THE

SATURDAY ANALYST

AND

LEADER,

A Review and Record of Political, Literary, Artistic, and Social Events.

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CONTENTS.

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CONTENTS of No. 546 (New Series, No. 36)

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ITALIAN DISSENSION.

THE Italian question is entering a phase in which the friends of liberty should exercise the greatest care to avoid being misled. We are yet ignorant of the precise amount of difference between GARIBALDI and CAVOUR, and very partially informed concerning the circumstances which have to be considered before the merits of various schemes can be ascertained. It is easy enough to worship success, but both CAVOUR and GARIBALDI deserve our admiration upon higher grounds, and it should not lightly be withheld from either, if temporary obstacles impede their way. If CAVOUR persists in striving to reduce GARIBALDI to the position of a servant of the Sardinian Crown, he is making a grave mistake, and he ought not to call for the annexation of Sicily and Naples until he is able to offer the patriot-soldier the means of employing his energies in the national cause. If GARIBALDI had not made himself independent of the Court of Turin, he could not have won Sicily; and if he had immediately made over that island to the Sardinian Crown, his Naples expedition could not have taken place. When VICTOR EMMANUEL feels strong enough to undertake the settlement of the Neapolitan question and the liberation of Venice, he may fairly invite GARIBALDI to co-operate with his plans, but if diplomatic or other considerations keep him back for a time, he should allow very great latitude to the popular hero, and treat him as an ally rather than as an officer whom he has a right to command.

Very much of Italian policy must be grounded upon the state of the popular mind, and it may be better to risk something in military enterprises rather than permit enthusiasm to cool, and energies to be wasted in opposing plans. It is easy enough for us who are not sufferers to preach the virtue of patience and delay to those who are; but we have no right to expect the Italians to exhibit superhuman qualities, and ought to consider popular impatience and diversities of opinion as among the inevitable conditions with which the liberators of Italy have to deal. The approach of winter may quiet down some military ardour, but GARIBALDI may not be wrong in thinking that union can only be preserved by calling his fellow-countrymen to assist in a plan of action large enough to swallow up lesser ideas. On the other hand, CAVOUR has exhibited too much skill to justify a neglect of his opinions; but it must not be forgotten that the cession of Nice, although a politic act, has given great offence to many Italian minds, and his reserve as a statesman necessarily contrasts unfavourably with the frankness which GARIBALDI is entitled to use.

We regret that some journals take upon themselves to abuse MAZZINI and to represent GARIBALDI as acting under republican instigations. It is natural that republicans should admire a character so congenial with their best aspirations; and it is well for Italy that GARIBALDI should be the hero of the large number of republicans still to be found in France, and who are practical adherents to the Empire, because they consider that LOUIS NAPOLEON is adopting a course which will render other forms of government impossible for the future. We do not stop to discuss this theory. It is sufficient that it exists, and that the friendship which those who hold it, bear to GARIBALDI, may exercise a valuable control over the proceedings of the Government of France. GARIBALDI, himself, certainly does not wish to make the Italian movement turn upon republican ideas. He has shown himself a firm friend of VICTOR EMMANUEL, and nothing has appeared to show that even MAZZINI is other than friendly to the obviously wisest course—that of uniting Italy under one royal head.

There may be men about GARIBALDI who press imprudent councils, and when great risks must be run, it is not very easy to distinguish that which is expedient from that which is not. Under these circumstances, English sympathisers will best serve the Italian cause by avoiding violent partizanship or violent antagonism. It is childish to cry up GARIBALDI one day to the very skies, and the next to represent him as the dupe of mischievous fanatics with whom no terms ought to be kept. Public opinion in this country should endeavour to hold the balance fairly, and it will then do something to prevent the Italians ranging themselves into two hostile camps.

If GARIBALDI can be induced to look calmly upon the plans and position of CAVOUR, he will probably find that they will admit of reconciliation with his own, and that a little mutual concession will obviate the deplorable calamity of an open rupture. KOSSUTH, it appears, has endeavoured to mediate, and we hope with success, but if possible the two great leaders of Italy should meet face to face. It appears to us that by naming a day, not very far distant, for the assembling of the representatives of the Two Sicilies to consider the question of annexation, both parties might practically gain what they require. GARIBALDI would thus remain independant for a few weeks or a month or two, which would enable him to make dispositions that would render it advisable and even necessary for the Sardinian government to take up the Venetian question next year.

There can be no discrepancy between the objects of CAVOUR and GARIBALDI, and there may be some diversity of proceeding without a disturbance of harmony.

The attempt of the despotic Powers to get up a new "Holy Alliance," will help the Italians if they maintain the moral position which their cause has assumed, and a coalition of Russia, Austria, and the German potentates to obstruct liberal ideas, can only end in ranging France on the side of the nationalities, if their leaders avoid democratic disorders. As the *Daily News* says, "despotism don't pay;" and it can only be through the errors of the popular party, that a financial cripple like Russia, or a fraudulent bankrupt like Austria, can have power to turn the world upside down.

The rumours are strengthened that the Pope meditates a flight, unless France will sustain his temporal sovereignty as well as himself. If he goes, GARIBALDI may proclaim the unity of Italy from the Quirinal, and the soldiers of VICTOR EMMANUEL may peaceably replace those of Imperial France. It is evident that Russia and Prussia are both alarmed at the agitation of Poland, and they would, if they dared, join Austria and try to crush Warsaw at Milan. Fortunately France is not in Bourbon hands, and if the despotic sovereigns violate the principle of non-intervention and proclaim a deadly war against the nationalities, they will place in the hands of LOUIS NAPOLEON a greater power than his uncle ever had.

If the principle of national right triumphs in Italy, it will be strengthened in Hungary, and if it succeeds in Hungary, Poland's claims will be revived, and the German population will not be quiet. All this is bitter reasoning for the despots, and we cannot wonder at Prince GORTSCHAKOFF's complaints of France. Such grumblings, however, add strength to the Empire, and its eagles will fly far and wide if the French nation is compelled to rouse itself in a good cause. At such a stirring time we should be glad to know that England was playing a worthy part, but all that can be conjectured is, that while our Court kisses its German relations, Lord JOHN RUSSEL spells the Treaty of Vienna, and writes polite letters, asking the world to stand still.

LORD BROUGHAM ON THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

IN Opening the business of the Social Science Congress at Glasgow, Lord BROUGHAM delivered an address, which satisfactorily proves that his powerful and discursive mind suffers no abatement of its energies through the lapse of time. Indeed, the long and carefully prepared oration which delighted the north country audience, is, in some respects, superior to his pristine performances. It was less impassioned than many earlier efforts, but displayed a great variety of knowledge, combined with a felicity of expression, and a sobriety of thought befitting one of the oldest and most renowned of European statesmen. To read it excites pleasurable sensations; and to have heard it, must have afforded that gratification which is always produced by witnessing an exercise of well practised skill—and yet while rendering tribute to its merits we cannot accept it as a good exposition of, or introduction to, the study of Social Science. It suggests many topics for consideration, but it fails to lay down the ground or the method of scientific inquiry into social laws or phenomena, and assists rather than checks that tendency to unconnected disquisitions which has hitherto constituted the opprobrium of the Social Science Association.

Without criticising the details of historical allusion in which his Lordship indulged, we are glad to admit that, in public affairs, opinions are becoming more important, and personal interests of less value; but if, as we believe, this elevation of opinion is at once the indication and the cause of our progress, there is a want of propriety and consistency in the method by which the noble lord proposes to deal with acknowledged evils. A reign of opinion stands broadly contradistinguished from a rule of force. A despot may for a time carry out a prevailing opinion; but his method of government is unfavourable to the formation of fresh opinion, and hence it is impossible for a despotism to preserve an intellec-

tual and progressive character. However it begins, it ends in stagnation, if it escapes being overthrown.

To be in harmony with the best tendencies of our times, we must abjure methods of violence and seek improvement by conviction, rather than by authoritative direction or restraint. Lord BROUGHAM does not see this, and repeats the arguments in favour of promoting temperance by a Maine Liquor Law, which he propounded on a former occasion. In a like spirit he proposes to deal with the vices of our parliamentary system. He describes our House of Commons, truly enough, as mainly composed of an inferior sort of persons who have no public character or reputation, and he blames the tendency which these people exhibit to chatter about everything which they do not understand.

That sessions are wasted in very silly and idle chatter, none will dispute, and Sir J. PAKINGTON, who thanked Lord BROUGHAM for his able address, expressed his concurrence with the complaints of his noble friend. It is also true that the evil is not a new one, although it has certainly increased, and the session of 1860 was so bad in this respect that it deserves to be made the subject of the emphatic warning which Lord BROUGHAM utters with all the solemnity of an experience extending through two generations of ordinary men. His Lordship does not think that we are in danger of losing our liberties from causes similar to those which have operated in France, but he fears that parliamentary governments will become contemptible, and that the nation will consider anything better than sessions like 1860. In these views we fully concur, and they have often been expressed in this journal, but we cannot coincide in the remedies which Lord BROUGHAM thinks adequate to the case. He condemns the idea of extending the suffrage, on the supposition that it would aggravate the mischief, which he seems to fancy is connected with the number of electors. This is certainly untrue, for large constituencies are by no means remarkable for returning inferior men. The metropolitan boroughs may be foolish enough to elect a silent incapacity like Mr. BUTLER, or a talking incapacity like Mr. AYRTON, but the small towns are chiefly represented by men who have not the faintest intellectual pretensions to back their claims. Manchester is represented by men thoroughly acquainted with the great trade of Lancashire, and who are not open to Lord BROUGHAM's complaints. Liverpool is free from the same charge; and Birmingham, whatever may be thought of Mr. BRIGHT's principles, deserves no blame; nor can Sheffield, or Newcastle, or Rochdale, or Oldham, or Halifax, plead guilty to the charge. So far from the popular element being the cause of silly persons getting into Parliament it usually operates the other way; and as a rule, the worst members sit for places where political activity is chiefly confined to the electioneering marauding of opposing attorneys.

We have in many previous articles stated our conviction that measures calculated to promote the habit of political discussion, and make elections turn more upon opinion, are the only means that would succeed in improving the quality of the House of Commons; and the only repressive enactments we have faith in would be those judiciously directed to the stoppage of profligate expenditure. If we omit nomination boroughs, and those habitually sold by Whig and Tory attorneys to the highest bidder, we shall find the most mischievous members of Parliament are returned by places which contribute least to the general stock of political opinion, and which are not under the domination of any great trade having special interests to advocate in the Imperial Legislature. An extension of the suffrage would set us free from the mischievous effect of the rotten boroughs, and the others must be dealt with chiefly by the spread of political education, and the repression of electoral expenditure. If the public can be convinced that the habit of investigating, understanding, and discussing political questions is one that ought to be increased, appropriate means will easily be found. At present, men of business seldom like to see their sons politicians; they fancy it will unfit them for the due supervision of the banking account or the till, although it is far less likely to do so than the shallow frivolities in which the youth of England are chiefly engaged.

We are not only deficient in the general diffusion of anything that deserves to be called political thought, but also in the class of political students. We want a career open for men who make politics a profession; who have been well grounded in first principles; who go through the drudgery necessary to keep up a constant acquaintance with the latest facts and features of public affairs. Political mercenaries, as contemptible as those who sold their swords to the Pope, or the late King of Naples, any Government can find; but there is a great lack of men who devote themselves to politics as FARADAY and LYELL have devoted themselves to science. It is not that our country is deficient in political talent, but that there is no career for it. If a dozen constituencies would seek for the men we have indicated, and return them for nothing, we should witness a beneficial result; as the presence of a few really able and independent members in the House of Commons would not only give rise to a direct improvement in its proceedings, but, by raising the standard of political speaking, excite a wholesome intolerance of impertinent twaddle.

