the second. *Toward* when an adjective has, I believe, always the accent on the first syllable in Shakspeare; but its customary pronunciation may have been otherwise in his day when it was a preposition, as it is here. Milton, however, in the few cases in which he does not run the two syllables into one, always accents the first. And he uses both *toward* and *towards*.

Again, on the next page:—

Your outward favour.—A man's *favour* is his aspect or appearance. The word is now lost to us in that sense; but we still use *favoured* with *well*, *ill*, and perhaps other qualifying terms, for featured or looking; as in *Gen. xli. 4*:—"The ill-favoured and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well-favoured and fat kine." *Favour* seems to be used for *face* from the same confusion or natural transference of meaning between the expressions for the feeling in the mind and the outward indication of it in the look that has led to the word *countenance*, which commonly denotes the latter, being sometimes employed, by a process the reverse of what we have in the case of *favour*, in the sense of at least one modification of the former; as when we speak of any one giving something his *countenance*, or *countenancing* it. In this case, however, it ought to be observed that *countenance* has the meaning, not simply of favourable feeling or approbation, but of its expression or avowal. The French terms from which we have borrowed our *favour* and *countenance*, do not appear to have either of them undergone the transference of meaning which has befallen the English forms. But *contenance*, which is still also used by the French in the sense of material capacity, has drifted far away from its original import in coming to signify one's aspect or physiognomy. It is really also the same word with the French and English *contenance* and the Latin *continentia*.

The following is more exhaustive:—

I had as lief.—*Lief* (sometimes written *leef*, or *leve*), in the comparative *liefer* or *lever*, in the superlative *liefst*, is the Anglo-Saxon *leof*, signifying dear. "No modern author, I believe," says Horne Tooke (*D. of P.* 261), "would now venture any of these words in a serious passage; and they seem to be cautiously shunned or ridiculed in common conversation, as a vulgarity. But they are good English words, and more frequently used by our old English writers than any other word of a corresponding signification." The common modern substitute for *lief* is *seen*, and for *liefer*

sooner or rather, which last is properly the comparative of *rath*, or *rathe*, signifying early, not found in Shakespeare, but used in one expression—"the rathe primrose" (*Lycidas*, 142)—by Milton, who altogether ignores *lief*. *Lief*, *liefer*, and *liefest*, are all common in Spenser. Shakespeare has *lief* pretty frequently, but never *liefer*; and *liefest* occurs only in the *Second Part of King Henry VI.*, where, in iii. 1, we have "My *liefest* liege." In the same play, too (i. 1), we have "Mine *alderliefest* sovereign," meaning dearest of all. "This beautiful word," says Mr. Knight, "is a Saxon compound. *Alder*, of all, is thus frequently joined with an adjective of the superlative degree,—as *alderfirst*, *alderlast*." But it cannot be meant that such combinations are frequent in the English of Shakespeare's day. They do occur, indeed, in a preceding stage of the language. *Alder* is a corrupted or at least modified form of the A. Saxon genitive plural *aller*, or *albre*; it is that strengthened by the interposition of a supporting *d* (a common expedient). *Aller*, with the same signification, is still familiar in German compounds.—The ancient effect and construction of *lief* in English may be seen in the following examples from Chaucer:—"For him was lever han at his beddes head" (*C. T. Pro.* 295), that is, To him it was dearer to have (*lever* a monosyllable, *beddes* a dissyllable); "Ne, though I say it, I n' am not lefe to gabbe" (*C. T.* 3510), that is, I am not given to prate; "I hadde lever dien," that is, I should hold it preferable to die. And Chaucer has also "Al be him loth or lefe" (*C. T.* 1839), that is, Whether it be to him agreeable or disagreeable; and "For lefe ne loth" (*C. T.* 13062), that is, For love nor loathing.—We may remark the evidently intended connexion in sound between the *lief* and the *live*, or rather the attraction by which the one word has been naturally produced or evoked by the other.

We must venture on a long extract, trusting its value will excuse the length:—

Did lose his lustre.—There is no personification here. *His* was formerly neuter as well as masculine, or the genitive of *It* as well as of *He*; and *his lustre*, meaning the lustre of the eye, is the same form of expression that we have in the familiar texts:—"The fruit tree yielding fruit after *his* kind, whose seed is in *itself*" (*Gen.* i. 11); "*It* shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise *his* heel" (*Gen.* iii. 15); "If the salt have lost *his* savour" (*Matt.* v. 13, and *Luke* xiv. 34); "If the salt have lost *his* saltness" (*Mark* ix. 50); and others. The word *its* does not occur in the authorized translation of the Bible; its place is always supplied either by *His* or by *Thereof*. So again, in the present play, in 523, we have "That every nice offence should bear *his* comment;" and in *Antony and Cleopatra*, v. 1, "The heart where mine *his* thoughts did kindle." *Its*, however, is found in Shakespeare; Mr. Trench, in his *English, Past and Present*, says that it occurs, he believes, three times. I should be inclined to think the instances would be found to be considerably more numerous. There is one in *Measure for Measure*, i. 2, where Lucio's remark about coming to a composition with the King of Hungary draws the reply, "Heaven grant us *its* peace, but not the King of Hungary's." The *its* here, it may be observed, has the emphasis. It is printed without the apostrophe both in the First and in the Second Folio. But the most remarkable of the Plays in regard to this particular is probably *The Winter's Tale*. Here, in i. 2, we have so many as three instances in a single speech of Leontes:—

"How sometimes Nature will betray it's folly?
It's tenderness? and make it selfe a Pastime
To harder bosomes? Looking on the Lynes
Of my Boyes face, me thoughts I did requoyle
Twentie three yeeres, and saw my selfe vnbrech'd,
In my greene Velvet Coat; my Dagger muzzel'd,
Least it should bite it's Master, and so prove
(As Ornaments oft do's) too dangerous."

So stands the passage in the First Folio. Nor does the new pronoun here appear to be a peculiarity of expression characteristic of the excited Sicilian king; a little while after in the same scene we have the same form from the mouth of Camillo:—

"Be plainer with me, let me know my Trespas
By it's owne visage."

And again, in iii. 3, we have Antigonus, when about to lay down the child in Bohemia, observing that he believes it to be the wish of Apollo that

"it should heere be laide
(Either for life, or death) vpon the earth
Of it's right Father."

Nor is this all. There are two other passages of the same play, in which the modern editors also give us *its*; but in these the original text has *it*. The first is in ii. 3, where Leontes, in directing Antigonus to carry away the "female bastard" to some foreign land, enjoins him that he there leave it

"(Without more mercy) to it owne protection."

The other is in iii. 2, where Hermione's words stand in both the First and Second Folio,

"The innocent milke in it most innocent mouth."

It is a mistake to assume, as the modern editors do, that *it* in these instances is a misprint for *its*: Mr. Guest (*Phil. Pro.* i. 280) has observed that in the dialects of the North-Western Counties formerly *it* was sometimes used for *its*; and that, accordingly, we have not only in Shakespeare's *King John* ii. 1, "Goe to yt grandame, child . . . and it grandame will give yt a plumb," but in Ben Jonson's *Silent Woman*, ii. 3, "It knighthood and it friends." So in *Lear*, i. 4, we have in a speech of the Fool, "For you know, Nunckle, the Hedge-Sparrow fed the Cuckoo so long, that it's had it head bit off by it young" (that is, that it has had its head,—not that it had its head, as the modern editors give the passage, after the Second Folio, in which it stands, "that it had its head bit off by it young"). So likewise, long before *its* was generally received, we have *it self* commonly printed in two words, evidently under the impression that *it* was a possessive, of the same syntactical force with the pronouns in *my self*, *your self*, *her self*. And even now we do not write *itself*. Formerly, too, according to Mr. Guest, they often said even "The King wife," &c., for "The King's wife." So he holds that in such modern phrases, as "The idea of a thing being abstracted," or "of it being abstracted," *thing* and *it* are genitives, for *thing's* and *its*.

We have also either *it* or *its* in another passage of *Lear*, where Albany, in iv. 2, speaks of "that nature which condemns its origin." The passage is not in the Folios; but, if we may trust to Jennens, the First Quarto has *ith*, the Second *it*, for the *its* of the modern text. Both those Quartos are of 1608; and there is also a third of the same year, but the reading in that is not noted by the commentators.

