

Head and Tailor, 82 Strand.

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1858.

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Review of the Week.

LORD DERBY, governed by the idea that he would be a bold, not to say "presumptuous Minister who, with a notice of a few days or even of a few weeks, could hope to strike out a scheme of Indian government which should not be open to grave objection, or which in its progress would not require serious modifications," has taken the same course with regard to his Indian bill, that 'manly WYCHERLEY' did with his poems, which, being very bad, he placed in the hands of youthful POPE to be made 'very good.' Lord DERBY has put his bill into the hands of the public: it is a very bad bill, and he asks to have it made a very good one. The task is not a grateful task: POPE quarrelled with manly WYCHERLEY before he had trimmed half the old wit's verses; how far in the labour will those whom Lord DERBY invites to trim his bill go before they quarrel with him?

The Board of Directors of the East India Company starts with a quarrel; but that was to have been expected even by Lord DERBY, and the only thing remarkable thereupon is that their quarrel is not only with the Minister and his measure, but with the late Ministry to boot. Not only do English Ministers know nothing about India, they say, but the people of this country know still less; and the reasoning used at the meeting of the proprietors was at least forcible. Objections urged with such temper will, of course, have great weight with Parliament, Press, and Country. They object almost *in toto* to both Lord PALMERSTON's and Lord DERBY's bill—most to Lord DERBY's; but the end of their objections so far is the announcement of a very natural determination—to devote their expiring energies to the defence of the present system against the attacks of uninformed adversaries. The Directors are making the most of the rivalry of parties.

In a far more popular spirit has Lord DERBY's Mansion House invitation been accepted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. The directors of that institution have agreed to send a petition to Parliament on the subject of the India Bills. Their temperate but firm rejection of the elective scheme must convince the Minister of the great mistake which has been made, in supposing that such a mode of constructing an Indian Council would be popular; the leading commercial representatives of one of the leading cities that were so flatteringly distinguished assure him that they entirely disap-

prove of his electoral element. An Indian Minister and Secretary in Parliament, aided by a Board consisting of four or more permanent Secretaries, who should not be permitted to sit in Parliament, and should be paid at least 2000*l.* a year each,—such is the Home Government for India suggested by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce; but it looks rather to local government than to the supreme authority at home for the future prosperity of India; and thinks, therefore, that the powers of the Governor-General in Council should be retained, and that the Governors of the minor provinces of Madras and Bombay should have larger powers conferred upon them. The directors have, at least, dealt with the subject in a temperate and practical spirit; if they have not helped the question forward in any great degree, they have not complicated its discussion with either bitterness or perversity.

While we at home are slowly moving towards the settlement of some form of Indian Government, events in India are rapidly following one another on the road to that complete pacification which alone can be a safe, or in any way proper, foundation for a reformed and healthy government. The telegraph, anticipating the contents of slower-travelling mails, tells us that Lucknow is ours—gained with trifling loss. On the 8th of March all was ready for the attack; on the 9th, Sir J. OUTRAM "turned the enemy's first great line of defence by an enfilading fire," and from that time, step by step, the generals, acting in concert and supporting each other at all points, moved forwards, until, on the 15th, they were masters of the major part of the city, and very few rebels remained within its boundaries. Out-manceuvred and beaten on every side, the rebels fled by thousands, rushing wildly by the artillery planted to intercept their flight. Both cavalry and artillery were sent in pursuit of the panic-stricken wretches, with what result we have yet to learn. Meanwhile, we know that the capital of Oude, the very citadel of the rebellion, is in our hands, and that our success has been purchased at a surprisingly cheap rate. At the first view, we might be inclined to regret that the action had not been more decisive as regards the mutinous Sepoys; but when we reflect that a great slaughter of the enemy could only have been accompanied with a grievous loss on our side, we are satisfied with the result that has been achieved. The enemy, broken up, dispirited, flying for their bare lives, have been driven out of their stronghold, to be hunted down in course

of time, and under circumstances which will, in all probability, give all the odds to us.

The papers relative to the seizure of the Cagliari which have been laid before Parliament, and published this week, while they help us to a knowledge of all the steps taken in the affair by the late and present Government, furnish a painful example of the shortcomings of our diplomatic agents abroad. Almost from first to last has there been indecision, laxity, and positive incompetency on the part of English officials, by whose doings the business has been complicated to a degree that renders its thorough disentanglement all but impossible. But for the impediments thrown in the way of Lord CLARENDON by his own subordinates, and by himself, there is little doubt that months of trial might have been spared to our two countrymen, and the wrong done by Naples to the law of nations would have been adjudged, and possibly atonement enforced long before the present time. However, the accordance of England with Sardinia with regard to the question of the illegality of the seizure of the Cagliari is now put beyond doubt. The just and spirited course pursued by our ally, in calling upon the naval powers of Europe and of the world to make common cause with her in demanding satisfaction for a wrong which, though specially injurious to her, is an injury done to all, will find entire sympathy in England, which will not be content to see work which she is best able to perform undertaken by weaker hands. But what say the official gentlemen, in or out? Truly they know little about England, and care less. However, the case against Naples is now in every way complete, the finishing touch being given to it by Mr. PARK, the second engineer, whose account of the affair, from the starting of the Cagliari on her unfortunate voyage down to the moment of his delivery from custody, shows the animus by which all the proceedings of the Neapolitan authorities has been governed,—a bitter political hostility to this country, for which a bitter reckoning must be exacted.

If Paris were really France, we might for a moment suppose that prosperity had reached to a point of magnificence. NAPOLEON goes on year after year adding new splendours to his capital, as if he had achieved all else demanded of him by his country. Another new line of street-way will meet the view of visitors to Paris this summer—the Boulevard de Sebastopol. It stretches away from the Boulevard St. Denis, between the Rues St. Denis and St. Martin, in one uninterrupted



line down to the quay by the Pont au Change, and is described as being truly fine. All Paris was on foot on Monday, when the inaugural ceremony was attended by the Emperor on horseback—far in advance of his splendid suite—and by the Empress in an open carriage. Loud were the greetings, and among the multitude no outward sign was given of inward doubts or anxieties as to the future of the great man who is filling Paris with gorgeous mementoes.

Almost at the time that Paris was shouting itself hoarse with cries of "Vive l'Empereur," BERNARD, the presumed accomplice of ORSINI, was preparing to answer for his alleged complicity in the act of the 14th of January, which had so nearly struck the pulse, if not the heart, of France. The Special Commission appointed to try BERNARD has commenced its labours, and Lord CAMPBELL has charged the grand jury in a way that will show to French minds, imperfectly acquainted with the dispassionate administration of the law in England, that no amount of clamour, least of all of threats, can stir the hand that holds the balance of justice. The law will not be strained one hair's breadth for or against BERNARD; he will have pure right done him, according to the law. Lord CAMPBELL has even begged that, until his trial is completed, the press, while giving the fullest reports of the proceedings, will refrain from offering any comment; we will undertake to say that his wish will be respected.

The trial of the Reverend SAMUEL SMITH and his wife has given us a complete story, equal in surprising interest to the strongest novel of real life that has been written in late times. SAMUEL SMITH was tried for attempting to murder, or to do grievous bodily harm, to a man who, years previously, had been on terms of the utmost intimacy with Mrs. SMITH, before her marriage, and under peculiar circumstances, for a very short period, after her marriage. Years passed away, children were born, and Mrs. SMITH performed the duties of a wife blamelessly; but she was haunted by the memory of the wrong she had done her husband; became melancholy; accused herself of being unworthy of him; and, finally, confessed the long-past offence, praying to him, on her knees and surrounded by her children, for mercy and forgiveness. The course then taken by the husband was the most extraordinary conceivable. He forced his wife to renew her long-broken correspondence with her former lover; to inveigle him down into the country under pretence that she had become a widow and desired to renew her intercourse with him; forced her to lure the victim on to a wild common at night; and then and there fell upon the unsuspecting man and beat him with a bludgeon until he was nearly dead—the wife standing by and escaping with her husband when the act of vengeance had been so far accomplished. The barbarity of the whole of this Reverend man's proceedings is amazing. The point of honour is held in England, we know how sacred; but the verdict which condemned SAMUEL SMITH to four years' penal servitude will find very few objectors. We do not, at this time of day, admit the right of private vengeance—whatever the wrong.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE church-rate question was well 'aired' last Saturday at the Clerkenwell police-office, where the Rev. Dr. Worthington, of the Trinity Chapel, Gray's-inn-road, and two other clergymen belonging to the district and parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, attended to support thirty-four summonses taken out, at their instance against defaulters who had not paid their tithes. The first case called on was that of a Mr. Tilley, who, after showing that different sums were put down in the summonses to those charged him in the collector's notices, said he did not wish the case stopped on any technical objection, but should like to ask what substantial benefit he got for the money he paid for tithes. He objected to the payment on conscientious principles, and considered the law for their support iniquitous and

infamous, and should always come to that court to hold the law up to the contempt of the world. Having informed the magistrate that he was about to take the house on a lease, his worship propounded a singular piece of casuistry. Could not Mr. Tilley compound with his landlord? "Suppose some of the money he paid went for the purpose of paying some one to sing psalms to an idol?" Mr. Tilley thought that question quite irrelevant. He "did not recognize the Church at all, and should very much like to know what equivalent he got for his money." Dr. Worthington said he could go to the church. "But," retorted the inexorable reasoner, "why receive the fees through such an iniquitous course? Why should I be called upon to pay for what I never use, or for what I never receive? Do you think that the reverend gentlemen who receive my money in the shape of tithes would like to pay me for hats they never had? (A laugh.) They would protest and say they never received any hats, and, on the same principle, I protest, and say that for the money I pay I receive no benefit." Mr. Corrie, the magistrate, said he should be obliged to make an order for payment; but, as an error had been made by the collector, costs would not be enforced. Mr. Tilley said he would at once pay the money, but complained that one of the gaolers of the court had called on him, in an attempt to settle the matter, and to tamper with the persons who had summoned him. He should always oppose the paying of tithes. Dr. Worthington here said, in an excited manner, that it was a disgrace to Englishmen to oppose such a law, which is the oldest on the statute book. Mr. Tilley rejoined, that it was a disgrace that the Church should not support the poor, which they are bound to do. The matter then terminated, and the other summonses were adjourned.

Reuben Hickox, a general dealer, has been examined at Southwark on a charge of committing an assault in a carriage on the London and Brighton railway. Just as the train entered the first tunnel from Brighton, he sprang on one of the passengers, without any provocation, dealt him a tremendous blow on the head with a stick (the force of which was fortunately broken by the hat), and cut his hands with a knife. He also struck another of the passengers, but was eventually overpowered and given into custody the first time the train stopped. He was fined 5*l.* for the two assaults; or, in default, six weeks' hard labour.

A case of pilfering, heard at the Marlborough-street police-office last Saturday, was amusing on account of the cool audacity of the culprit. Henry Atkins, a young man of twenty, dressed in a complete suit of sober black, was charged with attempting to pick pockets at the Warwick-street Roman Catholic chapel, on Good Friday evening. A servant girl and a detective officer proved the case, which was clear enough, but the prisoner said that both the witnesses were mistaken: he was an exceedingly honest young man if they did but know it, if they did not, he was sorry for their ignorance. He was at chapel to perform his religious duties. What the first witness took for the skirt of a lady's dress was nothing more than the tail of his own coat. Mr. Bingham asked if he usually carried his tail in his hand. The prisoner said he had that knack when he wanted his handkerchief. He was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

The bill preferred at the Clerkenwell Sessions against Mr. W. J. Aitchison, a clerk in the Bank of England, and Mrs. Hill, the wife of an architect in Great James-street, on the charge of pocket-picking, has been ignored. The facts of the case, as far as they came out before the Bow-street magistrate, were related in this paper of March 20th. Mr. Rowland Miller, the attorney for the defence, says, writing to the daily papers:—"The prosecutrix no doubt entirely mistook the parties who first addressed her, and probably robbed her for those whom she subsequently gave into custody. Had the case been suffered to come before a jury, the impossibility of the accused parties having committed the robbery would have been clearly proved."

A man named Alexander Ross is under reinand at the Marlborough-street police-office on a charge of stabbing a woman in the head. The woman had been living with him, and, on the evening in question, she was intoxicated; but she has no precise recollection of how the injuries were inflicted. There appears to be no doubt, however, that the man almost murdered her, and that she then escaped into the street. Here she was found by a policeman nearly fainting; and Ross was immediately afterwards apprehended.

Garotting has greatly decreased of late, but a case came before the Worship-street magistrate on Monday. An elderly man, named Uridge, was seized by two men, between twelve and one o'clock at night, in the neighbourhood of Spitalfields, and, while one pinioned his arms and another grasped his throat and mouth, a woman rifled his pockets. A man and his wife are in custody, and under remand; but bail has been accepted for the man, about whom there is some doubt.

Charles Murray, a young man, the son of a baronet, who has frequently been brought up at the Mansion House on charges of drunkenness and assault, was charged on Tuesday before the Lord Mayor with the same offences. He stood in the dock with no other clothing than a pair of trousers and a shirt; his boots had been taken from him on account of his kicking the

police; his shirt was torn and covered with blood and mud; and he was handcuffed. He had been found, early that morning, in Aldgate, beating an old man about the head with his fist. He was taken into custody by the police, after a desperate resistance; and a companion of his—a labouring man named Holley, with whom he had been drinking—attempted to rescue him, but was likewise arrested, and placed at the bar beside his high-born friend. Murray's violence was such that the police were obliged to carry him to the Mansion House on a stretcher. Holley was sentenced to hard labour for fourteen days, while Murray, on the following day, was sent to prison for three weeks, with hard labour.

Three young Addiscombe cadets, named Mackenzie, Campbell, and Marriott, were brought before Mr. Norton, at Lambeth, on Tuesday, on a charge of creating a riot at the Crystal Palace on the previous day, and of assaulting the police; and William Wilcox, a gardener, was at the same time charged with interfering with the constables. The young gentlemen, together with their friends, were making a great disturbance at the south corner of the centre transept, and Mr. Superintendent Lund, on going to the spot, saw the cadets knocking people's hats off. He remonstrated with them, but, as he alleges, they struck him two blows on the head from behind in rapid succession; after which, Mr. Mackenzie seized him tightly round the waist, and, assisted by others, raised him some distance, and dropped him suddenly. Being troubled with an affection of the heart, he was so much hurt by the shock that for a time he scarcely knew what he was about; but, on recovering, he saw the young gentlemen rushing along the nave, and heard them hallooing "Fire!" to the great alarm of the bystanders. They next made their way to the railway station; but Mr. Lund and a body of constables went round by a shorter cut, intercepted the cadets, and took three of them into custody. It was then that Wilcox interfered, and he too was apprehended. Such was Mr. Lund's version. On the other hand, the students asserted that the superintendent had been unduly officious; that he had threatened to send for the cutlasses if the noise did not cease; and that the police behaved with wanton violence. The cadets in custody received a very good character, and so did Wilcox. Mr. Lund said he talked of sending for the cutlasses simply in order to intimidate the rioters; he never intended to use them. Mr. Norton observed that he fully believed this, from his long knowledge of the character of Mr. Lund; and he fined Mackenzie, 3*l.*, Campbell, 2*l.*, Marriott, 1*l.*, and Wilcox 10*s.*

Mr. Commissioner Fane decided on Wednesday that Mr. Townsend, M.P. for Greenwich, had been legally declared a bankrupt, a point that had been disputed in his favour. Mr. Townsend, however, may still succeed in getting the commission superseded, and in retaining his seat.

A petition in bankruptcy was opened on Thursday against Mr. Charles Dillon, the actor and manager of the Lyceum Theatre.

John Thomas, a police constable, has been fined twenty shillings, with the option of twenty days' imprisonment, for a brutal assault on a Mrs. Reynolds, a respectable married woman. He was drunk while on duty, and was observed by Mrs. Reynolds dragging along a woman, who was also intoxicated, and using her with great violence. Mrs. Reynolds said in his hearing that his conduct was disgraceful; on which, he seized her, dragged her for about a quarter of a mile, and then let her go, and ran off, being apparently intimidated by a mob which had collected, and shown some signs of anger. The scoundrel will of course be dismissed from the police.

A Mrs. Susan Bragg, the wife of a person who formerly carried on business at Dalston as a dentist, applied to the Worship-street magistrate on Thursday for protection to her property, under the new Matrimonial Causes and Divorce Act. For fourteen years she and her husband had lived happily; but in the year 1855, the man began a series of assaults on his wife, and in 1856 he deserted her, his business being then in a state of insolvency and himself in danger of arrest. In 1857, he returned, sold the furniture, and left his wife almost destitute. Mrs. Bragg then borrowed money, set up in a small way of business, and has now 50*l.* which she sought to protect. The husband threatens to sell all the things; has advertised the business for sale; and has said he will stab his wife, or bring her to ruin. Mr. D'Eyncourt granted the required protection.

The Lord Mayor, on Thursday, said he thought it well that the public should be made aware of the fact that "H. and C.," to whom he had alluded some time back as being engaged in decoying young men by means of circulars into betting, and robbing them of their deposits, were again pursuing their old system of plunder.

John Murray, an Irish labourer, was finally examined before the Hammersmith magistrate on Thursday, charged with being concerned with others in committing a murderous assault upon Mr. William Burnell, the landlord of a public-house, in the Brentford-road, Turnham-green. The outrage was committed on the 26th of last December, and Murray was sent to prison for two months.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

The siege of Lucknow progresses, and the last accounts show that the greater part of the rebel stronghold was in our possession. But the mutineers are again playing the same game that they successfully played at Delhi and other towns which have fallen into our hands: they are rushing in large bodies from the doomed city, to spread the embers of the revolt far and wide, unless overtaken and cut up by our pursuing columns. The hot season is approaching to aid them; but our forces are large, and our spirits high. The next month or two, therefore, must see some important events.

The telegrams received during the week state:—

"The latest news from Lucknow is to the morning of the 17th of March. Nearly all the city was then in our possession, but few rebels remaining in it. General Outram having turned the enemy's line of works on the canal, the Martinière was stormed by Sir Edward Lugard, and the line of works seized on the 9th. The Bank-house was also occupied. On the 11th, Jung Bahadoor moved into line, and the 93rd Regiment, supported by the 42nd, stormed the Begum's Palace. Our loss was less than one hundred killed and wounded, the loss of the enemy being five hundred. At the same time, Outram, on the north of the Goomtee, seized on the stone bridge, and cut up five hundred of the enemy. On the same day, our guns moved up, and the buildings in advance of the Begum's Palace were occupied. On the 14th, the Imaumbarah was stormed, the Ghoorkas assisting. The Kaiserbagh was then entered, and, after a fight all day, solidly occupied. Twenty-four guns were taken. General Outram then crossed the iron bridge, and opened fire on the flying enemy. The enemy rushed by the artillery on the 15th, flying from the city in great numbers, and pouring in torrents in the direction of Rohilcund. Two columns of cavalry and artillery, under Brigadiers Campbell and Hope Grant, were sent after them. Maun Singh had come into Jung Bahadoor's camp. He had previously sent in Miss Orr.

"In these operations our loss was under 100 killed and wounded. Among the killed are Captain Macdonald, her Majesty's 93rd; Captain Cooper, Rifle Brigade; Captain Moorsom, Staff. Writing on the 17th of March, Sir Colin Campbell says:—'A Ghoorka division seized the enemy's position in front of the Alumbagh last night. Our advances to-day are gradually pushed on all sides of the line occupied by the troops, particularly towards Goolghat and Moosabah, in which direction the enemy are advancing. The point they intend to make for is not known.'

"Sir Hugh Rose, with the Second Brigade of the Central India Field Force, was moving on Jhansi. The rebellious district of Shafgard has been annexed to the British territory by Sir Robert Hamilton. The First Brigade is besieging Thanderee. General Whitlock reached Saugor on the 7th of March in advance of his column, which had halted at Duhmo. The country is being cleared up to Jhansi. General Roberts's force has passed Nusseerabad on its way to Kotah, where the rebels are said to be in great strength.

"There was a panic in Calcutta on the 3rd of March. The President in Council called out the Volunteers, and placed cannon on the bridges. Information had been received that the Barrackpore Sepoys, who were to relieve the Fort Garrison that night, were to have arms and attack the city. All, however, passed off quietly."

The latest telegrams received at the East India House state:—

"A body of rebels have threatened Etawah, but have since recrossed the Ganges. It is reported from Rewah that the rebels have taken Cheomar (?), and that the Rajah and the Deputy-Commissioner, Mr. Cairn, are prisoners. Sir Hugh Rose occupied Bandapoor on March 10. The Rajah had fled to Chunderee. The rebel Dessayees are still in the Canara jungles; but large reinforcements have been despatched to the magistrate by the Madras Government, and the Bombay frontier is carefully guarded. It is reported from Futtehghur, under date the 15th of March, that the Nana is still at Jehanpore, and the chief rebels are with him. The rebels have again entered the Futtehghur district, attacked the Thannahs, and driven off the police posted there. General Penny must be close at hand on the Jumna side. The rebels who had entered the Ghatampur Pergunnah have recrossed the river to Meerpoore."

ARRIVALS FROM LUCKNOW.

The steamer Indus, Captain Evans, arrived at Southampton last Saturday, with the heavy portion of the India and China mail. Among the passengers were several of the old Lucknow garrison, and four of General Havelock's relieving force. Among the latter was Lieutenant Delafosse, one of the only two persons who escaped the horrible massacre of Cawnpore ordered by Nana Sahib. "He is a fine-looking young man," says the report from Southampton; "but he declares that he has only a dim recollection of the scenes of the massacre, or how he escaped. His mind appears to have been affected by the horrors he witnessed at the massacre, and the excitement of his deliverance. His faculties seem now, however, completely restored."

POLICE TREACHERY.

In his letter from Cawnpore, dated February 27th, the *Times* special correspondent (Mr. Russell) says:—

"It appears that it was the Nana's brother, Bajee Rao, who crossed from Oude into the Deab the other night. As he was followed by two hundred regular cavalry, by a body of infantry, and by several elephants and waggons, containing his harem and baggage, he must have made some noise in his passage across the stream; but the policemen who were specially stationed at the very point where he crossed, because it was a likely place to make the attempt, pretended not to have heard him, and the only information given to our officers in charge of a cavalry detachment near Bhitoor was brought by a chowkedar, who ran in to say that, from the noise at the opposite side of the river, he thought the Nana was going to cross. At the time he brought in this news, the Rao had got safely over, and, when our cavalry arrived, it was only to find the traces of his passage. On investigation it became evident that the policemen were accomplices in the fact, and that they had been bribed to keep their ears shut; so, after due investigation, the whole party, eleven in number, were hanged. The Rao's party, continuing their flight across the Doab, cut up the men of two police stations, which is a strong collateral proof of the guilt of the men at the river-side station, and got into Calpee in the morning. He is said to have obtained large levies of men, and to be enlisting Sowars at 30r. a month, and infantry at 10r. and 15r. a month."

TRANSPORTATION OF MUTINEERS.

The *Sindian*, of February 27th, says:—

"The ships Roman Emperor and Edward will leave this on Monday morning for the Andaman Islands with the mutineers lately brought to Kurrachee. One hundred and seventy-six of the mutineers embark this morning on board the Roman Emperor, and one hundred and forty-two on the ship Edward. The arrangements made for the conveyance to the bunder and reception of the vagabonds on board are very commendable. They will be removed from the gaol at six o'clock in carts, under the escort of the Punjab police, who accompanied them from the Punjab. The lower deck of the ships has been fitted up with cages on each side, with a passage in the centre for the guard. They are to be chained down to the deck, and are to attend to all their own wants on board, and to be their own topasses. The only thing to be done for them will be their provisions, which will be cooked by the vessel. The crew and officers are to be well armed, so there is no fear of their attempting to break out. On arrival at the Andaman Islands, their fetters will be taken off, and they will be let loose amongst the savages. The Government of Bengal, we understand, have ordered two years' provisions to be stored on the island for them, and the steamer Semiramis is to be stationed there to prevent any vessels removing these scoundrels."

INDIAN MASSACRES.

The *Carnarvon Herald* publishes a copy of a letter to his parents from John Jones, the messenger of the 2nd European Bengal Fusiliers, dated "Subathoo, December 21, 1857." The writer professes to have had ocular demonstration of the mutilations and tortures alleged to have been inflicted by the mutineers at Delhi and other places on our countrywomen, but which have recently been doubted by some writers. He says:—

"On the morning of the 9th of June (the day after our battle), I rambled out among the ruined houses of the station [near Delhi] that was burnt, or I should say partly so, for there are many houses in India that would be difficult to set fire to, as they are made of flat roofs of brick and mortar. Into one of these houses I entered, and the first thing I saw was a young boy nailed to the wall of the room with his head downwards, and his beautiful hair nearly touching the floor; another man being with me, we took him down. He appeared to be from eleven to twelve years of age, and to have been, from every appearance, the son of a gentleman. I then went into the yard, and, on looking round the corner of a building, I saw a poor lady dead; in my opinion, she must have been the mother of the boy I took down from the wall. Poor thing! I suppose she was trying to make her escape, and God alone knows what she had suffered."

"The other deed I shall relate to you was committed inside of Delhi. After we stormed and entered Delhi, we saw a poor woman crucified naked, and nailed up in the same manner as our Lord and Saviour is represented. Oh! I shall say no more, but that these poor creatures were all ravished, and many of them in the presence of their husbands and fathers—they, poor fellows, tied to stone pillars, not able to render the slightest assistance to their outraged wives and daughters, but compelled to stand there eye-witnesses to these cursed scoundrels and their diabolical deeds. Oh, then, ye fathers, brothers, and all that have any charity within your breasts, cry aloud and say, 'We will be revenged on all these cursed reptiles and scum of the earth.'"

At the meeting of the Edinburgh town-council on Tuesday, the Lord Provost intimated that he had been requested by a benevolent lady to announce that she was ready to confer an annuity on any lady requiring it who might have suffered mutilation

during the late events in India. His Lordship stated that he had made every inquiry in his power to find out such a case; but not one had yet been brought under his notice. The offer is not limited by any local qualification.

