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The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND
RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. IX. No. 439.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1858.

PRICE {UNSTAMPED...SIXPENCE.
Stamped.....Sevenpence.

MARINE BRANCH.

PHOENIX
LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 1, LEADENHALL-STREET, E.C.
Established 1848.

By the advice of several Merchants and Insurance Brokers, this Company have OPENED a BRANCH of GENERAL MARINE ASSURANCE. They offer every advantage now existent in similar Companies. Their rates are regulated by those long established, and their whole attention is paid to creating a safe and reciprocally advantageous Marine Insurance.

MAURICE EVANS, Secretary.

ALLIANCE
BRITISH AND FOREIGN
LIFE & FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Established 1824.

(Branch Offices: Edinburgh, Ipswich, and Bury St. Edmunds.)

Capital, FIVE MILLIONS Sterling.

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Life Assurances are granted under an extensive variety of forms, and at Moderate Premiums; the Rates for the Younger Ages being lower than those of many of the older and most respectable offices.

Participation of Profits. *Four Fifths*, or Eighty per cent. of the declared Profits will be divided quinquennially among those entitled to participation.

Non-participating Scales of Premium. Policies issued at minimum Rates without participation in profits.

Life Policies are not liable to Forfeiture by the Lives Assured proceeding beyond the prescribed limits without the cognizance of the holders of such Policies.

Reduced Extra Rates for residence out of Europe.

No charge for Stamps or Medical Fees.

Fire Assurances, both at home and abroad, are accepted at very Moderate Premiums.

The Assured participate in the *Five Profits* in respect of Policies in force for five complete years at each period of Division.

Losses by *Lightning* are made good; and the Company are liable for Losses by *Explosion*, except when occasioned by Gunpowder, or in cases specially provided for in the Policy.

Detailed Prospectuses will be furnished on application.

FRANCIS A. ENGELBACH,

Actuary and Secretary.

ST. GEORGE
ASSURANCE COMPANY.

118, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Capital 100,000*l.*, in Shares of 5*l.* each.

Chairman.—Henry Pownall, Esq.

Deputy Chairman.—Henry Haines, Esq.

The Leading Features of this Office are—

Every description of Life Assurance on the most favourable terms.

The Assurance of Defective Titles, thereby restoring the property to its full value.

Endowments for Husbands, Wives, or Nominees.

Endowments for Children on attaining a certain age.

Annuities of every description granted on terms peculiarly favourable.

Notices of Assignments of Policies Registered.

Medical References paid by the Company.

Age of the Life Assured admitted on all Policies, on reasonable proof being given.

Stamp Duties on Life Policies paid by the Company.

Loans on Real or Personal Security, repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments, from one to five years.

For further particulars, Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses, apply to

F. H. GILBERT, Secretary.

THE
LONDON ASSURANCE,
INCORPORATED A.D. 1720.
FOR LIFE, FIRE, AND MARINE
ASSURANCES.

Head Office—No. 7, Royal Exchange, Cornhill.

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Two Members of the Court in rotation, and
Henry Kingscote, Esq., and John Tidd Pratt, Esq.
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LIFE DEPARTMENT.

This Corporation has granted Assurances on Lives for a period exceeding One Hundred and Thirty Years, having issued its first Policy on the 7th June, 1721.

Two-thirds, or 66 per cent. of the entire profits are given to the Assured.

Policies may be opened under any of the following plans, viz.:

At a low rate of premium, without participation in profits, or at a somewhat higher rate, entitling the Assured, either, after the first five years, to an annual abatement of premium for the remainder of life, or after payment of the first premium, to a participation in the ensuing Quinquennial Bonus.

The abatement for the year 1858, on the Annual Premiums of persons who have been assured under Series "1831" for five years or longer, is upwards of 34 per cent.

The high character which this ancient Corporation has maintained during nearly a Century and a Half, secures to the public a full and faithful declaration of profits.

The Corporation bears the whole EXPENSES OF MANAGEMENT, thus giving to the Assured, conjoined with the protection afforded by its Corporate Fund, advantages equal to those of any system of Mutual Assurance.

Premiums may be paid Yearly, Half-yearly, or Quarterly.

All Policies are issued free from stamp duty, or from charge of any description whatever, beyond the Premium.

The attention of the Public is especially called to the great advantages offered to Life Assurers by the Legislature in its recent Enactments, by which it will be found that to a defined extent Life Premiums are not subject to Income Tax.

The fees of Medical Referees are paid by the Corporation.

Annuities are granted by the Corporation, payable Half-Yearly.

Every facility will be given for the transfer or exchange of Policies, or any other suitable arrangement will be made for the convenience of the Assured.

Prospectuses and all other information may be obtained by either a written or personal application to the Actuary, or to the Superintendent of the West End Office.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT PERSONAL
LIABILITY.

NATIONAL MERCANTILE LIFE ASSU-
RANCE SOCIETY, Poultry, Mansion-house, London.

Annual Income, 70,000*l.*

Accumulated assets, 209,330*l.*

BONUSES.—The reductions in the premiums last year varied from 15 to 62½ per cent., with the option of equivalent reversionary additions, which, on an average, have amounted to 2 per cent. per annum on the sum assured.

VOYAGES by SEA and RESIDENCE in FOREIGN CLIMATES free of extra charge after the expiration of five years.

NON-FORFEITURE of POLICY.—After the expiration of five years the non-payment of premium only will, under any circumstances, vitiate the policy.

JENKIN JONES, Actuary and Secretary.

PELICAN
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
ESTABLISHED IN 1797,

70, Lombard-street, City, and 57, Charing-cross, Westminster.

DIRECTORS.

William Cotton, D.C.L., F.R.S. K. D. Hodgson, Esq., M.P.
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This Company offers

COMPLETE SECURITY.

Moderate Rates of Premium with Participation in Four-fifths or Eighty per cent. of the Profits.

Low Rates without Participation in Profits.

LOANS

in connexion with Life Assurance, on approved Security, in sums of not less than 500*l.*

ANNUAL PREMIUM

required for the Assurance of 100*l.*, for the whole term of life:—

| Age. | Without Profits. | With Profits. | Age. | Without Profits. | With Profits. |
|------|------------------|---------------|------|------------------|---------------|
| 15 | £1 11 0 | £1 15 0 | 40 | £2 18 10 | £3 6 5 |
| 20 | 1 13 10 | 1 19 3 | 50 | 4 0 9 | 4 10 7 |
| 30 | 2 4 0 | 2 10 4 | 60 | 6 1 0 | 6 7 4 |

ROBERT TUCKER, Secretary.

**CAPE TOWN RAILWAY AND
DOCK COMPANY.**

(FROM CAPE TOWN TO WELLINGTON.)

Under a Guarantee obtained from the Local Government of a minimum rate of interest at Six per cent. for Fifty Years from the opening of the Line, with power to pay Interest at the same rate during its construction.

This Company was originated in 1853 and incorporated in 1855 by special Act of Parliament, under the sanction of the Colonial Office, for the purpose of constructing and working all such lines of Railway and Docks, in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, as might be agreed upon between the Local Government and the Corporation.

By an Act of the Colonial Legislature, dated June 29, 1857, a guarantee of a minimum rate of interest of 5*l.* per cent. on a sum not exceeding 500,000*l.* was granted for the construction of the Railway between Cape Town and Wellington, originally proposed by this Company in 1853, and Tenders invited by the Colonial authorities. The Company, having carefully surveyed the line in the Winter of 1857, sent in their Tender in March last, which, with other Tenders, was rejected, and the matter referred home to Captain Douglas Galton, of the Board of Trade, who called for fresh Tenders, and eventually, on the 6th of August, decided on awarding the Contract to this Company, on the basis of a guarantee of six per cent. for fifty years from the opening of the line, with power to pay interest at the same rate during its construction.

All Shares to be registered by the 25th September, after which date they will be liable to forfeiture. The first call of 1*l.* 18s. per share, will be payable on or before Saturday, the 23rd October next, and payment in full (20*l.* per share) will be received in advance of calls on one-fourth of the shares registered.

Interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will be payable on all Calls, or payments in advance of Calls, from the date of such payments.

The subscription of the Capital of the Company, with the exception of 5000 shares, was completed in 1857, and the only Shares now unallotted are the 5000 which are offered exclusively to those holders of Scrip, whether by original allotment or purchase, who may bring their Scrip in for registration before the 1st September. Forms of application for new Shares, and for permission to pay in full, may be obtained at the Office.

The line from Cape Town, through Stellenbosch and the Paarl to Wellington, as laid out by the Company's Engineer, will be about fifty-four miles in length, and, as the working sections are already prepared, will be commenced without delay.

By order.
201, Gresham House, Old Broad-street,
20th August, 1858.

**MONEY TO LEND.—THE LONDON AND
CONTINENTAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY** lends money, repayable by instalments, upon personal or other security. 97, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

THE PEOPLE'S PROVIDENT ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

FOR LIFE ASSURANCE, ANNUITIES, AND THE GUARANTEE OF FIDELITY IN SITUATIONS OF TRUST.

Chief Office, 2, Waterloo-place, Pall-Mall, London, S.W.;

With Agencies in all the Principal Towns throughout the Kingdom.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson, M.P., Wilton Crescent.

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Joshua Proctor Brown Westhead, Esq., M.P.
James Heywood, Esq., F.R.S.
Richard Spooner, Esq., M.P.

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The President, Trustees, and Directors are all Shareholders in the Society.

MANAGER AND SECRETARY.—WILLIAM CLELAND.

THE PEOPLE'S PROVIDENT ASSURANCE SOCIETY transacts Guarantee business upon very favourable terms; and, if combined with a proposal for Life Insurance, still greater advantages are given to the assured.

The Premiums of this Society are applicable to all ordinary classes of risk, and range from 10s. per cent. and upwards. The rate in each particular case is dependent upon the nature of the duties, the system of accounts, and the extent of responsibility or trust reposed.

The Guarantee Policies of this Society are accepted by the leading London and Provincial Joint-Stock and Private Banks, the principal Railway Companies, Life and Fire Offices, Public Companies, Institutions, and Commercial Firms throughout the kingdom.

Immediate Annuities, payable during the whole of life, may be purchased on the following scale:—

Annuities granted at the undermentioned ages for every 100*l.* of Purchase Money.

| Ages. | 50 | 60 | 70 |
|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Annuity..... | £8 5s. 7d. | £10 11s. 7d. | £15 4s. 11d. |

List of Shareholders, Prospectuses, and Agency applications may be obtained on application.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE.

Incorporated A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First and confirmed by Special Acts of Parliament.
Chief Office, Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 29, Pall-mall.

FIRE, LIFE, and MARINE ASSURANCES may be effected with this Corporation on advantageous terms.

Life Assurances are granted with, or without, participation in Profits; in the latter case at reduced rates of Premium.

Any sum not exceeding 15,000*l.* may be assured on the same Life.

The Reversionary Bonus on British Policies has averaged 48 per cent. upon the Premiums paid, or very nearly 2 per cent. per annum upon the sum assured.

The future divisions of Profit will take place every Five Years.

The Expenses of Management, being divided between the different branches, are spread over a larger amount of business than that transacted by any other office. The charge upon each Policy is thereby so much reduced as to account for the magnitude of the Bonus which has been declared, and to afford a probability that a similar rate will be maintained at future divisions.

This Corporation affords to the Assured a liberal participation in Profits, with exemption under Royal Charter from the liabilities of partnership;—a rate of Bonus equal to the average returns of Mutual Societies, with the guarantee, not afforded by them, of a large invested Capital-Stock;—the advantages of modern practice, with the security of an Office whose resources have been tested by the experience of nearly a Century and a Half.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, OR

A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK

IN THE EVENT OF INJURY,

May be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 for a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A special Act provides that persons receiving compensation from this Company are not barred thereby from recovering full damages from the party causing the injury; an advantage no other Company can offer.

It is found that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly. This Company has already paid as compensation for Accidents 27,988*l.*

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company.
Offices, 8, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

[ESTABLISHED 1841.]

MEDICAL INVALID AND GENERAL

LIFE OFFICE, 25, PALL MALL, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

At the SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING, held on 26th November, 1857, it was shown that on the 30th June last:—

The Number of Policies in force was . . . 6255
The amount Insured was . . . £2,917,598 13s. 10d.
The Annual Income was . . . £125,113 8s. 8d.
The new policies issued during the last 5 years are as follows, viz.:—

| POICIES. | SUMS ASSURED. | ANN. PREMIUMS. |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1853 921 for | 402,178 | yielding £16,934 |
| 1854 1111 | 534,188 | 22,768 |
| 1855 1129 | 538,084 | 22,609 |
| 1856 1137 | 556,769 | 24,051 |
| 1857 1207 | 570,282 | 23,015 |

Averaging 1100 policies in each year for more than half a million sterling.

Two Bonuses have been declared (in 1848 and 1853), adding nearly Two per cent. per annum on the average to sums assured.

The Society, since its establishment, has paid claims on 781 Policies, assuring 312,834*l.*

Assurances are effected at home or abroad on healthy lives at as moderate rates as the most recent data will allow. Indian Assurances at very moderate rates, and great facilities given to assurers.

Invalid lives assured on scientifically constructed tables. Policies issued free of Stamp duty, and every charge but the Premiums.

DAYS OF GRACE.—In the event of death during the days of grace the risk binding on the Society if premium paid before the days of grace expire.

Active working Agents wanted for vacant places. Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information, may be obtained of the Secretary at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the Country.

G. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK.

FIVE PER CENT. is paid on all Sums received on DEPOSIT. Interest paid half-yearly.

The Right Hon. the Earl of DEVON, Chairman.
G. H. LAW, Manager.

Offices, 6, Cannon-street, West, E.C.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS are granted upon the Banks at Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Gawler. Approved drafts on South Australia negotiated and sent for collection. Every description of Banking business is conducted direct with Victoria and New South Wales, and also with the other Australian Colonies, through the Company's Agents. Apply at 54, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

BANK OF DEPOSIT, Established A.D. 1844.

3, Pall-Mall East, London. Parties desirous of INVESTING MONEY are requested to examine the Plan of the BANK OF DEPOSIT, by which a high rate of Interest may be obtained with ample security. The Interest is payable in January and July.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Forms for opening Accounts sent free on application.

SOUTH AFRICAN PORT and SHERRY,

20s. a dozen; very superior, 24s. a dozen.
H. R. WILLIAMS, Importer, 112, Bishopsgate-street, London, quotes the following extracts of letters addressed to him—originals at his counting-house:—

From a Nobleman.—“The sample of Sherry Lord S. approves.”

From an eminent literary Gentleman.—“July 16, 1858. Mr. — is much pleased with the Sherry.”

From a Clergyman.—“July 17, 1858. We like your wine so much that we have mentioned it to several people.”

From Major-General —.—“July 21, 1858. Sir—I very much approve of your South African Sherry; as I require wine, I shall write for more wherever I may go.”

Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus.

H. R. WILLIAMS, Wine and Spirit Importer,
112, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON,
Two doors from the Flower Pot.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

PORT, SHERRY, MARSALA, MADEIRA, &c., TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN., imported by us from the Cape of Good Hope, and only charged half the usual duty by her Majesty's Customs.

“I find it to be pure and unadulterated, and I have no doubt of its being far more wholesome than the artificial mixtures too often sold for genuine Sherry.”

“H. LETHBRIDGE, M.D., London Hospital.”

A pint sample of either, 12 stamps. Terms, cash or reference. Packages charged and allowed for if returned. Delivered free to any of the London Termini.

Brandy, Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon.

WELLER and HUGHES, wholesale Wine and Spirit Importers, 27, Crutched Friars, Mark-lane.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day.

Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 54, Pall-Mall.

August, 1858.

ENGRAVING, LITHOGRAPHY. PRINT-

ING, &c.—Every description of work executed in a very superior style, at the same prices often charged for inferior work. Wedding orders promptly completed. Steel Dies, Seals, Door, Window, and Stencil Plates, &c. Electro-Silver Plates for Marking Linen, Books, or other articles.

Plates, Cards, Estimates, &c., sent free. Orders executed for the trade.—T. J. WHITEMAN, 19, Little Queen-street, Holborn, W.C.

MAPPIN'S DRESSING CASES AND TRAVELLING BAGS.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the Consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, London-bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of DRESSING CASES, and Ladies' and Gentlemen's TRAVELLING BAGS in the World, each Article being manufactured under their own superintendence.

MAPPIN'S Guinea DRESSING CASE, for Gentlemen. MAPPIN'S Two Guinea DRESSING CASE, in solid Leather.

Ladies' TRAVELLING and DRESSING BAGS, from 2*l.* 12s. to 100*l.* each.

Gentlemen's do. do., from 3*l.* 12s. to 80*l.*

Messrs. MAPPIN invite inspection of their extensive Stock, which is complete with every Variety of Style and Price.

A costly Book of Engravings, with Prices attached, forwarded by post on receipt of 12 Stamps.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

Manufactory—QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD.

MAPPIN'S SHILLING RAZOR, sold every-

where, warranted good, by the Makers, MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield, and 67 and 68, King William-street, City, London, where the largest stock of Cutlery in the world is kept.

MAPPIN'S SUPERIOR TABLE-KNIVES

maintain their unrivalled superiority. Handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture.

| | Tble. Kus. | Dist. Kus. | Carvers. |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | per Doz. | per Doz. | per Pair. |
| Ivory 3½ in. Handle, balanced.. | 20s. | 16s. | 6s. |
| Do. 4 in. do. | 25s. | 18s. | 9s. |

MAPPIN'S SILVER-PLATED DESSERT

KNIVES and FORKS, in Mahogany Cases.

12 Pairs Knives and Forks, Ivory Handles, in Case..... 80s.
12 Do. Pearl Handles, do. 90s.
12 Do. Silver-Plated Handles, do. 80s.

MAPPIN'S ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE.—

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield makers who supply the consumers in London. Their LONDON SHOW ROOMS, 67 and 68, King William-street, London Bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE in the World, which is transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

| | Fiddle Pattern. | Double Thread. | King's Pattern. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 12 Table Forks, best quality.. | £1 16 0 | £2 14 0 | £3 0 0 |
| 12 Table Spoons, best quality.. | 1 16 0 | 2 14 0 | 3 0 0 |
| 12 Dessert Forks, best quality.. | 1 7 0 | 2 0 0 | 2 4 0 |
| 12 Dessert Spoons, best quality.. | 1 7 0 | 2 0 0 | 2 4 0 |
| 12 Tea Spoons, best quality.. | 0 16 0 | 1 4 0 | 1 7 0 |

Messrs. Mappin Brothers respectfully invite buyers to inspect their unprecedented display, which, for beauty of design, exquisite workmanship, and novelty, stands unrivalled. Their illustrated Catalogue, which is continually receiving addition of New Designs, free on application—MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William-street, London Bridge; Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

SOHO LOOKING-GLASS MANUFACTORY,

26, Soho-square, London.—Established 20 years.—The Proprietor begs to call the attention of the public to the following very reduced List of Prices for LOOKING-GLASSES, of superior quality, fitted in carefully manufactured carved and gilt frames:—

| Size of Glass. | Outside Measure of Frame. | Price. |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 40 by 30 in. | 51 in. wide by 30 in. high from | 3 <i>l.</i> 10s. each. |
| 46 by 36 in. | 57 in. wide by 36 in. high from | 5 <i>l.</i> 0s. each. |
| 50 by 40 in. | 61 in. wide by 40 in. high from | 6 <i>l.</i> 0s. each. |
| 53 by 43 in. | 65 in. wide by 43 in. high from | 7 <i>l.</i> 7s. each. |
| 56 by 46 in. | 68 in. wide by 46 in. high from | 8 <i>l.</i> 8s. each. |
| 60 by 48 in. | 72 in. wide by 48 in. high from | 10 <i>l.</i> 9s. each. |
| 70 by 50 in. | 84 in. wide by 54 in. high from | 12 <i>l.</i> 0s. each. |

Mahogany dressing and cheval glasses, gilt cornices, girandoles, picture frames, &c., at equally moderate prices. Merchants and shippers supplied by special contract.

SYDENHAM ALPACA OVERCOATS for

Summer Wear. Admirably adapted for the Parks, Day Festivals, Race-Courses, Country Rambles, Daily Town Wear, or the Sea-Side, and equally convenient for travelling in hot dry weather from the protection which they afford against dust, without the encumbrance of weight, or the restraint of transpiration. These goods are made with a degree of care hitherto unprecedented. Sydenham Trousers of fine light cloth, 17s. 6d.; Waistcoat to match, 8s. 6d.; Business or Park Coat, 17s. 6d.; Sydenham Summer Overcoats of Melton Cloth, 21s.; Complete Suits for Boys, 21s.; Gentlemen's complete Evening Dress or Opera Suit, 63s. The Sydenham construction as is now well known is effectually directed to secure the most perfect retentive and easy fit in all positions of the body. Made only by the Inventors, SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill.

THE SUITS at 47s., 50s., 55s., 58s., 60s., and

63s., are made to order from Scotch heather and Cheviot tweeds and angolas, all wool, and thoroughly shrunken, by B. BENJAMIN, merchant and family tailor, 74, Regent-street, W., and are adapted for either shooting, fishing, promenade, sea-side, or continental touring. N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

CAUTION to Householdors, Bankers, Mer-

chants, and Public Offices. The Patent NATIONAL and DEFENCE LOCKS can be had only of F. PUCK. RIDGE, 52, Strand, near Charing-cross. These Locks are important for their security against burglars and thieves, as evidenced in the fraudulent attempt to pick it at the Crystal Palace, in August, 1854, by John Genter, for whom Messrs. Chubb, for the REWARD of 200 Guineas. See Pamphlet and Description, to be had gratis. Fire and Thiel proof Iron Safes, Plate and Jewel Chests, Deed, Cash, and Despatch Boxes, Embossing Dies, &c. Warranted Street-Door Latches, 17s. 6d. each.

Review of the Week.

LORD PALMERSTON'S appearance at Sligo on Monday afternoon was really not a striking success, notwithstanding that he was gaped at and crowded upon by a large number of the good folks of the town wherever he went, and notwithstanding that the Town and Harbour Commissioners presented him with an address signed by upwards of twenty of their number. His lordship's "speech" was so wanting in Palmerstonian salt that the Sligonian political palate must be very keen if it found much flavour in it. A few mild praises of himself and of his colleagues in office, a very modest reference to India Bill No. 1, which after being taken up by the present Government with some alterations, "more or less in accordance with its principles," has passed into law, "and will ensure stability to our Indian empire" (*applause*), formed the spirit, pith, and marrow of the speech. Not another word to throw at a dog! But in truth Lord Derby's position is too firm to be assailed with any chance of hitting by such a long-shot as Monday's answer to an occasional address. Humiliating as the fact is to the leaders of the Liberal party, Lord Derby's Government has won for itself a large amount of respect by the progress which liberal measures have made under it. What the Liberals have been endlessly talking about doing the Tories have done. It may, then, be the best policy for Lord Palmerston to roar, for a time at least, as gently as a sucking dove.

The formation of the new Indian Council is still the leading political topic. Since we last week noticed the progress made by the East India Board of Directors in the election of some of their number, and by Government in the selection of its nominees, it has become known that a seat in the Council has been offered to John Stuart Mill, son of the historian of India, and himself a far higher man; Mr. John Mill is one of the examiners at the East India House, and, with Sir James Melvill, joint author of the Company's protest against abolition. The state of his health, unfortunately, prevents his acceptance; but the offer shows a real desire to secure for the grand experiment in Indian government the services of the best men, and it has brought great credit to Lord Derby's Government. The nomination of Sir Henry Rawlinson, about which there was some little doubt, has been confirmed; the name of Sir Frederick Currie is also added to the list of Government nominees, and more recently that of General Sir Richard Vivian, an Indian officer, distinguished as the commander of the Turkish Legion in the Russian war. On the other hand, the announcement of Sir John Lawrence's appointment to a seat in the Council has been a little premature: he has, indeed, been offered a seat, but his acceptance of the post is left contingent upon the course of events in India; and the probability is that he will not leave India until tranquillity is thoroughly restored. The appointment has been offered to him on the understanding that should he accept it and come to England, he may resign it and return to his present position any time he may think his presence in India necessary.

According to the Bombay version of the events subsequent to the recapture of Gwalior, things are going on so promisingly that Sir John's acceptance of the post offered to him may not be incompatible with the security of the North-West Provinces. From the news which reached us lately by the Calcutta mail, it did not appear that the results of the Gwalior success had been so complete as was desirable; it now appears that the discomfiture of the rebels has been really great. After their flight they were chased by Brigadier Napier, who came up with them, beat them, and took away their guns. After this adventure, the rebels were without

leaders, and were perplexed as to whether they should turn their faces, towards Bhurtpore or towards Jeypore. They fled towards the latter place, but, as it would appear, to avoid an engagement with Brigadier Roberts, who was moving towards Jeypore from Nusseerabad, they turned and plunged into the jungles of Rajpootana. Brigadier Roberts was following closely upon their track, and Brigadier Smith was well situated to intercept them, should they continue their flight southwards. The general aspect of affairs in India may be judged by one of the concluding paragraphs of the Government telegram of the 15th instant:—"Matters are settling down in all parts of India, though there are 20,000 to 30,000 rebels in the field." The rainy season had set in, and therefore operations on a large scale were at an end; but it seems reasonable to infer that the overthrow and flight of the strongest force of the rebels is directly due to the successes of our arms in the late Central India campaign. We may accept Jung Bahadoor's answer to the rebel chiefs who have been attempting to win him over to their side as a collateral proof of the successes of our arms: he advises all who can to make their peace with the masters of India.

Events at Jeddah have taken a very unexpected turn, and although we are not able to form a correct, or in fact any, opinion upon the facts, as they reach us under the disguise of an unusually obscure telegram, it is to a certain extent quite clear that the Cyclops, which originally conveyed the news of the massacre to Malta, has returned and bombarded the place for several days. The proceeding is altogether inexplicable at present, the Turkish Government having taken the matter in hand, and given us every right to look for the completest satisfaction in the shape of punishment to the authors of the atrocity. There is nothing for it but to wait for further enlightenment, which will, no doubt, be forthcoming before many days have passed. Meanwhile, Captain Pullen has all the credit of "energy" and success.

The news from the United States is extremely satisfactory, showing as it does perfect concord between the two Governments on the subject of New Caledonia. From the other side of the St. Lawrence, the news is still of Ministerial difficulties. The successor of Mr. Macdonald has scarcely touched the reins of office before, as we may imagine, he has been obliged to give them up. A brief notification from Toronto reaches us, by way of New York, stating that Mr. Cartier and Mr. Macdonald were endeavouring to form a Ministry. There does not, however, appear to be the least chance of a really strong Ministry's being formed in the present state of parties. The working of the present system since the passing of the Act of 1840 has, indeed, been so unsatisfactory, that the most promising course would appear to be federalisation of the whole of the states of British North America. It is a question of great difficulty, but the material advantages of the federal form of government are amply proved by the rapid growth of prosperity in the Upper and Lower Provinces, imperfect as their union has been. It seems to be not only the readiest but the safest and best way of drowning that ever-recurring and dangerous cry from Upper Canada, "Repeal of the union!"

Politics in France, waiting the publication of the report of the Congress, are making holiday with the Emperor. The imperial progress is still continued this week through Brittany, amid exuberant demonstrations of popular loyalty. If there is anything noteworthy in the sayings of the French press, it is the irritable commentary which it has made upon the Newcastle speeches of Messrs. Lindsay and Roebuck: our sailors are allowed to pride themselves upon their resemblance to monkeys and squirrels—as well as upon being the best sailors in the world. Hard words break no bones, we know; but it would be as well if this irritating kind of war-

talk were stopped. There is no desire for war on either side of the Channel, whatever M. Lechevallier, the quondam "Christian Socialist" of London, may say about the Emperor; with a large army at his heels, being welcomed by a considerable portion of the people of this country; so there is no use in talking about it.

A pleasanter subject by far is the journey of her Majesty to Prussia. The meeting of the Royal mother and daughter was a sight to make the English heart leap. No pomp or pageantry surrounding the sovereign could so move the affections of her people towards her as that exhibition of high-hearted love for her eldest-born child. Who wonders at being told that whenever she appears abroad she is received with acclamation?

The Home News of the week is plentiful, but not of a very striking character. A case, in which a farmer was charged with poaching on his own farm, is remarkable. The farm is held of the Earl of Effingham, who does not allow any of his tenants to shoot at all, either at seed time or harvest, not even to frighten pigeons or other birds, however much damage they might be doing to the seed or crops. The charge was that the farmer was on the land of the Earl in "search of coney," or rabbits. The point of law to be decided was whether "coney" were to be considered as "game," and included under the term of "royalties," the which were reserved by the Earl of Effingham. The decision was in favour of the farmer. But what an exhibition the case furnishes of the absurdities that still hang about our land-laws! Here we have in the days of steamships and electric-telegraphs a landlord attempting to rule his tenantry by the laws of the middle ages. How long is such an absurdity to be possible?

Perhaps the most prominent topic of home news is the correspondence which has lately taken place between the Rev. Mr. Shaw, of Stoke Vicarage, Slough, and the Bishop of Oxford, on the subject of auricular confession. A statement of some alleged scandalous excesses in the practice of the confessional having been made in a letter which appeared in the *Windsor and Eton Express*, a petition setting forth the same allegations was signed by a number of the inhabitants of Stoke and forwarded to the Bishop of Oxford, praying him to examine into the facts of the case, and to adjudicate upon them, whatever they might be. The allegations were, that the Rev. Mr. West, curate of Boyne-hill, went to a "poor woman," who was very near her confinement, and endeavoured to force her to make confession to him; that he examined her as to her sins with reference to the ten commandments, dwelling particularly on the seventh, and putting to her questions of a searching kind. According to the tale, he then told the woman that, as she had never been confirmed, in the event of her death she could not hope to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, unless she confessed and received the sacrament; and he is alleged to have enjoined her on no account to tell her husband of what had passed between them. This woman was afterwards visited by a lady calling herself "Sister Ellen," who upbraided her for repeating the conversation which had passed between herself and the Rev. Mr. West, and again advised her not to tell her husband. On the strength of the Stoke requisition, the Bishop of Oxford inquired into the case, and the result of his inquiry has been communicated in a long letter to the Rev. Mr. Shaw. The Bishop of Oxford states the case on the side of Mr. West. The whole of the woman's story is denied, or her statements are all "contrary to fact." The explanation given by the Bishop of Oxford—who stands in the position of a protector to the Rev. Mr. West—is that the curate only proceeded under the directions of "the Office for the Visitation of the Sick;" that he only examined her to see whether she "repented her truly of her sins," and that he went through the commandments only as a means of putting the interrogatories more conveniently to her, not pressing her for answers, nor putting "improper questions" to her upon any one commandment. This is the statement and the counter-statement, the "poor woman" against the reverend curate of Boyne-hill; the truth may lie between. The Bishop of Oxford pronounces on the case without any misgiving: he exonerates Mr. West from clerical blame, and he lays it down that confession is permissible "as a reserved remedy for certain cases of spiritual disorder." Within the diocese of Oxford, therefore, there is an end of the question of "auricular confession:" it is authorised by the Bishop.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

VERY little additional news is furnished by the Bombay mail. The second defeat of the Gwalior rebels by General Napier is confirmed, as well as their continued flight and pursuit by General Roberts. They are said to have a large quantity of treasure with them. Since General Napier's victory, it seems to have been impossible to get up a tolerable fight with the insurgents, who are scattered over the North-West Provinces, plundering the villages. The capital and the central parts of Oude are clear of rebels in arms. The Begum, with her son, the newly-proclaimed King of Oude, have fled to a fort on the frontier of Nepaul, and several disorganised bands are retreating to the same place. There are still rumours of mobs of insurgents in the south, but they appear to be without discipline, artillery, or supplies. Lucknow is being fortified, and arrangements made for the accommodation of a force sufficiently large to keep quiet the surrounding country.

We learn from Gwalior that the treasurer of the Maharajah expiated his participation in the rebellion by a public execution. It is stated that, owing to the just and discriminating operation of the Oude proclamation, many of the Sepoys are surrendering themselves, as well as leading men who have been compromised by these disturbances.

An amnesty has been proclaimed in Bundelcund and Central India similar to that lately declared in Oude.

THE KING OF OUDE AND JUNG BAHADOOR.

We read in the *Bombay Gazette* a curious correspondence between the young King of Oude and Jung Bahadur, the former soliciting the alliance of the latter against the British, who, he says, have despoiled him of his kingdom contrary to treaties and pledges. The reply attributed to the Nepalese ruler—who declines—reads like a rich piece of irony indeed. "The star of faith and integrity," says the mild and immaculate Jung Bahadur, "sincerity in words as well as in acts, and the wisdom and comprehension of the British, are shining as bright as the sun in every quarter of the globe."

THE RANEE OF JHANSI.

The *Bombay Standard* gives the following account of the death of the Ranee:—"On the 17th, the 8th Hussars charged right into the enemy's camp. The Ranee, dressed and mounted as a trooper, was knocked off her horse by one of our men; she fired two pistols at him when on the ground, when he, not knowing who she was, shot her with his carbine. Another account is, that she, observing the English in camp, ordered the cavalry to follow her. On approaching a deep water-course, 200 turned and fled, 50 continued faithful. On endeavouring to rally the fugitives, she was shot. She wore a necklace worth 5000*l.*, which her gallant chief at once appropriated. Her body was carried away by her own people before we could make up with them, and afterwards burnt. Her sister-in-law fell along with her. She had been the life and soul of the insurrection in this part of the country, and her death deprived the insurgents of one of the most important of their leaders."

THE SURVIVOR OF THE CAWNPORE MASSACRE.

The *Daily News* gives an extract of a private letter from an honourable and intelligent resident in Calcutta, mingling extensively in society there:—"The young lady who survived the Cawnpore massacre is now in Calcutta. Her mind is still unsettled; and she cannot bear to be spoken to on the subject." The date of this letter is July 1.

FEELING OF THE NATIVE POPULATION.

All over the country the mutiny is execrated by the peasants. The pressure is beginning to be felt, and the poor deluded people are now beginning to perceive that prosperity and plenty are the results of the British raj, while wreck and ruin are the melancholy fruits of the revolt.

THE EX-KING OF DELHI.

The special correspondent of the *Times* has visited the deposed monarch:—"In a dingy, dark passage leading from the open court or terrace in which we stood to a darker room beyond, there sat, crouched on his haunches, a diminutive, attenuated old man, dressed in an ordinary and rather dirty muslin tunic, his small lean feet bare, his head covered by a small thin cambric skull cap. The moment of our visit was not propitious, certainly it was not calculated to invest the descendant of Timour the Tartar with any factitious interest, or to throw a halo of romance around the infirm creature who was the symbol of extinguished empire. In fact, the ex-King was sick; with bent body he seemed nearly prostrate over a brass basin, into which he was retching violently. That dim-wandering-eyed, dreamy old man, with feeble hanging nether-lip and toothless gums, was he indeed one who had conceived that vast plan of restoring a great empire, who had fomented the most gigantic mutiny in the history of the world, and who from the walls of his ancient palace had hurled defiance and shot ridicule upon the race that held every throne in India in the hollow of their palms? He broke silence. Alas! it was to inform us that he had been very sick. Who

could look on him without pity? Yes, for one instant 'pity,' till the rush of blood in that pitiless courtyard swept it from the heart! The passage in which he sat contained nothing that I could see but a charpoy such as those used by the poorest Indians. The old man cowered on the floor on his crossed legs, with his back against a mat which was suspended from doorway to doorway. I tried in vain to let my imagination find out Timour in him—I found only Holywell-street. As he sat before us I was reminded of the poorest form of the Israelitish type as exhibited in decay and penurious greed in its poorest haunts among us. His hands and feet were delicate and fine, his garments scanty and foul. And this is the descendant of him who 'on the 12th of August, 1765, conferred on the East India Company the Dewanee (or lordship) of the provinces of Bengal, of Behar, and Orissa, and confirmed divers other possessions held by the Hon. Company under inferior grants from the Subahdars of Bengal, the Deccan, and Carnatic!"

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

LATER intelligence has arrived, giving the particulars of the advance of the combined fleets up the Peiho river. After the capture and demolishing of the Tungkoo forts at the mouth of the river, the admirals proceeded to the exploration of the Peiho in order to secure a safe passage for the allied missions to the city of Tiensin. They appear to have entertained fears (which turned out to be totally groundless) of a most vigorous resistance on the part of the Chinese, and also of natural obstructions of a perplexing nature. Some naval correspondents of the daily journals hint at a superfluous amount of caution on the part of the commanding officers, and insinuate that the sole difficulty lay in getting along the allied admirals and the French gun-boats.

So far from exhibiting any hostility, the Chinese appear to be generally apathetic as to the progress of the invaders; in some instances they exhibited signs of wonder and fear at the steam squadron, "devil-ships" never having been seen there before. It is said that an opinion prevails among them that the present dynasty is to be overthrown; but they are indifferent as to its successor. They supplied the fleets with ample presents of excellent provisions. Care was taken to inform the authorities that the capture of the forts was not intended as a menace against the Chinese Government, but merely to secure the safety of the ambassadors.

On the 25th of May the *Staunch* and *Bustard* gun-boats, containing the Marines and small-arm men of the *Pique* and *Furious*, under Captains Sir F. Nicolson and Osborn, sighted Tiensin, and the following day the admirals in the *Coromandel* and *Avalanche*, anchored opposite the town. Their success encouraged them to push on beyond Tiensin towards Toongchow, the port of Peking, distant only ten miles from that city; and the *Kestrel*, with the ships' boats in tow, succeeded in reaching a village about eight miles above Tiensin. The whole of the Chinese craft were then ordered to clear out of the river, in order to avoid the possibility of egress being prevented by sunken junks. Great dissatisfaction appears to have been felt in the English fleet at the delay in accomplishing the advance; the distance being only thirty miles, without impediment, while a whole week was taken up in the operation, which the French admiral is said to have declared totally impossible unless supported by an army of 4000 men. This disgust at the dilatoriness of the admirals is said to be felt also by Lord Elgin, who is believed to have threatened to appeal to the authorities at home. It is the French this time, at any rate, who appear to be "toujours trop tard."

The ambassadors followed the squadron immediately, and reached Tiensin on the 30th May, where they took up their quarters in a spacious temple formerly a residence of the emperor. The *Staunch*, *Bustard*, *Kestrel*, *Coromandel*, *Slaney*, *Opossum*, *Leven*, *Woodcock*, and *Firm* (English), with the *Avalanche*, *Fusée*, and *Dragonne* (French), constitute the force off Tiensin. A party of engineers have also arrived from Hong-Kong in the *Sampson*, and are engaged in blowing up the forts at Tungchow. There is abundant barrack accommodation. Notwithstanding the great variations in the temperature, the health of the men continues excellent, and supplies are abundant.

The interior of the city has been explored, but offers few attractions to the stranger. The streets are broader than those in southern cities, but the houses poorer. The suburbs cover a great extent of ground and consist of miserable huts. The surrounding country is intersected by numerous streams, and good roads.

Two high commissioners had arrived from Peking, by name Kweiliang and Iwashana, mandarins of the highest rank and vested with special powers for the occasion. An interview had been arranged with Lord Elgin, to take place on the 4th of June. It is supposed that the emperor is but little alarmed, and in no haste to grant redress or to get rid of the allies, since he allowed a week to elapse before despatching his plenipotentiaries.

The *Fury* proceeds to Hong-Kong to send up the 59th Regiment, a battalion of Marines, and some artillery, which General Straubenzee can spare from the garrison of Canton. The French admiral is daily expecting a

force of 600 Marines, so that within six weeks there will be collected a military force of 3000 men, besides a very strong naval brigade. In the event of an unfavourable issue to the negotiations, there are excellent roads by which this force can march upon Peking, when the result cannot be doubtful. The policy of the allies is to obtain military command over the imperial government, without interrupting trade at the ports.

EGYPT.

The Alexandria and Suez line of railway is to be opened in September. Only five kilometres remain to be completed.

AMERICA.

If the reports in private letters from Utah are true, affairs were not proceeding satisfactorily at Salt Lake City. The *New York Times* alludes to the matter as follows:—"Strange rumours reach us from Utah in relation to the acts of Governor Cumming. It is stated that the Governor has alienated the goodwill of his colleagues, that he has affiliated with the leading Mormons, and that the mails are openly tampered with while passing through the Salt Lake City post-office without remonstrance from the Governor. Reports of Governor Cumming's unpopularity among the new officers of the territory reached us some time since. This late rumour, coming through private advices received at St. Louis, revived the stories formerly current. However, there may be nothing in it." Utah is tranquil, and the United States General is popular with the Mormons. None of his soldiers were allowed to enter Salt Lake City, or interfere with the Mormons.

The steps taken by the British Government will (it is thought at Washington), prevent any misunderstanding between the authorities and the miners at the diggings in New Caledonia. It has just transpired that the Hudson's Bay Company have some time back endeavoured to sell to the United States their rights and interests under the treaty of 1845, for the sum of 600,000 dollars; the sale was not effected, though the sum named was considered low. The contract is still open, but will require the consent of Congress, which is doubted. The Americans say that the Company has always been friendly to the States, and in the Oregon war rendered valuable assistance against the Indians.

The American Minister has called the attention of our Government to apprehended obstructions to the passage of American citizens to the diggings, on the part of the Governor of Vancouver's Island. Lord Malmesbury in reply expresses the wish of her Majesty's Government to deal liberally with Americans desirous of going to British Oregon, but adds, that it must first be ascertained how far the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company bears upon the question.

Mr. Nugent, the Special Commissioner, has left New York, charged to make such representations to Governor Douglas as would induce him to mitigate the rigour of the Hudson's Bay Company and servants of the British Government towards miners. He was also to counsel the latter on the duty of obeying the law. Lord Napier has also written to Governor Douglas, advising him to interpret Sir E. B. Lytton's instructions in a liberal spirit towards the Americans.

The understanding which has been arrived at between the British and American Governments on the subject of the identification of the nationality of vessels is based upon the acceptance by the British Government of the doctrines laid down by Mr. Secretary Cass in his letter to Lord Napier of the 10th of April, 1858. Mr. Cass thus states the case:—"As the identity of a person must be determined by the officer bearing a process for his arrest, so must the national identity of a vessel be determined at the like hazard to him who, doubting the flag she displays, searches her to ascertain her true character. There, no doubt, may be circumstances which would go far to modify the complaints a nation would have a right to make for such a violation of its sovereignty. If the boarding officer had just ground for suspicion, and deported himself with propriety in the performance of his task, doing no injury and peacefully retiring when satisfied of his error, no nation would make such an act the subject of serious reclamation." This version grants more than the British Government has ever claimed. They have limited themselves to claiming a privilege of visit merely, restricting themselves from any right to press this visit to the extent of a search. The *New York Tribune* observes that:—"In accepting Mr. Cass's version of the law, the British are thus enabled to push the process of verifying the flag further than they have ever hitherto claimed to go, for, however it may be argued that theoretically visit and search amount to the same thing, there is a very palpable practical difference between calling on the captain of a ship to show his papers and proceeding to the extremity of searching his vessel."