Mr. Guest asserts that *its* was used generally by the dramatists of the age to which the authorized version of the Bible belongs, and also by many of their contemporaries. Mr. Trench doubts whether Milton has once admitted it into *Paradise Lost*, "although, when that was composed, others frequently allowed it." The common authorities give us no help in such matters as this; no notice is taken of the word *its* either in Todd's *Verbal Index* to Milton, or in Mrs. Clarke's elaborate *Concordance* to Shakespeare. But Milton does use *its* occasionally, as, e. g. (*P. L.* i. 254), "The mind is its own place, and in itself;" and (*P. L.* iv. 813), "No falsehood can endure Touch of celestial temper, but returns Of force to its own likeness." Generally, however, he avoids the word, and easily manages to do so by personifying most of his substan-

tives; it is only when this cannot be done, as in the above examples, that he reluctantly accepts the services of the little *parvenu* monosyllable.

Mr. Trench notices the fact of the occurrence of *its* in Rowley's Poems as decisive against their genuineness. He observes, also, that "Dryden, when, in one of his fault-finding moods with the great men of the preceding generation, he is taking Ben Jonson to task for general inaccuracy in his English diction, among other counts of his indictment, quotes this line of *Catiline*, 'Though heaven should speak with all his wrath at once;' and proceeds, 'Heaven is ill syntax with *his*.'" This is a curious evidence of how completely the former humble condition and recent rise of the now fully established vocable had come to be generally forgotten in a single generation.

The need of it, indeed, must have been much felt. If it was convenient to have the two forms *He* and *It* in the nominative, and *Him* and *It* in the other cases, a similar distinction between the Masculine and the Neuter of the genitive must have been equally required for perspicuous expression. Even the personifying power of *his* was impaired by its being applied to both genders. Milton, consequently, it may be noticed, prefers wherever it is possible the feminine to the masculine personification, as if he felt that the latter was always obscure from the risk of the *his* being taken for the neuter pronoun. Thus we have (*P. L.* i. 723) "The ascending pile Stood fixed *her* stately height" (ii. 4); "The gorgeous East with richest hand Showers on *her* kings" (ii. 175); "What if all *Her* stores were opened, and this firmament Of hell should spout *her* cataracts of fire" (ii. 271); "This desert soil Wants not *her* hidden lustre" (ii. 584); "Lethe, the river of oblivion, rolls *Her* watery labyrinth" (ix. 1103); "The fig-tree . . . spreads *her* arms" (*Com.* 396); "Beauty . . . had need . . . To save *her* blossoms and defend *her* fruit" (*Com.* 486); "The soul grows clotted . . . till *she* quite lose The divine property of *her* first being;" and so on, continually and habitually, or upon system. His masculine personifications are comparatively rare, and are only ventured upon either where he does not require to use the pronoun, or where its gender cannot be mistaken.

Milton himself, however, nowhere, I believe, uses *his* in a neuter sense. He felt too keenly the annoyance of such a sense of it always coming in the way to spoil or prevent any other use he might have made of it. And the most curious thing of all in the history of the word *its* is the extent to which, before its recognition as a word proper for serious composition, even the occasion for its employment was avoided or eluded. This is very remarkable in Shakespeare. The very conception which we express by *its* probably does not occur once in his works for ten times that it is to be found in any modern writer. So that we may say the invention, or adoption, of this form has changed not only our English style, but even our manner of thinking.

The use of the word "lover," on which Professor Craik comments (*p.* 175), is not yet extinct in the provinces. We one day received a letter from a young gentleman, expressive of his literary admiration, which was signed "Your lover,—THOMAS —." Professor Craik says:—

Thy lover.—As we might still say "One who loves thee." It is nearly equivalent to friend, and was formerly in common use in that sense. Thus in *Psalm* xxxviii. 11, we have in the old version "My lovers and my neighbours did stand looking upon my trouble," and also in the common version, "My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore."—So afterwards in 375 Brutus begins his address to the people, "Romans, countrymen, and lovers." Another change which has been undergone by this and some other words is that they are now usually applied only to men, whereas formerly they were common to both sexes. This has happened, for instance, to *paramour* and *villain*, as well as to *lover*. But *villain* is still a term of reproach for a woman as well as for a man in some of the provincial dialects. And, although we no longer call a woman a lover, we still say of a man and woman that they are lovers, or a pair of lovers. I find the term *lover* distinctly applied to a woman in so late a work as Smollett's *Count Fathom*, published in 1754:—"These were alarming symptoms to a lover of her delicacy and pride." (*Vol.* I. ch. 10.)

MONARCHS RETIRED FROM BUSINESS.

Monarchs Retired from Business. By Dr. Doran. 2 vols.

Bentley.

DR. DORAN allows few historical doubts to interfere with the facile gaiety of his narrations. He is a talker and a teller of stories. Even when denials of old versions are taken into the account, it is merely in the way of gossip, scrutiny being dull, and dullness being the sin which, of all others, Dr. Doran is most anxious to avoid. His acuteness, however, enables him to see through many perplexities of improbability and contradiction, so that, without suffering from any peculiar tenderness of literary conscience, he is less inaccurate than we might expect so rapid and discursive a compiler to be. Still, he is essentially a random writer, whose power of amusing may be admitted, but whose conclusions must be laid aside for further analysis. He cannot spare from his biographies the spice of the apocryphal or of the discreetly scandalous. Personal histories, in particular, lose too much of their colour, when exposed to criticism, to satisfy the strong turn that Dr. Doran has for the dramatic. His new book is, perhaps, more loosely constructed than the others which preceded it. It is also less rich in illustrations derived from the study of uncommon books. It has no real Library scent; it is modern in material as well as in style; it has fewer surprises of anecdote than "Table Traits," less variety than "Habits and Men."

The subject is good—better, by far, than the treatment, though the treatment is superior to that of most compilations. Dr. Doran is a writer of some resources; he is witty, quaint, and endowed with a memory for good sayings and anecdotes; so that, even when he is merely working up a well-known memoir, a ray of original humour serves to lighten the narration. The book, therefore, is interesting in a double sense—it abounds in entertaining matter, and the manner is peculiarly that of Dr. Doran. He is free from the abject vice of our time, the adoration of royalty, and has no objection to expose the dark side of a sacred reputation. Indeed, had it been his tendency to flatter, he must have forsaken the idea of following kings and queens into the cloister, or have imitated that mercenary scribe who attributed to Christina of Sweden the virtues of Cato. If majesty upon the throne has been habitually hateful, majesty off the throne has been usually ridiculous. Not many readers will care to look for illustrations so far back as the reign of Adoni-Bezek, who cut off the thumbs and toes of seventy conquered princes, and afterwards, toeless and thumbless himself, eat his food out of the dust. But it is as well to remember that the terrible Dionysius was a capital barber, and that Zenobia, in her sublime retirement, consoled herself by drinking. History has too long been converted into the Walhalla of crowned heads. A Suetonius is needed, from time to time, to show what leprous beggars have worn the purple; we must have our

Georgian greatness explained by Thackeray; it is useful, in default of a Thackeray or a Suetonius in the field, to have Dr. Doran bowling at the annointed; and telling us to listen to the echoes from those hollow heads! The servility of the whole Christian world, for eighteen hundred years, has only been able to pick out twenty monarchs fit for canonization; of these, some are more than half apocryphal, as Lucius of England; others are shadows, as Elesbaan of Ethiopia; Sigismund, the saint of Burgundy, was a murderer; and it was not discovered that Joan of Orleans deserved an apotheosis until two hundred years after her death. Of the British sovereigns who abdicated, or were deposed, Robert the Norman and Arthur the Plantagenet were never the real occupants of the throne. Robert was blinded, despite the injunction of the emperor Constantine, who held it impious to deform the face, the seat of celestial beauty, though Constantine, as Dr. Doran observes, who killed his own son, had no right to say anything on that subject. Of the two conspicuous examples in our history—Edward II. and Richard II.—neither deserved much sympathy. James II. was petted by the French Court, and continued to the last revengeful, frivolous, and selfish. Not one admirable quality was brought out in his character by the austerities of his compulsory seclusion.