A NATIVE'S VIEW OF THE REVOLT.

A document, containing the views of Hedayat Ali, subahdar of the Sikh police, with respect to the causes of the mutiny, has been published in several papers. The writer is well affected towards the English rule, and speaks with great indignation of the conduct of the mutineers; but, on two or three points, he disagrees with our policy. He ascribes the mutiny to three main causes—viz., the alarm first engendered in the native mind by the expedition to Afghanistan, which induced many to think that a design was entertained against their religion; a sense of indignation caused by our seizure of Oude; and the estrangement between the English officers and their native soldiers, arising from difference of habits and feelings—an estrangement which did not formerly exist, as the officers used in many respects to adopt the habits of the natives.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

FROM Canton we learn that 'braves' were assembling in large numbers round the city, with a view to retaking it. The representatives of the Allied Powers were preparing for their departure northwards, but had apparently given up all thought of visiting Pekin this year. The *Inflexible*, with Yeh on board, arrived at Singapore on the 1st of March.

ADEN.

The Arabs in the vicinity of Aden (says a telegram from Malta) have stopped the roads and intercepted supplies on their way to the fort. The commander of the garrison attacked them on the 18th of March. His force consisted of six hundred men and two guns: twenty or thirty of the enemy are said to have been killed, without a casualty to the British. The roads, however, were again interrupted, and the Arabs assembled in larger numbers than before. The Candia reports that another successful sortie has been made, that the Arabs have submitted, and that they are again admitted into the fort on a friendly footing. Before the Candia left Aden, the Oriental had arrived from Bombay with passengers. Her Majesty's steamer Cyclops had left for Suez, to be engaged on surveying service in the Red Sea. The Pylades is likewise on her way up, to receive the Siamese Mission. The Oriental's mail has been brought forward by the Candia.

The rebellious Arabs appear to have acted under the directions of the Sultan of Adhice, a town twenty miles from Aden.

THE EASTER BANQUET.

THE Easter banquet took place at the Mansion House on Monday, and was attended, as usual, by the Ministers. There were two hundred and eighty guests, ranging from the Duke of Cambridge to plain commoners. His Royal Highness of course acknowledged the toast of "The Army and Navy," and again pointed his favourite moral of never allowing the army to be neglected under the delusive hope that peace would long continue. The Duke of Northumberland, as First Lord of the Admiralty, spoke for the Navy. The Lord Mayor having proposed "The Health of the Earl of Derby and the rest of her Majesty's Ministers," with many expressions of satisfaction at the Conservatives being in power,

The Earl of Derby spoke at some length. Referring first of all to our Indian Empire, he remarked that the acquisition of that empire reflected great honour on the energy, vigour, and ability of our countrymen. "And let me say here," he continued, "that, although undoubtedly in the earlier portion of its history, and, perhaps, even at some later periods, acts may have been committed with regard to India which will not bear the strictest examination according to the severe rules of political morality, yet upon the whole there never was a Government which for so lengthened a period displayed so much power, so much ability, made so admirable a choice of its servants,—who in their turn exhibited such distinguished talents,—or which upon the whole conducted its affairs with such purity of motives and so studied the interests of the people confided to their charge, as the Government of India. My Lord Mayor, I am bound to pay that tribute to the government of the East India Company at the present moment, when it appears to be on its political deathbed." (*A cry of "No," and laughter.*) Still, he thought it is generally admitted that the time has arrived when it is expedient to make a change in the government of India; but it is a difficult task to effect that change. "The problem which has to be solved is no less than this—how, if the change is to take place, it is possible at the same time to secure the necessary undivided responsibility of a Minister of the Crown, and to surround him with that knowledge and experience with reference to all the mighty and varied interests of that vast empire which is so necessary to any Minister dealing with such complicated and diversified affairs. He would be a bold, not to say a presumptuous, Minister who could hope by himself, or with the aid of his colleagues, with a notice of a few days or

even a few weeks, to strike out a scheme which would not be liable to grave objections, or which in its progress would not require serious modifications. We have deemed it our duty to bring forward a measure which, as we believe, may effect some of the objects to which I have referred. We laid that measure before the country, purposely and intentionally, previously to the recess, in order that it might be subjected to public investigation and inquiry. We do not deprecate, but, on the contrary, we court discussion. We court the co-operation and advice of Parliament and of the country, with a view to rendering the change which we propose as safe and beneficial as we earnestly desire that it may prove to be. The one thing which we alone deprecate—and which we deprecate, not for the sake of the Government of the day, but on account of the important interests involved both in this country and in India—is that a question involving such mighty interests, and of such overwhelming importance, should be made the sport of political parties or the battlefield of rival disputants." The Earl then referred to the horrors and the heroism attendant on the great Eastern struggle, and expressed a hope that we shall deal with the mutineers in a spirit of stern justice, but that we shall not forget mercy and Christian forbearance, and that those of the natives who have assisted us may be rewarded for their fidelity. His Lordship said he would not allude to any other topic. "I will not even advert," he observed, "to a matter which must be of great interest to this metropolis—viz., the measure which has been for some years in agitation for the reconstruction of the great corporation over which your Lordship so worthily presides, except to say that, as I trust discussion may have softened asperities and modified extreme opinions, so I trust that it may be possible for the wisdom of Parliament to devise a measure which shall place that institution more in consonance with the habits and requirements of the present age, without, in the least degree, detracting from its dignity, power, or importance, or failing to secure in all future time the same consideration for its chief magistrate, a consideration due to the sentiments of high honour and public duty which, with but very few exceptions, have characterized your predecessors, and which, I am sure, will be worthily imitated by your Lordship." (Cheers.)

The Lord Chancellor, in responding to the toast of "The House of Lords," spoke of the popular character of that assembly, as evidenced by himself, a commoner elevated to the Upper House. The Duke of Cambridge proposed the health of the Lord Mayor, in acknowledging which, his Lordship gave "The House of Commons," coupling with it the name of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Disraeli, in replying, made some humorous observations on financial matters, remarking:—"With regard to the allusion your Lordship has made to the difficult position which I now occupy, I must thank you for the very encouraging manner in which you have offered, on the part of the citizens of London, to come forward to supply the deficiency which is at present apparent in her Majesty's exchequer. (Laughter.) Certainly that exchequer is not now in an overbrimming state; but, after such an expression of feeling from the representative of the wealthiest city in the world, I can assure you that, when the budget is introduced to the House of Commons—and it certainly cannot be long delayed—I shall enter upon that difficult and arduous task with much more confidence and courage than I should have felt had I not had the honour of being your Lordship's guest this evening. (Laughter.) The announcement on behalf of the City of London that they are prepared to pay new taxes is one which I have not a doubt will have a very favourable influence to-morrow upon the public securities of this country." (Laughter.)

After a few more unimportant toasts and speeches, the company separated.

STATE OF TRADE.

At Manchester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, and Belfast, there was some improvement in the condition of trade during the week ending last Saturday; but in other places dulness continues to be the rule.

In the general business of the port of London during the week ending last Saturday there has been considerable activity. The number of ships reported inward was 287, including 22 with cargoes of corn, flour, rice, &c.; 85 with cargoes of sugar; and 10 from China with the unusually large number of 97,992 packages of tea, and 2885 bales of silk. The number of vessels cleared outward was 117, including 28 in ballast, and those on the berth, loading for the Australian colonies, amount to 48.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

An accident occurred a few evenings ago on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire railway, indicative of gross carelessness and disregard of the public safety. A train left Manchester at half-past six o'clock, p.m.; and it was not long before the occupants of one of the first-class carriages felt a great deal of jolting and jumping, which rapidly increased. The station-master at the first stopping place was informed of this, and replied jocosely, "Oh, it's the notorious carriage; but

you're all right enough." The train proceeded, and the jumping motion was renewed, accompanied by a good deal of oscillation from side to side. The speed also was considerable, and at that part of the line there are many acute angles. The passengers, becoming alarmed, called out loudly for help; but the driver and guard either did not or would not hear. Away swept the train; and one of the passengers opened the door of the carriage with a view to jumping out. At that moment, the wheels and springs of "the notorious carriage" broke into pieces; the bottom fell on to the line, and the occupants were either dashed about, or saved themselves by clinging to the ruins. Previously to this, the carriage had gone off the line, and the coupling chains having broken, some of the other carriages were left behind: these were thrown over by the sudden check given to their speed, and several persons were injured. None of the passengers, however, were dangerously hurt, though several of the occupants of the carriage which went to pieces were considerably bruised.

A man and a horse were killed last Saturday near Bramshill, by a flash of lightning in the course of a thunderstorm which passed over a great part of England. The man had been ploughing, and was leaving the field with four horses when they were all struck to the ground. Three of the horses struggled up; but the fourth was killed, as well as the driver. The man's hat was torn into shreds; and the lightning had struck him on the left side of the head near the ear, burning the hair and skin under the chin, and severely scorching the breast, abdomen, loins, and the inside of his right thigh and leg. His flannel shirt was also much burnt. A farmer at Edgeside, East Lancashire, was knocked down by the lightning on the same day; and one of his horses was struck blind, while another was killed. The storm was very violent in that district, and a great deal of damage was done to mills and factories.

Thomas Hunt, a man of about fifty years of age, whose occupation was to superintend a clay-crushing machine in the brick-yard of Mr. W. D. Lowe, Denby, Nottingham, has met with a fearful accident, during which he exhibited astonishing fortitude and presence of mind. He heard some hard substance grinding between the rollers of the machine, and, putting in his hand to remove it, as he had done on former occasions, his finger-ends were drawn in. With a great effort, he prevented his arm following, and, dragging with all his might, he pulled his hand out, leaving the first joints of his four fingers in the machine. So great was the power of the machine, that one of the tendons of Hunt's arm was drawn out to the length of fourteen inches. Immediately on liberating himself, he went to the engine, and stopped it. A surgeon was called in, and all the fingers were amputated. The man is doing well, and is being attended to at the Derby infirmary.

The New Shoreham Harbour has been the scene of a melancholy catastrophe. William Thomas King, the foreman of the harbour works, had a strong passion for aquatics, and he constructed a boat which was to compete for the prizes given at the annual Shoreham Regatta. The trial trip took place on Good Friday, and King was accompanied by a mariner named Dinnage, and a harbour pilot named Matthews. A stiff breeze was blowing, and Dinnage, it would appear, managed the boat rather unskillfully. At any rate, a squall caught her, and she was upset. King and Dinnage were drowned, but Matthews, who is very fat, managed to float ashore.

Mr. William Austin, a gentleman from Sanquhar, Dumfriesshire, suddenly expired on the night of Good Friday, in a first-class carriage on the Trent Valley Railway, near Tamworth. He was thirty-two years of age, and for the last three years had suffered from bronchitis, which deepened into consumption. On the train nearing Tamworth, he commenced coughing and spitting blood, and at last a quantity of blood forced its way up into his throat, and choked him. An inquest has been held, and has terminated in a verdict in accordance with the facts.

William Fallow, a youth employed at the house of Lord Dufferin, at Highgate, died suddenly last Saturday night, under very painful circumstances. He was eating oysters, when one stuck in the thorax; and, after running about in great agony he fell. A surgeon was called in, but his services were useless. On a *post mortem* examination, the oyster was discovered in the air-tubes, where, of course, it completely prevented respiration. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally suffocated."

Another person has been sacrificed to the absurd habit of getting out of a railway carriage while the train is in motion. A Mr. John Pryatt, a young man of eight-and-twenty, while-in-company-of his father and brother, got out of a carriage at the London-bridge terminus of the Greenwich Railway, on Tuesday night, before it had stopped. Falling under the wheels of the next carriage, his legs were nearly cut off, and he expired at six o'clock on the following morning.

IRELAND.

Mr. SMITH O'BRIEN has published in the *Nation* newspaper a second manifesto addressed to the people of Ireland. He here admits that the repeal of the Union is not at present practicable, and that public opinion has

died out on the subject; but thinks "it would be desirable that two or three hundred of the ablest and most patriotic men in Ireland, including such representatives as you ought hereafter to choose—including also men selected on account of their intelligence and integrity from each corporation and from each body of town commissioners in Ireland, together with other persons who enjoy in a pre-eminent degree the confidence of the Irish people—should meet in permanent session in Dublin to deliberate upon the special interests of Ireland, and also upon all questions in regard of which the interposition of Irish opinion could promote the general interests of mankind."

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.—The agricultural accounts from Ireland represent the condition of the land and of the young spring crops as excellent.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.—The Prince Consort has contributed a donation of 50*l.* towards the erection of the agricultural hall of the Royal Dublin Society.

MURDER AND ROBBERY.—A servant woman in the employment of the Rev. Mr. Norman, of Abbeyfeale, Limerick, was murdered last Saturday night, about a mile from Ardagh. A man named Cullinane was arrested on Sunday, and has acknowledged his guilt.

THE POLICE CASE.—The commission was opened at Dublin by Baron Greene and Mr. Justice Keogh on Wednesday. The case of the police and the Dublin students, not being yet completed, was postponed till next June.

AMERICA.

THE bill to admit Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution has passed the Senate with amendments to the effect that nothing in the act shall be construed to abridge or infringe any right of the people, asserted in the Constitution of Kansas, at all times to alter, reform, or abolish their form of government in such manner as they may think proper, Congress disclaiming any authority to intervene or declare the construction of the Constitution of any State, except to see that it be Republican in form and not in conflict with the United States Constitution; that the federal laws, if not inapplicable, be extended into the State of Kansas; that a judicial district be formed, and a judge, attorney, and marshal be appointed and paid as in Iowa.

Judge Calhoun, of Kansas, has declared his decision with regard to the returns of the election from the Delaware crossing precinct. He adds:—"I regret that this decision will give the control of Kansas to the party which I view as the enemy of the peace and good order, the constitution, and the laws of the Union"—i.e. the Free State or Anti-Slavery party.

The Louisiana State Senate has indefinitely postponed the bill for the introduction of free negroes of Africa into the State to serve as apprentices for fifteen years; which is equivalent to its permanent rejection.

The schooner *Palmetto* has been lost during her passage from Philadelphia to Boston with a valuable cargo, but no lives were lost.

A horrible tragedy is reported from Ruanan Island, where it is said one hundred and fifty of the inhabitants have been murdered by the Indians. The Utah expedition has demanded and obtained further reinforcements; and a letter has been received from Colonel Johnston, the commanding officer, of such a character that it was deemed advisable not to allow a copy of it to be made. A Mormon prisoner has escaped, and it is feared that there are traitors in the camp.

A singular statement is made by the Washington correspondent of the *New York Courier and Enquirer*, who writes:—"I do not remember that I have previously mentioned that Mr. Sailes, of Providence, is said to be charged with a secret mission to Mexico, of which the object is to sound the principal men on the union of that Republic with the United States."

New York has been amused recently by a grand religious 'revival,' as it has been called. Vast numbers of the people have suddenly resolved to be very good, and religion has become the fashion. Daily prayer meetings have been held, and thousands are constantly turned away for want of room; but they indemnify themselves by flocking into the grog-shops and singing hymns. A vacant theatre is the chief place of meeting, and here the worshippers chant, and pray for themselves and others, and exhort, and read passages from the Bible. Each person in turn is allowed to pray aloud for three minutes at a time; but he must not exceed that allotment, and, if he do, the leader, who stands on the stage in front of the curtain, calls him to account. The meeting lasts an hour, but several are held in the course of the day, and many persons go over and over again within the four-and-twenty hours. Other towns besides New York share in the excitement.

Venezuela is in a very disordered state, and seems ripe for revolution.

Colonel Lockbridge has confirmed a statement that he was going to leave New Orleans for Texas on the 24th ult., with the intention of revolutionizing North-eastern Mexico.

A German banker, named Ferdinand Atledor, has been captured at New York, charged with being a defaulter to the amount of 400,000 dollars from the city of Stuttgart, Germany, where he was one of the firm of Atledor and Reiss, bankers. He has been lodged in

gaol to await the action of the United States authorities. —Dr. Bates, tried at Auburn, Placer county, on a charge of having abstracted 48,000 dollars from the State Treasury, has been acquitted.

General Lama has been formally received by the Government of Nicaragua. From Peru we learn that Vivanco, after shelling the town, landed his troops and took Arica. Half the town is in ruins. Vivanco has withdrawn his troops from Iquique.

ORSINI'S POSTHUMOUS PAPERS.

A VERY remarkable document, consisting of a letter from Orsini to Louis Napoleon, written by the former the day but one before his execution, has been published in the Piedmontese *Gazette*—communicated, no doubt, by the French Government. It runs thus:—

"Sire,—Your Imperial Majesty having permitted that my letter written to you on the 11th of February should be produced for public comment, whilst it is a clear proof of your generosity, shows me also that the prayers which I have offered on behalf of my country find a response in your own heart; and to me, however near I be to death, it is certainly no small consolation to see how your Imperial Majesty is moved by genuine Italian feelings.

"In a few hours I shall cease to be; and so, before drawing my last vital breath, I wish it to be known, and I declare it with the frankness and courage which up to this day I have never belied, that assassination, in whatever garb it may be disguised, does not enter amongst my principles, although by a fatal error of mind I have allowed myself to be led on to organize the attempt of the 14th of January. No, political assassination was not my system, and I combated it at the risk of my own life, both in my writings and by my public acts, when a governmental mission placed me in a situation to do so.

"And my compatriots—far from putting faith in the system of assassination—let them reject it altogether and hold it aloof; and let them know, even by the voice of a dying patriot, that their redemption must be won by their own self-denial, by constant unity in their efforts and sacrifices, and by the exercise of true virtue—gifts which are now budding in the young and active portion of my fellow countrymen, and gifts which alone will be able to make Italy free, independent, and worthy of that glory with which our ancestors have made her illustrious.

"I die, but whilst I do so with calmness and dignity, I wish that my memory may not be left stained with any crime.

"As for the victims of the 14th of January, I offer my own blood as an atonement, and I beg the Italians, when some day they are made independent, to give a worthy compensation to all those who have suffered any injury from it.

"Let your Imperial Majesty permit me, in the last place, to beg you to spare the life, not of myself, but of the two accomplices who were condemned to death with me.

"I am, with the profoundest respect for your Imperial Majesty, (Signed) "FELICE ORSINI.

"Prison of La Roquette, March 11."

There can be no doubt of the authenticity of this document in the main; but we suspect that some of the expressions with regard to Louis Napoleon have been interpolated, or at least heightened.

Orsini's will has also been published. It is dated "Prison of La Roquette, or Dépôt des Condamnés, Paris, March 10th, 1858." The testator directs that, after the costs of his trial have been deducted, his money shall be divided in this way:—Eight hundred francs, at the least, are to be laid out in purchasing a gold watch and a gold chain, to be presented to M. Jules Favre, the advocate who defended him, and to have engraved on it the following words:—"Felice Orsini to M. Jules Favre, *souvenir*." The rest of the money is to be appropriated to the payment of the expenses of his funeral (he desires that his body may be placed by the side of that of Ugo Foscolo, in one of the London cemeteries), and to the maintenance of his two little girls. He authorizes Mr. Hodge, of Glastonbury, Somersetshire (the gentleman recently arrested in Piedmont for supposed complicity in the Paris plot), to take care of his eldest daughter, Ernestina; and Mr. Peter Stuart, of Liverpool, to see after his second daughter, Ida. These daughters are respectively six and five years old. Orsini desires that "the education which they shall receive may be entirely conformable to the principles of honesty, virtue, wisdom, and the true love of their country." Signor Enrico Cernuschi, of Milan, residing at Paris, is named as the executor in France, and Signor Vincenzo Caldezi, of Faenza, residing in London, is requested to perform the like office in England. Orsini adds:—

"I will that all my property in clothing, books, &c., remaining with M. de Lasalle, Director of La Roquette, be sent to Miss Eliza Cheney, residing in London, England, No. 2, Grafton-street, Aland-road, Kentish New Town, N.W. Miss Eliza Cheney will dispose of them according to her own free and independent will, as well as of the other articles already left

to her before my arrest and during my imprisonment. All that I have done for her is but a very humble and very small token of remembrance of the extreme kindness and devotedness which she has shown me on all occasions. I recommend to my friends in England this honest and virtuous lady."

THE CASE OF THE CAGLIARI.

THE correspondence respecting the seizure by the Neapolitan Government of the Cagliari has just been presented to Parliament, and discloses a most extraordinary error into which Sir James Hudson, our Minister at Turin, or his secretary, has fallen. On the 5th of January, Sir James gave the secretary, Mr. Erskine, a draft of a document to be addressed to Count Cavour, in which were the words:—"I have been instructed to ask your Excellency whether the Sardinian Government mean to object" to the proceedings taken by the Neapolitan Government with respect to the Cagliari. In amplifying the draft, or in making a fair copy of his own amplification, Mr. Erskine altered the words quoted to—"I have been instructed to acquaint your Excellency that her Majesty's Government are disposed to object," &c. The paper was thus sent in, and, for several weeks, the Sardinian Government was under the false impression that England would protest against the Neapolitan proceedings. Mr. Erskine writes to Sir James Hudson to acknowledge that he made the alteration in the wording, to take all the blame on himself, and to account for the error by the difficulty experienced in copying a paper of one's own composition. Sir James, it seems, did not examine the despatch founded on his draft, taking it for granted that his instructions had been carried out. He signed it, and sent it in. Having communicated the unfortunate facts to the Foreign Secretary (who first became aware of the erroneous statement on the 10th March, owing to some observations made by the Sardinian Minister, and who therefore demanded an explanation), Lord Malmesbury thus replies:—

"March 18.

"Sir,—I have received your despatch of the 15th inst., in reply to my despatch of the 13th inst., requesting to be informed on what authority you said, in your letter to Count Cavour of January 5th, that her Majesty's Government were disposed to object to the proceedings in regard to the pursuit of the Cagliari; and I have to state to you that your explanation is unsatisfactory, and that Mr. Erskine's conduct, in making so material an alteration in the sense of your letter, without calling your attention to it, is quite inexcusable, and so you will inform him, by my direction."

On the 22nd of March, the Marquis d'Azeglio, the Sardinian Minister in London, handed in a note to Lord Malmesbury, referring to the statement in Sir James Hudson's note, and stating that "he was formally charged to request the concurrence and, if need be, the co-operation of the British Government to bring this important affair to a successful termination." Lord Malmesbury, in his reply, states that the request will be duly considered, but in the meanwhile informs the Marquis that the expression alluded to was unauthorized and erroneous. The Sardinian Minister rejoins:—

"The undersigned does not consider himself in any way authorized to make the slightest remark upon the importance of a misunderstanding of this sort [Mr. Erskine's blunder], of which he received the first intimation from his Excellency in his interview the day before yesterday. This importance can only be equalled by that which an assertion so positive, coming from her Britannic Majesty's representative, must have had in the councils of the Government of the King. The opinions of the English Government have too much weight with the Cabinet of Turin not to have exercised an important influence upon the determinations taken at that time.

"But, on the other hand, the undersigned is persuaded that he faithfully represents the sentiments of his Government in affirming that, in a question of this importance, facts ought to be taken into consideration rather than documents, and in expressing once more the hope that the two Cabinets, relying upon the same principles of international law, may act in concert to demand that which is their due. At all events, if abandoned to its own resources, the King's Government has fully decided to follow up this affair with the prudence and moderation which have characterized its acts hitherto, but also with the energy and firmness which the feeling of right and the national dignity inspire."

The papers also include several despatches which have passed between the Sardinian and Neapolitan Governments on the question of the seizure. The former Government, as the reader is aware, maintains that the vessel, when seized, was not within the jurisdiction of Naples; the latter Government asserts that the seizure was made on the high seas, which are open to all nations alike, and that consequently the act was legal.

The opinions of several English lawyers of emi-

nence are likewise published. The late Attorney-General, Sir Richard Bethell, says:—

"If it were clear that the Cagliari was forcibly captured when on the high seas, out of Neapolitan waters, the British Government might lawfully demand the delivery up of the two engineers; but we are not satisfied that such was clearly the case, and the responsibility of making a demand which, if refused, must be followed by hostilities, is most serious. It seems to us to have been rather a case of voluntary surrender by the captain and crew than of forcible capture. When the captain regained possession of his vessel, he assembled the crew, and it was determined to steam to Naples, there to report what had occurred; and, if this had been done, it is clear that at Naples the captain and crew might have been lawfully arrested and tried by the Neapolitan authorities, until it was ascertained whether they had been voluntary or involuntary agents. On their course to Naples, they fall in with two Neapolitan frigates, and the captain, directing his course towards them, lowers a boat, and, having gone on board the frigate, seems to have made a voluntary statement and surrender of himself and his vessel. The crew are then put in irons, and taken as prisoners to Salerno."

An opinion signed "J. D. Harding, Queen's Advocate," and "Henry S. Keating, Solicitor-General," considers that, if the seizure was justifiable on the high seas, the Neapolitan Government has jurisdiction to try and punish the persons arrested—a conclusion opposed to that of Sir Richard Bethell, who, while believing seizure on the high seas to be lawful, denies the right of the Neapolitan Government, under such circumstances, to try and punish the captives.

Lord Malmesbury, writing to Mr. Lyons at Naples, thus acknowledges the intimation of the release of Watt and the temporary removal of Park:—

"Foreign-office, March 25.

"Sir,—Her Majesty's Government have learnt with much satisfaction the release of Watt and the removal of Park from prison. You will therefore state to M. Carafa that her Majesty's Government appreciate these acts of the King of Naples as resulting from the friendly feeling which his Majesty expresses towards her Majesty's Government; but, at the same time, you will state that they cannot admit that the *prima facie* evidence which was produced, as far as it is at present known to her Majesty's Government, could justify the prolonged confinement to which these British subjects have been exposed, and from which they have so severely suffered.

"Her Majesty's Government still believe that the engineers Watt and Park were entirely ignorant of the conspiracy to seize the Cagliari, and were throughout acting under duress.—I am, &c.,

"MALMESBURY."