According to a Philadelphia paper a Convention of Infidels is to take place there in October next.

The ex-President of Mexico, Comenfort, had published in the Washington papers a very lengthy manifesto, in which he describes the condition of Mexico and the policy he adopted when at its head.

Mr. Brown had formed a ministry in Canada; but on the meeting of Parliament, votes of want of confidence

dence were passed in both Houses by large majorities. The vote in the Upper House being 16 to 8, and in the Lower, 71 to 31. It is not improbable that there will be a dissolution, although the Governor-General is strongly opposed to such a step.

The excitement at Toronto had greatly increased according to our latest accounts. Mr. Galt was called in by the Governor-General on the 4th, but declined to undertake the formation of a Cabinet. The Parliament met on the 6th, and the announcement was made that the Hon. Mr. Cartier, in connexion with the Hon. John A. Macdonald, was forming a Ministry.

The Legislative Council have passed a resolution, declaring their regret at the vote of the Lower House on the seat of Government question, and denouncing it as an insult to her Majesty.

The Lecompton Constitution has been rejected by an overwhelming majority. The popular feeling was decidedly in favour of its rejection.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

This magnificent undertaking has at length reached completion, and its success leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. G. Seward, the secretary and manager of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, writes as follows:—

I have the pleasure to inform you that the line from Valentia to Newfoundland, is now working satisfactorily both ways. The following message was despatched yesterday evening from the directors in England to the directors in America:—

"Europe and America are united by telegraph. Glory to God in the Highest; on earth peace, good will towards men."

This message, including the addresses of senders and receivers, occupied thirty-five minutes in transmission, and consisted of thirty-one words. Immediately afterwards a message from her Majesty the Queen to his Excellency the President of the United States, consisting of ninety-nine words, was received by Newfoundland in sixty-seven minutes. Both messages were repeated back to Valentia to test the accuracy, and were found to have been taken with great exactness. Of course, unless permission were given, the contents of her Majesty's despatch cannot be made public.

This (Tuesday) morning we have the following message, the last thirty-eight words of which were received in twenty-two minutes, from Mr. Cyrus W. Field, who is at Newfoundland:—

"Cyrus W. Field, Newfoundland, to Directors Atlantic Telegraph Company, London.—Newfoundland, Monday. Entered Trinity Bay, noon of the 5th. Landed cable on the 6th. On Thursday morning ship at once to St. John's. Two miles of shore cable, with end ready for splicing."

"When was cable landed at Valentia? Answer by telegraph and forward by letters to New York."

The line is now worked with perfect accuracy, and the public will be enabled in a very short time to avail themselves of its advantages. A morning contemporary felicitously remarks, that "This Gospel message was transmitted to the other side of the world in little more than half an hour of time—a result which almost seems to beat the Apostolic miracles that were effected in order to communicate the same truth eighteen hundred years ago."

The excitement in America about the successful laying of the cable is intense. It has been celebrated with illuminations, torchlight processions, military parades, salvoes of artillery, and other demonstrations of public feeling. Failure had been generally anticipated.

The following message was sent from the President of America to Mr. Cyrus Field, as soon as he heard of the laying down of the cable:—

"I congratulate you with all my heart on the success of the great enterprise with which your name is so honourably connected. Under the blessing of Divine Providence, I trust it may prove instrumental in promoting perpetual peace and friendship between the kindred nations. I have not yet received the Queen's despatch."

"Yours, very respectfully,
"JAMES BUCHANAN."

This letter is dated August 5.

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEST INDIES.

The West India press strongly protest against the withdrawal of the English squadron from the coast of Cuba. They predict that that measure will occasion such a revival of the slave trade as will effectually prevent the successful competition of free with slave labour.

An English and a French squadron were at La Guayra, to demand an apology from the Venezuelan Government for some insult which had been offered to English and French subjects.

AUSTRALIA.

An electric telegraph between the two capitals, Melbourne and Sydney, a distance of about 500 miles, is on the eve of completion, the extension to Albany, on the boundary of the two colonies, from one metropolis to the other, is also advancing.

Sydney papers state that within a few days, in June last, nearly two thousand Chinese landed on their way

to the gold diggings. The number of Celestials who have of late swelled the population is so great that a bill is before the Legislative Assembly to check further immigration by imposing a poll-tax, as in the sister colony. From Sydney also, we hear that an Electoral Reform Bill was in committee of the House of Assembly. Great efforts were made to keep up an excitement in favour of a measure which goes to establish almost universal suffrage; but in general the public are very apathetic on the subject. Among the recent arrivals in Sydney, the Rev. Thomas Binney, minister of the Weigh-house Chapel, London, has absorbed a large share of public attention in the Dissenting interest. The visit of Mr. Binney to the antipodes is said to be for the renovation of his health.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

FETES took place on Sunday last at Paris, in honour of the St. Napoleon. The inhabitants of the gay city were greatly disappointed in their expected treat, for everything was done in an indifferent manner—the open-air theatres, booths, orchestras, &c., were less numerous than formerly, the illuminations were more rare, and the fireworks inferior. The streets were consequently not crowded as usual, and the people evinced little interest in what they saw. In the country towns, on the contrary, the fête was celebrated with considerable pomp. The proceedings were invariably the same; official receptions by the Prefect and Divine service in the morning, followed by reviews, with illuminations and fireworks in the evening.

Half of the French squadron that went to Cherbourg from the Mediterranean is to return to Toulon, the other half to remain at Brest until further orders.

There is a talk of an expedition against Madagascar by a combined English and French force, to punish the piracies of which the savages of that island have been guilty. Nothing is yet positively decided, but the necessity of some such measure is recognised.

The conference engaged in regulating the Danubian Provinces held its sixteenth sitting on Thursday. On Monday the provisional signatures will be affixed to the document, which is to bear the diplomatic title, "Additional Act to the Treaty of the 30th of March, 1856." The question of the free navigation of the Danube does not enter into the provisions made. The two Principalities are said to be spoken of in the text of the document as "the Principalities now constituted into the united provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia."

There is less water in the rivers in France than anybody remembers to have seen. Many of the small mills are stopped, and those situated on larger streams are not able to do more than half the usual amount of work.

The Prince Imperial, who was enrolled in the 1st Regiment of the Imperial Guard, a few days after his birth, has been promoted to the rank of corporal.

Some mechanics are about to be tried in secret on a charge of having something to do with the manufacture of bombs like those made use of by Orsini in his attempt of January last. These workmen were captured at St. Etienne.

A project of an electric telegraph, to connect Europe with China, is now in course of preparation, and will be presented to the Emperor on his return to Paris.

SPAIN.

General O'Donnell has fallen ill, and has been subjected to thermal treatment at the baths of Las Caldas. It is alleged that the examination of the electoral lists has led to the discovery that not fewer than 30,000 names were improperly inscribed on them, and that this accounts for the pretended majorities which the last two Cabinets obtained. Some of the journals assert that the law authorities have recently discovered that the disturbances which took place last year in Andalusia were got up by French Legitimists. All the journals, without exception, treat as absurd the supposition that Spain can ever think of ceding Cuba to the United States.

It is stated that small-pox is making fearful ravages in several provinces of Spain, notwithstanding every effort that has been made to check it by the general use of vaccination, which was performed gratuitously in every petty village. The royal seat of La Granja has been half depopulated by this dreadful pestilence.

It is expected that the forthcoming elections will result in the sending many efficient members to the Cortes.

Nine great asylums are to be founded in Spain for the reception of the aged and distressed; and mendicancy, that dreadful pest of the country, is to be put a stop to. Nine millions of reals are to be employed towards paying the expenses of these asylums, and the Queen proposes to make up the rest of the money necessary by means of appeals to public charity. Amongst the edifices to be set apart for asylums are the Escorial and the famous San Martin de Santiago.

PRUSSIA.

It is rumoured to be the intention of the King formally to transfer the government of the kingdom to his brother on the 23rd of October. It has not transpired whether his Majesty will abdicate, or whether the Prince of Prussia will rule as Prince Regent.

ITALY.

A person named Parodi, who had something to do with last year's insurrection at Genoa, turned round against his unfortunate comrades, and, to save himself, gave evidence against them. Parodi had gone to Locarno in Switzerland, and while there, a pistol was discharged at him. He fell mortally wounded, and the assassin, who is unknown, escaped. There cannot be any doubt that Parodi has suffered for his treachery.

TURKEY.

The island of Candia seems to have recovered its tranquillity in consequence of the large concessions made to the Christians. The Mahomedans are leaving the island. Bosnia remains in a state of civil war.

HOLLAND.

The report circulated last week, that the King intended to abdicate in favour of his son, is contradicted.

EGYPT AND SYRIA—WESTERN INFLUENCE.

(From the North British Review.)

THIS article is not so much a review of some half-dozen works on Egypt and Syria, as it is an exposition of our *status* in those unsettled and coveted countries—of our mistakes in policy, together with a powerful elucidation of the rival policy of other European powers. The whole article is well worth attentive perusal, it is eminently suggestive, and though we do not entirely agree with some of the writer's strictures and conclusions, upon the whole, the writer's ability and information have carried us with him, and we especially commend his remarks on our consular appointments in those regions to the notice of the high authorities of the empire. The writer says:—

The whole system of Consular government in the East requires amendment. These European representatives are too strong and too weak. They can defy and they can be defied, even in matters of law and justice. They are quite strong enough to oppress the feeble; they are not strong enough to resist the powerful. They would not, perhaps, defile their hands with a bribe like an Eastern kadi; but they are accessible to influences which are quite as corrupting; the blandishment or the menace doing effectually the work of the bribe. Stimulated by rivalries, one part of their vocation is to thwart each other. Acting as political delegates from their several governments, their object is to watch each other's movements and countercheck each other's schemes. Ostensibly they come to care for the interests of the men of their own nation; in reality they concern themselves as much about the interests of those beyond their jurisdiction. Holy Scripture speaks of men who are "busy-bodies in other men's matters," or, as the word is, *ἀλλοτριολόγοι* that is, "everybody's bishop but their own," and, perhaps, we might, without injustice to some at least, use the word here, and say that many of these men of authority are everybody's consuls but their own. Espionage becomes the consulate as ill as the embassy; but, in the present jealous condition of Western politics, the consul is compelled to act the part of spy, or at least sentinel.

Nor is one surprised at the large consular establishments of Alexandria; nor the smaller but equally numerous vice-consulates of Cairo; nor at the recent elevation (a few months since) of the French vice-consulate at Suez into a regular consulate. Suez, indeed, is little better than a large khan, a station on the great Haj road to Mecca through the desert; nor can it ever be a port, on account of the shoals of the Red Sea, and the drifting sands on both sides, which are yearly compelling its waters to retreat; but then its importance as an *entrepôt* both for France and England cannot easily be overrated, at least until the Euphrates Railway shall attract into the Persian Gulf the commerce that now passes up the blue strip between the peninsular peaks and the bluffs of Râs Atakah. Cairo, both for size and Oriental celebrity, has some claims upon European notice, though, from its position, it is not likely to be a focus either of enterprise or intrigue. Alexandria, certainly, is the great centre where East and West meet, and in it Europe ought to be well represented.—England, above all, for she has the most at stake. Yet, if report speak true, the diplomacy, the nerve, and the influence, are monopolised by France, which, always true to its national interests, seeks out men for places, not places for men, and sends *talent* to courts or consulates where England is content with *title*.

But it somewhat surprises one to find some six or eight European consuls or vice-consuls at Jerusalem. What can they be doing there?

A first-rate power, like England, might, if it were not so passive and easy-minded, secure a very much larger share of power in Rome than she has at present; but a second-rate power, such as Prussia, has little likelihood of success, whatever energy she might throw out. At Jerusalem, however, Prussia has a considerably better chance. She has but to send a tolerably clever consul, not over-scrupulous or modest, with instructions to spare neither chicanery nor violence, in cajoling, menacing, and bullying Pasha, Effendi, or fellow-consul. And if

the supposed Prussian consul can only get himself backed by one or more ambitious ecclesiastics, as tools and co-operatives in the great continental work of humbling England, and edging her gradually out of her position in the East, the cabinet of Potsdam may congratulate itself on being able to drive a tolerable business in the East, and bring on political complications, of which Latins and Greeks will take prompt advantage.

It would be a very shallow mistake to suppose that the capture of Sebastopol ended the quarrel between the Greek and Latin churches in Palestine. The conflict was suspended for a season, till sword and cannon had done their work in the Crimea. Had Russia conquered, the Syrian crisis would have been precipitated, and European influence would have ere this been ebbing out of Jerusalem. The church of the Holy Sepulchre would have been in her hands, and the imposture of the Pentecostal fire would have been triumphant. Had she, on the other hand, carried on the contest a little longer, say even for another year, the state of the East would have been entirely altered, and England would by this time have had the whole of Syria at its feet. Russia was exhausted ere her Crimean fortress fell, and would have had to withdraw her pretensions in Jerusalem as head of the Greek Church. But France, too, was no less exhausted; and by the time that another campaign had terminated, England would have been the only power capable of lifting a sword. The dictatorship of the East would have fallen into her hands without a struggle. But Russia paused in time; and by pausing as she did, in January, 1856, she saved herself from total humiliation, and prevented what, by January, 1857, would have been the inevitable conclusion of the warfare, the establishment of British supremacy both in Syria and Egypt. Our statesmen were terrified at the prospect of having to carry on the war alone against the Northern Emperor, as in a few months longer we should have had to do; but the conflict was one to which our resources were thoroughly equal, and the issue would have been worth all the cost,—though the disturbance of the balance of power would have been great indeed.

The warfare having ended in the Crimea before France and Russia were drained of men and gold, it could be revived, after a season, on the spot where the quarrel originally began. Accordingly it has been so renewed. The church of the Holy Sepulchre is surmounted by a dome, large and somewhat clumsy. In 1853 this dome had fallen somewhat into disrepair. On its south side, some feet from its base, time and weather had worn away the outer covering, and a large rent or hole disfigured the outward aspect of the building and made it uncomfortable within. It must be repaired. By whom? Greeks or Latins? For to both the church belongs. Let it be remembered that this was not a case in which the parties were desirous of evading the expense of repair, and of casting the burden off their own shoulders. Nor was it a case in which each party was merely claiming the honour of doing such a work. It was not the honour, but the *power* which the doing of the thing would confer upon the party doing it; for in the East the man who assists in repairing a house has a claim over the house, almost amounting to actual property. Hence France stepped in, and in the name of the Latin Church insisted on her right to be the repairer. Russia stepped in, and in the name of the Greek Church maintained her right in the matter. The Pasha quietly made offer, it is said, to take the cost upon himself. But France would not yield to Russia; Russia would not yield to France; neither would yield to the Pasha. The *power* at stake was too great to be easily conceded. Hence to this day the dome has remained in miserable disrepair; and the last accounts were, that the rent was getting so wide that the rain poured in.

It was the question, "Who is to repair the dome?" that led to the Crimean war! During that war the question was held in abeyance, in the hope that Crimean victories would settle it. The war ceased, but the question remained unsettled; the dome, of course, remained unpatched. The point has been stirred again. M. de Thouvenel, a French envoy at Constantinople, has revived the Latin claim to the cupola; and Russia is mustering all her diplomatic influence to maintain the rights of the Greek Church. Around the supposed tomb of the Prince of Peace, the battle of the two Churches is again renewed. Neither nation is in a condition for war; yet both have sufficient power to fan the ecclesiastical animosities of a thousand years, and to hinder any adjustment of the question. No one can tell when this old cupola may be repaired; for a compromise between the parties seems almost impossible. They will rather allow the edifice to go to wreck. Another war may at any time be the result. The direct interest of Britain in these disputes about sacred edifices is not very obvious; but her indirect interest is great in the extreme. It is of no moment to her who patches the holy dome, or who possesses the "Church of the Resurrection," in so far as the dome and the church are concerned. Why should she then be drawn into the strife; and why should she incline to the side of the Latin rather than the Greek Church? The reason lies close at hand. The preponderance of the Greek Church is the preponderance of Russia in the East; and the first exercise of Russian supremacy in the East would be to bar out England

from India. Better, then, that any other power than Russia should have sway in Syria and Egypt.

Foiled in her first attempt to seize Palestine, Russia will be more wary now. Her object is now to gain silent influence, while she avoids open rupture. Nor will any effort, direct or indirect, be spared to accomplish this. As, during the war, she made Prussia her servile tool; and, by means of her, threw daily impediments in the way of the allies; so will she continue to do now. The game that Prussia is playing in Palestine, is as much for Russia as for herself; and while Russia carries on the diplomatic war with France, she with wily sagacity confides to Prussia the work of assailing and affronting Protestant England. The Prussian consul at Jerusalem is quite aware of the part that he is expected to play.

After paying a just tribute to the energy of our present consul, the writer goes on to say:—

England is the more called on to support her consuls in the East, because at present, as will be seen from Mr. Porter's able letters in the *Times*, the Turkish authorities are doing their utmost both to bully and to over-reach them. The Pashalic of Damascus is in a critical position, and Turkish fanaticism is gathering strength and fury. Strange to say, it is specially against England that this fanaticism is showing itself; probably because continental hatred of our land bands European consuls together, and leads them to unite their influence and intrigues in stimulating against our consuls the smothered bigotry of Islamism. Should our Government show any vacillation in this matter, or any shyness in supporting vigorously the counsels and measures of its representatives, our peril is great and imminent; the Jaffa tragedy will be re-enacted at Jerusalem, and Mahomedanism will rush forth, scimitar in hand, from El-Khulil, Nablus, Esh-Sham, to do for the Christians of Syria what it has been doing for the Christians of Oude. A little more trifling and indecision on our part, a few more indications of timidity and submissiveness, and we have irremediably destroyed both our prestige and our power in these Eastern regions.

Speaking of the condition of the Jews in Syria, the writer declares that "the Jew is a stranger in Palestine—nowhere can a Jew feel insult and injury more than in his own land, and at no hands can he resent wrong more than at those of a Christian Gentile:—

Among Englishmen the interest in the Jew is much greater than among other nations. One does not wonder that the men of France, or Spain, or Italy should be so contemptuous towards the Israelite. Romanism has taught them this; and even the Protestants in these nations have imbibed, not perhaps dislike, but at least indifference.

It is among the Christians of Britain that the Jew has ever found his truest, warmest friends. Somehow or other there seems an affinity, or at least a sympathy, between the Israelite and the Englishman, such as does not exist between the Israelite and the German. Among English consuls, too, there is a disposition to protect the Jew such as is not displayed at the consulates of other nations. And it is remarkable that the greatest friend of Israel in the whole East is the British consul of Jerusalem.

The writer states, we fear with too much truth, that—

England is not *loved* in the East, any more than in the West. She is great enough to be envied, or perhaps admired, but too great, too strong, to be loved. That she is feared, is obvious enough; and much more feared might she be, were she as punctilious in claiming her position, and insisting on her rights, as some nations are. Her conscious strength makes her too easy and too patient; she lays aside needful vigilance and jealousy; she concedes to weakness what she would deny to power. The Moslem, indeed, if he does not love her, yet in some measure trusts her; for she is much more honest than others, and little disposed to aggression or cruelty; so that, unlike all others, she would rather suffer wrong than inflict it. But by all there is a recognition of her greatness; and even they that dislike it most, are proud when placed in circumstances which enable or entitle them to wield her power. A Syrian consul or a German ecclesiastic, entrusted with British power, is a proud man indeed. Ten chances to one, however, that he will abuse it. To have the power of such a nation committed to them, even in humble offices, is sufficient to turn some men's minds. Some of the most "fantastic tricks" that have been played in the East, have come about in this peculiar way. The position, which would not for a moment elate an Englishman, would at once upset a foreigner; nor does anything gratify him more than when he can wield English power against some unhappy Englishman that may have fallen under his displeasure by his boldness and independence.

England is by far too remiss, in regard to her own interest in Syria; and if our Government at home is not more vigilant and energetic, she will find herself gradually edged or elbowed out of the land. France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia have all their schemes of national aggrandisement there. The courts of Paris, Petersburg, Vienna, and Berlin, are quite alive to the importance of securing a strong position in the East. They instruct

their consuls on this point, and they warmly back them. There is not one of their officials but knows that he will be vigorously supported by his Government in any scheme, however ambitious, or in any blunder, however gross, if only that scheme or that blunder tend to aggrandise his nation, or humble its rival.

These remarks are very suggestive—the whole article, we repeat, will repay perusal.

IRELAND.

THE KILKENNY RIOTS.—As an instance of the audacity of the rioters, we read that a party of them proceeded to the residence of an extensive farmer, cut down his crops, and peremptorily demanded payment, otherwise they would visit him on the following morning. A party of police, however, were there before them, and the rioters beat a retreat.

THE TENANT LEAGUE.—A general meeting was held in Dublin on Tuesday, to consider the present position and prospects of the cause; Archdeacon Fitzgerald in the chair. Mr. Maguire, M.P., bitterly complained that although Lord Palmerston had been false to this question, yet that some supporters of tenant right in the House of Commons had continued to give him their support. His advice was not to allow an impenitent party into power again until they went down on their knees and begged for mercy. He was no partisan of the present or of the late Government; he would give the present ministry a fair trial, but he would not extend that trial a moment beyond All Fools' Day—the 1st of April, 1859. He might say for himself and his friends that, if they did not see such a bill as the Government could have a hope to carry laid on the table of the House of Commons at an early period of the session, the Government would then have the same hostility from them as they now had of their support. Mr. Blake, M.P., concurred in the views of Mr. Maguire, but Mr. G. H. Moore somewhat dissented from them.

THE BANQUET of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland came off at Londonderry on Wednesday. The speech of the evening was delivered by the Lord-Lieutenant. He congratulated the society upon the success which it had achieved, and took a most encouraging view of the present state of Ireland.

LORD PALMERSTON has delivered a speech at Sligo, on the occasion of the presentation of an address by the Town and Harbour Commissioners. The noble lord did not refer at all to his rumoured retirement from public life; his speech was chiefly a panegyric upon the deeds of the Administration of which he was the chief.

MR. SPURGEON made his first appearance at Belfast on Tuesday in a Presbyterian church. The local journals say that his preaching was a failure in the opinion of his Irish hearers.

A PRIVATE INVESTIGATION has been commenced at Hillsborough, with respect to alleged misconduct on the part of some officers of the South Down Militia Staff, who, in a drunken freak, played an indecent and scandalous practical joke upon an elderly waiter at an hotel, from the effects of which he became so ill that he was admitted into the hospital.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A PRESBYTERIAN clergyman, the Rev. William Smith was drowned at Aberdeen on Saturday last. In company with a friend he had strolled to the beach, and was tempted to bathe. After being a short time in the water, he was observed by a gentleman who was bathing near the same spot, to be showing signs of distress. The alarm was given, the life-boat launched, and encouragement by shouting meantime given to the struggling swimmer, who was still seen keeping afloat. There seemed to be every hope that Mr. Smith would be saved; but the current proved too powerful for his strength; when the boat was not more than ten yards from him he sank, and though every exertion was made to recover his body, it was not found. The unfortunate gentleman has left a widow and a numerous family.

Two distressing cases of suicide have occurred during the past week, the locality selected being the same in both cases—Hampstead Heath. The first was that of Mr. Edward Prior, a hosier in Finsbury-place North, who has terminated his existence by the use of laudanum. Love-passages appear from the evidence to be the cause of the aberration of mind which led to the *felo de se*. The second case was that of Mr. William Ashcombe, surgeon, of King-street, Cheapside. It appeared that the deceased had an execution put in his house for 31*l.*, and that this preyed upon his mind.

A lamentable occurrence has taken place at Carlisle, a little girl, seventeen months old, having been drowned by her mother, who afterwards destroyed her own life. A man employed at the waterworks, near the foot of the river Petteril, observed something floating down the river Eden. Upon bringing it to the shore he found it was the body of a female child. He conveyed it to the Turf Hotel, where it was afterwards identified by its father, Robert Irving. His wife having left her home with the child on Monday afternoon about five o'clock, and not returning again, he was unable to conceive where she had gone; but the finding of the body of the child gave rise to suspicions that she had made away

with herself. Search was made on the following day near the place where the body of the child was found, and the body of the mother was discovered, and was taken to the Turf Hotel, where an inquest was held the same day upon mother and child. It appeared from the evidence that deceased and her husband had lived unhappily together, and had frequent quarrels. They had some words on Monday, but not of a serious nature. She had afterwards left her home, and several persons had noticed her in the streets, going about in an excited manner, though not apparently intoxicated. No more was seen of her till she was found drowned in the Eden.

THE ASSIZES.

A BREACH of promise case, which has excited unusual interest in the West of England, came on at Bristol on Wednesday. The plaintiff was a young lady, named Miles, of humble birth, but of great personal attractions; while the defendant was Captain Magan, M.P. for Westmeath. The love correspondence was of such remarkable length, that it had to be printed, and made a volume of considerable size. The curiosity of those present, however, was not gratified, for when the case was called on, counsel informed the court that the record would be withdrawn, as an arrangement had been effected. The terms of settlement were that the defendant should pay the plaintiff 2000*l.* and costs, and that all letters, &c., should be destroyed.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

At the Lambeth police-court, David Sullivan, an Irish labourer, was charged with biting off a large portion of the nose of Laurence Camidge. The prisoner and the injured man had been good friends up to Saturday night last, when a drunken quarrel took place, and the encounter that followed was described to be more like that of savage beasts than of human beings. The prisoner, in defence, said, Camidge commenced the fight. He was remanded for a week.

A homicide, the circumstances of which are involved in some perplexity, occurred in the Uxbridge-road, Acton, on the 9th instant. Two naval officers, Lieut. Clavering and Captain Miller (according to their account), left the residence of the former at Bayswater, at ten o'clock at night, for a constitutional walk. On their return they appear to have lost their way, and after wandering in a very lonely neighbourhood, and having observed several rough-looking men hanging about, they became somewhat anxious and on the alert. On regaining the high road they were intercepted by an apparently drunken man, who, after violently abusing them, sprang upon Lieut. Clavering. This officer states that in holding up a sword-stick which he carried, the sheath or blackthorn stick came off. The man then struck him with the sheath across the head and shoulders, each time springing back. He told him that he would defend himself with the sword. The man then sprang at him again, but this time he slipped and fell off the path. Lieut. Clavering picked up the sheath and placed the sword in it. They walked away, and he remarked to his friend that he hoped he had not pricked the man. Before putting the sword in the sheath he looked at it and did not perceive any blood. After proceeding a short distance they met two men in a cart, and he told them to be careful, as there was a drunken man lying in the road. He then went home, and heard nothing more until he read the account of the matter in the Sunday papers. He then immediately went to Sir Richard Mayne; and an inquiry resulted at the Hammersmith police-court; the body of a man having been found stabbed to the heart in the locality indicated by the lieutenant's statement. The deceased was identified to be one John Gates, of James-street, Lisson-grove, and had been met, about ten minutes before the assault, drunk, by a police-sergeant. Captain Miller had gone to Scotland. Lieut. Clavering was held to bail, himself in 200*l.*, and a surety in 100*l.* The magistrate said that there was nothing to have prevented the accused from going to the Continent instead of giving himself up to the police. At present, the only evidence against him was that furnished by himself. A coroner's inquest has since been held, at which both Captain Miller and Lieut. Clavering were examined. Captain Miller corroborated his friend's statement in every way, adding, that his conduct was most forbearing, and that neither officer had the least idea that the deceased was injured. He further swore that Clavering did not draw the sword from the stick. The coroner bound them over to attend next Monday; Clavering in 500*l.*, and Miller in 800*l.*—In a letter to the *Times*, Mr. Clavering says:—"I solemnly declare before the world, that I neither made a blow nor thrust at the unfortunate man. The infliction of the wound was purely accidental, caused by the deceased himself rushing to close with me in the dark, the time being nearly midnight, and neither moon, stars, nor gaslight visible. The sword-stick is one which I procured to carry at night when abroad, where some such protection is necessary. I never had it out before, and had no object or intention whatever in taking it out with me on the night

in question; I merely did so because it was the first stick that came to hand as I was leaving my house to take the walk which has ended so disastrously." The inquiry before the Coroner was resumed on Thursday. The jury returned an open verdict—"that whether the wound was inflicted wilfully or caused accidentally there is not sufficient evidence to prove."

Covent-garden Market is infested with juvenile thieves who spend the day in plundering the dealers, employing their leisure in mischief of any kind that may occur to them; and at nights sleep under the carts. One of these "town Arabs," named Jones, managed to climb up to the roof of St. Paul's Church, Covent-garden, and was making an effort to reach the hands of the parish clock, with the intention of putting the neighbourhood out of time, when one of the market beadles observed his movements, and quietly waited until he had descended. The boy, seeing that he was watched, made a hasty descent and a terrific leap, and bolted off. He was pursued and speedily overtaken; but a number of his companions attempted to rescue him from custody; an *émeute* ensued, and the police were pelted with cabbage-stumps and offal. Three of the boys were sentenced to a week's imprisonment.

A curious case was adjudicated upon by the Lord Mayor on Tuesday. A man who had not hired a cab, but who had ridden in it only a few yards, was summoned by the cabman for the fare due on account of the whole time that the defendant's companions had engaged the cab—a period of several hours. The Lord Mayor decided in favour of the cabman.

At the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 17th inst., Joseph Bennett, of Bridge-row-wharf, Pimlico, contractor, passed his last examination without opposition. An examination meeting was also held in the case of Thomas Hutchings, an extensive railway contractor, who had been engaged in heavy works upon large public undertakings; this was the seventh application to pass, he having been eleven months before the court. A strenuous opposition was offered on the part of the assignees, and a protracted investigation of the accounts was entered into, the result of which was that the bankrupt passed. A second-class certificate was granted to D. M. Lyons, a general merchant, of Sydney, New South Wales; and one of the third class to Francis Franco, a merchant, of 47, Lime-street, and of Ladbroke-road, Notting-hill.

At Rotherham, on Monday, the case of Mr. Richard Sellars, farmer, summoned for "being on land of the Earl of Effingham in search of coney," came on for further hearing and decision before a bench of magistrates, of which the Hon. and Rev. W. Howard (brother of the Earl of Effingham) was chairman. The case rested on the evidence of one of his Lordship's keepers, who merely swore to the defendant's walking with a gun through his own farm, and remarking on the "rabbits making bad work with the corn, and that he thought there would be no harm in killing a few of them." For the defence it was urged that the farmer had a right to kill coney, which are not legally "game." It was further denied that Mr. Sellars was in search of coney, though he had a right to be; he was merely there to frighten away the birds, which, along with the rabbits, were greatly damaging his crops, and that he said, "I am here to protect my corn, and if you come oftener to keep away the rabbits, you would be better employed than you sometimes are." The magistrates consulted together, and dismissed the charge.

A person called Joseph ben Houliel, who is said to have been an interpreter attached to the French army in the East, having accumulated some property, was induced to purchase a considerable quantity of household property, chiefly at the east-end of London, and among them were several tenements in a place called Marlborough-court, Spitalfields, inhabited by persons of the very lowest class of Irish. One of these tenants, named Peter Macguire, on the proprietor calling for some rent, violently assaulted him, striking him to the ground, and otherwise injuring him. The Frenchman added, that this was not an unusual occurrence with his tenants. The Irishman was fined 5*l.*, or six months.

A man named James Barrett was, on Wednesday, fined five pounds for an indecent assault on a girl under eleven years old. The prisoner is a grocer at Limehouse, and had hired the poor child (an orphan) from the workhouse to nurse his children. His wife and family being away, at Gravesend, he dosed the girl with beer and gin, and shamefully abused her. In the morning she escaped from his house, gave information, and proceedings were taken, which resulted as above.

At the Surrey Sessions, on Wednesday, James Hill, a sawyer, was convicted of assaulting a police-constable on the 9th of July. The officer was brutally used by the prisoner. The prisoner's only defence was that he was tipsy at the time, and knew nothing of the affair. The chairman said such assaults must be put a stop to, and that drunkenness was no excuse. He sentenced the prisoner to twelve months' hard labour.

At Greenwich police-court, George Poland pleaded guilty to a charge of forging a seaman's certificate of service, by which he had incurred a penalty of 100*l.* It appeared that he had presented a certificate to the Board of Trade on the 24th of January last, stating that he had served as mate in the *Littlejohn* from Feb. 10 1850, to Oct. 10 of the same year. Such certificate

would have entitled him to a certificate of service, as it happened prior to 1851, after which an examination of competency would be necessary; but it was found to be a forgery, as he did not join the *Littlejohn* until early in 1851. He was fined 10*l.*

Henry Bunbury, the son of a deceased general, was tried at the Central Criminal Court for uttering forged bills of exchange. There had been some disputes between the prisoner and his relatives upon the subject of property, and at a time when he was in great distress he placed the name of the solicitor to his relatives as the acceptor to three bills of exchange, thinking that he should, by this proceeding, compel his family to do something for him. The prisoner appeared to be under the impression that in so doing he had only committed a moral offence. He was strongly recommended to mercy by the prosecutor, and was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

Mr. Stevens, the stock-broker, was tried on Wednesday, for misappropriating a large sum of money that had been entrusted to him for the purchase of railway stock. He had been entrusted with about 6000*l.* to invest for trustees, and it appeared that he had invested a portion of that amount, and a sum of 4700*l.* was found upon him, leaving a deficiency of about 1100*l.* That sum had since been paid over to the prosecutors. He was Acquitted.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

PHOTOGRAPHY A POLICE AGENT.—On Saturday a fine male child about six months old was found in the Thames at Reading. A bag filled with stones was tied round its body. It occurred to Mr. John Peck, the superintendent of the Reading police force, and also to the medical man who was called on to examine the body, to have a photographic likeness taken of the dead body, as a means of discovering the guilty party. This was accordingly done on Wednesday morning, and copies of the photograph were exhibited in different parts of the town. On the same afternoon the likeness was observed outside the police-station by Mr. Mortlock, the master of the Henley union workhouse, who recognised it as the illegitimate child of Mary Newell, who was admitted into the Henley workhouse in January last in a state of pregnancy, and was delivered of a male child on the 7th of May following. Mr. Mortlock communicated his suspicions to Inspector Burton, of the Henley division, and the woman was apprehended at Ipsden on Thursday night, about half-past twelve o'clock. To Inspector Burton she made a statement to the effect that between eleven and twelve o'clock on Tuesday night last, whilst walking in the King's Meadow (which is near the spot where the body was found), along the towing-path, the child rolled out of her arms into the water. The magistrates remanded the prisoner for a week, in order that the case might be completed.

EXECUTION.—The convict Cherrington, found guilty of the murder of his paramour, his master's wife, was executed at Ipswich on Tuesday morning. He made a full confession, and expressed great penitence. Great exertions had been made to obtain a mitigation of his sentence, but the authorities could find no ground for compliance. The scene around the gallows was most demoralising, the assembled youth of both sexes vieing with each other in revolting mirth and profanity.

THE SUPPOSED CASE OF BIGAMY.—Major Yelverton, apprehended on a charge of bigamy, was liberated from prison on Monday on bail, which had been fixed at 1000*l.* This proceeding has been allowed with consent of the Crown—the offence of bigamy being otherwise an unbailable one by Scotch law. Major Yelverton, the second son of Lord Avonmore, went through the form of marriage in Ireland with Miss Longworth, an Irish lady of respectable family, and some private fortune, who had formerly resided in Edinburgh, and had also acted as a lady nurse in the Crimea, at the period when Major Yelverton was there on service. The marriage ceremony in Ireland was performed, it is understood, by a Roman Catholic priest, and there are more than doubts as to its legal efficacy, Major Yelverton being a Protestant, although Miss Longworth had become a convert to the Romish Church. The couple lived in Edinburgh, in the avowed character of man and wife, which would constitute a legal marriage according to Scotch law; and also travelled on the Continent as Mr. and Mrs. Yelverton. In June last, Major Yelverton, leaving his supposed wife in Paris, came to Edinburgh, and on the 26th of that month was married to the widow of Professor Edward Forbes. The first wife, having got a hint of Major Yelverton's intentions, followed him closely from Paris, arriving either immediately after the second marriage, or even before it, though unable to prevent its solemnisation, or perhaps to ascertain when and where it was to be performed. She and her relatives took such steps as have now led to the arrest of Major Yelverton on the charge of bigamy.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

At the Central Criminal Court on Monday, Alexander Charles Borromeo, aged twenty-nine, who it will be recollected as "Count" Borromeo palmed an account of an Italian conference (which had only existed in his own imagination) on the *Times* and *Morning Star*, for

which he was prosecuted by the conductors of the latter paper for obtaining money under false pretences, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, was charged with numerous cases of bigamy. It appeared that the prisoner who calls himself an Italian, though it is believed he is an Irishman, and his real name Charles Tucker, married a lady of the name of Mary Ann Sadlier, at Chelsea, in 1842, when he appeared to be about nineteen years of age, and after living with her about four years, deserted her in 1847, married Miss Anne Maria Froggett, of Preston, proceeding to Gretna Green for the purpose. The brother and sister of the first wife proved the marriage took place at Trinity Church, Chelsea, but the prisoner denied that he was so married, and declared the witnesses must be mistaken in his identity. Miss Froggett proved the marriage with herself, the prisoner representing himself as a Frenchman, and using the name of Marco Emile de St. Hilaire. She lived with the prisoner until 1851, and had one child by him, a girl now about nine years of age. He had frequently ill-treated her, and deserted her at Liverpool in the year last named. The prisoner declared he was in Paris at the time the first marriage was alleged to have taken place, as he could prove if allowed time to obtain witnesses. The jury found the prisoner guilty, when he was again indicted for having married Miss Margaret Murray, at Sligo, in 1851. Miss Murray stated that the prisoner married her in the name of Borromeo, though he was also known in Sligo as Dr. Tucker. One child was the result of this marriage, and after ill-treating the poor woman and obtaining from her 250*l.* to which she was entitled, he deserted her, and it is believed, subsequently married one, if not more other ladies. The prisoner was also convicted on this charge, and the Common Serjeant sentenced him to four years' penal servitude, to commence from the close of the twelve months' imprisonment which he is a present undergoing. The prisoner, when taken into custody on the charge preferred against him by the proprietors of the *Morning Star*, was lecturing at Reading as Dr. Tucker, on Electro-biology. The cases of the poor ladies who were duped by this scoundrel, and reduced to the greatest distress, have been investigated by the sheriffs of London, who have headed a subscription list, and expressed their willingness to receive donations. The Rev. Mr. Davis, the ordinary of Newgate, is treasurer to the fund.

John Jervis, formerly clerk in the banking-house of Scott and Co., was found guilty of embezzling three several sums of money, the property of Messrs. Scott. The prisoner had carried on his practices with much art, and the evidence fully bore out the several charges. He was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

William Bowyer Bennett surrendered to take his trial, charged with the manslaughter of Sarah Ann Williams, who perished in the late dreadful explosion of fireworks in the Westminster-road. The prisoner's counsel took several objections to the indictment, and the prisoner having been found guilty, the learned judge said he would defer passing sentence upon him until referred to the judges of the Criminal Court of Appeal, and allowed him to be out on bail to appear for judgment when called on.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

SHAM FIGHT AT PORTSMOUTH.—A splendid brigading of the Portsmouth Garrison troops took place on Thursday on Southsea-common, under the command of Major-General Sir James Scarlett, the lieutenant-governor, supported by a brilliant staff of officers. The troops comprised the Royal Horse Artillery, 15th Regiment of the Line, Royal North Lincoln Militia, Royal Lancashire Militia, and Royal Marines—in all about 3000 men. The Southsea Castle guns were manned, as well as the flank earthwork batteries, and which gave notice of the approach of the supposed enemy which was attempting a landing at Lumps Fort. Skirmishers were immediately thrown out from the right and left flanks (the 15th of the Line and the Royal Marines), with their supports, and followed by the main body and reserves. Shot and shell practice now commenced from the castle, batteries, and 9-pounder field-pieces, with good effect, at 1000 yards range. Still the enemy forced a landing, and the troops retired, covered by skirmishers, and supported by the Horse Artillery. They were at length driven into garrison, when a rapid fire commenced from the redoubts and bastions, which effectually checked the enemy's advance. The thousands of well-dressed visitors were highly gratified, and the troops retired to their respective quarters without the loss of a man, or an accident of any description.

DEATHS.—Two distinguished naval officers have been removed by death this week, Rear-Admiral Sandom, and Captain John Molesworth.

THE ADMIRALTY INSPECTION AT DEVONPORT.—On Tuesday Sir John Pakington and the other commissioners proceeded to Keyham and commenced their inspection. They mustered the factory people at one o'clock p.m., giving them the afternoon for a holiday. Their lordships made a most minute and particular inspection over all the yard enclosed, as well as the new works, and after their inspection remained at the office in deliberation till after three p.m. From thence they went on board the Royal William and mustered the ship's company; and then visited the Impregnable,

where they were received with a salute. Admiral Martin and Lord Lovaine landed at the dockyard and went through the storehouses. They visited the Naval and Military School at five p.m. on Tuesday, and dined with General Eden in the evening. Yesterday they visited the Royal William Victualling Yard, Royal Hospital, and Marine Barracks, giving a dinner in the evening at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth.

THE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMIRALTY.—The Princess Alice, iron paddle-wheel steam vessel, is ordered to leave Woolwich on the surveying service, for the purpose of ascertaining the best points for the construction of breakwaters on the north-eastern coast of Scotland. A favourable report having been forwarded to the Admiralty as to her capabilities, she will embark Captain Washington, F.R.S., principal hydrographer, and other officers of the hydrographic and harbour department of the Admiralty, who will inspect the harbours of Wick, Peterhead, &c., and the Caithness coast, in order to report as to the construction of breakwaters.

DEATH OF COLONEL W. MORRIS, C.B. (17TH LANCERS).—We regret to learn that this meritorious officer died on the 11th ult., at Poona, to the extreme grief of his brother officers and the men under his command. The gallant colonel entered the army in June, 1842, and during his professional career had seen much service. He served with the 16th Lancers at the battle of Mahrajpore; also in the Sutlej campaign in 1846, including the affair of Buddiwal and the actions of Aliwal (where he was wounded) and Sobraon. During the late war, at the outset of the campaign he acted as deputy-assistant quartermaster-general, but on the death of Major Willett he resumed his regimental duties, and commanded the 17th Lancers at the battle of Balaklava, on which occasion he was severely wounded. He had received a medal for Mahrajpore, a medal and clasp for Sobraon, and a medal and clasps for Balaklava and Sebastopol. On his return to England he was presented with a sword of honour by the townspeople of Tooting. In 1855, in recognition of his distinguished gallantry, he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF JEDDAH.