Lord BROUGHAM recommends relieving the House of Commons of much private business, which every one will admit to be necessary; but although he declares the Wednesday morning sittings are the most satisfactory, he does not follow this natural indication and advise that morning sittings should be the rule, although this would in itself be a most valuable reform. He thinks, something like the French *clôture*, or a vote for closing a discussion, must be adopted—and is favourable to the rule in the American senate, which limits speeches to one hour. Upon this we would remark that the time of our House of Commons is not materially wasted by long speeches, as only a few second-rate lawyers venture upon them without having something to say. The waste arises from the interminable succession of short speeches, seldom extending twenty minutes or half-an-hour, and often much less. The *clôture* might work well if the host of small chatterers-to-no-purpose could be persuaded to hold their tongues until those who can argue a question had spoken upon it, when the debate might be closed without mischief; but notwithstanding the experience of France, we are afraid of trusting to restrictions imposed upon bad members, instead of relying upon their elimination and the substitution of better ones.

It is in vain to try to make a bad House of Commons do the work of a good one, and the task which must be undertaken is Parliamentary Reform—not only in the way of extending the suffrage, so that the masses may enjoy a wholesome share of political life; but that the House of Commons shall not degenerate into a mere club for shallow-pated vanity, and the upper circles of the swell-mob, who fill their pockets by Joint Stock Company diddles.

STATE OF PARTIES IN GERMANY.

THROUGH the recent general assembly of the *National Verein*, at Coburg, we obtain an insight into the feeling pervading the different sections of the Liberal party in Germany. If we were to classify political parties in the Confederation, we should put them under three heads. 1st. The Conservatives who desire to preserve the *statu quo*. 2nd. The moderate Liberals who would dissolve the Bund in favour of the "hegemony," or leadership of the Prussian dynasty. 3rd. The Democrats, properly speaking, whose parole is a free and united Germany, established by means of a central Parliament, on the basis of the sovereignty of the people.

The first-named group, the Conservatives, go in for the continued existence of the "thirty tyrants," with the Hapsburg and the Hohenzollern Dioscuri at the head thereof, and with the dominion over the subjugated Italian, Hungarian, and Polish provinces preserved. There are many shades to this political party; ultramontanists, feudalists, worshippers of the monarchical theory *par sang*, and so forth.

The second group, the moderate Constitutionalists, place their hopes not so much in the union as in the rivalry of the two leading dynasties. In the opinion of this party, the Prussian government is to assume the reins of a movement of regeneration in spite of, and against the pretensions of influence put forward by the court of Vienna. In other words, the even balance hitherto maintained at Frankfort between the two chief German powers is to give place to the preponderance of the court at Berlin. If this cannot be carried out without the ejection of the German portion of Austria from the Bund, or even the loss of other Federal provinces, it must, nevertheless, in the idea of some of the moderate Liberals still be attempted. It must be attempted *à tout prix*, Prussian hegemony being the more or less avowed *terminus*, we will not say of the numerical majority, but at least of many of the influential leaders of the party alluded to.

The third group, the Democrats, refuse building up the edifice of German liberty and union from the apex of the pyramid, but prefer beginning with the basis, viz. the people. They are averse at the same time to all ideas of diminution of the national, *i.e.*, the Federal territory. But they readily concede to the non-Federal races which are subjected to Austria, that is, to the Venetians, the Hungarians, the Poles, the right to merge themselves into the nationality to which

they properly belong, or to constitute themselves as free and independent commonwealths. With regard to the dynasties of Hapsburg and Hohenzollern, the democrats heartily invoke "a plague on both your houses!" They therefore call out for an agitation in favour of the convocation of a German parliament, which is to take the question of leadership in its own hands, thus avoiding the splitting up all Germany into two rival dynastic camps.

The *National Verein*, at first originated by men of the moderate constitutional party, has attempted to bring about a fusion between the second and third of these political groups. In order to attain this, the idea of Prussian hegemony was for awhile consigned to the background, or treated more as a distant possibility than as a definite aim of the League; whereas the idea of a central Parliament was placed in the foreground as an alluring bait to democrats. When, by means of these tactics, the League had at last attained to five thousand members, the string-pullers of the *National Verein* speedily began to drop as quietly as possible the agitation for a central Parliament, and to rehoist the banner of the leadership, or perhaps we should rather say the Dictatorship, of the House of Hohenzollern. During the recent debates at Coburg it has been shown, however, that in the *National Verein* itself, composed as it is chiefly of moderate constitutionalist elements, such policy is far from being in accordance with the wishes of the majority. The idea of a Prussian hegemony, to be introduced at the cost of the integrity of the national German soil, found comparatively but few open advocates. On the other hand, it was urged from many parts that the question of leadership was one calculated to sever altogether the North and the South. Resolutions were therefore adopted, in which stress was laid on the necessity of uniting all the Federal States by means of one free constitution. But as to the future headship of Prussia in Germany, a more circumtory language was employed, characteristic of the difficulties which surround that thorny question.

We may here remark that of late there has arisen, in some of the branch associations of the *National Verein*, a very marked opposition to the "hegemonic" scheme. This has been the case especially in the branch league at Frankfort and at Cologne—both towns in which the democratic sentiment prevails. Still further signs of such opposition may be expected to be exhibited by and bye, the democratic propoganda labouring strongly to warn the confiding people against the real character of the Prussian Regent. Thus an organ of the more advanced popular party at Hamburg recently reproduced, by way of *souvenir*, the "Black List" of those German patriots who had been deliberately shot by Court Martial, in 1849, at the order of that same Prince Regent, whom a servile sham-liberalism now would fain impose upon the world as the "hope" of Germany.

It appears from this list that the Prince Regent has on his conscience as heavy an account of the blood of patriots shed by him as his brother in despotism the Austrian Emperor. Within the short space of a few weeks, the Regent, after having slaughtered hecatombs of patriots on the field of battle, in Rhenish Bavaria and Baden, scrupled not to perform further wholesale massacres by virtue of that "law" which the late Duke of Wellington was wont to speak of as "no law" at all. In this fashion no less than twenty-eight victims fell, among whom were to be found the best and bravest of the land—men of social and political position, who were led out to death in the same hideous style as Robert Blum at Vienna, and the Hungarian generals at Arad. In this way, at the order of that "liberal" Prince of Prussia, were shot—W. A. Von Trutzschler, Member of the National Assembly of Frankfort, a scion of one of the first of the aristocratic families of Saxony, who had embraced the popular cause—Von Tiedemann, governor of the Fortress of Rastadt—Von Biedenfeld, colonel—Frederick Neff, professor—Max Dortu, an officer in the Baden Army—Elsenhans, Secretary in the Ministry of War—Hofer, professor—Böning, colonel—Valentin Streuber, Communal Counsellor and President of the neo-Catholic community at Mannheim—Heilig, Major of Artillery—Bernigau, Major of the National Guard—Jansen, engineer—Jacobi, commander of the forts A and B at Rastadt, and a number of others who loved freedom better than life. Nor was this all. Thanks to the sanguinary reaction of the Prince of Prussia, more men fled from the little country of Baden than had left Poland at the great emigration. The property of those exiled or imprisoned was confiscated. All the dungeons of the country were full to overflowing. Against the restive part of the remaining population every sort of terrorism was employed: the whip and stick even, in true Haynau fashion, figured in the grim list of tortures. No wonder Baden, within the last ten years, has shown a considerable decrease, instead of an increase, of population.

Facts like these may be thrown into oblivion for the moment, but they cannot remain long absent from men's memory. The Prince Regent himself, by his daily desertion of the moderate liberal party, and the increasing favour with which he views the pretensions of the legitimacy of Right Divine, forces his opponents to revive these blood-stained antecedents of his. For our own part we are sure the time cannot be far off when even the most infatuated men of the *National Verein* will see the folly of the hopes they have hitherto placed in him. If this light be once sufficiently cast upon the Prince's true character, the democratic party in Germany will speedily receive many fresh accessions; and then only some fortuitous circumstance will be necessary, such as history so often shows, to bring again to influence a party which has neither dynastic preferences, nor any inclination to pander to the ambition of encroaching despots.

THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISTS AT GLASGOW.

WE see that at the meeting at Glasgow for the current year the important question of "Averages" has been announced as forming a prominent topic. In matters of business "averages" have been long regarded as forming a solid and satisfactory basis for the profitable and successful establishment of mercantile speculations. But that which has time out of mind been proved a sure foundation for fire, life, and marine assurance, has been rejected by the mystical and metaphysical school (and all schools are metaphysical and mystical up to a certain period of intellectual development), as of no authority in moral and historical speculations. The exact and rigorous conclusions of statistics, however, are inexorably, however gradually, narrowing the authority of the school in question, whose influence may be regarded as growing small by degrees, and proportionately diminutive as intellectual and moral development flourish and expand. BACON, LOCKE, BENTHAM, and MILL have, in succession, been its most formidable opponents. QUETELET in his work "On Man," one of the really great works this century has produced, did much to diffuse correct notions on the subject of "averages," applied to societarian phenomena; but the greatest impetus the question has received has been given by a work which is not merely one of the greatest monuments of intellectual achievement of which the present century can boast, but one of the greatest books the world has yet seen, and the second volume of which we are so anxiously expecting—we mean "BUCKLE's History of Civilization in England." As collectors of materials the labours of the Social Science Congressionists will produce good, and we anticipate valuable practical results from a proper discussion of the important subject of averages. Lord BROUGHAM's opening address at Glasgow was distinguished by all the facile discursiveness and learned versatility for which the oratorical displays of this eminent man are generally remarkable. Meanwhile we resume our remarks on the subject of Sociology. In order that a distinct conception of the science be kept well in mind, we shall briefly recur to our former definitions. Moralogy teaches us to distinguish that voluntary conduct which of its own intrinsic nature is detrimental to human wellbeing, from that which is of its own essence harmless or beneficial, but which is made to be productive of injurious results in consequence of its being proscribed and punished by false beliefs, absurd prejudices, cruel laws, irrational institutions; it teaches us in what happiness consists. Happiness, we have seen, consists in the satisfying of the legitimate wants; *i.e.* of that list of wants every one whereof is satisfiable by each member of the community without prejudice to the satisfying of all or any of the wants in the list, by the whole community;—which abstract formula we reduce to a concrete form for practical application by specifying the following *principal* legitimate wants, *i.e.*, the wants, food, clothing, habitation, health, education, knowledge, liberty, and then accepting as a legitimate want, any other want satisfiable by each person without prejudice to the satisfying thereof by any other person, and also without prejudice to the satisfying of the principal wants specified, by all mankind. Moral conduct is therefore definable as that voluntary conduct which is consistent with the satisfying of the legitimate wants by all mankind; and immoral conduct is the converse of this.