On the Scottish throne, of thirty-seven monarchs who ruled from the ninth century to the date of the Union, only ten died natural deaths, and of these half were broken-hearted. Twenty-two perished in the field or by assassination; and one on the scaffold; four resigned their sceptres, but of these not one interests us by his personal characteristics, or by any romantic incidents that marked his uncrowned career. The Irish kings, being innumerable, may soon be passed over. The mysticism of Cormac did not prevent him from choking himself with a fish-bone; in fact, Ireland, modest by proxy in the person of Dr. Doran, admits that of all her unfortunate monarchs, only one was a respectable man. The Welsh kings were chiefly famous for drinking, while of the kings of the Scilly Isles, the most distinguished was Saint Constantine, who abdicated, and for seven years carried on the business of a miller.

King John in the Savoy, and Louis Phillipe at Claremont, are familiar personages; less notorious is King Theodore, who was crowned with the laurel of Corsica. He only reigned for eight months, but put a good many persons to death in proof of his prerogative, then ran away, and came within the meaning of the vagrant act. However, the idle society of London was delighted to have a toy king, and so Theodore drank tea at Lady Schaub's, and Horace Walpole went there to see him, and he might have enjoyed the airy dominion of a title, had not certain creditors arrested him and cast him into the debtors' gaol. There he lived on charity, but maintained the dignity as The Unique, and sat in fallen majesty under a canopy composed of the top of a half-trester bedstead. He instituted an order, made knights, and mimicking the ingenuity of a British minister, lived upon the fees. Walpole, who got up a subscription in his behalf, was afterwards forced to complain of his "dirty knavery." At last, the cashiered kingling died, and was buried, philanthropically and ostentatiously, by an oilman of Soho, who did not pay the undertaker's bill. Corsica suggests Bonaparte, and Bonaparte Elba, and St. Helena; but those retirements have gone to the diorama painters. William-Frederick of Holland was remarkable in only one respect—he illustrated the value of De Paulmy's axiom, that kings never remain long in love without making fools of themselves. Yet he was not an unmitigated simpleton, for he appropriated to himself thirteen millions sterling, for the comfort of his old age. The story of Henry IV. is uninteresting; that of Charles V. has been completely told by Prescott and Stirling. Ferdinand of Austria amused himself, after his abdication, by giving dinner parties to ladies; Frederick of Bohemia, the winter king, by fishing and disciplining his thirteen children; Ludwig of Bavaria bewails his first meeting with Lola Montes. The history of the deposed popes is a history of cruelty and degradation; that of the deposed czars is grotesque in its barbarity. Ivan IV. was the most prominent example. Catherine, who spoke of her murdered husband as her neighbour, made an impression on Horace Walpole's mind by her treatment of this miserable creature, very different from that produced on the mind of Edmund Burke. He called her the modern Athaliah, a devil in a diadem, more unnatural than Semiramis, by instinct a poisoner. Certain historians, nevertheless, adulterate her memory, as certain others adulate that of Christina of Sweden, the murderer of Monaldeschi. This lady, who was whipped by her mother after she was a queen—for illicitly drinking her rose-water—was, throughout her life, passionate, ribald, and cruel, and after she had caused her unhappy councillor to be stabbed to death at Fontainebleau, condescended to the basest attitudes of hypocrisy.

From first to last, this procession of bareheaded kings and queens presents few examples of virtue or majesty. In nearly every case, the retirement of the sovereign would have been a blessing to the people had he not made way for an equally odious successor. Dr. Doran notes the exceptional cases, and does full justice to some of the abdicated, who were too noble for their thrones; but his gallery is hung, in general, with sombre and sinister portraits—suggestive, chiefly, of bigotry, gluttony, and remorse.

POETS AND PLAGIARISTS: ALEXANDER SMITH.

The Athenæum. No. 1523. (January 8th, 1857.)

We have enough to do with the books of the season, and may fairly be absolved from the task of criticizing critics; but the *Athenæum* has printed a communication, from one of its correspondents, which forces us to notice it; less, indeed, as a personal matter, concerning Alexander Smith, than as a general matter, involving a question of considerable literary importance. The editor of the *Athenæum*, of course, inserted the letter with view to submitting it to the best of all possible tests—the opinion of impartial readers.

The article in question, which extends to five columns of the *Athenæum*, is a remonstrance "in the interest of literary integrity," against Alexander Smith, who is accused of systematic, deliberate, and wholesale plagiarism; his poems are said to be made up from the poems of other writers; and, in

proof of the accusation, passages are quoted side by side. On the hasty or unthinking reader, the effect of this article will assuredly be very injurious to Alexander Smith; and as a question of "literary integrity," we very earnestly beg our readers to consider the matter.

Two general propositions may be laid down. First: That all young poets have exhibited, and will continue to exhibit, abundant *reminiscences* in their language, imagery, and thoughts. They have read poetry with keener sensibilities than most men, and are prompted to reproduce what they have read; sometimes they do so consciously, at other times quite unconsciously. Secondly: That the distinction between reminiscence and plagiarism—between reproduction and appropriation—is always discernible in the manner of the writer, and in the nature of the source whence he derived the appropriated material. No one talks of Milton's 'plagiarisms.' To take thoughts or images from writers familiar to all readers, is to expose yourself to instant detection; but to take thoughts or images from forgotten or obscure writers is open to more suspicion. Even then, the question is, Has the thought been stolen,—simply appropriated,—or has it been enlarged, improved, and altered in its application?

The two propositions just laid down enable us, we think, to dispose of the charges brought against Alexander Smith. It required no "Z" to write to the *Athenæum* the announcement of the discovery that the young poet abounded in reminiscences—that tricks of phrase, and well-known images, were assignable to previous poets. This defect he has in common with all young poets; not more than others, however. Shelley, Tennyson, Keats, and Bailey have been read by him, and may claim 'their thunder' in occasional lines. But Alexander Smith never plagiarises. If he reproduces an image, he adds to it a touch of grace, or gives it a new application. What he has taken may be all restored to its owners, and leave him little poorer as a poet. His finest passages are not in "Z's" list.

"Z," alluding to the fact that the young poet had never seen the sea, nor the midland counties, declares the "whole mystery of the new poetic system stood revealed" when he, "Z," reflected that Shelley had seen the sea, and Keats the midland counties. If we understand this, it means that Alexander Smith has taken his sea and landscape from Shelley and Keats; yet when "Z" comes to cite his specimen of this plagiarisms, he does not give a single one from Keats having the remotest reference to such scenery, nor does he quote anything from Shelley having a *peculiar* touch of the sea in it!

But let us grapple with the specimens. The two poets contrasted in these extracts are Tennyson v. Alexander Smith.

1. The full-juiced apple, waxing over mellow,
Drops in a silent autumn night.
All its allotted length of days,
The flower ripens in its place,
Ripens and fades and falls, . . .
All things have rest and ripen toward the
grave. ("Lotus Eaters.")
2. Our beings mellow, then they fall,
Like o'erripe peaches from the wall;
We ripen, drop, and all is o'er. (p. 61.)
3. The shattering trumpet shrilleth high. . .
They reel, they roll, in clanging lists.
("Sir Galahad.") A new-raised standard to the reeling field.
(p. 69.)
4. Nor lose the wrestling thews that throw
the world. ("Princess, p. 166.) And with a strong arm hold the rearing
world. (p. 69.)
5. All my bounding heart entanglest
In a golden netted smile. ("Madeline.") — hearts are tangled in a golden smile.
(p. 70.)
6. My Hercules, my Roman Antony,
My mailed Bacchus.
("Dream of Fair Women.") My Hero! my Heart-god!
My dusk Hyperion, Bacchus of the Inds!
My Hercules. (p. 75.)
7. The leader wild swan in among the stars
Would clang. ("Princess, p. 93.) Long strings of geese come clanging from
the stars. (p. 117.)
8. — a beacon-tower above the waves
Of tempest, when the crimson-rolling eye
Glazes. (Ibid. p. 96.) — the lighthouse in the gloom . . .
It opes its ruddy eye, the night recoils,
A crimson line of light runs out to sea.
(p. 120.)
9. The heavy clocks knolling the drowsy
hours. ("Gardener's Daughter.") The drowsy steeples tolled the hour of
One. (p. 136.)
10. Sow'd all their mystic gulfs with fleeting
stars, (Ibid.) Great gulfs of silence, blue, and strewn
with stars. (p. 138.)
11. What time the mighty moon was gather-
ing light. ("Love and Death.") See the great moon . . .
Is slowly from the darkness gathering
light! (p. 202.)