A narrative, dictated by Mr. Park, has been published by the *Manchester Guardian*. It recapitulates the often-told story of the coercion of the crew by the insurgents, who made the seamen obey their orders by threats of instant death if they resisted. With respect to the arrest of the crew by the Neapolitan authorities, after the vessel had been vacated by the Italians, Mr. Park says:—

"As soon as we got rid of our self-constituted captain, and were our own masters, we steamed off, and our captain shaped his course towards Naples, thinking it the wiser plan to proceed thither, and make a declaration of what had occurred. Upon our way we were met by two Neapolitan war-steamers, that had been sent in our pursuit (at which time we were some twelve miles from shore), when we were brought up by one of them firing a shot across our bows, and the captain was ordered to go on board with his ship's papers. Hereupon, our ship was taken possession of, and we were escorted back to Sapri, where we lay several days, the officers of the war-steamers telling us that they would give us coal to take us on to Cagliari, whither we were bound before the act of piracy took place. At last, orders came that we were to go to Naples; and upon our arrival there we were very much sympathized with by the man-of-war officers, who expressed themselves very sorry to see us in such an unpleasant piece of business. At last, they said we should have to go on shore for a few days, and that then the ship would be set at liberty, we should have coals given to us, and we could depart. We—taking all these fair words for truth, and never suspecting what was in the wind—consented to everything, and went on shore with the captain, crew, and passengers, when we were put into carriages and immediately handcuffed, and, escorted by military, were conducted to the Vicaria prison. I must not forget to state that a gentleman belonging to the arsenal, seeing myself and fellow-engineer handcuffed together,—told who we were, and the handcuffs were taken off on the road to the prison."

Mr. Park confirms the worst accounts that have appeared of the loathsome condition of the prison, and the food, the extortion practised by the officials, and the brutal violence to which some of the Italian prisoners were subjected. The bread was black, the soup filthy, the atmosphere pestiferous, the water

musty and stale, unless better were paid for at the rate of a halfpenny a glass; rats scampered about the floor at night, flat lizards ran up and down the walls by day, and vermin swarmed out of the unpicked oakum beds which were hired for fourpence a night. If no beds were hired, there was nothing but mouldy straw to lie on. One of the incidents related by Mr. Park is like a bit out of the romances of Mrs. Radcliffe:—

"I was taken out of my cell, handcuffed, and, escorted by three gaolers, we proceeded down a dark passage. When at some distance, the men told me to stop, and stood whispering behind me. They then told me to go on again, and then again to stop, followed by the same whispering. This process was repeated several times, we still going through the dark passages, until I must confess the thought occurred to my mind that they were going either to make away with me secretly, or, at the very least, apply some species of torture. But, after all the whispering, and ascending and descending, and turning in the passages of the prison, we arrived at the chambers of the Procureur Generale, or Attorney-General, where I was subjected to an 'interrogation,' the learned gentleman's object being to get me to substantiate certain assertions which he made. When he had finished his interrogations, and the attendants were about to convey me away again, 'Take him,' said the Attorney-General, 'the other way;' and lo! I was in my cell in a twinkling, having passed through nothing but one well-lighted passage."

During this interview, the Attorney-General said that the crew of the Cagliari ought to have burst the boilers rather than permit the insurgents to land!

When at Salerno, our countrymen were better treated. Of the Rev. Mr. Pugh, the Protestant clergyman resident at Naples, a strange story is told. "He took," says Mr. Park, "twenty dollars away with him that had been entrusted to his care for supplying our wants, if needed, without ever proffering them." With respect to the trial, Mr. Park says that the judge appeared to be a very good old man, leaning to the side of the prisoners; but the telegraphic wires were always plying to the King at Gaeta, who in fact directed the trial.

The Sardinian Government has laid the whole case of the Cagliari before the judgment of Europe in a long memorandum sent to its agents abroad. It is here urged that the Neapolitan Government in effect admits that the seizure of the vessel was a capture on the high seas, inasmuch as it has submitted the case to a prize court, and justifies the act by a reference to common law instead of international law, the former of which would only be applicable had the seizure taken place in the Neapolitan waters.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DR. ARNOLD.

FRANCE.

THE Council of the Order of the Legion of Honour have, after due deliberation, resolved that the order of St. Faustin, founded by the Emperor Soultouque of Hayti, shall take its proper place among the decorations which French subjects will be permitted to wear.

The Toulon fleet, which at present consists of eleven ships of the line, is to be increased to fourteen.

Orders have been given that a model of the gun presented by Queen Victoria shall be cast, with a view to depositing it in the Imperial collection.

Major Arnaud, a veteran of the old Imperial army, has recently died at Marseilles, his native town.

The *Moniteur*, in its official part, contains the law decreeing a levy of 100,000 recruits of the class of 1858. It likewise contains a law granting to the Government a supplementary credit of 1,200,000f. (48,000l. sterling), to be charged on the budget of 1858, for covering the expenses of secret service in the interest of public safety.

The sum which the Emperor has subscribed to the fund now being raised for M. de Lamartine is 10,000f. Prince Jérôme has directed his private secretary to address a letter in his name to one of the members of the committee named to receive contributions, and has subscribed the sum of 1000f.

Signor Mazzini publishes in the English papers some observations on the retroactivity of the infamous *Loi des Suspects*, which he calls a "monstrous achievement." He adds:—"Hundreds of men, merchants, lawyers, working-men, are now transported from every French locality. From the 14th of March downwards, every night a convoy of prisoners has reached Marseilles, each convoy containing from thirty to forty persons. The men thus doomed have been generally invited, for the sake of avoiding scandal, to the Prefecture, to hear some communication relating to their private interests. And this is called a Government, a normal legal power worth alliances, protection, anti-conspiracy-to-murder bills and press prosecutions! This we are called on to respect." An instance of police tyranny is given in a letter from Paris to the *Gronduet* of Antwerp. If true,

it exhibits a state of things little short of diabolical. The writer states:—"The surveillance of the visible and invisible police is carried to such an extent in the so-styled capital of the civilized world, that its inhabitants are no longer free to receive even their friends in their own houses without previously obtaining a permission to that effect. One of the *bons bourgeois* of Paris, being lately about to betroth his daughter, applied to the Préfet of Police for leave to assemble about thirty friends at the festive board of a family *fête*. To this application the Préfet replied that he would willingly grant the permission, provided the applicant increased the number of his guests by two persons to be designated by him. The dinner-room, however, not being sufficiently capacious to admit of such an increase, the Préfet, after having verified the fact, demanded to see a list of the thirty guests, with the view of selecting two whose names could be erased therefrom; but, having cast his eyes on the paper, he politely folded and returned it, significantly observing that all was perfectly correct, two persons already known to him being among the future guests."

The ceremony of inaugurating the new Boulevard de Sebastopol took place at two o'clock on Monday afternoon. The Emperor presided, the weather was highly favourable, and large crowds assembled on the spot. The scene was a very gay one, for the houses were decorated with streamers, draperies, and inscriptions. The National Guard and the regular troops kept both sides of the way, from one extremity to the other. The Emperor was mounted on a charger with rich housings. He was preceded by half a dozen Cent Gardes, and followed by a numerous body of general officers; but they rode at a distance of some fifty paces from him. The Empress was in an open carriage. A huge curtain, studded with golden bees and the Imperial arms, and stretched between two gilded minarets, concealed from the public the new section of the line till the arrival of the Emperor, when, at a given signal, the curtain fell, and the magnificent vista was disclosed. The terminus of the Strasburg Railway was richly decorated; and, in the interior, under the peristyle, was a handsome saloon, decorated with green silk drapery and crimson velvet, for the purpose of receiving the Emperor and Empress, who were met by the members of the Municipal Council with an address. The Emperor warmly thanked them for the activity they had shown in the completion of the works. On returning to the Tuileries, he did not go by the way he had come, but rode, with his staff of generals and his six Gardes, along the Boulevard to the Rue de la Paix, where there were no soldiers, but, probably, a great many police agents and spies. He was well received, and the occasion passed off without any disturbance.

In replying to the address, the Emperor said:—"The Municipal Council had a manifold work to accomplish: it was first necessary to secure the financial resources of Paris, to favour new constructions, so as to be able to lodge a sudden excess of population, and, on the other hand, it was indispensable to demolish to throw open new thoroughfares, giving light and health to unhealthy quarters, making new great arteries favourable to the development of the city, by bringing the centre closer to the outskirts. This double result has been achieved: the constructions have exceeded the demolitions tenfold; but your efforts did not stop there. During the famine years, thanks to the Bakers' Fund Institution, you gave the people cheaper bread. No plan of improvement or benevolence escaped you. While founding new hospitals, you increased private charities; you built new churches and new schools; you helped the supply of provisions for Paris by establishing central markets; you commenced the purification of the city by a gigantic work of underground galleries, worthy of the works of ancient Rome; finally you united to the useful what would satisfy the eye and inspire elevated sentiments.... But our task, gentlemen, is by no means accomplished. You have approved a general plan, which is to continue what you have so well commenced. The Chambers, I trust, will shortly vote it, and thus we shall behold every year new arteries thrown open, populous districts rendered more salubrious, rents lessened owing to the increase of houses, the working classes enriched by labour, poverty diminished by a better system of benevolence, and Paris responding more and more to her high calling."

A bill is, by order of the Emperor, to be presented to the Legislative Body for granting pensions to the families of the persons killed in the last attempt on his Majesty's life, and to the persons who were injured.

"The Committee of the Legislative Body on the Budget," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "has concluded its examination. The Government had demanded credits for paying the increase of salaries granted to certain classes of *employés* of the Ministries, but the committee declares that it does not think them necessary, and it proposes that the increase granted to persons who receive 1500f. salary shall be taken off, and that that granted to inferior functionaries shall not exceed 150f. The committee, besides, strongly recommends that the number of functionaries shall be considerably reduced, as it exceeds what was fixed by decrees in 1851 and 1852; also that the formalities observed in transacting business in the Government offices shall be simplified.

The committee also calls for the suppression of the augmentation granted to Juges de Paix and their clerks. Various other suggestions are made, of less general interest.

"The *Moniteur*," says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, "contains a long biography of M. Cochelet, formerly French Consul at London, and recently deceased, after having been raised to be Councillor of State, and then senator. Of course, as M. Cochelet has breathed our fogs, an opportunity is not lost of caressing one of the darling prejudices of the French nation; and the public is informed that, although that gentleman has resided in every part of Europe, and even in Egypt, it was the climate of London that undermined his constitution. However, he managed to live until near seventy; and would have been living now had he not been so deeply affected by the attempt of the 14th:—'Although full of confidence in the future, the security of which an august wisdom had just guaranteed, he could not recover.' What ignoble balderdash!"

The French Government has been informed that Félix Pyat, hearing that he was to be arrested, together with his printer, has disappeared from London and quitted England.

ITALY.

The *Courrier Franco-Italien* states that Signor Rosini has just written a new melody, or *notturmo*, for the violoncello, which he has presented to M. Servais, the solo player.

The insignificant town of Lantona, in the Duchy of Massa, has been declared in a state of siege, and occupied by sixty Modenese soldiers.

Madame Orsini has left Paris for Italy. The friends of Italian liberty have subscribed for her the sum of 2500 francs, which were put in her hands at the moment of departure. The subscribers are mostly English.

A decree of the King of Naples, dated Thursday, allows Park to return to England. He is acquitted.

The *Piedmontese Gazette*, containing Orsini's letter, was stopped at the post in Lombardy.

AUSTRIA.

The funeral ceremony of Count Gorskowski, general of cavalry and Governor of Venice, recently deceased, took place on the 22nd ult., with great splendour. The Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, the Commander-in-Chief of the Lombardo-Venetian forces, and other persons of eminence, were present.

The Austrian garrison of Bologna has been reinforced, owing to the fear of an insurrection in the Legations.

The demolition of the fortifications at Vienna has begun. These constructions were commenced three hundred and thirty years ago by Maximilian I., at the time of the advance of the Turks on Vienna, but were not completed until 1663, under Leopold I.

PORTUGAL.

The Loulé Administration, finding it impossible to retain office with the existing Parliament, has resolved on a dissolution.

SPAIN.

In the sitting of the Congress, on the 30th ult., Señor Gonzalez de la Vega called on the Government to give explanations respecting the fusion of the two branches of the royal family, which, he said, according to report, was on the eve of being concluded. The Minister of Public Works said that he would obtain information on the subject, and answer on a future day. Señor Gonzalez de la Vega expressed surprise that the Government should not be informed on a matter of so much importance, especially as some of the journals had referred to it, and been seized for so doing.

TURKEY.

Omar Pacha, who has been sent into the Ejalet of Bagdad, met with resistance at his entry into that city, and a fight took place in the streets, in which his adjutant was killed.

The Archbishop of Saloniki, having refused the patriarchal seat at Alexandria, has been ordered to come to Constantinople.

According to letters from Bosnia, in the *Post Gazette* of Frankfurt, the Mahometan landowners continue to subject the Rayahs to gross exactions, and to treat them most cruelly. Amongst other things, it is said that forty inhabitants of the village of Marince, in the district of Novljan, not being able to pay what was required, were stripped of their clothes, tied two by two to trees, had water poured over them until it froze, and were then left, covered with ice, during a whole night! The next morning three had died, and several others were in a dangerous state.

The railway from Smyrna to Aidin was opened on the 28rd ult., in the presence of a large, brilliant, and delighted crowd, and with the accompaniment of military music and other honours.

The Turkish Governor of Broussa is said by some of the Athenian papers to have committed some monstrous acts of violence on the Greeks of that town. The Pacha, it is said, not merely expels the Greeks, but poisons those he dislikes, or has them assassinated by his servants.

The celebrated chief Ghouma, of Tripoli, has been killed in an action with the Pacha's troops, near

Gadames. The chief was betrayed and slain by one of his followers, and his head has been brought into Tripoli with great rejoicing.

An Ottoman steam liner and frigate, having on board 3000 troops from Constantinople, put into Corfu on the 19th, and left on the 22nd of March for Albania, to suppress the depredations committed on the Turkish frontier in the Adriatic, and to protect it against an invasion from the Montenegrins.

MONTENEGRO.

Prince Danilo, being still in negotiation with the Sultan about the cession of a strip of land in exchange for his submission, has interdicted his subjects from committing warlike acts, except in case they are attacked. Austria has sent more men to the vicinity of the disturbed districts, and the Montenegrins seem to look on that power as their natural protector.

PRUSSIA.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Prussia, held at Berlin on the 31st ult., a proposition was made to vote 8340 thalers towards the subscription for building the Protestant cathedral; but it excited so much opposition that it was withdrawn.

RUSSIA.

Six more governments of the empire have applied for permission to form committees for the emancipation of the serfs. As a matter of course, the authorization was at once accorded.

Preparations on a most extensive scale are now being made for a fresh campaign against the Circassians. Never before, it is said, have such powerful means of attack been brought into action against these populations.

GREECE.

George Conduriottis is dead, and King Otho has ordered five days' mourning for him.

TRIAL OF THE REV. SAMUEL SMITH.

The trial of Samuel Smith, clergyman, of Clifton, and Sarah Smith, his wife, for a murderous assault on John Leech, took place on Tuesday at the Gloucester Assizes. The facts will be within the recollection of the reader, as they occurred no longer ago than the 3rd of February; so that it will be sufficient here to state that the charge against the prisoners was that they had conspired to lure the prosecutor down to a lonely common at Yate, on the Bristol and Birmingham Railway, and that they there endeavoured to murder him. This conspiracy was carried out by writing letters to Leech, in which Mrs. Smith falsely pretended that her husband was dead, and that she was a widow, and willing, if Leech felt so disposed, to renew their former acquaintance and to marry him. When a single woman, some nine years ago, Mrs. Smith had been courted by Leech and by her present husband, and finally she married the clergyman. Leech, however, had often seen her since, and it would seem that he seduced her. He was closely cross-examined on this point by Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., counsel for Mrs. Smith, and declined to say whether, on several occasions referred to, he had had intercourse with the lady.

At the conclusion of the case for the prosecution, the Rev. Mr. Smith, who was undefended, addressed the jury from a written statement which he held in his hand. He said "he should have to tell the jury of his shame and of his wrongs, and to give the history of his marriage. He would not conceal the truth, but would reveal every circumstance that might lead the jury to a right conclusion. In September, 1848, he first met his wife and proposed marriage, being told that she had been in service at Swan and Edgar's, and was going to another situation. He would have married her at once but for his circumstances; but he had been obliged to labour for his support since the age of fifteen. He had gone to Cambridge, where he gained a scholarship, and became senior optime in 1848. He married his wife in July, 1849, but did not take her home, because, as master of the Bishop's school at Bristol, he had but 100*l.* a year. He therefore thought it better to leave her for a time with her friends in Kent, where he engaged to pay for her board. His wife wanted to come to him; but, as he was still reading for holy orders, he could not receive her in his lodging, and proposed that she should go to board at a milliner's at Bristol. Ultimately his wife came to live with him at Clifton, in lodgings which he took for her. In 1851, she was confined at her friend's house in Kent, and again in 1852; and then he took a house, when a third child was born, in 1854. He then resigned his situation at Bishop's College, and opened a school of his own, when he had a fourth child born. He did duty in several places in the neighbourhood, and was earning about 400*l.* when this calamity came upon him, and a terrible disclosure was brought to his knowledge. He had often observed that there was a melancholy about his wife, and she would sigh on his bosom and tell him that she was not worthy of him. He had often complained of her staying so much in Kent, and that there must be some reason for her melancholy, though he could not tell what it was. She once told him of a letter she had received from the man Leech, and mentioned other circumstances which tended rather to excite his jealousy. But he overlooked it, as she con-

tinued to bear him children and managed the house well. At length, on the 22nd of last January, she told him something which made him very unhappy; but he said he would forgive her if she would take an oath that nothing had happened since their marriage. She then knelt down, and told him of the circumstances under which the prosecutor Leech induced her to meet him at Canterbury, and committed adultery with her, and that Leech afterwards met her in London and promised that, if she would go and live with him he would marry her in seven years. The idea racked his mind that perhaps the children were not his own. His wife, however, assured him that she had never done anything wrong since she had been living with him, and he told her that he would forgive her if she would bring the man to Bristol, in order that he might retaliate. It was under his directions that his wife wrote the letters, which he dictated. He insisted on his wife writing the letters, and disguising herself as she had done, on the promise which he made her that he would not do Leech any serious injury. He bought the revolver for his own protection in case Leech should draw a knife upon him; but he solemnly denied that he had ever intended to use the pistol aggressively against Leech: had he done so, he would not have acted as he had, so as to lead to his detection. His only object was to do what he had done—viz. to give Leech a good beating, in order to solace his outraged mind. He could not justify his conduct, which he should always deeply lament; but he hoped his acts would be justly appreciated by the judge and jury, who could not blame him for the burning indignation which had overcome his whole being. He implored the jury to put themselves in his place, and ask themselves what redress the laws of the land and courts of justice could have given him. He took the law into his own hand; but who could deny that he had sinned against human nature, or that Leech had had more than he deserved? The jury might find him guilty of an assault if they would; but he implored them not to find him guilty of a felony, which would ruin his prospects in life, and deprive his children of their bread."

Mr. Huddleston, in addressing the jury for the wife, described her as the victim of Leech when she was only sixteen or seventeen years of age, and suggested that she was under the coercion of her husband when acting as she had done on the day of the assault. With respect to the husband, he contended that, at the most, he could only be convicted of unlawfully wounding. The jury found both the prisoners guilty of cutting and wounding with intent to disfigure and to do grievous bodily harm; but they added that the female prisoner had committed no actual violence, and that she had acted throughout under the coercion of her husband. On the following day, the clergyman was sentenced to four years' penal servitude, and the wife was allowed to go at liberty. She is described as a person of forbidding exterior. Mr. Smith is a muscular man, of very resolute aspect. He showed much solicitude for his wife, who was greatly overcome on the second day.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MR. SAMUEL WARREN ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME.—Mr. Warren, in opening the Hull Easter Sessions, last Saturday, made some observations on the good effects produced by the reformatory system. A great decrease has taken place in the number of juvenile male criminals in the gaol. At the beginning of the year 1856, the number was twenty-nine; this fell to twenty-six in the following June, and now there are only six in the prison. In the course of his address, Mr. Warren spoke of the necessity of controlling "those pest-houses called beer-shops."

EXECUTION AT YORK.—Joseph Shepherd, the murderer of Bethel Parkinson on Wadsworth Moor, near Halifax, was hanged last Saturday at York. The criminal persistently denied his guilt, died impenitent, and conducted himself during his last days with the utmost levity. He laughed in the face of the clergyman whenever the latter conversed with him on religious subjects, and, upon being told that he would have no rest in the next world if he behaved in that way, replied, "If there's no rest for me there, I might as well have as much rest as I can here," and then laid down on the bed. This was the day before the execution, and he slept soundly during the night. He was told that he would go to hell if he did not repent of his sins; to which he replied, "Never mind! I shall be all right in the snowy weather; I shall be right during one half of the year, when the weather's cold." He inquired flippantly about his coffin; expressed a hope that he should have "a good blow-out" before he was hanged; and uttered blasphemies which we refrain from repeating. His father and his wife visited him on the Wednesday preceding his death. The wife was greatly affected, but the father was as little moved as the criminal himself. On leaving, the old man intimated that he should see "the finishing stroke" on Saturday. He saw his son again on the Thursday, and remarked, on quitting the cell, "I think it is of no use stopping any longer: I only just wanted to look at thee." The culprit, says the account in the daily papers, "was removed from the

condemned cell to a room on the opposite side of the Castle-yard, and adjoining the scaffold, at about six o'clock in the morning. When the officers were ready to conduct him, he walked away quietly; his nerves were unshaken, and he appeared determined to meet his fate with perfect coolness. On coming through the office, in which there is a clock, Shepherd looked at it, and, observing the short hand at six, remarked, 'When that gets to the top, I shall be done for; it will be all over then.' On dressing himself, he was full of joke and fun. When the officers of the prison were conducting him across the Castle-yard, he was in high glee, and laughed as before. He looked at Clifford's Tower, and said, 'That's the old tower, I suppose.' When he arrived at the apartment adjoining the scaffold, he threatened that, if he had the chance, he would 'knock Jack Ketch over.' The culprit, since his condemnation, had expressed a wish that he could obtain arsenic and poison himself, and had said that he deserved to be hanged, although he did not murder Parkinson." Just before the lowering of the drop, he ejaculated, two or three times, 'Lord have mercy upon me!' and in a few moments afterwards he was dead. From ten to fifteen thousand persons were present.

THE TRAGEDY AT LERWICK.—Further particulars are published in the Scotch papers of the horrible affair at Lerwick, of which we gave the main facts last week. Mr. Williamson appears to have armed himself with a heavy iron hammer or cleaver, a knife, and a razor, with which he murdered, one by one, his wife, his daughter, and two sons, frightfully wounded another son, and finally killed himself. The wife and little girl slept together; and, after slaying them, Mr. Williamson went into an upper room, where the three boys lay, and commenced an attack on them. The eldest boy, after receiving numerous wounds on the head and throat, escaped down stairs to the servant's bedroom, and, leaping, terrified and bloody, into the girl's bed, suddenly woke her to a scared consciousness of the horrors by which she was surrounded. The youngest boy was killed instantaneously, and the middle one, after escaping for a minute or two to a lower room, was pursued by the father and despatched. The murderer then cut his own throat, first sitting down upon the floor, laying his neck against the leg of a table, and passing his arm round the leg of a chair, to ensure steadiness to the gash. When found, his throat was cut from ear to ear, and the razor had penetrated the bone. On the house being entered by some persons who had heard the noise of the massacre, Mrs. Williamson was still living; but she soon died. The son who escaped will, it is thought, survive his wounds, though he is probably weakened for life. There can be no doubt that the murderer was insane, but the cause of his insanity is unknown. On the evening before the tragedy he had been talking with some friends very pertinaciously on the subject of murders and of the best way to take life; but he had transacted his business as usual.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.—A man named Thomas Jones has been convicted at the Middlesex Sessions of stealing a watch from a Mr. James Slie in a carriage on the Camden Town Railway, while the train was in motion. The robbery having been effected, the thief leaped out of the window, and escaped, though with some cuts and bruises. He was afterwards arrested, and, at the police-office, assaulted some constables. He was now sentenced to penal servitude for five years; on which, smashing his hat, he said he didn't mind its being known that he was a ticket-of-leave man.

A RESPIRE.—The day for the execution of John Barwick for the murder of Maria Blackmore, at Linton, in the north of Devon, was fixed for yesterday; but the culprit has been respited.

MATRICIDE.—A terrible crime has been committed at Trieste. A young workman, who maintained himself and his mother by his daily labour, gained so little that they lived most wretchedly. By dint of privations, however, he saved up sufficient to purchase a ticket in a lottery. The drawing took place a few days ago, and his ticket gained a prize of 16,000 florins. Wild with joy the young man hurried to his mother, informed her of his good fortune, and asked for the ticket. "Alas, my son!" said she, "I sold it some time back." Without a word, the young man drew his knife and stabbed her until she fell dead at his feet. He was arrested the same day.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

JOHN CARTER, a young man employed at an extensive linendrapery establishment in Whitechapel, was tried on Tuesday on a charge of stealing two shillings from his employers. The theft was one of a series. The course of business at the house is that, when a customer purchases any article, two bills are made out by the shopman who serves, in which the amount is stated; and one of these bills is stamped by the cashier and returned to the customer, and the other is retained by the cashier as a check upon the shopman. It seemed to have been the habit of Carter to place smaller amounts upon the bills than the goods sold actually amounted to; and, when one bill had been stamped by the cashier, and the amount upon it received by him, he took the other to the customer, filling in the actual amount, and pocketing

the difference. Suspicion was at length aroused, and the thief was detected. The case was so clear that the prisoner's counsel found it utterly impossible to make any defence, but simply pleaded for a lenient sentence. It was mentioned by the counsel for the prosecution that Carter had been living in a very reckless manner; and had been in the habit of driving a tandem in the park on Sundays. He was sentenced to penal servitude for four years.