Social science, or sociology, as we have seen, teaches what laws, institutions, customs, conventionalisms, are best adapted by the efficacy of their spontaneous necessary workings, to evolve moral, or happiness-producing conduct, on the part of the community. One of the leading propositions of sociology, and, indeed, the fundamental axiom of legislation is that laws, customs, institutions, beliefs, that prohibit and punish the doing of harmless things (*i. e.*, that prevent the satisfying of legitimate wants) are bad and absurd, as they tend to make artificial criminals and demoralize society by breaking down the distinctions between real vice and virtue. Let us take what is *now* at least a safe illustration, namely, that absurd system of commercial tyranny which once flourished under the misnomer of "protection," which meant "monopoly." It is now universally admitted that human needs will be best satisfied if the material objects which are required to satisfy them are left to be freely produced where and how they can be produced cheapest, best, and most plentifully,

and freely distributed where they are most wanted, without any artificial obstacles or restrictions being imposed. The want to produce corn and cattle where we choose and sell them were we choose is a legitimate want, which in its nature is satisfiable by anbody without preventing anybody else from satisfying it, and without prejudice to the satisfying of the specific principal wants by all mankind. And the absurd and cruel laws which formerly interfered with this right were productive, as such laws ever must be productive, not merely of great direct mischief, in rendering food dear and scarce, but also indirect mischief, to an extent almost incalculable. We may safely discuss this piece of abolished barbarism; but there are things in our social régime far worse than even this, which at present are maintained by vulgar prejudice and a sort of stolid superstition. In fact, even in mercantile and financial matters Free Trade is little more than a name where men are subject to what may be called a secret system of taxation, under which they actually don't know what they are paying, and which levies its imposts not in proportion to their ability to pay but upon their necessities and wants. There is no good in attempting to blink the truth—there can be no such thing as Free Trade where indirect taxes are imposed. Upwards of twelve years ago the writer of this article summarised the chief objections to indirect taxation, and has had the satisfaction of seeing them subsequently adopted, in theory at least, by our most enlightened economists. One of the chief advantages that has been usually urged in favour of indirect taxes, looked at from the Exchequer stand-point, is the very thing that constitutes one of its chief defects when viewed from the stand-point of common sense and common honesty, namely, the fact that by this system men are taxed behind thier backs and without their knowledge to an extent they would never tolerate under direct taxation when each man could see what he paid. One of the indirect mischiefs of this is a premium upon reckless waste and extravagance on the part of the Government. There is not one valid objection—not one objection that will bear a moment's scrutiny against direct taxation. The only reason it is not adopted is that the unproductive class in whose hands the legislation of the country is lodged, desire that the taxes should come out of the industry and labour of the country. The objection that direct taxation would involve a disclosure of people's resources, in order that they might be taxed "in proportion to their ability to pay," is futile, inasmuch as that disclosure takes place now under the Income Tax. Indeed there is a scheme of direct taxation abundantly adaptable for immediate practical application which may be explained in very few words. That men should be taxed proportionately to their capacity is now regarded in theory. however grossly it is violated in practice, as a mere truism; and for practical purposes there is but one way of measuring this capacity, The method is to reckon a man up and see what he is worth in respect of the year for which the tax is levied. For example:—Take a freeholder with an estate yielding an income of £100 per annum, and no other property; then he is worth for the year £3,100, that is £100 income received in respect of the past year and £3,000 being the market value of his estate at thirty years' purchase. Take a man with £100 received from a clerkship, or other precarious vocation, during the past year, and no other property, he is worth this £100 and no more. Take a leaseholder whose estate brings in £100 a-year income, and is worth ten years' purchase; he is worth £1,100 for the past year, in respect of which we suppose the tax to be due. Take the case of an annuitant with £100 for life, but without power of anticipation, that is, unable to sell his life interest, he would be worth, in respect of any given year, the £100 he had received within that year; but if he had power of anticipation, and could sell his life interest, then he would be worth this, plus the years' income; suppose his life interest to be worth six years' purchase, then he would be worth £700 for the past year, because at any time during that year he would be worth £600, the value of his life interest, and would have received £100 in respect of the past year. Suppose, then, the taxes to be levied at, say for illustration, 5s. per cent., the freeholder would pay £7 15s., the leaseholder £2 15s., the man of precarious business with £100, earned within the past year, and no property, 5s., and the annuitant with power to sell his life interest £1 15s., and this would be perfectly just and fair as they are worth for the year last past the respective sums of £3,100, £1,100 £100, and £700. The man who has no other property than the £100 earned during the past year pays 5s., and the freeholder being thirty-one times as rich ought to pay thirty-one times as much, and so of the rest. There is only one objection to this system, namely, that it is perfectly just and reasonable, as well as simple and practicable; incidents, which, as things now stand in financial matters, are generally fatal to whatever they are predicable of. One of the merits of the method of taxation suggested, is that by being the fairest and most equitable that can be devised, it would minimise the temptation to make false returns, and shirk the payment of taxes, whereas under the present iniquitous and irrational system, the inducement to commit, what is in the eye of the law at least, a fraud upon the revenue, is maximized. So much for the general principle. All indirect taxation, including the "licensing system," is simply an obstacle to production, a shackle upon freedom, a commercial nuisance. Instead of taxing a man upon wealth that he has produced and realized, it imposes as a condition precedent to the creation of wealth a burdensome and vexatious pecuniary mulct. It is an anticipative fine upon industry, a penalty imposed beforehand upon enterprise and labour. It is an oppressive and a cruel difficulty needlessly thrown in way of a man's getting his living by an honest calling, and *pro tanto* stimulates a tendency to resort to illicit means of gaining a livlihood. What can be at once a grosser infringement of the subjects' liberty, a more flagrant violation of free-trade, or more flagitious as an impediment to commercial enterprise, than the evils involved in the two-words "paper duty?" We give this instance because it is rendered notable by recent discussions. It may be true that there are worse taxes than this in existence, with such a mass of penalties and fines still imposed upon the sale and production of articles of primary necessity, but in principle it is as bad as the worst of them; while for pretended "purposes of revenue" it is almost too trifling to deserve notice, though large enough and mischievous enough to hamper and damage, not to say cripple, a most important branch of industry. It may be less bad an infliction than the income and property tax, as hitherto levied, for the simple reason that in these last the principle of taxing men in proportion to what they are worth has been systematically set at nought. In a word, indirect taxation is totally irreconcilable with the free trade principle, and it would be unjust to those far-seeing and enlightened public men, who, single-handed, forced the adoption of this great principle so far as it has been recognised and reduced to practice in our legislation, upon a reluctant government, in spite of the most formidable opposition in parliament, that the aristocracy and landed interest, with all its resources of power, position, and wealth could organise, and who are still labouring to work out its logical and legitimate application in all the details of our economical regime, not to give them credit here for their achievement. It would not only be unjust, it would be inappropriate to omit the names of Mr. COBDEN and Mr. BRIGHT in connexion with the present subject, because their labours have produced, and seem destined still to produce the most fundamental and beneficent reforms that have perhaps ever been effected in our social economy. Perfect freedom of production, and distribution, of which direct taxation is an essential condition, is indissolubly bound up with the best and real (not the spurious and counterfeit) liberty of the subject, whether political, social, or religious. The tyranny of cast and class: social despotism: the stripping an innocent wife of her property, and giving it to be squandered by a profligate worthless husband still invested with the power of coercion, at least, if not with that of "moderate correction with a stick as thick as the thumb;" penalties and insults inflicted upon all other religious sects in favour of the dominant one; the government usurped by one of the three estates of the realm, and that estate converting the crown into a seal of office, and the commons into its own representatives—these are of the very essence of that effete feudalism whose main pillar and support was the system of "protection" and consequent indirect taxes, which the labours of these great economical reformers have swept away. And as practical sociologists, Mr. COBDEN and Mr. BRIGHT will be more and more appreciated in proportion as the science is better understood.

The instances we have given are apposite for illustrating our fundamental axiom in its practical application. It should not for a moment be lost sight of. Like those great cosmical laws, such as gravitation, which operate with perfect indifference to magnitudes, and while the rain drop is not too insignificant for their influence, control the motions of astral systems so vast that our milky way might be but the visible fragment of one of them, it determines alike the morality or immorality of individual actions, and the goodness or badness of public laws and institutions.

LOUIS NAPOLEON AND CORSICA.

THE correspondent of the *Times* has discovered another Corsica BOSWELL in the Mayor of Ajaccio, who, it seems, has been addressing the Emperor of the FRENCH, on his late visit to the island, in terms of the most profuse adulation. So much of this latter article is often adjudged to Princes and Potentates, sometimes for no conceivable reason, sometimes for liberties never granted, and for reforms never carried out, though often promised, that one is glad now and then to find a good solid pedestal or basis where fame may take her stand, and blow her trumpet to all the winds.

We do not know whether this is the EMPEROR's first visit to the nest of his family (it certainly is not the first visit of his authority, as we shall proceed to show). His feelings, one would think, must have been strange enough as he stood amongst the white walls and red roofs of Ajaccio, its cactus hedges, and sugar loaf hills; especially, if he visited that library of the Prefecture which contains the little note written by his uncle when a simple officer of artillery, claiming for his mother a few roods of nursery garden as her right—the mother of the BONAPARTES! Here, at least, LOUIS NAPOLEON may receive praise without nausea, for it is just. In one important respect he has accomplished, and that in a few years, for Corsica what no previous government or dynasty has effected, or perhaps even, attemped; not PISANS, nor GENOESE, nor THEODORE, nor the English in their short, nor the French in their long occupation, till their present ruler came to the throne. He has put a stop, and for ever, we trust, to systematic brigandism, to the vendetta, and to the curse and disgrace of private assassination, that hateful serpent ever biting its own tail in a venomous and eternal circle. He has been in earnest, and used the strong hand; in the states of the Church pillage is an institution; in Greece the bandit is still a child of the family; in New Orleans republican energy cannot prevent a horrible crop of midnight murders; in Ireland the assassin is connived at and sheltered; therefore, it is no light matter to break a whole people of the confirmed habit of bloodshed and this LOUIS NAPOLEON has done for the cradle of his race.

It has been hard work; one of the last systematic bandits, Arrighi, in a narrow cave, difficult of access, kept four hundred troops at bay till his provisions were exhausted—any attempt to seize him being certain death; and no doubt many similar instances of determined

resistance might be cited. The council of Corsica found that between 1821 and 1850, there had been 4,300 assassinations, and in 1850, 1851, 1852 assassinations, or attempts at assassination, had averaged ninety-eight annually, and this in a very small population. The inhabitants shielded assassins, and juries acquitted them on principle. There was only one way of dealing with the pest. The French EMPEROR instituted a more active gendarmerie, and forbade absolutely the gun and the knife. Now this beneficial exercise of his authority was completely volunteered, and he ought to have the full credit without that carping and cavilling which his acts, whether good or bad, generally meet with at the hands of the English press. Few people, comparatively speaking, even now know of this change. Europe did not call for it. Whether native Corsicans were eternally murdering their cousins from generation to generation, or no, was not a matter of any general consequence, and the French EMPEROR might have left the den of blood to itself without the slightest injury to his credit. Perhaps, indeed, the Parisian population and the London fashionables might have been even glad of some further variation of the Freres Corses, many of whom probably would never have known of such a thing as the Corsican vendetta but for DUMAS' novel and the play. What LOUIS NAPOLEON has done has been in the cause of order and humanity, and from an interest in the native island of his family.

The sovereign of the neighbouring island would do well to take some similar measure. At present all the rogues and miscreants of Corsica make their way, if and when they can, into Sardinia, where fire-arms are allowed and used; where friends may shoot pheasants, or fiends, peasants, to make use of a careless misprint in a newspaper which once made, unintentionally, a murderer of Sir ROBERT PEEL (the late); either would do, we believe, for the shooting in Sardinia. England may take a hint from the Emperor's decision when rampant Irish patriots demand the unlimited use of the rifle for the fine Irish pisantry. We will not answer for King MAHON, but LOUIS NAPOLEON would eye such a petition rather strangely, and might possibly even smile at the request.

There are other improvements in Corsica of a late date; not the least, that of fair roads and good diligence travelling; but still the French are unpopular, as conquerors and uncompromising reformers and disciplinarians are likely to be among the majority with whose old and bad habits they have interfered; besides the universal detestation of the Italian races for police, gendarmerie, and meddling, whether of French or Austrian importation. It is said that in some of the towns the hotel-keepers can scarcely be induced to furnish the officers of the French detachments with a decent dinner.

Much may still be done for Corsica, which is not done as yet, though, perhaps, the island has more chances now of enlightened improvement than has ever fallen to its lot since the Roman Seneca proclaimed it odious. The inhabitants are represented by modern travellers as still an idle, chesnut-devouring people, with a country naturally fertile, getting from the inhabitants of the neighbouring coast the labour which they cannot be induced to give, or only give sparingly. Labourers come from Italy in April, and return in November, to the number of two or three thousand, carrying back about one hundred francs savings each. The forests and magnificent marble quarries of Corsica are not utilised as they might and ought to be. At the very highest estimate not three-tenths of the island are under cultivation of any sort. Much, then, is left to be done in the way of development and encouragement of native industry. Enormous duties were very recently, and probably are still paid to France on all imported manufactured articles; and any manufacturing spirit which may appear to be taking life in Corsica is rather checked than fostered. This is all bad. The island gives a fine opportunity for detached experiments, which the French EMPEROR might not like to try, in the first instance, on natural French territory: he apparently means well to the country; he now has its population well in hand, and may do what he likes with it. As it is, Corsica seems to be more to him than Sardinia is, or Piedmont was, to VICTOR EMMANUEL.