In these there are some reminiscences, but not one plagiarism. The first passage is as old as Hesiod. The second has little resemblance. The third is a new image, and a finer one. The fourth is a poetical commonplace. The fifth is one of those resemblances which only microscopic hate could discern to be a plagiarism. The sixth is a closer reminiscence than usual. The seventh is also a reminiscence, but how completely the poet has made it his own, and what a fine addition is that, "the night recoils, a crimson line of light runs out to sea!" The eighth has one word, "drowsy," like the original. The ninth is a reminiscence. So is the tenth, but greatly improved by making the moon "gather the light from the darkness."

Let us now turn to Keats:—

- gold vase emboss'd
With long-forgotten story, &c.
("Endymion," B. 3.) — great cup of gold
All rich and rough with stories of the
gods. (p. 18.)
- The new version, undoubtedly suggested by Keats, is much finer, more concrete, and thus has become original.

Like to a diver in the pearly seas,
Forward he stoop'd over the airy shore,
And plunged all noiseless into the deep
night. ("Hyperion.")

She like a swimmer who has found his
ground,
Came rippling up a silver strand of cloud
And plunged from the other side into the
night. (p. 52.)

This is very close. Yet there are touches of originality.

— O Sorrow, why dost borrow
The natural hue of health from vermeil
lips?
The lustrous passion from a falcon eye?
("Endymion," B. 4.)

Alas that years should harry
Gloss from life and joys from lips,
Love-lustres from the eyes of Clari!
(p. 61.)

"Z" may discover plagiarism in this, as he does in so many other instances. We leave him in full possession of such sagacity. Of the same character are the following from Shelley:—

— A Power
Girt round with weakness
A breaking billow;—even whilst we speak
Is it not broken? ("Adonais.")
— All deadly shapes were driven
Tumultuously across her sleep.
("Marianne's Dream.")

— Thou art a rock,
I a weak wave would break on thee and
die. (p. 3.)

And this from Leigh Hunt:—

The birds
Sung and darted in and out the boughs.
("Rimini," B. iii.)

As darts a bright bird in and out the
leaves. (p. 159.)

No one, of course, ever observed a bird dart in and out of trees until Leigh Hunt observed it! But so resolute is "Z" to "refer to their original sources" any passages or words he finds in Alexander Smith, that he actually instances the following as examples:—

Here are (in or out of season) Jove, Bacchus, Mercury, Dian, Cupid, Venus, Apollo, Hercules, Orion,—Caesar, Marc Antony and Cleopatra, Hero and Leander,—Bacchanals, Nymphs, Naiades, Memnon, the Sphynx, Egypt's Gods, Adam and Eve, Moses's Serpent, Loves of the Angels, Jacob and Rachel, Absalom, Satan, Dives,—Paradise, Hesperides, Labrador, Ind, Indian air, Ganges, Indian morn, Cub of Ind,—lutes, timbrels, swans, doves, falcons, larks, panthers, leopards, fawns, water-lilies, daisies on graves, "like April unto May," "populous with bees," "bathed in sunset," moon whitening o'er "piled sheaves," wine-cups, heart-pants, queenly maidens, crowns, palaces, haunted springs, worlds of greenery, purple nights, blue days, throbbing stars, spooming seas, old gods, old kings, great queens, earls, "wild-eyed" persons, singing rills, ancient woods, windy woods, brooding thunder-eaves, braying trumpets,—orbing, ringing, reeling, broadening, far-splendouring, grandeur, —might, Bards, Poets of the Age, Poets' deaths, Poets' fames, "O Fame! Fame! Fame!" "Poesy! Poesy!" &c. &c.

Is "Z" a lunatic?

From Leigh Hunt three passages are said to be plagiarized—a charge which we are quite sure the veteran will energetically disclaim. They are very fine passages, and Alexander Smith's passages, also fine, bear a faint, very faint, resemblance to them; but if such be plagiarism deserving public reprobation, woe upon the poets to come!—

And flung
The foam behind, as though he scorn'd
the sea. ("Hero and Leander.")
The wind is mad upon the moors,
And comes into the rocking town,
Stabbing all things up and down,
And then there is a weeping rain
Huddling 'gainst the window-pane.
("Captain Sword and Captain Pen.")

— scattering.
With scornful breath the kissing, flatter-
ing foam. (p. 179.)
The terror-stricken rain
Flings itself wildly on the window-panes,
Imploring shelter from the chasing wind.
(p. 208.)

— ghastly prison, that eternally
Holds its blind visage out to the lone sea.
("Power and Gentleness.")

An old fort like a ghost upon the hill
Stare in blank misery through the blind-
ing rain. (p. 237.)

We cannot go through the list of examples; but we have given specimens of all kinds, and now we ask our readers what they think of a writer producing such evidence, and on the strength of it saying:—

In all these instances the appropriation is simple and direct. Mr. Smith has not troubled himself to smear the faces and change the garb of the stolen children. But a favourite secret of his composition seems to consist in taking three or four passages from various writers and marrying them together—not in immortal verse.

Was our interference in such a case justified, or not?

MEMOIRS OF RICHARD CUMBERLAND.

Memoirs of Richard Cumberland. Written by Himself. With Illustrative Notes by Henry Flanders. Trübner and Co.

The Memoirs of Richard Cumberland—Courtier, Poet, Dramatist, and Philosopher—were published some years before his death, but never reached a second edition. They are largely interspersed with anecdotes of the men of his time, with most of whom he was intimate. The cumbersome style, however, in which the events he has to record, and the gossip he has to narrate, are placed before the reader, condemned the work to an oblivion from which a little humour and sprightliness would have rescued it. In vain we look for the witty air of Walpole. Another characteristic which the work possesses is not calculated to detract from its dullness. It is evidently written with a view to apologize for the author's many ill successes; and a work written to patch up a man's character must always be tinted with a false colouring. In America, however, the "Memoirs" have been revived. They are recommended, in the short notice which prefaces this edition, as being peculiarly interesting to the American student of history, inasmuch as they relate the episodic career of Cumberland as British envoy in Spain at a time when the ex-President, Jay, was Minister of the struggling republic at the same court.

Cumberland received his early education at Westminster, where he had Warren Hastings, Colman, Lloyd, and Vincent as schoolfellows. From

Westminster he removed to Trinity College, Cambridge, and, whilst only a student, had the good fortune to obtain the office of Private Secretary to Lord Halifax, then First Lord of Trade and Plantations, and afterwards Lord-lieutenant of Ireland. This connexion with his lordship procured him the offer of a baronetcy, which, being but a hollow honour, he declined. On the death of Lord Halifax, he received the Secretaryship of the Board of Trade, and signalized himself by a steady discharge of its formal duties. His next step was a failure. Being sent on a mission to Lisbon to treat with the Spanish court, then at war with us, on the articles of a peace, he exceeded his instructions, and proceeded to Madrid. Considerable mystery hangs over the causes which led to his recall. Some affirm his advancing into Spain was the real ground; others maintain that he was not sufficiently firm in carrying out the injunctions of the Ministry; the cession of Gibraltar being laid down by them as the basis of any negotiation. Whatever was the cause, it is generally admitted that he was harshly treated both in his recall and on his return. He therefore retired to Tunbridge Wells, where he spent the remainder of his life in writing plays, epics, and operas.