William Greenfield was tried on a charge of aiding in the escape of Thomas Wilkes from the City prison at Holloway. Wilkes was sentenced to imprisonment for three months; Greenfield for twenty-one days; and, in consideration of a bribe of one sovereign and some clothes, the latter consented to answer to the name of the former on arriving at the gaol. This arrangement was made in the lock-up of the Mansion House, previous to a batch of prisoners being removed. On arriving at the gaol, each man personated the other, and consequently Wilkes was liberated at the end of three weeks, instead of three months. Greenfield was now sentenced to three months' imprisonment.—William Hutchins and Mary Hutchins, man and wife, have been found guilty of the manslaughter of William Sawyer, under circumstances which have already been narrated in these columns. They were sentenced to hard labour for six months.—Michael Crawley, a man employed by a wood turner in Shoreditch, named Ruffell, was on Wednesday found guilty of a murderous assault on his master, with whom he had had a quarrel. The jury recommended him to mercy on account of his previous good character; and Mr. Ruffell himself joined in that recommendation. He was sentenced to penal servitude for three years.—The same punishment has been inflicted on Godfrey Knowles, a private in the Coldstream Guards, for an attack with a razor on Sergeant Hamilton, of the same regiment.—The grand jury have found true bills against Edward Truelove, Stanislaus Tcherewski, Simon Bernard, Thomas Allsop, Felice Orsini, Pierri, and Carl Rudio for misdemeanour.

THE ASSIZES.

JOHN DARBON has pleaded Guilty at Devizes to a charge of entering the mansion of the Earl of Suffolk, and stealing a number of valuable paintings. He has been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

Dennis Trenfield, an attorney of considerable practice in Gloucestershire, and brother-in-law of the sheriff of that county, has been tried at Gloucester on a charge of forging the signatures of two gentlemen of Winckcombe.—Mr. Robert Trinbrill and the Rev. Edward Dupre to a bond of 200*l*. He had received the money on the bond in February, 1854, from a retired farmer of Gloucester. Mr. Trenfield had also, after committing these forgeries, attempted to utter the document as genuine. When the fraud was discovered, the perpetrator endeavoured to commit suicide by shooting himself through the head with a pistol, but his hand slipped, and the bullet, instead of entering his brain, pierced his right cheek and tore away nearly the whole of the flesh on that side of his face. For some time it was supposed that the wound would prove fatal; but the culprit so far recovered as to be able to appear in court at the trial, though his face and head were bandaged up, and he was so much reduced in strength that he was allowed to be seated. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, and Mr. Baron Channell sentenced the prisoner to penal servitude for ten years.

OBITUARY.

SIR JAMES M'GRIGOR, K.C.B., &c.—This eminent medical man, the Physician Extraordinary to the Queen, died at his residence in Harley-street, Cavendish-square, on the 2nd inst., in the eighty-eighth year of his age. He began life as an army surgeon as far back as 1793, and served under the Duke of York, Sir Ralph Abercromby, and others. He was a good deal in India, and was at one time chief of the medical department of the Anglo-Indian army, and at another occupied the same position in the Peninsula during the great struggle in the early part of the present century. At the close of the French war in 1815, Dr. M'Grigor was knighted, and was placed at the head of the medical department of the army, as Director-General, receiving at the same time several orders of merit. Sir James was highly esteemed in the profession, and was a member of several learned societies, both at home and abroad.

Mr. HERBERT MINTON, an eminent Staffordshire manufacturer, died at Belmont, Torquay, on Thursday week. He was a member of the Society of Antiquaries, and a Knight of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour of France.—"It is to Mr. Minton," says the *Staffordshire Advertiser*, "that the public are indebted for those beautiful picture pavements, as they may be truly called, which now ornament so many of our churches and chapels, the palaces of royalty, the residences of our nobility and gentry, and public institutions, and which have indeed obtained a world-wide celebrity. The idea of reviving this beautiful branch of mediæval art manufactures originated, we believe, with the late Mr. Samuel Wright, of Shelton, about twenty-five years ago." Mr. Minton obtained first-class medals

for his ornamental tiles at the Great Exhibition of 1851, and at the Paris Exhibition of 1855.

GENERAL SIR RALPH DARLING, G.C.H., Colonel of the 69th Regiment, died at his residence at Brighton on Friday week in his eighty-fourth year. He entered the army in 1793; served with distinction in most of the great campaigns of the last French war; and has since held several important military posts. He was created a General in full in 1841.

DR. ELDER.—The Head Mastership of Charterhouse school has become vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. Elder.

MAJOR REED, late M.P. for Abingdon, died on Wednesday, of dropsy, in his thirtieth year. He had been in the Queen's Prison for debt incurred in his unsuccessful contest for Finsbury last August; but he was released on the 20th ult. by Mr. Commissioner Phillips until his final hearing at the Insolvent Court.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A RUSSIAN TROPHY.—The battery of the Royal Artillery which has just left Leeds has presented to the corporation an ammunition waggon which was taken by the men from the Russians at the battle of Inkerman. It will be placed on Woodhouse Moor, at the outskirts of the town, by the side of the two Russian guns which were presented to the authorities of the borough by the Government.

MAJOR TRAVERS, barrackmaster of Portsmouth garrison, has just retired on his full pay, after holding that office for upwards of forty-five years, during which time he has filled most of the important civic posts in the municipality, and is at present the senior magistrate.

WRECKS.—The Sutlej, Captain Grant, a vessel of 782 tons register, laden with a general cargo for Melbourne, has been totally wrecked between Nos. 1 and 2 red buoys on leaving the Tay. The crew were all saved; but the vessel sank very rapidly, and nothing on board could be preserved.—The French brig *Auguste* was totally wrecked, on the 22nd of January, on a reef of rocks to the W.S.W. of St. Francis Bay, South Africa. Eight lives were lost.—The *Rosedale*, screw steamer, from London to Newcastle, was lost, on the morning of the 1st inst., on the Long Scaur Rocks, near Hartlepool. All hands were saved.—The *Express*, of New York, from Liverpool to Newport, has gone ashore at Wicklow Head, and two of the crew have been drowned. Another vessel met the same fate at the same point; and in this case also two men were drowned.

GALE ON THE NORTH-EAST COAST.—A very severe gale raged on the north-east coast on the Thursday and Friday of last week. Several vessels foundered, and many lives were lost.

THE LEVIATHAN.—During a very violent squall on Monday afternoon, the *Leviathan* partly broke from her moorings, so that the bows swung towards the Deptford shore. Mr. Prouse, the chief officer, caused some large hawsers to be taken out and made fast to the stern moorings of the new *Dreadnought*; after which, with the assistance of three powerful tugs, the *Leviathan* was hauled round again to her former position. Some additional mooring chains of great strength were then procured, and the huge ship was made quite secure. No damage resulted from the catastrophe.

ACCIDENT TO AN EMIGRANT VESSEL.—The American bark *Petre*, from Havre to New York, with upwards of two hundred emigrants on board, went on shore last Sunday off West Wittering, to the eastward of Chichester harbour. Steam assistance was sent to her immediately, but it is feared she will become a total wreck.

THE WRECK OF THE *AVA*.—"It is but due to the British soldier," says a correspondent of the *Times*, "to state the following fact:—The wreck of the *Ava* was made known at Trincomalee, by the arrival of the first boatload of escaped passengers, immediately after morning service on Ash Wednesday last. The entire garrison at once voluntarily gave up the whole of their bread and other prepared provisions for the almost famished unfortunates, it being impossible, in so small a community, to provide otherwise on the instant. Their subsequent exertions, and many acts of kindness shown to the distressed, I do not speak of."

THE WOOLWICH ARSENAL.—A large number of artificers and labourers at present employed in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, amounting to 1000 men, have been served with notices of dismissal, in consequence of the completion of the heavy outstanding orders for the coast defences, &c., which had accumulated in arrears during the late war, and on which many extra hands have been engaged for some months past.

VISIT OF INSPECTION.—Sir John Pakington, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty; Vice-Admiral Martin; Lord Lovaine, M.P.; the Right Hon. H. T. L. Corry, M.P., Principal Secretary; and Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, K.C.B., Surveyor of the Navy, constituting a Board of Admiralty, arrived at Portsmouth, on Thursday morning, on a visit of inspection.

SEAMEN RIGGERS.—An Admiralty order has been received at Chatham dockyard, directing that the pay of the seamen riggers employed at that establishment be increased to 1*l*. per week.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen has remained at Windsor all the week. No noteworthy event has occurred.

ABOLITION OF CHURCH RATES AT OXFORD.—A public meeting of the friends of religious liberty has been held in the Town Hall, Oxford, "to petition Parliament to pass Sir John Trelawny's Church Rate Abolition Bill, and also to prevent State support being given to idolatry, or to any form of religion in India." The Mayor presided, and the proceedings passed off with great unanimity of feeling.

SIGNOR BOSCO, the celebrated conjuror, was last Saturday brought before the magistrates at Manchester charged with attempting self-destruction on the previous day by throwing himself into a pool of water. The Signor explained that he lived very unhappily with his wife, owing to her temper and her drinking habits, and was only trying on a 'new trick,' to frighten her into better behaviour for the future. On promising not to renew the attempt, he was discharged from custody.

THE CASE OF MR. HODGE.—The French Government has abandoned its claim upon the Sardinian Government for the extradition of Mr. Hodge, and he will be set at liberty immediately.

NEW ASSIZE COURTS.—The question of erecting suitable and efficient courts at Reading, for the due administration of justice, came on for discussion at the Berkshire Sessions on Monday. About eighty magistrates were present, and Mr. Palmer, M.P., presided. Mr. Merry read the following resolution, which was carried, after some discussion, and the proposal of an amendment to the contrary effect, defeated by 30 to 27:—"That, in accordance with a resolution of the Court of Quarter Sessions, at Michaelmas, 1848, it is now desirable to erect new Assize courts at Reading; and, with this view, that a committee be appointed to inquire as to sites, to obtain plans and estimates, and to report thereon to an adjourned sessions."

A JEW CHURCHWARDEN.—At the Easter Vestry, held on Tuesday last at the parish of St. Margaret, New Fish-street, Mr. Keeling, of Hebrew faith, was re-elected Senior Churchwarden for the fourth year, in conjunction with Mr. Robert Wilcoxon and Messrs. Hill and Draper as Overseers. The Rector, who presided at the Vestry, expressed his gratification at the re-election of Mr. Keeling, who had performed his duties most advantageously to all parties concerned. Mr. Keeling, in reply, stated his creed taught him that the various and solemn offices of public religion were duties of indispensable moral obligation, form the best groundwork of society, the firmest prop of government, and the fairest ornament of both, and he felt sure such views could never be inimical to Protestant interests, either religious or political.

AMATEUR MUSIC.—A concert was given at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday evening, by two Amateur Societies, "The Orchestral Society" and "The London Polyhymnian Choir," the former consisting of about fifty, and the latter forty, members. Two symphonies, one of Beethoven's and one of Mozart's, were creditably performed. The novelties were a new song by W. Rea, sung by Miss Banks, and a MS. Overture by Mr. J. J. Haite (a member), both well received. The choir sang a series of part songs for male voices.

THE COINAGE LAST YEAR.—According to a Mint return, published on Wednesday, the gold coined in England during the past year was 4,859,860*l*., of which 364,111*l*. consisted of half-sovereigns. This total is less by 1,142,244*l*. than that in the previous year, and 664,108*l*. below the average of the past ten years. As compared with 1853, the year of the greatest gold coinage ever known, it shows a reduction of 7,092,531*l*., the amount on that occasion having reached 11,952,391*l*. The silver coinage last year was 373,230*l*., containing 363,679*l*. actual value in metal. The pieces comprised were 1,671,120 florins, 2,562,120 shillings, 2,233,440 sixpences, 4,158 fourpences, 1,762,728 threepences, 4752 twopences, and 7920 pence. The copper coinage was to the extent only of 6720*l*., containing 3492*l*. value in metal.—*Times*.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—Further papers have been published with reference to the disagreement between Sir Charles Barry and Sir Benjamin Hall, the late President of the Board of Works. Sir Charles Barry (February 18th) at length forwarded an abstract of the required estimate (in detail) of all the works necessary to complete the new Palace, adducing illness as an excuse for not having sooner complied with the request of the Board of Works. The total amount of the estimate for these works is stated to be 68,924*l*. Sir Benjamin Hall (19th of February) replied to Sir Charles Barry (through Mr. Secretary Austin), to the effect that he had no intention to apply to Parliament to vote money for the proposed plan, which contained the ground plan of a proposed large line of buildings extending from the Clock Tower to St. Margaret's street, and thence at an angle along the whole west front of Westminster Hall towards the entrance to St. Stephen's Hall from the Old Palace-yard. The plan was returned to Sir Charles Barry for alteration. Sir Benjamin Hall, before leaving the Office of Works, left a minute recapitulating all the details of the correspondence, for the instruction of his successor, Lord John Manners.

HENDERSON FUND.—It will be remembered that we some time since announced the death of Mr. John Henderson, a gentleman well known to the public as a member of the late firm of Fox, Henderson, and Co., the contractors for the Great Exhibition building of 1851 and the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. It is with much regret that we now learn that Mr. Henderson's wife and daughter are left totally unprovided for, as, although that gentleman was making every effort to recommence business, he did not live long enough to carry out the plans he had projected. Under these circumstances a committee has been formed with the view of raising a fund for the assistance of the widow and orphan, and an appeal on their behalf is now being made to the public. The numerous important and public works with which the late Mr. John Henderson was connected during a life of untiring energy and enterprise, cause us to regard his family as having a claim upon the support and sympathy of the world.

THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.—"There are strange rumours afloat concerning this work: 'the thousand tongues' are noising it abroad that, notwithstanding the awards of prizes in Westminster Hall, the competition will lead to nothing, except a return to the original scheme of giving the commission to Baron Marochetti: indeed it is added that the arrangement was 'in progress' when the competition was mooted; and it is to be carried out now that the competitive designs are either sent home or shelved into one of the ante-rooms of the new palace at Westminster. We cannot credit a statement so utterly opposed to every principle of honour: we do not believe that any Government would dare to commit so great an outrage on common decency. We therefore abstain from more than a mere note to state that such a rumour is in circulation."—*Art Journal*.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The total number of deaths registered in London in the week that ended last Saturday, was 1374. In the ten years 1848-57 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1392; but, as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, they should be compared with the average, after the latter had been raised proportionally to the increase, a correction which will make it 1531. The deaths now returned are, therefore, less by 157 than the number which the average rate of mortality would have produced.—Last week, the births of 872 boys and 863 girls, in all 1735 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57 the average number was 1801.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return*.

SANITARY STATE OF THE CITY.—From Dr. Letheby's Report of the Sanitary Condition of the City of London for the quarter ending March 27th, we learn that the mortality is a little above the average, but less than the death-rate in the same period of 1857. The total number of deaths for the quarter is 843; that is to say, 439 males, and 404 females. Last year, the number of deaths in the same quarter was 852, and the average of the last nine years is 829. The condition of the houses occupied by the poor has improved; but much still remains to be done.

TEMPLE BAR.—The removal of this well-known arch, the work of Sir Christopher Wren, is in contemplation, and, as it would be a pity to destroy it, a suggestion has been made to place it at the entrance of one of the parks.

SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON has been lecturing at the Mechanics' Institute, at Lincoln, on the Early History of the Eastern Nations, especially those mentioned in the Old Testament.

THE EAST INDIA HOUSE.—A Court of Proprietors was held on Wednesday, Mr. Mangles, M.P., in the chair. The chairman moved the granting of a pension of 1000*l.* a year to the son of the late Sir Henry Lawrence; but this was opposed by Mr. Jones, and a discussion ensued, ending in a unanimous agreement to grant the annuity. The chairman then read the report on the two India bills, both of which were condemned, especially Lord Derby's. The Directors advocate delay, conceiving that present legislation would be dangerous; but, should either of the bills be pushed forward, the Directors will endeavour to divest it of its objectionable features, and to secure the establishment of "a really independent Council," analogous to the Court of Directors. A short discussion followed the reading of the report, and the last measure was severely criticized. The debate was then adjourned to next Tuesday.

DELHI PROPHECIES.—I made the acquaintance of another personage at Delhi, for whom I had a very great liking and regard. This was Mirza Futeh Allee Shah Bahadoor, the heir apparent to the throne of Delhi. He was a very amiable and intelligent prince, and had an extraordinary thirst for knowledge. Amongst other things that he was curious to learn was the history of steam power, railroads, and the electric telegraph. For hours together he would encourage me—nay, importune me—to talk with him on these matters. A propos of this prince and his family. While I was at Delhi, the festival of the Fed came to pass, and there was an omen which was variously interpreted. The King—in other words, the Great Mogul—sacrifices a camel. The king kills (or used to kill) the camel with his own hand, by driving a spear into the breast of the animal. On the occasion to which I now refer, the King, being extremely old and feeble,

was assisted by two attendants, and, in attempting to drive the spear, it broke in two pieces. That was the omen. The friends of Mirza Futeh Allee Shah Bahadoor interpreted it prognosticating the King's death, and the speedy succession of the heir apparent to the throne. Others, however, said that it prognosticated the downfall of the King and his throne for ever. Mirza died about a year ago of an attack of cholera; and it may not be premature, perhaps, to say that the throne of the Great Mogul will not in future be recognized. There was another curious prophecy connected with the throne of Delhi, and current for many years in the Punjab. It was implicitly believed that the Sikh soldiery would one day or other, and before long, sack Delhi; and in 1845, when the Sikh army crossed our frontier, Delhi was its destination. This prophecy has, to some extent, been fulfilled. The Sikh soldiers have tasted of the plunder of Delhi. But who could ever have dreamed that their entry into the city of the Great Mogul would be in company with British soldiers? It is as though, and quite as incredible as if, some one had predicted in 1816 that in 1855 the Queen of England, a granddaughter of George III., would be a guest at the Tuileries of an Emperor of the French, and a nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte; and that such Queen would be led upon the arm of such Emperor to visit the tomb of the prisoner of St. Helena.—*Dickens's Household Words*.

MR. MECHI was on Wednesday unanimously elected an Alderman of the City of London, in the room of the late Alderman Farebrother.

THE TWO INDIA BILLS.—The directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce have adopted a petition to the House of Commons against both the India Bills. They approve the principle of transferring the Government of India to the Queen, but object to the Councils proposed by both measures—especially to that in the latter. They "respectfully suggest to your Hon. House that the affairs of India in this country should be conducted by a Minister and a Secretary for India, having seats in the House of Commons, the former to be a member of the Cabinet, and the latter not to be required to vacate his seat or office in the event of a change of Ministry; and that, in addition, an India Board should be created, consisting of four or more permanent secretaries, with salaries of not less than 2000*l.* per annum each, holding no patronage, and being disqualified for sitting in the House of Commons.

LORD NORMANBY'S REVIVAL.—Under this head, the *Times* quotes a letter from Lord Normanby to the *Constitutionnel*, intimating that he has enclosed one thousand francs to the subscription for M. Lamartine, alluding to himself as one of his "oldest friends, and one who has had particular opportunities of observing all that his energy did for the great cause of order, not only in France but throughout the entire world." We may here add that the literary and political admirers of M. Lamartine have been greatly pained at the position in which he is now placed with respect to the Emperor. In answer to some not very complimentary observations in the *Times*, Lord Normanby writes to that paper to say that his health is quite restored, and that his age is fourteen years less than that of the late Premier, and only two years more than that of Lord Derby.

THE MYSTERIES OF MASONRY.—When the novice is introduced into the conclave of the Freemasons, the Grand Master or his deputy looks very fierce at him, and draws his sword, making the novice look very melancholy, as he is not aware of having had time as yet for any profaneness, and fancies, therefore, that somebody must have been slandering him. Then the Grand Master or his deputy cites him to the bar, saying, "What is this you have in your pocket?" To which the novice replies, "A guinea!" "Anything more?" "Another guinea." Then replies the official person, in a voice of thunder, "Fork out." Of course to a man coming sword in hand few persons refuse to do that. This forms the first half of the mysteries; the second half, which is by much the more interesting, consists entirely of brandy.—*De Quincey*.

PROFESSOR NEWMAN AND THE GOVERNMENT PROSECUTIONS.—The following letter, addressed to us by a constant reader, proves that our 'faithful ally' has his admirers as well as his abusers:—"Sir,—However disposed to respect the phases of Professor Newman's faith-religious, it is impossible not to feel deeply humiliated at the perversion of moral faith that impels him boldly to ignore a nation's voice, and in morbid sympathy with factious and selfish treason, presumptuously to pronounce that nation's choice 'a treasonable usurper!' 'Interim scelus fides;' and if ever an occasion existed where oaths were 'more honoured in the breach than in the observance,' where the breach was duty, honour, virtue, as the observance would have been crime, such undeniably was the occasion promptly comprehended by the master-mind of Europe; and with lofty energy he promptly accepted to save a world from that anarchy, outrage, and bloodshed which the perverted moral faith of the Professor, and unfortunately of some other influential goose-quills in England, are doing their utmost to re-initiate.—Yours obediently, "L. L. D. "Cavendish Club, 6th April."

* Vide the Professor's letter to the Assassination Defence Committee.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE IN A CHURCH.—The Rev. J. Furnival, of Ottery, in the diocese of Exeter, recently invited the Rev. H. E. Head, rector of Fernton, to preach in his pulpit. The Rev. Mr. Head entertains evangelical views, and is the author of a work which has attained considerable popularity, entitled 'The Ultimate and Proximate Results of Redemption,' his belief being that Christ's sufferings will be found to issue in the complete success of the great work of redemption. Whilst occupying, in compliance with his invitation, Mr. Furnival's pulpit, Mr. Head preached from the text, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do," and he was propounding his views of the text when the Rev. Mr. Furnival ascended the pulpit stairs, and began to tug at the rev. preacher's gown, at the same time desiring him to desist, and expressing his disapproval of the views enunciated. Mr. Head has thus described the occurrence in a published letter:—"I was proceeding with my sermon on the text agreed upon, when Mr. Furnival assaulted me as I was standing in the pulpit, by pulling my gown violently and repeatedly, loudly declaring his dissent from what I was saying. I made no reply, but continued to preach till my voice was drowned by the disturbance made by Mr. Furnival, who pronounced the benediction and left the reading-desk for the purpose of causing the congregation to leave the church before my sermon was finished."

OUT AT LAST.—A curious circumstance is related in a Lyons journal. An old gentleman of some property of that city, M. Martin by name, was wounded in the side by a musket ball at the battle of Jena, and he had to be carried off the field. He was cured in about two months, but the ball could not be extracted. It, however, caused him no serious inconvenience, though at times he felt it move. A few days ago, a large boil arose on the side, and he at last applied to it a poultice. On removing the poultice on Saturday last, the ball, to his astonishment, fell out, after having been in his body for fifty-two years.

THE EASTER ENTERTAINMENTS.—Easter is changed in all things but the East wind—and that is constant ever. At one time, it was a grand season for the theatres and the theatre-goers; but now we have very few novelties to record. The new burlesque by Mr. Talford at the Haymarket, called *Pluto and Prosperpine*, is a success, not, we are happy to say, on account of the slang jokes, but because of the pretty scenery, the clever mechanical contrivances, and the good acting.—*The Caliph of Bagdad*, at the Adelphi, introduces some pretty singing and some pretty singers—notably, a Miss Roden, a young lady new to the stage, but giving promise of future successes. Mr. Paul Bedford brings an element of burly fun into the operetta, and the scenery and dresses are bright and elegant.—At the Princess's, the airy splendours and Mephistophelean grotesquerie of *Faust and Marguerite* entertained a large audience on Easter Monday; and, at the Olympic, though there was no change of performance, the house was overflowing.—There is little that is noteworthy to report from the other theatres; but we may mention that the various Dioramas and semi-educational institutes were well attended by the more sober class of pleasure-seekers, and that, among other attractions at the Crystal Palace, there was a Morris dance by eighteen professional performers, including the most celebrated expert clowns of London and the provinces—all dressed in the quaint, bright costume of the middle-ages.

MUSICAL CELEBRITIES.—The once celebrated Mdle. Clauss, now Madame Czaryady, is expected in London next month, from Paris. Herr Joachim, the precocious violinist, now concert-master at Hanover, will arrive in London in a few days. M. Winiawsky, a Polish violinist, said to be of extraordinary talent, will be here in May; and the Russian pianist, M. Rubinstein, will arrive at the end of this month. All these celebrities are engaged at the Musical Union.

SALMON FISHING.—We learn from the *Elgin Courier* that the river Spey has been in excellent fishing order for the last eight days, and anglers have had fair sport.

Frogs are being used as an article of food by some of the lower orders of Lancashire.

RETURN OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALISON FROM INDIA.—This courageous officer, Military Secretary to Sir Colin Campbell, is obliged to return to this country on sick leave, owing to his wounds having broken out again.

SHOCKING CASE.—A boy, ten years of age, who was committed on Saturday to the Dumfries prison for forty days for stealing six turnips, hung himself from an iron bar in his cell. When cut down, he was dead. From the loose way in which the handkerchief was tied to the bar and round the neck of the poor child, and the fact that the stool by which he had climbed up so as to fasten the handkerchief had fallen towards in place of from the wall, it is inferred that the boy had not intended to commit suicide, but to pretend doing so, with the object of being removed from his solitary cell to one in which he would find a companion, and that in this attempt the stool had slipped from below his feet and suffocation ensued.—*Dumfries Courier*.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 10th.

MR. HOLYOAKE has published a translation of the *Letter to the Parliament and the Press*, by Félix Pyat, Besson, and A. Talandier, with an admirable and pungent preface from his own pen. We quote the concluding lines:—

"It is not my wish to be prosecuted. It is my wish that the Government may reconsider the course they have commenced, and come to the conclusion that it is not wise to seek to suppress the publications they have indicted. This country is too free already for such a step to do aught but frustrate its own object. If they do not come to this conclusion, a campaign of such prosecutions will, as surely as in former days, compel its adoption. In any case I think it right publicly to declare my willingness to place myself on what I consider to be the side of public duty."