HEARTS OF OAK.

NOW that English oak is no longer the material upon which we rely for the strength of our ships, and when other nations are equalling us both in the extent of their navies, and the construction and quality of their vessels, England must depend for her naval supremacy upon her hearts of oak. Our great rival across the channel—for France, though our ally is still our rival in all that relates to material progress—is fast acquiring a large and efficient fleet, provided with all the most recent improvements in build, rig, machinery, and guns. Every improvement introduced in this country is immediately caught up and adopted by our enterprising neighbours. If we abandon seventy-fours and take to building small frigates, the observant Frenchman immediately follows our example. If we abolish the clumsy paddle for the screw, he puts on the screw too. When we discover an ARMSTRONG or WHITWORTH cannon, he has a similar weapon ready on the shortest notice. Our last novelty in the way of iron-plated gunboats and floating batteries, though adopted later by our neighbour, is in a more advanced state in the French dockyards than in our own. In fact, in all that relates to naval architecture the Frenchman is fairly keeping abreast of us. But let us not, on that account, have any fears for our naval supremacy. In naval material France has never been far behind us at any period of history. There was not much to choose between the French and English ships which met in conflict at Trafalgar. Had NELSON and the French Admiral exchanged fleets before they began the fight, the result would certainly have been the same, for even at that period England placed her reliance upon her men and not upon her ships. "England," said NELSON "expects every man to do his duty." And because every man did his duty the day was won. This must always be the condition of things while Englishmen remain what they are—a brave and hardy race, born with a natural genius for maritime pursuits and maritime enterprise. The Gallic cock does not take naturally to the water. It is not his element. He doesn't like it, and he is never comfortable in it. Everything he does in that situation is done under a disadvantage. On the other hand the Englishman is a sort of human duck, who, if he be hatched on the banks of a river, or by the seashore, takes to water at once as his natural element. As TOM CAMPBELL sings of the mariner of England,

> "His path is o'er the mountain wave,
> His home is on the deep."

The first wild dreams of the English youth are about the sea. When DIBDIN was writing his glorious sea songs, and NELSON's victories were electrifying the land, the greatest care of English parents was to keep their sons from running away from home and going to sea. Even now a sailor's life has a greater charm for boys of spirit and active disposition than any other pursuit. Every father who has a large family of sons is anxious that one of them may be a sailor. With the Nobility it is almost a rule that one member of the family should be provided with a midshipman's commission. The Sovereign herself devotes her second son to the sea, and takes care that he shall be a sailor in real earnest. The naval profession is the only one in which we refuse to tolerate ornamental service. There are plenty of sham captains in the army, and we trust our best blood and our dearest honour to their incompetence; but we do not give ships to nominal sailors. The PRINCE of WALES begins his military career as a full-fledged Colonel; but Prince ALFRED, in the navy, must enter as a middy, and work his way up through the regular stages of the profession. The French watch over their army with the same jealous care, for they feel that the army is their chief power; and in organization and military skill the French army is a fair match for the English navy. There is no such army in the world as the French army, and there is no such navy in the world as the English navy. And this must always be the relative position of the two countries so long as the two people retain their present habits, tastes, and characteristics. No amount of training will give an Englishman the faculty for military organization which distinguishes the Frenchman, and no amount of training will convert Frenchmen into good sailors. The soldier and the sailor, like the poet, are born not made. The natural genius for these occupations is not a thing to be acquired in the highest degree by any amount of either habit or experience.

If any of the home-keeping denizens of London are alarmed by the extraordinary naval preparations which LOUIS NAPOLEON is said to be making, we would advise them to go down and take a look at the Imperial yacht which is now lying at Deptford. As a vessel, she is in every respect a match for our own royal yacht, the "Victoria and Albert." But look at her sailors. They have been strolling about our streets for some days past, exciting wonder wherever they have gone. What pretty little fellows they are! What dandy shirts they wear; what natty enamelled hats! How they remind us of ballet girls, dressed out for a hornpipe in a nautical pantomime. Pretty, truly; but their slender knees are not made to cling to a giddy maintop in a gale. Their delicate fingers are not designed to grasp a rough, tarred rope, and hold on, like grim death, when the fate of the ship and its crew rests upon the strength, the daring, and the rugged skill of one man. There they trip along, a batch of French "able seamen," looking, at the best, like the apprentices of an English war ship. The big, burly, hard-fisted British tar, who comes lumbering down the street, looks as if he could eat one of them with ease. They are like a litter of Italian greyhounds by the side of that huge English mastiff.

Our rivals, then, whoever they may be, may build as many iron-cased ships as they please. They cannot build sailors like ours. In that respect Nature and our insular position will always give us the advantage, if we only exercise the most ordinary vigilance in keeping the material of our fleet up to the requirements and exigencies of the time.

DR. WARDROP ON THE HEART.*

DISCOVERERS are entitled to special distinctions, and Dr. Wardrop's claims are so strong that a new and *revised* edition of his work cannot be permitted to pass without special notice. Three important function owe to him their establishment in science. These functions are connected with the circulation of the blood. It seems that the muscles, besides being the organs of active locomotion, powerfully influence the circulation in the arteries as well as in the veins, thus performing the important office of increasing the quantity of arterial, as well as venous blood, within the cavities of the heart. Moreover, the lungs, as a reservoir, regulate the supply of blood to the heart, and thus prevent congestion within the heart's cavities; while the sub-cutaneous veins perform the office of a reservoir, and prevent congestion within the pulmonary vessels. The first of these functions the author has denominated the musculo-cardiac; the second, the pulmo-cardiac; and the third, the veno-pulmonary function. By these discoveries the powers of medical treatment are enlarged, and the diseases of the heart disarmed of the fatal character generally supposed.

* *On the Nature and Treatment of the Diseases of the Heart, containing also some new Views on the Circulation of the Blood. With an Account of the Musculo-Cardiac, the Pulmo-Cardiac, and the Veno-Pulmonary Functions.* By James Wardrop, M.D. A New Edition, carefully Revised, with considerable additions, and a copious Index. —William Tinsley.

It is a remarkable fact that diseases of the heart are naturally confined to the human race; though in domestic animals exposed to moderate muscular exertions, such as the horse, the heart is frequently found diseased. In wild animals diseases of the vascular system have seldom or never been observed. In mankind, the heart's action is so frequently interrupted by their habits and passions, that from the influences of the blood on every organ, the heart becomes the seat of many diseases, and the exciting cause of disturbances in their organs. The various irregularities and unequal distribution of the blood, which inevitably result from these changes, ultimately create derangement of structure as well as disturb the function of those organs whose circulation has been disordered. Diseases of the heart are more frequent than is usually supposed.

It is another curious fact that the size of the heart varies in different persons, as also at different periods of life. Richerand says, that according to the size of the heart, it is supposed a man is strong or weak and has more or less moral courage. The heart is more powerful in courageous animals than in the feeble and in the timid. Hence, he remarks, the common expression of a person having the heart to make any great effort. The heart, though the source of sensibility is itself next to insensible, even in disease. Even when the heart is seriously disturbed, there is little or no local pain, the uneasiness in breathing and the other symptoms arising from changes in the distribution of the blood. It must, however, be considered a central nervous organ, which may be illustrated in the nervous system of animals, the structure of which goes far to prove the position. In many, for instance, of the invertebrata, nervous centres, consisting of detached ganglia, or connected by nerve fibres, are placed in different parts of their body, each of the ganglia supplying a particular part, which part can act separately, or in conjunction with others. Each organ is independent of the brain, and can live after it has been separated from it; but whilst the body of the animal remains entire, all the organs perform their functions conjointly.

Irregularities in sleep and waking are symptoms of heart disease. Insomnolence is one of the most distressing symptoms which often accompany a disordered heart. The quantity of sleep required is, however, different in different individuals. Men generally spend one-third of their time in sleep; exceptions are nevertheless frequent. The celebrated John Hunter only slept five hours. A man, not named, is said never to have slept, and yet he enjoyed good health, living till his seventy-third year; he had a kind of dozing for about a quarter of an hour once a day, which was all the rest he was ever known to take. Napoleon found a single hour of sleep sufficient to restore him after twenty-four hours' fatigue; he could also fall asleep at will. Somnambulism is, also, an effect of a disordered heart, it is a condition of the cerebro-spinal system in which some only of the organs of that system are awake.

The Chinese pay great attention to the heart's pulse, and Dr. Wardrop is strongly convinced that the habit of examining the arterial pulse, in place of the beats of the heart, has been a fruitful source of error in the practice of medicine. The arterial pulse is, indeed, felt only for information on the state of the central organ of circulation. Some common expressions in reference to the state of the heart are pathologically correct, such are "a full heart," "a heart ready to burst." The heart is in a state of congestion when an increase in its cavities has taken place, beyond a certain limit, and when they have no longer the power to empty themselves sufficiently.

Those who are fond of the pleasant exercise of dancing will be glad to learn that its exhilarating effects are good for the heart. Indeed all kinds of bodily exercise are beneficial. Walking invigorates the mind after fatigue; driving in a carriage has an exciting influence. A gallop across the boundless desert is perfectly intoxicating—it produces a sensation approaching to rapture, which is inconceivable. Muscular movements on the orator are alike most influential. "His gestures keep pace with his mental excitement, and his gesticulations become more extravagant in proportion as he becomes impassioned; the heart thus acquiring an increase in the quantity of its blood, and consequently the brain receiving a proportionately increased supply of the vital fluid."

Thus it is that muscles, by their contractions, increase the quantity of arterial blood in the heart; and our author is surprised that physiologists, when endeavouring to account for the beneficial influence of various exercises, though they were aware that such exercises increased the return of the venous blood to the central organ of the circulation, should not have advanced a step further, and considered what must be the effect of the contractions of muscles on those arteries which are adjacent to them.

On the pathology of the heart there is no work capable of competition with the present. It is complete in all its parts, well arranged, and written in so lucid a style, that the unprofessional may readily understand the full relations of the argument. On this account, if on no other, the book would be a valuable gift to the public; but, combined with the numerous excellencies that it possesses, it cannot be prized too highly, and ought to be found on the shelf of every adequate library.

TENTATIVE NOVEL WRITING.*

THERE are some novels which, though they exhibit no great skill in the pourtrayal of the different passions and emotions, and little acquaintance with human nature in its various contrarieties, yet through the mere force of the earnestness of the writer, and the evident good will with which he or she has entered upon their undertaking, together with a natural flow of language, and a certain dramatic power in the arrangement of the materials of the story, succeed in gradually exciting the interest of the reader in behalf of the several individuals which compose the drama. There is also an indescribable charm in the freshness and impulsiveness of feeling which particularly characterise the works of young writers; and though we may discover here and there certain incongruities and shortcomings which betray the inexperienced hand, yet the mind naturally skims lightly over these weaker portions, and dwells with all the greater zest and enjoyment upon the parts in which are depicted all the vivacity and spontaneity of a young enthusiastic artist. "Over the Cliffs," by *Charlotte Chanter*, is a fair specimen of the kind of novel we have described. The authoress possesses considerable talent, and it is not difficult to perceive that her heart is thoroughly in her work; there are, however, certain errors and inconsistencies in her story, and the manner in which it is developed, which, with further experience in her art, she will not be so liable to fall into. For instance, the character of the elder *Dawson* is not only somewhat exaggerated, but is besides scarcely kept up and sustained with sufficient power and ingenuity. This man, who has early engendered habits of intemperance, which render him subject to violent paroxysms of passion, to one of which his wife had formerly fallen a victim, though the deed had at the time been hushed up, and the murderer allowed to escape the fangs of justice, cherishes within his breast an intense hatred of his only daughter *Grace* or *Graliana*, whom he subjects, not only morally but physically, to treatment at once cowardly, brutal, and inhuman. Thus in an early part of the first volume we find this monster of iniquity striking the unlucky object of his spleen, then a child ten years of age, mercilessly across the head and shoulders with a heavy hunting whip, wilfully lacerating and disfiguring, undeterred by any conscientious scruples, the offspring of his own flesh and blood. Again when the young lady has attained the age of sixteen, we find her, for some comparatively slight offence, suddenly struck to the ground by a blow on the temple, administered by the hand of her infuriated parent, who, thereupon, without summoning any assistance, turns the key upon the unhappy girl, leaving her to lie in a state of insensibility till the ensuing morning. Such a character necessarily requires to be strongly delineated. Either it should be something or nothing; either it should be worked out deliberately, without reluctance or hesitation, or it should be dispensed with altogether. *Miss Chanter* seems to have been alarmed at the monstrosity of her own conception; and consequently at different portions of her narrative, when the brutalities of the above-named individual are about to become particularly glaring, she suddenly draws in, with a kind of half apology, implied rather than expressed, as though she were fearful of offending too far against the natural feelings and prejudices of her readers. Ultimately, Mr. Dawson, supposing himself to have been the immediate cause of his daughter's death, falls into a state of idiocy, and, of course, dies miserably.