How difficult is it to keep silence under a delusion of wrongs! The account of the "Spanish Mission" affords many a complaint which might find a parallel in the heart-burnings of our late gallant Baltic Admiral. Cumberland receives letters from the Foreign Office.—"If the enclosed letter was not altogether what I hoped for, the covering letter was most decidedly what I had not deserved, for it conveyed a more than implied reproof for my having written to the Spanish Minister, and at the same time acknowledges that my paper was cautiously worded, and that *I had most certainly succeeded in my argument.*" Again:—"If, in any one part of my conduct or conversation, I had advanced a step beyond the line of my instructions, or varied from them in a single instance, I should not have sought to shelter myself under the peculiar difficulties of my situation; I must have met the reproof I merited." But whether under the lash for his political or literary conduct, Cumberland always manifested a most sensitive disposition—so sensitive, indeed, that he was nicknamed by Garrick "the man without a skin," and caricatured by Sheridan in the character of "Sir Fretful Plagiary."

Cumberland's public life presents three distinct phases—its political, its dramatic, and literary phases. His political life threw him into the society of the court politicians of the day, and we have in "The Memoirs," as has already been observed, sketches of many characters known to history. His dramatic and literary career is that upon which his reputation will longest last. By his connexion with the stage and the press he became acquainted with Garrick, Foote, Kemble, Bannister, Mrs. Siddons, Miss Follen, Johnson, Burke, Goldsmith, Reynolds, and others. It is unnecessary to enter deeply into the merits of Cumberland as an author. He tried his hand at almost every kind of composition in prose and poetry. He wrote an epic, making Milton his model; but who ever hears of the "Calvary" now? He gained great éclat as a Greek scholar and essayist, and his "Observer" has been incorporated into the popular edition of the "British Essayists," but since it has become known how much he was indebted to Bentley's MSS., even his character as a Greek critic is no longer sustained. "Arundel," a story in two volumes, principally supports his claims as a novelist, and at the time of its publication obtained a considerable circulation. His principal reputation, however, is based upon his powers as a dramatic writer, and on this it will continue to be based. In this branch of composition he exercised his inclination for variety, and produced pieces of every description, from tragedy and comedy down to the broad farce and the light vaudeville. Of his numerous productions, however, only "The Brothers," "The West Indian," "The Jew," and "The Wheel of Fortune" are now to be found in the repertoires of theatrical managers.

Here is a characteristic anecdote of Johnson, which we give as a specimen of Cumberland's style:—

At the tea-table he had considerable demands upon his favourite beverage, and I remember when Sir Joshua Reynolds at my house reminded him that he had drunk eleven cups, he replied, "Sir, I did not count your glasses of wine, why should you number up my cups of tea?" And then laughing in perfect good humour, he added, "Sir, I should have released the lady from any further trouble if it had not been for your remarks, but you have reminded me that I want one of the dozen, and I must request Mrs. Cumberland to round up my number!" When he saw the readiness and complacency with which my wife obeyed his call, he turned a kind and cheerful look upon her, and said, "Madam, I must tell you for your comfort you have escaped much better than a certain lady did a while ago, upon whose patience I intruded greatly, more than I have done on yours; but the lady asked me for no other purpose but to make a zany of me, and set me gabbling to a parcel of people I knew nothing of; so, madam, I had my revenge on her, for I swallowed five-and-twenty cups of her tea, and did not treat her with as many words." I can only say my wife would have made tea for him as long as the New River could have supplied her with water.

In the following, both Garrick and Foote figure:—

I remember full well when Garrick and I visited him, poor Foote had something worse than a dull man to struggle with, and matter of fact brought home to him in a way that for a time entirely overthrew his spirits, and most completely frightened him from his propriety. We had taken him by surprise, and of course were with him some hours before dinner, to make sure of our own, and if we had missed of his. He seemed overjoyed to see us, engaged us to stay, walked with us into his garden, and read to us some scenes roughly sketched for his "Maid of Bath." His dinner was quite good enough, and his wine superlative. Sir Robert Fletcher, who had served in the East Indies, dropped in before dinner, and made the fourth of our party. When we had passed about two hours in perfect harmony and hilarity, Garrick called for his tea, and Sir Robert rose to depart: there was an unlucky screen in the room, that hid the door, and behind which Sir Robert hid himself for some purpose, whether natural or artificial I know not; but Foote, supposing him gone, instantly began to play off his ridicule at the expense of his departed guest. I must confess it was (in the cant phrase) a way that he had, and just now a very unlucky way, for Sir Robert, bolting from behind the screen, cried out, "I am not gone, Foote; spare me till I am out of hearing; and now, with your leave, I will stay till these gentlemen depart, and then you shall amuse me at their cost, as you have amused them at mine."

The Arts.

MR. WILKIE COLLINS'S "FROZEN DEEP."

PRIVATE theatricals are generally associated in people's minds with ideas of embarrassed ladies and gentlemen, an imperfect acquirement of the parts to be presented, a makeshift stage, inadequate to the purposes of the drama, nondescript costumes, equivocal scenery, and a general demand upon your merciful indulgence. You weep by courtesy; applaud out of a sense of consideration; and are glad of an opportunity to laugh, because (with the exception of feeling uneasy) that is the only genuine thing you can do. There have recently been some contradictions to this unhappy rule; and among those contradictions one of the most remarkable is that presented by Mr. DICKENS at his own residence. The visitor at TAVISTOCK HOUSE finds a theatre, small, indeed, but complete in every point; exquisite scenery, from the hands of STANFIELD and TELBIN; atmospheric effects absolutely superior to those at the public theatres; and acting which is equal to that of the profession in all the requirements of confidence and ease, and often far above it in the higher qualities of truthful conception and artistic feeling. Mr. DICKENS, moreover, is a genuine manager, 'creating' new pieces as well as reviving old; and it is a new 'creation' we have now to notice.

The Frozen Deep is the title of the drama brought out for the first time on Tuesday evening, repeated on Thursday, and destined to be played at Tavistock House twice more. It is by Mr. WILKIE COLLINS—a fact which is in itself a guarantee of an exciting and admirably constructed story, and powerful writing. The plot centres round the heroes of an Arctic expedition, and brings on the scene a great variety of characters and considerable breadth of passion and pathos. The first act introduces us to four young ladies who live in a quiet nook of Devon, and who have each a relation or lover in the Polar expedition, which forms the main subject of the drama. All, of course, are sad and depressed; *Clara Burnham* (Miss MARY) is peculiarly so; for not merely has her betrothed gone to the terrible icy regions, but in the same expedition is a young Kentish gentleman whose passion for her she has rejected out of a misapprehension, and who has sworn to kill the man who has robbed him of her, whenever they shall meet. He does not know the name of her favoured suitor, but *Clara* feels persuaded that the two rivals will be led together by some mysterious influence; and in the deepening twilight and crimson sunset flush of the early Autumn evening she tells her story to her friend *Lucy Crayford* (Miss HOGARTH). Her sad misgivings sufficiently painful in themselves, are intensified by the mystical forebodings of an old Scotch attendant, *Nurse Esther* (Mrs. WILLS), who is gifted with second sight, and who goes about the house like an ominous enchantress, muttering of awful visions which come to her from "the land o' ice and snaw." On the particular evening on which the story opens, she is full of these dreary revelations; and, as the twilight deepens into night, and the warm red hues of the west pale into the grey and spectral moonshine (an effect marvellously contrived by Mr. TELBIN), she stands in the gathering gloom, darkly relieved against the misty blue of the window, and, in a voice half frightened, half denunciatory (for the young Southern ladies have been sceptical of her supernatural powers), tells them of a vision of blood which passes before her eyes from the Northern seas. *Lucy Crayford*, shuddering with dread, calls for lights; *Clara Burnham* falls senseless; and the first act is concluded.

Of the effect of this scene, from the commencement to the end, it would be difficult to convey an adequate idea. The weary, lonely grief of the four companions; the spirit of quiet, gentle sorrow that moves over the whole performance; the sweet, sad melody sung by two of the young ladies in the inner room, while *Clara* is telling her story to *Lucy*; the awful forebodings of the Scotch nurse; the deep, yet melancholy sympathy of the evening light and the solemn stealing in of the white moonrise; the wretchedness and the terror of the ladies, and the shuddering awe of *Esther's* vision (not raved out, according to transmitted fashion, but all quiet and intense)—these elements contribute to a general effect which is new to our stage, because based on Nature instead of on tradition. And here let us say that the acting of the ladies—Miss MARY, Miss HOGARTH, Miss HELEN, and Miss KATE—was exquisitely pure, delicate, and natural; and the voices, from not being strained, lost none of their refined gentleness and tender grace. Mrs. WILLS, also, played with true feeling and subdued power.