A STRANGE STORY FROM SUMATRA.

A singular story is told in a letter from the Hague of the 5th ult., published in the *Nord*, of Brussels. We here read:—"The Dutch war steamer *Merapi* has made a fresh expedition against some English filibusters, who had at first established themselves at Siak, in the island of Sumatra. They were afterwards driven out, but on the departure of the troops sent against them they established themselves in the island of Bankalis, where they fortified the village of Clapa Pati, hoisted the English flag, and levied contributions on the native fishermen for the support of their Malay and Chinese soldiers. The *Merapi* was again sent to the place, having on board the resident governor of Riour and a Dutch commissioner, and arrived there on the 18th of December." Negotiations ensued, but finally the Dutch troops landed, and found that the English had evacuated the place. The story requires further elucidation.

THE CONTINENT.

In the sitting of the Corps Législatif on Thursday, the budget of 1855 being definitively made up, was brought forward for confirmation, and the House, pursuant to its custom, was about to vote it, as a matter of course, when M. Emile Ollivier rose, and in a short but telling speech, demonstrated that the surplus of 394 millions for 1855 was obtained by a transparent juggle, and that in reality there was a deficit of 64 millions. The trick was achieved by putting down the ordinary expenses of the Minister at War under the head of extraordinary expenses, and in this way a large part of the ordinary budget was covered by loans, which were represented as being wanted only for extraordinary expenses. A great many deputies said privately that M. Ollivier was quite right; but, on a division, he was supported only by the three deputies who, with himself, constitute the small opposition team—M. Darimon, member for Paris, Dr. Henon, of Lyons, and M. Curé, of Bordeaux.—*Daily News* (this day).

The Spanish Government proposes to reply categorically to the interpellation relative to the alleged dynastic fusion; it will declare that it is resolved to repudiate any combination contrary to the rights of Queen Isabella II.

The Queen of Holland and her son, the Prince Alexander (aged six years), are expected at the Tuileries on May 7. After a short stay in the Pavillon Marsan, they will go to Fontainebleau.

The Countess de Montijo, mother of the Empress, arrived in Paris on Wednesday, and alighted at the Hotel d'Albe, in the Champs Elysées. A Madrid letter says that she left very suddenly, and countermanded a ball at her house, for which cards were out.

Orsini's children left Paris on Thursday morning for London.

M. Havin, the editor of the *Siecle*, is said to have had an interview with the Emperor, who freely discussed the limits of freedom of public comment which he would tolerate.

THE LATE ASSASSINATION AT PORTSMOUTH.—Edwin Hart, the brother of Daniel Hart, or Howard, recently shot dead at Portsmouth, at his own door, has been arrested under suspicion of being concerned in the act.

THE CHEVALIER NEUKOMM, at one time well known in England as a musical composer, has just died at Paris, aged eighty. He was a member of the Legion of Honour and several learned societies.

TRIAL OF LANI.—The trial of Giovanni Lani, for the murder of Héloïse Thaubin, the foreign courtesan, in Arundel-court, Haymarket, commenced at the Central Criminal Court before Mr. Justice Crompton on Thursday, and was concluded yesterday. On the second day, Mr. Atkinson, for the defence, pointed out some discrepancies in the evidence, and urged that the case had not been fully made out, or that, at the worst, it could not be more than manslaughter. The jury, however, found the prisoner guilty of murder, and the judge passed sentence of death. He observed that he was a

minor, hoping thus to escape the extreme penalty; but he was told that this fact availed him nothing.

TRIAL OF BERNARD.—The special commission for trying Bernard on the charge of being accessory to the murders committed in Paris on the 14th of January, was opened yesterday by Lord Campbell, who explained the bearings of the law, and went over the facts of the case. He seemed slightly to indicate an opinion on his own part that there is sufficient *prima facie* evidence of Bernard's guilt; but he mentioned that four Judges of her Majesty's superior courts will be present at the trial, and that, if necessary, either before or after sentence, those Judges will have the power of taking the opinion of all the fifteen Judges on any doubtful question of law which may arise. The Grand Jury having returned a true bill, the trial will take place on Monday; and Lord Campbell hoped the press would not discuss the questions at issue during the investigation.

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—The colony of Victoria has made, through the Legislative Assembly, the noble donation of 25,000*l.* to the Indian Relief Fund.

THE LOSS OF THE AVA.—A telegram has been received by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, reporting that, when the *Candia* passed Ceylon, nearly the whole of the specie and mails had been recovered from the wreck of the *Ava*.

SNOW-STORM.—There has been a very heavy snow-storm in the north, between Manchester and Sheffield. The railway lines have been temporarily blocked up, and the drifts are some feet deep. So heavy a fall of snow so late in the season is almost unparalleled.

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 CAGLIARI CASE.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—It would no doubt be altogether unreasonable to expect that the law advisers of the Crown should be possessed of any very large or precise amount of geographical knowledge, or that in any question of international law such a mere schoolboy matter as the geography of the case should be considered at all. Still, in the case of a suspected wilful fire, a robbery, or murder, it is common enough to have maps, plans, and models of the premises and grounds; but they are only to aid the jury in considering the facts. The law advisers of the Crown must be held to be above such vulgar helps. They have to do with the law alone, and the less lucid and the more full of slippery suggestions their opinions are, the more learned and diplomatic they are considered. In international matters the very perfection of an opinion on the part of the advisers of the Crown is that it shall be learned, lengthy, involved enough to bewilder the public, and both-sided enough to give any violator of international right an opportunity of driving a coach and six through it, and escaping unpunished from even the most deliberately intended national insult. The case of the Cagliari from the first—the right or wrong of the imprisonment of the engineers, Watt and Park—was a question of fact requiring no refinement of argument, and having no nice points of international law mixed up with it. The whole question that needed settlement from first to last, has been, where was the Cagliari when she was captured? If on the high seas, her seizure was a flagrant violation of the law of nations, to be answered for to Sardinia, so far as that particular steamer was concerned, and to the whole maritime world as a robbery upon the high seas. If the vessel were not—and it is now admitted she was not—in the Neapolitan waters, then the capture and detention of Watt and Park was as complete a violation of National Law, as thorough an insult to England, as if those men had been carried off from a workshop on our own shores. Surely the first business of the law advisers of the Crown, before they turned to their books at all, was to have asked where was the Cagliari captured; upon that point a direct answer should have been required at once. Doubtless there would have been abundant shuffling, equivocation, and even lying on the part of King Bomba, but, spite of all evasion and circumlocution, it would have been possible to have got the point settled—an English ship of war in the Bay, an examination, face to face, of Watt and Park with the captor of the vessel, would have settled the matter in half an hour—there was no need two Englishmen should be left for nine months to the tender mercies of a Neapolitan prison, to get at the single point—where was the Cagliari captured?

If to have settled that matter-of-fact from the be-

ginning was not the province of the law advisers of the Crown, then by all means let there forthwith be appointed a geographical adviser, a member of the Cabinet if need be, who shall save Englishmen from yards of legal opinion, and from the dungeons of crowned ruffians, who may dare, presuming on their own littleness, to lay hands on Englishmen. Now, however, there is an end of doubt. We know the Cagliari was not taken in the Neapolitan waters.

We know that the ingenious suggestion set up by our late Attorney-General, by way of excuse for King Bomba—that the engineers surrendered themselves—had no foundation.

We know that these two Englishmen were subject to grievous insults and hardships in prison.

We know that the King and his advisers knew throughout that the ship had been seized wrongfully, and that these two Englishmen were imprisoned wrongfully. No doubt the lingering over legal opinions, the evasive answers in Parliament, the polite attempts of diplomacy in the matter were chuckled over in the Neapolitan palace. Had not King Bomba two Englishmen in his dungeons?—did not the whole world know it?—and were they not left in his power, and the one point which must have set them free at once—that the Cagliari was seized in the open sea and not in the Neapolitan waters—overlooked?

Now, however, it is to be hoped there may be no more sham in the matter—no setting up the pretence that perhaps King Bomba and his precious public prosecutor were ignorant of the fact of which the officer's report must at once have informed them—that the Cagliari was taken on the high seas. The question now is how to deal with this petty tyrant—this king of every cruelty and of every vice. Neither the existing ministry nor any other will venture to counsel mild terms. We have to stand by Sardinia in her demands as to the vessel, and for our own countrymen we have to demand complete redress. Let us hear nothing of mere compensation; the question is not how much the men might have earned had they been at liberty during the nine months lingered out in the Neapolitan dungeons, nor is it one of a price to be paid for anxiety, and suffering, and shattered health. It is a question of a lesson to this king—a lesson for the world to take note of—a proclamation, in substantial shape, that Englishmen, wherever they may set foot, be they rich or poor, prince or peasant, travellers for pleasure, or the engineers and stokers of steamboats, shall be treated with respect, even by such crowned marvels of mightiness as this Bomba, the meanest, most cowardly, and cruel of existing monarchs.

Fortunately Bomba is not rich, and he is fond of money. Let him be compelled to pay one hundred thousand pounds for his luxury of having seized and imprisoned the two Englishmen. Let him be compelled to make the payment within ten days. That done, Englishmen would pass more easily everywhere abroad, and King Bomba would think twice before he ventured either to obstruct or lay hands on one again.

Nor is this all. As these two Englishmen have been shut up in a Neapolitan prison, and the course of justice in the dominions of King Bomba is so slow, and as possibly other Englishmen may come to be shut up, it would not be amiss to force upon King Bomba a fitting measure of prison reform, and to see it carried out in full. His Majesty of Naples has been allowed too long to outrage humanity with impunity; and no teacher will ever so thoroughly tame and cure him as the big guns of an English man-of-war levelled at his palace. He will pay then, apologize then, reform then—never else.

Yours,

A HATER OF INSOLENCE,
WHETHER IN THE MUD OR ON A THRONE.

TURKEY AND CHINA.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I do not object to the disgust expressed by Lord Elgin at the horrible cruelties which the Chinese are known to perpetrate upon the criminals confined in their prisons.

It is, however, only just that your readers should be informed that in such atrocious conduct they do not excel, if they even equal, our allies the Turks. Every one who has been in Turkey knows that the prisons in that country resemble a certain place upon earth.

Now we have lately expended one hundred millions of money and twenty thousand invaluable British lives in defending Turkey; and I cannot, therefore, admit that the cruelties practised by the Chinese give us more 'right to interfere' with that nation than with the odious acts of the Turks. In Turkey the cruelties are still more infamous, because in the majority of cases they are practised on the Christians merely on account of their religion. In China all religions meet with extreme toleration.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
A TRAVELLER.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD

THE MINISTRY AND THE INDIA BILL.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH'S India Bill is already in ruins. It has been the mark of hostile criticism from every side, and the Premier himself is avowedly preparing for a surrender. Few instances are on record of a legislative proposal so immediately and unambiguously rejected by public opinion. But, as Lord DERBY declares, the great object in view stands beyond the scope of party conflict. We have no desire to assist Lord PALMERSTON in rushing through the gap created by Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S failure. The work in which all public men of public spirit are disposed to combine is the establishment of an improved administrative power in and for India, with commensurate responsibility, clearly defined functions, and a supreme general direction, personal or corporate, at home. If by referring to a select committee the two schemes now before Parliament the views of leading statesmen can be simplified without raising a Cabinet question, the Liberal party has no interest whatever in the instant deposition of Lord DERBY. The ELLENBOROUGH Bill is clearly impossible; and to save India from an experiment so wild, wanton, and precipitate, is not faction but public policy. By the Court of Directors, Lord PALMERSTON'S project is reported as less empirical and fallacious; both plans are naturally repugnant to the East India Company; but, since the necessity for legislation has been admitted, it would be the merest waste of reasoning to treat the Government of India as one that can long remain upon its existing basis. There must be change. That is a settled point. The remaining question is one of form and principle, and here the analysis of the two bills by the Court of Directors is practically valuable. Into the details of the argument we need not enter, as we last week recapitulated the principal objections stated in the report to be discussed at the India House next Tuesday.

We now wish to deal with a part of the subject altogether neglected in Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S Bill and in the Report of the Directors. It is that which concerns the reorganization of the Indian army, and, at the risk of repetition, we will first resume the discussion at the point at which we left it last week. The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated, in his speech on proposing the new India Bill, that it was not in contemplation at present to make any change in the constitution of the British-Indian army beyond "that which necessarily results from the general scope of the bill." In other words, Lord ELLENBOROUGH asks for full powers to constitute himself an Asiatic Horse Guards Minister as well as a Secretary of State; and

when his pretensions take this lofty range, we naturally ask, what are his known opinions? They are, as we have said, in favour of the military occupation of India by a British force, and it is even imagined that the President of the Board of Control acquiesces in the ignoble scheme of so arming the Sepoys that they might at any moment be overpowered at long range by their European comrades. Now, we will not prejudice Lord ELLENBOROUGH, but we may presume to insist upon an explicit declaration of Indian military policy from the statesman who is a candidate for despotic authority over the vast realm of British India. It might be too late, when the bill had passed, to prevent him from dealing in scientific remodellings and from treating his Mohammedan regiments in the spirit of the Somnath proclamation. Is India to be coerced by brute force or developed by moral force? If the former, then what man acquainted with the character of the various native populations will need to have the process described or the catastrophe predicted? To disarm India is to degrade it, and to degrade it is to lose it. We have a right to question Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S policy when we remember that he has recently proposed a system by which eighty thousand Englishmen would attempt to coerce, by mere muscular and mechanical superiority, a hundred and thirty millions of Asiatics, as strong and, in a tropical climate, more enduring than the British soldier—a project for setting a bull-dog to watch an elephant. But who is to disarm the people of India, and reduce Bengal, Bombay, Madras, the North-West Provinces, and the Punjab to a perpetual state of siege? Who is to search the houses, destroy the manufacture, and prohibit the importation of arms throughout India? Who is to ransack the mystery of its jungles, or even live among its vast underwoods during the unhealthy season? Would the revenue bear the cost of a gigantic native police, simultaneously with an army of eighty thousand British troops, in camps and depôts? We have no doubt that it will be essential to keep the Indian arsenals in full efficiency, to maintain powerful European garrisons in the fortified places, to brigade the European army at commanding points, to open strategic lines of road and railway, and otherwise to assume more completely the character of a dominant power. But to force a curb into the mouths of a hundred and thirty millions, hot-blooded and vindictive, is less to establish supremacy than to challenge insurrection.

But, if a British army of eighty thousand men could be maintained, would it be adequate to its office? If disseminated throughout the empire, it would infallibly be decimated by the climate; its scattered power would be next to useless in an emergency, and the principle of permanent detachment would risk its total demoralization. If concentrated, who is to hold the thousands of miles of intervening country? Not native police certainly. Native police are simply native soldiers without their best military qualities, and, so far from protecting the people, would become their most intolerable tyrants. By introducing the principle of military occupation, we introduce the principle of hatred between races; we turn adrift the military classes of India, and, in the event of a European war, we find our resources drained in Europe and drained in Asia at one and the same time. Lastly—the contingency is remote, but possible—by teaching the soldier despotism in Asia, we may teach him that despotism is practicable in England. We create an army of Zouaves and Zephyrs, and, however solidly fortified may be our constitutional liberties, there is

no necessity to introduce the Algerian system into this country. Let us of course accept the facts as they stand; admit our Bengal native army to be dissolved, our Bombay army to be tainted, our Madras army to be still sound although subjected to pernicious centralizing regulations, but let us act upon the principle of restoration with as little convulsion as possible, consistently with the assertion of our absolute rule. With this aim the Bengal native army may gradually be reorganized upon that principle which has preserved, through every trial, the loyalty and efficiency of the Sindhi horse, composed as it is of agriculturists from the heart of the revolted districts. A similar reform, so far as it is desirable, may be commenced upon the same foundation in the Presidency of Bombay, while in the remaining territories an identical principle may be kept in view, although acted upon slowly and with the utmost deliberation, as one opportunity after another arises. The native army being thus re-established, the European force may be massed at healthy stations in the immediate vicinity of swift and suitable facilities for transport. Thus systematized, the British muscular force is extant but not paraded. If required, five thousand men, held properly in hand, accustomed to work together, fully equipped, supplied, and provided with means of carriage, would be thrown with more effect upon any threatened point than any fragment from an army of eighty thousand men sprinkled over the empire, and whose presence in sole and palpable military occupation had impressed upon the subjected a consciousness of inferiority and degradation. We have no right to keep up a standing menace against the entire population of India. If we cannot govern by other right than that of loaded muzzles and matches lighted, we have no claim to govern at all.

The ELLENBOROUGH India Bill leaves the great military question altogether unsettled, and in this respect, as in most others, it stands condemned upon its merits, if not to absolute rejection, at least to the threshing process of a Select Committee.

OUR RELATIONS WITH NAPLES.

THE attempt to break off diplomatic relations with an independent state must necessarily be a failure. We have for several months had no representative at the court of Naples, and the sufferers from this have been, not the Neapolitan authorities, but our own countrymen. The King of Naples, after all, has compelled us to accredit an irregular representative at his court, and the question now arises, how far is the present dispute to be carried. Count Cavour, who has acted throughout with admirable consistency and vigour, and who took from the first a more correct view of the Cagliari case than the law officers of the British Crown, has distinctly demanded "the concurrence and, if need be, the co-operation of the British Government to bring this important affair to a conclusion." Lord Malmesbury replies that he will consider the matter, but that Sir James Hudson had misunderstood his instructions. It appears, however, that Sir James Hudson had not misunderstood his instructions, but had neglected his duty, and that Mr. Erskine, diplomatic secretary at Turin, had, of his own volition, hit upon the very statement which Lord Clarendon should have forwarded to Count Cavour in January last, or earlier. There is no excuse for Mr. Erskine, and still less for Sir James Hudson; but what Mr. Erskine wrote without authority Lord Malmesbury is now bound to write as Foreign Minister of England. There is no longer any reasonable doubt that the Cagliari was illegally captured, that two British subjects have suffered false imprisonment, and that a claim to indemnification has been established. The responsibility of enforcing this claim lies with the British and Piedmontese Governments jointly; the one as interested in the steamer Cagliari, captured as a pirate upon the high seas, and condemned in violation of international law, the other as interested in the rights of two Englishmen who have

been subjected to illegal detention, accompanied by every circumstance of outrage and brutality. After the decisive opinions pronounced by the Piedmontese jurists, and by Dr. Phillimore and Dr. Twiss in England, fortified as they have been by elaborate arguments and quotations of authority, the question, as one of international law, appears beyond dispute. What then are the rights of the Piedmontese Government? Undoubtedly that the Cagliari should be restored, with ample compensation for the pecuniary loss inflicted upon her owners, and that her captain and crew should be liberated with indemnities. There is no limit to the gravity of this quarrel should the Neapolitan Cabinet persist in its contumacy, which is scarcely probable. With regard to Great Britain, nothing less will be satisfactory than the unconditional release of Watt and Park, not only from the indictments hanging over them, but from all slur whatever, and their thorough compensation for ten months' false imprisonment, for a series of inhuman severities approaching to torture, and for the injury to their health and fortunes. That they have been set free, the one under something like a pardon, the other under a royal release from impeachment, is no bar to an action for damages. If the Government of Naples will not carry the case into the Courts of International Law, and abide by the plain interpretation of a code acknowledged by all civilized powers, the responsibility becomes its own, and the refusal, as Sir Richard Bethell has laid down, "must be followed by hostilities." Lord Derby's Government has committed itself to this view in the event of the illegality of the Cagliari seizure being established to its satisfaction. Force, said the Minister, would be employed, if necessary, to effect the liberation of Watt and Park. But if it was justifiable to wrest Watt and Park by force out of their captors' hands, it is justifiable to obtain, by force, reasonable compensation for their false imprisonment. For a less offence Greece was blockaded; for an offence not more aggravated we have bombarded Canton; it is high time that a similar rule should be applied to Naples. There is no necessity for precipitation or bluster. If Lord Malmesbury be the diplomatist his friends describe, he has simply to lay the British claims before the Neapolitan Government; to follow them, if rejected, by an ultimatum, and to declare, by a practical demonstration, that justice will be enforced at any hazard. No section of public men in England—not even the professed advocates of peace—could protest against the employment of a British squadron for the purpose of indemnifying two British subjects who have been infamously and illegally maltreated by a Government deliberately malignant. Naples does not deserve to be ranked as a European power, but upon the admitted principle that it is cowardly on the part of a cripple to strike a strong man, it is ignominious on King Ferdinand's part to rely upon his naval and military mediocrity, especially when it is palpable that he leans upon a first class empire in his rear. The Piedmontese Government, at all events, is not disposed to abandon its right over the Cagliari, and Count Cavour will probably persist in regarding it as an international question, to be settled, in the last extreme, by the last resort. Our own claims are not less indefeasible than those of Piedmont, and we trust that the foreign policy of St. James's will at least be maintained upon a moral equality with that of Turin.

THE BANQUET DEBATE.

FOLLOWING the usage of great actors, Lord Derby, his own theatre being closed for a while, has appeared, for 'one night only,' at the civic theatre, by the Bank. Great attraction! Real Banquet! Legitimate success! Under the Management of the Lord Mayor. No money returned. Vivat Regina!

An Easter banquet given at the Mansion House is an institution as firmly founded as the Blackwall whitebait dinner, or as the Easter adjournment itself; so that, in general, it is nothing extraordinary if the Ministry of the day finds itself with its legs under the mahogany of the Lord Mayor of the year. But in the present instance there are some incidents of a remarkable kind. The Ministerial company has continued, in the Egyptian Hall of their proud entertainer, the performances temporarily suspended in the Hall of St. Stephens. Lord Derby has, in fact, inaugurated a supplemental Parliamentary sitting, down in the City, where there are really a good many conveniences at hand for doing the thing comfortably.

To say nothing of the banquet, it is no doubt a

treat for Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, even for one night, to get up and say whatever they please without a thought of the Opposition, but with the certainty of applauding cheers. To Mr. Disraeli such an occasion must, without doubt, be quite exhilarating. With what spirit he can deal with deficient revenue, or in fact with anything that Chancellors of Exchequer find it difficult to deal with, sure of no opposition Mr. Williams or finely criticizing Mr. Gladstone. The wonder is that, with such manifold and manifest advantages at command, Ministers should not have done more on Monday night last. Still their performance was of a marked character, and indicated what may be expected of them when they are more familiar with their new stage and novel audience.

The curtain was sent up with the performance of the Duke of Cambridge in the toast to the Army and Navy. The Duke played his part as well as he could have played it in his own House, and his point about the keeping up of the efficiency of the army without extravagant expenditure brought down a round of applause. After the Duke of Northumberland had delivered his speech about the Navy, came the performance of Lord Derby.

In moving terms he gave a description of the toils, the anxieties, the sacrifices of a Minister's life, touching the hearts of all his audience by his glance at other ills to which great Ministers are subject—"the obloquy and misrepresentations of political opponents, and sometimes the dissatisfaction of disappointed friends." And then he told of the great Indian bill which, upon the last night of late sitting of Parliament, he had by deputy presented to the House of Commons. Gracefully he recounted in brief the rise of that wonderful empire of ours in the East, its history to the present time, the story of its progress, with high laudation of the energy, ability, and vigour of the men who had "established a permanent influence over a population exceeding by tenfold that of their native country, and over dominions bearing a still larger proportion to the narrow circumference of these little islands." Then he came to the heart of his speech—the change of government demanded for this wonderful empire, and to the bill by which the change is to be wrought. Most modestly he spoke of his bill; most modestly he set forth the difficulties inherent in the subject, those that were accidental to it; and modestly he said, "I think he would be a bold, not to say a presumptuous Minister, who could hope by himself, or with the aid of his colleagues, with the notice of a few days or even a few weeks, to strike out a scheme which would not be liable to grave objections, or which in its course would not require serious modifications." Perfect in his part, Lord Derby now prepared to make his grand point. Such as he had described it, was the Indian Bill; designedly had it been placed before Parliament and before the country on the last night of the sitting, when there was neither time nor opportunity for more than its bare reception; now he would tell Parliament and the country—when none were by to say him nay—that the only wish of himself and his Cabinet was to evoke discussion upon the subject of the measure, to invite criticism, suggestions, every assistance in fact from Parliament and the country, to make it what he had not the presumption to hope it would be found to be, good for anything. One thing alone he deprecated: that a question dealing with such mighty interests should be made "the sport of political parties, or the battlefield of rival disputants."

Could Lord Derby have said all this half so much at his ease upon his own stage in Westminster? Clearly the City theatre is an important Parliamentary adjunct, in the hands of really first-rate actors. Mr. Disraeli showed himself quite alive to its advantages over the old House. His budget—his deficiency—here he could manipulate free-tongued and free-handed. And when the Lord Mayor said that new taxes were the thing to meet the little difficulty in the Exchequer, Mr. Disraeli had his bon mot ready at the cue, and brought down the house right gaily. Nowhere could he more at his ease have announced his intention to take that last step in a Chancellor of the Exchequer's forlorn hope—the putting on of new taxes. In the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House he is sure of his round of applause; in the other place the applause is extremely doubtful under such provocation.

The performance, upon the whole, may be considered to have gone off extremely well. As for the manager, the advent of the chief actor in the evening's entertainment was regarded by him as a piece of special good fortune, the result of an inter-

position of Providence, in fact. It had always been his prayer, he said, that when he became the head of the City of London he might have the honour of entertaining the Earl of Derby as Prime Minister of England, and he was thankful that his prayer had been answered. Of course there is no objection to the Lord Mayor conceiving himself to be favoured by Providence in this way; on the contrary, we think that people generally will look upon him as a very happily constituted man to find such large contentedness in favour so moderate. There is one point, however, upon which some people may be at issue with him; whether he has the right to let the Mansion House, even for 'one night only,' for such extra-parliamentary performances as that of Monday evening last—to turn the Festive Egyptian Hall into a temporary substitute for the shut up Theatre Royal, St. Stephens.

THE FRENCH EMPIRE IN EUROPE.