Miss Chanter is, however, more successful in some of her other characters; that of the heroine Grace herself, with her bitter sorrows, against which she bears up heroically, with true Spartan fortitude of soul, her wild energy of disposition, her generous impulsiveness of heart;—inheriting some of her father's violence of temper, but softened and toned down by a true womanly instinct, and a deep solicitude for the feelings and happiness of others; ever screening her father, and jealously confining the secret of her wrongs to her own breast, when a word spoke in public would have drawn around her a host of sympathising friends, and perhaps protectors—were not unworthy the pen of many a more celebrated and generally-accepted novelist. The character of Lily Fowler is also ably and artistically drawn, and her history forms a melancholy but interesting episode in the book.

A reprint of *Land and Sea Tales*, by the "Old Sailor," better known as the author of the "Warlock," "Tough Yarns," &c., has just appeared in Routledge's cheap edition of novels. The tales in this volume, which comprise "The Farmer's Daughter," "I Drink the Heads," "Belvoir Castle," "The Great Belt," and "The Painter of Dort," are all written and constructed with considerable power and ingenuity. The first on this list, "The Farmer's Daughter," made up as it is of all kinds of startling incidents, such as seduction, robbery, murder, &c., has already found, and will doubtless still continue to find, hosts of admirers among a large circle of readers, whose tastes lie in a somewhat melodramatic direction.

ODD JOURNEYS.*

A WORK under the above title, by Mr. Hollingshead, has invaded, and very successfully, comparatively new ground. It is composed of a selection of articles contributed to Mr. Dickens's periodical, taking those only which dealt with a particular class of subjects, such as travelling in odd places, or under odd circumstances—and embodied the author's own personal experiences. We opened the book with the expectation of being both instructed and amused; nor have we been disappointed. Mr. Hollingshead is one of those writers, produced by the exigences of the periodical press, who is most apt in reporting scientific and social progress, and popularising scientific discovery, thus making appear easy to the reader what has really been difficult to the teacher. No man produces this kind of article in better style, and we cannot help regarding Mr. Hollingshead in the light of a public benefactor.

* *Over the Cliffs.* By Charlotte Chanter, author of "Forny Combes." 2 vols. London: Smith, Elder, & Co.—*Land and Sea Tales.* By the Old Sailor, author of "The Warlock," "Tough Yarns," &c. London: Routledge, Warne, and Routledge.

* *Odd Journeys in and out of London.* By John Hollingshead. Groombridge and Sons.

The very first article in the book is a curiosity. It is the description of a voyage in one of Pickford's barges, by the canal, to Birmingham, at the rate of two miles and a half an hour, day and night. Here is a new, if limited, world disclosed. First, take the bargemen, with their usual attire—short fustain trousers, heavy boots, red plush jackets, waistcoats with pearl buttons and fustian sleeves, and gay silk handkerchiefs slung loosely round their necks. Next, the fly-boat Stourport, commanded by captain Randle; his crew consisting of two men and a youth, with a good allowance of straw in the hold, and a very light cargo of goods on board. The author and his travelling friend Cuddy, took their places in the straw, whereupon they were poled out of the company's wharf into the broad basin by two of Captain Randle's boatmen.

We must refer the reader for a full description of the boat and its arrangement to the essay itself. It is enough to describe the early progress of the vessel, as the result of the poling of the two boatmen standing on the top of the tarpauling structure. Reaching the Islington tunnel, another process of barge-propulsion, called "legging," commences. On two narrow insecure platforms the two venturesome boatmen lie on their backs, holding on by grasping the board underneath, and with their legs, up to the waist, hanging over the water. Their way is then described until they reached the Grand Junction Canal, near the Harrow-road at Paddington; when friend Cuddy has engendered an appetite for the great meat pie with which they had provided themselves. "A large watchman's lantern was handed down the hold; and by its rather dim light, at exactly two a.m., the frugal meal began. The picture formed was of a mixed character; the pie, a bottle, and the grouping being suggestive of Teniers, while the lantern-light and its effects were decidedly Rembrandtish. The picture struck the astonished gaze of a Paddington lock-keeper, who had been man and boy at that lock for five-and-twenty years, and who had never seen anything like it in the hold of a flybarge—always devoted to bales, boxes, and casks—during the whole course of his long experience. He gazed in silence, and went away while the lock was filling with water, only to return and indulge in another gaze."

This bewildered lock-keeper at last made a vain attempt to stop such irregular doings. Anon, they are launched on the inland canals, and are practically initiated into the mystery of canal locks. The rush of the water woke them up from a brief sleep, and startled them with its violence. Here we stop our analysis. For other curious particulars, *vide* the original narrative. Some of the scenery they passed through was passing beautiful; some of the places they stopped at as barren of food as a desert shore. Having exhausted their meat pie, they sought in vain for a long time to purchase other edibles. A fowl was impossible; at last some steak was procured, and they got to the end of their canal voyage unstarved.

The dramatic portion of this narrative is excellent. The narrowness of intellect induced by the narrow experience of the captain and crew, whose monotonous life was spent on board the barge almost entirely, gives a characteristic individuality to the small group, that must strike the reader as original. In such "odd journeys" as these, Mr. Hollingshead has struck upon a new vein.

The subsequent portions of the book justify the impression made by the leading paper. Here we have a journey performed on the coke-tender of a steam-engine, preferred to the first-class carriage interior, in company with the driver and stoker. Seated on the edge of the coke-tender, with his head above the screen which protects the driver and stoker, the writer becomes "buffeted and deafened, and finds it difficult to keep his seat. The whole country lies under a thick veil of a dark grey mist, and the black trees and hedges rush past, casting a momentary shade upon the vision. On either side the white telegraph posts pass in rapid and regimental succession the whole way through the journey. The small, frail stations seem to totter as they go by; and we greet them with an additional roar, like a tiger howling for prey. When we rush through an arch, we are covered for an instant with a circle of fire, and we leave behind us wreathes of light, white, curling smoke."

Such a journey gets more and more exciting as it proceeds. This is followed by startling experiences of diving-bells. We have then a humorous account of oyster towns, such as Whitstable, and of the peculiar happiness of free-dredgers. The Lambeth Shot Tower furnishes materials for an entertaining essay; as do also Aldershott Town and Camp. The coinage process at the Mint; the traffic over New London Bridge; first-floor windows, as seen from the top of an omnibus; the virtues of calumet; the practices of Newgate Market; the dividend days at the Bank; the new institutions of house-top telegraphs; the passage of a letter through the post; the amusement of pleasure trains; the mysteries of the Great Eastern; and some other equally popular topics, are developed in a succession of papers which display singular skill in artistic construction, and uncommon sagacity in the descriptions and reflections they contain. High as Mr. Hollingshead's reputation is, it will be much increased by the sterling quality of the various articles collected in this new volume. Facetious and eccentric, it is equally instructive and edifying, and will attract readers of every class.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SPECIAL.

HANOVER, Sept. 25, 1860.

COMPARED with the stirring accounts from Italy, how stale, flat, and unprofitable must the German agitation for reform and unity appear. Yet of all who now pore over the letters of Italian correspondents, and peer into maps to discover where the theatre of each succeeding scene is situated, how many are acquainted with the preliminary movements of the people, of their failures, and woful sacrifices, before MAZZINI, CAVOUR, and GARIBALDI appeared? The Germans are as unanimous as the Italians for the unity of their country; but they are a long way behind the Italians in political and patriotic ardour. They have not yet shaken off their love of ease, nor found a "*re galantuomo*;" but the last two years have shown a vast progress in political activity, and the numerous congresses of unionists, economists, chemists, agriculturalists, are to be regarded as the preparatory education of the people in political life and action, bringing the active men of the different states into contact with each other, drilling them into a party, and accustoming them to act in concert, apart from local interests and prejudices. Some years must, doubtless, elapse before the object sought for will be obtained, but sooner or later peaceful union, or a sanguinary revolution, must be the result. The grand meetings of the National Verein is over, and the members and friends who attended at Coburg have returned to their homes pretty well satisfied with the unanimity displayed, but with great misgivings as to the propriety and policy of setting up the Regent of Prussia as "*Il re galantuomo*" of Germany. His antecedents, and present clansmanlike regard for the so-called prerogatives, and the feelings of his fellow princes afford strong reasons for many unionists to resist the attempt to elevate him to the supreme rulership of entire Germany. Indeed, one journal after another is coming to the conclusion that it is hopeless to expect the union of Germany under the auspices of this Prince, and the popularity of the National Verein, Prussian intendency, suffers accordingly. It has also excited some discontent that the members of the Committee have absorbed for their expenses the sum of 2,260 guilders out of the year's income. Although, no doubt, this sum has been most legitimately applied, the fact of its having been received by the promoters of the agitation leaves the impression of interested motives. It tends to prove how desirable it is in every national movement to have chiefs who, by their position and wealth, are beyond the reach of suspicion. The appropriation of this sum has given the feudalists and republicans a handle against the Verein, which they have seized with great eagerness. Under these circumstances the congress of political economists, just concluded at Cologne, must be considered as the most important and popular of the demonstrations for national unity, as it has also been the most fruitful in results. The attainment of self-evident, or clearly-proved practical reforms, beneficial to princes and people, is the sole aim of the Economical Association. A thoroughly legal and argumentative agitation has lent the Economical Congresses their chief strength and usefulness. The elder and younger members and friends of these assemblies return to their localities from these annual meetings with the resolution to assist in a work which offers a prospect of success without any risk to themselves; they establish associations, they speak in public, they write articles in the local papers, and boldly preach reform without the slightest hindrance from the authorities. In this way an active propaganda, apparently unconnected with politics, or what is generally understood on the Continent as politics, has sprung up all over the country. Two years ago, when the first congress met in Gotha—a report of which was given in the columns of the *Leader*—freedom of trade and of the handicrafts was hardly spoken of, much less the question of free settlement. But at that first meeting the plan was conceived which has produced the important consequences that are beginning to ensue. Since the first congress, freedom of the handicrafts has been introduced in Austria and Nassau, while in Wurtemburg, Oldenburg, Saxony, and Thuringia laws, based upon the principle of free labour and settlement, have been framed with every prospect of their being shortly carried into effect. Judging by the great success which has attended the exertions of the Economists during these last few months, the fall of the guild and passport system may be confidently predicted as near at hand.