The second act brings us to the Arctic regions. Here we find the lost heroes in an Arctic Hut; and it is resolved to send out a party of explorers to see whether a way cannot be cut through the barrier that hems them in. They cast lots; and *Frank Aldersley* (Mr. WILKIE COLLINS), *Clara Burnham's* favoured suitor, is to be one of the expedition. *Richard Wardour*, the rejected lover—a moody, passionate man, of a rugged but noble nature, played by Mr. DICKENS—throws a number which has the effect of keeping him in the Hut; and just before the starting of the explorers, he discovers that *Frank Aldersley* is his rival. An accident decides his going with them in company with *Frank*; and, in spite of the opposition of *Lieutenant Crayford* (played to perfection by Mr. MARK LEMON) who fears what may ensue, the rivals depart together.

In the third act, we find several of the Arctic party in a cavern on the coast of Newfoundland, rescued and returning home. But *Frank Aldersley* and *Richard Wardour* remain behind. The ladies from Devon, who have come out with their Scotch nurse in search of the lost ones, are also congregated in the same cave, into which suddenly rushes a wild, ragged, maniac creature, crying for food. It is *Richard Wardour*, who has escaped from the icy floe, half starved, and with madness in his brain. Food and drink are given him, and, after hastily and fiercely swallowing some, he stows away the rest in a wallet, and is preparing to rush off when he is recognized, and himself recognizes *Clara Burnham*. He is charged with the murder of his comrade; but he replies hysterically, and flights his way out of the cave, returning almost instantly with *Frank Aldersley* in his arms, faint, famished, frost-bitten, but alive. Often in the wastes of snow has *Richard* been tempted to slay him, or to leave him behind when sleeping, that he may perish slowly. But his noble nature at length prevails; and, when his rival sinks beneath his sore trials, *Richard's* stronger arm brings him safely through the icebergs and the snow-drifts, and

lays him at the feet of *Clara*. Having thus accomplished a noble revenge, his own strength fails, and he dies, blessing and blessed.

Mr. DICKENS's performance of this most touching and beautiful part might open a new era for the stage, if the stage had the wisdom to profit by it. It is fearfully fine throughout—from the sullen despair in the second act, alternating with gusts of passion or with gleams of tenderness (let us more particularly note the savage energy with which he hews to pieces his rival's berth with an axe, when the approaching departure of *Frank Aldersley* renders it no longer needed, except for fuel), down to the appalling misery and supreme emotion of the dying scene. Most awful are those wild looks and gestures of the starved, crazed man; that husky voice, now fiercely vehement, and now faltering into the last sorrow; that frantic cry when he recognizes *Clara*; that hysterical burst of joy when he brings in his former object of hatred, to prove that he is not a murderer; and that melting tenderness with which he kisses his old friend and his early love, and passes quietly away from life. In these passages, Mr. DICKENS shows that he is not only a great novelist, but a great actor also. Both, indeed, proceed from the same intense sympathy with humanity, the same subtle identification of the individual man with the breadth and depth of our general nature. Mr. DICKENS has all the technical knowledge and resources of a professed actor; but these, the dry bones of acting, are kindled by that soul of vitality which can only be put into them by the man of genius and the interpreter of the affections.

All the other parts are played with careful intelligence and hearty zest. Mr. WILKIE COLLINS is very truthful and touching in the last scene; and Mr. AUGUSTUS EGG 'realizes' a grumbling sea-cook with infinite humour. The ladies, who vie lovingly in all the charms and all the graces that delight the eye and touch the heart, are members of Mr. DICKENS's family; and Mr. "YOUNG CHARLES," who performs *Lieutenant Steventon* with great ease and tact, is no other than Mr. CHARLES DICKENS, the Younger. Mr. ALFRED DICKENS's *Captain Holding* is a fine piece of bluff, sailor-like robustness and sincerity; and Messrs. EDWARD HOGARTH and FREDERICK EVANS, who act two of the Sea Mew's crew, are thorough Jack Tars, with a taste of the salt breeze in all their looks and ways.

Of the scenery of the first act, which is by Mr. TELBIN, we have already spoken as being singularly beautiful. That in the two other acts is by Mr. STANFIELD (assisted by Mr. DANSON), and is worthy of the Master's hand.

The drama is succeeded by Mr. BUCKSTONE's farce of *Uncle John*, acted with immense spirit by all, and giving further evidence of Mr. DICKENS's powers as an actor, in the exuberant fun of his comedy, which, by the way, is most effectively supported by Mr. MARK LEMON and Mr. WILKIE COLLINS, and delightfully aided by the refined vivacity of Miss HOGARTH, the marvellous dramatic instinct of 'Miss MARY,' and the fascinating simplicity of 'Miss KATE.' Altogether, the audience return home from TAVISTOCK HOUSE rather indisposed for some time to come to be content with the time-honoured conventionalities of the public stage.

The musical arrangements, which are of marked importance in the conduct of the drama, are under the skilful and accomplished direction of Mr. FRANCESCO BERGER, a young composer of rich promise, who appears to unite in his art, as in his name, the melody of Italy with the science of Germany. A small but very select orchestra is placed behind the scenes, Mr. BERGER presiding at the piano. The introductory overture, compact in form and brilliant in character, is marked throughout by skill, taste, and feeling; we may note particularly a duet for violoncello and flute, felicitously intimating the tender and pathetic elements of the story, and written with unmistakable affection and the true sympathy of a sister art. The incidental music, announcing and accompanying the chief episodes in the action, deserves a word of emphatic recognition for the perfect fidelity of expression, the exquisite refinement, and the consistent grace, which almost approach TENNYSON's ideal of wedded bliss:

.....Perfect music set to noble words.

The following Prologue, written by Mr. DICKENS, was delivered, behind the scenes, by Mr. JOHN FORSTER:—

One savage foot-print on the lonely shore,
Where One Man listen'd to the surge's roar,
Not all the winds that stir the mighty sea
Can ever ruffle in the Memory.
If such its interest and thrall, O! then
Pause on the footprints of heroic men,
Making a garden of the desert wide,
Where PARRY conquer'd, and where FRANKLIN died.

To that white region, where the lost lie low,
Wrapt in their mantles of eternal snow,
Unvisited by change, nothing to mock
Those statues sculptured in the icy rock,
We pray your company; that hearts as true
(Though fancies of the air) may live for you.
Nor only yet that on our little glass
A faint reflection of those wilds may pass,
But, that the secrets of the vast Profound
Within us, an exploring hand may sound,
Testing the rigor of the ice-bound soul,
Seeking the passage at its Northern Pole,
Soft'ning the horrors of its wintry sleep,
Melting the surface of that Frozen Deep.

Vanish, ye mists! But ere this gloom departs,
And to the union of three sister arts,
We give a winter evening, good to know
That in the charm of such another show,
That in the fiction of a friendly Play,
The Arctic Sailors, too, put gloom away,
Forgot their long night, saw no starry dome,
Hail'd the warm sun and were again at home.
Vanish ye mists! Not yet do we repair
To the still country of the piercing air,
But seek, before we cross the troubled seas,
An English hearth and Devon's waving trees.

An amusing little piece, called *A Night at Notting Hill*, in which Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. PAUL BEDFORD, and Mrs. CHATTERLEY perform, has been produced at the ADELPHI. It illustrates the fright of a City alderman; the inutility of civic resorts to the revolver and the man-trap; and the absorbed attention of our policemen in the contemplation of servant-maids and pantries. The farce, which is very successful, is by Mr. EDMUND YATES and Mr. HARRINGTON.