IT is evident that the French Government is now endeavouring to recover the ground which it has lost both abroad and at home within the last three or four months. The diminution of its influence and prestige is a fact patent to all. The first symptom was the indefinite adjournment of the long-talked-of Conferences of Paris, at which every one foresaw that Napoleon III. could not play over again the part he sustained—chiefly in consequence of England's self-abnegation, her preference of the substance before the shadow—of arbiter of Europe. Most of the points which remained for debate would have been decided in direct opposition to the wishes or the prejudices of France. Much was said at the beginning of the year about the means by which this check, rather to the personal vanity than to the policy of a parvenu sovereign, was to be brought about; and those who did not see that the whole current of public opinion in Europe had changed its direction, imagined that a positive coalition, headed by England, had been formed.

When the attempt of the 14th took place, for a moment it was supposed that sympathy, of a somewhat blind and unreasoning kind, would give back to France what conviction had taken from it. A few days, nay a few hours, showed how great was this mistake. No better proof could have been given that the ascendancy of the Empire was decidedly at an end than that the very circumstance which every one believed would do it good turned out at once to be the cause of the heaviest damage it ever received. It is true that the French Government began immediately, with perverse ingenuity, to heap fault upon fault, to frighten its friends and exasperate its enemies. But what else could it do? The glare of Orsini's grenades enlightened it as to its true position. It saw for the first time that everybody in Europe looked upon it merely as an expedient—that if few wished for its immediate destruction, all were sure it would be succeeded by something totally different. For a year or two it had been endeavouring to imitate the demeanour of a regular government. But the truth was now revealed to it. As a dictatorship it began, as a dictatorship it must continue. Acts of violence were dangerous, but consistent; acts of weakness would have been more dangerous still. The only choice was between compression, which must lead to explosion, and allowing the explosion to take place at once. There may have been a middle path; but was it not obstructed? Must not the Emperor have not only changed his nature but obliterated the past, in order to be able to concede the demands of liberal France? The caresses of a tiger fill us with dismay as great as its attack; if it pulls out its claws we kill it.

England, Belgium, Switzerland, and Piedmont were suddenly and simultaneously subjected to imperial pressure, which in no one case has as yet produced any marked results. In nearly all cases, however, there has been hesitation. Habits of condescension formed during several years are not easily laid aside. Still, the first campaign of the Emperor against the liberties and institutions of his neighbours has not been successful. It was undertaken too roughly, too imperiously, and without sufficient preparation. But it is to be observed that he has not yet withdrawn any of his demands even upon England. His attack, like that of the imperial columns on our squares at Waterloo, was impetuous, dashing, almost overwhelming. Yet it has been repelled, and we have been able to re-form in something like order. Are we prepared to resist another charge?

Facts which have recently oozed out prove that France is now making great military and naval pro-

parations. There is no doubt about it. Alarmists have even gone so far as to predict a piratical attack on our shores. Though this may not be impossible at a future time, the armaments of France have now another and more direct meaning. She has been taunted with her financial embarrassments, and has been almost told that she cannot draw the sword because she has not the money to buy it. She imagines that the conviction of her incapacity and unwillingness to engage in a general European war has had much to do with the non-success of her recent diplomatic attempts. At least, this is said to be the personal opinion of the Emperor. Hence, in spite of the remonstrances of his Finance Minister, who takes a less cheerful view of the resources of the country, he is resolved that all future despatches shall be backed by an unmistakable display of force. There is but one way in which these inducements to compliance can be met unless we mean to comply. The system of counterbalancing armies by armies and fleets by fleets is a ruinous one, it is true, but the choice may not be left to us.

Belgium has voted a law which had been prepared beforehand, and has made no concession in that particular save voting in a hurry. Its police, however, has been troublesome to the refugees; and its representatives have sometimes refused to *viser* the passports of persons ordered into exile. Condemnations of unnecessary severity, which we are expected to imitate, have been pronounced on the authors of articles in newspapers. The peculiar position of Belgium, which always appears as a French province in the Bonapartist secret map, accounts for this weakness.

Switzerland has consented to displace or expel many refugees; and takes its stand on a formal question as to the increase of French consuls. Here the resistance to foreign exigencies has, therefore, no grand or striking character. We are very far from the national movement against the Prussian pretensions on Neuchâtel.

Piedmont still holds good. Its juries have been conscientious, and have acquitted journals accused of intangible offences. The destruction of the jury system has therefore been demanded. As yet, everything seems to foretell that this demand will not be complied with. At any rate, there has been a *bonne* *fidé* resistance. The report of the commission appointed to examine the law proposed by Count Cavour is a veritable manifesto against the right of one State, however powerful, to interfere in the internal legislation of another. If this right were allowed we should soon have a sort of secret universal empire. The true protest against it should come from England and Piedmont.

We cannot say we believe that our present Government is inclined to take a proper attitude in this affair. On the contrary, it seems purposely to divert public attention from the danger of Piedmont being reduced to a province of France to the quarrel about the Cagliari. Important questions of international law are no doubt involved in that quarrel; but after all it is still more important to prevent France from absorbing the Sardinian States. We regret to perceive that, acting under we know not what influence, M. de Cavour is supporting the Bonapartist pretensions with something like passion; and that the task of defending the independence of the country is left to the combined oppositions, to Liberals and to Austrian partisans. Is it true that this is because England declines to use her influence on behalf of Piedmont, and after refusing for a time to legislate under foreign dictation, cares not how far other States may be humiliated?

Not only is this said, but it is also asserted that Lord Malmesbury will be glad to see the example set. As is well known, the French papers have never ceased to affirm that in case M. Simon Bernard be acquitted, the English law will be proved defective, and some change must take place. They never reflect that if we were to relegate every time an accused person is declared not guilty, we should have work for a dozen Parliaments. The object of the French Government is to obtain something like 'satisfaction'—what for it is difficult to say. If we condemn Bernard we escape from the necessity of altering the law. In order to maintain a great right without danger to ourselves, shall we do a little wrong? That is a difficult question, unless we reject the doctrine of expedients. Meanwhile, as we have said, the French Emperor is preparing to 'have his revenge' for the baffling he has received in the last diplomatic game. We do not think that courtesy ought to prevent us from playing our cards as well as we can.

INFLUENCE OF BUCKLE ON THE POSITION OF WOMEN.

A CORRESPONDENT calls in question one passage of our recent commentary on Mr. Buckle's lecture. "Mr. Buckle having asserted," he says, "that, in the state of society exhibited by Plato and his contemporaries, the influence of women was less than in the more barbarous period depicted by Homer, you ask, 'What evidence have we of this alleged decline of the influence of woman?' and you proceed to urge that if we turn from the exceptional records of history to the more consistent writings of the poets, we shall learn something very different. Now, one of the honours gained at Oxford by the distinguished man who has just been elevated to the Chair of Modern History, was the prize for a Latin essay, the subject being 'The Condition of Women among the ancient Greeks.' In this essay the author describes the condition of women in the Homeric age, in Sparta and in Athens; and, from the very materials which you accuse Mr. Buckle of neglecting, namely, the writings of the poets, arrives at the same conclusion as Mr. Buckle has done." And our correspondent marks for us various passages in the essay which go to establish his position.

They show mainly two things: that women were excluded from the public life of men in Athens and Sparta, and at the same time that men of the upper classes lived so completely in public life, that the two customs amount to a separation of the sexes. Women were placed under a condition of domestic slavery not dissimilar from that of the East in more modern days. One ground of exclusion, in Sparta especially, was that the intrusion of women would disturb public counsel and studies and interfere with the exercise of arms, and the accomplished author remarks that, as women thus decline, the men who were seeking the exclusive culture of masculine virtues, themselves degenerated into masculine vices.

We are not in controversy with our correspondent or with Mr. Goldwin Smith; simply, we will observe that the portion of history now in question was much more limited than that to which Mr. Buckle referred. He spoke of the classic times of Greece and Rome; but we believe that with reference to the entire period, both of Greece and Rome, the lecturer, the essayist, and our correspondent have all been induced to exaggerate the force of the evidence which is before them. They are arguing by synecdoche.

We have yet to learn for what period the peculiar institutions and their effects lasted. We know that long before, throughout the East, the feminine influence was powerful and extensive. The earliest record that we have, the Bible, is filled with examples. The literature of Greece indirectly gives us evidence, from the Trojan war to Pericles, that the influence which is inherent in the race had not been extinguished. 'The system' unquestionably was bad; but it does not at all follow that the whole of society really succumbed to the system.

We, of all people, ought to have great reason for entertaining this doubt; let us remember that the literature which comes down to us is exceedingly partial; we do not have it corrected by the copious controversy which, in our own day, is poured forth upon every detail; and if we were to judge from the writings of those who might be most willing to set themselves up as historians and teachers at the present day, we should have very imperfect and misleading notions with regard to our own society. Let us suppose Macaulay's New Zealander endeavouring, at some future age, to ascertain the position of women in England—where will he find it? He would learn that she was excluded from the Senate; that she could not be seen in the Chamber representing the people; that in order to attain the slightest glimpse of the representative men at their duty she must creep into the 'ventilator,' and look surreptitiously through holes in the roof. He would find her excluded from all professions, not merely by choice but by their laws. If, in some few families of the Peerage, a female succession prevails, the Peeress is still excluded from the Chamber to which her order belongs, and she exercises none of the rights of her station, save and except the enjoyment of the property and the wearing of an ornamental title. The student would discover that in some few particulars the *seme sole* may possess or acquire a few of the rights of a single man, but very precariously and doubtfully. Woman, in fact, is excluded from the boasted institutions of England. Didactic writers praising our institutions would tell the New Zealand inquirer that the

moral condition of our country was the more admirable from this exclusion; that "the proper place of woman is in the household," and so forth. In many respects English society resembles, in its broader traits, the society to which we are referred by our correspondent. The wife of a very numerous class is a domestic drudge, whose proper place is home. She has no business at public amusements, in the vestry, in the House of Commons. If she goes to church, it is not to take part in the office, but only to listen humbly. And if the lord and master seeks relief from the tedium and restraint of a home thus governed, it is still in the salon of some Aspasia. Such is the decline of female influence on civilization among the British!

If the New Zealander should desire to correct the information thus derived from the study of our institutes and didactics, he would find it in the more trivial departments of the newspapers, and in the poetry and fiction of the day. It is there that he will learn how large an influence woman exercises over English life, not only in its domestic sphere, but in literature, in professional advancement, and even in politics. He would naturally observe that when a female ascends the English throne, she does so with some diminution of privilege, and bearing even an inferior title,—a circumstance which might lead him to define the feminine influence narrowly and unjustly. For if he were to study again the more trivial literature and indirect evidence of the day, he would find that no monarch whom this country has possessed, for many a reign, has exercised one-tenth of the influence on the politics or social state of the country that Queen Victoria has created—not the first female sovereign whose reign has been marked by the same kind of elevating ascendancy. The unrecognized exceeds the recognized. 'The system' is modified, in some cases submerged, by the customary deviations from the system; and the didactic inquiry would result in false conclusions from the narrowness of its scope.

There is one broad fact to corroborate our conjecture as to the unrecorded influence of women in the classic time of Greece. It is not probable that amongst a nation habitually despising feminine influence, Olympus should have been discovered, with its extensive female society, a Parnassus imagined with a population more than half female, the woods and streams peopled with feminine creations far more beautiful than the male frequenters of those haunts. It is difficult to assign exact dates to the chronology of Olympian development; the whole complicated fable, no doubt, grew up by degrees, and comes to us with Roman as well as semi-modern additions; but the very idea is one which would have been alien to a barbaric mind unconscious of female influence. If Apollo was the sovereign ruler of art and light, he was assisted by a council of the nine Muses. Prudence itself is impersonated in Pallas. And, we repeat, from Homer to Ovid, the history of the poets is filled with instances not only of the influence that women exercised upon life, but of the beautiful and elevating influence which they exercised. But, we say, we are less in controversy with our correspondent and Mr. H. T. Buckle than they are with us. We admit their evidence, though they overlook ours. Authentic history is not always the most accurate or complete; no one ought to know that better than Mr. Buckle. We all know how near to the buckle is embroidered the profound maxim 'Honi soit qui mal y pense;' but historical investigation has only thrown obscurity upon the origin of that most illustrious and chivalrous order. Inquirers have ventured to assert that the story of Edward and the Countess of Salisbury is apocryphal: as well say that the spirit of the motto adopted by the order is apocryphal. The truth of the tale is proved, as the best things in this world are, by its beauty.

EDUCATION AND LITERARY TEACHING.

It is a noteworthy fact that the word "education" in the present day has acquired almost entirely a literary meaning. An "educated person" and a "literate person" are convertible terms to the common mind. Professor Blackie, in the *Times* of Wednesday, denounces the prevailing vice of our schools; and the denunciation coming from a man well known for his learning, will have an emphasis that did not attach to the same opinion expressed often before by men of minor celebrity and of less literary knowledge. It is rather curious that the most depreciatory criticisms on mere learning

should come to us from such men as Professor Blackie and Sir John Burgoyne. The latter officer is distinguished amongst our military men for a most thorough mastery of all the varied branches of his profession, and is possibly of all our generals the one who knows best the varied works, ancient or modern, in our own and foreign languages, on the art of war. Yet he is eminent for his opinions against any high standard of examinations for Staff appointments. Has the use of his learning been to show its comparative uselessness?

We wish to give especial prominence to Professor Blackie's suggestion, that "candidates for the public service should be tested not simply in what they know, but in what they can do." We urged this in our recent article on the Civil Service Commissioners' report. The present examinations for the home and Indian civil service are, in the main, as absurd and unsuitable as if in testing physical activity you accepted the certificate of the director of a gymnasium in lieu of an actual trial of the boy's own limbs, or asked him to describe the course of exercise instead of finding out by experiment whether he had profited by the training. We urged that this principle of an examination in 'doing' instead of 'knowing' should be applied to mental tests; but Professor Blackie wishes to extend the principle, and to apply it to physical education. He asks:—

"Why should not a vigorous youth, who is a first-rate fencer or quoit-thrower, or who has come in first in the boat-race on the Cam or the Isis, not receive a mark of 300 in his favour as well as a man who can spell his way through a page of Cicero or Schiller? Why should a good elocutionist be held in no account before an examination board? Why should music be ignored? Why the elegant and useful accomplishment of the draughtsman?"

This is a very natural question. We all know that the value of our public schools and universities is not the mere book knowledge crammed into the head of the boy, but the manliness and self-reliance indirectly instilled by association with boys of his own age in the school-room, the cricket-field, and on the river. The magnetic influence of a hundred boys overflowing with animal spirits, the contagion of a competition in everything, does more to develop the power of the future man than any reading, lecturing, or cramming. In all the recent competitive examinations the most unsuccessful candidates have been the pupils of private tutors; and this although the examinations have been conducted mainly to favour mere bookish superiority, showing that the free and manly life of large schools communicates indirectly an ability which mere cramming cannot confer. Professor Blackie wishes to stamp direct approval on this unorganized part of English education.

As applied to ordinary civil service examinations we see objections to the proposal. In commenting on the Civil Service Commissioners' report, we objected to any test not bearing on the work to be done in the office. The junior clerks in Somerset House, or Downing-street, or Whitehall, may, in their hours (ten to four) of playful leisure, indulge in leap-frog over desks, caricatures of their grim seniors, or even subdued whistling, for 'want of thought'; but this is extra work, and we cannot approve of any marks given to candidates on account of music, sketching, or physical activity. But there is just now a special opportunity for the reform the Professor presses on our attention.

The civil and military services of India require yearly a supply of our best young men. The civil service is open to competition, and the great difficulty with the new India bill is the military patronage. If left to the Crown, even in part, it offers a new means of corrupting the Commons; and by giving it to Councillors, it offers to private persons an instrument of irresponsible nepotism. Why not throw it open, together with the civil service, to an honest competition free to every young man of good character—a competition not merely as to bookish knowledge, but as to all the qualities that would be useful for service in India? Out of twenty young men anxious to serve in India, we require and should select—not the mere linguist, not the man best in Greek, not the man best in mathematics, not the stroke oar of the crack university boat, not the best horseman, nor the winner of a swimming match—but the young man who, take him for all in all, is the most fitting for the work to be done. A man possessing a fair knowledge of the usual branches of learning, and also able to ride, swim, row, make rough, truthful sketches, and compose a good letter, is the very man wanted in India. He would have bodily

health to stand the climate and endure the fatigues which fall to the lot of nearly all Indian officials, civil or military. He must have had ample intelligence to have acquired a general knowledge in the various branches of literary education—intelligence that would guarantee a steady progress in more specific studies. By a fusion into one competition of all the candidates for Indian service, the examiners could indicate by the marks awarded the men who ought to be selected for each service. The more successful in the physical part of the competition would, of course, become soldiers; the boys inferior in this respect, though obliged to reach a certain standard of physical vigour, would serve us in the less arduous departments of civil administration.

We fear we must not be too sanguine of any reform so radical and so simple as that suggested. The vested interests of pedants and of bookworms are too strong in this country. Common sense has not the confidence of the House of Commons; the press does not lead, it follows, public opinion. That noble old Greek love and reverence for the human body which made marble live in shapes of undying beauty, and gave to bodily seemliness and vigour the sanctity of religion, has too much of Paganism for the men who conduct the majority of our schools. They ignore this, the best part of 'the fair humanities of old religion,' while they tolerate the epigrams of Martial and the pruriency of Ovid. Only in the writings of Kingsley and a few of his thinking do we find the true love of physical nobility; and the natural heroism of English boys has kept alive in the playground and on the river what their schoolmasters have more than once discouraged, as we see in the suppression of the school matches at Lord's. The new mania for literary competitions as tests for many offices and functions is not yet long enough in operation to have had any marked effect on our English youth, but while we appreciate it as a check to mere family patronage, we fear it may tend to multiply a very undesirable class—'young men of good education' with no special bias for any calling, and no special acquirements for any profession. There are, doubtless, few of our readers who do not know in their circle of friends some young man who is a subject of perpetual anxiety to his friends, because he has received a good general education and is fit for any employment. There is no lack of such young men in this country; the columns of the *Times* testify daily to their destitution and their readiness to accept any employment not menial, and for the smallest remuneration. If instead of learning Latin, Greek, mathematics, and history, these young men had been trained to a mastery of some craft, they might become the real creators of the superiority of England—they might become builders, road-makers, farmers, architects, engineers. But we have them filling London garrets—with blinded eyesight poring over miserable books, instead of taking stout hearts and strong hands to countries where rich fruits reward toil. And with this surplussage of clerks, linguists, scholars, men who can correspond in three languages and write Latin verses to admiration, we have our statesmen, in their high wisdom, devising rewards for the multiplication of the class. It is right to give civil service posts only to men literary enough to do the work, but why give the posts as rewards for a literary education far beyond the work? It is like offering premiums for the influx of weavers into Spitalfields, or encouraging an increase of needlewomen in London.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—By the last advices from the Cape (dated February 20th), we learn that Sir George Grey continued on his tour of inspection through the Eastern Province. In replying to an address from the inhabitants of Graham's Town, the Governor stated his intention to visit England. It is said that Sir George is organizing a regiment of Kaffirs for service in India, and that there are many volunteers. "A number of Kaffir prisoners, confined in the Amsterdam Battery," says a Cape Town paper, "succeeded in effecting their escape by cutting through the door of their cell, and leaping from the wall of the fort. The number who thus escaped was forty-five, of whom the greater part have been retaken. The Cape Volunteers were mainly instrumental in their capture.—The last news from the Trans-Vaal Republic is of a distressing nature. The republicans are split into hostile factions. Schoemann had taken possession of Rustenburgh, and was there with a large armed force, with which he intended to invade the town of Mool River, should Pretorius not have submitted on the 15th February, the day appointed for the settlement of existing differences."

LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—Dr. Lyon Playfair has made a report on the state of the London Mechanics' Institution, the parent of the six hundred similar institutions now existing in England. It was founded in 1823, and the number of members was at one time as many as 1254; but there are now only 436. The institution is encumbered with a debt of 4000*l.*, to defray which the Government will be asked to give half the amount, while the rest will be collected by subscription. Even when thus cleared of debt, however, the institution would not be self-supporting; but Dr. Playfair thinks that further aid may be obtained from the State or from the wealthy. He condemns the system on which the institution is conducted, and which appears to be dis-jointed and inefficient.

THE HON. MR. MOSTYN, M.P.—In consequence of his impaired health, the Hon. Mr. Mostyn has been at length compelled to yield to the recommendation of his physicians and relinquish for the present his Parliamentary duties, in order to try the air of the south of Italy. Mr. Mostyn has already taken his departure from England.

THE LATE FIRE IN BISHOPSGATE.—Mr. W. Payne, the coroner, resumed on Monday, for the third time, the adjourned inquiry respecting the circumstances connected with the late fire in Devonshire-street, Bishopsgate, and the death of Benjamin Amsell. The jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased lost his life at the fire that occurred at the house, No. 17, Devonshire-street, and, though there is no proof as to the origin of the fire, yet the circumstances connected with it we think are of a very suspicious nature."

DISCOVERY OF RELICS IN ORKNEY.—Several silver pins, brooches, bracelets, necklaces, and coins have been discovered in a rabbit-hole at Sandwick, Orkney. They are supposed to be contemporaneous with the reigns of the earliest kings in Scottish or Scandinavian history.

FIRES.—The premises of Mr. Soline, a French shirt-maker at 28, Aldgate, were burnt down on Monday night; and the premises on both sides and at the rear were greatly damaged by fire and water. The engines were on the spot in a few minutes from the time the alarm was given; but in a very short time the roof fell in, carrying with it the lower floors.—On the same night, a fire broke out in Cannon-street, West St. Paul's; but it was soon got under, though not without a good deal of damage to the stock.—A serious fire burst out on Tuesday evening on the premises No. 6, Union-street, Oxford-street. The inmates escaped with difficulty, and a large amount of property was consumed.—Two more fires occurred on the same night—one in the New North-road, Islington, and the other at Bermondsey. The loss of property at the latter locality was immense.—The ancient mansion of the Earl of Moray, called Donibristle House, situated on the shore of the Firth of Forth, opposite Edinburgh, was burnt down, from some unexplained cause, on Tuesday morning. On the alarm being given, a special steamer conveyed a fire-engine across the ferry; but it arrived too late. A large part of the gallery of family and historical portraits was saved; but the greater portion of the contents of the house was destroyed.

A MILLIONAIRE.—Mr. Quintin Dick, a rather noted character, who died a week or two ago at a very advanced age, has left more than a million of money.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POST-OFFICE, issued on Tuesday, is divided into sections. The number of post-offices in the United Kingdom has been increased by 235, making the total 11,101. Arrangements to effect further accelerations, both in the provincial and suburban posts, are in steady progress. The number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom last year was 504,000,000, showing an increase of about 5½ per cent. In England, the annual proportion is 21 to each person; in Scotland 16, and in Ireland only 7. The increase since the introduction of the penny system has been six-fold. The number of newspapers delivered in 1857 was about 71,000,000, showing no alteration. Of these, about 75 per cent. bore the impressed or newspaper stamp. The number of money-order offices is now 2233, being an increase of 138. The aggregate of orders issued during the year was 6,389,702 for a total of 12,180,272*l.*, on which the commission amounted to 106,852*l.*, leaving a profit of 24,175*l.* The sixpenny rate of postage has now been extended to every colony, and measures adopted by the Peninsular and Oriental Company have enabled a weekly communication to be established with India. The gross revenue of the Post-office for 1857 was 3,035,718*l.*, presenting an increase of 167,759*l.*, or nearly six per cent., while the expenditure, according to corrected computations, increased only two and a half per cent. The net revenue properly appertaining to the year was 1,322,237*l.*, or 127,840*l.* in excess of 1856, showing an improvement of ten per cent. The number of persons employed was 23,731, of whom 3200 belong to the London district.—*Times*.

EAST INDIA HOUSE.—A Court of Directors was held at the East India House on Tuesday, when Mr. William Edward Frere was appointed a Provisional Member of Council at Bombay.

THE SOCIAL EVIL.—It is stated that Mr. Henry Mayhew has proposed to Lord Derby a plan for investigating the condition of abandoned women, with a view to legislation, and that the Premier thinks favourably of the idea.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not makelaws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

MR. BUCKLE's lecture at the Royal Institution on 'The Influence of Women' forms the first article in the current number of *Fraser*. The perusal of this 'discourse,' as it is styled by its author, has disappointed us. After reading it, one is surprised to hear that it was the lecturer's first attempt, the style being the regular lecture style, fluent, but feeble, colourless, and slipshod, full of high-sounding generalities, but destitute of force, vividness, or precision. The lecturer's art of description is a very simple one, consisting mainly in the repetition of trite and pointless epithets. "The greatest discovery of the greatest natural philosopher the world has yet seen" is the account of NEWTON and the law of gravitation; HAÛY was "one of the most remarkable men of a remarkable age;" GOETHE "the greatest poet Germany has produced, and one of the greatest the world has ever seen;" the grave-diggers' scene in *Hamlet* is "one of the most beautiful episodes in the greatest production of the greatest man the world has ever possessed." But the substance is as poor as the style. The discourse abounds with assumptions, confusions, and contradictions. A specimen or two will abundantly suffice. The lecturer maintains that "women naturally prefer the deductive method to the inductive," the abstract to the concrete, because they have more imagination, are more poetical, than men. Again, he attempts to support his thesis that women are naturally deductive—that they delight in the purely intellectual to the neglect of the sensuous side of science, by the assertion—true in itself but suicidal to the theory—that their perceptions are sharper, that, for instance, they can describe symptoms better, and understand signs more quickly than men. What follows is still more confused and contradictory. The whole doctrine is indeed little better than a blunder, which scarcely calls for serious criticism, and certainly does not require any formal refutation. The next article, 'My Winter-Garden, by a Minute Philosopher,' is a delightful one, full of breezy freshness, hearty enjoyment of nature, and vigorous life. It contains in a curious setting of semi-scientific, semi-philosophic reflections, a magnificent description of a fox-hunt, obviously drawn by the same firm but sure and delicate hand that sketched that inimitable hunting scene in the opening pages of *Feast*. Here is a description of the most beautiful object in the world, the Greek statues alone excepted:—

The hounds, moreover, have obligingly waited for us two fields on. For the cold wet pastures which we are entering do not carry the scent as the heather did, in which Reinecke, as he galloped, brushed off his perspiration against every twig; and the hounds are now flensing up and down by the side of the brown alder-fringed brook which parts the counties. I can hear the flap and snort of the dogs' nostrils as they canter round me; and I like it. It is exciting; but why—who can tell?