It is now settled that the rumoured meeting of the rulers of Austria, Russia, and Prussia will take place at Warsaw in the course of a week or two. The Liberals are filled with anxiety, the Feudalists with hope at the reconciliation of Russia with Austria, and the friendly footing that Prussia seems to be upon with both of those despotic Powers. Much as Germans dread the power of France, they fear the alliance of Russia more, and would rather have the latter as an open enemy than see her reinstated, if only in appearance, as the protector of Germany against France and democracy. The telegraph has already conveyed to you the rumour that the Emperor of the French has sought for an invitation to this meeting, and met with a refusal; upon what ground is not said. In almost all Sclavonian countries, the people are rife for revolt and union. Croats and Hungarians have fraternised, and from the Grand Duchy of Posen we have accounts of meetings and inflammatory speeches. The opposition against the use of the German language is carried to such a degree that the Poles refuse drafts, post-bills, or other documents of a public nature, written in German. The general belief is that this state of affairs has led to the Conference at Warsaw, and this belief is strengthened by the refusal of NAPOLEON'S request to be allowed to take a part in the Conference.

According to the *Magdeburg Zeitung*, Denmark has resolved not to make a direct reply to the diplomatic note of Mr. VON SCHLEINTZ, respecting the affairs of Schleswig and Holstein, but has transmitted a full statement of the relations existing between the two countries, considered from the Danish point of

view, to the Cabinet of the Tuilleries with the particular request that the French Government would bring the contents of the document to the knowledge of the Prussian Cabinet, through the medium of the French Ambassador at Berlin. Mr. BELCASTEL, the representative of France, has already executed this request. What reception it will meet, or has met with, on the part of Prussia, is as yet unknown. By this proceeding it is tolerably clear that France and Denmark are still hand and glove, notwithstanding all the rumours propagated from time to time by the German papers, to the effect that since the Baden Conference France has been brought over to the German view of the Schleswig and Holstein question. France is hereby, with the connivance of Denmark, more than ever mixed up with the Schleswig and Holstein quarrel, which the Germans wish to make merely a federal affair, while the Danes are determined to keep it an open question for all the world. France has still a hand in it, and can at a convenient opportunity, easily work it up into a war of ideas between Denmark and Prussia, when LOUIS NAPOLEON will, of course, feel free to perform for Denmark the good offices that Prussia has promised to perform for Austria, in case of an attack upon Venetia. So long, NAPOLEON will say, as the war shall be confined to Prussia and Denmark, France will not interfere; but should the Germanic Confederation, which, by its own acts, is bound to assist the King of Denmark, as Duke of Holstein against his revolted subjects, go with Prussia against Denmark, France will regard the war as one of ideas, as an attempt on the part of certain princes to break up the Danish monarchy into petty principalities, to be gradually absorbed into the Germanic Confederation, and will, therefore, intervene in favour of her ally, Denmark. Some time prior to the conference at Baden, there were rumours of a convention having been agreed upon by Denmark and France. The conduct of Denmark at this moment, in seeking the mediation of France in a purely federal matter, shows that those rumours had some foundation. The *Cologne Gazette* lately published a Prussian note, dated June 6, which very gently recommends the federal governments to refrain from re-actionary, *i.e.*, despotic measures, in dealing with the political questions at present occupying the public mind. This is a mild way of deprecating any attempt to put down the National Verein which has been working entirely in the Prussian dynastic interest, though with the best and most patriotic intentions towards the whole of Germany.

The Prussian Government some months ago made an offer to the other Federal States to supply them with guns of equal calibre, with a view of effecting uniformity in the artillery of the federal armies, at cost price. At present each state has its own peculiar calibre of guns, munition, and form of weapons, so that in the event of a federal war the greatest confusion and loss might ensue. No answer has yet been sent in by the different governments, and the general opinion is that they will decline this very advantageous offer, simply because it comes from Prussia, as any act tending to establish an appearance of Prussian supremacy is viewed with the deepest aversion. The papers report that a gentleman, connected with the English Court, and who had been dispatched to make preparations for the Queen's journey to this country, was taken into custody by the police attached to the railway at Bonn, and detained three or four days without a hearing. The reasons for this arrest have not been satisfactorily explained at present, but we shall hear more of the matter shortly, as Captain Macdonald, the gentleman in question, has addressed a complaint to the English ambassador, at Berlin, who has made a request to the proper quarter for a strict inquiry into the affair. I see by the papers that a letter has been written by a professor of Heidelberg, complaining of the ridiculous facility with which the title of "Doctor" is obtained at the University of Giessen, which he describes as a barn, where several clerks are constantly employed in writing out diplomas, which are sold at the rate of 30*l.* each, and purchased chiefly by Englishmen. If Englishmen really are the chief purchasers, they surely must procure them solely as curiosities; but I am inclined to think the assertion to originate in malice with reference to the English, for the title of "Doctor" would be of little use to Englishmen in this country, and in their own they would have to keep it a close secret as to where they obtained their diplomas. The Germans themselves are unquestionably the chief purchasers, as the number of persons using the prefix sufficiently proves.

THE PROPOSED COTTON COMPANY (LIMITED).

THE following circular has been extensively distributed throughout the Cotton Trade:— "56, Pall Mall, Manchester, Sept. 21, 1860.—Sir, I am desired to request the favour of your attention to the report, sent herewith, of the proceedings of the inaugural meeting held on Friday last, at the Town-hall, in this city, to promote the formation of a Cotton Company. It is intended to afford the trade the first opportunity of supporting this important undertaking. If you desire to promote the object of the new company I beg to request the favour of your filling up the annexed form, and returning it to me, if possible, on or before Tuesday next, the 25th instant. The committee have received many voluntary expressions of approval from large firms, and the following gentlemen, amongst others, have thus early expressed their desire to be placed on the list of shareholders for the sums appended to their names. I am, sir, your obedient servant, David Chadwick, secretary pro tem."

Here follow the names of the gentlemen alluded to:— Thomas Bazley, Esq., M.P., 1,000*l.*; John Cheetham, Esq., 1,000*l.*; Hugh Mason, Esq., 1,000*l.*; John Pender, Esq., 1,000*l.*; Thomas Emmott, Esq., 1,000*l.*; John Platt, Esq., 1,000*l.*

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS.

Hand-book of the History of the English Language for the use of Schools and Colleges. By A. H. Keane. London: Longman and Co. Dublin: Fowler.

This is a useful manual, containing a large mass of information on the English language and literature. The causes of the much complained of incongruities of the English tongue are summarised in the following passages:—

"Three causes seem to have co-operated in rendering our present orthographic system the most inconsistent and irregular in the world: (a) *change of alphabet*, (b) *change of pronunciation*, and (c) *radically defective alphabet*. (a) The A.S. alphabet, laid aside during the Early English Period, consisted of 24, ours of 26 letters; but we gained little by the substitution, having rejected two Saxon letters, which are now badly wanted, and one, æ, not quite superfluous. Of the five additional characters *j*, *k*, *q*, *v*, *z*. only *three*, *j*, *v*, *z*, are really useful, k=*hard c*, and *q*=*kw*, being redundant. But the transfer itself was productive of the greatest possible amount of confusion, as explained in sec. IV. (b) This was not a little increased by the change of pronunciation which has been going on from the earliest times, generally without a corresponding change of spelling. The sound changes and the form remains. Reference to the A.S., and especially to the *living* cognate tongues, proves that *b* in *tomb*, *dumb*, *climb*; *l* in *calf*, *half*, *walk*,; *k* in *knee*, *knock*; *gh* in *right*, *high*, *through*, *dough*, *tough*, *cough*, *hiccough*, were not originally mute or irregular as now. The dramatist, Lyly (born 1554), seems to have effected a sort of temporary revolution in the language generally, and especially in the pronunciation, by the publication in 1578, of his prosé romance of *Euphues* or the *Anatomy of Wit*. The influence of his school, as it is called of *Euphuism*, was for some time very great, especially at court and with the ladies. Blount, writing in 1632, says that 'our nation are in Lyly's debt for a new English, which he taught them. *Euphues and his England* began first that language: all our ladies were then his scholars; and that beauty in court which could not parley Euphuism . . . . that *pure* and *reformed English*,' which he introduced, was as little regarded as those who are now ignorant of French. But Euphuism soon died out, though it may have tended very much to soften the language at the time, and certainly effected a lasting change in the pronunciation of a vast number of words. Holofernes, the schoolmaster in *Love's Labour Lost*, complains bitterly to Sir Nathaniel of a sytem, seemingly new in his time, but now firmly established: 'I abhor such fanatical fantasms, such insociable and point-devise companions, such *rackers* of *orthography* as to speak *dout* fine, when he should say *doubt*; *det*, when he should pronounce *debt*, *d*, *e*, *b*, *t*; not *d*, *e*, *t*; he clepeth a *calf*, *cauf*; *half*, *hauf*; *neighbour*, vocatur *nebour*; *neigh* abbreviated *ne*: this is abhominable (which he would call *abominable*), it insinuateth me of insanie' (act V. 1); as to attempt to restore the worthy pedant's utterance of these words, would any man at the present day? (c) Not a less fruitful source of irregularity is the *radically defective* nature of the present alphabet, more sensibly felt now than formerly, because modern English possesses several vowel and consonantal sounds unknown to the A.S., and probably occasioned by the introduction of the French element. Thus the sound of *s* in *pleasure*, *leisure*=French *j*. The consequence is, that the English alphabet is by far the most imperfect and incomplete of all others. It supplies only twenty-three distinct letters for at least forty-four distinct sounds; for *c*=either whole *k* or *s*, *q*=*kw*, and *x*=ks, must be subtracted from the number twenty-six, as superfluous, leaving twenty-one sounds of the spoken language, without any written representatives. The vowel sounds are altogether twenty, with only five equivalents, employed in a most arbitrary manner. The distinct consonantal sounds are twenty-four, expressed by eighteen distinct characters and six combinations; and even two of these are redundant."

A Comprehensive History of India, Civil, Military, and Social. Nos. 31, 32, 33, and 34. London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow: Blackie and Son.

These numbers of the above are now before us. Critical analysis at the present stage of the work would be out of place. It is to comprehend a period extending from the first landing of the English to the suppression of the Sepoy revolt; and the number of steel and wood engravings with which it will be illustrated will be 500 in number. Those that have appeared, the subjects of which consist of some of the most interesting and important historical personages and events, are executed in a style of superior excellence. It also contains appropriate and useful maps.

Our Rifle Volunteers and Mr. Alfred B. Richards. By George B. C. Loverson, Esq. London: Effingham Wilson, 1860.

The author of this pamphlet, after enumerating some of the leading agents whose labours have concurred in promoting the establishment of the Volunteer rifle corps, proceeds thus to summarise the conflicting claims of those who have been indicated as chiefly concerned in initiating the movement:—"There remain to be noticed two gentlemen who have rendered the state great service in awakening the nation to a sense of its insecurity, and by contributing, each in his way, to the establishment of the volunteer force. We refer to Captain Hans Busk and Mr. Alfred B. Richards. Captain Hans Busk's works have enjoyed a well-deserved and world-wide celebrity and have doubtless exercised a great influence on the movement. Captain Busks's claims on public recognition are so gracefully alluded to in the communication from Mr. Richards which the reader will find a few pages hence, that it is deemed unnecessary to refer to them here in detail. We now approach the name of Alfred B. Richards, and we do so with all respect and gratitude; hailing him unhesitatingly as the 'originator of the Volunteer movement, the founder of the Volunteers of Great Britain.' To others we willingly accord their meed of praise for what they have done; but we fearlessly assert that if to one man more than another the credit is due of being the originator of the Volunteer movement that man is MR. ALFRED B. RICHARDS. True to the motto on the title page of this pamphlet, *Palmam qui meruit ferat*, the compiler of these pages has no other motive than to place the matter before the public in its true light, to lay before the public a few facts which shall speak for themselves, and then it will be the turn of the public to judge

for itself. Neither the high esteem with which the editor of these pages regards Mr. Richards personally, nor the admiration he entertains for that gentleman's great and varied talents, has induced the publication of this pamphlet. The issuing of these pages proceeds from the simple desire to see public justice done to a public man. Mr. Richards' labours have been long, as a reference to the following pages will testify; that they have been earnest no man can doubt, and that they have been successful we have the daily evidence in the martial groups of citizen soldiers that meet the eye in every street in the metropolis, in every town in Britain. During ten long years has Mr. Richards devoted himself to the establishment of a volunteer force. Despite the sneers of seeming friends, the bitter hostility of some, and the indifference of the many, he has unremittingly devoted his time, his talents, and his purse. to the achievement of his great and darling purpose. He has never halted nor hesitated; case-hardened to the taunts and deaf to the sneers with which he was assailed, he has pursued the even tenor of his way, and now when all England and Scotland too are of the same mind, when twenty millions of converts share his opinions and admit the justice of his views, it is but right that we should publicly acknowledge the prescient wisdom of the man, who with the true instinct of genius, foresaw fully ten years ago what we all see now, viz., the necessity and expediency of a grand citizen army of volunteers."