In consequence of the massacres at Jeddah, the Turkish Government despatched to the spot, as special commissioner, a distinguished officer, Ismael Pasha, with instructions to bring the murderers to condign punishment. There is no doubt that the Turkish Government were thoroughly in earnest, and would gladly have hanged all the Jeddah murderers on whom they could have laid their hands. They despatched a steamer with some five hundred Egyptian troops on board to support the authority of the Pasha. Before the special commissioner could arrive, H.M. steamer Cyclops, Captain Pullen, arrived off the town, on the 23rd July. Hamik Pasha, Governor of the town, was at Mecca. Captain Pullen then sent in a despatch to the Kaimakan, announcing that if within thirty-six hours he did not receive a satisfactory answer to his requisitions, he would proceed to bombard the town, notwithstanding the Turkish Pasha was hourly expected to investigate matters. At the expiration of four hours beyond the time named, the bombardment commenced, and was continued at intervals until the evening of the 26th. The next day the Turkish troops arrived. The officer in command sent word to Captain Pullen that he had arrested and confined the murderers, but could not execute them until the arrival of Ismail Pasha, not having power of life and death. This answer was not deemed satisfactory, and on the 5th of the present month the bombardment was resumed. The same day Ismail Pasha arrived with 480 Egyptians. The next morning eleven of the murderers were executed in sight of the town and shipping, and four others were sent to Constantinople. An impression prevails that the conduct of the British officer was not altogether judicious, unless indeed, as is surmised, he was acting under direct orders from home.

INVENTIONS.

FILTERS FOR THE MILLION.

As we walked the other day along Fleet-street we were attracted by the picture of a traveller sucking water from a pool through a tube attached to a submerged sphere. This turned out to represent the application of Rühring patent moulded carbon to the manufacture of filters, and we were induced to inquire farther into the nature of moulded carbon and the peculiarity of its use in filters. It struck us naturally enough that charcoal filters had been in use for ages, and that therefore there could so far be no claim on the unknown Rühring's part to have made any wonderful discovery. We had heard, too, of compressed charcoal, and fondly imagined we had plucked out the heart of Rühring's mystery. How amusingly we illustrated in our own person the saying of the wise man of Giossen which applies to discoveries in art as well as to those in science:—

"Every discovery, every improvement, every new truth in science, as in life, has two ordinals successively to pass through. In the first period of its existence it is proved that the new thing is not true, or of no value (let us call to mind the circulation of the blood, gas-

light, cow-pox, steam-engines, &c.) After it has fortunately got through this period, it is next proved that the new thing is not new, that it has been long known, that more than a hundred years ago there were people enough who knew it perfectly. It is only in a third period that the new truth bears its fruits."

Now dirty water is remarkably common where water-works do not prevail. Travelling also is very common; and every man who has made a journey worthy of the name has sometimes sighed for a pocket filter. So convinced were we of this—*experio crede*, gentle reader,—and, moreover, that the stoneware filters of commerce are not portable, nor has any portable adaptation of them become popularly known, that we were captivated by the filtermaker's little woodcut. For the benefit, therefore, of all whom it may concern, and they are not a few, we resolved to learn more, if possible.

We found that a small sponge at the end of an india-rubber tube would answer all the purposes of these useful little instruments, if it only had the properties of carbon. It is as light, as absorbent, and as portable, but it will not purify water. The discovery of Rühring—or, as hundreds perhaps may profess to have known and kept the secret for years, his publication—consists in the method of consolidating charcoal or carbon without destroying its porosity; to solidify dry wood, or bone, or peat ashes, would puzzle many of us; but, like other tricks, it is very easy when found out. As well as we can understand it, without reference to the Patent-office, the inventor having first made wood, bone, or peat charcoal in the ordinary manner, pulverises and mixes it with certain proportions of pitch. The mastic is thus formed, is moulded into any form desired, and then carbonised again in gas retorts, or other suitable description of oven. The most unscientific reader will observe that all the hydrogen of the pitch will thus be got rid of, and its carbon alone remain in intimate combination with that of the original charcoal. And thus Mr. Rühring, or the Patent Filter Society, who we presume stand in his shoes, is enabled to produce a filtering absorbent hollow sphere of coherent, though of course not strictly solid, charcoal. If a pipe be connected with its interior, an admirable filter is the result, which, when its clarifying power requires renewal, may be revived, as is now the charcoal of the sugar refiners, by re-burning. For the manufacture of filters, animal or bone charcoal, the most depurative form of carbon is combined with wood or peat, as well as with the hydro-carbon, and for other articles, other carbonaceous substances are employed. It is more than probable, if the attention of the right persons can be drawn to this invention, that some nearer approach may be made to the solution of the old Electric Light problem, namely, the "carbon points" which have hitherto been too destructible or too costly. It is well known that non-conducting casting tables have long been a great desideratum in all glass works. The iron tables in use cause that roughness of the unground plates which wastes material and grinding labour; and this, if the moulded carbon will only resist the heat of the molten "metal," may probably be now obviated. Mr. Edwin Pettitt, C.E., some years ago patented the use of refractory or non-conducting casting surfaces for casting tables, and has had small success in procuring the adoption of his views by the manufacturers, or we ought rather, perhaps, to say the acknowledgment of their adoption. We hope, although as regards the majority of even valuable inventions it is almost hoping against hope, that the Patentee of the Moulded Carbon may be more successful. We have indulged in speculations about his process somewhat beyond our depth, in the hope that the "practical man," who is even at hand "to polish off new fangled schemes," will do his office at once, and convince us that very portable and very cheap filters cannot be made as we have attempted to describe. We will take upon ourselves the responsibility of this honest attempt to bring the question to an issue, and of stating also that such a thing has been long wanted, and that, if long known, it has been kept a close secret among a very few persons.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Prussia, arrived at Potsdam on Thursday evening. They were received with enthusiasm by an immense crowd. Her Majesty took lunch at the castle of Herrenhausen, near Hanover, partaking of the King of Hanover's hospitality. From Potsdam the royal party, with the Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia, proceeded to Babelsberg, where they arrived the same evening. The royal family enjoyed a degree of privacy on the following days, only interrupted by a drive through the streets of Potsdam. On Monday her Majesty visited Berlin, and was enthusiastically welcomed, after which she returned to Potsdam. The following morning was devoted to a splendid review in presence of the English and Prussian royal families. The Queen passed down the lines in an open carriage; at the doors of which were the Prince of Prussia and Prince Albert in the grand uniform of field marshals. The troops saluted her Majesty throughout the passage with loud hurrahs; and the bands played the English national anthem. After the review the august party visited the tomb of Frederick the Great, and returned to Babelsberg. On Wednesday the Queen was to pay another visit to

Berlin, when she would honour the opera with her presence.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF QUEENSBERRY.—No particulars have transpired in addition respecting the fate of this nobleman. All that we know, and all that probably will be known on this side of time, is, that he went alone from his own mansion-house of Kinmount early on Friday afternoon, armed with his gun, for the purpose of shooting rabbits, and that at four o'clock he was found lying dead in a field by two of his near kinsmen—a shot wound in his left breast revealing the cause of his violent, accidental death. Sudden and sad has been the latter end of the seventh Marquis of Queensberry. Born in high rank, the inheritor of a great historical name, the heir of a house, which, though not one of the wealthiest, occupies a distinguished place on the roll of the Scottish peerage—possessed of superior natural endowments, the head of a loved and loving family, of a household most devoted to him—he has perished in a moment. Five days ago he was in the flush of health, in the pride of manhood's prime, now nothing remains but a heap of senseless ashes, which will to-morrow be laid low among the ancestral dust. Faults he had not a few. That passion for the turf (it is said the noble Marquis lost a large sum recently at the Chester races), and kindred pursuits still more questionable absorbed much of his time and energies, brought clouds about his otherwise radiant path, and disappointed the promise of his early career. Representing Dumfriesshire in Parliament, he was the Queen's representative there, and also Controller of the Royal Household, and might easily have climbed higher up the ladder of office and become an influential servant of the State. We entertained high expectations of the deceased nobleman, and it is because we did so and were disappointed that we thus speak. But far from us be any feeling savouring of bitterness towards the dead. No cold patricianism or arrogant pride of rank was his. He was a fast friend; had an open heart and hand for the wants of the poor; was a considerate landlord, kind to his tenants, and deservedly popular with the peasantry of the district.—*Dumfries Standard*.

THE GROUSE SEASON.—Sportsmen began work on Thursday the 12th. About Brechin grouse are represented to be very abundant and strong in the wing; while the *Inverness Courier* of Thursday says, "We believe that the sport this season will be a fair average on the lower ranges, and on some of the higher, wherever there were sufficient stocks. It is the remark of every sportsman that the birds are quite healthy and strong. Our list of shooting quarters let for the season is not of the usual length, many of the moors being unlet. This is partly owing to the disease of game last year, and partly to the effects of the great commercial crash of last year, and no small number of our best sportsmen are far away, warring under the scorching rays of an Indian sun. The accounts from the deer forests are most flattering; stags are in fine condition, with large, well-formed antlers. The sound of the rifle has already been heard in the corries, and haunches of fat venison seen in the larder. Captain Baring, at Strathgarve, shot a couple of stags, right and left, both at a gallop—the first falling at 116 yards, the second at 124 yards. In Strathconan forest, Lord Lichfield killed two stags, right and left, both in excellent condition, one with a royal head, the other with a head of eight times. In Glenstrathfarar forest, the Master of Lovat shot a very large fat stag, which weighed 19½ stones clean. In the forest of Glendibidale, Mr. Horatio Ross and Mr. Edward Ross shot each two stags." Accounts from Wardhouse state that Mr. Gordon and party killed 54 brace on Thursday; and from the moors of Mr. Robertson of the Royal, as follows:—At Clashnadarroch, Colonel Clowes and party, 114 brace; Boginlough, the Messrs. Holden, 37½ brace; and Culrain, Captain Gordon of Fyvie, 10 brace.

SPIRIT OF THE FRENCH PRESS.—The Paris journals continue to show a decidedly anti-English feeling. The *Pays* undertakes to say that the English, without the co-operation of the French, would not have obtained the results achieved in China. The same journal with perhaps a clearer judgment, complains of the speeches made by Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Lindsay the other day. It talks of these gentlemen uttering "base insults," addressed to the Emperor whose guests they were the day before, and remarks that "all that ill-will, envy, and ignorance can suggest to men anxious to pander to the passions of the populace is found in the speeches of Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Lindsay." The *Union*, another French journal, assails our Lord Chancellor for "eccentricities of the worst possible taste;" and the *Univers*, in its usual tone, affirms that English misery, pauperism, and public debt owe their origin entirely to the Reformation.

FRENCH REFUGEE GRATITUDE.—The new anti-English pamphlet, noticed by our Paris correspondent, is attributed to, and it is said acknowledged by, M. Jules Lechevalier, an ex-St. Simonian and Socialist, who was a refugee in England until pardoned by the Emperor, and was at one time well known amongst a certain section of the Chartists of the metropolis.

FUDGE.—The *Sligo Chronicle* has this revelation respecting the future of Lord Palmerston:—"We are enabled to state from an authority that is perfectly reliable that Lord Palmerston is about to retire from public life. He has agreed to do so on the urgent entreaty of Lady

Palmerston; and a growing defect in his lordship's power of hearing has also had a share in inducing him to bring his long public career to a close. The noble lord, when he shall bid adieu to the excitement of Parliamentary life, intends, with Lady Palmerston, to take up his residence at Cliffony, near this town; and instructions have been given, and we believe arrangements are now being made, to erect a suitable mansion there for their reception.

RIFLE CANNON.—During his stay at Brest the Emperor Louis Napoleon is said to have resolved on employing in the navy the rifled cannon, of which trial was made in his presence on the Gavre (the practising ground of Lorient), which trials gave very satisfactory results.

SUICIDE IN ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.—A gentleman of property named Thomas Spencer Blake, was admitted into the hospital at the request of his friends, while labouring under delirium tremens. He contrived to throw himself from the window of a closet on an upper story, and falling from a height of 50 feet, was so much hurt as to cause immediate death.

A WIFE KILLED BY HER HUSBAND.—A journeyman baker, residing in Woodstock-street, was brought before Mr. Benn, at the Liverpool police-court, charged with the murder of his wife, in Scotland-road, on Sunday afternoon. The woman was drunk, and the prisoner wanted her to go into the house, but she refused, and ran into Scotland-road. The prisoner followed and struck her in the face; she fell with her head against the kerb-stone, and died soon after.

THE GARRICK CLUB.—The *Court Circular* says:—"Mr. E. H. Yates has uttered in print words which Mr. Thackeray thinks too strongly personal to be passed over in silence, and the 'Garrick' have resolved to expel the former gentleman in consequence. Mr. Yates, however, is supported by Mr. C. Dickens, and several other gentlemen of weight, and the opinion of Mr. Justice Willes is to the effect that there is no other way of getting rid of the obnoxious member, except by breaking up the club, and forming it anew, omitting Mr. Yates's name from the list of its members."

MAN OVER THE FALLS.—The citizens in the vicinity of the Falls were startled by the cry of "Man over the Falls!" and in a few moments hundreds rushed to the rescue, but all their efforts to save him were unavailing. He was seen by a comrade for a moment after he went over, after which he disappeared, and as yet his body has not been found. The accident occurred as follows:—He was standing on some planks which project over the platform of the mill, directly above the Falls, turning a log with a "cant-hoop," when the hook slipped and he fell backward down the precipice. He rose to the surface of the water, and attempted to swim to a ledge of rocks within a few feet of him, but was swept down by the strong current. He is a young man from Palermo, Maine, by the name of George W. Wood.—*St. Anthony News*.

A FALSE ALARM.—Information was given at the police-station, Maidstone, that 400*l.* in gold, and other property, had been stolen from a public-house in the town. The landlord and his housekeeper, though on intimate, were not, it would seem, on confidential terms,—and the lady having a hoard, secreted it where the drunken innkeeper discovered it, and carefully hid it, not knowing whose property it was. The detectives being set to work, found the gold in an old chimney, and were rewarded with five shillings.

REPRESENTATION OF GUILDFORD.—Mr. Campbell is no longer a candidate for the representation of Guildford, and the contest now lies between Mr. Evelyn and Mr. Guildford Onslow.

ACTION FOR LIBEL.—We (*Edinburgh Daily Express*) are informed that an action is likely to be commenced very shortly against the editors of the *Record* newspaper (London), for their publication of defamatory letters against the minister of the New English Episcopal Chapel in St. Vincent-street, Edinburgh.

BIRTH AT A RAILWAY STATION.—On Tuesday, a young woman was delivered of a full-grown female child in the ladies' waiting-room on the Worcester platform, Dudley. She had been in the refreshment-room, where the attendant, observing that she appeared unwell, inquired what was the matter with her, but received an evasive reply. The officials immediately called in such aid as was at hand. She had been living in service at a grocer's in Wednesbury, had left her place that morning, and was endeavouring to make her way to her parents. Both mother and infant are doing well.

MR. LOCKE, M.P., ON CHERBOURG.—On the occasion of laying the first stone of some schools at Barnsley, Mr. Locke said that having known France for the last twenty years, and being well acquainted with the port of Cherbourg, which her Majesty had just visited, he was well fitted to give an opinion with regard to that and its relation to this country. Public feeling in France could not be gathered from the tone of the French press; for, in fact, there might be said to be no such thing as a French press, it was entirely under the control of Government. Still, it was well known that there was a feeling against Englishmen and English institutions entertained by the French people, and this might occasionally be seen striking out in various ways. The great work of forming the important port of Cherbourg, with all its ad-

juncts, had been completed after great labour and time had been expended on it, and the event was of a national character. He believed that the present Emperor had not the slightest intention of wishing Cherbourg to be looked upon as a menace to England, but while human nature remained as it was, England could not see the establishment of so great a work, evidently intended for a warlike purpose, without at once taking steps to counteract its probable effects. Nobody knew what the French opinion really was, and a time might come when the Emperor himself would not be able to control the exuberance of feeling of his people.

MR. MOFFAT, M.P., ON REFORM.—In an address just delivered by this gentleman to his constituents, he said he was for the extension of the franchise, and would support a measure of that kind from whatever point of the political compass it might come; being quite sure that it may be safely and beneficially extended. He was also desirous that we should make our constituencies larger than they are at present.

THE MEMOIRS OF LOLA MONTES.—A correspondent of the *Literary Gazette* says, "I wish you would expose the system of mock authorship." Here is a book professedly by Lola Montes, and really written by an American hack author. The lady has her special gifts, but no person who has had the honour of her acquaintance would suspect her of being able to write a smart and sensible book. We shall have Mr. Barnum next announcing a diamond volume of Tom Thumb's memoirs and affairs of the heart, and declaring that they were written by the dwarf, with a quill from a canary bird."

MR. ALFRED WIGAN.—This gentleman has nearly recovered from his severe and long-protracted illness; and there is reason to hope that in a short time he will be enabled, partially at least, to resume his professional avocations.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE EARL OF CARLISLE FROM THE LADIES OF IRELAND.—A number of ladies, whose presence often graced the Viceregal Court during the period in which the distinguished office of Viceroy was held by the Earl of Carlisle, having resolved to offer his lordship some testimony of their high regard and esteem for his dignified courtesy and attention while presiding in Dublin Castle, commissioned Mr. West to design some appropriate token, national in its character, and unique in its leading features. The object selected was a "Record case" of the most beautiful and elaborate workmanship. It is made of Irish yew, carved in imitation of the celebrated ornamental pattern of the 12th century, the nattes resembling the interlaced withes of matting. The case is bound around with silver, gorgeously chased, and engraven in compartments after patterns copied from the Book of Kells and other highly illustrated works of the kind. On its inner surface are engraven the names of the lady donors.

COUNTY COURTS.—In 1857, in the County Courts of England and Wales, there were 744,652 plaints entered, 395,731 causes tried (or in which judgment was entered), and 5159 causes tried between 20*l.* and 50*l.*; 1,937,745*l.* was the total amount of the moneys for which the plaints were entered; judgment was obtained for 978,592*l.*; 146,417*l.* was paid into court; 776,711*l.* was paid in to the credit of suitors, and 771,944*l.* paid out; 1068 causes were tried by a jury, and in 516 cases the persons requiring a jury obtained verdicts; 92,894 executions were issued against the goods of defendants; 112,961 judgment summonses were issued; 56,655 of these were heard by the court; 27,783 warrants of commitment were issued by the registrar of the court, and 10,607 persons were taken to gaol under the warrants. The business of the County Courts has greatly increased since their primary establishment.

SPURGEON AT BELFAST.—This public favourite has engaged the Botanic Gardens for a series of appearances. It would appear that some of the proprietors are extremely adverse to their property being devoted to the accommodation of any preacher, of whatever sect or party. The *Northern Whig* says:—"Once grant it as an arena of theological display, and where could the limit be placed. Even in this religious and riotous town people would not go to the Gardens for the purpose of worship, or with any other object than the gratification of curiosity."

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE COMBE.—On Saturday last expired the great champion of philosophical phrenology. Mr. Combe was born in Edinburgh in 1788, was educated for the law, became a writer to the signet, and practised for twenty years. The opinions of Gall and Spurzheim attracted his notice; being convinced that they had a basis in nature, he pursued the subject, and in 1819 published his "System of Phrenology," and founded the "Phrenological Journal," which was afterwards conducted by Mr. Cox. In 1828, he published "The Constitution of Man, Considered in Relation to External Objects," which attracted great attention, and it has been questioned whether any modern volume has obtained a larger circulation; 90,500 copies of it have been printed in Great Britain, besides large sales in the United States; translations have also been made into German, French, and Swedish. Mr. Combe was an unwearyed labourer, up to almost the last day of his life, in the promotion of education.

TROOPS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA.—We understand, on good authority, that it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to send out forthwith to British Columbia a

powerful force of the corps of Royal Engineers, provided with everything necessary for the formation of roads, bridges, to open up the resources of the colony; also to erect block-houses for the reception and safe custody of the gold which may be disposed of by the miners; and at the same time form an organised military force for the maintenance of law and order.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The Registrar-General's return for last week shows a very favourable state of the health of the metropolis, the deaths being 208 below the average rate. Diarrhoea is again on the decline, which is very unusual at this period of the year. Scarletina and diphtheria are the prevailing diseases. The total deaths for the week were 1147, and births 1496.

PRINCE ALFRED.—A correspondent of the *Sydney Herald* states, on the authority of Sir Charles Nicholson, that Prince Alfred was about to take a cruise round the world, and would spend some time in Australia. The correspondent adds that Sir Charles had this information from the Prince Consort direct.

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM.—A correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, writing from Berlin, states that for some weeks past the physicians have interdicted the Princess Frederick William from taking journeys, her accouchement being expected in October.

REIGATE ELECTION.—A Conservative candidate for Reigate is announced in the person of the Hon. Mr. Monson, brother of Lord Monson. He will have the entire support of the Government.

"WITCHCRAFT" AND AGRICULTURE.—Pliny has recorded the story of an industrious and ingenious husbandman, who, being in advance of the knowledge of his time, cultivated a small piece of land upon an improved method, by which he gathered much more fruit, and reaped larger profits than the neighbours about him, though their possessions were more ample. His uncommon success excited their envy, insomuch that they brought this accusation against him—"That by sorcery, charms, and witchcraft, he had transported his neighbours' fruits, fertility, and increase to his own fields." For this he was ordered peremptorily, by Albinus, a Roman general skilled in agriculture, to answer the charge before him. Cresinus, fearing the issue, resolved upon his best defence, brought his plough and other rural implements, and displaying them openly, he set there also his daughter, a lusty, strong lass, big of bone; then, turning to the citizens—"My masters," quoth he, "these are the sorceries, charms, and all the enchantments that I use; I might also allege my own travel and labour, my early rising and late sitting up, and the painful sweat that I daily endure; but I am not able to present these to your view, nor to bring them with me into this assembly." This bold and open defence captivated the people; it proved the *coup de main* which turned a doubtful result to his entire favour; he was pronounced "not guilty," and those present took note of his inventions. This story, though not strictly belonging to the history of our own island, is derived from those who are said to have first taught to the Britons the arts of husbandry. It may, therefore, be fairly employed to show that the first improvers of agriculture had their days of trial; that in all ages and countries, and in every path of inquiry and invention—in the discovery of the rotation of crops, as in that of the rotary motion of the earth—a Galileo has had to answer for his daring before some embodiment of ignorance constituting an inquisition.—*Philip's History of Progress.*

THE LONDON LETTER CARRIERS.—A meeting was held on the 15th inst., to receive from the committee a report of what had been done to obtain from Lord Colchester some amelioration of their condition. The promises made by Lord Colchester justify the hope that this most useful, but not sufficiently appreciated class of public servants, will at least obtain a large instalment of what is justly their due.

GOING OUT OF OFFICE.—Lord Lyndhurst tells a good story apropos of his surrender of the great seal in 1846. "When I went to the Palace," says his lordship, "I alighted at the grand staircase; I was received by the sticks gold and silver, and other officers of the household, who called in sonorous tones from landing to landing, and apartment to apartment, 'Room for the Lord High Chancellor of England.' I entered the presence chamber; I gave the seals to her Majesty; I had the honour of kissing her hand. I left the apartment by another door, and found myself on a back staircase, down which I descended without any one taking any notice of me until, as I was looking for my carriage at the outer door, a lacquey bustled up, and with a patronising air said, 'Lord Lyndhurst, can I do anything for you?'"

FIRE AT BLACKWALL.—A great fire occurred on Saturday, on the premises of Mr. Emery, an extensive cooper in Brunswick-street. Seven large cooperages, with stabling and lofts were entirely destroyed, and the adjoining premises severely damaged.

ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.—Mr. Benjamin Webster has received a letter from Col. Sir C. B. Phipps, dated Potsdam, August 13th, announcing the Queen's intention of becoming the patroness of the Dramatic College, and enclosing a cheque for 100*l.* as her donation thereto.

MR. WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.—The action for libel brought by the Hon. Mrs. Yescomb against Mr. Walter Savage Landor, is entered for trial at the Bristol

Assizes, and although it is currently reported that the defendant has left the country, the plaintiff is determined to go to the jury.

SAVINGS' BANKS.—Among the various recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Savings' Banks, in their report, just published, we observe that they have adopted the important suggestion made by Mr. Scratchley, President of the Friendly Societies' Institute, in his *Treatise on Savings' Banks*, "that the Commission should be empowered to invest a portion of the Savings' Banks' funds (not exceeding one-third) in other securities than those authorised by the existing law, and productive of a higher rate of interest than the three per cent. of the public funds, provided such securities are created or guaranteed under an Act of Parliament." If this recommendation be finally adopted by the Legislature, a considerable improvement will arise in the financial condition of Savings' Banks, and the average rate of interest and consequent available profit will materially increase. A further margin will also be created for expenses of management.

EXPERIMENTS UPON AN EXECUTED CRIMINAL.—A letter in the *New York Tribune* says:—"The form of sentencing criminals to death in this State will have to be changed. Instead of condemning them to be hanged by the neck until they are dead, the language will be, 'to be cut up by doctors until you are dead.' The change will be perfectly safe, for the doctors may be implicitly trusted not to let any criminal escape after he is once placed in their hands." The writer proceeds to remark upon the "post mortem appearances" in the body of a criminal named Magee. Some scientific doctors commenced their observations within seven minutes of the man being hanged; they were continued with great minuteness, and the autopsy was begun within the hour from the time of the execution, while the man's heart was still beating eighty times a minute.

THE COUNTESS WALEWSKA.—At the dinner given by Count Walewski in honour of the Emperor's fête-day, it was remarked that Countess Walewska wore two very elegant bracelets which had been presented to her at Cherbourg by Queen Victoria and the Empress Eugénie. These *souvenirs* contained the miniatures of the two sovereigns.

THE LOST TRAVELLER.—An expedition is about to leave Simla under Lord Charles Hay, in the hope of determining the fate of the celebrated traveller, Herr Adolph Slagentweit, or of rescuing him from peril, if still alive. When the two younger brothers returned home in March, Adolph remained behind to carry on some inquiries not then completed. He was believed to have been at Ladak about a year ago; he has not since been heard of.

THE PRINCE CONSORT AT BERLIN.—A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—"What do you think Prince Albert is doing at Berlin? Frequenting the lectures at the University. Yesterday his Royal Highness went with Sir James Clarke and Dr. Wegner, chief military physician, to Professor Dubois Reymond's lecture on physiology, which derived additional interest from experiments made with electric eels, which the professor had received from Africa."

A SPANISH BANDIT.—The famous Andalusian bandit, Muselina, of whose exploits every traveller in the south of Spain has heard, has just terminated his career in a very characteristic manner. During the last month the police and soldiers have been upon his trail, but he succeeded in eluding them and committing fresh crimes. He was traced to Estépa, and a detachment of gendarmerie searched several houses in that village without success. The officer in command, after pretending to withdraw his troop, returned almost alone to search the bandit's house. On arriving at a low windowless room on the ground floor, he went in alone. The door was immediately shut from within, and a pistol discharged at him; he fired in his turn, but without effect. A desperate fight then took place in the dark, the men striking at each other at random. The guards outside broke down the door very opportunely, the officer having already been wounded. The bandit then sprang upon one of the guards with his dagger and severely wounded him; after which he himself was killed. He had been long the terror of the province of Cordova.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P.—Mr. Bright is still in Scotland, recruiting his health. He will be in Birmingham in October, and stay there a week or two, taking the opportunity of addressing his constituents in the Town-hall. The experience of the past session has convinced his friends that a little care, and the husbanding of his strength, will enable him to take that active share in public life for which his temperament and his talents alike fit him.—*Birmingham Journal.*

GAMBLING AT BADEN.—A letter from Hamburg says:—"The Prussian Government continue their exertions to abolish the gaming-tables throughout Germany, but the run of bad luck to which the bank at Baden has latterly been exposed may have a greater influence in the accomplishment of that object than any legal enactment of the Diet would be likely to effect. The 'bank' there has this season been 'broken' twelve times, five of which successes had been gained by a baron (a captain in the Austrian army), who, on leaving the place, gave 5000*fr.* to the poor of the town in token of gratitude for his 'luck' there."

CROSSED CHEQUES.—A banker says:—"Notwithstanding all that you say about crossed cheques, I maintain that when a cheque is properly crossed it cannot be obliterated, except through the fault or negligence of the person crossing it. If the crossing is made with strong transverse lines, it cannot be erased without mutilating the cheque; but I have seen many crossed cheques where the crossing was not observable without special examination, and in such cases it could, of course, be easily erased so as to avoid detection."

A TAX ON CRINOLINE.—According to the *Courrier de Charleroi*, the lessees of dancing saloons in Belgium complain bitterly of the falling off in their receipts occasioned by the extra space now occupied by crinolines. An instrument called the "Crinolimètre," has consequently been adopted by some of them, and persons whose crinolines surpass a fixed development are charged an extra admission fee. At a ball given on Sunday last at Montigny, one female was measured, and charged an extra 75 centimes; another person, of an economic disposition, preferred reducing her crinoline by taking out two hoops.

THE NEW MINES IN THE NORTH OF ADELAIDE.—The *Adelaide Observer* of 12th June has the following:—"There is the most undoubted reason for supposing that the northern districts of the colony will prove immensely rich in mineral resources. In addition to the discoveries formerly noted, we understand that a lease has recently been granted by the Government to Mr. Trestrail, of Barossa, of some land containing a copper lode of extraordinary extent. The chief difficulty with reference to these northern mines is their distance from a place of shipment, and the want of mining labour to work them. We think that in nothing so much as in mining operations is the introduction of the camel to be desired. Port Augusta will, we presume, be the shipping port for the principal portion of the mines north of the Burra, but it will be a somewhat expensive affair during the earlier stages of their working to get the produce shipped, except through the aid of beasts of burden. Such, however, is the reported extent of the mineral discoveries in the north, that it is probable that a railway or tramway will, within a moderate period, be laid over the chief part of the road between the mines and Port Augusta."

A NOVEL BATTUE.—At Lublin, in Russian Poland, a tiger and two hyenas escaped from a travelling menagerie, and sought refuge in the woods of Belzyce and Konopnica, in the neighbourhood. Several animals were subsequently torn to pieces by the tiger, and the terror which prevailed was so great that the inhabitants dared not go to the fields to reap the crops. A number of soldiers had been sent to surround the wood and kill the animals.

A CURIOUS CITY CUSTOM.—A few days ago one of the ancient customs still extant in the City of London, was observed with all due form and solemnity, at the parish church of St. Antholin, Budge-row, Watling-street. The circumstances were as follows:—The rectory of St. Antholin having become vacant by the retirement of the Rev. James William Calvert, M.A., one of the minor canons of St. Paul's Cathedral, it fell to the lot of that gentleman to "induct" his successor to the benefice, the Rev. William Milner, M.A., "according to custom." At twelve o'clock the retiring rector appeared at the door of the church, bearing the keys of the sacred edifice. These he handed to the incoming clergyman, who, having received them, opened the door, entered the church alone, and then turned the key upon himself. He then proceeded to the belfry, and commenced vigorously tolling one of the bells for a minute or so, in conformity with the ancient usage, thus "ringing himself in" to the benefice. The reverend gentleman then opened the door and received the present churchwardens of St. Antholin, Messrs. Good and Garner, and Mr. William Croucher, one of the Common Council of the ward of Cordwainer, in which the parish is situate, and Mr. Hemmens, another of the parishioners, who were the only persons of the neighbourhood present. Having received the congratulations of the party, the newly installed rector retired.

THE BIRTH OF PARSEE CHILDREN.—The infant is introduced into the world on the ground-floor of the house, to which the mother is conveyed as soon as she is seized with the pains of labour, and she remains there for forty days, at the expiration of which period, after undergoing purification, she is allowed to appear in the family as before. The exact period of birth is carefully noted down, and five days after the event, or as soon as convenient, an astrologer is invited, who is either a Brahmin or a Parsee priest, to cast the nativity of the child. The fellow, who thoroughly understands the worth of his forecastings, gives out, with an air of satisfaction, that the child is destined to hold a distinguished position in the community. He has first, however, to enumerate the names which the child may bear, and the parents have the right to make choice of one of them. The astrologer is then consulted as to the influence the child will exert upon the fortunes of the father, the mother, brother, and family generally. The pretender gravely delivers himself in some such strain as this:—"The child really is a fortunate one. To its father it has brought increased respectability and wealth; the mother will be very fortunate. By the birth of this babe there will be increased affection between the husband and wife. With its brothers and sisters it will be on good

terms when of age." The men generally laugh at the absurdity of this stuff, but the education of the Parsee females is not yet sufficiently advanced.—*Manners, Customs, and Religion of the Parsees.*

PLEASURE OF WALKING.—The falling tide had left a breadth of comparatively firm sand by the time I was ready to start, and along that I took my way to Bridlington: another stage of thirteen miles. The morning was bounteous in elements of enjoyment: a bright sun, great white clouds sailing high across the blue, a south-westerly breeze, which made the sea playful and murmurous: all gratifying to the desire of a wayfarer's heart. I could not help pitying those farmers at Beverley, who saw no pleasure in walking. No pleasure in the surest promotion of health and exercise! No pleasure in the steady progressive motion which satisfies our love of change without hindering observation! No pleasure in walking, that strengthens the limbs and invigorates the lungs! No pleasure in arming the sling against the giant! No pleasure in the occasion of cheerful thoughts and manifold suggestions which bring contentment to the heart! Walking is an exercise which in our days might replace, more commonly than it does, the rude out-door recreations of former times; and if but a few of the many hundreds who put on their Sunday clothes to lounge the hours away at the corner of a street, would but take a ten miles' walk out to the country lanes or breezy moorlands, they would find benefit alike to their manhood and morals. If I remember rightly, it is one of the old Greeks who says that walking will almost cure a bad conscience; and, for my part, I am never so ready to obey the precept of neighbourly love as when my sentiments are harmonised by walks of seven or eight leagues a day.—*A Month in Yorkshire.*

THE STOLEN KISS.—The *Wiltshire Independent* states that her Majesty has been pleased to grant a pardon to the man William Craft, who was sentenced to six months' hard labour for an assault in kissing a young lady at Swanage.

ALLEGED TAMPERING WITH THE INDIA MAILS.—Private letters from Berlin mention that there are strong complaints that the last Indian despatches and letter bags had been tampered with at Trieste, the seals broken, and correspondence violated, under pretext of plague at Tripoli.

THE JEDDAH MASSACRE.—M. Sabatier, Consul-General of France at Alexandria, has been charged by the Government to proceed to Jeddah to make investigations respecting the recent outrage. He is at present in the Pyrenees, on leave of absence, but is to embark at Marseilles in a few days for Egypt, on his way to his destination.

AN ENGLISH CABIN-BOY AT BAYONNE.—After the review at the fête at Bayonne, the other day, a *mât de cocagne*, about thirty feet high, was raised. To the top of this mast was affixed a board, to which were attached various tempting trophies, the prize of the most successful climber. Many were the pretenders who essayed to attain the crown—that is, the summit of the pole; many were the unsuccessful. There were three, however, who attained success at the very first effort. These were an English sea-boy, belonging to a small craft used in the river, and two Spaniards. The English lad went to work in a steady business-like manner, with little apparent effort. He climbed the mast as if he were mounting a ship's side, and had his feet on steps. Arriving at the summit, he quietly put forth his hand, and, pausing for a moment to survey the prizes that met his eye, seized a shirt, which he tucked under his arm, and descended, amid the shouts of the multitude, with the same serious earnestness he had displayed when mounting.

SITTINGS OF THE NEW INDIAN COUNCIL.—It is rumoured (says *Allen's Indian Mail*) that Lord Stanley has intimated to the new Indian Council, that they are to sit as formerly in Leadenhall-street, and that he will occasionally take the chair as president. A portion of the clerks at the India Board are to be retained, who are to receive the decisions of the council, and to revise or amend as heretofore.

THE LATE SIR H. WILLOCK.—Sir Henry Willock died at Mortlake on Tuesday. He formerly served in the Madras Cavalry, and attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel. His diplomatic rather than his military services procured him distinction. In January, 1810, he was attached to the embassy to Persia, and acted for several years—from July, 1815, to January, 1827—as *Chargé d'Affaires* at the Court of the Shah. He was decorated with the Persian Order of the Lion and Sun, of the first class, which the Shah of Persia conferred upon him for his services in the field. He was in the receipt of a pension for his diplomatic services. In 1827 he received the honour of knighthood. Sir Henry was for many years a director of the East India Company.

THE INDIAN REBELLION.—The *Times* correspondent says:—"The Oriental instinct of cunning at least teaches the neutrals that the day is ours, and their sympathy and co-operation will henceforward be decided. With the exception of the Nana Sahib the enemy have now no leader of note. Tantia Topce is but the executive of the Nana. The Moulvie has fallen by the treachery of our friend the Rajah of Powayne—for treachery it was if it be true, as I have heard,

that the fanatic was shot while engaged in a parley. The Rane of Jhansi has met the death of a heroine—for to me it seems that the circumstances of her fall, bloody, and fierce, and cruel as the tigress was, entitles her fate to be regarded with something like admiration—charging at the head of her squadrons. To the uninspired man prophecy is fatal. I shall not say that India will be tranquillised ere the season for campaigning begins. The swell of the great ocean may still beat with sullen roar long after the storm has subsided, but there are no terrors and no danger in its tumult."

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, August 21st.
THE QUEEN IN GERMANY.

HER MAJESTY continues in excellent health at Potsdam. There is no further telegraphic news referring to the movements of the royal party.

THE CONTINENT

FRANCE.

It is said that, in the speech he is expected to make at Rennes, the Emperor will announce the satisfactory termination of the labours of the Paris Congress. At the grand banquet to be given, there will be present deputations from the municipalities of the large towns, and from the Councils General of the departments into which the ancient province of Brittany is divided. A good deal of interest is excited by the speech the Emperor is to make. As regards foreign policy and the peaceable intentions of this Government, it will doubtless be a confirmation of that made at Cherbourg; with respect to home policy, a hope has been expressed that a liberal tendency will be manifested, but on this it would be unsafe too confidently to reckon. Another day will resolve the doubt. The Emperor is expected to arrive at St. Cloud on Saturday, and to leave for Biarritz on Monday.

The Paris Conference met on Thursday to sign the protocols relative to the Danubian Principalities. It is supposed that a month will elapse before the ratifications can be exchanged, and, therefore, beyond what (if anything) the Emperor may choose to disclose at Rennes, nothing can be publicly known by the public sooner.

The Paris journals express their surprise that so vigorous a measure as the bombardment of Jeddah had been decided upon by the English authorities without waiting for French co-operation. The *Pays* adds:—"However, we trust that this lesson will have a decisive influence in the East, and will modify the spirit of hostility which at present animates the greater part of the population. The state of Turkey is, there can be no doubt, deplorable; and is such as to threaten the peace of Europe very seriously. It is quite evident that the disorders now going on in every quarter of the Turkish Empire are not referable to casual and transient circumstances."

M. Liadières, formerly an aide-de-camp of Louis Philippe, and a deputy, has just died. His funeral, which took place to-day, was attended by a great many Orleanists.

The *Presse d'Orient*, which has just arrived, confirms the gloomy views of the *Pays*. It affirms that the Christians of Syria, more especially those of Damascus, Aleppo, and Nazareth, are in a state of terror, and apprehend a Mussulman St. Bartholomew. Two governors, those of Safia and Bsiarre, have, it is said, fought a pitched battle, in consequence of a private quarrel.

THE CASE OF MAJOR YELVERTON.—The *Edinburgh Courier* says that two witnesses—a Roman Catholic priest, named Mooney, and an old lady, also from Ireland—were examined yesterday in the Procurator Fiscal's office, in connexion with this painful case. The result has not of course transpired; but Major Yelverton's friends continue to express the utmost confidence that the case will break down.

DARING STREET ROBBERY AT MID-DAY.—Yesterday James Callings was indicted for stealing a watch from Daniel Ribeiro, who had lately arrived from Calcutta, and on the day of the robbery was in John-street, Minorities, about twelve o'clock. He stopped to look at a picture-shop, when the prisoner came up and began to look in also. All of a sudden he felt a snatch at his watch and saw it in the prisoner's hand. He tried to lay hold of him, when he tripped him up and threw him on the pavement. The prisoner was apprehended five days afterwards, when the prosecutor swore positively to him, but the prisoner denied the robbery. Witnesses were called, who left no doubt, and the jury returned a verdict of Guilty. The prisoner was a well-known thief, and had been so for upwards of eight years. He was sentenced to four years' penal servitude. After hearing his sentence the prisoner commenced a volley of abuse to the Judge and witnesses, and became so violent that the officers of the court had great difficulty in removing him from the dock.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 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.*

POSITION OF THE DERBYITE ADMINISTRATION.

THE Roman satirist commences one of his most severe and, at the same time, most practical commentaries on the state of things around him with the familiar question, "Whence, and whither?" We have no wish to be severe just now on anybody in particular: we certainly cherish no factious grudge towards her Majesty's servants in Downing-street. But, as practical observers of practical concerns, we are, in common with a great number of our acquaintance, somewhat curious to know, before proceeding further, where exactly we are going to, and who has hold of the reins? We are not for furious driving; and for what is called cutting a figure on the road we have not the slightest respect for those who indulge in such puerilities. Governing honestly and well is a sober business, and we are essentially a sober-minded people. Splendid political conceits are discounted at very disadvantageous rates amongst us; and magnificent promises of administrative benefits to be conferred by any set of men, whether in the shape of expansion abroad or economy at home, create no other feeling amongst the great body of our countrymen than an irresistible wish to button up their pockets. We are very far, therefore, from requiring at the hands of Lord Derby or his colleagues any exhibition of political fireworks during the autumn; or any announcement of wonders in preparation for next season. What we seek to be satisfied about is rather as to the direction in which we are tending, and the general character of the policy by which the external relations and domestic interests of the empire is likely to be swayed during the residue of the present year.