SYDNEY BOTANICAL GARDEN.—The Botanical Garden of the town is greatly resorted to, especially by the more genteel portion of the community, where they can study and admire, not only the indigenous flowers, plants, and shrubs of New Holland, but also those of most other countries. There are many beautiful varieties of tropical flowers and plants tastefully laid out in ornamental beds, upon grassy lawns, which are kept in excellent order, and furnished with rustic seats, to accommodate the weary. All the indigenous trees are evergreen. The palm, the banana, and the Norfolk pine, are here seen in great luxuriance. The latter is very striking and remarkable, throwing out lateral branches at regular intervals, and assuming the character of the beautiful cypress. The British oak, with its peculiar leaves, is not to be mistaken by those who have seen it in perfection; but here it is of stunted growth. The weeping willows gracing these beautiful grounds are greatly to be admired. There are many pleasant walks, about the garden and domain. The promenade leading to Lady Macquarrie's chair, which is hewn out of a rock, affords the pedestrian one of the pleasantest rambles he could desire, in addition to a resting-place where he can from this lady's seat, feast his eyes upon the vessels and boats studding the different beautiful bays that indent the harbour in almost every direction. Here he may sit and, perchance, fancy himself in fairy-land, until he is awoke from his reverie by the cheerful voice of some passers-by.—*The Draper in Australia.*

A RAILWAY JOURNEY IN INDIA.—That brief whistle, that strong silent pull that gradual glide, that monotonous rattle, have nothing in them, here in the plains of Bengal, to distinguish them from the same sounds and sensations so often experienced amid the factories of Lancashire, the red cliffs and blue sounding waves of South Devon, the vine-bearing plains of France, the rugged passes of Styria, the tropical hills of Havannah, or the wild jungle of Western America. The train travels at a rate varying from fifteen to twenty miles an hour. About every eight miles occurs a station with some uncouth name. We look out as we pass one of these. The long straight line of iron rail still retains its familiar look of civilization, but all its circumstances have become entirely Oriental. The station is a little white bungalow, with green open doors; its name "Hooghly," is written in those three characters which suggests at every turn to the most careless traveller the strange fate of India; the English plain, business-like capital letters, looking as if they were conscious of belonging to the conquering people; the graceful Persian curling from right to left, emblematic of the politeness, the facile dexterity, perhaps, too, of the intrigue and instability, of Central Asiatics, powerful enough to impress on a susceptible people a manner which makes every peasant of Hindostan more or less a gentleman, but unable to cope with the plain, honest force which is represented by the Roman capitals; and lastly, the mystical Bengalee, the vernacular of the province, closely allied to every vernacular tongue all over India, which here, at the Hooghly station, is read by thousands; while of the two conquering languages one is read by hundreds, the other by units; the language of the conquered million, yet containing in it the roots of more than half the words spoken by conquering English, close akin to the ancient Sanscrit, that source beyond which the stream of human language has not yet been traced. But the train moves on, and, so far as it is concerned, the conquering English has it all its own way. The ancient Sanscrit is still represented by every one of the dull objects which meet the traveller's eye. The ungraceful palm, so strangely associated in European minds with Oriental beauty; the green, melancholy plain; the occasional glimpses of the yellow, sluggish, corpse-bearing river—these are the witnesses to the fact—so strange, yet so forgotten—that where the English steam-engine now travels, there, just one century ago, the Nawab of Bengal was marching down on Calcutta to perpetrate the Black Hole massacre—that tragedy from which the Anglo-Indian empire took its birth. Here, centuries ago, the Hindoo walked and sat and smoked, worshipping his god Permanence, even as he walks and sits and smokes and worships the same god to-day.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CARDEN.—On the 29th ult., at Surbiton, Kingston-on-Thames, the wife of James M. Carden, Esq.: a daughter.
NAYLOR.—On the 4th inst., at Manor-place, Paddington-green, the wife of W. Naylor: a son.
STEGGALL.—On the 2nd inst., at No. 3, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, the wife of John William Billing Steggall, surgeon: a son.
WOODGATE.—On the 8th of November, at Palamcottah, East Indies, the widow of the late Charles H. Woodgate, Madras Civil Service: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BIRCH—TOPHAM.—On the 1st inst., at Middleham, Yorkshire, the Rev. James Alexander Birch, rector of Middleham, son of the late Very Rev. Thomas Birch, D.D., Dean of Battle and Archdeacon of Lewes, to Martha Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Lupton Topham, Esq., of Middleham House.
KAY—HOSSE.—On the 3rd inst., at the British Embassy, Paris, the Rev. David Kay, minister of the Free Church of Scotland, to Caroline Harriet Clementine, eldest daughter of the late Sir William Hosse, Bart., K.C.B., and Lady Harriet Hosse.
SULLIVAN—REED.—On the 5th inst., at Clifton Church, D. W. Sullivan, Esq., 82nd Regiment, to Mary Mathilda, eldest daughter of W. B. Reed, Esq., Clifton.

DEATHS.

BIRD.—On the 18th of October, 1856, at his residence, Red River Settlement, of influenza, James Bird, Esq., late Chief Factor of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company, in the 83rd year of his age.
MANNING.—On the 3rd inst., at Diss Rectory, Norfolk, the Rev. William Manning, forty-six years rector of Diss, and fifty-two years rector of Weeting, in the same county, and formerly Fellow and Tutor of Caius College, Cambridge, in the 86th year of his age.
ST. JOHN.—On the 2nd inst., at Hampton Court Palace, Henry Joseph St. John, son of George Richard, third Viscount Bolingbroke, aged 57.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, January 6.

BANKRUPTS.—ROBERT EDWARD KEY, Thorney, Cambridgeshire, grocer.—JOHN RICHARD DAWSON, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, hotel keeper.—JOHN HENRY STEVENS, Great Wild-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, engraver.—EDWARD CROFTS, West-place, John's-row, St. Luke's, hearthrug manufacturer.—SAMUEL MUDDIMAN, Northampton, shoe manufacturer.—WILLIAM KINGSTON, Bridge-road, Lambeth, linendraper.—NATHANIEL LEVY NATHAN, Church-lane, Whitechapel, butcher.—EDWARD POLLACK, Fieldgate-street, sugar refiner.—THOMAS RODGER, Attercliffe-cum-Darnall, Yorkshire, grocer.—THOMAS STOREY BELTON, Marton, Horncastle, and Lincoln, maltster.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. MITCHELL, Dunoon, slater.—J. MATHER, Haddington, surgeon.—W. PULLAR, Perth, innkeeper.—A. MACKENZIE, Dingwall, county clerk.—R. MACKINLAY, Aberdeen, grocer.

Friday, January 9.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—MEYER JACOBS, Steward-street, Spitalfields, manufacturer.—WALTER LODGE, Fenny Bridge, near Huddersfield, cloth manufacturer.

BANKRUPTS.—JOHN SWORDER, Ware, maltster.—JOHN HAWORTH, Shaw Clough, Lancashire, spinner.—SAMUEL CLARE, Ashton-under-Lyne, grocer.—HENRY DUCKWORTH, Glen Top Mill, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.—JAMES GILBERT, Manchester, contractor.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JOHN FORSYTH, Cuthill, Linlithgowshire, farmer.—JAMES BANKS, Findlay-street, Glasgow, glazier.—ROBERT MACKINLAY, St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, grocer.—JOHN GOURLAY, High-street, Dumfries, plumber.—JAMES DRYSDALE, Renfield-street, Glasgow, merchant.—ROBERT HINSHAW, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, spirit dealer.—WATSONS and Co., Paisley, woollen drapers.—ARCHIBALD CARMICHAEL, at present prisoner in the gaol of Dundee, farmer.—THOMAS NAISMITH, Woodside, Glasgow, carter.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, January 9, 1857.

THERE has been no particular feature worthy of remark in the English funds during the past week. Consols having remained almost stationary at 94 to 94½. The settling, which took place yesterday (Thursday), has passed off satisfactorily. The contango for carrying over to the February account was 7-16 to 1 per cent., which is at the rate of 5½ to 6 per cent. per annum.

The Bank books opened for private transfer in Consols on the 6th.

The Bank directors have to-day taken a very unexpected step in raising the rate for loans on stock from 6 to 6½ per cent. This has caused Consols to droop a little; they leave off 93½ 94 for money, and 94½ 94½ for the 5th February account.