Proposed complete edition of the Existing Public Statutes, with Explanatory Preface, Tables of all the Public Statutes passed during each Session, Register of Public Statutes amended, &c., and Indexes to English Statutes. By James Bigg. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; Waterlow and Sons; P. S. King.

Mr. Biggs's proposal for a new edition of the statutes resolves itself into two branches. First, as to the statutes relating to the general law of England.—To edit and publish (without any aid from the public revenue, or any stipulation for the purchase of copies by government) a complete edition of the "Existing Statutes relating to the General Law of England," uniform with the "Statute Book for England," provided that the text of the statutes printed therein receive, previous to the publication of the work, the sanction of some authorised officer. Secondly, as to the statutes relating to Great Britain and Ireland.—To edit and publish a complete edition of all the existing public statutes, passed by the Parliaments of the United Kingdom, relating to Great Britain and Ireland, at the rate of 2,400 pages annually: provided that Her Majesty's Government will subscribe for 1,250 copies, for the use of the legislature and public offices, at a reduction of forty per cent. from the publication price. At the close of each session, the sheets containing statutes in which amendments have been made, to be reprinted, and 1,250 copies supplied to perfect the work to that time: such sheets to be included in the 2,400 pages to be annually published, or otherwise to be charged at the same rate. That no payment shall be made by government otherwise than on account of volumes or parts actually completed, and of which 1,250 copies have been delivered to some officer appointed by government; but at the close of each quarter the copies so delivered to be paid for in cash, subject only to the discount of forty per cent. from the publication price. The specimen volume before us is well arranged, digested, and put together. It is lucidly compiled for reference, and contains a good index. Such a proposal if carried out will be in the highest degree conducive to public utility.

THE REV. MR. JAMES WHITE'S NEW HISTORY OF ENGLAND.—The Rev. James White, the well-known author of some valuable historical works, has now in the press a History of England, to be completed in One Volume, uniform with the same author's History of France. From Mr. White's peculiar qualifications for such an undertaking, the work in question can scarcely fail to supply a want that has long been felt; we have reason to expect from his pen a history that shall be at once compendious and sufficing, clear and impartial, and, in fact, both in style and treatment, leaving nothing to be desired.

SERIALS.

The *Cornhill Magazine*.—London. No. 10. October. Smith, Elder, and Co.—The October Number of the *Cornhill Magazine* contains some excellent papers. The amusing and interesting "Physiological Riddles" reach their conclusion; and the papers on "William Hogarth" their ninth number. "Framly Parsonage" progresses through the chapters 28, 29, and 30. The "Roundabouts" are as chatty and amusing as ever. There are good articles on "The Situations of the Moment in Italy" and "England's Future Bulwarks." Elizabeth Barret Browning contributes some characteristic verses—"A Forced recruit at Solferino." "The Four Georges" take the usual precedence of royalty and stand at the head of the contents. Then we have some talk about "Chinese Pirates." Mr. Ruskin contributes paper No. 3 of the series entitled "Unto This Last," whence we extract the following passages on the subject of Free-trade:—"Most people's minds are in curious confusion on the subject of free-trade, because they suppose it to imply enlarged competition. On the contrary, free-trade puts an end to all competition. 'Protection' (among various other mischievous functions), endeavours to enable one country to compete with another in the production of an article at a disadvantage. When trade is entirely free, no country can be competed with in the articles for the production of which it is naturally calculated; nor can it compete with any other, in the production of articles for which it is not naturally calculated. Tuscany cannot compete with England in steel, nor England with Tuscany in oil. They must exchange their steel and oil. Which exchange should be as frank and free as honesty and the sea-winds can make it. Competition, indeed, arises at first, and sharply, in order to prove which is strongest in any given manufacture possible to both; this point once ascertained, competition is at an end."

Macmillan's Magazine. No. 12. October, 1860. Cambridge and London: Macmillan and Co.—This number contains a very interesting article on "Co-operative Societies; their Social and Economical Aspects." It is a prominent part which co-operative organizations are playing in the present development of society. There is no doubt in the minds of those who are capable of interpreting the signs of the times, that we are rapidly sliding into a transition state between the old egoistic system of individual acquisition for individual emolument, and that higher and improved state in which the whole social organism will assume the form of a vast system of mutual assurance. There is not a work of any note in which questions of social economy are at all discussed, in which the important subject of co-operation does not occupy a conspicuous place. It is one of the prominent topics embraced in Mr. John Stuart Mill's masterly work on the "Principles of Political Economy." And there is not one periodical of note that has not recently, either directly or indirectly, treated the question in leading articles. The new number of the "Cornhill Magazine" may be cited as an instance in point. The rest of the contents of the current number of "Macmillan" are of the usual attractive character. "Tom Brown at Oxford," and "Kyloe Jock," progress with spirit. The Rev. F. D. Maurice contributes a paper on "History and Casuistory;" and there are in addition a varied list of well-written articles.

Blackwood's Magazine. No. 540. Oct. 1860. London and Edinburgh: Blackwood and Sons. Blackwood this month contains some good articles. There are the second part of "The Romance of Agostini," and Part IX of "Norman Sinclair," and papers on "The Fresco-paintings of Italy," "The Arundel Society," "The Papal Government," &c. "The Reputed Traces of Primeval Man," is an article in which a most curious and interesting subject is discussed. From the first article in the table of contents, entitled "Seeing is believing," we extract the following passages: "There is no popular adage less understood than this. With an ill suppressed irritation at any expression of scepticism respecting things said to have been seen, a narrator asks whether or not he may believe the evidence of his own senses? That argument seems to him final; and it often happens that his opponent, evading, instead of meeting it, retorts: 'No; the evidence of the senses is not to be trusted, when they report anything so absurd as that. I would not believe such a thing if I were to see it—the absurdity is too glaring.' Both are wrong. Seeing *is* believing; and he who distrusts the evidence of his own sight, will find a difficulty in bringing forward evidence more convincing. The fallacy lies in confounding vision with inference,—in supposing that facts are seen which are only inferred. There can be no mistake in trusting to the evidence of sense, as far as that goes. It is one thing to believe *what* you have seen, and another to believe that you have seen *all* there was to be seen. The fallacy is widely spread and very injurious—so injurious and so unsuspected by the mass of mankind, that we are tempted to consider its operation in the formation of opinions, and especially in the acceptance of that ignoble and debasing superstition, which, under the names of 'Spiritualism,' 'Spirit-Rapping,' and 'Table-Turning,' disgraces Europe of the present day."

Popular Manual of Phrenology. By Frederick Bridges. London and Liverpool: George Philip and Son.

Press of matter prevents us this week from noticing at greater length this lucid and compendious hand-book.

AUTUMN ON THE THAMES.

No gardens of ancient or modern times can compare with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew for the innumerable variety and number of foreign plants, rare and majestic native trees and exotic ferns, thriving in health and marvellous beauty within its ample domain. To the young artist and artificial florist desirous of making progress in their calling, the months of September and October offer a most favourable opportunity for the study of foliage in all its endless variety of form, size, and hue; the lover of Nature, too, in one of her most beautiful aspects, and the admirer of gorgeous colouring, may also, at this season of the year, enjoy a treat of the very highest order, as the old and new aboretums, the pinetum, and many of the conservatories are brilliant with a thousand exquisite tints, the whole forming a series of sylvan pictures, rich with excess of beauty, forcibly reminding visitors of the departing glories of ancient Sherwood, and the grandeur and magnificence of American primeval forest scenery during the fall of the leaf, or Indian summer, of that vast continent. Standing on the western terrace of the great tropical Palm-house, gilded by the setting sunbeams of a fine autumnal cloudless sky, the matchless view, embracing the whole of the extensive amphitheatre, enclosing the new aboretum with its floral temples, groups of patriarchal elms, lofty pines, stately oaks, spreading cedars, woodland glades, and noble avenues, bounded by the calm, flowing river, which, seen at high water from an eminence (Victoria Mount), has the appearance of an extensive serpentine lake—the stream, reflecting the bright azure of the lovely sky, realizes the idea of a splendid sheet of lapis lazuli, or an immense turquoise, enwreathed with emeralds, variegated with the most costly gems—is beautiful and picturesque almost beyond the power of language to depict; no written description can convey to the reader its enchanting loveliness and surpassing beauty; the prospect, from its magnitude, loveliness, and solitude, approaches sublimity—it must be seen to be enjoyed and appreciated. This glorious and perfect panorama is universally allowed by competent judges to be unrivalled as a specimen of English landscape gardening and river scenery throughout the world.

STATE DOCUMENT.

AN ADDRESS TO THE SPANISH PEOPLE, BY DON JUAN DE BORBON, SECOND SON OF THE LATE DON CARLOS, OF SPAIN, THE QUEEN'S UNCLE, AND YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE COUNT DE MONTEMOLIN.

Spaniards,—On addressing myself to the Cortes in the month of June last, making use of the right of petition, and demonstrating clearly and plainly the grounds upon which I considered my rights to be based, I did not obtain a hearing.

The present Assembly, the result of an election with which every one is acquainted, had to be submissive to the dictates of the ministers. The Senate, from its composition, more immediately subjected to the will of the person who at present occupies the throne, naturally followed the same course. Thus avoiding all discussion the circulation of my writings was also prevented, by which means clearly evincing the

weakness of a throne which dreads discussion, and with special care prevents the circulation of the manifestoes of a pretender.

In the position I find myself placed at present, no other alternative remains for me than to appeal to the Spanish people, being desirous that they may know my sentiments, and that they may form an exact opinion regarding my intentions.

I will not insist on the question of right, because it is painful to speak of a beloved brother, perceiving him to be subjected to a party which strives to disavow the progressive spirit of the age. Nor will I expatiate upon his last act, based, it is said, upon the dictation of clever counsellors, who unfortunately consulted their own interests than the honour of my brother. The question of my rights is to me inseparable from the sanction of the people to whom I desire to appeal.

I deplore the terrible struggle which during many years, and even since the termination of the civil war, the men of liberal ideas have had to encounter in order to effect the consolidation of a constitutional system that had in reality no other origin than that derived from the crown, which has not accepted freely and loyally representative institutions. Hence the sad spectacle of those administrations which succeeded one another in Spain at such short intervals, not chosen after ascertaining the public opinion, but named in order to secure the election of parties of a determined character, and thus to create a majority which would tamely follow them: hence the general disgust, and as a natural consequence, the slavery of the press, and the little respect to personal liberty, being the last result of an uninterrupted series of tumults and *pronunciamentos*, sometimes suffocated after precious blood had been spilled, and occasionally triumphant after gathering but little fruit to return again to the reactionary system.

In these vain and miserable contentions the Spanish people lavish their strength, for it is not a tranquil and pacific struggle of ideas, but a continual warfare in order to destroy every obstacle continually created by the same hand, which ought only to act as judge in the field, leaving the palisade open, and procuring, by all possible means that the will of the people be known and manifested. This system is followed at present by all truly constitutional monarchs, and where it is carried out no mutinies occur, no risings take place, no shedding of blood exists; on the contrary, the monarch and the people are bound together in close union.