Were ministers supposed to be thoroughly agreed among themselves, or if in the belief of approaching unanimity of sentiment on all vital questions, they took any pains to repudiate past differences or to dissemble those that still divide them, we should feel, perhaps, some hesitation in advert to the prevalence of conflicting views among the members of Lord Derby's Cabinet. But the contrary is so notorious, that it were mere affectation to ignore the fact. Antagonism of sentiment on subjects like the Jew Bill and Church Rate Abolition were recognised indeed from the outset; but freedom, not only of conscience, but of speech and vote, was claimed for the minority on these and one or two minor topics, whereby it was hoped perhaps that general accordance upon other matters might more conspicuously appear. In the tremulous uncertainty as to the existence of the Government, which lasted from the beginning of March until the end of May, there were few opportunities for the development of diverging tendencies. During the remainder of the session it was otherwise. After the collapse of party energy consequent on the failure of Mr. Cardwell's motion, the frail bonds of Disraelite discipline appear to have gradually become loosed; secretaries of state were found voting in opposite lobbies; lords of the Treasury divided in like manner; and law advisers of the Crown were heard to declare that there was no force whatever in each other's legislative arguments. The climax of diversity was reached on the Corrupt Practices Bill,

which, though vehemently resisted by the Liberal opposition was supported only by one section of the Government, the other, including some men of foremost mark and merit, refusing openly to lend it their sanction or approval. If this be done in the green tree, what may be looked for in the dry? If in the first exultation of ministerial safety for the rest of the Parliamentary year, the gentlemen now holding office could not be brought to act in consort even so far as to save appearances at Westminster, what will happen after they have had twelve months of official impunity, and a whole long vacation's habit of acting, talking, and thinking, every man as he listeth? If on a minor electoral question like that of paying travelling expenses, Lord Derby and his associates cannot agree, what are we to look for when they come to deal with the reconstruction of our entire representative system?

We confess frankly we do not expect to see the Liberal minority give way; neither do we expect to see the more dogged and fanatical members of the majority abandon their conscientious scruples. We believe Lord Chelmsford, Mr. Walpole, and Mr. Henley to be upright obstinate men, as worthy individuals in private life, as they are wilful and unwise in the conduct of public affairs. Lucky is it for the administration to which they belong that none of them can in any sense be considered as essential to its existence. The Chancellor, it is even said, now that his ambition has been gratified by having occupied the Woolsack, and attained the honours of the peerage, desires to descend if opportunity serves to the safer and more lucrative dignity of Chief Justice or Chief Baron. The precedent has been illustriously set by Lord Lyndhurst, who after holding the Great Seal from 1827 to 1830, accepted the office of Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and continued to discharge its judicial duties from that year until the end of 1834. The President of the Board of Trade is a man not insensible to the distinctions and advantages of office; but he has always been what is called stiff-necked in his adherence to the old Quarter Sessions school of Toryism. In his party he has always been accused of being a grumbler. Neither Sir J. Pakington on education, nor Lord Stanley on church rate, nor Sir Fitzroy Kelly on law reform, could ever get any help from the veteran member for Oxfordshire. He is heartily persuaded that the great duty of a constitutional statesman in these days is to stand fast, "hold hard," and not to submit to be bullied into going ahead in any direction. Mr. Henley had got so thoroughly out of humour at the yielding and trimming of his colleagues towards the close of the session, that, before it had actually terminated, he rushed out of town and betook himself to the quiet of a German watering-place, far from faithlessness and compromise. We should not be at all surprised to hear any fine evening that Mr. Henley had resigned: and we mean no disrespect or disparagement when we say that we do not think his withdrawal from the Cabinet would diminish its chances of longevity. Mr. Walpole has also shown strong disinclination to go cordially onwards in the liberalising path which other members of the administration indicate a readiness to pursue. We regret this for we believe the Home Secretary to be an extremely useful as well as an amiable and upright man. His family traditions do not lead him to espouse the unpopular side; and the judicial character of mind ought not to permit his adoption of violent opinions. Office, it is well known, is acceptable to him, inasmuch as he abandoned his practice at the Equity bar in 1852 to become Secretary of State under Lord Derby in his short-lived administration of that year, and the etiquette of the profession does not permit a privy counsellor to go back to the bar. Still we incline very much to the suspicion that Mr. Walpole does not feel very happy or contented in his present distinguished position; and that he, too, would rather retire than become a party to any very decided measure of progress.

Were such defections to occur, from what quarter would the vacant places be supplied? A little time may throw additional light upon the matter.

BRITISH CONSULS AND BRITISH COMMERCE.

THE Select Committee on the Consular Service and Appointments, moved for and obtained by Mr. Monckton Milnes last session, has published a report of its proceedings, and the result of its deliberations is the suggestion of an entirely new or-

ganisation of the consular service. It is not without good reason that the committee has come to the conclusions upon which this important suggestion has been based. The consular service has long been in a most unsatisfactory state, incompetent, in fact, to discharge with anything like proper efficiency the grave duties which pertain to it. Strange as it may appear, the fact seems to be that the importance of the consular service has hitherto not been thoroughly understood; the system, therefore, which controls it has remained so long unmodified amid multiplied changes of circumstances immediately affecting it, that it has ceased to be equal to the requirements of the present time. A glance at the chief duties of the consul, as laid down under the present system, will show something of the importance of his post.

The office of consul originated with one of the great Italian trading cities in the twelfth century; its commercial character is, therefore, marked from the very first. In later times, a gradual modification has taken place in the character of the consular duties, the consul being required, under certain circumstances, to take the place of the diplomatist. His first duty, however, is still to watch over the commercial interests of the state or country by which he is appointed, more particularly to see that the letter of all treaties be observed. He is to protect the subjects of the country for which he is acting from any kind of oppression by the foreigners with whom he is residing; and, on the other hand, he is to use active endeavours to prevent them from carrying on any contraband trade, or committing any violation of the laws of the country with which they are dealing. To this end, he must be acquainted not only with the laws of the particular country, but with the law of nations, and he must have a ready knowledge of all the commercial arrangements that have been entered into between the two countries, the tariffs of duties on all articles of import and export. His knowledge in these respects, indeed, must be multifarious. He has also a world of business to perform in connexion with the arrival and departure of trading ships. He is a sort of standing counsel for the subjects of the country for which he is acting, in the event of their being accused of the commission of any offence against the laws of the foreign country, and in certain cases he is invested with magisterial functions. He is in some places the sole representative of his Government, as at Jeddah; and under such circumstances, he is called upon to act in a double capacity, being the political as well as commercial guardian of the interests of the country he represents. To be properly qualified for the discharge of his duties, he should have a thorough knowledge not only of the language of the country to which he is appointed, but of the dialects of that language in common use by the lower order of inhabitants.

The qualifications of a consul, it will be seen, are of a very special kind. Under any circumstances, it is necessary that he should be a man of commanding influence, of unquestionable integrity, whose means obviously place him above temptation. In dealing with the peoples of the East, it is especially requisite that the worldly position of the consul should be such as to secure him against derogatory comparisons on that score, loss of influence being the inevitable result of all such comparisons.

Now it is made only too clear that, under the present system, few of our consuls come up to the requirements of the service. In the first place, it is not uncommon for the consul to be ignorant of the language of the country to which he is appointed, particularly as to the countries of the far East. This ignorance necessitates the employment of native interpreters, who again may be very imperfectly acquainted with the language of their employers. The interpreters are often Greeks—a class not too well trusted by either Mahometans or Christians. Under such circumstances, the bare discharge of a consul's routine duties is made difficult, and when his diplomatic or magisterial functions are called into action, the difficulty is immeasurably increased, the danger of absolute failure being always imminent in cases where delicate handling is required. In many of the less important places abroad, the office of British consul is discharged by some foreign merchant or trader of standing, but possibly not of first-rate position; in the latter case there is the double disadvantage of having the consular duties performed by a man who cannot be expected to care very warmly for British interests, and who, moreover, is not in possession of a com-

manding influence. But even where the appointment is of a direct kind, the salary given is not sufficient to support the British consul in anything like a fitting manner; he is therefore permitted to add to his income by engaging in trade, in which he may either be unsuccessful, or may take such a low position as will cause him to appear unimportant in the eyes of other traders in the place where he resides, and even in those of the consuls of other nations who are above the necessity of trading.

The disadvantages under which our consular service was carried on by trading consuls, led to the passing of Mr. Canning's Act in 1825, restraining consuls from engaging in any kind of trade. In 1832, however, in answer to cries for retrenchment, it was determined to cheapen the consular service, and three years later a select committee gave its sanction to a wide departure from the provisions of Mr. Canning's Act. Mr. Monckton Milnes's committee would go back to the prohibition of the Act of 1825, and it may be taken for granted that this is the view which would have been taken by Sir Robert Peel, who, as a commercial statesman, greatly resembled Mr. Canning, if he had fallen upon the time to attend to the subject. Of course such a prohibition is not to be carried into effect without providing for the consul an increase of salary something like proportionable to the loss of his income from trading sources. The increase of his pay, however, only to the extent of a reasonable percentage on the increase of our commerce, would not make up to the consul the difference between the cost of living now and at the time when his allowance was first fixed. The committee has no hesitation in advising a considerable increase of pay.

The grand object is efficiency: to secure this, the committee proposes an entire reorganisation of the service, by which it would be raised to the rank of a profession. It is proposed that the consular service shall be divided into six classes—namely, Consuls-General, First-class Consuls, Second-class Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Consular Students, and Consular Agents. Of these classes, the fifth is the most novel and important, for it is the basis upon which the consular edifice would in future be built. The consular students would be young men of fair education, who, in the first instance, would be attached to the offices of the various consuls as clerks; they would be assisted in the study of the languages of the countries to which they were appointed, and assisted also in acquiring a knowledge of the laws and duties of the consular profession, with a view to being ultimately appointed to vice-consulates, with a prospect of subsequent promotion to the higher posts.

By these means a class of men would be specially educated to discharge the duties of the service with the highest efficiency. The consul-general, under the new system, would rise in authority from his freer intercourse with all classes of the people with whom he would reside. Unfettered by personal interests, he would be in an infinitely more advantageous position for developing the commerce of his country, which, it is to be remembered, is one of his first duties; while his improved knowledge and facilities for intercommunication with the authorities of the country, would enable him to carry on all ordinary diplomatic business as well as a man of higher title, or better. For there need be no concealment of the fact, that a consular system, such as that suggested by the committee, would to a great extent take away the business of more formal diplomacy. No result could be more desirable; business would then be conducted by skilled men of business, instead of being thrown into the hands of poor lords, younger sons, and men who, having shown no capacity for business at home, are about the last men that we could expect to show any particular business aptitude abroad. Such appointments as these would be prizes for which the middle class would compete, we have not the smallest doubt, with distinguished success; and to no class could the duty of watching over the commercial interests of England in foreign lands be more safely entrusted, seeing that no class of the community has so deep an interest in the protection and extension of British commerce. The plan of the committee is, indeed, in every way worthy to be carried out; but it will be met with every sort of impediment that can be thrown in its way by the vested interests of diplomacy. It is for the friends of commercial progression to see that so fair an opportunity is not lost. Blue-books do nothing of themselves, and Mr. Monckton Milnes's committee cannot enforce the adoption of their

admirable plan of consular regeneration. The surest way of helping the subject will be for all the trading towns to take it up, and call upon their representatives to do their best to promote the object of the select committee.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

ON the return of Count Cavour from his recent visit to Plombières, much curiosity was expressed on all hands as to the purport of his confidential talk with Louis Napoleon. The marked consideration shown him by his imperial host, their long closetings, and the confidential relations known to exist between the Governments of Piedmont and France, all conspired to stir the spirit of popular conjecture in the peninsula, and to fan the embers of suspicion on the part of Austria. The Sardinian Parliament not being in session, the Minister could neither be interrogated nor taunted into revealing what manner of vision he had had during his stay at the watering-place Court of the French Empire; and the tentative suppositions put forward in the columns of the press have not been able to extract anything definite from the wary and reserved politician. "There is," however, as Carlyle has it, "a silence which is more meaning than any speech." Had M. Cavour anything useful or agreeable to say regarding the result of his visit, we may be sure he would have been only too glad to have said it. His position as administrative head of the Piedmontese Government is anxious and critical. He has, year after year, contrived to hold in hand the impatience, ambition, and resentment of his country; but he has only been able to do so by periodical renewals of splendid, though vague, promises of "an Italian policy," to be worked out when the proper time should come. He has often had hard work of it, tranquillising the reactionary passions of the few, without quenching the enthusiasm of the many, and promoting an excuse for hostilities on the part of Austria before he could be sure of the aid or even tacit countenance of France and England. Haunted by the spectral memories of Novara, he has sworn to himself never to risk a second day of discomfiture and humiliation for Sardinia's arms. Frequently has he been heard to exclaim, "When next we draw the sword it must be for the last time; and that it be not sheathed at the close of the struggle in defeat and ruin, we must wait for one infallible opportunity." No doubt he fancied at the termination of the Russian war that the longed-for hour had tolled when the Western Powers would fulfil the hopes they had held out so lavishly at its commencement regarding the constitutional renovation of Italy. But days, weeks, months, and now years have been allowed to pass, and neither of them are prepared to move. Rumour even seems to be the harbinger of worse than immobility. The English Cabinet meditate, it is said, sending a Minister to the Court of Naples; and the French Government is not prepared to refrain from doing likewise if our rulers lead the way. Satisfactory assurances on this point were, we may be certain, sought by the Piedmontese statesmen at Plombières; if they were afforded why are the organs of his administration mute?

It is, we fear, only too probable that the despot of the Two Sicilies is about to have a complete triumph over the unreliable professions of the Western Powers in favour of Italy. We all remember the pompous denunciations of his merciless system of misrule uttered at Paris, in the spring of 1856, and the notice then publicly given that, if not speedily amended, the delinquent monarch would be placed under the ban of diplomatic interdiction. King Bomba scoffed at the rebukes and threats of M. Walewski and Lord Clarendon. Austria whispered in his ear, "Heed them not; they mean not what they say." And he has found the whisper true. No amelioration of any sort has taken place in the system by which the south of Italy is enchained, debased, and prostrated. No change is pretended. Journalism is extinct. Education is wholly in the hands of the priesthood. Society is infested everywhere with spies. The advocate who dares, in the mere exercise of his calling, to defend a political offender, is hunted down to ruin. Imprisonment on suspicion, without trial, is of every-day occurrence. Life is rendered insupportable; and even the mercy of rapid and easy death is abolished. Those whom absolutism at Naples desires to destroy are sentenced to the most protracted species of gradual execution which the

perverted ingenuity of man has been wicked enough to devise. Dungeons hewn out of the rock, or constructed of impenetrable masonry, in remote places, far below the level of the neighbouring sea or land, loathsome with filth and pestilential with humid exhalations, varying in depth, dreariness, and darkness, but uniform in the pitiless purpose to which they are devoted,—these are the abodes of the most enlightened, brave, and virtuous subjects of the "paternal sovereign of the Two Sicilies." Is the Queen of England about to send an ambassador to this man, authorised to greet him in her name with the courtly style of "brother," and instructed to assure him of her renewed friendship, amity, and esteem? Had we never undertaken to lecture him, the case would have been different. Had we never pronounced his cruelty and oppression unendurable, we might be held to stand blameless of morally fomenting resistance among the victims of his sway. Had we never with solemn face told Europe that the state of things was a source of common danger, and must therefore be suppressed, we should not deserve to be laughed at. But as matters stand, to send an embassy to Naples would be an act as discreditable as detrimental to the best interests of the country, and if Lord Malmesbury commits the mistake, it will only remain for the people, through their press and Parliament, to correct it.

In Lombardy, the young Archduke Maximilian is trying all he can to conciliate the confidence of the community. He has been vainly endeavouring to win the goodwill of the Milanese nobles by hospitality, *bonhomie*, and attention to science, art, and material improvement. He has sought from the Cabinet of Vienna important modifications of the direct taxes which have long pressed heavily upon them and upon the wealthier classes in the towns. To propitiate the intellectual classes, he has undertaken to reform universities and schools; and to benefit the masses, he has recommended some considerable mitigations of the rigour of the conscription. How many of his suggestions will eventually be adopted, time only can tell. But be they many or few, they will accomplish nothing of the political purpose to which they are currently attributed. The antagonism of race cannot be extinguished, and the love of liberty cannot be destroyed by any amount or multiplication of creature comforts in a people like the Lombardo-Venetians. Were the recollections of the past and the dreams of the future equally shut out from the popular mind, the spectacle of Piedmont, proud, free, prosperous, and happy, daily present and suggestive of intolerable comparisons, would of itself suffice to render abortive all the ameliorating projects of the vice-regal Government of Milan.

THE CONFESSIONAL.

THE propriety of the well-known college *sobriquet* of Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, has received another confirmation recently. This Right Reverend has been giving the folks at Windsor a taste of his peculiar episcopal qualities, of his special fitness for the post of spiritual "overseer," and of his shifting and dissolving views in relation to doctrines and practices the people of England have ever been taught to regard as forming the broad line of demarcation between Church of Englandism and Roman Catholicism. A curate named West, a neophyte of the Rev. Mr. Gresley, doing spiritual duty near Windsor, is reported to have indulged in obscene questionings of a poor woman on the eve of her confinement, and in the absence of her husband, justifying himself on the ground that by the rubric of the Church of England she was commanded to make to a priest plenary confession of great and little peccadilloes.

Now, in the case of Mr. Poole, charged with the same kind of indecency in Belgravia, we refused to side with those who appeared to be bounding on the unreflecting mob against the alleged delinquent, because we had no sufficient proof that the practices in question had been committed, and because the *ex parte* story looked very much as if coloured and influenced by sectarian animosity. But on the question of the "confessional," especially with regard to its influence and operation on the morals of women, we apprehend there is but one feeling in English society, and that is the feeling asserted by Bishop Wilberforce to reign in his episcopal bosom, a feeling of the "deepest horror." Let us be clearly understood in this matter. The "confessional," as an established and integral portion of

a particular religion, may be justified on various grounds, no doubt, and in a country professing an opposite religion ought to be tolerated. For instance, no one has a right to object to the Roman Catholic priesthood insisting on the practice of auricular confession being adopted by male and female Catholics.

What is it to the world—provided the husband consents, or considers it his duty, or his interest, not to object—that the Roman Catholic priest, in the discharge of the powers of his priestly office, chooses to question wives or maidens on matters respecting which no one else would dare to allude to, and to demand plain and ample answers on pain of refusing absolution? Persons of a different creed are entitled to do no more than to hold an opinion on these practices. Certainly no one has a right to dictate to the Roman Catholic layman, or to the Roman Catholic priest, what acts or sayings shall or shall not constitute the Roman Catholic creed.

We know that confession, and its complement absolution, are the right hand of the Roman Catholic system. Strip it of those irresistible agents, and the whole structure crumbles away.

But the question assumes a widely different aspect when viewed in connexion with the Church of England. As far as the personal ministrations of that Church is concerned, whatever may be its pretensions, we know practically that the English clergyman plays a very subdued part in domestic life. His visits are few and far between. The direct intercourse between the clergyman and the families of his flock is mostly confined to the walls of the parish church on the seventh day, and to those periods when death or sudden calamity visits a household. The Englishman determines to consider his house as his castle—he will tolerate no master there. In the case of the Roman Catholic, the master of the house and family, especially of the female portion of it, is there when the priest walks in. The depository of family secrets, even of the most intimate relations between husband and wife, carries the real sway; this is notorious, and needs no confirmation. The secret of this power is the confessional. It is true that the Roman Catholic priest, in defence of the confessional, asserts that the Roman Catholic woman has a safeguard in the Roman Catholic religion able to shield her mind from contamination when questioned on matters which would call a blush to the cheek of the veriest harlot even to name. This may be so; but this we also know, that the English woman, matron, or maid, has no such safeguard in the Protestant religion, and it would be idle to deny that mental and physical pollution must follow that course of teaching in which are involved the revolting inquiries of the confessional, even in the mild form presented to us by recent revelations in Belgravia, by previous revelations at Exeter, and by the last exposure at Windsor.

The question to decide first is this, Is "confession," such as unveiled to us in the practice of Mr. Poole and Mr. West, whom we regard merely as tools in the hands of those who have ulterior designs to accomplish, part and parcel of the doctrines of the Church of England? If decided in the affirmative, and we may be sure how "S. Oxon" would decide it, then we have no manner of doubt that the doom of the Church of England is sealed for ever. The people at large would proclaim their immediate emancipation, and the Protestant priesthood, bishops and all, must either find other flocks, or, yielding to the cry of public indignation, give place to those whose teachings are more in harmony with what has hitherto been held to be the true office and proper duties of the Reformed religion.

We do not attempt to deal with the sophistry of the Bishop of Oxford in this matter. The people of England will not be deluded by double-meaning words, and by seeming condemnation, yet secret approval, of the doings of Mr. West. A broad and defined issue has been raised, and that issue must be determined one way or the other for ever. That issue is—Are the women of England to be subjected, like the women of Roman Catholic countries, to the questionings and consequences of the "confessional?" We believe the Archbishop of Canterbury has power to interfere; but it is not interference in the petty form of suspending a delinquent that will satisfy the country. The plain question to determine is this, "Is the confessional to be considered as part and parcel of the ritual of the Established Church, or is it to be cast out as an unclean thing, insidiously devised by priests for the spread and enlargement of their temporal power?"

THE FRUITS OF IGNORANCE.

THE peasantry about Kilkenny have begun to destroy machinery. This is an improvement from murdering men to breaking their instruments. The Irish have now reached the stage which the English occupied half a century ago; and we rejoice at their progress. They have come to be sensible of the value of labour, and they resent the use of machinery because they suppose, erroneously, that it reduces the rate of wages. The English labourers made exactly the same mistake half a century ago, but now the veriest clodhoppers amongst them know that the use of machinery increases produce, increases employment, and increases the rate of wages. The *Bury and Norwich Post* supplies a useful illustration of the present state of opinion in the agricultural districts, which for these very reasons is in favour of machinery. It was only ignorance, therefore, of the effects of machinery which made the English destroy it half a century ago, and it is only ignorance of the effects of machinery which makes the backward Irish destroy it at present. Both did wrong in the eyes of others; in their own eyes, both did what they thought was right. It is good philosophy to say that there are not two causes for the same effect; and as ignorance is the source of the wrong done by Irish labourers, and was the source of the wrong done by English labourers, it is not straining logic too far to infer that ignorance is the source of all the wrong that ever is or ever has been done in the world.

Mr. Roebuck enunciated a similar conclusion at Tynemouth, and we beg to quote a portion of his eloquent remarks:—

There are pleasures derived from knowledge which are not merely the intellectual pleasures I am speaking of. There are moral pleasures. For, depend upon it, no man can be really a good man who is an ignorant man. Now, that is a bold thing to say, but, depend upon it, it is true. I have no doubt that Hildebrand and St. Dominic fancied they were doing good when they were destroying human beings. I have no doubt the wretched King of Naples fancied he is doing good when he is treating his unfortunate subjects with all the horrors with which he does treat them. Why is this? Because virtue is made up of two things—you must wish to do good, and you must know how to do it. It is not enough to wish and intend good things, you ought to know what things are good. The Spaniards have an old proverb, which I will just quote, though it begins with a word which is not generally mentioned to ears polite, "Hell is paved with good intentions." The greater part of mankind intend well, but they don't know how to do well. They persecute, they are intolerant, they turn round upon their fellow-man because he differs from them on some simple matter about which they are both equally ignorant. They pinch his unfortunate flesh with red-hot irons because he differs from them. Knowledge, and knowledge alone, will do away with this, and as men become learned, and appreciate the value of knowledge, they will learn to be tolerant, and thus they will know that the human mind, fully and fairly employed—many minds being employed on the same object—arrives at different conclusions, and if honestly arrived at, they ought not to be persecuted. Therefore, I say, that a really good man cannot be made out of an ignorant man. He may intend well; he may have all the wishes to be a good man, but he has not the intelligence; he does not know what is good; he will be a persecutor; he will be a bigot; he will be a bad man, although intending to be a good one.

We must always, therefore, give rulers credit for good intentions, and always believe that it is merely ignorance which has made them, as it makes the Irish peasant, very often excessively mischievous or destructive. The same may be said of most criminals. They intend less to do wrong than merely to serve some purpose of their own. When they steal, they falsely suppose that it is easier to steal from others than to gain wealth by honest labour. This is a palpable mistake. Were they right, theft would be the rule of our lives. The exertions to steal, and the exertions to resist theft, necessarily diminish the sum of wealth which might exist, and the share of each one, including the thief, would be so much the larger were he not to steal.

The first Napoleon did not mean to depopularise himself, to destroy his throne, and restore the Bourbons, by his successive wars and his final attack on Russia. He did great wrong to France, to Europe, and himself, from sheer and deplorable ignorance, exactly like that of the Irish peasantry. His vast power, like their extreme poverty, prevented him getting an accurate knowledge of facts. The present Napoleon does not mean to make the French poor and discontented by his wasteful, despotism, and restrictive system; he designs to secure his

throne and his dynasty, but lookers-on, satisfied that he is ignorant of the consequences of what he is doing, know that he is only preparing the way for another revolution. Louis Philippe did not mean to dethrone himself by fortifying Paris, but his system of government, of which this was a consequence, led to that inevitable conclusion. Lord Palmerston did not intend to turn himself out of office and break up the Liberal party when he assented to the French view of Englishmen's duties, but he effected it. What will be the consequences of our actions is known to us only within the immediate and limited sphere of our own vision. The remote consequences, which are as inevitable as those we immediately will, are unknown to all. We know, for example, that what we write will be printed, but what effect it will produce in others we cannot possibly foresee. Some know more of these remote consequences than others, and they are sagacious and successful in proportion; though probably well-being, contentment, and happiness are on the whole more the result of following submissively and blindly some well-accredited principles than of acting from attempts to ascertain what will ensue in the distant future.

We all desire to avoid evil, and try to avoid it. None intentionally do wrong—we all desire to do right and achieve good for ourselves, or what we suppose will be good; nevertheless, there is an immense quantity of wrong done and evil suffered, which are entirely the consequences, like the destruction of machinery by the Irish peasantry, of ignorance. To secure well-being, therefore, we must possess a knowledge of the effects of our own conduct as well as of the motion of the planets, of the geological formation of the earth, and of the structure of insects. How we are to get this indispensable knowledge nobody can tell, for nobody is in possession of it. The Legislature does not possess it, or it would never make laws which produce evil. The clergy do not possess it—they are notoriously ignorant of the ways of the world, of existing facts, and cannot teach what they do not know. It is only to be gathered by experience, and just as the English labourers have learned, within the last fifty years, to form right views of the effects of machinery, so, in time, similar necessary knowledge will come to all. It is not to be attained by education. Teachers, each in his sphere, are as little acquainted with it as their pupils. All that the State can do to promote the acquisition is to allow men to learn. Our experience of the effects of machinery may be told to the Irish; probably, as far as it can be, it has been told; but it has not given them knowledge. For one man's experience to become a part of another man's life a common medium of communication is necessary. To understand language, which is such a medium, many previous associations are necessary, and till these have been formed words are mere sounds. The uneducated Irish, and the uneducated multitude generally, have not formed these associations, and are, consequently, not capable of learning from the experience of others.

Their own experience is a sure teacher, and from seeing railways and railway carriages, they learn all about them as easily as the educated classes. It is impossible to travel by rail and not perceive that the rude multitude who use only third-class carriages are as well acquainted with all the mysteries of railway travelling, novel though it be, as travellers by first class carriages. The men and women who, half ashamed of their coarse or untidy dresses, or uncouth behaviour, can scarcely be persuaded to enter a drawing-room or a church, share with glee all the advantages of the rail with their betters, and at once adapt themselves to its exigencies. To personal experience they show themselves docile pupils. What happens as to rails, happens in every part of existence. Everywhere people are learning great truths by personal experience, and not by the medium of words from professed teachers. The men who lead society are continually making discoveries; they are not taught them by other men. No teaching has prepared society for the rail and the telegraph, and their consequences; they are not yet known, and can only be learned as they are developed. Of late years both the State and the Church have become very diligent in teaching the people, to which they seem to have been driven rather by what the multitude had learned and was learning by personal experience than by what the multitude was ignorant of. The knowledge of the multitude rather alarmed than pleased the leaders in State and Church. By personal experience the people will continue to learn much more than the State and the

Church can teach them; and it seems doubtful—as what they have learned in past times has been different from the knowledge these incorporations would wish to inculcate—whether what they will learn hereafter will be agreeable to them. The teaching of the material world through our senses is very different from the teaching of the Church and the State. The former, however, cannot be avoided, and is the paramount means of correcting the ignorance of Irish labourers and members of Parliament, both of whom, undesignedly from ignorance, do a great deal of wrong.

INDIAN TACTICS.

ALL sides seem agreed that the Indian mutiny is quelled; that we have fought our last pitched battle, besieged our last city, and that nothing remains to be done but to hunt down straggling parties of mutineers, and to cut them up root and branch when we come up with them. We are willing to accept this statement as a true picture of the existing condition of affairs and future prospects; we sincerely hope the picture will be realised. But certainly there are materials for doubting whether it will be realised as rapidly as the friends of order could wish. We have already felt it to be our duty to direct attention to the dilatory, and, to our unmilitary mind, the erroneous tactics of the Commander-in-Chief. From what we learn from private sources we have reason to believe that a more active and suitable plan will henceforward be adopted than that of making scientific war on fugitive brigands. This, we apprehend, has been the mistake throughout of the Commander-in-Chief. What is wanted for India is light cavalry. It is inconceivable how the cavalry arm could have been permitted to dwindle down to such an inefficient point. The fruits of our bloodiest battles and sieges have been almost neutralised by the want of a sufficient cavalry force; we trust the mistake will be remedied fully and without more than necessary delay.

But what is to be the future of our rule in India? We shall never again stand in the same relative position in which we stood to the natives, Mahomedan and Hindoo, before the mutiny. The wide gulf will never again be bridged over. On the one side will be perpetual distrust, on the other a knowledge that distrust exists, and is well founded. We shall be stronger than ever in India, but our hold on that country will be material and military, not as before with a large element of the moral.

The powers to govern India in future must be composed of men "a little lower than the angels," if they discharge their high functions wisely and impartially, and resist that temptation to jobbery and patronage which the recent change has placed so completely at their command.

OVER-ROUSE TELEGRAPHS.—The Society of Arts have been furnished by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons with the details of making the telegraph connexion between their premises in Birchin-lane, London-wall, and Parliament-street. The line of wires commences at London-wall, proceeds direct to Birchin-lane, and thence, supported at different intervals, terminates at Parliament-street, the total distance traversed by the wires being 14,584 feet, or nearly three miles. The wires are supported on poles fixed to the tops of the houses; and Messrs. Waterlow have for this purpose used a kind of saddle of cast iron, carrying a socket, into which the supporting pole is fixed. The saddle fits on the ridge of the house, and is held in its place by two screws into the ridge tree and four into the rafters. The pole is kept steady and firm by means of guy wires from its extremity to the roof. No injury whatever is done to the house by the fixing of the supports, and when removed all that has to be done is to fill up and make good the holes whence they are withdrawn. The telegraph wires are of steel, a little larger than common bell wire, combining strength with lightness. The telegraph used by Messrs. Waterlow is the single-needle instrument, requiring only a single line of wire. The cost of erecting the wires is at the rate of about 50*l.* per mile, including poles, wires (double line), insulators, labour, and everything, except the instruments, the cost of which, with a single needle, is 5*l.* each. Messrs. Waterlow calculate that the whole of the police-stations and fire-engine establishments in the metropolis might be brought into communication with each other for an outlay not exceeding 5000*l.*—*Express.*

THE BANKRUPTCY AND LIQUIDATION ACT, 1858.—This Act, which was presented by the Lord Chancellor at the close of the session, is now published. It is an act to amend the law of debtor and creditor, and of insolvency and bankruptcy, and to enable and facilitate the liquidation by creditors of a debtor's estate, and the administration of estates of insolvent traders deceased. It consists of 380 clauses, and occupies 145 folio pages.

Literature.

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

TRAVELS IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

Travels and Discoveries in North and Central Africa. Being a Journal of an Expedition, undertaken under the Auspices of H.B.M.'s Government, in the years 1849-1855. By Henry Barth, Ph. D., D.C.L. Vols. IV. and V. Longman and Co.

THE general character of Dr. Barth's researches and discoveries is now well known. For many years, even before he published a single line of this important work, every one interested in the progress of geographical knowledge, had followed his movements with intense anxiety. His name has become intimately connected with Central Africa; and it is scarcely possible to think of one without thinking of the other. We ourselves remember it as having presented itself to us very long ago under peculiar circumstances. A man, wrapped in an Arab burnous, rode up to an Egyptian hotel almost fainting, supported and surrounded by a mob of chattering Arabs. He had just performed a great feat, which he seemed to regard as a simple promenade. Starting from Tripoli with but one attendant, he had ridden along the whole coast, round the great Syrtis, by Cyrene and Marmarica, and through the desert of the Waled Ali. When about a week's journey from Egypt, he had been attacked by some marauders, and, wounded in the thigh, had escaped with much difficulty, been received by hospitable or prudent Bedouins, and had at length arrived at a place of safety. He kept very much apart from the residents of Alexandria, and we are afraid they rather assisted his love of solitude. His wound healed, and a few months after he was heard of as exploring the coasts of the Red Sea, and contributing articles thereon to a small scientific sheet published at Cairo.

Since then we have heard of this vigorous Prussian gentleman as undertaking various explorations on his own account; and his reputation appears to have spread in the proper quarter. For when the British Government determined on sending an expedition into Central Africa, by way of the Desert of Sahara, Dr. Barth had but to propose his co-operation to be accepted. His appearance on the European scene at that particular time may be regarded as peculiarly fortunate. Many gentlemen, from first to last, became attached to the mission, and all have perished, save one—succumbing to the dangers of every kind with which that vast mysterious region on the confines of Mahomedanism and Paganism is rife. Nor has it been from want of enterprise or from any particular care of his person that Dr. Barth has survived. On the contrary. Messrs. Richardson, Vogel, and Oberseeg were all courageous, energetic men, ready at any time to run the risk of their lives for the attainment of the objects of their mission. But in these qualities they did not surpass Dr. Barth, who indeed, as a daring and sagacious explorer, must not be placed second to any man. The boldness and devotion he has displayed would go to make a cohort of ordinary heroes. The veteran who has passed through a hundred fights has no right to refuse precedence to this traveller, who starts with calm deliberation on a seven years' journey, during which his life must be in danger every day and hour, who never looks back, but, without noise and without clamour, steadily carries on his work to the end. We think it right to make these observations on noticing the concluding volumes of Dr. Barth's work.

As critics, however, we may now object to the extreme bulk of this narrative. If it has been the labour of years to compose, it would be almost the labour of months to read, were not its contents so generally interesting. In the present portion there are comparatively few salient points. The author does not possess the art of word-painting. However, all he has to relate is so fresh and so evidently authentic that, even after turning over those ponderous volumes for hours, until we found our attention beginning to flag, we have often been suddenly arrested, forced to bury ourselves in the subject, and carried away, *volens volens*, to the centre of Africa, amidst thickets of dum, on shores of native lakes, on the brink of unknown creeks and back-waters, or floating on the calm surface of that broad river which, although deprived of really interesting ancient associations, has the power by its name of

fascinating the more indifferent reader, and awakening the most drowsy audience. There are many circumstances which connect emotion in an English breast with the Niger.

A very peculiar effect is produced by the perusal of Dr. Barth's narrative. He has himself become so familiar with those remote regions, that nothing surprises him or strikes his imagination. He always moves along as if he were pacing the Dessaner-strasse. At first, therefore, he communicates the same feeling of nonchalance to his readers. We pass from chapter to chapter and get quite at home, as he is, at Zinder and Sokoto, at Libtako and Gurma. The empire of Songhay comes to appear quite as real as the empire of Austria, and Timbuktu ceases to sound mysteriously. We might be travelling in Yorkshire with Mr. Walter White. However, now and then, not by any literary art on the part of the writer, but simply on account of the uncommon nature of the scenes described, we are aroused and startled, and reminded that we are dealing with regions in physical aspect and the character of their inhabitants as widely different as it is possible to be on the surface of the same globe frequented by beings of the same species.

Dr. Barth has lived so long in Africa, and studied its traditions with so much enthusiasm and care, that he has begun to invest them with perhaps exaggerated importance. To most of us the antiquities and annals of these barbarous nations, who have been conquering and massacring one another south of the Sahara from time immemorial, seem no more interesting than those of Milton's "Kites and Crows." However, this is not a state of mind we would absolutely defend. It is better to be too serious in studying the chronicles of any family of human beings than too flippant. Dr. Barth speaks of the comparatively modern agglomerations of buildings, where black chieftains and their black subjects used to shelter after their forays and slave hunts, in the following solemn tone:—"We reached, after a march of about three miles, the site of the ancient capital of the Bôrnú empire, Ghasr Héggomo," &c. :—

Winding round the swamp (for the nature of a swamp or kulúgu was more apparent, at present, than that of a branch of the river), we reached, after a march of about three miles, the site of the ancient capital of the Bôrnú empire, Ghasr-éggomo, which, as I have stated on a former occasion, was built by the king 'Alí Ghajidéní, towards the end of the fifteenth century, after the dynasty had been driven from its ancient seats in Kánem, and, after a desperate struggle between unsettled elements, began to concentrate itself under the powerful rule of this mighty king. The site was visited by the members of the former expedition, and it has been called by them by the half-Arabic name of Birni-Kadím, the "old capital,"—even the Bôrnú people in general designating the place only by the name birni, or burni. The town had nearly a regular oval shape, but, notwithstanding the great exaggerations of former Arab informants, who have asserted that this town surpassed Cairo (or Masr el Káhira) in size, and was a day's march across, was little more than six English miles in circumference, being encompassed by a strong wall, with six or seven gates; which, in its present dilapidated state, forms a small ridge, and seems clearly to indicate that, when the town was conquered by the Fúlbe or Felláta, the attack was made from two different sides, viz. the south-west and north-west, where the lower part of the wall had been dug away. The interior of the town exhibits very little that is remarkable. The principal buildings consist of baked bricks; and in the present capital not the smallest approach is made to this more solid mode of architecture. The dimensions of the palace appear to have been very large, although nothing but the ground plan of large empty areas can be made out at present, while the very small dimensions of the mosque, which had five aisles, seem to afford sufficient proof that none but the people intimately connected with the court used to attend the service, just as is the case at the present time; and it serves, moreover, clearly to establish the fact that even in former times, when the empire was most flourishing, there was no such thing as a *médresé*, or college, attached to the mosque. The fact is, that although Bôrnú at all times has had some learned men, study has always been a private affair, amongst a few individuals, encouraged by some distinguished men who had visited Egypt and Arabia. Taking into consideration the great extent of the empire during the period of its grandeur, and the fertility and wealth of some of its provinces, which caused gold dust at that time to be brought to market here in considerable quantity, it cannot be doubted that this capital contained a great deal of barbaric magnificence, and even a certain degree of civilisation, much more so than is at present to be found in this country; and it is certainly a speculation not devoid of interest to imagine, in this town of Negroland, a splendid court, with a considerable number of

learned and intelligent men gathering round their sovereign, and a priest writing down the history of the glorious achievements of his master, and thus securing them from oblivion. Pity that that he was not aware that his work might fall into the hands of people from quite another part of the world, and of so different a stage of civilisation, language, and learning! else he would certainly not have failed to have given to posterity a more distinct clue to the chronology of the history of his native country.

It is remarkable that the area of the town, although thickly overgrown with rank grass, is quite bare of trees, while the wall is closely hemmed in by a dense forest; and when I entered the ruins, I found them to be the haunt of a couple of tall ostriches, the only present possessors of this once animated ground: but on the south-west corner, at some distance from the wall, there was a small hamlet.

All these African explorers are alike. This reminds us of Mr. Richardson's description of the good city of Tintellust, which seems to have been a collection of as shabby huts as one could wish to see. Then we have "general observations on the history of Songhay and Timbuktu," based on manuscript history "ranging from the very dawn of historical records down to the year 1640 of our era," which the indefatigable doctor "had an opportunity of perusing." The results are very important for the elucidation of the geography of Central Africa, and it is only, no doubt, because of the surprise created by the application of familiar phrases such as we have quoted to almost unknown kingdoms in which we are not accustomed to feel interest that Dr. Barth's earnestness creates a smile.

Let us contrast with the above-quoted passage a wayside observation, which, though so simply stated, brings the lawless and dangerous character of the country traversed by Dr. Barth very vividly before the reader's mind:—

It was ten o'clock when our cavalcade at length put itself in motion, ascending the sandhills which rise close behind the village of Kábára, and which, to my great regret, had prevented my obtaining a view of the town from the top of our terrace. The contrast of this desolate scenery with the character of the fertile banks of the river which I had just left behind was remarkable. The whole tract bore decidedly the character of a desert, although the path was thickly lined on both sides with thorny bushes and stunted trees, which were being cleared away in some places in order to render the path less obstructed and more safe, as the Tawárek never fail to infest it, and at present were particularly dreaded on account of their having killed a few days previously three petty Tawáti traders on their way to Aráwán. It is from the unsafe character of this short road between the harbour and the town, that the spot, about half way between Kábára and Timbuktu, bears the remarkable name of "Ur-immádes," "he does not hear," meaning the place where the cry of the unfortunate victim is not heard from either side.

We cannot undertake within our brief space to offer any analysis of this concluding portion of Dr. Barth's work. All we can say is that the geographical student will find its results to be most valuable. It will effect a complete revolution in the map of the countries called by the Arabs Soudan. Indeed, we can scarcely be said ever to have had any accurate knowledge of those countries before. Dr. Barth has trodden hundreds of new tracts and sailed on reaches of rivers which have never before met the European gaze. He makes almost as familiar with the Niger as with the Nile. If his narrative be defective in any respect it is in those lively paintings of human groups in which Mr. Richardson excelled. He is observing, however, and we have marked one or two passages to quote as a sample of hundreds of others. Here are some desert characters:—

Sadákú himself was very unwell, and greatly wanted my medical assistance; but after I had made him feel the efficacy of my medicines so strongly that he declared every evil to be removed from his body, he did not reward my zeal with so much as a drop of milk. I therefore could not help observing, to the great delight of his subjects, that he was the most niggardly chief I had ever met with. There were, however, others who were more social and communicative, if not more liberal, than this chief. There was, first, a wealthy and good-looking man of the name of Jemfi, of the Kél Burrum, or the people of Burrum, who evidently originate in a mixture of free Songhay people and Imóshagh, and he himself seemed to unite in a certain degree the qualities of these different nations, while his rich dress and his *embonpoint* proved that he was not an austere inhabitant of the desert. A great deal of trouble was caused me by another man of the name of Simsim, the son of Sádi Ammer, and the eldest of seven brothers, a very rich Amóshagh, who was totally blind, but who, nevertheless, expected me to restore his sight; and it really seemed as if my friend El Baký confirmed him in this

belief, in order to obtain from him some handsome presents for himself.