What beautiful creatures they are, too! Next to a Greek statue (I mean a real old Greek one; for I am a thoroughly anti-preraphaelite benighted pagan heathen in taste, and intend some day to get up a Cinque-Cento Club, for the total abolition of Gothic art)—next to a Greek statue, I say, I know few such combinations of grace and strength, as in a fine foxhound. It is the beauty of the Theseus—light and yet massive; and light not in spite of its masses, but on account of the perfect disposition of them. I do not care for grace in man, woman, or animal, which is obtained (as in the old German painters) at the expense of honest flesh and blood. It may be all very pure, and unearthly, and saintly, and what not: but it is not healthy; and therefore it is not really High Art, let it call itself such as much as it likes. The highest art must be that in which the outward is the most perfect symbol of the inward; and therefore a healthy soul can be only expressed by a healthy body; and starved limbs and a hydrocephalous forehead must be either taken as incorrect symbols of spiritual excellence, or as (what they were really meant for) symbols of certain spiritual diseases which were in the Middle Age considered as ecclesiastical graces and virtues. Wherefore I like pagan and naturalist art; consider Titian and Correggio as unappreciated geniuses, whose excellences the world will in some saner mood rediscover; hold in direct opposition to Rio, that Raffaele improved steadily all his life through, and that his noblest works are not those somewhat simpering Madonnas and somewhat impish Bambinos (very lovely though they are), but those great, coarse, naturalist, Protestant cartoons, which (with Andrea Mantegna's *Heathen Triumph*) Cromwell saved for the British nation. I expect no one to agree with all this for the next quarter of a century; but after that I have hopes. The world will grow tired of pretending to admire Manichean pictures in an age of natural science, and of building churches on the Popish model, to be used for Protestant worship; and art will let the dead bury their dead, and beginning again where Michael Angelo and Raffaele left off, work forward into a nobler, truer, freer, and more divine school than the world has yet seen—at least, so I hope.

And all this has grown out of those fox-hounds. Why not? Theirs is a sort of form which expresses to me what I want art to express—Nature not limited, but developed, by high civilization. The old savage ideal of beauty was the lion, type of mere massive force. That was succeeded by an over-civilized ideal, say the fawn, type of delicate grace. By cunning breeding and choosing, through long centuries, man has combined both, and has created the fox-hound, lion and fawn in one. Look at that old hound, who stands doubtful, looking up at his master for advice. Look at the severity, delicacy, lightness of every curve. His head is finer than a deer's; his hind-legs tense as steel springs; his fore-legs straight as arrows: and yet see the depth of chest, the sweep of loin, the breadth of paw, the mass of arm and thigh; and if you have an eye for form, look at the absolute majesty of his attitude at this moment. Majesty is the only word for it. If he were six feet high, instead of twenty-three inches, with what animal on earth could you compare him? Is it not a joy to see such a thing alive? It is to me, at least. I would like to have one in my study all day long, as I would have a statue or a picture; and when Mr. Morrell gave (as they say) two hundred guineas for Hercules alone, I believe the dog was well worth the money, only to look at. But I am a minute philosopher.

In this month's *Blackwood*, the author of 'What will he do with It' curiously interrupts the progress of the story to address an explanation to the reader—to offer in the form of an apology a defence and eulogy of his tale. Not being alto-

gether satisfied with the criticisms of the press on the part that has already appeared, he undertakes to review the whole by anticipation himself, and his opinion is, on the whole, a very favourable one. He pronounces the author to be a perfect artist, the story a faultless work, and implicitly laments the want of a higher æsthetic feeling on the part of the reading public, and especially the critics. Had there been any doubt at all about the authorship of the story, this interjected preface would have at once removed it. At the outset of 'What will he do with It,' we remarked that the new story was a return to BULWER LYTTON's old style—a statement which its progress has fully justified, and which the preface to the last part curiously confirms. In his early days, BULWER was fond of introducing each new story by an elaborate statement, in form usually a preface, in substance an *éloge* on the work, pointing out that the marvellous skill of the construction was scarcely likely to be fully appreciated by the critics and the public, and calling on æsthetic readers and on posterity to admire it as a wonderful picture of nature and a perfect work of art. Here is an extract from the present preface quite in the old style:—

The reader may thus have the complaisance to look at each instalment as the component portion of a completed whole;—comprehending that it cannot be within the scope of the author's design to aim at a separate effect for each separate number; but rather to carry on through each number the effect which he deems most appropriate to his composition when regarded as a whole. And here may it be permitted to dispel an erroneous idea which, to judge by current criticism, appears to be sufficiently prevalent to justify the egotism of comment. It seems to be supposed that, because this work is published from month to month in successive instalments, therefore it is written from month to month as a newspaper article may be dashed off from day to day. Such a supposition is adverse to all the principles by which works that necessitate integrity of plan, and a certain harmony of proportion, are constructed; more especially those works which aim at artistic representations of human life: For, in human life, we must presume that nothing is left to chance, and chance must be no less rigidly banished from the art by which human life is depicted. That art admits no hap-hazard chapters, no uncertainty as to the consequences that must ensue from the incidents it decides on selecting. Would the artist, on after thought, alter a consequence, he must reconsider the whole chainwork of incident which led to one inevitable result, and which would be wholly defective if it could be made to lead to another. Hence, a work of this kind cannot be written *currente calamo*, from month to month; the entire design must be broadly set forth before the first page goes to press; and large sections of the whole must be always completed in advance, in order to allow time for deliberate forethought, and fair opportunity for such revisions, as an architect, having prepared all his plans, must still admit to his building, should difficulties, not foreseen, sharpen the invention to render each variation in detail an improvement consistent to the original design.

Again, to assure the excited public that if he accepts office it will not interfere with the interest and excellence of the story:—

Since this survey of our modern world requires a large and a crowded canvas, and would be incomplete did it not intimate those points of contact in which the private touches the public life of Social Man, so it is well that the reader should fully understand that all reference to such grand events as political 'crises' and changes of government were written many months ago, and have no reference whatever to the actual occurrences of the passing day. Holding it, indeed, a golden maxim that practical politics and ideal art should be kept wholly distinct from each other, and seeking in this narrative to write that which may be read with unembittered and impartial pleasure by all classes and all parties—nay, perchance, in years to come, by the children of those whom he now addresses—the author deems it indispensable to such ambition to preserve the neutral ground of imaginative creation, not only free from those personal portraits which are fatal to comprehensive and typical delineations of character, but from all intentional appeals to an interest which can be but momentary, if given to subjects that best befit the leading articles of political journals. His realm, if it hope to endure, is in the conditions, the humours, the passions by which one general phase of society stands forth in the broad light of our common human nature, never to be cast aside, as obsolete and out of fashion, "into the portion of weeds and worn-out faces."

We must correct the quotation in the last extract, which should be, not "weeds and worn-out faces," but "weeds and outworn faces." A prose poet like JEREMY TAYLOR ought to be quoted correctly. Looking to this singular address to the reader as a whole, we are far from saying that it was not called for. No doubt it was quite natural that the few readers of *Blackwood*, who still managed to read the story, should begin to wonder whether anything would come of it or not; but it was scarcely politic in the author to recognize the propriety of such a speculation by formally assuring them that something would come of it in the end. 'Food and Drink—Part II.' is a continuation of the papers on the physiology of common life. We extract the following warning to the lovers of shape and symmetry at all hazards:—

Phosphorus and Sulphur are also indispensable, but they are received with our food. Acids are received with vegetable food; but they are also taken separately, especially the acetic acid, or vinegar, which, according to Prout, has either by accident or design been employed by mankind in all ages—that is to say, substances naturally containing it have been employed as aliments, or it has been formed artificially. It is owing to their acids that fruits and vegetables are necessary to man, although not necessary to the carnivora. Dr. Budd justly points to the prolonged abstinence from succulent vegetables and fruits as the cause of the scurvy among sailors. Lemon-juice is now always given to sailors with their food; it protects them from scurvy, which no amount of vinegar, however, is sufficient to effect. We make cooling drinks with vegetable acids; and our salads and greens demand vinegar, as our cold meat demands pickles. Taken in moderation, there is no doubt that vinegar is beneficial, but in excess it impairs the digestive organs; and, as we remarked a little while ago, experiments on artificial digestion show that if the quantity of acid be diminished, digestion is retarded; if increased beyond a certain point, digestion is arrested. There is reason, therefore, in the vulgar notion, unhappily too fondly relied on, that vinegar helps to keep down an alarming adiposity, and that ladies who dread the disappearance of their graceful outline in curves of plumpness expanding into 'fat,' may arrest so dreadful a result by liberal potations of vinegar; but they can only so arrest it at the far more dreadful expense of their health. The amount of acid which will keep them thin, will destroy their digestive powers. Portal gives a case which should be a warning: "A few years ago, a young lady in easy circumstances enjoyed good health; she was very plump, had a good appetite, and a complexion blooming with roses and lilies. She began to look upon her plumpness with suspicion; for her mother was very fat, and she was afraid of becoming like her. Accordingly, she

consulted a woman, who advised her to drink a glass of vinegar daily; the young lady followed her advice, and her plumpness diminished. She was delighted with the success of the experiment, and continued it for more than a month. She began to have a cough; but it was dry at its commencement, and was considered as a slight cold, which would go off. Meantime, from dry it became moist; a slow fever came on, and a difficulty of breathing; her body became lean, and wasted away; night, sweats, swelling of the feet and of the legs succeeded, and a diarrhoea terminated her life." Therefore, young ladies, be boldly fat! never pine for graceful slimness and romantic pallor; but if Nature means you to be ruddy and rotund, accept it with a laughing grace, which will captivate more hearts than all the paleness of a circulating library. At any rate, understand this, that if vinegar will diminish the fat, it can only do so by affecting your health.

'A Few Words on Social Philosophy' is the title of a pleasant, sensible, humorous dissertation on modern social life in general and women's influence in particular. There is a passage on the early marriage question in which there is a good deal of truth.

The *Dublin University Magazine* this month has good papers on 'Recent Oxford Literature,' and 'Béranger.'

M. GUIZOT'S MEMOIRS.

Memoirs of my Own Time. By F. Guizot. Vol. I.

Bentley.

THESE Memoirs constitute not only a criticism upon French events and characters during forty years, but a broad and clear exhibition of the writer's moral and intellectual consciousness so far as it influenced his actions in public life. Of himself, M. Guizot speaks with sombre dignity; he has neither abdicated, he says, nor does he desire to restore, his position as a statesman. At present a spectator, he is not unwilling to emerge from retirement, but on this point his sentiments are neutral. He has had his share in the government of men; and now, composing his personal history amid the silence of the Empire, he believes the retrospect may be calm, and that the past episodes of a career not yet ended may be judged without passion or timidity. M. Guizot has written no work with more masterly art than this; it is noble in style and thought; it contains a richly diversified gallery of historical portraits, a subtle analysis of national and individual motives, a series of disclosures painting vividly the inner life of politics, a frank confession of opinions upon men and circumstances. The point of departure is the decline and fall of the Bonaparte Empire, and the first volume approaches the eve of the Revolution of 1830. Thus M. Guizot has already carried his tracings over an extensive surface—France before the Restoration, the deportation to Elba, the reign of Louis XVIII., the Hundred Days, the Second Restoration, the parliamentary rule of 1815 under the Duke de Richelieu, the Government of the Centre from 1816 to 1821, the rule of the right-hand party under M. de Villèle up to 1827, Charles the Tenth's regime and M. Guizot's opposition, the omens of resistance in 1830, and the elections of that decisive year. Everywhere M. Guizot writes freely, but with an evident conviction that he is committing no injustice. Whether or not his verdict is in all instances judicial, it would be rash to say; but as the figures of Napoleon and of Chateaubriand stand in these pages, there can be little doubt that they will stand eternally in history.

Of Napoleon, the character drawn by M. Guizot has been outlined and filled in with elaborate accuracy. No ruler, he says, could have been endowed with a more energetic or masculine genius, with more profound instincts in governing, or with a greater faculty for constructing a system of his own. But he had neither conscience nor religion; he coarsely understood the moral necessities of human nature; his pride passed the limit of impiety. He seldom received advice except to insult the giver and drive him from his presence; at the height of power he was intoxicated to insolence, and when he fell it was with bitterness, hesitation, and imbecility. Even during the Hundred Days, instead of laying a concrete basis for his throne, he was engaged in ordering garments of white taffeta for the princes of his family, and orange-coloured mantles for his chamberlains and pages, "a childish attachment to palatial splendour, which accorded ill with the state of public affairs, and deeply disgusted public feeling, when, in the midst of this glittering pageant, twenty thousand soldiers were seen to march past and salute the Emperor on their road to death." While acting upon this parti-coloured stage, he endeavoured simultaneously to conciliate the populations of the Faubourgs St. Antoine and St. Marceau, and to check their traditional enthusiasm. A few of them were formed into a band of "confederated soldiers," and M. Guizot saw a hundred of the corps, in shabby uniforms, raising a tumult in the garden of the Tuileries, in order to attract a recognition from the Emperor. It was long before he complied; but at length a window was opened, he came forward, and waved his hand; almost instantly the window was reclosed, and, adds M. Guizot, "I distinctly saw Napoleon retire, shrugging his shoulders; vexed, no doubt, at being obliged to lend himself to demonstrations so repugnant in their nature, and so unsatisfactory in their limited extent." The splendour that surrounds the fame of Bonaparte has visibly waned of late years; the Marmont Memoirs sullied it deeply; Miot de Melito has contributed the testimony of his contempt; but we doubt whether any one more than M. Guizot has, in a few words, shown the vulgarity that strutted under the Tyrian purple.

Chateaubriand is described as a man of genius, and a slave to selfishness and vanity. M. Guizot first knew him through his writings, when in 1809 the *Martyres* were published. He read that work, admired, quoted, and defended it. Chateaubriand acknowledged the justice and the courtesy rendered to him by his young contemporary, and a correspondence sprang up. How the intimacy ripened is told at large, but with what result in one curt phrase. "Between M. de Chateaubriand and myself, frankness and honour, most certainly, have never been disturbed throughout our political controversies; but friendship has not been able to survive them." Nor even respect, we must believe, for M. Guizot cannot but despise the individual of whom he writes. "He was, I admit, a troublesome ally; for he aspired to all things, and complained of all. On a level with the rarest spirits and most exalted imaginations, it was his chimera to fancy himself equal to the greatest masters in the art of government, and to feel bitterly hurt if he were not looked upon as the rival of Napoleon as well as of

Milton." In another passage, M. Guizot declares Chateaubriand to have been passionately absorbed, on the stage of the world, in his own person and reputation, more annoyed by the slightest check than gratified by the most brilliant triumph, more jealous of success than power, greedy to excess of praise and fame. That he attributes to Chateaubriand better and higher qualities, is a proof of his desire to be just; but an acrimony of classic coldness and polish gives an edge to every allusion throughout the volume to that singular man whose genius was eaten up in his vanity, a French Ugo Foscolo of another type, who could make no figure in the world without fancying himself its centre.

The Memoirs are chiefly interesting as preserving M. Guizot's estimates of public men—Napoleon, Chateaubriand, Blacas, Montesquieu, Charles X. We, therefore, notice one other historical portrait. Louis XVIII., after the second restoration, is pictured as he was—a personification of impotence and dignity, an old man who sat as if nailed in his arm-chair, confident in the midst of his feebleness of supreme right and power, listening with condescending interest to light couplets and epigrams in his own praise, prohibiting all mention of "serious causes of uneasiness," threatening to place his throne upon the bridge of Jena to preserve that monument of German defeat, and talking with his thin voice about suppressing ranges of mountains. "Louis XIV. levelled the Pyrenees; I shall not allow them to be raised again."

But there are fragments of M. Guizot's volume which, detached from their contexts, are lessons of wisdom to the living race of Frenchmen. When he argues in favour of limiting the rights of the press and of public discussions, he is transparently a casuist; but concerning the policy of the royalist restoration generally, his statement is undeniable. He is speaking of the electoral bill introduced in 1817:—

I was well informed as to its intent and true spirit, and I speak of it without embarrassment in presence of the universal suffrage, as now established. If the electoral system of 1817 disappeared in the tempest of 1848, it conferred on France thirty years of regular and free government, systematically sustained and controlled; and amidst all the varying influences of parties, and the shock of a revolution, this system sufficed to maintain peace, to develop national prosperity, and to preserve respect for all legal rights. In this age of ephemeral and futile experiments, it is the only political enactment which has enjoyed a long and powerful life. At least it was a work which may be acknowledged, and which deserves to be correctly estimated, even after its overthrow. A ruling idea inspired the bill of the 5th of February, 1817—to fix a term to the revolutionary system, and to give vigour to the constitutional Government. At that epoch, universal suffrage had ever been, in France, an instrument of destruction or deceit—of destruction, when it had really placed political power in the hands of the multitude; of deceit, when it had assisted to annul political rights for the advantage of absolute power, by maintaining, through the vain intervention of the multitude, a false appearance of electoral privilege.

Upon the liberty of the press his argument has, at least, the merit of candour, and it is not without its points of truth:—

I am one of those who have been much assisted and fiercely attacked by the press. Throughout my life, I have greatly employed this engine. By placing my ideas publicly before the eyes of my country, I first attracted her attention and esteem. During the progress of my career, I have ever had the press for ally or opponent; and I have never hesitated to employ its weapons, or feared to expose myself to its blows. It is a power which I respect and recognize willingly, rather than compulsorily, but without illusion or idolatry. Whatever may be the form of government, political life is a constant struggle; and it would give me no satisfaction—I will even say more—I should feel ashamed of finding myself opposed to mute and fettered adversaries. The liberty of the press is human nature displaying itself in broad daylight, sometimes under the most attractive, and at others under the most repelling aspect; it is the wholesome air that vivifies, and the tempest that destroys, the expansion and impulsive power of steam in the intellectual system. I have ever advocated a free press; I believe it to be, on the whole, more useful than injurious to public morality; and I look upon it as essential to the proper management of public affairs, and to the security of private interests. But I have witnessed too often and too closely its dangerous aberrations as regards political order, not to feel convinced that this liberty requires the restraint of a strong organization of effective laws and of controlling principles.

From one of his conversations with M. Manuel, he detaches the following reminiscence:—

"What France requires at present is to expel the revolutionary spirit which still torments her, and to exercise the free system of which she is in full possession. The House of Bourbon is extremely well suited to this double exigence of the country. Its government is anti-revolutionary by nature, and liberal through necessity. I should much dread a power which, while maintaining order, would either in fact or appearance be sufficiently revolutionary to dispense with being liberal. I should be apprehensive that the country would too easily lend itself to such a rule. We require to be a little uneasy as regards our interests, that we may learn how to maintain our rights. The Restoration satisfies while it keeps us on our guard. It acts at the same time as a spur and a bridle. Both are good for us. I know not what would happen if we were without either."

We make one more quotation, which occurs as a generality, but which has a present meaning:—

A great public terror is worse than a great positive evil; above all, when obscure perspectives of the future excite the hopes of enemies and blunderers, as well as the alarms of honest men and friends.

We have read this volume with unabated interest from the first to the last line. It is great in its quality as a political autobiography, and often great in its wisdom and finely tempered eloquence. A tinge of melancholy bitterness mellows the richer memories, but the book is emphatically the work of a statesman who writes with his eye fixed on the present while his mind reviews the past.

NEW NOVELS.

The Netherwoods of Otterpool: a Novel. 3 vols. (Bentley.)—There is no harm in hinting at the plot of this story since it is one of immemorial antiquity. The rich master of Otterpool hath a sensitive son, who, in an indiscreet hour, plights his troth to the daughter of a baronet with whom the ancient Derbyshire gentleman has a feud. The father desires the son to abandon his first love, which the young man straightway refuses to do, although upon that instant the broad lands, the ancestral trees, the deer

sporting among distant glades, and the far-reaching farms with heavy rentals appertaining pass from under his feet, and he becomes a wanderer without an inheritance. All is not so trite in the novel as this beginning would imply, but when is the parental curse to be counted among the obsolescences of romance? When is the circulating library subscriber to part with the hard man who will not hear mention of his ungrateful scion's name, although an unbidden tear marks the inward struggle? When will the tall, fair-haired, manly but gentle youth grow reasonable and leave off sacrificing vast fortunes to an inconsiderate affection? Should the fashion ever change, should no velists cease to work upon the antique pattern, the originator of a new scheme would deserve monumental honours; but it is surprising that the human imagination with all its pinions should so seldom rise beyond conventionalities which must have tired the last century, for it may be supposed that the sin entails its own punishment, and that readers become few because entertainment becomes rare. *The Netherwoods of Otterpool* as a novel is one of an extremely large class, not worse than its contemporaries but not better, inasmuch as, though well-written and exhibiting some knowledge of human character, its fable is one of the most musty order. After the first volume we find some experiments at originality; but the general conception is old-fashioned and feeble.

The Old Palace. By Julia Tilt, Author of 'May Hamilton' and 'Laura Talbot.' 2 vols. (Bentley.)—Miss Tilt takes us back to the old days when Hammersmith was distant and rural, when ladies wore polonaises, white beaver hats, feathers, and Flanders veils, when lute-string was in vogue, when 'St. James's-street was not disgraced by filthy cabs or disfigured by hired broughams.' Then, in St. James's Palace, the King stood and kissed the little heroine of Miss Tilt's history, and he was a handsome fellow 'in a grand uniform' with 'clusters of jewels upon his sword hilt.' Then Queen Charlotte walked through the apartments in state in advance of her 'magnificent train of sons and daughters, then in the very zenith of their youth and beauty;' and through these courtly scenes, and among these royal personages the romance unwinds, there being a mystery in the connexion of Theresa, the heroine, with his Majesty, one of the Georges. Miss Tilt has contrived her novel ingeniously, and leaves the beaten track in favour of a generation and of manners not very frequently illustrated in our days.

What you Will: an Irregular Romance. (J. W. Parker.)—This one-volume story is full of cleverness and character. The incidents are not numerous, and one, constituting a sort of turning point, is nothing more than a commonplace; but the writing is natural and pointed, the illustrations of human nature are vivid, and there are some charming sketches of English home life. The clergyman of Acton Bars is an admirable portrait, somewhat in Mr. Anthony Trollope's style; but the best part of the narrative is described in the table of contents as "The winding-up of the thread;" it is most tenderly conceived and most touchingly developed.

JANSENISM IN HOLLAND.

A History of the so-called Jansenist Church of Holland. With a Sketch of its Earlier Annals, and some Account of the Brothers of the Common Life. By the Rev. J. M. Neale, M.A. Parker and Co.

THE Jansenists of France have not been wanting in historians to perpetuate the narrative of their faith and sufferings, self-inflicted, or otherwise. But that schismatic section which exists in Holland and has its chief seat at Utrecht has not been so well described; in fact, little is really known of it. Accordingly, to enlighten the students of ecclesiastical history more fully on the subject, Mr. Neale has been engaged since the year 1851 in hunting up old dusty chronicles and mouldering records, examining into their contents, holding personal and written communications with officials likely to be the guardians of hereditary traditions relating to it, and in producing a work which should elucidate the origin, development, and trials of the so-called Jansenist Church of Holland. He has also given an interesting account of the Brothers of the Common Life.

In fact, to the founders of this ascetic community should be properly traced the formation of that independence which eventually made the Church of Holland so conspicuous, and brought on it the merciless hatred of the Jesuits. To the personal merits and influence of Jansenius has been ascribed the creation of a new schism; and throughout France the number of persons who assumed his name and imbibed his doctrines was very great; but the historian sees in the religious excitement created by the Bishop of Ypres only a revival of that religious ferment which was originally stimulated by Geert Groote and Florio Radewijnzoon, whose lives and characters are well described in the present volume. We may regard these illustrious religionists, indeed, as the Luthers of the ante-reformation age, since they protested against the cruelty, the tyranny, and the wickedness of their contemporaries with unflinching zeal. Judging them, too, by their doctrines, we find them proclaiming the same dogmas as at a subsequent period influenced the lives and conduct of St. Cyran, St. Vincent de Paul, and, to a certain extent, Blaise Pascal. St. Augustine was their great authority, and his ideas on free will and predestination were received by them with the deepest veneration. Whilst, however, they continued to maintain the purity of life and manners prescribed by the regulations of their order, and as long as the members of the Church of Utrecht were equally impressed with the necessity of conforming themselves to a strict moral code, the danger of the Calvinism preached did not at first appear. Eventually, it led to the worst results of fatalism, and being grafted on superstition equalled in enormity the worship of Moloch. In France it operated in the most disgusting forms; and the stories related of the Convulsionists are, perhaps, without a parallel. The frenzy which seized the minds of the ignorant wrought the most horrible enormities. The principal theatre of these scenes was the cemetery of St. Medard. To this spot men and women resorted in large numbers. There they worked themselves up to the highest pitch of fanaticism; they leaped wildly about, they foamed at the mouth, they tore their hair and clothing, they sobbed, groaned, became hysterical, and threw themselves into the most frightful contortions and convulsions. Sometimes a hundred of these Western devotees would be victimizing themselves at the same time. The spectacle was in every way re-

volting; and the King at length ordered the burial-ground to be closed. Hence the epigram:—

De par le roi, défense à Dieu
De faire miracles en ce lieu.

This was, however, but the signal for these fanatics to disperse over the country, and to plunge still more deeply into the excesses of religious madness. Of these unhappy Convulsionists, almost always women, some caused themselves to be publicly scourged, some threw themselves into water and barked like dogs, some took upon themselves to confess men, till at length one poor girl was actually persuaded to be crucified. This was on the Good Friday, 1758—exactly a century ago; and the spectacle was more than once repeated.