A statement was made in more than one of the daily journals to-day to the effect that a member of the Stock Exchange had absconded, a warrant having been issued against him for forging a power of attorney to sell 5500 Consols, and also of obtaining money to a large amount on spurious shares purporting to represent certificates of the Peel River Company shares. That these frauds have been perpetrated, is true; but that the offender is a member of the Stock Exchange, is entirely false.

Aberdeen, —; Caledonian, 62, 62½; Chester and Holyhead, 37½, 38½; Eastern Counties, 92, 94; Great Northern, 92, 93; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 111, 113; Great Western, 67½, 68; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97, 97½; London and Blackwall, 61, 61½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 110, 112; London and North-Western, 106½, 106¾; London and South-Western, 108½, 107½; Midland, 82½, 83; North-Eastern (Berwick), 84½, 85½; South-Eastern (Dover), 74, 75; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 63, 7; Dutch Rhenish, par, 4 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 32½, 32¾; Great Central of France, 44, 5 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 4½, 5½; Northern of France, 37½, 38; Paris and Lyons, 54½, 55; Royal Danish, 18, 20; Royal Swedish, 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 8½, 9½.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	218	216½	217	.....	218	218
3 per Cent. Red.....	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	.....	.....	.....	94½	94½	94
Consols for Account	94	94½	94½	94	94½	94½
New 3 per Cent. An.	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
Long Anns. 1860 .....	.....	.....	2½	.....	.....	.....
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000 .....	.....	2 p	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000	2 d	3 p	par	.....	4 p	par
Ex. Bills, £1000	4 p	2 p	2 p	3 p	par	4 p
Ditto, £500	4 p	4 p	.....	6 p	.....	4 p
Ditto, Small	4 p	2 p	6 p	6 p	par	5 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	100½	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ...	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents ..	85	Russian Bonds, 5 per	.....
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	104½	Cents .....	.....
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents....	97½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	65	Spanish.....	.....
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	97½	Spanish Committee Cer-	.....
Equador Bonds .....	.....	of Coup. not sun.	6
Mexican Account	2½	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	95½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents....	78	Turkish New, 4 ditto ....	.....
Portuguese 3 per Cents. 44	.....	Venezuela 4½ per Cents..	.....

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, January 9, 1857.

THERE have been but moderate supplies of all Grain during the week. To-day the attendance has been small, and only a retail business has been done in Wheat at Monday's rates. There have been very few arrivals off the Coast. A cargo of Taganrog Wheat arrived has been sold at 62s. 6d.; Galatz Maize on passage at 37s. 9d., Smyrna Barley arrived at 30s. 9d., and Danube Barley 24s. Barley on the spot is firm; good qualities are in request, and inferior neglected. Oats are also firm, with a tendency to higher prices.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

On Monday and during the week (Thursday excepted) the performances will commence with the Comedietta of
DELICATE GROUND.

After which will be presented the new and original Fairy Extravaganza, entitled

YOUNG AND HANDSOME,

In which Miss Swanborough, Mrs. Melfort, Miss Thirlwall, Mr. F. Robson, and Mr. J. Rogers will appear.

To conclude with the new Farce called

CRINOLINE,

In which Mr. F. Robson will appear.

On Thursday a Morning Performance of **CRINOLINE** and **YOUNG AND HANDSOME**, in consequence of the Royal Dramatic Representation at Windsor Castle.

LIVINGSTON'S EXPLORATIONS in CENTRAL AFRICA. An accurate Map, corrected by this celebrated Traveller, and indicating his precise route, will appear in the *British Banner* of January 15, together with an authorized narrative of his journeys. FIVEPENCE Stamped. Office, 3, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE POULTRY SHOW.

The Grand Show of Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits is now Open, and will continue open on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next. Admission One Shilling.—A Cheap Excursion Train will leave Bristol and Bath on the 12th, and return on the 14th inst.

ITALY AS IT IS, AND AS IT IS TO BE.

Literary Institution, Edward's-street, Portman-square. Two Lectures by Professor Saffi, on Thursdays, January 15, and January 22. To commence at eight. Admission to each lecture:—Reserved Seats, 5s.; Unreserved, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets at the Institution, at Roland's Library, Berners-street, and at the Office of the Emancipation of Italy Fund Committee, 22, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge.

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, Four, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton; and a new Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at a Quarter past Eight, P.M.—Admission, 1s.—Catalogues, containing Lectures as delivered by Dr. Kahn, gratis.

ASTHMA.—DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC

WAFERS, for asthma, consumption, coughs, colds, and all disorders of the breath and lungs. They have a pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

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.

"Messrs. Adnam and Co."

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

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

LOST! LOST!—LOST HAIR can be RE-STORED by using a stimulant, such as ALEX. ROSS'S CANTHARIDES OIL. — It has now been before the public a long time, and has proved efficacious to an extraordinary extent. A treatise sent gratis, describing its action on the scalp, and on the fine short hairs, which are sometimes hardly visible.—Sold at 3s. 6d.; sent free by post for fifty-four stamps, by ALEX. ROSS, 1, LITTLE QUEEN-STREET, HIGH HOLBORN, proprietor of the Face powder, Hair Destroyer, and Hair Dye.

SALT and Co.'s EAST INDIA PALE and BURTON ALES. BREWERY — BURTON-ON-TRENT.

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 MANCHESTER.....37, Brown-street.
 SHEFFIELD.....12, George-street.
 BIRMINGHAM.....Old Court House, High-st.
 BRISTOL.....13, Small-street.
 DUBLIN.....4, Crown-alley.
 EDINBURGH.....Porthopetoun Warehouse.
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These Ales, in Casks of Eighteen Gallons and upwards, and in Bottle, may be obtained from all respectable Bottlers.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY, BIRCHIN LANE, CORNHILL.

Are enabled, by their connexion with the principal wine growers, to supply every description of WINE of the finest qualities at prices for cash far below the average, including their

Alto Douro Ports, at 42s. per dozen.
 Genuine ditto, 34s. per dozen.
 Superior Pale or Gold Sherries, 30s. to 36s. per dozen.
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Post orders must contain a remittance.

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KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. — A

Certain Remedy for Disorders of the Pulmonary Organs: in Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 1½d. and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London; and retail by all Druggists.

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

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

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

Good to Strong Congou Tea.....2s. 8d. to 3s. 6d. per lb.
 Fine to very fine Pekoe Souchong.....3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. "
 Very Choice Souchong.....4s. 0d. "
 Good Ceylon Coffee.....3s. 0d. "
 Fine Costa Rica.....1s. 2d. "
 The finest Mocha, old and very choice.....1s. 6d. "

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

Monthly Price Circular free.

THE COMMISSION TEA COMPANY, 35, KING WILLIAM STREET, near LONDON BRIDGE.

SPANISH and WESTPHALIA HAMS, 8½d.

per lb. Good Cheshire Cheese, 5½d., 6½d., and 7½d. 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.

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LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL

Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the entire confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners as 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.

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INVARIABLE PURITY AND UNIFORM STRENGTH. ENTIRE FREEDOM FROM NAUSEOUS FLAVOUR AND AFTER-TASTE.

RAPID CURATIVE EFFECTS, AND CONSEQUENT ECONOMY.

OPINION OF

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

"I have no hesitation in saying that I generally prefer your Cod Liver Oil for the following reasons:—I have found it to agree better with the digestive organs, especially in those patients who consider themselves to be bilious; it seldom causes nausea or eructation; it is more palatable to most patients than the other kinds of Cod Liver Oil; it is stronger, and consequently a smaller dose is sufficient."

Sold only in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; capped and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by most respectable Chemists throughout the United Kingdom.

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CUTLERY WARRANTED.—The most varied assortment of TABLE-CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is on SALE at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales—3½ inch ivory-handled table-knives, with high shoulders, 11s. per dozen; desserts to match, 10s.; if to balance, 1s. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 26s. per dozen; extra fine ivory, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. to 50s.; white bone table-knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; desserts, 5s. 6d.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table-knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; desserts, 6s., carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table-knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish-carvers.

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Policies effected on or before 1st March, 1857, will receive six years' additions at the Division of Profits at 1st March, 1862.

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