Further on we have a light sketch of native character:—

Here, as in general, I allayed the suspicions of the people and made them more familiar by showing them some pictures of men of various tribes. Notwithstanding the great distance which separated my tent from the encampment, none of the women remained behind, all being anxious to have a look at this curious and novel exhibition; and having been sent about their business when they came in the daytime, they again returned towards night in such numbers that my people, being anxious for the safety of my small tent, which became endangered by these unwieldy creatures, endeavoured to frighten them away with powder. But all was in vain; they would not stir till they had seen the pictures, which, in accordance with the disposition of each, excited their great delight or amazement. My custom, which I have mentioned before, of honouring the handsomest women in every encampment with a looking-glass, created here a great struggle for the honour; but I was so unfortunate as to hurt the feelings of a mother by giving the prize of beauty to her daughter, who was rather a handsome person.

It will be long before we have news so copious and so authentic from the centre of Africa as that given by Dr. Barth. His work is an invaluable addition to the collection of sound scientific narratives of travel which is rapidly forming, and deserves a place in every library beside that of Dr. Livingstone.

THE AQUARIAN NATURALIST.

The Aquarian Naturalist. A Manual for the Sea-side. By T. Rymer Jones, F.R.S., &c. With Eight Coloured Plates. Van Voorst.

THE weather was hot, and in the accustomed place many a valued friend was missing. He and everybody else, of course, who could get away from town, leaving its din and smoke behind, were off for a holiday. "Follow my leader" at this season of the year is a natural instinct, and so here we are at Broadstairs, sitting at our ease beneath the rock upon which stands the house which, if the sea spares it, may or may not go down to posterity as once the dwelling of Charles Dickens. It is just the spot we can imagine he would have selected. The house stands on the extreme point of the cliff, overhanging the sea, and the view it takes in reaches from the North to the South Foreland, from Dover to Margate, Ramsgate, Pegwell Bay and Broadstairs forming part of the line, and landwards, St. Peters and Kingsgate, and the rich growing crops for which the Isle of Thanet is famed, spread out to view.

But it is not of Charles Dickens that we are about to speak; only seated, as we are, beneath his former residence, it is pleasant for us and for those who come after us, to know the haunts and "habitats" of his like, and so we have dotted it down; but whether the sea and posterity will endorse it, is not a matter that concerns us, and so pass we on to that which does, and this is the book we have chosen for our companion for the hour and the spot.

Beneath us is the beach, and the masses of broken rock, crowned with sea-weeds in endless variety, break the gentle spray into feathery wreaths. To our left is a little rock-pool, with its translucent water. Let us accompany our author to a similar one, and if what we see in ours does not equal all that he saw in his, we need not be jealous; for whether there be many or few, all are lovely alike, and we, too, may have better luck another time.

It is a lovely morning; let us stroll awhile upon the shingly beach, and watch the ebbing tide. How stealthily the sea retires! each gently curtsying wave, as its last ripples sink upon the sand, leaves a line of foam to show how far it had presumed to come. The rocks are now laid bare—we climb their slippery sides, and sit us down beside some rock-girt pool, whose tranquil surface, still as a glass, permits us to survey the depths below clear and translucent. Sea-weeds of roseate hues, and forms more delicate than those of earth, in rich profusion clothe the sides and bottom; others of varied dyes, purple and green, hang loosely floating in the quiet depths; penicillate *Conferve* wave from every stone—a wilderness of vegetation. Interspersed with these, the jointed *Corallines* spread forth their stony branches, and sea-flowers of every colour, opening to the sun, unfold their living petals to entrap their food. The glassy shrimps and prawns are faintly seen, lost in their own transparency; and little fishes, darting here and there, or poised with quivering fins, give life and animation to the scene.

The sun becomes obscured, and the breeze freshens from the sea; dark clouds are gathering on the horizon, and the tide begins to turn; the heaving waves now tumble towards the shore, and as they break in

angry foam portend a storm. The sky looks threatening, and the thunder growls far in the distance. The sea awakens as from slumber, and the blackening heavens lour over its dark bosom; while the rising blast impelling all the waves, drives them upon the rocks in sheets of feathery foam, lashing them on to madness, till at length ocean and sky seem mingled.

Such are the changes of the sea, and such the efficient means whereby Nature ensures the renovation of that element, the mighty deep, the grand antagonist of all the earth—refreshing it throughout its broad domains, keeping its waters wholesome—filled with air, and thus adapted to the living things that flourish in its vast recesses.

It is the atmospheric air which it thus takes in that sustains the mass of "living things that flourish in its vast recesses." Water itself, devoid of atmospheric air, cannot sustain respiration. Put a fish into a globe, and whilst the atmospheric air remains, it swims merrily about. As by its respiration that air becomes exhausted, and by its expiration of carbonic acid gas the water in the globe becomes foul, the fish would soon die if we did not change the water, or supply the deficiency of oxygen by other means.

It is evident, that only by imitating the conditions observable in Creation can we ever hope to succeed in our attempts at keeping alive and in health for any lengthened period animals that we desire to preserve in our Vivaria, and it is not difficult for the observant mind to perceive how these conditions are to be fulfilled. Water itself, while in a stagnant state, affords no air such as can be respired by any animal. To fill it then with atmospheric air, or oxygen, the purer element, must be the first essential; secondly, to keep it stored with food adapted to the nourishment of those creatures that we place in it, is as imperatively requisite. The storms that tempest ocean, 'making the sea to boil like a pot,' effect the former condition by commingling the air of the atmosphere with the waters of the sea. The vegetation which clothes the rocks and carpets the shallows, or floats through every region, when exposed to sunshine, as we all well know, pours forth oxygen gas in abundance sufficient to replace that which is consumed by respiration, and moreover yields such ample stores of food as will supply all the vast hunger of the mighty deep. With these two grand facts before us, it is manifest upon what principles an Aquarium ought to be established.

Animal life requires oxygen for its support; but by some mysterious power its nature is entirely changed between the act of inspiration and the act of expiration, and it is united with carbon, which is one of the elements of the animal body, and thus carbonic acid gas is given out by all animals. It is this carbonic acid which destroys animal life, but vegetation takes up that poisonous gas, and casts out the pure oxygen, and in the vivary the bright bubbles which cover the mimic rock work, or rise up to the surface are pure oxygen separated from the carbon, the plants having retained the latter for the formation of their own tissues. And it is this beautiful balance of animal and vegetable life that is rendered plain and simple by the contemplation of a water-vivary. Having determined upon the form of the vessel to be converted into our vivary, the next step is to form the interior as nearly as possible after the model of Nature. For a marine aquarium, which is the one under discussion, we cannot do better than imitate the rock-pool which we have just been contemplating. As we look down into it, we find how beautifully our common mother cares for all her offspring. Boulders, fragments of rock, gnarled roots of the larger sea-weeds form miniature caverns and recesses, and the little fish dart in and out of these, grateful for the shade and seclusion they afford. Here and there the coarser shingles are exposed to view, but the base generally consists of very fine granulated shingles or sea-sand.

The best materials for the purpose of forming mimic rock-work will be found to be pieces of granite or of free-stone of various shapes and sizes; but all of such weight and regularity of form, that when placed one upon the other, in accordance with the taste and intention of the designer, they may rest firmly and securely in their respective places. No cement should be employed in the construction of these mimic edifices; their weight alone and steady supraposition upon each other should ensure the firmness and stability of the entire fabric.

The next step, of course, is to lay down the bottom of our miniature sea, so as to adapt it to the comfort and well-being of its intended inhabitants. Here (and the arrangement is of considerable importance) we must study nature. The floor should be composed of smooth washed shingle, the stones resembling in size a pea, a bean, up to a hazel-nut, as substratum; but with here and there a larger piece, whose bulk, like Skiddaw or Helvellyn, so to compare great things with small, may protrude through the alluvial plain to be deposited above. Upon the top of this should be spread, to the

depth of at least three-quarters of an inch or more, a stratum of fine sea sand—(but with submission we insist, from dear-bought experience, that fine granulated sea shingle is both safer and better). The uses of this upper stratum are many, but in its hygienic character it is most important to the health and well-doing of the little colony.

Whoever upon the sea-shore takes the trouble to dig to the depth of a few inches, more or less, will find beneath the clean and wholesome sand a layer of black, or bluish, paint-like, stinking slime, the dregs and filth deposited as it were by filtration. This pestiferous deposit, were it not thus safely buried, would poison the entire coast, and render the shores uninhabitable. The naturalist ought therefore to be very cautious how he allows the bottom of an old-established tank to be disturbed; still more so in permitting the casual introduction of any shell or stone into his aquarium that is polluted with this noisome pestilence.

And now is the time to introduce the plants, and of these only attached specimens of green and red sea-weeds are admissible. Then as to the water. Shore water is full of impurities, and, if the natural water be preferred, it must be procured at least some miles away from the land, unless we patiently collect it out of the little rock-pools left by the receding tide, the water in which has undergone the natural process of filtration just described, and deposited the sulphuretted hydrogen beneath its shingly bed. Artificial sea-water should be mixed at least twelve hours before it is used. Of the different formulas for its preparation we strongly recommend Mr. Warington's, which we gave in a recent number. Mr. Gosse produces a substitute, by using three and a half ounces of common table salt, a quarter of an ounce of Epsom salts, two hundred grains (troy) chloride of magnesium, and forty grains (troy) chloride of potassium. This is sufficient for one gallon, and will cost about sixpence. Messrs. Brew and Schweitzer evaporate sea water in large quantities, and sell the resulting salt, fifty-six and a half ounces of which will produce ten gallons of sea water, less three pints. This done, we have but to add the living animal-flowers themselves, and our marine-vivary is complete.

Mr. Rymer Jones's book will be found to be the best practical manual yet published on this delightful study, and by aid of the accurately coloured plates, and a very full table of contents, the reader will readily find any information he may be in search of. The author tells us himself that

He has endeavoured, as far as possible, to comply with the requisition of lady friends—to write as much as possible about what they do want to know, and as little as possible about what they do not want to know.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

A Friend in Need. A Romance in Three Volumes.

Richard Bentley.

MISS VANDELEUR, the heroine of this novel, appears in the opening chapter as a solitary young Mariana, looking out from her dismal grange for a sensation. She has not long to wait, for in the nick of time a lover pops over the garden wall and drops at her feet. Thrusting a mysterious packet into her hands, with an injunction to hold it in trust for him, he vanishes. She exhibits no alarm, she does not shriek; oh, no! but follows him mechanically, and when he disappears, instead of giving the alarm, secretes the packet and baffles his pursuers, who arrive a minute too late. The rapidity with which this lady adapts herself to the situation, is a fair specimen of the inartistic treatment of the rest of the elaborately invented plot of a *A Friend in Need*.

The hero, called George Hartigan from his infancy, but in reality the child of Count Jules de Pérignon and of Lucille, his wife, was born when the premonitory rumblings of the French Revolution had begun to be heard. He was the offspring of a *mésalliance*, which had so disgusted the Grandpère Pérignon, Marquis de Harleville, that Count Jules had been imprisoned in the Bastille under that invaluable piece of novel-writers mechanism, a *lettre de cachet*. His bride, destitute and persecuted, was thrown upon the world; and every conceivable attempt was made to procure the consents of the ill-fated pair to a divorce. When Lucille was about to become a mother, a friend represented to old Harleville that, if he relented not, an heir must be born to his house in a peasant's hut. He stooped, after a struggle, to a compromise, on condition that the child, if a son, should be at once resigned to his tutelage; he consented to the release of his son, and next morning Count Jules breathed the outer air once more; kissed his mother, who had still preserved an affec-

tion for him; and joined the bride from whom he had been parted. In time a male child was born. Parental instincts drove the couple to a violation of the unholy bond they had entered into. They fled, tracked by the minions of the marquis. Too late the unhappy Jules sought the grace of his ferocious parent. He was repulsed with insult, and charged with breach of faith. Foreseeing some attempt on his father's part to enforce the covenant, the young mother attached to the person of her infant a packet containing proofs of his identity and legitimacy. It was well and timely done. The next day he was torn from her under circumstances of powerful interest. The reader will hardly believe that the cruel marquis had no hand in this; but the child had been, in fact, seized by the emissaries of the Irish Earl of Glenarm, who, finding himself in precisely the same family difficulty as old De Harleville, and being much such another ruthless character, took the same kind of measures to enforce filial obedience. Maurice Hartigan, his gamekeeper, had been sent to France to possess himself of the heir of the Lisdillons, and had stolen the young Pérignon by mistake. Hartigan's wife possessed herself of the identifying packet, and kept it secret from even her husband. The child was brought under their roof, and the wicked earl from time to time gloated over him as the symbol of revenge. In course of time, the youth became possessed of the certificates of his birth, but although he had been instructed in the French language by a priestly confederate of his grandfather, he remained a believer that he was the rightful heir to the Glenarm title, and that the said documents contained the proofs. It was by no means agreeable to the earl that the country should ring with the vainglorious claims of a scapegrace, and accordingly, when the supposed George Hartigan was on the confines of manhood, his lordship renewed the atrocious persecution with which he had dogged his infancy.

The details of a prolonged strife between these supposed near relatives, with memoirs of various subordinate actors, fill a whole volume, and lead up to, or rather back to, the garden rencontre of the first chapter.

We have told how Miss Vandeleur assisted the fugitive. She little thought of the wretchedness she had accepted with his trust. She retired to rest but knew no sleep. Roused by the barking of her dog, she, like a true heroine, descended the staircase, hurried from room to room in search of some intruder, and at last finds herself, of all places in the world, in the pantry, and face to face with the handsome stranger. In one hand he held a glittering steel—it was a carving-knife; in the other he brandished a shapeless mass—it was a fragment of a loaf. The maiden's courage returned, while George Hartigan supped well, and poured into her romantic ear a fallacious theory of his own rights and wrongs based upon the contents of the packet. Unsophisticated Miss Vandeleur fell in love.

They are soon affianced, but as the persecution of his lordship abates not, the course of their affections is by no means smooth. Priests, peasants and Laura Vandeleur's dog "Bully," all play parts in the interminable tangle of the plot which the reader must unravel for himself if he once opens the book, for although, as we observed in our opening remarks, *A Friend in Need* is neither the work of a practised writer nor of a very thoughtful observer, drags heavily in parts, and contains notable incongruities; it is still the work, we imagine, of a fresh and prolific fancy, which after a good deal more practice will produce better things. The story concludes with a refreshing surprise. Instead of the hero taking Laura to wife, she becomes Madame Reginald Devines, and he, as Count Gustave de Pérignon, marries Miss Rosalinda Vining. We have traced the principal characters to the altar's foot, but as to the Vining and the Devines, the Earl of Glenarm, and Captain Vandeleur, we must refer the curious to the book itself. Their appearance and functions on the stage of the novel are steeped in the scething broth of the author's romantic fancy, and figure in some scenes of considerable power. The struggle for life between Maurice Hartigan and his supposed son in the black basaltic caves of Larné, when a certain Father O'Mahony, after long niding in the cruelties inflicted upon the hero by Lord Glenarm, appears as his deliverer from imminent death, is as powerfully written as any passage in the book. On the whole, *A Friend in Need* fully justifies the title of "Romance" which the author has, perhaps from a due sense of modesty, applied to it.

NAPOLEONIC BOOKS.

*Lettres de Napoléon I.**L'Antichità dei Bonaparti.* Di F. Stefano.*Histoire de L'Impératrice Joséphine.* Par M. Joseph Aubenas.

Paris.

Venice.

Paris.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

THE Napoleon correspondence, which we noticed last week, is, in the course of the present month, to be published in a popular form, with the avowed intention of propagating more extensively than has hitherto been done, and among all classes of society, the hero-worship of the founder of the present imperial dynasty. The costly edition has already been circulated among the members of the Imperial family and the wealthy courtiers of the Empire; and portions have been allowed to transpire from time to time through the columns of the *Moniteur*, as foretaste of the literary or historical feast which is being prepared for the public and as whets to their appetite. But if we may judge from the tone of general opinion, the significant silence of the independent portion of the French press, and the indifference of the public, the hopes raised upon the publication of this correspondence are likely to be signally disappointed. It would, indeed, be a curious illustration of retributive justice—a striking example of the sure though slow vengeance of that terrible and inexorable Nemesis which we are taught unremittingly pursues human errors and strikes down the loftiest reputations when built up upon wrong—if the correspondence of Napoleon I., given to the world by the inheritor of his name and empire, for the purpose of increasing the influence of his fame and consolidating the throne of his dynasty, should produce entirely opposite results. Such, however, it is feared, will bethe case by many who are the warmest, if not the most demonstrative, supporters of Napoleon III.

During the Restoration and subsequently, the genius and marvellous deeds of the hero of Marengo, the victor of Austerlitz, and the martyr of St. Helena were made the themes of national praise in order to be used as weapons of offence against the existing Government. The Orleanist conspirators against the elder *fil de St. Louis*, and the republicans united to spread abroad the admiration and worship of one whom in secret they both hated and feared, hoping, under the shadow of his great name, to creep into power. After the wrong-headedness of Charles X. had made way for the advent to the throne of his "faithful cousin"—*la meilleure des républiques*—the republican party still pursued their old tactics against their former allies and present foes, in the hopes of achieving success in their turn. But they had to contend with one whom they had initiated into the secrets of their policy and provided with the plans of their campaign. The "citizen king," however, took the wind out of their sails by becoming the loudest in praise of the heroic actions of Napoleon the Great, and the most prominent among the idolaters of the glory of the Empire. Louis Philippe replaced the statue of the Emperor, in historic costume, upon the Colonne Vendôme; he finished the arch of Imperial triumphs at the *Barrière de l'Etoile*, and inscribed thereon the list of victories and names of generals that had illustrated the Empire; he filled the galleries of Versailles with gorgeous paintings, more or less apocryphal, of Imperial battles; he sent his son to bring back from St. Helena the mortal remains of the enemy of his race amidst unheard-of pomp and magnificence; and he spared no labour, no sacrifice of self-respect, to establish *le culte des souvenirs de l'Empire*. The object of this policy was threefold—to create popular force that might be wielded, when required, against the Legitimists, to deprive the republicans of the main element of their strength among the uneducated classes, and to rally to himself that party which sighed for "the return of the Eagle," by placing himself before the public as the restorer of Imperial traditions and the realiser of Napoleonic ideas. At no period was the hero-worship of Napoleon I. carried to such an extent as during the period which elapsed from 1830 to 1848. The conqueror of half Europe loomed all the more grandly in the public eye as his epoch became all the more remote, and as his history wore more the appearance of tradition. His individuality was swallowed up in the representative of the glories and reverses of France, and was lost in the type of her popular force. To worship his memory was an act of patriotism, a protest against foreign influence, and an assertion of national independence. As the histories that treated of his errors were held to be false and mere inventions of his enemies, the Emperor grew by degrees in the imagination of his fol-

lowers, to be of the earth less earthy, and seemed gradually to throw off the frailties of mankind, until at last it was not deemed irreverent to represent his apotheosis on the dome of the new christianised church of St. Geneviève. Having unconscientiously and unwillingly paved the way for the government so much detested by the Orleanists and Republicans, these parties are now, perhaps, fated to behold the work of their hands undone, the prestige and influence of Napoleon I. weakened, if not destroyed, by the Second Empire. The great magic of his name was chiefly due to the apparent superhuman qualities with which the great Emperor was believed to be endowed. His will was law, and his slightest wishes still hold binding, because he was fancied to be superior to all other men. But now, when the Government of the successor to his name and throne publish to the world the history of his frailties and errors, showing him stripped of imperial glitter, and brought out of the uncertain and half-mystic light of far off battle-fields, the heroic figure becomes reduced to human proportions, and the idol of half a century sinks down into a mere beacon-mark of history. The accuracy of the correspondence, and the friendly or adulatory purpose of its publication, cannot be doubted. Consequently, the work which is about to be issued by M. Henri Plon (his present Majesty's printers) for the correct information of the people will be the standard by which Napoleon I. will henceforward be judged. That the result will be the dispersion of many illusions—the sweeping of many cobwebs from the national mind—cannot be doubted. The military genius of Napoleon I. may, perhaps, shine forth more brightly, but he will cease to be the idol of civil and educated France, for his character, in no other respects, will be brought down to its true level, while the reputation of his opponents will be proportionately enhanced.

In order to rightly understand and fully appreciate the great and silent revolution which is taking place with respect to the popular idol in the public mind, it is necessary to include in this notice, besides the *Correspondence of Napoleon I.*, two other works which have recently been published at the instigation, or at least with the sanction, of the present Government. They are *L'Antichità dei Bonaparti*, by Federico Stefani, with an introduction by Luciano Beretta, published in Venice, and the *Histoire de l'Impératrice Joséphine*, by M. Joseph Aubenas, published in Paris. All three works have been extensively reviewed in the *Moniteur*, in the ordinary laudatory style, by M. Rapetti, who appears to hold the office of literary eulogist of the Empire, and have thereby received the greatest publicity that it was possible to give them.

The first to be noticed is the "Historical Study on the Antiquity of the Bonapartes." The fact that it should have been written by Italians, and published in an Austrian possession, is held to be of significant import. But it may be doubted, if the attempt to prove the ancient lineage and noble descent of the husband of a daughter of the imperial house of Hapsburg will revise such recollections as will tend to cement the Austro-French alliance. For the descendants of the Cæsars and their people have always looked upon the marriage of Marie Louise with the first emperor of the French as a sacrifice to the necessities of the state, and as a monument of their national humiliation. On the other hand, the numerous classes of French society—from the new noble or suddenly enriched bourgeois, to the humble tiller of the soil—who without being revolutionists, are welded to the great principles of the revolution, look upon this elaborate endeavour to invest the Emperor with the prestige of ancient nobility as an attempt to separate him from the revolution of which he professed to be the result, and which he was accustomed to state it was his manifest destiny to root in French soil and consolidate. To make the Emperor a nobleman by birth, is to place him in the ranks of those who are the least liked by the nation, and against whom the efforts of the revolution were mainly directed. It is to make him yoke-fellow with the *Marquis de Carabas* in bearing the weight of popular hatred and ridicule, for it is to revive and give consistency to the doctrine that the arts of war and government are the inheritance of the nobility. How obnoxious to the French nation are these pretensions to exclusive privileges will be readily understood when it is remembered that every soldier believes he carries the *bâton de maréchal* in his knapsack, and that every *épicier* fancies himself competent to govern the state.

According to the *Antichità dei Bonaparti* of Signori Stefani and Beretta (who are not the first and original discoverers of the nobility of the Bonapartes),

partes, for there was the famous genealogy made out by the Emperor Franz before the marriage of his daughter, besides which are the *Famiglia Bonaparte dal 1183 al 1834*, published anonymously in Naples, 1840; and the *Storia Genealogica della Famiglia Bonaparte*, also anonymous, which appeared in Florence, 1847). John I. de Bonaparte and his sons were among the noblemen who led the Lombard citizens to battle against the armies of Frederick Barbarossa, teaching the former how to fight. The same John signed the Treaty of Constance, 1183, as "Joannes de Bonaparte, de Tarvisio, Consul et Rector," and his grandson commanded a band of Guelphs against the Ghibellines, Frederick II. at Castelfranco, in 1239. But in 1357, the Venetian Republic decreed the banishment of the family from Trevisa, and broke down their scutcheon from the part of their palace in the place of St. Andrew, at Trevisa. During the civil wars the Bonapartes retired to Florence, San-Miniato, and Bologna, where they became magistrates, "negotiators" (which may be another term for merchants), and writers. One of them—Nicolo—was the author of a comedy, *La Vedova*, printed at Florence, 1592; another, nephew and namesake of the last, was professor of law at Pisa; and a third, Jacopo, was the author of the *Siege of Rome*, in 1527, which was formerly imputed to the brother of Guichardin, until the brother of the present emperor published a translation in French at Florence, 1830. Not content with making the Bonapartes noble, the Signori Stefani and Beretta, and after them the *Moniteur*, have introduced into the family two monks who possessed the gift of working miracles, and one of whom, it is gravely told, was the superhuman influence that placed the Emperor at the head of the French nation, and went before him to prepare the way for victory. That the men and their descendants who bore the tricolor from Lisbon to Moscow should be informed now that it was not to the genius of their generals, their own patriotism and brilliant courage, their successes were due, but to the ghostly interference of Fra Bonaventura, otherwise Giovanni Genesio Bonaparte, who died in the odour of sanctity, 1593, is, to say the least of it, calculated to produce surprise, and feelings not very flattering to national vanity. It may be worth while to mention another discovery of these Italian historians, if only to show how differently a legend may be related. It is stated that the original name of the family was Malaparte, "but the people having always seen them in their ranks and at the head of the good cause, would not allow them (the members of the family) to keep a name so little in accordance with the consistency of their affections. By their own authority the people changed Malaparte into Bonaparte."

Having made the Emperor a member of the hated noblesse, and deprived him of the original merit of his victories, the imperial historiographers next proceed to place him before the public in the most ridiculous light in which it is possible for a man to appear. In the *Histoire de l'Impératrice Joséphine*, M. Joseph Aubenas has published a collection of imperial love-letters, which are entirely devoid of literary merit, of not the slightest historical importance, and in England would probably come under Lord Campbell's act. The editor of these epistles writes, "The conqueror of Italy realises, in fact, in the highest degree, the type of the amorous husband"—a type which has for ages past in France been treated with the greatest ridicule and contempt. With what feelings, then, can it be supposed the French public will peruse a correspondence in which passages like the following occur?—

My only Josephine—Far from thee there is no happiness; away from thee the world is a desert, where I remain alone and without feeling the soft pleasure of opening my heart. Thou hast taken from me more than my soul; thou art the sole thought of my life. If I am wearied with the annoyances of business, if I fear the future, if war disgusts me, if I am ready to curse life, I place my hand upon my heart where thy image beats; I look upon it, and love is for me absolute happiness, and all is riant, save the time I am absent from my love. By what art hast thou been able to take captive all my faculties, and concentrate in thyself my moral faculties? It is magic, my sweetheart, which will only end with me. Live for Josephine is the history of my life. I work to draw nigh unto thee, I die to be near thee, O my adorable wife! I know not what fate awaits me, but if it keeps me from thee longer it will become insupportable to me; my courage will not go so far. There was a time when I prided myself on my courage, and sometimes when I cast my eyes upon the evil men may do me, upon the fate which may be in store for me, I

looked upon the most unheard-of misfortunes without a frown, without feeling astonished; but to-day that my Josephine may be ill, the idea that she may be unwell, and, above all, the cruel and dismal thought that she may love me less, withers my soul, stops my blood, renders me sad and broken down, and does not leave me even the courage of furor and of despair.

All the letters are in the same strain. In one of them, the conqueror of Italy pretends to be jealous, and accuses his wife of indulgence in an Italian fashion:—"In the spring, the country is beautiful, and then the lover of nineteen years is there without doubt." In another, he writes of his envy of Junot seeing Josephine:—"He will see thee, he will breathe in thy temple, and, perhaps, even thou wilt accord him the unique and inestimable favour to kiss thy cheek while I shall be alone, far, far away."

In the last of these love-letters, from which quotations may be permitted, and which are as licentious as Ovid's epistles, without the literary merit and poetical imagination to excuse their publication, Napoleon lays claim to conjugal fidelity, with how little justice the world is fully informed. He begs his wife to persuade herself "that never it has entered into my mind to think of another woman, that in my eyes they are all without grace, without beauty, and without wit; that thou (Josephine) all alone, such as I see thee, such as thou art, art enabled to please me and absorb all the faculties of my soul, that thou hast touched the entire extent, that my heart has no corners into which thou dost not see, no thoughts that are not subordinate to thee; that my strength, my arms, my wit, are all thine; that my soul is in thy body, and the day that thou shalt change or shalt cease to live will be that of my death; that nature, the earth, is beautiful in my eyes only because thou dost inhabit it." And he concludes by sending "a thousand kisses on thy eyes and on thy lips," when it is notorious that poor Josephine suffered from a physical infirmity which rendered it necessary for her to receive company with a handkerchief to her lips.

In reading these extraordinary productions of one whom M. Joseph Aubenas calls a "poor lovesick hero," the public bears in mind the numerous intrigues of their author, and his subsequent repudiation of her to whom he wrote in this outrageous strain. The conclusion arrived at in the popular mind is most fatal to the influence and prestige of the Emperor. His historical figure has no longer the moral grandeur and superiority to human passions and failings which it hitherto possessed among Frenchmen, for they have now had unveiled to them his frivolity and hypocrisy, his absurdly exaggerated pretension of affection for Josephine so long as her intimacy with Barras and Tallien could serve his interests and promote the advancement of his family, obtain for modest Joseph the place of "consul in some Italian port where he desires to live with his little wife, far removed from the great whirlwind, and *grandes affaires*."

THE PEOPLE IN CHURCH.

The People in Church. Their Rights and Duties in connexion with the Music of the Book of Common Prayer. Bell and Daldy.

THIS nervously and elegantly written plea for the more general adoption of music in church evinces the zeal and erudition, if not the soundness of the author. The subject is worth revival, for while a large proportion of English Christians have drifted into indifference and ignorance about the proper celebration of public worship, there are many who (as we believe), for want of consideration, continue to abominate the faintest approximation to the musical Church Services of old and of late days. A powerful party has arisen who, erring on the other side, have bedizened out our ritual with musical coxcomberies in the disguise of elaborate simplicity, which not only scandalise the outer public, but also render participation in Divine Worship a grave difficulty to all but an initiated few.

Mr. Pittman traces very briefly from the earliest times the mixed presence in all worship of poetry and song. The celebrant, he urges, has always been no proxy for the people, but their leader; the choir or chorus is to govern the responses, and the precentor, or clerk, is no more than a substitute for the latter. He argues that the Office-book, or Prayer-book of our Church, is a collection of mainly poetical services, and that as song and verse have been married together from time immemorial, it would be strange to find them divorced in the temple of their Creator.

The words "say," "sing," "read," &c., as used by the compilers of our rubrics, were intended, according to Mr. Pittman, to imply such varieties of musical intonation as had been in use before the Reformation, and were simply translated without variation from the ancient rubrics. This he considers equivalent to a direction for their maintenance, and argues that the "say" of the Church service was no recitation in the tones of ordinary intercourse, but was a certain lower degree of ecclesiastical intonation, afterwards termed *plain tune* or *song*, or, in other words, the "modest song," which Queen Elizabeth enjoined to be used in all parts of the Common Prayer.

With the youth of this country (says Mr. Pittman), the omission of the music in the great music book of the Church produces a sad result. A metrical psalm is not a psalm at all; and the great hymns of the Church, in fact, the only Christian hymns of ancient origin, the Te Deum, the Creeds, the Glorias, ought not to be presented to the youthful mind in a naked, dry, barren form, in defiance of their poetical frame, their historical associations, and the injunctions surrounding them. The celebration of divine service without its music ever causes an apparent coldness and tediousness, a sense of weariness from accumulation and repetition. A frigid, mechanical, confused outline of worship is a sad blank to the mind and imagination of the child, and is the man so far removed from the child that to him none of these observations are applicable? Song is the ancient medium for conveying the noblest sentiments into the human mind: and here are the most glorious tidings that human nature can be possibly concerned with; and is music to be forbidden?

It cannot be too often repeated that poetry is an expression of higher emotion than that appertaining to ordinary prose, and that song is a portraiture of this emotion in a still stronger and more vivid character. If there be found no more of meaning, no increase of emotion, in the use of poetry and song, this result must not be attributed to any failure in this principle, but from some gross error that has been committed in the union of the symmetries of language and of song.

In proof that the prose Psalms of David at least should be invariably sung by the people in church, the author adduces the frequent direction of his hymns by David to the chief musician. Reciting the 40th and 51st Psalms,

It is impossible (he says) to suppose that he who created these wondrous specimens of poetry could have resigned them into the hands of a musician, unless there was in existence some marvellous agreement of the harmony of sounds with the beauty of the words; some melody, heart-appealing in its entreaty, which would mark with still higher feeling these expressions depictive of the utmost depths of misery and woe.

With regard to the more proper and reverential incorporation of music with all forms of religious worship, we are, of course, of one mind with Mr. Pittman that, generally speaking, it is desirable; with the propriety of chanting David's Psalms we also agree: but we cannot endorse his implied opinion in favour of services musical throughout. In our opinion it would be as great an impossibility for an heterogeneous congregation to follow an English Protestant priest intoning in English—in fact to pray with him musically—as if he spoke Italian or Latin. The uneducated, who can hardly follow the most distinct of readers, can surely never be expected to do so at all devotionally when monotonous simplicity of ordinary reading is replaced by musical intonation. The difficulties of chanting, slight as they may appear to experts, are inconsonant with devout abstraction of those who have no knowledge of music, and they are distracting to the unpoetically poor and ignorant. We are no admirers of the parodies of Brady and Sate; but in our idea it were better to maintain them, and the common tunes in which all congregations can naturally take part, than to cut off so important a part of all congregations as must ever be represented by the ignorant and the untuneful. Such a change from our present custom as the general adoption of plain song creeds, Gregorian psalm tunes, and florid anthems, could tend but to the appropriation of distinct churches to the musical and the unmusical worshippers; or would be apt to isolate the priest and choir, and to shut out altogether from participation in the Church Offices such as have no musical voice or ear. It has occurred to us more than once to be present at a church where the musical arrangements were the object of unceasing care to both the clergy and the principal laymen of the district. We have heard employed, in the course of a couple of hours, every degree of intonation and vocalisation, from the "modest song" to the complicated fugue anthem.

But were the people in church—and it was a congregation of the poor—participants? By no means. They were abashed, or bewildered, or contumacious it might be, but they were comparatively silent. We could not resist the impression that though such embellishments might stimulate the fervour of the instructed and the gentle, they might perhaps involve a graver error than that estray from the ancient and orthodox mode of Protestant worship, with which this zealous author charges the Anglo-Catholic Church of to-day.

POETRY FROM THE NORTH.

The Ballads of Scotland. Edited by William Edmondstone Aytoun, D.C.L. Two Vols. (Blackwood and Son.)—The northern counties of England and the southern of Scotland were the homes of that fine ballad literature which was the aurora to the full daylight of our modern poetry. From those border lands came the gleemen who delighted the palace of the king and the cottage of the peasant; and it was there that from age to age were preserved those tales of love and adventure which are associated in our minds with whatever is gay, gallant, and fascinating in the old times. Peopled by a race of common origin, though split into antagonistic nationalities—a race compounded of Saxons, Danes, and Britons—the language, legends, habits, and modes of thought of the men of these districts continued very similar, though Englishman and Scot were deadly foes, and though the wild border land was loud with the frequent clangour of their battles, and red with the constant spilling of their blood. The country was in itself calculated to excite and encourage a feeling for the poetry of action; old British traditions of King Arthur and Launcelot, of Merlin and the Lady of the Lake, still hung about the hills and valleys in the middle ages, like ghosts from the vanished kingdoms of Cumbria and Strathclyde; and the population inherited from the Scandinavian part of their ancestry a natural tendency to a lyrical form of expression. Thus they soon accumulated a rich store of ballad poetry, which passed from mouth to mouth, and from district to district, and which has descended from generation to generation, even down to the present day. These ballads, indeed, seem to have been used as a kind of current coin of the literary realm. Scotch productions were adopted in England, and English productions in Scotland; so that, in this new collection of the ballads of the latter country, Mr. Aytoun has included some which are substantially English, though they appear in a Scottish dress. There are two on the subject of Robin Hood and his merry men of Sherwood Forest. These gallant outlaws, Mr. Aytoun informs us, were great favourites with the Scotch. The “game of Robin Hood” was frequently played by the men north of the Tweed; and in 1555—when the gloomy clouds of Puritanism were beginning to darken Scotland—it received the special condemnation of the Parliament of that country. Any person joining in the game, or in certain other specified sports, was to lose his freedom for five years! But the people would not calmly submit to such bigoted tyranny; and in 1561 the citizens of Edinburgh rose in mutiny, for no other reason, and seized on the city gates. Even some years later than this, Robin Hood, brigand and outlaw though he was, was constantly made the subject of Sabbath plays in staid and thrifty Scotland.

The collection of ballads here put forth by Mr. Aytoun in two handsome volumes is of great interest to all who love the utterances of a bygone day. The editor professes to have gathered together all those productions the age and genuineness of which he thinks he can authenticate, and to have excluded whatever is spurious or doubtful. The series ranges from very early times down to the reign of Charles II. Mr. Aytoun has been at great pains to collate the several versions which may exist of any one ballad; and, by taking the best of each, he has given his readers what he believes to be the most reliable result. This is a mode of procedure fraught with some danger; but Mr. Aytoun champions it against the authority of Mr. Motherwell. There is no doubt that such a course, in skilful hands, often results in the production of a more readable poem than could otherwise be obtained; yet something in the nature of a new ballad has at the same time been elaborated. All the component parts may be old and genuine; but the whole, thus reset, is clearly something which had not previously existed. This will be more especially the case when, as Mr. Aytoun himself remarks, the variations do not

merely arise from the corruptions of time, but are the effect of that community of property in such matters to which we have already alluded, and which left every minstrel at liberty to alter any story which found its way to him, in whatsoever way pleased his own fancy, or was likely to gratify his audience. Still, by this system of collation, the spirit, and even the phraseology, of the old ballad literature may be perfectly preserved, while blemishes are removed; and we have no doubt that Mr. Aytoun—who has given his life to the study of such subjects, who works in the spirit of love as well as of intelligence, and whose genius is such as to make him sympathise with that of the harpers and gleemen of the past—has exercised his editorial judgment with all possible skill.

We must confess that our “Southron” blood and breeding will not permit us to enjoy some of the ballads in these volumes; a few even appear to us not worth printing; but several have in them that fire of genius which burns through all distinctions of nationality, and kindles an answering glow in the breast of any reader whose heart is not a mere machine for pumping blood. How can we be too thankful for

The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spens, as Coleridge called that noble production—a ballad which throbs with passion from one end to the other, and which, in the course of three-and-twenty stanzas, abounds with action, character, and Homeric description, vital with simple truth and force? “Edom O’Gordon,” “Edward,” “The Twa Corbies,” “The Douglas Tragedy,” “The Wife of Usher’s Well,” “Clerk Saunders,” and others, are also remarkable for the directness of their pathos and passion, and often for their wonderfully lyrical instincts; but we know of nothing equal to “Sir Patrick.” The version given by Mr. Aytoun is much fuller and finer than that which appears in Percy’s *Reliques*. The picture of the storm at sea is new to us, and, doubtless, will be to many of Mr. Aytoun’s readers. By the way, we are glad to see that the editor of this new collection of old ballads does justice to Bishop Percy, in whose excellent work many of the productions here reissued were first made generally known to southern readers. Mr. Aytoun also speaks with generous candour of his other predecessors in the way of collection; but he shows that their labours were in many respects imperfect, and he conceives that to him was left the task of gathering up, and winnowing from extraneous matter, a complete edition of the traditional poetry of his native country. His “Introduction” is amusing and suggestive, but might have been better put together. We observe also a great want in connexion with the work. A good glossary should have been appended; but nothing of the kind appears, and the English reader is left in ignorance of the meaning of many words.

With this collection of Scottish Ballads we may couple a book of still more northern poetry—

The Frithiof-Saga; or, Lay of Frithiof. Translated, in the Original Metres, from the Swedish of Esaias Tegnér, Bishop of Wexiö, by the Rev. William Lewery Blackley, M.A. (Dublin: McGlashan and Gill.)—Of the faithfulness of this work as a translation we do not feel qualified to speak; but the reader who is tired of the dreaming indistinctness of current poetry will here find a counterpoise in the shape of several amusing stories told with that fulness of concrete imagery which distinguishes the legendary writings of the Scandinavian races, and gives to them a character which often brings to mind the stately, processional march of the poetry of ancient Greece.

THE NEW TESTAMENT.

An Historico-critical Introduction to the Canonical Books of the New Testament. By Wilhelm Martin Lebe-recht De Wette, D.D., &c. Translated from the Fifth improved and enlarged Edition, by Frederick Frothingham. Boston (U.S.): Crosby and Co.

AMONGST the most important additions which Germany has presented to biblical literature, illustrative of the history of the texts of the Old and New Testament, almost the foremost rank is due to Dr. De Wette’s *Lehrbuch der historisch-kritischen Einleitung in die Bücher des Alten und Neuen Testaments*, which consist of two volumes. The second, by far the more important, is devoted to the books of the New Testament, and we are indebted to Mr. Frothingham, of Harvard University, for presenting that portion to us in an English dress, rendering the text of his author with great fidelity—not with mere verbal accuracy, but with that which is of far greater consequence—an accurate rendering of the

sense. To accomplish this object the more readily, the proof-sheets were submitted to Professor Noyes, of the Cambridge (Mass.) Theological School, and to Mr. Ezra Abbot, of Harvard University.

Of a work enjoying so European a reputation, it would be simply an act of supererogation in our limits to attempt anything like an analysis. We, however, call the reader’s particular attention to the author’s own remark, that “that is no genuine love of truth which is not ready to sacrifice its inordinate curiosity where certainty is unattainable, no less than its pious prejudices.” It is this rule that we must not lose sight of in studying the work of De Wette, because he at once startles us by the announcement that on the two most important subjects of investigation—the history of the text and the origin of the first three Gospels—he has failed to satisfy himself. Of two of the books of the New Testament De Wette denies the genuineness, whilst several others are placed by him as doubtful; but as he gives the evidences and arguments for and against with great impartiality, the reader is, in some measure, left to sum up and judge for himself.

It is this impartiality in the arrangement of the materials that is the great merit of the book, and it was this very impartiality that brought against it, on its first appearance, a host of assailants of every denomination; yet from 1826 to 1849, which is the date of De Wette’s death, the author stood his ground, had lived down prejudice, and came to be considered “a conservative critic of middle rank.” His own words are:—

My experience in New Testament criticism is singular. When I first entered this field I stood in the foremost rank and was regarded by many as a dangerous assailant. Now I behold myself thrust back into the middle rank of conservative critics,—who indeed are far in advance of the Apologists who would retain the whole,—and yet my views and position are in general unchanged. I hope that this new tempest will pass over, as did that raised by Strauss. I admire the learning, acuteness, and dialectic skill of Dr. Baur, but in his investigations I miss freedom from bias, and blame the excessive haste with which he always seeks positive results, at the sacrifice of thoroughness; as, for instance, in respect of the Gospel of the Hebrews and Marcion’s Gospel. I can, notwithstanding, learn from him, and wish that others likewise would do so, and oppose him with candour and calmness. To oppose his “tendency” theory by a style of criticism of the same character is not serving the truth. Nothing is gained by magisterial decisions and bold assertions, arbitrary explanations and forced combinations; nor does a writer’s assertion become true and valid because another writer pronounces it excellent, “truly an acquisition.”