Mr. Neale has collected a great deal of information on the history of this community, and has reduced it into chronological order; and, on the whole, his work exhibits praiseworthy research and industry. He is also impartial, except occasionally, as where, for example, he alludes to the transactions of the States-General and the Prince of Orange, which he has highly coloured. However, the work will be valuable to the present student of ecclesiastical history and to any future Mosheim.

LETTERS FROM SPAIN.

Letters from Spain in 1856 and 1857. By John Leycester Adolphus, M.A. Murray. THE wanderings of Mr. Leycester Adolphus in Spain are pleasantly described in these letters, not originally intended for publication. They extended through the most romantic provinces and cities of the Peninsula, and brought the tourist among the shadows of Granada, the lemon-scented courts of the Alhambra, the laughing landscapes round Seville, and the time-tinted splendours that commemorate the Moorish ascendancy. Spanish travel is not altogether a luxury. It means eccentric roads, long intervals of famine, much cabbage, and infinite oil; but it has abundant fascination for an Englishman in search of the new and the picturesque. If the towns are full of artificial exhalations, the country abounds in natural fragrance; the men are stately and the women graceful; and although there is something more animal than human in the masculine black Spanish eye, the people generally have an orientalised aspect, harmonious with the elaborate arches and sun-bright roofs of the Saracen palaces. The houses, with their interior courts and decorated façades, are contrasts to the heavy uniformity of modern England, and it is a refreshment to tread on marble stairs, and over embroidered mats, and to see the sash, sombrero, and cloak, in their realities as parts of a popular costume. As the road winds horribly from Gibraltar to Ronda, white Moorish villages glitter on the height, with castles still bearing their proud Oriental names, Benarraba and Benadalid; vine, olive, fig, and oleander paint the mountains green, and at Malaga the Andalusian bull rushes into his arena, exactly as in the olden times, amid lancers, red cloaks and streamers, fans, mantillas, and all the glories of Spanish fashion. Mr. Adolphus relished these varieties of scene and incident, and transfers them to his epistolary diary so as to produce a narrative at once suggestive and entertaining. Of the Alhambra his description is less enthusiastic than that of many tourists, who represent the palace as a world of fairy colour and radiance, but it is nevertheless warm, and opens up with effect the rich perspective—the vistas of marble columns "slender and white like ladies' arms," the ranges of fretted canopies, the little enclosed paradise of myrtles and roses, with fountains flinging sparkles over them, and the story of Linderaxa haunting the entire place like a dream. At Cordova, Mr. Adolphus complains of Christian architectural innovation in the cathedral, loading the interior with a ponderously gorgeous choir, letting in the light through sacrilegious windows to destroy the cryptic gloom so perfectly in unison with the masses of Moorish pillars. Of Zehra, the superb folly of the last Abdalrahman, little remains; the gold and pearl ornaments are gone, the quicksilver fountains have disappeared, the pavilions are sunk in the same dust with the eunuchs and concubines of the seraglio. Below that dust, however, as Don Pascoval de Gazangos—employed by the Spanish Government in antiquarian researches at Cordova—informed Mr. Adolphus, the walls and rooms of the palace are probably buried. Pieces of white marble, elaborately sculptured after the arabesque fashion, have been found. The frescoed galleries of history contain no pictures more superb than those of the Moorish rule in Spain, and it is incessantly interesting to follow the traveller who visits the sites and relics of their works, their cities, mosques, and voluptuous seclusion, shrouded within solemn, dull, and mighty walls. Mr. Adolphus, although affecting no poetical ecstasies, and though not addicted to quote Byron, enters thoroughly into the spirit of Spanish history, and tints his pages with the grace and freedom of an artist, without any excess of elaboration. His volume is light and sketchy, consisting of fragments, notes, and letters, rather than of a continuous narrative, but it is throughout written with elegance, and is altogether a very animated and amusing book for desultory reading.

MR. HAYWARD'S ESSAYS.

Biographical and Critical Essays. Reprinted from Reviews, with Additions and Corrections. By A. Hayward, Esq., Q.C. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

MANY of Mr. Hayward's Essays are worth preserving. They contain original personal reminiscences of his distinguished friends and contemporaries, and thus add to the general stock of biographical material. Some, moreover, are all but biographies in themselves, while others, as *The Art of Dining*, form little manuals, pleasant, popular, and appealing to deep human sympathies. The biographical papers are the most numerous, including Sydney Smith, Samuel Rogers, James Smith, George Selwyn, Lord Chesterfield, Lord Melbourne, General von Radowitz, the Countess Hahnemann, and Lord Eldon. That on Pierre Dupont has its peculiar interest. The personal subjects are classified together in the first volume. The second contains, among others, Mr. Hayward's quarterly articles on Journalism in France, Parisian Morals and Manners, the Science and Literature of Etiquette, and British Field Sports.

A BATCH OF DRAMAS.

IN no respect is the poetry of the present age more to seek than in connexion with the drama. Whether it be that the more mechanical life of our period so wears down the picturesque varieties of character, the sharp and salient points of human life, that the dramatist is deadened into apathy or irritated into preposterous exaggeration—or whether the fault lie in the individual poets themselves, who are now more prone to consider human nature in the abstract than in its special and particular manifestations—might furnish matter for a longer essay than would suit the columns of a newspaper. We believe, however, it is agreed on all hands that dramatic genius is dead for the present, not only in England, but in America. The glorious promise given by Shelley of something like a revival of the poetry of action perished with him; for, although some fine plays have been written since his death, the authors have either been half-hearted in pursuing their vocation, or have been discouraged by want of public sympathy. The dramas which from time to time reach our table are but the thin and pallid wraiths of a dead art. They are not all devoid of faculty; they are sometimes poetical and elegant; but they are not essentially dramas. They want the fulness of life, the keenness of perception, the depth of knowledge, the breadth of sympathy, the robust health and varied characterization of the true dramatist. We have evidence of those qualities in some of the novel-writers of the century; and if to the character-painting of a Dickens or a Thackeray could be united the peculiar endowments of the poet, we might hope to see a dramatist worthy of the name. But there is no sign of such a union as yet in the literary horizon.

Here are two volumes issuing from the Boston house of Ticknor and Fields—*Plays and Poems*, by George H. Boker. Several dramas have flowed from Mr. Boker's pen, and he is not without some of the elements of success. He has poetical feeling, and writes at times with passion and pathos; his comedies are lively and spirited; but his powers are irregular. He will put forth pages of inferior or simply uninteresting matter; he has no condensation, no certainty of touch; and many of his tragic characters want sharpness and defined expression. The poems which accompany the plays—more especially the sonnets—are sonorous and impressive.

Very charming—though not in a high style of dramatic art—is *The World's Own*, by Julia Ward Howe, also an American production, and published by the same firm as Mr. Boker's volumes. This is a story of the north of Italy, containing the usual Italian elements of love, desertion, and revenge. Count Lothair, a sort of Don Juan, has conquered the affections of a young village girl, Leonora, though he is a married man at the time. The girl loves him with the utmost passion and devotedness; but he deserts her after a time, and she wanders far and wide, seeking him. On discovering the truth, her love turns to bitterest hate, and, becoming afterwards the mistress of an Italian Prince, she causes the ruin of Lothair, and finally stabs herself. We will not say that this story is told with the strength and intensity which it demands, for it often exhibits a feminine languor; but the love-scenes are full of a tender and murmuring sweetness, and the after parts are touched with true pathos. Mrs. Howe is evidently a lady possessing real poetical sensitiveness. Her perception of natural beauty is delicate and graceful, and her blank verse, though wanting in stately harmonies and in variety of tune, is far better than that in which the greater number of dramas are written. Here is a brief passage, in which Leonora is represented looking at the diamond ring given her by her lover, and contemplating his return, though by this time he has fled:—

Where am I? Is this waking? Did I sleep?
O, not if slumber be forgetfulness.
My dreams but shadowed out my daily thought,
And that which makes my being, since its end
Was given. Forbid it, God! that sleep should come
So deep that I could let his image drop,
And lose the sacred nearness he has sworn
To make eternal. Death itself hath not
This power; since death brings heaven, and heaven must give
His presence, or be forfeit to my faith.

(Looking at the ring.)

What's this? The crystal prison of a smile?
Love's fervor, looking from a thousand eyes
In one? Nay, more,—the gem that makes me his,
Bound, as a shining seal, upon my hand.
Lothair has brought me many a precious flower,
Whose dead delight is woven in my life;
But, when he swore undying love, his pledge
Was this immortal emblem.

(Kisses it.)

Kitchen here?
Good-morrow. Do not plague me with thy breakfast;
I am full, and would not eat. But hast thou not
A morsel I could greedily devour?
A letter—not a letter? Give it me!

KITCHEN (shaking her head).
I have new milk, with the fresh morning in it,
The cakes, and curds, and hill-side strawberries;
If you ask more, you're but a froward child,
And cannot be indulged. I've spread it out
I' the garden porch, where best you love to sit.

LEONORA.

Yes, we have held some merry banquets there,
Lothair and I, and thou didst serve us well.
Dost thou remember when he brought the wine,
The costly foreign wine, so full of fire,
And drank it to my praise?

We pass from two American to two English authors, the first of whom is the Rev. T. D. Gregg, D.D., who publishes *King Edward the Sixth*, an Historical Drama, in Five Acts, after the Elizabethan Model (Westerton). Whenever his characters speak prose, Dr. Gregg really does write with a considerable flavour of the English of the Elizabethan days, and shows, moreover, some powers of characterization; but, when he ventures on blank verse—that stumbling-block to so many—it is difficult to conceive anything

more unlike the models which the author professes to have set before him. The 'poetry,' if we may venture so to call it, is like the worst parts of that dreary mistake, Addison's *Cato*, rendered even more absurd and barren; and, like *Cato*, the drama before us is written with a present purpose. It is, in fact, an anti-Papistical pamphlet in the shape of a play, and bears evident marks of issuing from the establishment of the worthy champion of the Protestant interest in Knightsbridge. The speeches of the characters are a series of husky disputations on politics and polemics, unilluminated by any rays of poetry or emotion. At one place, Dr. Gregg puts a Privy Council debate into verse (or something which he prints as verse), after this fashion:—

Somerset.—Let it suffice to say,
The treaty's call'd in question and infrin'g'd,
Form'd wisely to promote the common weal,
The general strength of Britain, by the match
That would unite in one the British crowns.
On that strong ground my voice declares for war.
War—not to fracture noble Scotland's strength,
But to o'erbear the influence of faction,
And to lead all the Scotch to clearly see
That those of them who shrink from French alliance
Are well advis'd, and should be ta'en to guide
The councils that affect our crown in Britain.
Hence—I declare for war,
And counsel it.

Chancellor.—That which hath been so ably propounded
By the Protector, our great sovereign's uncle,
I do most cordially approve and second;
Trusting the feeling is unanimous
That would avenge a solemn treaty broke,
Or, as we rather hope, make it inviolate.

At another part we have a list of the King's Ministers similarly presented. This is the more surprising, on account of Dr. Gregg exhibiting in one or two places evidences of a lyrical faculty which one might have supposed would have saved him from such empty rumble. But the writer could not get rid of his canonicals; and when a poet preaches, there's an end of him.

A very disagreeable story is unfolded in a Tragedy called *The Cruel Sister*, which, together with some *Other Poems*, is published by Messrs. Smith and Elder. Two sisters love the same man; and one of them (Eleanor) contrives to divert the passion of Rodolf from her sister to herself by maligning her sister's character. Rodolf, believing the story (for gentlemen in plays are very quick to credit anything to the disadvantage of their sweet-hearts), gives up poor slandered Alice, and is about to marry Eleanor when he discovers the fraud. Thereupon he stabs the traitorous sister, and brings the story to a catastrophe by his own death. So repulsive a subject could only be justified by an intensity of passion, at once real and poetical, which should lift us above the bare horror into a region of grandeur, solemnity, and pathos. But the author (who puts forth his book anonymously) has not sufficient strength to redeem his own error. He confuses all truth to nature in a constant flow of vague talk—talk which is often striking and poetical, but which is rather an ingenious comment on passion than passion speaking for itself. We are better pleased with the author in his minor poems. His sonnets are eloquent, picturesque, harmonious, and quick with emotion; but here also we have to complain of an occasional vagueness, as well as of a too great presence of melancholy. Though this article has been devoted to dramas, we will quote one of these sonnets, at the risk of seeming to do what is incongruous:—

Sunset was glimmering on the last red leaves,
When through the twilight of the gnarled boughs—
The fading light still clinging on her brows—
I saw her wending homewards with the sheaves
Heaped on her shoulder, raising her loose sleeves
So her white arm like a white crescent shone,
Grasping the rustling ears. Then one by one
The children wandered from their cottage eaves,
And gathered the stray wheat that she let fall,
And clapped their little hands when she would call;
And all things innocent and dutiful
Smiled to her smile and seemed to grow more fair,
She passing with the twilight beautiful
Upon the mellow sheaves and her fair hair.

This is a better specimen of the author's faculty than will be found within the limits of his play.

SCHOOL DAYS OF EMINENT MEN.

School Days of Eminent Men. By John Timbs, F.S.A., Author of *Curiosities of Kent*. London, &c. &c.

MR. TIMBS begins at the beginning, and so should we. William the Conqueror patronized and loved literature. Many of the Norman Prelates preferred in England by him were polite scholars. Ingulphus, Abbot of Croyland, is remarkable as the first upon record, who having laid the foundation of his education at Westminster, proceeded for its further cultivation to Oxford. Whilst a schoolboy he had the good fortune to interest in his behalf Egitha, daughter of Earl Godwin and queen to Edward the Confessor—a young person of great beauty and knowledge, modest, and of a sweet disposition. "I have often seen her in my childhood," says the Abbot Ingulphus, "when I went to visit my father, who was employed in the King's palace. If she met me on my return from school, she interrogated me upon my grammar, poetry, or even logic, in which she was well versed; and when she had entangled me in the meshes of some subtle argument, she never failed to bestow upon me three or four crowns by her servant, and to send me to have refreshment in the buttery." Egitha was gentle and kind to all who approached her; those who disliked the somewhat savage pride of her father and brother, praised her for not resembling him. *Scut spinu rosam, genuit Godwinus Editham*—as the thorn produces the rose, Godwin produces Editha. Female education at this period consisted in needlework and reading. A contemporary describes an accomplished wife as young and

beautiful in her person, mistress of her needle, skilled in horsemanship and the management of a hawk; no merchant better versed in accounts. At a subsequent period, girls were educated at nunneries in sewing, confectionary, surgery, physic, writing, drawing, &c., and old Aubrey speaks of the nuns of St. Mary Kingdon, in Wilts, coming forth into the Nymph Hay with their rocks and wheels to spin, sometimes to the number of threescore and ten, all whom were not nuns, but young girls sent there for education. The gentry and citizens had little learning of any kind, and their way of bringing up children was conformable to the rest. They were as severe to their offspring as their schoolmasters, and their schoolmasters as the masters of the House of Correction; the child perfectly loathing the sight of his parents, as the slave his torture. Gentlemen of thirty or forty years old were made to stand like mutes and fools bareheaded before their parents; and the daughters, grown-up women, stood at the cupboard during the whole time of their proud mothers' visits, unless leave was desired that a cushion should be given them to kneel upon, brought them by the serving-man, after they had done penance by standing. The boys had their foreheads turned up and stiffened by spittle.

A glance through these records of the school days of eminent men brings pleasantly under notice some very quaint and curious facts illustrative of the habits and usages of our ancestors two or three centuries ago. John Aubrey's schoolmaster was the Rector of Leigh-de-la-Mere, who had been tutor to John Hobbes, the philosopher of Malmesbury. He wore a dagger, 'with a knife and bodkin.' In his house were heaps of parchments brought at the Dissolution from the Abbey of Malmesbury—"old manuscripts," says Aubrey, "with which the boys used to cover their books. I was too young to understand them, but I was pleased with the elegance of the writing, and the illuminated initial letters." The rector, when he brewed a barrel of special ale, used to stop the bung-hole, under the clay, with a sheet of this manuscript. "He said," adds the historian of Wilts, "that nothing did it so well, which methought did grieve me to see."

Probably the world has grieved likewise, congratulating itself that the days of such vandalism are long gone by. But congratulations are not seldom premature. To speak candidly, we scarcely expect to be credited in relating the following anecdote; however, its authenticity is beyond question:—In 1817, Mr. Upcott, of the London Institution, was at Wotton in Surrey, the residence of the descendants of John Evelyn. The conversation happened to turn upon autographs, of which Upcott professed himself an ardent admirer. "What! I suppose," said Lady Evelyn, "you would care for things like these?"—unfolding a letter written by Sarah Duchess of Marlborough. On his assenting, she added, "Oh! if that be your taste, we can easily satisfy you; the house is full of such matters. There is a great clothes-basket full of letters and other papers of old Mr. Evelyn in the garret, which I was so tired of seeing that I ordered the maid to light the fires with them; but probably she may not have yet done it." The bell was rung, and the basket appeared untouched. It contained the letters and diary of the accomplished author of the 'Sylvia.'

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

The first two volumes of Mr. Thomas Jefferson Hogg's *Life of Percy Bysshe Shelley* have just been published by Mr. Moxon. Mr. Hogg says:—"All Shelley's journals, letters, fragments, every scrap of paper, indeed, relating to him, or to his affairs, whether it was written by himself, or by other persons, have been placed in my hands, and at my disposal, by his family; my materials are at once authentic and abundant. This is much, but it will be far more to write a living Life of the young Poet; to give him a breathing, moving, speaking portrait." The first volume contains a portrait of Shelley, exquisitely engraved on steel by Mr. Francis Hall, from a miniature in the possession of the present baronet. We have looked for these volumes with eager expectation, and we shall lose no time in bestowing on them all the attention which their quality deserves. At a first glance, however, we seem to discern (with mitigated satisfaction) a prevailing characteristic in the tone adopted by the biographer; the vivid and glowing recollection of the divinely gifted friend of his youth is evidently tempered by the cold and somewhat parching cynicism of his own later and drier years. Still, the materials of these volumes are their true and sufficient recommendation.

Nicholas Nickleby is now added to the Library Edition of Mr. Charles Dickens's works, in course of publication by Messrs. Chapman and Hall and Messrs. Bradbury and Evans. It is delightful to meet these old familiar friends with new and, we may add, very handsome faces and dresses. This edition is in all respects creditable to the two houses responsible for its appearance, and is well worthy of a permanent niche in the Pantheon of the British Humorists.

Mr. Vizetelly produces a light and popular sketch of Chinese life and manners at Canton, in the shape of a translation from the smart pages of Dr. Yvan, who was attached to M. de Lagrenée's mission some years ago. The title, *Inside Canton*, gives a fresh *à propos* to Dr. Yvan's lively chapters, which will be found at once amusing and informing.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

DOREHILL.—At Parsons-town, King's County, Ireland, the wife of Captain Dorehill, R.M.'s 43rd Light Infantry: a son.
GORE.—At Brighton, the wife of Captain Ralph Gore, R.A.: a daughter.
HUME.—At Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Hume, C.B., 95th Regiment: a son.

MARRIAGES.

COULSON—BAIRD.—At Clevedon, Somerset, the Rev. J. B. Coulson, Vicar of Long Preston, Yorkshire, to Rhoda May, daughter of the late Captain Baird, 15th King's Hussars.
DEACON—CURRIE.—At St. John's, Paddington, on the 8th of April, William S. Deacon, Esq., second son of the late John Deacon, Esq., of Mableton Park, Kent, to Mary Sophia, eldest daughter of Ralphe Currie, Esq.

DEATHS.

TUCKER.—At Bath, aged 54, Jane, wife of the late John Tucker, Esq., formerly of Bromley, Kent, afterwards of Jamesville, Rock County, Wisconsin Territory, United States.
WARD.—At sea, on board the Nile, John Robert Ward, Esq., of the Civil Service, Bengal Establishment.
WOODBRIDGE.—Killed in action, near Sumbulporo, on the 12th Feb., Captain A. P. Woodbridge, 40th Regiment, M.A., son of E. C. Woodbridge, Esq., of Brighton.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Thursday Evening, April 9.

The depression in the Funds and all other securities during the past week has not been improved by the favourable

From Messrs. A. Fullarton and Co. we have received *Switzerland: the Pioneer of the Reformation*, by the Countess Dora d'Istria, translated from the French, and comprising the chapter suppressed by the censorship of the Imperial Government in the Parisian edition of the work.

The Arts.

STRAND THEATRE.

THE notable dramatic event of the week has been the reopening of that little theatre in the Strand, which since the days of Mr. HAMMOND and Mr. FARRER has been a theatrical pasture unknown to the professional critic. Pieces of original merit may have been produced during the interregnum of legitimate management, and performed by actors of rare and peculiar talent, but the fashion for the last few years amongst the leading critical members of the press has been to pass by the open doors and the provocations of the smallest theatre in London, and the general public have consequently been kept in ignorance of the virtues and defects of one twig of the drama and its mocking birds. Miss SWANBOROUGH, aided by all that the carpenter and decorator can do before the curtain, all that the scene painter and a small but not ineffective company can do behind it, is the young directress who has undertaken the task of restoring the dramatic character of the place; and for her own sake, and the sake of her valiant little troupe, we wish her success. An untoward event that happened on her first night (Monday last) enlisted the sympathies of the audience in her favour, and struck the weapons from the hands of the critical. Mr. LEIGH MURRAY, her principal actor, failed (from alleged indisposition) to appear, and his part, the leading part in Mr. STIRLING COYNE'S new comedy, had to be read at an hour's notice by Mr. SWANBOROUGH. Under these circumstances, until the fortunate accession of Mr. BELTON to Mr. MURRAY'S place, it would have been unfair to the author to attempt an analysis of his play, though we might say that the story (partly original, partly adapted from the French) is neat and concise, and the dialogue written with care and point. The actors in the painful and unforeseen position in which they found themselves placed, exerted themselves nobly, especially Mr. BELFORD; and to Miss OLIVER was accorded a reception as kind as it was well deserved. After a call, responded to by the author, Miss SWANBOROUGH came forward and delivered a short and smart address, written by Mr. ALBERT SMITH, and she was received with enthusiasm by a house crowded by this time in every part. Then came the burlesque of the evening, a kind of musical burletta upon the subject of *Fra Diavolo*, written (so the bills stated) by Mr. BYRON, but manufactured, as we should prefer putting it, by Mr. CALCOTT (scenic artist), Mr. W. H. MONTGOMERY (musical director), Mr. BYRON (author), and Mr. MAY (costumier). It is deftly filled with sparkling music, songs, and dances, and dexterously performed by the company engaged in it. Miss SWANBOROUGH acted and sang with great spirit, and dressed in a most charming costume, and Mr. CHARLES YOUNG (the Australian comedian, as he is called) made an artistic impression in a melodramatic ruffian, written upon Mr. W. BROUGH'S model in *Conrad and Medora*, and therefore difficult to render in any other form than that made popular by Mr. TOOLE. Miss MARIA TERNAN, a young, agreeable, and rising actress, filled her part with charming ease and grace, sang her music with trained skill, and in one scene where *Zerlina* partially unrobes herself and retires to rest upon a couch before the audience, conducted herself with a modest and refined self-possession in a position where the slightest tinge of vulgarity would have called down a rude laugh from the coarser portion of the audience. Until dramatic authors learn to treat the gentler members of the dramatic profession with the respect that is due to ladies, and to cease to depend for success upon the worthless applause of the depraved, there is little hope for an improved tone of our morals in our theatrical entertainments. Burlesque, in addition to the besetting and ineradicable taint of vulgarity, has to answer for bankrupt managers, exaggerated actors, and a vitiated dramatic taste, that prevents the public appreciation of quiet natural embodiment of character.

THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION.

This society commenced a series of six subscription concerts on Wednesday evening, in St. JAMES'S HALL, under the direction of Mr. BENEDICT. The programme of the first concert was as follows:—

PART I.

Symphony in A Major	Mendelssohn.
Choral Part Songs—'For the New Year,' 'Hunting Song'	Mendelssohn.
Concerto Violin (M. Sainton)	Mendelssohn.
Finale—'Loreley'—and Solos by Miss Stabbach	Mendelssohn.

PART II.

Overture—'Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage'	Mendelssohn.
Grand Scena—(Madame Castellan) 'Infelice'	Mendelssohn.
Capriccio Brilliant, pianoforte (Miss Arabella Goddard)	Mendelssohn.
Choral Part Songs (male voices)—'The Hunter's Farewell,' 'Eastern Drinking Song'	Mendelssohn.
Part Songs—'O wert thou in the eagle's blast,' 'I would that my love' (Madame Castellan and Miss Fanny Huddart)	Mendelssohn.
The Walpurgis Night—(Solos by Miss Huddart, Mr. Winn, and Mr. M. Smith).	

Conductor—M. Benedict.

The whole performance gave unmingled satisfaction to a crowded and brilliant audience, and the perfect qualities of the new Hall were fully confirmed.

news from India. There seems so much uncertainty as to the financial schemes of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—the rumour of a loan, the unsettled state of mercantile credit, with the insecure feeling about foreign political movements are sufficiently evident causes of this depression. The amount of business transacted by the general public is very insignificant. The speculators have given largely for the option of selling Consols at a fixed price during the present monthly account, showing that they look for a fall sooner or later. The New Indian Loan has been done at 97½ and 98½. Above a million will have to be paid up once, but the dividends on New Three per Cent. and Reduced Stocks now to be paid will balance this outlay. In foreign stocks, Turkish Six per Cent. and Buenos Ayres are sensibly lower. In the foreign railway market there has been no improvement. Eastern of France and Great Luxembourg, perhaps, hold their own best. In Grand Trunk of Canada and Great Western of Canada prices remain steady, the railways, however, do not show any improvement. East Indian guaranteed railway shares are at about the same price, but in no demand. Pernambuco and

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