We cannot conclude better than with the following extract, as the subject is one of paramount importance, and must be interesting both to learned and unlearned readers. To the question, “*Why was the New Testament written in Greek?*” he says:—

The Greek language was at that time extended over the whole civilised world. It prevailed even in several cities of Palestine, and was to the Jews of Egypt, and of all other foreign lands, the language of the Bible and of literature. As soon, therefore, as Christianity passed the bounds of Palestine, it was necessarily propagated in this language, although at the outset it was preached first to the Jews. At an early period, however, there were found among the Christians native Greeks or Greek Jews, who preached the Gospel to the Greeks. At Antioch, the point whence proceeded the missions to the Greeks, and the Greek Jews, the Greek language and culture prevailed. Barnabas and Paul, who led these missions, were Greek Jews; and the latter was probably the father of the New Testament literature. Ancient tradition claims for but one of the New Testament books a non-Greek original. The supposition of other such originals is inadmissible.

And wisely was this so, for from the earliest rise of Christianity to the present time, the spread of the Gospel has waited on extension of commerce. Alexandria was the grand emporium of trade, the resort of the great Jewish merchants, and the seat of their celebrated philosophical school, where the common language was the so-called popular dialect of Greek, or the Macedonio-Alexandrian. Into that dialect the Old Testament had been translated, centuries before the advent of the Saviour, by the Seventy, and but upon especial occasions it is to that translation that Our Lord himself, as well as the Apostles, always refers. The Gospel had been preached to the Gentiles, and Greek was, at that period, pre-eminently the language of the Gentile world—even that Macedonio-Alexandrian Greek, which had become the vernacular language of commerce throughout all the ports of the Mediterranean.

THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW.

The North British Review, No. LVII.

Edinburgh: Kennedy.

A WELCOME contribution from "modern Athens," and well calculated to keep up her literary reputation. The majority of the articles is evidently from practised pens, and some of them are of much interest and ability. The *Life, Writings, and Influence on his Time of M. Chateaubriand*, by M. Villemain, is exceedingly well and impartially reviewed. The critic has finely discriminated between the egotism and the genius of the writer, and has given sound reasons for his thorough condemnation of the immoral influence of Chateaubriand's earlier writings; but we think he attributes too much power to him when he asserts that his *René* was the foundation of that array of immoral works represented in the productions of the Duvant school. We incline to think it was to Jean Jacques Rousseau that this school owes its foundation, and that the *René* of Chateaubriand was derived from the same source. Gladstone's *Homer* is reviewed in a more candid spirit, and, to our mind, with a clearer appreciation of the merits both of Homer and his commentator Gladstone than the majority of contemporary critics have evinced. "State Papers" are the result of researches into the buried treasures of the Record-office, and every true lover of antiquity and history will feel himself under a debt of gratitude to the Master of the Rolls for giving to the public, in a classified form, these valuable State papers and national archives. "Biblical Interpretations" is an elaborate article on certain religious publications, but, like preceding interpretations, they leave the disputed points in the same condition as Sir Roger de Coverley's portrait, namely, that much may be said on both sides.

Modern British drama verges on the dull, and is too limited in scope. Surely the judgment of the reviewer is not indisputable when he claims Shakespearean honours for the author of *Saul: a Drama in Three Acts*, published anonymously at Montreal. Putting aside such minor blemishes as the anachronism of making Malzah—Saul's evil genius and double, and pronounced a creation equalled only by Caliban and Ariel—swear such modern oaths as "Zounds!" what will the reader think of the following asserted Shakespearean effusion of this Montreal Shakespeare?—Malzah singing—

There was a devil, and his name was I;
From De Profundus he did cry;
He changed his note as he changed his coat,
And his coat was of a varying dye:
It had many a hue: in hell 'twas blue,
'Twas green i'th' sea, and white i'th' sky.
Oh, do not ask me, ask me why,
'Twas green i'th' sea and white i'th' sky,
Why from Profundus he did cry.
Suffice that he wailed with a chirruping note;
And quaintly cut was his motley coat.

The words "From *De Profundus*" are certainly a queer poetical license; but, passing that over, we are prepared to maintain that Porson's portrait of the Devil's dress—

His coat was red,
And his breeches blue,
With a hole behind
Where his tail came through—

is ten times more original and Shakespearean than the imitative doggerel we have quoted.

"Egypt and Syria" we make a separate article of, and refer the reader to another part of our columns. "Researches on Light" is written in an agreeable, informing, and philosophic spirit. "Our Army in India" contains much sound matter.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS HENRIES.

The Book of the Illustrious Henries. By John Capgrave. Translated from the Latin by the Rev. Francis Charles Hingeston, M.A. Longman and Co.

THIS is a translation of *Johannis Capgrave Liber de Illustribus Henricis*, and both the original and this version form a portion of the series now issuing by the Government under the superintendence of the Master of the Rolls. The rapid, handsome, complete, and cheap manner in which these valuable illustrations of English history are being published reflects credit on all connected, and goes far to redeem the old dilatory and extravagant way in which the former works of the Record Commission were put forth.

At present, we have only to do with the translation, the original not having reached us. Capgrave, it appears, was an Augustine friar, and lived at

King's Lynn, in Norfolk. He passed his life in writing Commentaries and Chronicles, and in the management of his monastery, he being provincial of his order in England. He was born in 1393, and flourished during the reigns of Henrys IV., V., and VI., living to his seventieth year—1464.

The account of a contemporary, however vaguely written, must have interest, and must in some way elucidate the history of the time; yet we must say that Father Capgrave has much of the tediousness and all the fantastic quaintness of his period. He writes the history of the Illustrious Henries because his own king and patron is named Henry. Of his pedantic style the following is a specimen:—

Let not this preamble, my lord, aggrieve thy modesty. For I dared not approach such a work without some little preface, lest, drawing near irreverently, I might be repelled from such honour. For thus it is written: "He who scans majesty narrowly will be overwhelmed with glory."

However, as a brief annotation, those things herein to be treated of I have distinguished thus:—

The First Part treats of those famous men who, bearing this name, have flourished in the Empire.

The Second of those who, with like name, have shone in regal honour in this Realm.

The Third of others following here and elsewhere, whose names were worthy of remembrance.

Therefore my lord the king will possess in his acts the best rules; in his faith the most firm assurance; and in judgment the safest guidance, from those men, of kindred to himself both in name and blood, who have gone before him.

The second book, treating of the six kings of England of the name of Henry, "men of renown and worthy of all honour," of course is more interesting than the romantic account of the German emperors. It is curious to find the Sunday question cropping up at the early date of 1171; and the following may furnish the present petitioning clergy with a precedent:—

In the eighteenth year of his reign, certain revelations began to be made to him, warning him especially to correct his life.

First of all, by a certain old man at Cardiff Castle, in Wales, on the Sunday in the octave of Easter, where, after hearing mass, while the king was hastening to mount his horse, there suddenly appeared to him a certain old man with yellow hair and a round tonsure: thin he was, and tall, clad in a white garment, and barefooted, and he addressed the king in the Teutonic tongue, as follows: "Good holde knyht: Christ salutes thee, and so do his blessed Mother, and John Baptist, and Peter who wields the keys, charging thee that throughout all thy dominions there be no traffic carried on, or any servile work done on Sundays, those labours only excepted which pertain to the use of food. This, if thou shalt do, whatsoever thou shalt take in hand thou shalt bring to a prosperous issue.

Then said the king in French to the knight who held his reins, "Ask the rustic whether he dreamed that."

And while the knight was interpreting this in English, the other added in the language he had used before, "Whether I have dreamed it or not, remember what day it is to-day, for unless thou shalt do these things and shalt amend thy life, thou shalt hear such tidings within this present year that thenceforth thou shalt grieve even to the end of thy days." And when he had thus spoken, the man disappeared. And within that year the king's three sons, Henry, Aeoffrey, and John, took the part of the King of France against their father; the King of Scotland also, and the Earl of Chester, revolted against the king. And many other warnings were sent to him from Heaven, but all these had but little effect.

The character of this king (Henry II.) is given by the downright old monk in no very flattering style, but with apparent marks of truth:—

King Henry was a man of somewhat ruddy complexion, with a large head, and a broad chest, grey eyes, a broken voice, and a stout body, though he was moderate both in eating and drinking, and in order to keep down his corpulency he wore down his body with violent exercise, such as long standing, and continual walking about. In stature he was of the middle height; he was eloquent also, and a man of letters.

In war he was brave, in private life provident, in battle dreading only treacherous deeds. He was always kinder to a slain soldier than to one who survived the combat, rather grieving for the dead than loving the living.

In stress of evil circumstances no one could be kinder; when fortune smiled again, no one more unbending. He was cruel towards those whom he could not conquer, and often gentle to the conquered.

In domestic matters he was hard to deal with, in things external profuse; liberal in public, frugal in private.

If once he entertained hatred or love for any one, he could scarcely ever be brought to another mind. He readily broke his word, answered roughly on every occasion; loved quiet, but oppressed the nobles. He was a seller and a hinderer of justice, a breaker of pro-

mises, changeful and crafty in his speech; an open adulterer; a persecutor of the Church; to God always ungrateful.

He did continually all he could to foster discord among his sons, his only hope being that peace would result to himself from their quarrels.

The most valuable part of the book, of course, is that portion which treats of the time wherein he was contemporary. There is, however, but little that adds to our knowledge, his *Chronicle of England* being much fuller than these meagre biographies, which are, after all, little better than panegyrics. It is well to have everything printed, because then it is in the safe custody of paper and print and many copies; but otherwise there is but little of new elucidation of English history. It is most carefully edited and translated by Mr. Hingeston; being copiously supplied with notes and a capital index; and the volume is in every way worthy of the admirable national series of which it forms a part.

Stanford's Paris Guide, with Three Maps, and a View of the Champs-Élysées. New edition, revised and improved.—It is a great advantage in a guide-book, as indeed in every other commodity (except money, some will say), not to have too much of it. In the hurry and excitement of travelling, we merely want the prominent facts relating to any place. Mr. Stanford hits the medium very well, and consequently his little volume is neither bewildering nor tedious. It is divided into three parts—Preliminary, containing the necessary information as to the mode of travelling, passports, &c.; Historical, a brief view of the most notable circumstances connected with the various localities; Topography and Itineraries, dividing Paris into districts, so that the traveller may see as much as possible, according to the time he has to spend in this sight-seeing capital. Three excellent maps accompany the convenient little work, which, moreover, is moderate in price.

A Guide to Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, &c. By F. F. Dally. With a Map. (E. Stanford.)—This is a compilation by one evidently well acquainted with these pleasant islands. The features are the excursions in each island, which are sketched from practical knowledge. The account of the fortifications and breakwater at Alderney are specially interesting just now that so much is said of Cherbourg on the opposite coast. Upwards of a million and a quarter are being expended by our Government, yet we hear nothing about it in the French journals. The effect of these military works has been to double the number of houses and treble the population. An excellent map of the island is appended.

A Guide to the Cathedrals of England and Wales. By Mackenzie Walcott, M.A. (E. Stanford.)—This is an account of all our cathedrals arranged alphabetically. The descriptions are succinct, but point out the historical events and traditions connected with the buildings, as well as the architecture, dimensions, and principal objects of interest. It is a very useful pocket manual for those who prefer spending the vacation in examining their own country, now that the Continent is no longer rendered so agreeable as formerly to English tourists.

The Ophthalmoscope: its mode of application explained, and its value shown, in the exploration of Internal Diseases of the Eye. By Jabez Hogg. (John Churchill.)—The invention of the ophthalmoscope for surgical purposes ranks next to that of the stethoscope for the discrimination of diseases of the chest, or of the stereoscope, to speak more popularly, in optical science. It is gratifying to find how much ophthalmic science has been advanced by this simple instrument, which is merely a combination of a mirror and convex lens, by means of which the light, reflected from the back of the eye, makes visible to the observer the nature of the injury going on in its deepest structures. Mr. Hogg describes the various diseases which he has detected by the aid of this instrument, but as our readers would scarcely understand the technical terms, we forbear to enter upon this part of the subject. It is evident that the progress of science is giving new helps to medicine as well as to other branches of philosophical inquiry.

Descriptions of Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Wellington, Tasmania, Nelson, Canterbury, and New Zealand, the first six by the Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Gazettes*. (Algar and Street.) In issuing this series of cheap publications, Messrs. Algar and Street have well earned the gratitude of all intending emigrants. These little works are not got up in the catchpenny style of the day; they contain, in a small compass, solid and reliable information, and will save not only time and disappointment to the emigrant who studies them carefully, but money also. The price of these pamphlets varies from 3d. to 5d., and for this insignificant sum a fund of useful information is furnished relative to the history, the climate, the political institutions, the revenue, the population, the society, the productions and exports, and the land sale regulations of the various colonies.

Tegg's *First Book of Geography for Children* has the merit of great simplicity and cheapness. As it is intended as a Companion to

Tegg's *First and Second Books for Children*, we recommend parents and teachers to provide themselves with these elementary works, which they will find admirably contrived to interest and at the same time to impart information to very young minds.

The Origin of the Scottish Language. By James Paterson. (Edinburgh: Nimmo.) If the writer fail to convert those who hold opposite theories to the one he advocates, he will not fail to satisfy the general Scottish reader that he has exerted much industry and research in getting together the materials for his clever little volume. The author has produced a very readable affair that will certainly be warmly appreciated on the other side of the Tweed.

English Grammar, by L. Direy and A. Foggo (Chapman and Hall), contains all that is valuable in Lindley Murray, without Lindley Murray's obscurities and imperfections. The rules of grammar are not only laid down in simple language, but they are explained so as to be intelligible to the slowest intellect.

The Christian Sabbath; or, Rest in Jesus, by Robert Macnair (Trubner and Co.), is out of our pale of criticism. The work, which is of pamphlet size, is written on the Sunday question, and its arguments are worthy of being studied by all who desire to come to an impartial decision on its merits.

The Privateer; a Tale of the Nineteenth Century. By Cecil Percival Stone, 77th Regiment. (J. F. Hope.)—This is a curious and a clever book, but sadly misnamed. We shall find no perils by sea, no ocean fights, nothing, in fact, to bear out the promise which the title holds out; but, in exchange, we shall come upon a series of sketches, linked together, it is true, to form something like coherence and connexion in the story, each of which contains the material for a separate romance. We will not venture to give even an outline of the plot, but will copy from the table of contents a few of the heads of chapters, to show there is no want of variety to render the work pleasant reading—*The Household—The Rescue—The Schoolgirl—The Hunt—The Gipsy Queen—The Trance—The Murder—A Mother's Revenge—Love—Politics—The Squatter—The Slave—Revenge—The Death of Guzman.*

The Little Philosopher; or, the Science of Familiar Things. By Thomas Tate, F.R.A.S. Longman and Co.—An outline of Natural History, in which the facts are stated with a brevity and clearness that belongs only to the highly informed scientific mind. Such simplicity is not that of ignorance but of knowledge. It is a manual which young and old scholars in Nature's book may study with advantage. The woodcuts are characteristic and numerous.

BOOKS RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

The Writings of William Paterson, with Biographical Notices of the Author. By S. Bannister, M.A. 2 vols. 8vo. Effingham Wilson.
Every Man His Own Trumpeter. By George W. Thornbury. 3 vols. post 8vo. Hurst and Blackett.
Beatrice Cenci: An Historical Novel of the Sixteenth Century. By F. D. Guerazzi. Translated by C. A. Scott. Post 8vo. Bosworth and Harrison.
Leaves from Lakeland. By James Payn. Post 8vo. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.
Le Théâtre Moral des Ecoles. Trois Comédies. Par C. A. De G. Liancourt. Post 8vo. Newby.
Constable's Educational Series—Household Economy. 16mo. Constable and Co.

HOPES AND DREAMS.

1.
Behold! my hopes drift down the stream,
Down to the silent Past,
Sear'd by the bitter breath of Time,
Time the Iconoclast.

2.
And nevermore shall those sweet hopes,
Return to me, I ween,
As distant as two distant lands
With all the sea between.

3.
Out on the bleak bare beach I stand,
And watch the ghostly sight—
Youth and its halcyon golden dreams
Glide out into the night.

4.
Poor heart! why feel the bitter blight?
Gold dreams are only air,
But ah! how oft doth Wisdom teach
The lesson of Despair.

5.
Farewell! I walk Life's weary way,
Companionless, but not alone;
Thy memory still shall follow me,
And sing her sad sweet antiphone.

The Arts.

A MURILLO?

BEFORE the last hundred years comparatively little was known of Spanish pictures, and still less of Spanish painters. The Catholic abjectness and exclusiveness of Spain tended to retard and prevent any spirit of research from developing the intellectual force which pervaded that kingdom during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. So great was her retentiveness, that even Charles I., the most tasteful collector that England has ever known, was unable to name one Spanish picture in his catalogue; and as we mean to prove the rule by an exception, Evelyn says that, at a sale of Lord Melford's effects in 1693, "Lord Godolphin bought the picture of 'The Boys,' by Murillo, the Spaniard, for eighty guineas," remarking also, with a curt sneer, "deare enough." And Cumberland (an astute dealer), a century later, very much doubts the fact of any historical group or composition of his (Murillo) being in English hands. But the Napoleonic eagles—kites rather—with bloody beak and talons, tore and rent aside this "blanket of the dark." Soult at Seville, and Sebastiani at Grenada, with murderous enthusiasm and avaricious rapacity, rifled those cities, and grasped with unerring violence all their finest samples of intellectual and material wealth. King Joseph, too, ere his flight, laid in a goodly store of Madrid's coveted pictures. Out of evil cometh forth good. By Napoleon's ambition, Spain became an open book, where all who run may read.

We know now that Spain's intellectual advancement rose with Ferdinand and Isabella; culminated during the life of the fourth Philip; declined during the evil days of Charles II., and has remained at the nadir down to the present hour.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries rose the three greatest luminaries that adorn Spain's sphere of art—Ribera, Velasquez, and Murillo—all three of whom may be generically described as eminent examples of the *naturalistic*, in contradistinction to the *idealistic* school. The second of these in status (Velasquez being indisputably the first) was Bartholomé Estéban Murillo, who was born in 1617 and died in 1682. From his boyhood he was a painter, and up to the age of twenty-four gained his livelihood by painting anything ranging from melons to "Immaculate Conceptions" for the Wardour-street merchants of Seville, who sent them to Mexico and South America. Having saved a little money, in 1642 he went to Madrid, and spent some time in copying the works of Ribera, Vandyck, and Velasquez, and mastered their styles so thoroughly as to be able to imitate them so as almost to defy detection. From this period is dated his first manner, which the Spaniards called *frio*, cold; in 1648, he generated another, which they called *calido*, warm; and about 1656, commenced his third, *vaporoso*, or vapory style, so called from the light and dark portions gliding one into the other, not light against dark, and *vice versa*. This he continued to practise to the last: fortunately so, for its elementary basis contains more truth and beauty. From the first period he never retrograded in artistic perception or power, but steadily and surely advanced. This truth, one of his last pictures, in the National Gallery (No. 13—the Holy Family), proves beyond dispute; and other pictures of his are to be found in that Gallery and the Dulwich which suffice to prove his changes of style and progression—besides very many others distributed throughout the land; one the "Return of the Prodigal Son" in Stafford House, especially to be remembered for two circumstances—first, being one of his finest works; and next, that that murderous scoundrel and Plunder-master-general Soult, got 11,000*l.* for it. The Spaniards' favourite and most religious dogma was the miracle of the Immaculate Conception; and so fond was the Seville painter of portraying this subject, that he was called, *par excellence*, "The painter of the Conception." We have three reasons for this exordium: because it gives a brief history of Murillo; because it will give to our readers the sources whence we have gained, and whence they may gain, the requisite necessary basis on which to form a judgment on that painter's pictures; and lastly, that it may induce them to go to Messrs. Williams and Norgate, 14, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, and see a picture which, by a circular, and some of our contemporaries, is stated to be by Murillo.

Let us state our conviction at starting, that Messrs. Williams and Norgate are merely the con-

signees, and have nothing to do with the extraordinary circular issued about the picture.

The very first line in the circular is a mistake; it begins, "The Assumption of the Virgin." In the seventeenth century a bull of the Pope, Paul V., expressly settled the distinction that should exist between the two dogmas; viz. that the Assumption of the Virgin should apply to the Virgin Mary, and the Conception to her mother, St. Ann; and Pacheco expressly defined the symbols that were to indicate the Conception—namely, the lily, the palm and olive branches, and a mirror; she was also to stand upon the crescent moon, all which signs are here. We mention these circumstances because in our estimation it throws considerable doubt upon the history of the picture, which states, "This picture originally formed part of the collection in the monastery of the Carmelites, who were stern upholders of the Conceptive Theory in Mexico, in the seventeenth century," and remained there until the beginning of 1800, when Lord Cochrane and the Viceroy of Mexico induced them to part with it; it was then taken to Vera Cruz and lodged there in a Carmelite monastery. In 1812, Archbishop Don Antonio Joaquim Perez Martinez obtained possession of it,—how is not stated. After his death, Don Francisco Pablo Vasquez, Archbishop of Mexico and Plenipotentiary of the Pope, purchased it. By him it was sold to Don José Lang, who sent it to his friend, Mr. J. Henry Dick, from whose hands it came to the present possessor. Amongst all this startling circumstantiality they managed to lose the obvious title of the subject of the picture!

The next two lines are an "assumption" indeed, for they say, "An original and important work by Murillo." Here we join issue at once, by a distinct, sincere, and forcible denial.

Let us be understood. We mean by "an original" picture (to quote an example, No. 13 in the National Gallery), a work designed, begun, and finished by one head and hand, all bearing an outward visible sign of the inward spiritual grace of none but Murillo. Now turn we to the Henrietta-street picture, and what find we here? Unquestionably *Murillo's design*, not *Murillo's drawing*, not *Murillo's colour*, and, to our serious conviction, not one touch of the hand of the great Seville, but most clearly and distinctly two heads and two hands; it might, indeed, be three, or more, because the picture has been scrubbed down to the laying in, being originally a clever copy from a very fine picture. One does not know which to be most shocked at, the ruthlessness of the savage scourer or the impudence of the impotent restorer. Two circumstances, we are sure, will make our readers smile: the first, the price asked for this effete production—"Four Thousand Pounds!"—the other is the perusal of the following three letters by men notorious in art-history, and which are thus set forth:—

Opinions of Professor Waagen, Professor Magnus, and Mr. Otto Mündler.
(Translation.)

Professor Waagen says: "The picture is decidedly a Murillo, and even one of the finest Murillos which I have seen; and whoever expresses a doubt upon this point can only intend to injure the possessor!"

It is impossible that the Professor Waagen could have given utterance to such assertions as the above. Though he does sometimes speak a *lelle ex cathedra*, we have failed to discover in his works any such evidence of insolent arrogance as the few lines attributed to him express.

Some wag of a *Maria* must have dropped this before some *Malvolio* dealer.

The next is Professor Magnus, who says:—
This picture, like others in Spain painted by Murillo, is less imposing and effective than that in the Paris Museum, but according to my opinion it has not the less the stamp of originality, and is even in a better state of preservation. So far as my knowledge and experience serve, I can assure you, without the least interest, and according to truth, that I consider it a genuine picture of Murillo.

As we know not who the Professor is, or what he has done, we can have no objection to his expressing his opinion as far as his knowledge and experience may serve.

Now last, though not least, comes a gentleman of whom we have had some experience. He says—but we will put it as printed in the circular:—

Mr. Otto Mündler (formerly Expert in the Louvre, at present attached to the National Gallery), says: "I hereby certify of my own accord, and from thorough conviction, that the picture of Murillo, the 'Assumption of the Virgin, surrounded by cherubs,' is not only with

perfect justice ascribed to this much esteemed Master, being an undeniable original, but the beauty and the richness of the composition, the charms of form, and the expression of heavenly ecstasy, the brightness of its lustre, the delicacy of the aerial tints, and its rare state of preservation, render it worthy of a distinguished place among the works of this Master of the School of Seville. In more than one respect it will bear a favourable comparison with the celebrated picture of the same subject in the Louvre; in point of preservation, indeed, it even surpasses it, while in splendour of colouring and power of chiaroscuro it does not come up to it."

On the best authority we can state that Mr. Otto Mündler never was expert in the Louvre.

Now, first, let us ask our readers to compare these three letters one with another, the statements in them with the picture itself, and then we have no doubt that the same questions will mentally arise in their minds as did in ours: Are these letters genuine? and, if so, were they written about this picture in Henrietta-street?

CRYSTAL PALACE.

The unceasing activity of Mr. Bowley continues to provide such a numerous and interesting and describable succession of amusements for Crystal Palace visitors, that to do them anything like justice in the limited space we have at our disposal is utterly out of the question. The management are obviously determined to "make hay while the sun shines." Hardly a summer day passes without some major attraction being offered; and if the system be pursued with the discrimination and energy now applied to it, the public, feeling sure of finding some attraction beyond the æsthetic glories of the place, must sooner or later respond. "Popularise your palace and park" was ever, until Mr. Bowley's appointment, the advice of the long-headed class of observers and critics who were consulted on the subject of its financial prospects; and now that Mr. Bowley has brought to bear long and intimate knowledge of amusement-catering on the grand scale with a view to popularisation, we must not hark back to high art and æstheticism generally, but hold out every encouragement to those of the directors and the officers who are straining every nerve to redeem the fortunes of the undertaking. Their mainspring must be, unquestionably, the reimbursement, by dividends, of the shareholders; ours, the preservation to the public enjoyment and instruction of an edifice and garden whose conception and execution should be one of England's glories, and whose ruin or appropriation to other purposes would be a national disgrace. It should be the part of the public press, then, in the matter of the Crystal Palace, to support the efforts of the management to attract the people, without the snappish application of elevated canons of taste to entertainments which, if not of a high class, are yet popular, and the shillings of whose votaries outnumber by ten to one those of the fastidious dilettanti. We have heard exception taken to the so-called desecration of this beautiful place by the association of rabbit-hutches and poultry-baskets with its glories. But seeing that the amateurs of the Dorking and the Lop-ear are as the sands of the sea beside those of the Italian school of painting, we conceive that these bird and beast shows are judiciously used as a form of invitation to the public. Our own editorial mind is a perfect blank about the speckled Hamburg and the Bramahpootra. We object to the Cochin China as a camel of a fowl in appearance and no treat at table, while we sympathise with the progress of the Turkey poult with whom we may some day be better acquainted. We delight, but only anticipatively, in the noble capon, and we regard the high-bred English game as the fairest of the fowl tribe. Were we to pretend to the slightest atom of poultryological taste or knowledge we should be gross impostors, but we were somewhat astonished last week to observe how many persons could be collected together who were enthusiasts in, and thorough masters of, the science. These bye-entertainments succeed one another with such rapidity that, were we to attempt to chronicle them, we should be under the necessity of establishing a special reporter on the premises, and of appending a Crystal Palace supplement to our already teeming columns. On the same day as the private view of the Poultry and Rabbit Show, there took place the last, for the season, of Mr. Gye's Italian Opera Concerts, supported by all the talents of the Covent Garden company. The gem of the *séance* was the transposed version of "Deh vieni à la finestra," the ever charming serenade from *Il Don Giovanni*. This Signor Mario sang with such refinement as—all adverse criticism about heresy and so forth notwithstanding—to enrapture the majority of his audience. Ronconi was no less successful in "Largo el factotum" than were Grisi and Mario in the duet, "Un tenero core," from *Roberto Devereux*. The Board of Management of the Early Closing Association, whose

exertions in the abridgment of the hours of labour in all departments of industrial life have ever met with our warmest support, have announced a series of three fêtes for the benefit of their funds. The last of these takes place to-day, when all the great fountains are announced to play, and military games, buffo entertainments, and athletic sports will afford abundant amusement to the many friends whom the committee expect to gather round them.

The Crystal Palace Picture Gallery was formerly situated, as some few of our readers may, perhaps, be aware, in the north wing of the building, nearly on a level with the park, a long way from the grand entrance, and half an hour's walk from the refreshment department. It has recently been determined by the directors to afford it greater prominence, with the double view of contributing to the attractions of the first-floor gallery of the building and of increasing their rental derived from exhibiting British and foreign works of art, as well as the commission derived from sales effected. The splendid series of historical busts has been removed from the nave to the same gallery. The study of these, and a very large collection of the most beautiful works of photography, may prove exceedingly attractive to winter visitors, and to all the holders of season tickets who cannot be expected for ever to find new enjoyment in the out-door promenade or in the interior courts, charming as these are. We must mention, before we quit the subject for the present, that Mr. Herbert Watkins, who is, to our thinking, the most generally successful of photographic portrait artists, or, to hazard a new word, "photo-physiognomers," has added an extensive collection of popular living people's heads. And thus many a sweet and honest soul, who, though a benefactor of men, may never attain the tardy honours of Westminster Abbey or the National Gallery through the difficult avenues of the battle, the senate, or the forum—or to whom the possession of wealth beyond his fellows will never perhaps permit the accident of a six months' suspension upon the walls of the Royal Academy—may, through the enlightened alliance of the Crystal Palace with the great photographers, wake some morning and find himself as immortal as the fugitive tints of the imprisoned ray will admit of. Honour, in fact, may now be had at Sydenham without the previous necessity of having died on Wednesday. For ourselves, we were common-place enough to derive more pleasure from the study of the men of our own time, arrayed in the photographic department of the Crystal Palace, than from that of the reductions to ordinary dimensions, in the shape of portrait busts, of images that the poet's song, the historian's pen, and the imagination of the people have expanded from age to age into heroic proportions. Ourselves even may perchance be there, and who shall say how far our self-complacency may not be responsible for our remarks? Be that as it may, there is a goodly gathering on the screens of the Crystal Palace of the likenesses of the good, the wise, and the witty. No senates or chief commissioners, or gold snobs in waiting have voted or jobbed over their admission. No economists have carped at the cost of the honour. Men of the people have thought them worth a place in the people's palace, and, to garble the words of Sterne, "let the herald's officer turn them out if he dare." In this respect—reserving at the same time our right to that fair criticism upon exhibited works of art which the management invite—we consider that no small praise is due to the members of the direction and the staff, who, descending from the realms of officialism, are now labouring zealously to popularise the fine art department of the Crystal Palace. As much healthy stimulus may be ministered to the praiseworthy ambition, of the young especially, by the portraits of living successes and celebrities, as by the storied urns and animated busts of the departed.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

DURING the last three-quarters of a century the Birmingham General Hospital has ministered to the medical and surgical requirements of no less than 424,605 poor patients, of which number 96,442 have been admitted as in-patients. In the year ending midsummer, 1857, 19,045 patients, of whom 2525 were in-patients, received the benefits of the institution. In the last twenty years Birmingham and the immediately adjacent districts have doubled their inhabitants—new and extensive factories have been established—a net-work of railways has been laid down—and, as a consequent result, a teeming and annually increasing population, engaged in manufacturing pursuits, often rendered hazardous from the machinery employed, has been brought into contact with the charity. To meet the demands of the hospital, it has been found necessary to erect an additional wing, thereby providing another ward, containing twenty beds for in-patients, and affording also the means of supplying better accommodation for the treatment and relief of the numerous out-patients. The institution derives its reve-

nues from endowments, subscriptions, donations, legacies, and the profits arising from the celebration of the triennial musical festivals. The expenditure of the year ending in June, 1857, was 74247. Notwithstanding that the pecuniary aid received from another source since the Festival of 1855, has mainly aided the enlargement and improvements referred to, the expenditure of the hospital continues to exceed the fixed income, in a manner which creates an anxious feeling as to the possibility of keeping up the usefulness of the institution, the Treasurer's account being overdrawn nearly 20000, and the payments for the current quarter having yet to be provided for. Under such circumstances the Festival Committee appeal to the benevolent, the philanthropic, and the public generally, for their support to the Festival, which is to take place in the Town Hall, on the 31st inst., and on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of September. The principal vocalists announced are Mesdames Albani, Clara Novello, Castellan, and Viardot-Garcia; Mesdemoiselles Balfe and Dolby; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Montem Smith, and Weiss; Signori Belletti, Ronconi, and Tamberlik. Mr. Costa is to conduct a band and chorus of five hundred performers; and the principal works announced are the *Messiah*, *Elijah*, *Acis and Galatea*, Beethoven's Service in C, Mendelssohn's Cantatas *To the Sons of Art* and *Lauda Sion*, Mr. Costa's serenata *The Dream*, and Mr. Henry Leslie's oratorio *Judith*. Miscellaneous concerts are to be given on each day, and the Festival is to conclude with a Dress Ball at the Town Hall on the evening of Friday, the 3rd proximo, conducted by Mr. Weippert. We need hardly add that the list of patrons, headed by her Majesty, is an imposing one, or that a vast gathering of amateurs from all parts of the country is fully expected.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED announce the finish of their very successful season positively next Saturday.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—As I find that my correspondence with Miss Burdett Coutts on the picture "Home and the Homeless," referred to by Lord Lyndhurst in his recent speech in the House of Lords, and remarked upon in various journals, is still a subject of some misunderstanding in artistic and other circles, I propose to appeal from explanations to facts—to the only evidence, indeed, that can be perfectly satisfactory to all parties, that of the picture and the sketch themselves. I am an artist, not a writer; my pictures were painted for publicity, my letters were not written for publicity; I would appeal, therefore, to my works as my justification, and as soon as the two works can be obtained, I will place them in a public gallery, and invite the public and the profession to judge whether they justify the allusions and the controversies which have gathered about them. They will, I trust, be ready for exhibition in a few days.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS FAED.

Cavendish-road, St. John's Wood,
August 20th, 1858.

THE NEW GOLD DIGGINGS.—Advices from America state the emigration to Frazer's River has not diminished. All the places in the Moses Taylor are taken up, and two steamers were announced for the Panama route on the 20th inst. Even the Canadians are said to be organising companies. From the interior the routes which Lord Bury described so clearly in his speech on the Hudson's Bay question will be traversed by emigrants of the North-Western States; and from California we still have news of the migration of the entire floating mining population. Wages have consequently risen for those who have the good sense to stay at home, affecting thus the steady production of gold from the quartz mines, as well as all the other branches of Californian industry. The wages of the persons employed on board the great steamship, for instance, have advanced more than a hundred per cent. The second assistant-engineers are getting 200 dollars a month; the third assistant-engineers 175 dollars a month; the water-tenders and the firemen each 150 dollars a month; and the coal-passers 100 dollars a month. Is not that a paradise for a working man, where an uneducated Irishman can get his 100 dollars a month and his board for passing coal into an engine-room? No mine in California or New Caledonia will make him such a return as that.

SUNDAY BANDS IN THE PARKS.—The Regent's-park committee have brought the season to a close one week earlier than usual. This praiseworthy undertaking, we are happy to say, has been more successful during the present than any former season.

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE.—At the dinner-party given at the French Embassy in celebration of the French fêtes, it seems that the Duc de Malakoff, in giving the health of the Queen, spoke of the alliance as *dernelle*, by which we hope he meant the everlasting observance of peace between the two countries. Lord Derby was, they say, equally ardent in the expression of a similar hope.

INDIA.

THE PRESS AND TYPE IN INDIA.

ACCORDING to some of those dear friends of the natives, who are now so alarmed at India being taken under national government and exposed to the horrors of contact with free Englishmen, the late progress of India in civilisation has been self-developed, but according to more impartial judges this progress has been entirely owing to English exertion, to the efforts of Englishmen, either officials or non-officials, and by the like exertion is the progress of India to be promoted. The spread of education is wholly English, and the provision of the means of education is not aboriginal but of English introduction. Lithography and type printing are doing wonders for the diffusion of knowledge in India, which otherwise would still be left to the manuscript copyist. Type printing has been encouraged by the Government, and is creating in every presidency a native literature of a very different character from the old ritual literature, positive knowledge is replacing mythological inventions, and India is moving by rapid steps from the age of Hesiod and the Edda to that of Bacon and Newton; knowledge, after all, which must long be little more than lip knowledge, because the habits and discipline of intellectual advancement are not to be communicated in a day.

This spread of knowledge, promoted by some of the ablest administrators of India, continues to be watched with an eager desire to promote its results by the most effectual measures. The matter of the educational works has received great attention, and many of the works of the Educational Board of India will compare with those of the Irish Board, and with the best home models, of which they are in fact the application. The manner has unfortunately received less care than the matter, and a most important means of improvement is thereby delayed. Sir Chas. E. Trevelyan, who, having begun a brilliant administrative career in India, has continued it in England, but has never abated in his regard for the welfare of India, has among other plans taken great interest in the introduction of the Roman alphabet in India, but hitherto with small success.

This appears a very trivial matter, but if we apply to it our home experience we shall soon find that it is one of importance to India and to our own citizens. Let us, however, first look at the working of the question at home. In the reign of Elizabeth—but the system was in vigour later—the books to which the public had access were in Roman type and in black letter, and the scholar had, in addition to the application of these types to various languages, to deal with Greek books printed in contracted scrip. The impediment to education was a considerable one, for the reader of black letter found a trouble in reading Roman, and *vice versa*, both alphabets had to be taught, and the evil was not limited to printing, for there was a great variety of handwritings founded on the various scripts, and the reader was further puzzled in manuscript. As to any law writing it was incomprehensible by the multitude, requiring a special interpreter. Happily the nations of the West settled down to the adoption of the Roman type, and we with them. The result is, that one type and one scrip for writing alone exist among us, and every newspaper and manuscript of the United States, the Cape, or Australia, is common to us. Thus the printer's fount has been brought down to very small proportions, the stock of the small master reduced, and the labour of the compositor abridged, while the smaller types of Roman can be more conveniently worked than the types of black letter.

This reform extending throughout the West, all printing and all manuscript are of one class for the various languages; English, Welsh, Erse, Manx, Netherlandish and Flemish, Frisian, Danish, Swedish, Icelandic, French, Basque, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Maltese, and this extends to Magyar and Polish, and to the reprints of Anglo-Saxon. Over all this glossological range, Irish alone is printed in a separate variety of old Anglo-Saxon, and that is now being abandoned. Danish, too, is still sometimes printed in black letter. Of course this reform includes the whole of America, from the north to the south of which Roman type alone is used, and it has reached in the west to Hawaiian, Tahitian, and Maori, and embraces some printed literature in Africa.

In Germany the black letter type and a separate scrip have till lately prevailed, and in the east of Europe are great varieties of type, Greek, Turkish, and Illyrian. Of late years the Roman type has made great progress in Germany. The consequences of the separate type and scrip are better shown by their effect on the Germans than on ourselves. We feel the impediment in the study of German and in carrying on German correspondence, we feel it in learning Greek, a few in learning Hebrew, and all those who study the Oriental tongues; but the great mass of our community feel the impediment very little, for it may be said the literature of the world is not closed to them so far as the alphabet stands in the way. The German is free so far as High Dutch print is concerned, and letters in his own lan-

guage; but for English, in which he has great intercourse, for French, for the Netherlandish, for studying the literature of the great nations and for carrying on correspondence with them, the Roman type must be acquired. In a German counting-house the annoyance of the two handwritings is very great, and the German feels more and more the inconvenience of that chance choice, which has left him stranded with the use of black letter, and separated him from the nations of the West. A great movement has, therefore, gone on in Germany for the introduction of the Roman type, and in every counting-house the Roman scrip is superseding the High Dutch. If German evidence is to be taken, the question in favour of Roman scrip will soon be decided. The isolation of Russia is greatly to be attributed to the retention of a special type.

We now come to India, and there we have great varieties of type and scrip founded on systems having relations much more distant than Roman and black letter, and which we may briefly designate as abundant varieties of Sanskrit, Persian, and Roman. Till lately there was only a limited manuscript literature in each of the several languages and dialects, and the correspondence was limited previous to the reform of the postal system. India, instead of being divided between two allied types, has one or two types and more scripts for each dialect, and thus artificial barriers to communication are maintained. Now, as an educational system is being extended in substitution of the barbarous village schools, as a printed literature is superseding the ritual manuscripts, as English is fast becoming a means of intercourse and instruction, and as cheap postage by stamps has been established throughout India, the opportunity exists for carrying out Sir Charles Trevelyan's plan, and establishing the Roman alphabet in India.

The Roman alphabet will be in the first place the means of cheapening native books, because the Roman fount is more convenient for printing than the native founts; in the next place it will enable the natives to correspond more freely, as it will supply them with an easier and uniform scrip; in the third place it will enable them to learn English more readily, and to have access to those stores of knowledge on the exact and other sciences, which must be the means of supplying them with knowledge for many years before a native literature can be adequately built up; and in the fourth place it will promote intercourse between the English and the natives by enabling the Indian languages to be more readily studied.

The advantages are great, and the mode of doing so effective, and we will not now enter upon the phonetic plans of Sir Charles Trevelyan, Professor Newman, or Mr. Hyde Clarke, but content ourselves with pointing out that the Government has ample means of carrying out the improvement, and which will soon compensate for the embarrassment which must be created for two or three years till the new system has superseded the old one. We do not consider it needful for the Government to settle a uniform phonetic plan at once, but let each authority, or board, adopt its own, provided only that it adopt the Roman type. Let no educational books be printed unless in Roman, let no Government documents be printed unless in Roman, let a priority be given to letters addressed in Roman, and, above all, let no presses be supplied by the Government except to work Roman founts.

The number of Government presses in India and of Government papers is very great, and they are being constantly increased, because the Government of India, like the Government of Chile, is obliged to furnish such instruments of civilisation for its subjects. Thus, in Madras, many of the Government presses, as that of Masulipatam, for instance, are earning more than their expenses, and the Government has allowed that surplus funds may be applied in additions to the printing and bookbinding stock. Thus, in Guntur, at late dates, the district Gazette being found to confer many advantages, it was proposed that a copy should be sent to each village moonshiff or curmum free of cost. The Government, however, considering that in each collectorate there is an average of 1549 villages, and in all Madras 30,984, shrank from adopting this proposition, but have approved of the free circulation of portions of the Gazette, in the shape of proclamations and notifications, which are to be supplied to the village officers. From Bellary, this year, an application was made for further presses, but as the Government allowance to collectorates is only one iron and one wooden press, the Government only allowed one more wooden press and more type. At Cuddapah, however, the collector complains that the presses and furniture supplied to him are very old. In Tanjore a press fund has been proposed, by savings from the suppression of certain offices.

To show what may be done we may observe that in the Madura printing-office, for instance, the last supply demanded was about equal quantities of English or Roman type and of Tamil type, and thus founts of both types have to be kept to the great disadvantage of the establishment, instead of one fount alone being wanted.

Lord Stanley, in the government of India, has many opportunities of distinction, but one of the first steps he can usefully take, and which of itself will always make his name gratefully remembered, is a minute recommending or directing the use of English type in India.

ORIENTAL INLAND STEAM COMPANY.

THE Punjab and Scinde are not the least forward of the regions of India in the administration of Government and in the share of Government patronage, and well have these provinces repaid the care bestowed upon them by the large resources they contributed towards the repression of the mutiny. Although so newly annexed they have been endowed by the Government with two railways and two steam navigation companies. For the system of the Indus, the Indus Steam Flotilla and the Oriental Inland Steam Navigation Company may be said to be organised, for though the latter company contemplates more extended operations in India, its first enterprise is directed towards the Indus. The project of extending navigation in India by applying vessels of light draft on the numerous rivers which intersect India in wide and shallow streams, is one of the greatest importance, and not only well deserves the encouragement of Government, but it is deeply to be regretted that this encouragement was not sooner given, so that the period of experiment may be passed over.

At the present moment the company are only engaged in the establishment of two steam trains on the Indus, whereas the Gogra and other branches of the Ganges require a like provision, and the rivers of the Deccan are unoccupied. The Government has felt too late the necessity of having a larger supply of steamers, for it proposed to the Oriental Inland Company to place four steam trains on the Indus instead of two, doubling the subsidy, but reducing the term from ten years for two trains, to five years for four trains. In this, we think, the Government were scarcely liberal, for though on taking four steam trains instead of two they might expect a reduction in the term of subsidy, yet the diminution to one half gave no correspondent advantages. It is not surprising that the directors, notwithstanding their eagerness to push on a new company, have declined these terms, for undoubtedly a subsidy or guarantee for ten years is better than one for five; and yet, had the Government proposed an increased subsidy for eight years, the directors might very possibly have acceded to it. We trust, however, that the result of these two trains, now subsidised, may be so successful that no further subsidy for the Indus may be required. Existing River companies in India have for some time past divided a dividend of from forty to fifty per cent., and as these trains will carry each six hundred tons, or six times more than can be carried by the vessels now in use, a handsome profit must be ensured to the proprietors.

It will be remembered that the subsidy offered by the Government is 5000*l.* a year for the supply of two steam trains, each consisting of six vessels. This the company are already in a position to receive, as they have despatched to India vessels enough for two trains. They have likewise sent out the staff to put them together and to maintain a dockyard at Kurrachee, which in its career of prosperity has the good fortune to receive this addition to its resources. The number of workmen sent out is sixty, who are said to have been carefully selected for their capacity, sobriety, and good conduct. Unfortunately the greatest care in choosing workmen here is no guarantee for their good conduct abroad, as many very good men, removed from the responsibility of the home circle, show a total disregard of the obligations they have undertaken, and are thankless to the officers who have sent them out, and the company they serve. The Oriental Company are, however, likely to get on fairly with their men, as, in the first place, they can readily discharge them and ship them off at Kurrachee, and they have the means of employing the wandering and disaffected on board the steam trains moving about in the rivers, and on the whole enginemmen get on better abroad than any other class of workmen.

These men will fit together the steam train, and they are provided with the requisite tools and machine tools, so as to have a complete workshop, a measure essential for economy at such a distance, where the breakage or loss of a part of the machinery may cause great delay, and where accidents must be at once met and repairs provided. Along with the stores, storehouses, we presume of corrugated iron, have been sent out. Such buildings stand very well in Peru and Bolivia. To land the heavy goods at Kurrachee a large iron lighter has been provided, and their are proper shears, blocks, and purchases for lifting heavy weights. Among the buildings supplied is, a barrack for the use of the workmen; and, indeed, it may generally be said, that every measure that experience could point out, or forethought furnish, has been adopted for the first outfit of the concern.

The company will, by its intercourse on the river, have the means of conveying the workmen whom the climate does not suit to the hills, and we hope a provision will be made for this. Many of the workmen will find that Kurrachee, or river work, does not agree with them, and will in time settle in the hills, so that the colony of sixty mechanics will be the means eventually of establishing

colonies, not only in Kurrachee, but in Hyderabad and in the hill regions from Murree round. Kote Kangra and Lahoul will get their contingent from this new importation. As Kurrachee is accessible, the route to it gets to be known, and the price of a fore-cabin passage gets more settled, many of the shopmates of the workmen, and relatives who cannot get engagements from the company, will come out to fill private engagements, or to set up in their respective trades. Wherever a body of workmen go in this way abroad, there is no difficulty in getting recruits and volunteers from the same districts, and thus the company will not have the same difficulty in finding skilled labour in future.

For the establishment at Kurrachee, the supreme Government and the Bombay Government have afforded every encouragement by allotments of land for the formation of workshops, storehouses, &c., and the like at the out-stations for fuel depots, storehouses, and offices. Every assistance, indeed, has been given by the authorities for the promotion of the purposes of the company, and the new undertaking starts under the best auspices. The Government, which so long held back against the encouragement of the plan, has now become desirous of doubling the number of trains, as we stated, but the directors have done well in taking time before acceding to such a proposition, and in requiring better terms. As observed by the directors, every undertaking needs time for organisation and development, and the management being new, and the fleet of vessels suddenly created, any error or imperfection might be of serious consequence when spread over a larger fleet.

In order that the arrangements may work thoroughly, the chairman and the managing director will start directly for India. The managing director has spent years in India acquiring the requisite local knowledge, and has bestowed especial attention on steam navigation. He had now the opportunity for witnessing the realisation of his plans, and it is to be hoped that he may be able to extend the operations of the company so as to enable it to carry out the whole scheme laid down. However desirable it may be to increase steam navigation on the Indus, it is no less so to provide means of transit on the numerous rivers of the south, where, if this system can be established, it will create a new class of resources, making the rich collectorates wealthier, and introducing cultivation where now crops cannot be carried to market.

NOTES ON INDIAN ENTERPRISE.

A REPORT has been in circulation that the East India Company contemplated resuming trading operations. For this there appears no adequate ground, for though the Company retains its trading powers under its charter, yet unfortunately it has no power to appropriate its existing capital, nor power to raise further capital. Its present capital has been converted virtually into limited annuities, and although some uncertainty prevails until the opinion of counsel has been taken, there can be little real doubt that the Great East India Company has sunk to the condition of nominal existence in which the South Sea Company dragged out a protracted existence. The rumours are really based on the projects of a large association of leading Indian officials, and that for the promotion of an undertaking of great importance.

The Bengal Government is very anxious for the navigation of Gogra, on which boats are to be placed. It is expected that some measures will be taken to enable these operations to be extended, for the Gogra has a better depth of water and better channels than the Upper Ganges, and is the outlet for an immense traffic, which would be afforded by the productions of Oude. The navigation of the Gogra is in fact one of the best measures for the pacification of Oude.

In consequence of the progress made in the last session of parliament with the measure for English settlement, there has been formed an association for the Promotion of English Settlement in India, of which Mr. Hyde Clarke, the originator of the measure, is the honorary secretary. During the recess further evidence will be obtained from the hill settlements in India, petitions will be got from various parts of that country, and at home lectures on the subject will be given, and a canvass will be carried out of the various chambers of commerce and other parties interested.

Mr. John Bourne, C.E., the founder and managing director of the Indian Inland Steam Company, is about to proceed to India to complete the organisation of his steam trains.

In consequence of the observations of Major-General Tremenhare before the Institution of Civil Engineers and the Committee of the House of Commons, attention has been called to the Orphan Schools of Bengal. The Upper Orphan School was founded in 1782, and is under the general management of the Bengal Military Orphan Society, and yet at the present day the number of young ladies in the school at Kidderpore is only 43, and the number of boys does not exceed 11! In fact, it is not thought worth while to maintain a boys' school, and they are put to St. Paul's School, which is a church grammar school, founded in 1845. The Lower Orphan dates from the same time, and is at Allipore. This is for the children of non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

The number of girls is 50, and the school is at Allipore, but the number of boys is only 5, and they are sent to the Free School. If these institutions were transferred to Darjeeling, in conformity with General Tremenhare's proposals, the children would obtain healthy constitutions in the hills, and would get better education. We might then expect to obtain efficient boys' schools attached to the institutions; but, at any rate, they might be sent to the schools at Darjeeling till separate schools were constituted. What the *Times* is now agitating with regard to the public schools of London, applies more forcibly to the metropolis of India, for the benefit arising from the transference of Christ's Hospital, St. Paul's School, or the Charterhouse to a railway station twenty miles off, is as nothing compared with the transference from Kidderpore and Allipore to the healthy European climate of Darjeeling or Hope Town, in the Himalayas, only 343 miles from Calcutta. It is desirable the members of the fund in England and India should support General Tremenhare's views.

Lord Dalhousie has left his name in India to be remembered by the formation of two towns, one a sanatorium for the Punjab in a very advantageous situation, the other far away to the east, being the new seaport of Bassein, in Pegu. It has now a custom-house with collector, two clerks, appraiser, three preventive officers, two tide-waiters, two tindals, and sixteen lascars. There is a marine department with a master attendant, clerk, tindal, and ten lascars. The mercantile interest is represented by several firms, chiefly branches of Rangoon houses, as usual where English enterprise spreads, there is a Parsee house or a German house.

Lord Dalhousie's name has likewise been given to an island in the Soonderbunds at the eastern entrance of the Mutlah river. There is here a house of refuge for shipwrecked mariners thrown ashore on the surface of the Soonderbunds.

We may remark with regard to this port that notwithstanding all that has been said against the Mutlah, the Government has not abandoned it. By notification of the 6th February, 1857, buoyage and light dues were charged on vessels frequenting the Mutlah. An establishment has been formed at the Mutlah, which consists of an executive officer, Mr. H. Leonard, C. E., in charge of the port, with the power of magistrate, &c., a superintendent of works, a sub-engineer, and a native assistant in the engineering department. There is a head writer, accountant, and assistant, a body of police consisting of an inspector and seventeen constables, a customs department, and three pilots. Several Calcutta mercantile establishments have set up stores at the Mutlah; it is therefore likely to get on. But the most effective measure will be the proposed branch of the Eastern Bengal Railway. With this all objections about the unhealthiness of the Mutlah will be overcome.

At Simla, at the last advices, there were no less than eight female firms or traders—three milliners, two schools, one teacher of music, one midwife, and one actress. This is exclusive of those employed in public schools and as teachers. An opening has at length been found for English female settlers in the hill colonies.

A Calcutta Auction Mart, or Calcutta Auction Company, limited, has been formed this year under the Act 19, of 1857, with limited liability. The directors are English and natives. The premises taken are those formerly occupied by Messrs. Tullish and Co. in Tank-square, and which are very large. Besides the usual business of an auction mart, strangely enough the company undertakes the supply of regimental messes, and the public with wines and oilman's stores supplied by their agent in London.

Photography has not made that progress in India that might have been expected, and not at all correspondent to that of America, although a Calcutta Photographic Society has been formed. It may be that the prices of photographic apparatus and chemicals are high in proportion to the resources of the country, but it has been partly owing to the want of a ready supply of these articles. This, however, is now likely to be supplied, for besides the importations of general merchants, a special photographic establishment has been formed in Calcutta, like those in the large cities of Europe. The price of apparatus is still high, but every article can be obtained.

An enterprising firm at Calcutta, Messrs. Hay and Co., have started travelling libraries. The "travelling library" consists of a box, complete with lock and key, sixteen inches high, eleven inches broad, and ten and a half inches deep, which opens out as a bookcase with a centre and two wings, containing forty-four volumes of standard works of fiction, or, more properly speaking, forty-four works, formerly three-volume novels, but now printed in single volumes. This library, or box, can be conveyed by dawk, garry, camel, or steamer, and, with its contents, costs only 5*l*. At home, luckily, we are not obliged to carry about libraries with us on camels' backs, but in India the appliances of civilisation must be made to march with the civilised. The travelling library is something like the march of intellect.

Notwithstanding the mutiny in Bengal within the last year, the list of known Mofussil residents has largely increased. Smith, including the well-known John Smith, makes a respectable figure the list. Smith can now claim a column and a half for his inventory, besides the share he has in the Calcutta residents. John

Smith promises to be a name known to India. Besides the contingents already referred to, this great clan has strong claims on the army, and by the help of the other presidencies the great English clan Smith must now reckon its hundreds, and in a few years, with the progress of settlement, will number its thousands, and perhaps the last native Louis Philippe may take refuge in that ægis of disindividuality, John Smith. Who dares say the contrary?

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE RAILWAY.

THERE is no question that capitalists are now looking out in earnest for the best channels in which to invest their money. They will no longer be content with the 3½ afforded by consols, the 2 per cent. offered by joint-stock banks, or the unsettled dividends of our leading railways. Guaranteed lines and preference shares are steadily coming into favour, and finding rising markets. Our Indian guaranteed railways very properly rank among first-class securities, and though they were neglected at a time when money was worth 10 per cent., now that the rate has fallen to 3 per cent. they have been eagerly bought up at steadily advancing premiums. Colonial lines conceded, and in course of construction, have next attracted attention, and many substantial undertakings which could hardly have found notice a few months ago, are now regarded with much favour, and placed in the first rank of sound and profitable investments. Among these colonial undertakings, that of the Cape of Good Hope Railway has been found by us on investigation very well worthy of the notice of those who desire to embark money, not in speculation, but in permanent investments. The Cape appears to be virgin ground, as far as railways are concerned, and, of course, the first constructors are likely to secure the best localities and the greatest number of privileges. As we have declared our belief that, independently of the value to the colony in a social and commercial point of view, the Cape Railway offers advantages to capitalists not surpassed by any other guaranteed railway, we will show the process by which we arrived at that opinion. Our investigations were directed towards the inception and ultimate concession of the line. We find that about ten years ago the recently conceded line was started by independent parties, and that Messrs. Fox and Henderson tendered for the construction on condition of receiving payment in 6 per cent. Colonial Debentures. The proposal, however, remained in abeyance until 1852, when the notion of a railway was revived in a form that did not find favour with the colonists, who apparently by this time alive to the immense advantages of railway communication, gave their adhesion to the old line, which comprehended a railway from Cape Town to Wellington, with a branch to the Government station at Simon's Bay. The Cape Town Railway and Dock Company, which adopted the recommendations of the local authorities, at first contemplated the construction of docks in Table Bay, but the local Government, having now taken that affair into their own hands, the company confines itself to the railwayline as originally planned. It will not be necessary to enter into a history of the impediments to the progress of the enterprise arising from disturbed and adverse politics at home and in the colony; it will be sufficient to say that in 1854, the House of Commons in the new local Parliament was so impressed with the value of the undertaking that they agreed in recommending a minimum guarantee of 6 per cent. on the requisite capital, after the fashion of India, Canada, and other important dependencies. Further delays took place; but, in 1857, the Legislature passed an act giving a colonial guarantee of 6 per cent. on a sum not exceeding 500,000*l*. for constructing a railway from Cape Town to Wellington. A good deal of negotiation and competition took place, which resulted in the Cape Town Railway and Dock Company securing the concession last week. The new conditions are 6 per cent. for 50 years from the opening of the line, with power to pay interest at the same rate during construction, by including the amount in the estimate. Government also gives the land free, and the company are privileged to import all materials without duty, and to take stone and other materials free of cost from the Government lands.

This appears to us pretty well for the promoters of the company, but then the question presents itself, what are the securities that the local Government will be enabled to adhere to the stipulation—the minimum guarantee of 6 per cent. to the shareholders? We must look to the resources and the revenues of the colony for a reply. We find

Mercantile and Commercial.

SHOULD BANKERS PAY INTEREST ON DEPOSITS?

THE answer to this question is theoretically so clear and practically so decisive in the affirmative, that we are astonished to find the *Times* saying that "the extended practice of banks allowing interest upon deposits can easily be demonstrated to be objectionable." The journal would graciously allow—which is something in a would-be dictator—"joint-stock banks to bid any terms they think proper for the capital of the community, but their system of business must not be confounded," it says, "with the old ideas of *safe banking*." The community and the *Times* are at variance on this point, and the public will now only entrust its capital to those who conduct their business, according to the *Times*, on unsafe principles. Disclaiming all intention of informing bankers how they ought to carry on their own business, which we hold to be a piece of impertinence in public writers, we shall only endeavour to show that the modern and extended practice of allowing interest on deposits is, at least, compatible with safe banking. Let it be remembered that this is a refined art; in its present condition it is one of the latest growths of our complicated industrial system, and its practices can no more be prescribed by law or journalism than the practices of the iron ship-builder or the railway engineer.

We explained last week that the great extension of banking in modern times has its origin in the vast increase of capital, particularly of share capital. As the rule, share capital is capital embarked in industrious undertakings, such as railways, joint-stock banks, mines, telegraphs, reclaiming lands, &c., and the extraordinary increase in such undertakings is one of the distinguishing features of modern society. It pervades the whole civilised world. By its means almost all great improvements have been in latter times, and will be in future, carried out. There will be as much or more capital required for new undertakings hereafter as heretofore. Joint-stock banks are not improperly named investment companies by the *Times*. This is, in truth, the characteristic of all banks. So far as they are connected with industry, and are not mere creatures of the Government, they all hold capital for investment, and especially for investment in new enterprises. When an enterprise is well established, and is of long standing, it is supported by its own revenues. The very condition of its continued existence is that it shall yield a revenue, or be profitable, and not need help. In this condition its revenues may go into the banker's hands, it may sometimes require to be temporarily invested; but it makes no demands on floating capital. This is all needed for new enterprises.

Now these are very numerous. They are not confined to railways, telegraphs, or opening new mines, which call on bankers, for, at least, temporary assistance. Every commercial transaction, every cargo imported or exported on a venture is a new enterprise. It has not been done before, and its results are always doubtful. It begins with the order of the article to be imported or exported, it ends with its sale and consumption, replacing, as it ought, all the capital employed, and resulting in a profit. Every extension of cultivation, every opening of a new shop is a new enterprise, and requires capital to commence it, while the returns are doubtful. For new enterprises the capital in the hands of bankers is required, and to them it is generally applied for. Accordingly, it is considered a rule for the employment of capital entrusted to bankers, that it shall be invested in such enterprises as replace, in comparatively short periods, like all dealing for approximate consumption, the capital advanced. A banker, then, whether a private or a joint-stock banker, is really the active agent for collecting and investing the floating capital of the community in new and productive enterprises.

This function requires a very peculiar skill. He cannot possibly himself know the chances of success

in all new and diversified undertakings, but he can acquire a knowledge of the men who conduct them. He may be a very bad judge of the probable success of importing a cargo of wool or sugar; but an excellent judge of the character and means of the importer. He may be totally ignorant of the propriety of a farmer extending his business, but he may know Mr. Jobson to be a very trustworthy man. He deals with men, not with goods, and he fails or succeeds as he estimates them correctly. As a borrower or receiver of capital, he requires little judgment or discretion, except in fixing the rate he will give for it. As a lender, he ought to have extensive knowledge of the persons whom he trusts, and exquisite skill. Writers on the subject of wealth, especially English writers, are apt to confine their attention too much to material products, and overlook the more important moral and mental elements of success. They forget that labour without skill may be destructive, and that skill makes it productive. The banker must be skilled in the character of men as well as in the value of shares, and his opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of the former by receiving their money, and keeping their accounts, enables him to lend money, with advantage to them and himself. He thus can do at all times for hundreds or thousands of people who have small sums to spare what they could not possibly do for themselves. He can lend these sums with advantage to them and to himself. He spares them the trouble of disposing of their capital; he relieves them from the anxiety of taking care of it; it is in no danger from thieves; and he reaps a large reward by the services he renders them. He is enabled to give them interest on the small sums which they could not possibly obtain without his assistance. He may have a capital of his own, and his skill in employing it may recommend him to others; but, independently of this, his peculiar knowledge enables him to invest money advantageously, and pay interest to those who entrust it to his keeping.

Who then, except the skilful banker himself, can decide what he can give for the loan of capital and how he can employ it? No one. Nor can any rules be laid down for the exercise of his art, especially as to the rates of interest he is to give and take for money. Each new enterprise must be judged of by itself and by the person who undertakes it. To prescribe a limit to the interest a banker is to give for deposits, or the sum he is to take on deposit, is to hamper his discretion and substitute blind ignorance for perceiving skill. If new enterprises yield 15 or 20 per cent., or even 50 per cent., as many probably did at certain periods between 1852 and 1855, why should not the banker give 6 or 8 per cent. for money which he can advantageously and safely lend at 9 or 12? To say, then, that any extension of interest on deposits "can be demonstrated to be objectionable," is to misunderstand the phenomena and use inappropriate language concerning them. An individual banker may mistake, may be greedy or heedless, may give too high a rate of interest on deposits, and may lend on unsafe or improper securities, but no extent of allowing interests on deposits, and no rate of discount, no advances are objectionable which the fact of success justifies. Our contemporary writes more than he reflects on such subjects, and so falls into errors which a little more thought would enable him to avoid.

What seems to us wrong is the general practice of fixing a rate of interest for deposits, varying with the minimum rate of discount decreed by the Bank of England. The rule apparently by which the banker should be guided, is what he can make by what he borrows. This will at all times depend on the rule of profit in business and the demand for capital. But the capital in the hands of joint-stock and private banks, and their advances on bills, &c., or for new enterprises, are very much in excess of the capital and advances of the Bank of England. There seems no reason, therefore, why the men who do the most business, and have by far the best opportunities of knowing good from bad business, should regulate their conduct by the conduct of those who do the least, and have only a limited means of knowing the nature of the business carried on. Moreover, the minimum rate of discount at the Bank is not determined by the general relation between the demand and supply of capital and the real profit of business, but by that small quantity of the national capital which is locked up in its vaults, and by an artificial rule laid down by an ignorant Legislature. The gold in the Bank is a very small portion of the national capital, chiefly

that the Cape colony is one of the very few colonies that can show an increasing revenue, and, what is still better, a large surplus, amounting in the last financial year to upwards of 40,000*l*. But from careful estimates and Government returns of the probable traffic to the railway, it appears very doubtful indeed whether the local Government will ever be called upon to furnish one sixpence towards the guarantee. The calculations made by the authorities in 1857, showed that 70,000*l*. yearly might be expected to accrue to the railway, but since that period considerable increase in all branches of goods and passenger traffic has occurred. From the last official returns it appears that in the thirty working days, exclusive of Sundays, from the 4th of March to the 8th of April last year, the traffic on the upper and lower roads into Cape Town included more than 50,000 passengers in vehicles, besides nearly 10,000 on foot; 10,000 waggons and carts, carrying above 11,000 tons of goods; 3800 omnibuses and carriages; and at least 10,000 sheep and cattle. In wine and brandy alone the districts through which the line runs produce 31,000 pipes and 873,000 bushels of grain. The export of wool from the Cape has risen from 7,864,000 in 1853 to 14,921,000 in 1856; and that of wine in the same period from 271,767 gallons to 923,066 gallons. The revenue of the colony appears to have nearly doubled itself in the last ten years, and now exceeds 400,000*l*. But the advantages secured to the railway proprietors do not end here. In order to place the payment of the 6 per cent. guarantee to the proprietors beyond contingencies, the act of the colonial legislature by which the 6 per cent. interest is granted, adds a further security to the guarantee by a rate in aid, to the extent of 3 per cent., from the districts through which the railroad passes. We think we have shown enough to prove the soundness of this undertaking, and the prudent foresight which has regulated every step taken by those who will have the honour of inaugurating a system of railways for the Cape, which will yield a good return for outlay, and, what is better, will be of incalculable service in developing the large latent resources of this most important British dependency.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE AT THE CAPE.—The concession for a railway at the Cape of Good Hope has necessarily directed attention to the position of that colony. As far back as 1847 a project for the construction of the present proposed line was started, and the contract for its construction tendered for by Fox and Henderson. Of this proposal nothing came, the colonists being content to try what new roads would do before they took to the rail. However, in 1852, the idea was revived in another form, to make a large inlet called Sandanba Harbour, the port of Cape Town, and to connect it with the capital by a coast rail of some fifty or sixty miles. Sir John Pakington, then colonial minister, referred the project to the local authorities, who, condemning it, suggested the old line from Cape Town to Wellington. This suggestion was at once adopted by the "Cape Town Railway and Dock Company," at the end of 1853, with the project of adding docks in Table Bay to the railroad. As the local government have now taken the execution of the breakwater in Table Bay into their own hands, the company have abandoned the dock portion of the scheme. In 1853 the company in England got an act of incorporation. Various delays occurred in consequence of the change in the form of the colonial government, the Russian war, &c.; but in 1857 the Legislature passed an act giving a colonial guarantee of a minimum interest of 6*l*. per cent. on a sum not exceeding 500,000*l*. for constructing a railway from Cape Town to Wellington; threw the whole matter open to competition, and issued as a guide to competitors a report of its civil engineer, which, however, was not of a character to enable parties to tender with any accuracy. Unable to rely on this report, the company, in October, 1857, sent out their engineer, Mr. Browner, who laid out a very different line to that of the civil engineer, without any serious difficulties, and sent in a tender on behalf of his employers. The local authorities referred the whole matter to Captain Douglas Galton, of the Board of Trade, who called for fresh tenders, on new conditions, and finally decided the competition in favour of the old company, in the course of last week, securing them 6*l*. per cent. for fifty years from the opening of the line, and giving them power to pay interest at the same rate on calls during construction, by including the amount in their estimate. The Government give the land free and allow the company to import all materials without duty, and to take stone and other materials free of cost from government lands. The Cape colony is one of the very few that can show an increasing revenue, and, what is more, a large surplus, amounting in the last financial year to more than 40,000*l*.

used to settle accounts with foreigners; and to make its increase or decrease the test of all profit is the consequence of a piece of erroneous legislation.

Naturally, joint-stock banks and private banks, with their greater means, would look at the condition of trade and the character of their customers, to determine the rates at which they would either lend or borrow: but the legislation which makes the gold in the Bank the regulator of the rate of discount, makes the Bank of England the sole depository of all the money abstracted from the people by taxation, and at the same time makes it the sole issuer of legal credit currency. The real legitimate instrument for liquidating debts is the precious metal, which has an intrinsic value of its own, not the promise to pay it; but the legislator makes the promise to pay of this one body a legal tender, and thus makes itself responsible for the species of money and the safety of the body which issues it. By judicious management the banks might always have as much gold at their command as would exonerate them from dependence on the Bank of England, but without an alteration of the law they cannot be exonerated from dependence on it for a supply of the legal tender, and for loans which must be had from the Bank when taxation places in its hands a very large portion of the money or representative capital of the community. By this means other banks are made dependent on the Bank of England. It is another name for the financial department of the State, and they place all their reserves in its safe custody. Other banks then are driven by legislation from their natural course, and are compelled to guide their conduct by that of the Bank of England, which rather hampers than helps trade. The law stands in their way, but with the immense command of capital they now possess, and the general confidence they enjoy, they will, perhaps, think the time is coming when they may disregard the rule of the Bank, and fix the rate of interest they will allow on deposits and the rate of discount at which they will supply new enterprises with capital by the facts of each case. The flux of gold from and into the Bank is of immense importance to those who are responsible for the redemption of the legal tender, but it ought not to regulate the interest of money, as it neither does nor can regulate the rate of profit.

It can no more be said of bankers than of other men, that they always properly fulfil their high functions. Some of them have been extremely reckless. The New York and other American banks, and our own banks which suspended in 1857, can neither be excused nor exonerated. They neglected their duties; but bankers are not likely either to know or perform their duties better by interposing short-sighted directions between them and the great natural facts by which alone business can be safely guided. For increasing trade and new enterprises legislation cannot lay down rules. Public writers can say, without interfering in the technical part of the nice art of the banker, that he is likely to be successful, and deserves the confidence of his clients in proportion as he devotes himself steadily to his own business. Under this aspect it is a fact of great importance that the Governor and Directors of the Bank of England are not bankers, and are engaged in other branches of business. Neither they nor the permanent officials of the Bank can adapt it to the circumstances of the times. Hence, with its large capital, it does not receive such large deposits as the joint-stock banks. Hence, too, its conduct has on more occasions than one been so faulty, that it has been found necessary to regulate it by Act of Parliament. It is also a fact of almost equal importance that the partners of private banks have latterly been themselves much engaged in new enterprises, or have become chairmen or directors of railway companies and of numberless other speculative undertakings. One of them is now a member of the new council for India. If they lose the confidence of the public, it will be their own fault. The joint-stock banks act differently, and are managed by gentlemen who, for a certain, but if successful, increasing remuneration, devote their whole time and attention to one concern. Messrs. Sorymgeour, Gilbert, Pollard, and other managers, do not figure as directors of half a dozen companies. They give their whole souls to their banking business—they skilfully adapt it to the wants of the community—they allow interest on deposits, and they have accordingly acquired the public confidence and have achieved a great success.

THE ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN CHARTERED BANK.

THE causes that have operated to curtail the profits of this bank during the last six months' trading, were clearly developed, not only in the report, but in the discussion which ensued at the meeting on Wednesday. It is so customary to see very large dividends declared by Australian banks, that a dividend of four per cent. is sure to attract attention and to require explanation. We find from the report that the limitation of profits arises mainly from the prudence which the managers have felt it their duty to exercise while the recent financial crisis and its consequences were still in operation. For this determination the managers deserve the thanks of the proprietary, and though they may thereby have temporarily curtailed dividends they will have amply made up for this by strengthening general confidence and by placing the business of the bank on a sound and substantial basis. Another cause which has operated to reduce dividends is the practice of allowing interest on current accounts. Now, on the propriety of this practice there does not exist an undivided opinion. It may be contrary to sound principles of banking as a rule, but it may be exceptionally advantageous and expedient to a particular bank. The proper judges of the matter, we apprehend, are those to whom the general management is entrusted, and we may be sure that it would not have been adopted unless found to be imperatively necessary for the interests of the banking business, or continued unless proved to be profitable in the result. But we find that the practice is about to be gradually discontinued, and we think the shareholders may safely leave the matter to be dealt with by those who can have but one object—that is, to promote the interests and prosperity of an undertaking with which they are connected.

We are always prepared to meet grumblers at meetings of joint-stock companies, especially when dividends disappoint expectation; but we cannot find that any substantial ground of complaint was brought forward by any proprietor, though there were carpings by some and suggestions by others, all of which received due attention.

Altogether, it appears to us that the proprietors have no reason to complain of their property or their prospects.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

THE trade reports of this week, like those of the preceding week, confirm the belief that in most of the great branches of commerce, a period of considerable activity has set in. Nearly all the leading industries are well if not fully occupied; and it is satisfactory to observe that while there is nothing like rash or undue speculation, there is an increasing production, for which there is a natural and legitimate demand. This is remarkably the case in parts of Yorkshire and Lancashire, and to some extent the same features may be found in the manufacturing districts of Scotland. The iron and hardware trades still constitute an exception to the otherwise general progress of improvement; but even in them, as will be seen from the abstract below, the turning point has been reached, and a favourable movement commenced, particularly in the home trade, where stocks are unusually low. After harvest, when there will be a considerable dispersion of money throughout the agricultural districts, an increased demand will arise, and the natural consequence will be a revival of activity in the workshops of Sheffield, Wolverhampton, and Birmingham. Meantime there is an appreciable improvement in the demand for goods from abroad. So that, on the whole, though there is unquestionably a good deal of dulness yet remaining in these important departments of British manufacture, there is good reason for anticipating that it is rapidly drawing to a close, to be succeeded by a lengthened period of briskness and prosperity. The general movement in trade is of course again visible in the traffics of the leading railways. With few exceptions there is an improvement in the merchandise receipts in the whole of them, while in all the comparative ratios of decrease are becoming less and less. At the same time, and this is a safe indication, the commercial demand for capital shows no signs of relaxation. It is, indeed, increasing, and certainly will continue to do so for the next month or two; but the supplies are equal to the inquiry, consequently manufacturers and merchants, notwithstanding their growing trade, have not to pay more than from 2½ to 2¾ per cent., or at the most 8 per cent., for their best bills. As far as most of the Manchester traders are concerned this is satisfactory; for while the raw material is falling in the Liverpool market, and the accounts from America are favourable, they are generally under contracts for yarns and goods made a week or two ago, when cotton was rather higher and money seemed likely to be more in request than it now is. To this view of things, which we are certain is not over-sanguine, there only remains to be added that the harvest will turn out good throughout the United Kingdom; and that (a sure sign of anticipated prosperity) the building trades all over the

country are quite as active as they were before the late collapse.

In Manchester, the advance in the prices of yarns and goods may be considered as established, although the tendency of the Liverpool cotton market has been towards lower rates for the raw material—a tendency of which large buyers of goods are generally not slow to take advantage. But Manchester appears for the present to be less dependent upon the Liverpool cotton market than it used to be. Liverpool, indeed, is weak; Manchester rather strong and able to hold back awhile. Meantime there is a good steady demand for nearly all classes of goods, and from nearly all markets; and full prices are paid for long-cloths, domestics, T-cloths, and most descriptions of printing cloths. The makers of 40-inch shirtings, madapollams, and jaconets suitable for the East, have not sold much, though there was more activity to-day. This is rather strange, as the Bombay markets are very good, and yesterday's mail brought some large orders. The fact is explained by the failures at Calcutta having produced great caution among all the shippers to India, while those who deal with China are waiting the course of events. Still a great deal is doing for India, and more will follow. It will take some time to overdo that market; but it will be overdone in all probability. With regard to yarn and twist the spinners are exceedingly independent, especially those who make No. 40 and downwards, as they have heavy contracts on hand. The spinners of the higher numbers are also very firm, though there is less demand for these qualities. On the whole, the Manchester trade is satisfactory, and there is no reason whatever to fear a reaction.

The accounts from the woollen districts of Yorkshire this week are equally as favourable as those described in our last. In all departments, whether for clothing, worsteds, carpets, or yarns, it is much the same story; and while the full employment of the population has produced a good effect upon charges for the maintenance of the poor, it is also manifest in the erection of additional houses for the operative classes.

In Leeds it is a subject of remark that, notwithstanding the differences with China, there is no falling off in the quantity or quality of the cloths ordered by the houses that principally deal with the East. The demand for plain and fancy goods for the home market is steady, and rather increasing. The blanket districts of Dewsbury and Heckmondwike are busy with winter orders, and some have been received in anticipation of a trade with the colonists in the district of Fraser's River.

At Huddersfield the aggregate bulk of woollen goods sold this week has been large, and the demand remains very steady. The principal inquiry has proceeded from the home trade; and it has included plain and fancy trousseings, heavy broadcloths, pilots, and most other descriptions. The orders are such that manufacturers are feeling themselves compelled to extend their powers of production; but they are doing so only moderately. There are no signs of rash speculation. Stocks are very moderate and prices firm.

At Bradford the worsted trade continues active. Already light patterns have been submitted to continental buyers for next year's trade. Meanwhile the market for pieces, though less animated than it would be were wool not quite so high, looks satisfactory for the ensuing months, manufacturers being well engaged upon contracts. Worsteds are in good demand at exceedingly firm prices. During the whole of this week bright-haired wools have been in good demand at upward prices. Deep-grown wools which assimilate to bright-haired are also in good demand at good prices. Other descriptions of combing wools, from No. 40 downwards, are not in good request. The finer class of English wools have not partaken of an advance corresponding with that of the deep-grown and the bright-haired class, although the best diamond teg and wether matchings have been and are still in good demand. There is no doubt much speculation in the bright-haired and deep-grown wools. Still there is a good business doing in worsteds yarns and pieces. The prices which are received in both departments are such as will generally enable the spinner and manufacturer to realise a profit. They are in most cases, however, working to order on transactions concluded a short time ago, and there is not the same readiness there was to yield the still advancing rates demanded in consequence of the greater stiffness of wool. There is a fair demand for cotton yarns, and prices are firm.

At Halifax bright-haired wools are advancing also. Yarns are being made very extensively, and they are selling at better prices. The carpet trade is brisk, owing to the receipt of large foreign and home orders during the last eight or ten days, including some connected with the approaching visit of her Majesty to Leeds in the course of the ensuing month. The number of hands employed upon the worsted trade is increasing. The demand for light goods appears to be pretty well satisfied, the chief inquiry now being for those for autumn and winter wear.

The Rochdale manufacturers have received considerable home and foreign orders for flannels, and most of the mills are well employed. Fine goods command a good market, and heavier descriptions are fully as active. In fact, no new orders are taken without an increased

price being secured. In wools scarcely anything has been done in the markets, business having been partially suspended by the local saturnalia known as rush-bearing, which involves the stoppage of machinery during the first half of the week. Fresh supplies of the new clip are regularly arriving, and sell without difficulty at slightly advanced rates. The recent weekly addition to prices, indeed, though slight, taken separately, form an aggregate which induces in the minds of some a fear of a reaction. On Monday the stock (100 sheets) of a deceased broker sold by auction at full rates.

The lace trade of Nottingham is becoming more animated, though manufacturers are keeping down stocks; and although the period has not yet arrived when the home demand is brisk, there is certainly a good deal making for home use in the execution of legitimate orders. Shipping orders for hosiery are in hand, and causing considerable activity; but the wholesale houses in the home trade are not yet contracting for their winter stocks, consequently not much is doing in that respect. Employment is extending in the glove trade.

The Leicester hosiery manufacture is decidedly improving. Stocks are very light. In the districts of Hinckley, Loughborough, and other framework-knitting places, there is more employment for the people.

The advance in the price of silk has not checked the demand for Macclesfield, Coventry, or Spitalfields goods, though the improvement in these branches of trade has not quite kept pace with that in cottons and woollens. It is, however, a safe and legitimate improvement. Though the late long-continued depression has left behind it serious traces of its effects, it is satisfactory to perceive that they are gradually disappearing; and that with the increasing prosperity of the country and the improved means of the people, the demand for all descriptions of silk manufactures is sure to grow in proportion.

The general trade of Norwich in stuffs, bombazines, &c., is described as satisfactory, there being few unemployed persons in it; while the shoe trade is unquestionably active, the demand being principally for home consumption.

The reports of the iron and hardware trades are better. From Birmingham the indications of improvement that appeared last week have been confirmed in the present. This is attributed in a great degree to the late reduction in prices; but this fact is only one incident in the case. Stocks of goods are everywhere so low that country buyers have been compelled to order; and another satisfactory feature of the home trade is the punctuality with which accounts are being liquidated. For many months of this year the factors experienced the utmost difficulty in getting in accounts; and the travellers left large amounts on their journeys which it was impossible to get in. So long as this scarcity of money continued, the shopkeepers would not increase their liabilities by further orders. The same disposition to contract fresh engagements appears to have been general, hence the stagnation which has so long prevailed. The orders given out in the course of the week have been sufficient to impart increased activity to some of those branches in which the languor has been most felt; and although there are still instances in which the depression continues, the opinion appears to be general that a reaction has taken place. The workpeople in the principal manufactories have been making more time this week, and there is reason to believe that the outworkers are more fully employed than they were two or three weeks ago.

In Wolverhampton the general testimony confirms the fact of there being more orders in hand. More is doing for the United States, and the iron masters throughout North Staffordshire are better employed. The demand for goods from the agricultural districts is increasing.

The strike of the colliers in the districts round about is becoming less formidable from the number of men daily returning to their work at masters' prices; and there is little doubt that this difficulty will soon be at an end.

Sheffield letters also speak more hopefully of the prospects there, though most branches of trade remain very dull. After harvest there is every reason to expect that the country ironmongers will replenish their stocks, all of which are as low as they were ever known to be. Orders from the United States are slow as yet; but for such as have been sent, the remittances have been perfectly satisfactory. Under these circumstances it is believed that things are about to take a turn for the better; at least there is a much more confident expectation of that result shortly.

The Irish linen trade continues to show signs of progressive improvement. In Armagh, Lurgan, and Ballymena, at last week's markets the supplies of brown linens were but moderate, and there being a brisk demand, they were all sold off at the advance mentioned in our last. Stocks therefore are not increasing. Diapers and damasks were in chief demand. Lawns rather dull. In handloom-made drills and diapers there is no change; but stocks are very moderate, and prices are manifesting an improved tendency. Handkerchiefs in pretty good demand; but there are complaints of prices. Light linens for bleaching have been greatly reduced in stock; the late advance, therefore, is more freely given. Goods for dyeing, and hollands in brisk

demand, and higher prices are being obtained. Heavy linens also in demand. Power-loom linens, such as drills and heavy and light cloths for bleaching, very quiet; but prices firm. Roughs continue in active request at advancing rates. In union cloths little done. There is a good export demand for white linens, at better prices; and favourable advices have been received from New York, Havannah, and Mexico. The stock of yarns in the hands of the Belfast spinners is described as moderate in all numbers, notwithstanding that the production in the mills is at its full extent. The quantity of linen yarns sold this week has again been under an average, owing to the enhanced prices asked by spinners, which manufacturers are reluctant to give. Tow yarns continue in active request, chiefly for export, and are wanted, stocks having been cleared off. In these yarns spinners are in most cases working to order, and the late advance is well maintained.

The linen trade of Dundee is characterised by a good demand for yarns at full prices; while a fair sound business is being done in clothes of all descriptions. Flax has been very firm throughout the week, and the better descriptions have found ready buyers at improving prices. Medium and lower qualities have also been inquired for. The arrivals from the Baltic ports have been considerable; but they have not depressed the price of the raw material, but rather the reverse, owing to the extent of the demand and the firmness of holders.

From Paisley, Glasgow, and the whole of Lanarkshire, the accounts are good; the iron trades however are not active.

The South Wales ironmasters are more fully employed. Some extensive orders have been received for iron rails.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE mass of railway meetings this week precludes us, through want of space, from doing more than to take a passing glance at results.

THE GREAT WESTERN, as previously announced, declared no dividend, although there was a surplus of 37,000*l*. The old complaint was put forward, that competition had taken traffic from the company, and also the new complaint, that the general stagnation of trade had injuriously affected receipts. The proprietary, however, seemed generally satisfied that better times were in store, and that under existing circumstances it was preferable to have a good dividend next half-year than a meagre one the present half-year.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES directors, at the meeting, brought forward the now stock complaint of railway companies, of losses of traffic and money from the competition of rival companies, and further losses from imprudent leasings.

THE MIDLAND, also, assure their shareholders that the dividend would have been larger had the company not had to sustain competition from more than one quarter.

THE MID-KENT appears satisfied with the result of the working of the portion of the line opened from Shortlands to Southborough, and also with the terms of the alliance which they have entered into with the South-Eastern.

THE METROPOLITAN project is still in abeyance, but Mr. C. Pearson is working at it untiringly. His proposition is to raise 400,000*l*. by shares, of 10*l*. each, and with the progress he has already made, and the foundation he has laid for a commencing line from Farringdon-street to Paddington, he believes, with two months in which to mature his plans, he will be able to come to some definitive determination on this important undertaking. A great many minor companies have held their meetings, but nothing particular has to be noted.

THE GREAT NORTHERN had their meeting yesterday, and the same story was repeated by the chairman, Mr. Denison, of damage and loss from competition. The hon. chairman was roundly taxed with being the promoter of this competition. From his replies we do not see that a more pacific policy is contemplated. Surely the shareholders know their duty in such a case. If they want better dividends, they must get a chairman and board of directors who will be open to reason and reasonable propositions.

We may here remark that the prominent feature at the leading railway meetings already held has been the disastrous effects of competition. There has also been a pretty general disposition evinced on the part of proprietors to urge upon their directors the necessity for combined action, in order to effect a change in the present expensive, tortuous, and contradictory Parliamentary legislation, whether in committees or by the House of Commons. There has also been displayed a disposition to urge upon the directors the expediency of concerting some plan by which reckless and ruinous competition may eventually be put an end to. From what we have witnessed we augur hopefully for the future of railways. If shareholders will come forward resolutely and regularly, and enforce proper measures on directors, then we may look forward to good dividends and to a restoration of public confidence in railways as an investment.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

TRADE in several departments is divested of that animation and buoyancy that characterised it in the preceding week, but the tone continues healthy nevertheless. The cessation of activity observable in some instances is chiefly explained by the influx of rather heavy supplies, which has induced buyers to withhold from the markets in anticipation of some advantage in terms. Where this has not been the case transactions have evidenced a steady continuous demand for immediate requirements, and current values generally have shown undiminished stability.

SUGAR.—The arrivals of West India and Foreign Muscovado sugars have been exceedingly heavy, and have caused the dealers to reserve their orders in anticipation of some concession in price. Holders, on the other hand, have shown considerable firmness, have supplied the markets sparingly, and have generally refused offers that did not come up to late rates. The result has been an extremely limited business, in which prices have shown a partial decline of 6*d*. per cwt. The deliveries continue satisfactory, and, although the stock is increased, the excess, as compared with last year, is still diminishing, and is now only 4600 tons; the amount in warehouse at the respective periods being 65,000 tons and 60,400 tons. The accounts from producing countries are without exception favourable. There has been some inquiry for floating cargoes, but at terms which holders have in very few instances entertained.

WEST INDIA.—The sales are restricted to 920 hds., including the public sales, in which Barbadoes sold 36*s*. 6*d*. to 45*s*. 6*d*. for brown to fine bright grocery.

MAURITIUS.—4163 bgs. in auction, partly sold 33*s*. 6*d*. to 37*s*. 6*d*. for mid. to good brown, and 38*s*. 6*d*. to 43*s*. for low to good yellow; 915 bgs. crystallised, 49*s*. to 50*s*. per cwt.

BENGAL.—The auctions have offered 1968 bgs. which chiefly sold, brown and yellow date, 31*s*. 6*d*. to 36*s*. 6*d*.; fine grocery yellow 48*s*. per cwt.

MADRAS.—2500 bgs. chiefly brown descriptions, met a partial demand in public sale at 34*s*. to 38*s*. per cwt.

FOREIGN.—The public sales, although not extensive, have but manifested the determination of buyers to hold off for some advantage in price, and nearly the whole of the goods brought forward have been withdrawn or bought in; 516 hds., 225 brls., Porto Rico, at 43*s*. to 47*s*. 6*d*. for middling to very fine bright yellow, and 41*s*. 6*d*. to 42*s*. 6*d*. for ordinary to middling, 631 cks. 100 brls., Cuba, Muscovadoes brown 35*s*. 6*d*. to 37*s*. 6*d*.; yellow low to fine 38*s*. to 46*s*.; 4720 bxs. Havannah, white, duty 18*s*. 4*d*. at 54*s*. 6*d*. to 55*s*.; floretsts, 16*s*. duty, 49*s*. 6*d*. to 51*s*. 6*d*.; middling to fine yellow, 43*s*. to 47*s*. per cwt.; 174 hds., 112 brls. St. Croix, middling to fine yellow, 42*s*. to 47*s*. per cwt.

COFFEE.—The market has been somewhat freely supplied, but the demand sufficient to effect a pretty general clearance. Good and fine colory coffees have realised fully late rates, but unclean and doubtful qualities have sold with considerable irregularity, averaging 1*s*. 6*d*. to 2*s*. 6*d*. decline. The auctions have comprised 474 cks., 520 brls. and bgs. Plantation Ceylon, fine fine ordinary to good mid., 63*s*. to 72*s*. 6*d*.; fine 81*s*.; 1000 cks. Neigherry mid. small to good colory, 67*s*. 6*d*. to 76*s*.; Peaberry, 70*s*. to 72*s*.; 627 cks. Tellecherry, 66*s*. to 70*s*.; a parcel of Mysore kind 66*s*. to 71*s*. 6*d*. for mid. to good bold pale; 5700 bags Costa Rica mid. palish to good colory, 67*s*. 6*d*. to 71*s*.; fine fine ordinary, 64*s*. 6*d*. to 65*s*.; triage and unclean, 55*s*. to 60*s*.; 3000 bags Rio, of which only a small part sold, good ordinary to fine ordinary, pale, at 41*s*. to 43*s*. the bulk being held at 41*s*. to 46*s*. per cwt.

COCOA.—The demand for colonial descriptions is rather more active, and several sales have been effected at better prices. Trinidad sold at 57*s*. to 62*s*. and Grenada at 46*s*. 6*d*. to 59*s*. per cwt.; 100 bags fine Surinam in auction were taken in at 71*s*. per cwt.

TEA.—By private contract very little has been done, the trade having been more immediately engaged with the public sales which commenced yesterday and concluded to-day. They offered 17,000 pkgs., inclusive of 900 pkgs. Assam. The China teas met only a moderate demand, but were sustained in price. The Assams sold with spirit at full prices.

RICE.—The business is still confined chiefly to low and damaged parcels, for which about former prices are paid. The principal transactions reported are, 8000 bags, low: Bassien, at 5*s*. 9*d*.: and 9000 bags Rangoon, at 5*s*. 9*d*. to 7*s*. 6*d*. per cwt.; 5000 bags mid. white Bengal, at 10*s*. The clearances have fallen off, but are in excess of the arrivals, and the stock is therefore slightly diminished.

SPICES.—Cassia lignia has declined 4*s*. to 6*s*. per cwt., middling third to first pile having sold at 99*s*. to 111*s*. per cwt. in a public sale of 197 boxes. An arrival of 800 boxes has recently taken place. Ginger brings late rates; 420 bags Calicut in auction were mostly sold: good middling and good, 70*s*. to 85*s*. 90 bags middling quality sold at 63*s*. to 67*s*.; 86 pockets Bengal were held at 16*s*. 6*d*., but 804 barrel

Jamaica were mostly sold at 2*l*. 17*s*. to 4*l*. 11*s*. for common to good middling, and 5*l*. 1*s*. to 7*l*. for good to fine. Common kinds of black pepper are in request, but there are few sellers at current rates; home trade sorts are dull of sale. Good and fine cloves have realised full prices, but ordinary qualities are about 1*d*. cheaper: 2200 bags Zanzibar were nearly all disposed of: good bold brought 3*d*. to 3½*d*.; a few lots very fine picked, 3½*d*. to 3*d*.; ordinary to middling, 2½*d*. to 3*d*. per lb. 27 cs. nutmegs, part sold, at 1*s*. 9*d*. to 2*s*. 3*d*. for small to bold middling brown; and 10 cs. mace at 1*s*. 4*d*. to 1*s*. 9*d*. per lb.

SALTPETRE.—The reduction of stock to 3800 tons caused a firmer tone in the early part of the week, but the aggregate business has not been large. For arrival 41*s*. to 41*s*. 6*d*. has been paid. On the spot, 9 per cent. sold at 40*s*. 6*d*.; 6 per cent., 42*s*. 6*d*. cash, and 43*s*. 6*d*. prompt; and 5½ at 44*s*.

COCHINEAL.—Prices have an upward tendency. 375 bags have been submitted to public sale, and a fair proportion sold, prices, in some instances, showing an advance of 1*d*. to 2*d*. per lb. Honduras silvers, 3*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. 1*d*.; black, 3*s*. 10*d*. to 5*s*. 3*d*.; Mexican black, 3*s*. 10*d*. to 4*s*.

INDIGO.—The unfavourable crop accounts by the last mail have given rise to an increased demand, and business to some extent has been done at full 3*d*. to 4*d*. advance on the last quarterly sale.

GAMBERI.—1662 bags in auction were all sold at 15*s*. to 15*s*. 6*d*.; and 640 bags Pegue Cutch, slightly out of condition, sold at 32*s*. 6*d*. to 33*s*. per cwt.

METALS.—The general features of the market are not materially altered. Scotch pig iron is steadily quoted, 55*s*. 6*d*. to 56*s*.; and the shipments continue satisfactory. Manufactured iron is rather more saleable; and rails quoted 6 to 5, f.o.b. in Wales. In copper and lead but little passing. Tin has recently sold to some extent, at 114*l*. for Straits, and 116*l*. for Banca. Spelter may be quoted at 23*l*. 15*s*. to 24*l*. per ton, with a limited demand.

TURPENTINE.—Spirits have declined to 37*s*. 6*d*. for American, and 36*s*. 6*d*. to 37*s*. for English; no arrivals nor sales of rough turpentine.

LINSEED.—Arrivals are light and but little doing. Bombay, 60*s*. 6*d*. to 61*s*.; Calcutta, 57*s*. to 59*s*.; transactions in the latter have been reported at 58*s*. delivered, and 57*s*. cost, freight, and insurance.

JUTE.—3993 bales sold with fair spirit at 5*s*. to 10*s*. per ton advance; medium to fine, 16*l*. 10*s*. to 20*l*. per ton.

HEMP.—The markets are quiet; some small parcels of Manilla offered in auction were bought in at 26*l*. for fair roping.

COTTON.—The continued heavy supplies at Liverpool have led to a decline of 1*d*. per lb. on Bowed, and 1-16th on Mobile—the week's sales comprising 37,000 bales. The London market is comparatively firm, but inanimate, and the sales are only 700 bales Surat at 5½*d*. to 5½*d*. for mid. to good fair.

WOOL.—The sales are concluding with spirit; prices cannot be quoted higher, but are very fully sustained.

SPIRITS.—An increased business has been concluded in rum, at former prices: Demerara, 1*s*. 11*d*. to 2*s*. 2*d*. Jamaica, 3*s*. 8*d*. to 4*s*. 8*d*.; fine mark, 5*s*. 3*d*.; Levard; Island, 1*s*. 7*d*. to 1*s*. 7½*d*.

OILS.—Linseed is dull of sale at 33*s*. 6*d*. to 33*s*. 9*d*. on the spot, and 34*s*. to 34*s*. 6*d*. for credit. Pale rape scarce, and firm at 48*s*. to 49*s*.; but brown plentiful, and offering at 42*s*. 6*d*. to 43*s*. for English, and 43*s*. 6*d*. to 44*s*. foreign. Sperm oil in auction to-day sold at 88*l*. 5*s*. to 90*l*. 5*s*.; the former price having been previously paid in private contract. Pale southern oil has declined to 37*l*. Palm and cocoa-nut oil engage very little attention. Fine Lagos offered at 37*s*. 6*d*. to 38*s*. per cwt.

TALLOW.—The deliveries are good but not equal to those of last week, and during the last day or two rather heavy arrivals have taken place. The market is in consequence flat, and closes 48*s*. 9*d*. on the spot, 48*s*. 3*d*. last three months, and 49*s*. 8*d*. spring. South American, at public sale, was held at 50*s*.; Archangel sold 47*s*. 6*d*. to 47*s*. 9*d*. No change occurred in the official market letter.

PROVISIONS.—The fluctuations in prices have been unimportant, and the transactions limited in every department.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

THE English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered Bank held their meeting on Wednesday, at which the dividend declared was at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum free of income-tax, and the report and the accounts were adopted. It was explained that the decrease in profit has arisen through the stagnation of business in London, the absence of channels for the employment of capital, and the diminution in shipments to the colonies. The allowance of interest on current accounts has also absorbed profits. The regular sphere of operations has nevertheless been enlarged, and the connexion having considerably increased, profit in other respects has augmented. The position of the Bank in Australia has been well supported, and notwithstanding excessive competition, it will, it is fully believed, well maintain its ground. With regard to the 6000*l*.

loss and bad debts, about half arises from the debts incurred during the previous two years, and the other half from the realisation of a security held for an old debt. No sacrifice would have occurred had the bank been enabled to retain it by purchase, but the deed refuses to recognise such a position. Outstanding obligations to the extent of 11,000*l*. exist, but the whole of these are expected to be paid. Little definite information could be elicited on this head, but it appeared to be surmised that they were connected with claims upon two large steam companies. The discussion was of a discursive and protracted character. The management of the bank was questioned by some of the shareholders, especially contrasting its progress and position with that of the other Australian banks. Another point mooted was the propriety of allowing interest on current accounts, while the investment of 60,000*l*. in building was also considered a doubtful proceeding. The omission of the bank from the arrangement made by the Government of Victoria for the issue of the Railway Loan was viewed as discouraging, and was considered to indicate that the local authorities possessed no important impression of its position. The chairman explained that there was no reason to believe that the Government had any want of confidence in them, but their bank, as well as the Oriental Bank, was excluded from the operation probably through some undue influence. The outlay in the purchase of land and erecting buildings was considered judicious, because a great deal depended upon situation to command business. The management was regular and prudent, but still it must be remembered that they had to compete with old-established and very successful banks. After some further discussion the meeting separated, but not before a recommendation was made to take measures for opening a registry of shareholders in Australia.

The European and American Steam Company held their meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. R. W. Crawford, M.P., in the chair. It appears that some difficulties have arisen with regard to the final settlement of the accounts of Messrs. Croskey and Co. It has also been found impossible to renew the debentures as they mature, and bonds to the amount of 20,000*l*. have been dishonoured. An application to the Bankruptcy Court having been made by some of the holders, it was with the view of preventing a compulsory winding-up, involving the sale of property at a ruinous sacrifice, that the present meeting was called. After considerable discussion it was resolved to appoint a committee of consultation. The total debts of the company were stated to be 151,900*l*. of which 81,900*l*. is in debentures, and 70,000*l*. in advances on the ships.

A meeting was held on Tuesday of the shareholders in the Alliance (France and England) Bank. The report presented states that the business has fallen off one half since the commencement of last year. The decline is attributed to the late crisis, and the consequent stagnation of trade. The profits of June 30 amount to upwards of 25,000*l*. or equal to a dividend to 2*l*. 10*s*. per share, but it was agreed to postpone the consideration of a dividend until the next meeting in September. The manager remarked that it was proposed by the board to pay off at par those shareholders who might desire to retire. This is probably contingent upon the wish of the majority to persevere with the undertaking, the position of which is prejudiced by the refusal of the Stock Exchange to admit the shares to the privilege of official quotation.

JOSEPH TRAVERS AND SONS' WEEKLY CIRCULAR.

19, St. Swithin's-lane.

TEA.—The information by the China Mail tended to strengthen the market, which remains firm, with a good amount of business doing.

COFFEE.—Plantation Ceylon is in fair demand, and prices are fully maintained: native Ceylon firm at our quotation. Costa Rica; the greater portion of this crop has been brought to sale, the finer descriptions realising fair rates; but the medium and lower kinds were sold very cheap, and are worth attention. Other sorts are without change.

SUGAR, RAW.—We have to report a very flat market: the reaction consequent upon the speculative purchases of last week has had its natural effect upon prices, which, for all but the finer classes of West India, may be quoted 6*d*. easier. **REFINED.**—The retail trade continues to show a want of confidence in present rates, and has purchased very sparingly; the market has been inanimate, and we quote stoved goods 6*d*. lower. Crushed, Pieces, and Bastards are from 6*d*. to 1*s*. less than last week. Molasses remain unchanged.

FRUIT.—We trust our former advice, that purchases of new Valencias should be made only on a limited scale, will be acted upon by the trade; if so, we believe the effect upon this season's prices will be very marked.

SPICES.—Cassia at public auction met with less demand, and, to effect sales, lower prices were accepted. Large parcels of Jamaica and Cochin ginger have been disposed of at steady prices. Pimento is in good request, and is readily saleable at improved rates. Several parcels of Bermuda arrowroot of the new crop have been placed on the market, for the finest qualities of which holders demand extreme rates: St. Vincent, owing to large arrivals, is dull. Petre very firm.

RICE.—The demand for low qualities continues active. Cleaned sells steadily. Meal has been largely dealt in. Our quotations for brown meal and feeding rice are advanced 6*d*.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, FRIDAY EVENING.

THE result of this week's observation of the Money Market has confirmed the opinion already expressed that the trade of the country, in all its staple branches, is slowly but surely progressing towards a sound and healthy standard. The applications to the Bank for accommodation confirm this view. It may be that the stringent supervision which the Bank keeps over the securities presented at the discount department, in order to discountenance illegitimate trading, has a salutary effect in checking that impulse towards speculation which the vast amount of unemployed capital, the continuous accessions to the gold in the country by remittances from abroad, and the low rate of money, would naturally have the effect of creating; but, unless we attribute the present quietude to the cause we have indicated, it will be difficult to account for the comparative abstinence and excitement which prevail among capitalists and in the mercantile world. There is a little "spurt" in mines, and the concocters of foreign schemes now and then attempt to float them, but success is the rare exception; the moneyed public will not bite, however temptingly the bait may be dressed up.

One circumstance has somewhat surprised us, namely, that we do not witness a repetition of the rush of exports towards New Columbia which occurred when the gold discoveries in Australia became a credited fact. For a year or two everybody who could scrape a few pounds together sent consignments—some of the most incongruous character—to Australia. The first ventures mostly went off at a profit, and the fortunate few realised fabulous prices. This only stimulated exporters; they increased their exports tenfold. Ships hardly fit to make a trip across the Channel in fair weather were chartered and freighted to Australia, a six or eight months' voyage. The mania continued until reaction occurred, and then remonstrance, outcry, failure, bankruptcy, and fraud of every conceivable kind was perpetrated on the *saure qui peut* principle. The history of the speculative trade to Australia, if it could be fully given, would open up a dark chapter in our commercial history. How much of the crisis and collapse of 1857 was due to this sudden mania, attributed by the *Economist* to "a healthy expansion of commerce under the natural action of free trade," we will not say; but certainly we hardly need to fear any return of that crisis from the overtrading at present visible in the direction of the new commercial outlet.

There have been very large amounts of gold received during the week from Australia—more than half a million—a considerable portion of which has gone to augment the bullion in the Bank.

We shall have a word to say on the subject of the accumulation of gold in the vaults of the Banks of England and of France, perhaps, next week, as this is a matter in which considerable misconception prevails in quarters that ought to be better informed.

The Indian Loan was tendered for finally on Tuesday, 3,180,000*l*. was accepted at 97, or above. Indeed, some of the tenders were as high as 99 per cent. The transaction was so well managed as not to affect the market in any appreciable degree.

The Consols market has been firm throughout with an upward tendency. Next week we should not be surprised if a further advance was secured.

The light and heavy share markets have been good. An advance has occurred in most of the shares of the leading lines. The projects, especially where guaranteed, were in demand. Indian lines in request. Cape Town shares going at a higher premium, and Red Sea Telegraphs eagerly bought up.

In Joint-Stock Banks and miscellaneous shares a firm business was done. Ottomans went up, and Turkish 6 per cents. went down. Canada Land Shares experienced an advance of 2*l*. Grand Trunks lower, and the same may be said of Peninsular and Oriental.

Consols, both money and account, closed at 96½ to 1.

CORN MARKET.

(MESSRS. WESTON AND SON'S REPORT.)

THE supply of wheat fresh up this morning was moderate, the greater proportion of which was new. The millers were slow buyers of wheat to-day at the prices of last Monday, and very little business took place in foreign.—New barley found a limited trade from the irregular prices asked.—Oats fully as dear.—Beans and peas are scarce, and bring fully last week's rates.—In flour no change to-day.—New mustard-seed was in short supply, and brought full quotations. Other descriptions of seed dull of sale.

MINING INTELLIGENCE.

WE have little to record relative to the mining market. We hope next week to have our arrangements completed for a fuller statement of the real business done in mines of an established character.

| ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS. | | | | | | | | | | Name of Company. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|---------|------------------|----------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----|---------|-----|-----|
| No. of shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | London. | No. of Shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | London. | | |
| No. of shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | | No. of Shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | | | |
| No. of shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | T. | F. | No. of Shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | T. | F. |
| No. of shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | | | No. of Shares. | | | Amount of shares. | | | Amount paid up. | | | | |
| 84543 | 12 | 10 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 6 1/2 | 6 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 72 | 69 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 96 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 824 | 83 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3801 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 38 | 36 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 15300 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 43077 | 12 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 11136 | 20 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 163 | 16 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 62 | 61 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 49 | 48 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 33 | 33 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3554 | 25 | 8 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 15 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 28000 | 25 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 92 | 93 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 67 | 67 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 27 | 27 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 81 | 81 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 133 | 133 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 107 | 105 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 49 1/2 | 50 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 92 | 92 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18000 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | p13 | p13 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 18000 | 16 1/2 | 14 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | p13 | p13 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24000 | 16 1/2 | 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 93 | 93 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 4944 | 16 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 49444 | 16 | 6 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d 1/2 | d 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 87500 | 9 | 7 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d 1/2 | d 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 11900 | 11 1/2 | 11 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 6 1/2 | 6 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 110 | 110 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 93 1/2 | 93 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 24000 | 12 1/2 | 7 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d1 | d1 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 94 1/2 | 94 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 6700 | 25 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 36 | 35 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 4240 | 25 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d1 | d1 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 96 | 95 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 50000 | 10 | 3 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 68 | 68 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 65 | 65 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 20000 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d3 | d3 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 22220 | 25 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 54 | 54 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 94 | 93 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 60000 | 50 | 3 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d1 | d1 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 47 | 46 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 74 | 74 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 168500 | 20 | 17 1/2 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d5 1/2 | d5 1/2 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 28 | 28 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 112 | 112 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 28 | 28 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 46 | 46 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 36 1/2 | 36 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 71 | 71 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 82 | 80 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27582 | 20 | 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 15 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3273 | 20 | 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d4 | d4 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 46 | 46 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 36 1/2 | 36 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 71 | 71 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 82 | 80 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27582 | 20 | 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 15 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3273 | 20 | 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d4 | d4 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 46 | 46 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 36 1/2 | 36 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 71 | 71 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 82 | 80 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 27582 | 20 | 20 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 15 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 3273 | 20 | 18 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | d4 | d4 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 46 | 46 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 36 1/2 | 36 | Stock | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Stock</ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

CORRESPONDENCE.

August 17, 1858.

SIR,—The remarks in the *Leader* (page 820) on recent legislation as to crossed cheques appear to me to overlook a material point.

Being myself convinced, on general grounds, of the inexpediency of legislative interference in commercial dealings, I am the more desirous of having this point cleared.

The *Leader* is arguing against such legislation, and it conceives the whole of the plague experienced during the last two years to have arisen from Parliament undertaking to direct bankers and their clients how to manage their own business.

This reasoning surely overlooks the fact, though it is alluded to elsewhere, that these legislative attempts arose out of a decision given in a Court of Common Law. This decision, which ruled that a cheque drawn to bearer cannot, at the same time, be drawn in favour of a particular person, destroyed at once the usage which had grown up in the banking trade. The attempt of the Legislature, however ill-contrived, was then an attempt to remedy the inconvenience of the law as it stood. Had there been no law applicable to the business, banking usage might have been left to itself. But the Common Law, which exists and is not made, was there to declare that usage inadmissible. What was the remedy? Either the bankers must be left to devise another practice liable to be swept away at any moment by a construction of the courts; or, that law should undo the difficulty which law created, and legalise an existing, but illegal, usage.

I dwell on this, not for the sake of the special question of cheques, but for the more extended principle involved.

How is the system of non-interference by the Legislature to be carried out consistently with the eternal pre-existence of the Common Law? Let commerce find its own level and make its own ways. Good. But the Common Law is always there, and how does Statute Law violate the principle of freedom more than Common Law.

M. P.

[We only differ from our intelligent correspondent by including the Common Law as well as the Statute Law under the term legislation. The decision of the court alluded to then for the first time made the law, and it was made in conformity to a statute law concerning stamps. Though the Common Law be, as our correspondent says, always there, it exists in the breasts of the judges, and when the Statute Law does not compel them, as in this case, to take a different course, they are inclined to praise it and adapt it to the practices of commerce. These, in truth, are the foundations of the Common Law as to trade, and it is likely to vary with them while the Statute Law sets itself above the practices of commerce.—Ed.]

AN EXECUTION AT THE TOLBOOTH.—The criminal was led out from the Tolbooth at the Cross, arrayed in a loose dress of white linen with trimmings of black. His arms being pinioned, he had his station at the end of a cart, on which lay extended before his eyes the coffin or shell in which his body was about to be deposited. He had an open Bible in his hand, and was usually attended by one or two clergymen, who encouraged him in his devotions by the way, and aided him in his preparations for eternity. The magistrates of the city, preceded by the town officers with their halberts, and accompanied by a strong military guard, formed the procession. On its arrival at the "Bell o' the brae" (in former times a very steep part of the High-street) it stood still, when occasionally a verse or two of a psalm was sung, the malefactor himself giving out the line, and the multitude raising their hats in token of sympathy, whilst every window adjacent was crowded with spectators. The affecting ceremony was sometimes performed in front of the almshouse in Kirk-street, where the tremulous notes of the criminal were intermingled with the plaintive intonations of the passing bell, and the whole catastrophe was summed up by a psalm and a prayer, and frequently a last speech at the execution.—*Notes and Queries.*

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, August 17.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ROBERT ATKINSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, hosier.

BANKRUPTCY.—STEPHEN POOLE, Windmill-street, Lambeth-walk, and Chester-street, Kennington-lane, timber dealer.—ROBERT BILES, South-place, Bermondsey, and Seething-lane, City, rope manufacturer.—CHARLES LANE, Savoy-street, Strand, cab proprietor.—JOSIAH HILL, Amersham, Buckinghamshire, butter factor.—ISAAC BENSARD, South-street, Finsbury, merchant.—WILLIAM UNDERWOOD, Gracechurch-street, City, tea dealer.—HENRY LODGE, Hug-burn-lane, City, tailor.—JOHN HARRIS BLAKEMORE, Wednesday, Staffordshire, brassfounder.—THOMAS HENRY COLDWELL, Wakefield, Yorkshire, worsted spinner.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—T. STEVENS, Glasgow and Partick, builder.—J. KEDDIE, Portobello, baker.—R. DARLING KEE, Edinburgh, corn merchant.—J. MENZIES, Glasgow, gardener.—T. NICOLL and J. WELSH, Dundee, draper.

Friday, August 20.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—WILLIAM STEPHENSON, Sheffield, Yorkshire, auctioneer.

BANKRUPTCY.—JAMES MASSEY, Crown Inn, Cranbourne-passages, Leicester-square, innkeeper.—LEONARD

GEORGE BOOR, St. George-street, St. George-in-the-East, Middlesex, surgeon.—FREDERICK HOW, Whitstable, Kent, butcher.—HENRY SLATER, Balsall Heath, Staffordshire, brewer.—SAMUEL RICHARD WHITEHOUSE, Birmingham, factor.—BENJAMIN BRADLEY, Manchester, iron merchant.—WILLIAM SMITH SALTER and THOMAS HERBERT, Birkenhead, timber merchants.—JOHN OG MACKINNON, Liverpool, general agent.—SAMUEL WRIGHT, Longton, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—H. MILLER, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, ironmonger.—W. GILL, Balmado, Aberdeenshire, general merchant.—J. SCOTT, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, farmer.—REV. DONALD CHISHOLM, minister of the united parish of Boleskine and Abertarff, Invernessshire.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 3, Tichborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, OPEN DAILY (for Gentlemen only). LECTURES BY DR. SEXTON at 4 and 8 o'clock on Important and Interesting Topics in connexion with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (vide Programme). Admission, 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

EPPS'S COCOA.—Epps, homoeopathic chemist, London.—1lb. and ½lb. packets, 1s. 6d. and 9d.—This excellent production, originally prepared for the special use of homoeopathic patients, having been adopted by the general public, can now be had of the principal grocers. Each packet is labelled James Epps, homoeopathic chemist, London.

HANDSOME BRASS AND IRON BED-STEADS.—HEAL and SON'S Show Rooms contain a large assortment of Brass and Iron Bedsteads, suitable both for Home use and for Tropical Climates; handsome Iron Bedsteads with Brass Mountings and elegantly japanned; Plain Iron Bedsteads for Servants; every description of Wood Bedstead that is manufactured, in Mahogany, Birch, Walnut Tree woods, Polished Deal and japanned, all fitted with Bedding and Furnitures complete, as well as every description of Bedroom Furniture.

HEAL and SON'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, containing Designs and Prices of 100 Bedsteads, as well as of 150 different articles of Bedroom Furniture, sent free by Post.—Heal and Son, Bedstead, Bedding, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham-court-road, W.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, sitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hip, being sent to the Manufacturer, JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

Price of a single truss, 18s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage 1s.

Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 8d.

Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 10d.

Post-office orders to be made payable to JOHN WHITE, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.

Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each.—Postage 6d.

JOHN WHITE Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

LADIES' ELASTIC SUPPORTING BANDS, for use before and after Accouchement, admirably adapted for giving efficient support, with EXTREME LIGHTNESS—a point little attended to in the comparatively clumsy contrivances and fabrics hitherto employed. Instructions for measurement, with prices (on application), and the articles sent by post from the manufacturers and inventors, POPE and PLANTE, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall-Mall, London, S.W.

BURGESS'S celebrated Bandoline for fixing Ladies' Hair or Gentleman's Whiskers and Moustaches, without drying, not being a liquid as most others. In bottles from 1s. to 10s. 6d. Prepared at R. BURGESS'S Hair Cutting and Brushing Establishment. Head Washing on the approved Ovi-Lavatory system.

Nos. 14, 15, and 16, Royal Opera Arcade, Charles-street, Haymarket, S. W. Agents, Birch, Molesworth-street, Dublin; Peagam, King-street, Jersey; Apothecaries' Hall, Glasgow; and Ludwig, 33, Charlotten-Strassen, Berlin.

GREY HAIR. 248, High Holborn (opposite Day and Martin's). ALEX. ROSS'S Hair Dye is easily applied, producing a slight brown, dark brown, or black, permanently, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per bottle. A.R.'s Hair Destroyer, or Depilatory, removes superfluous hair from the face, neck, or arms, without injuring the skin; sold at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. A.R.'s Hair Curling Fluid saves the trouble of using curl papers or irons, for immediately it is applied a beautiful and lasting curl is obtained; 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. per bottle. The above articles are sent per post for 54 stamps in blank wrappers.

TO INVALIDS, Merchants, and others.—The PATENT ALBERT PORTABLE LOUNGING CHAIR, the most luxurious and cheapest ever manufactured. Self-propelling Bath, Brighton, and every other description of chair for in and out-door use. Mechanical chairs and bedsof every description, perambulators, &c. (the largest assortment in the world), always on hand for sale or hire. Agents:—Messrs. Smith, Taylor, and Co., Bombay and Calcutta, Singapore, and Samarang; Messrs. F. W. Browne and Co., Calcutta. Sole patentees and manufacturer, J. WARD, 5 and 6, Leicester-square, W. C. Established 60 years.

BRECKNELL'S SKIN SOAP, recommended as the best for producing a clear and healthy skin, being the old yellow soap, made expressly for the purpose, of the best materials, and not scented.—Sold only in One Shilling packets of either four rounded tablets or eight squares, and extra large tablets Sixpence each. BRECKNELL, TURNER, and SONS, Manufacturers of Wax Spermaceti, Stearino, and Tallow Candles to her Majesty; agents to Price's Patent Candle Company, dealers in all other Patent Candles, all kinds of household and toilet Soaps, in Colza, Sperma, Vegetable, and other Lamp Oils &c. Beehive, 31, Haymarket, London.—Please observe that each tablet and square is stamped "Brecknell's Skin Soap."

FEMALE COMPLAINTS.—KEARSLEY'S ORIGINAL WIDOW WELCH'S FEMALE PILLS are strongly recommended as a safe and valuable Medicine in effectually removing obstructions, and relieving all other inconveniences to which the female frame is liable, especially those which arise from want of exercise and general debility of the system. They create an appetite, correct indigestion, remove giddiness and nervous headache, pains in the stomach, shortness of breath, and palpitation of the heart. Sold by J. SANGER, 150, Oxford-street, London, price 2s. 9d., or by post for Thirty-six Postage-stamps.

For Exportation.—The above can be obtained through British merchants, shippers, and Colonial agents.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple but certain remedy for Indigestion, which is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with justice called the

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The Chairman said the directors were happy to meet the gentlemen present on that occasion, not only because they saw before them a highly respectable proprietary body, but on account of what he believed would be considered the exceedingly satisfactory report which would be read to them. It would be recollected that at their last annual meeting the directors had been empowered to amalgamate with certain other companies; three of these companies, as would be seen by the report, had made arrangements by which their interests became merged in the Eagle office. The fourth, which was the largest and most important, he meant the Albion, had, since the report was drawn up, transferred its business to the Eagle—(cheers)—upon terms which he could assure the gentlemen present would be found most satisfactory to all parties concerned. (Cheers.) He did not know that the state of their affairs required any further comment on his part. There were three of the directors of the Albion present, Mr. Cater, Mr. Chatfield, and Mr. Russell; all of them gentlemen with whom the directors would be happy to act in unison, and, as the report would speak for itself, he would now call upon the actuary to read the report.

The following report was then read:—

"The time has again arrived for the directors to make their annual report to the proprietors, and to give them an account of the progress of the company during the year ending 30th June last, and of its financial condition at that date.

"As the surplus fund account serves to indicate the occurrences of the year, an abstract of that account is first presented:—

"SURPLUS FUND ACCOUNT.

| "INCOME OF THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1858. | | | | "CHARGE OF THE YEAR. | | | |
|---|----------|----|----------|--|----------|---------|----------|
| Balance of account, 30th June, 1857 | £308,428 | 5 | 5 | Dividend to proprietors | £113,030 | 15 | 9 |
| Ditto, ditto, three small Assurance Companies | 118,801 | 13 | 6 | Claims on decrease of lives assured | 16,377 | 19 | 11 |
| | | | 425,229 | 18 | 11 | | |
| Premiums on new assurances | 15,725 | 14 | 9 | Additions thereto | 7,873 | 14 | 7 |
| Ditto on renewed ditto | 169,789 | 16 | 1 | Policies surrendered | 21,030 | 3 | 10 |
| | | | 185,515 | 10 | 10 | | |
| Interest from investments | 57,312 | 16 | 7 | Re-assurances | £158,368 | 14 | 1 |
| | | | 242,828 | 7 | 5 | | |
| | | | £668,053 | 6 | 4 | | |
| | | | | Commission | 6,265 | 17 | 9 |
| | | | | Medical fees | 675 | 15 | 0 |
| | | | | Income-tax | 1,894 | 15 | 5 |
| | | | | Expenses of management | 8,775 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 175,980 | 2 |
| | | | | Balance of account, 30th of June, 1858 | | | 492,879 |
| | | | | | | | 7 |
| | | | | | | | 7 |
| | | | | | | | £668,053 |
| | | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 4 |

"Examined and found to be correct,

(Signed)

THOS. ALLEN,

WILLIAM H. SMITH, jun.,

Auditors.

"From this statement it will be seen that three comparatively small assurance companies have merged into the Eagle during the year, and that out of the assets transferred by them as hereinafter mentioned they have together contributed 118,801l. 13s. 6d. to the company's surplus fund.

"The income from new premiums is 15,725l. 14s. 9d. Last year this amount was 11,900l. only. A portion of the increase, however, arises from the issue of two or three large assurances, some of the risk under which it has been necessary to re-insure.

"The total income is 242,828l. 7s. 5d., being 25,375l. 10s. 11d. more than that reported at the last annual meeting. The total income would have reached about 290,000l. but for the reductions of premium allowed by way of bonus, and for the fact that only parts of the incomes of the newly transferred companies appear in this account.

"The claims are less by about 4800l. than they were in the foregoing year, notwithstanding that the amount at risk has latterly been much larger than it was some eight months previously.

"The expenses, it will be observed, are somewhat greater than they were; the increase is mainly attributable to the needful enlargement of the company's staff of employés.

"As regards the financial condition of the company at the termination of the year, the directors will now refer to the balance sheet, which is as follows:—

"BALANCE-SHEET.

| "LIABILITIES." | | | | "ASSETS." | | | |
|---|-----------|----|------------|---|------------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Interest due to proprietors | 16,983 | 7 | 1 | Amount invested in fixed mortgages and life interests | 1,056,221 | 8 | 9 |
| Claims and additions thereto | 44,388 | 2 | 9 | Ditto decreasing mortgages | 74,997 | 15 | 5 |
| Sundry accounts | 8,322 | 5 | 4 | Ditto reversions | 74,516 | 17 | 7 |
| Value (1857) of sums assured, &c. | 3,252,648 | 19 | 1 | Ditto funded property and Government annuities | 95,624 | 1 | 10 |
| Proprietors fund | £188,112 | 0 | 0 | Ditto other securities | 72,078 | 10 | 5 |
| Surplus fund, as above | 482,879 | 7 | 7 | Current interest on the above investments | 27,194 | 9 | 0 |
| | | | 670,991 | Cash and bills | 37,354 | 14 | 4 |
| | | | £3,993,334 | Advances on the company's policies | 66,444 | 1 | 5 |
| | | | | Agents' balances | 16,566 | 7 | 5 |
| | | | | Sundry Accounts | 5,563 | 19 | 11 |
| | | | | Value (1857) of assurance premiums | 2,466,771 | 15 | 9 |
| | | | | | £3,993,334 | 1 | 10 |

"Examined and found to be correct,

(Signed)

THOS. ALLEN

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Auditors.

"This document exhibits an amount of assets not much short of four millions, about one million and a half being realised, and two millions and a half in course of realisation. The last report stated these items to be 1,344,799l. 12s. 1d., and 1,536,980l. 19s. 1d. respectively; the increase on the two is, therefore, 1,111,553l. 10s. 8d. The surplus fund, that is to say, the provision for future bonuses and expenses, amounts to 482,879l. 7s. 7d.

"These statements, it is to be observed, include nothing in connexion with the Albion Assurance Company. The directors, however, have the satisfaction of reporting that the amalgamation of that office with the Eagle has just been completed, and that the addition of its funds will raise the company's assets realised, and to be realised, to no less a sum than 5,123,643l. 4s. 9d., and its surplus fund (subject of course to a revaluation) to 611,118l. 11s. 3d.

"The annual income of the company arising from these several combinations is now about 365,000l., or as nearly as may be 1000l. per diem.

"Now, of this income about 80,000l. arises from the premiums on non-participating assurances, the surplus in respect of which, together with certain other extraneous sources of profit, is sufficient not only to defray all the company's expenses, but to meet the payments accruing to the proprietors over and above the interest realised by their own capital.

"Hence the assured of the participating class are placed in as advantageous a position as they can, under any circumstances, fairly expect to be. All their payments to the company are carefully improved for them, at a high rate of compound interest, and form a fund, subject to no deductions whatever other than those arising from the satisfaction of the claims under their own policies.

"Such is the position the company has now attained. The directors feel that all who care to trace its progress of late years will find ample reason to be satisfied with it. The Chairman said that he would move the adoption of the report which they had just heard read, and which he hoped would be found satisfactory to all who were interested in the company; but before putting the motion he would be very happy to answer any questions upon matters which might appear to require further explanation.

Mr. Cheere (an ex-director of the Palladium), in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report, said he could not refrain from the expression of his gratification at hearing the statement which had that day been made to the shareholders by the directors. He had followed the statement of figures carefully, and had been, he might say, astounded as well as delighted at hearing that their income now amounted to nearly 1000l. per diem. (Hear, hear.) He congratulated his brother shareholders on the evidences of vitality shown by the report. The directors might have perhaps fairly rested content with what had been previously done; but so far from that he found by the report that the new business transacted during the past year yielded an annual income of 15,725l. That fact proved that the directors were not contenting themselves with past success, but were zealously, energetically, and most efficiently exerting themselves to promote the great objects of the company. (Hear, hear.) They were in the best and most practical way keeping alive the great and noble principle of life assurance. (Hear, hear.) Nothing to his mind could be more satisfactory than the report which had been read by their secretary, and moved by their highly respected chairman; and he had therefore the greatest pleasure in seconding the motion for its adoption.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously amid general applause.

Mr. Thomas Allen, the retiring auditor, was re-elected.

The Chairman then announced that the business which the directors had to bring before the meeting was closed.

Mr. Cheere said he hoped, before the meeting separated, they would join him in doing an act of common justice. (Hear, hear.) He begged to propose a vote of thanks to the directors, who had that day presented so gratifying and so satisfactory a report. (Cheers.) Nothing had struck him more forcibly, as a participating assurer, than the statement that the per-centage upon the non-participating policies was sufficient to meet the whole of the expenses of the establishment; and that, in fact, the assurers under the higher rate of premiums would receive back the whole of their money without any deduction whatever for expenses. (Cheers.) He had very great pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors. (Applause.)

The motion, having been seconded, was carried with great unanimity, and the thanks of the meeting having been in like manner given to the medical officers, Dr. Seth Thompson, Mr. Saner, and Mr. Cooke; to the auditors, Mr. Thomas Allen and Mr. William Henry Smith, jun.; and to the actuary, the meeting separated.

The trustees and directors of the company are now as follows, viz.:—

TRUSTEES.

Lord Bateman.
Robert Cheere, Esq.

Joseph Esdaile, Esq.
Charles Thomas Holcombe, Esq.

Richard Harman Lloyd, Esq.
William James Maxwell, Esq.

Ralph Charles Price, Esq.
Hon. E. T. Yorke, M.P.

And other gentlemen.

DIRECTORS.

Ralph Charles Price, Esq., Chairman.
Thomas Boddington, Esq.
John White Cater, Esq.
Charles Chatfield, Esq.
Thomas Devay, Esq.
Sir James Buller East, Bart., M.P.

Nathaniel Gould, Esq.
Robert A. Gray, Esq.
William Augustus Guy, M.D.
Charles Thomas Holcombe, Esq.
Richard Harman Lloyd, Esq.

Joshua Lockwood, Esq.
James Murray, Esq.
Sir W. G. Ouseley, K.C.B., D.C.L.
W. Anderson Peacock, Esq.
Philip Rose, Esq.

Charles Bischoff, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
George Russell, Esq.
Thomas Godfrey Sambrooke, Esq.
Charles Evan Thomas, Esq.
Capt. Louis Symonds Tindal, R.N.
Right Hon. Sir John Young, Bart.