It is natural for him who thus recognises the advantages of an entirely liberal system to desire for his country a sacred respect of individual liberty—the broadest liberty of the press, which is the strongest corrective of every kind of abuse; true equality before the law, and equal privileges to all parties; entire freedom in elections, the only method of rendering the representative system a reality; and, in the economical branch, the total abolition of such duties as are most grievous to the public, such as those on articles of consumption and the gate duty; the abolition of the monopoly on tobacco and salt, by which so many industrial pursuits are protected; the most ample system of amortisation not, excepting the property which is called the royal patrimony, because I consider that the provision accorded by the public is sufficient for a king, because the prestige and the power of a monarch ought not to be based upon the ostentation in which he lives, but rather upon the affection and the respect of his subject.

And if all this which I desired for my country be not sufficient to satisfy the wishes of the people, it would not be I who will put a veto on the national sovereignty, from which I expect everything.

For this reason I have not hesitated a moment to make known to you my wishes, entering into details and reflections; but at a period when universal suffrage decides the fate of monarchs, he who aspires to be one, he who well knows the evils which oppress the Spanish people, he who ardently desires to contribute to their happiness, ought to proceed with noble frankness, and to make manifest in the face of the nation his sentiments and his profound convictions.

I perfectly comprehend that my frankly liberal tendencies have occasioned surprise to many, and profound disgust to some of my father's servants, who never desire to see me separate myself from his principles, and create doubt at least in those who, taking into consideration the name which I bear, believe it difficult that I could openly break from the traditions of my family. I respect the memory of my father, who was entirely united to the ideas of his time, and which he upheld honourably and with perfect faith, derived from profound conviction, until he breathed his last; but it is unjust in any grade of society to make a son responsible for the errors of his father; it would be a greater injustice to make me participate in such responsibility in treating of political opinions which hitherto I have had no occasion to manifest; and until experience, the reading of history, and the practical example of that, which I observe every moment in this classical country of liberty, produced the conviction in me that it is madness to oppose the progressive spirit of the age, and that the Divine right has no signification without the assent and love of the people.

It would be unjust to deny the faculty I possess to appreciate at its true value the spirit of the age in which we live, when from my position of an emigrant, since my infancy I have had frequent opportunities of coming into close contact with the sad consequences of absolutism and deceit.

In the year 1848 I witnessed the expulsion, in consequence of the hurricane of revolutionary impulses, of monarchs who adhered to antiquated ideas, and who turned a deaf ear to every idea which might oblige them to accommodate themselves to the just aspirations of their subjects; I have seen them afterwards return to their thrones, protected by foreign bayonets and shedding torrents of blood; but in 1848 I witnessed also the rising of a nation proclaiming a republic, and sending its most ardent defenders to carry an armed propaganda to a neighbouring country, at the head of which they found a beloved and respected king. In Belgium the propagandists were repulsed, and Leopold thereby received a solemn proof of the affection of his subjects.

I have since seen the downfall, one by one, of thrones in Italy, which had been upheld and supported by antiquated ideas, the last of which, that of Naples, the king of which would not evade his own ruin when so many opportunities were afforded him to do so, when so many useful and disinterested counsels were given him. On the other hand, I have seen a kingdom—a small one yesterday, but great to-day—governed by a truly constitutional king, whose high attributes I know, having been his companion in arms, and served under his orders in the distinguished brigade of Savoy—a king who is not only the idol of Piedmont, but of the entire population of Italy, who recognise in him the champion of its liberty and its independence.

Finally, I see in this great and hospitable country a virtuous Queen, a model of a mother of a family, who commits no offence against established institutions, nor conspires against her ministers, divesting herself of every influence which does not appertain to her legitimate and responsible advisers, who are called to this position by the national will a Queen who finds its strongest support in this liberal system, which is so much dreaded by the adherents of antiquated ideas.

It is natural that he who has received so many lessons in the school of misfortune—he who has been a close observer of so many and such grave events—he who has been able to compare the results of the two conflicting systems for the dominion of the world—should have formed a firm conviction, and that he aspires to realise, in the country of his birth, those principles which constitute the prosperity and grandeur of other more fortunate nations.

London, Sept. 20. JUAN DE BORBON.

RECORD OF THE WEEK.

HOME AND COLONIAL.

The great social barometer, the fluctuations of which at this season depend in a great measure on the meterological one—we mean the funds—stood firm and well as last week drew to a close, ranging at 93 to ½, while other stocks were equally "salubrious," railway shares experiencing a rise of one per cent., and money was abundant at easy rates, and the demand healthy; but this satisfactory state of things was not maintained through Saturday, when the tidings of ½ per cent. fall in the French rentes brought down the funds a ¼, and caused a similar depreciation in railway stock. During the week the prices of the public securities have fluctuated about the rates specified.

Mr. Cobden writes from Paris to Mr. A. Stewart, of Rochdale, stating that "he sees no prospect of completing his task at Paris until the end of next month (October). He has undertaken" he says "to present himself at Guildhall to acknowledge the presentation of the freedom of the City of London, but beyond that he will enter into no public engagement until he has had the opportunity of attending a meeting at Rochdale." The letter quoted was in answer to an invitation to attend a meeting of the Rochdale Reform Association.

The annual "orations" were delivered at Christ's Hospital on St. Matthew's day (22nd inst.), according to established custom. Mr. John Webb Hickson, first Grecian, being incapacitated from attendance by illness, the English oration he had prepared for delivery was assigned to Mr. Charles Victor Merriman, third Grecian, who delivered it instead, and who also delivered the Latin oration allotted to himself. The Greek oration was delivered by Mr. Ebenezer Morris, fourth Grecian, and the French Oration fell to the share of Mr. A. F. Millett, second Grecian.

The Queen, Prince Albert, Princess Alice and their suite, embarked at Gravesend on Saturday. The Gravesend Volunteer Artillery were desirous of taking part in the proceedings, and firing a salute from the battery of the New Tavern Fort, but their application was refused, the Queen desiring the proceedings to be as private as possible, and to that end declining to receive an address from the corporation. Her first destination is Coburg, where she purposes remaining ten days with Prince Frederick William and his wife. Lord John Russell is one of the royal party.

The result of the proceedings before Mr. Baron Wilde at chambers, on Mrs. Price's application against her husband to show cause why he removed her from the Agapemone, was that the judge decided in favour of Mr. Price having a legal right to her custody so long as the conjugal tie remained undissolved, unless guilty of cruelty towards her.

In the criminal record of the past week, we find the case of Frederick Daviss, merchant, of London, who has been sentenced to six years penal servitude, having pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery on the Bank of England.

Among recent fatal accidents we see that a little boy, the child of police constable Watson who was placed in the house where the Stepney murder was perpetrated to take charge of it, fell from a window and was killed on the spot.

We regret to state that Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P. for Boston, and proprietor of the *Illustrated London News*, was one of the 300 passengers drowned on the steamer Lady Elgin, the subject of the fearful accident on Lake Superior; the body of the lamented gentleman has subsequently been recovered.

The loss of the Lady Elgin, run into by the schooner Augusta, is now before us in all its frightful details. Three hundred persons, most of them in a highly convivial state, enjoying themselves with music and dancing, were suddenly swept out of existence without the usual warning on such occasions, it being at first supposed that the damage to the vessel was but slight, and that the schooner had suffered most by the shock.

The "Orangemen" of Toronto attempted another demonstration for the delectation of the Prince of Wales, and prepared for his reception by straightway erecting arches, planning processions, and resorting to all the peculiar forms in which Orange ideas are outwardly expressed and embodied. Hereupon the Duke of Newcastle wrote to objurgate the mayor, and the mayor wrote to the Duke to apologise, and so the "demonstrations" ended.

A church-rate contest has taken place at Croydon, where a summons against a Mr. Skeats, who had refused to pay the rate on the ground that it was illegally made, has been dismissed by the magistrates.

The harvest, up to the commencement of the wet weather which has lately prevailed, had progressed so favourably that the final average results need not be dreaded. Previous to the commencement of the last happy interval of fair weather, we were literally on the brink of famine, so far as the present harvest is concerned. Had the rain lasted without

a "solution of continuity" the harvest would have been lost. The unfavourable state of the weather for the last week has done mischief in many localities, and its effects on the potatoe crop in particular have in many places been very prejudicial. In America the cereal harvest has been abundant, as it also has in many of the corn producing countries of the Old World. The American cotton crop will, it is estimated, yield three-and-half millions of bales.

The Social Science Congress commenced its stittings on Monday, when Lord Brougham delivered the opening address.

We learn from the Cape that Prince Alfred is making a progress there as signally attended with demonstrations of loyalty as those which in general have distinguished the reception of his brother in America. After visiting Natal he was to return to the Cape and lay the first stone of the Sailors' Home.

A Mr. Samuel Owen, who has been delivering open air lectures in Hyde-park on Sundays, in which the conduct of the Government is subjected to no very indulgent criticism, has been charged before the magistrate of Marlborough-street with begging, on the ground that he had received gratuities from the bystanders, and was discharged with the caution that next time he was found so doing he would be sentenced to the usual punishment.

At the opening of the Vernon-park at Stockport, on Monday, several people are reported to have been trampled on, or otherwise crushed to death, in the crowd.

Vacancies in the representation of Honiton and Boston have been caused by the deaths of Mr. Locke and Mr. Ingram. Mr. Malcom has been announced as the Conservative candidate for the latter place, and Mr. Moffat as the liberal candidate for the former.

The result of the adjourned inquiry into the circumstances of the Stepney murder this week, is that Emms was discharged, and Mullins again remanded until next Tuesday.

FOREIGN.

The fortifications of Gaeta and Capua presented formidable difficulties to Garibaldi's extemporized army, without the necessary appendage of a regular seige train; but as last week closed there were sanguine expectations that the garrison of Capua, at least, would capitulate without waiting to be captured. At Gaeta, provisions were said to run scarce, so that the place could not, upon this statement, hold out long. From these causes the hopes in favour of the liberating movement ran high. It was even reported that the King of Naples had offered to unite the forces still under his standard with those of Garibaldi and join in attacking Venetia. Lamoriciere was still shut up in Ancona, but with the Sardinian army on the land side, and the Sardinian fleet commanding the sea, its fall was only regarded as a question of time, probably but short. The alleged correspondence between Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel, it was stated by the Turin journals, had been officially declared unauthentic, at least as regards the form in which it was originally put. The Marquis of Pallavicino (the Spielberg prisoner) had been appointed by the King of Sardinia to the commission requested by Garibaldi; Saffi (the Roman triumvir) had been appointed pro-dictator of Sicily by Garibaldi himself; and Mazzini had arrived at Naples; all of these circumstances tending to show that the really liberal cause was in the ascendant. A letter was addressed by Garibaldi to the effect that though the dictator was determined to sacrifice all personal considerations on the altar of his country's welfare, he could never be reconciled with those who were capable of selling an Italian province; expressions of very significant import, as the province indicated was evidently the one recently ceded to France. Garibaldi is, it seems, one of that school who deem that "right" and "expediency" are one, and that what is wrong can never be expedient. He had, however, wisely proclaimed the Sardinian constitution for Sicily, though without specifying the period of its taking effect, thus keeping on good terms with Victor Emmanuel, upon whom the movement does certainly at present, in a great measure, depend. Meanwhile the week opened with news which seemed to show that the power of France was alone interposed between Rome and immediate capture by the Sardinian army, the south-western, that is, the right wing of which was posted at Narni and along the river Neri, which, at a place called Orte, falls into the Tiber. On the other hand, the forces still attached to the King of Naples were alleged to be so disposed as to present serious obstacles to Garibaldi, should he march upon "the Eternal city." The Sardinian Government immediately determined to liberate all French subjects taken prisoners in the recent battles, thus showing a decided feeling of amity with France. The inhabitants of Viterbo having driven out the Pope's troops from the garrison, the chasseurs of the Tiber entered and occupied the place. Garibaldi's attack on Capua, it has been given out was a feint, which cost the loss of 200 men, to conceal his advance which eventuated in the capture of Castel Volturno; his troops also took possession of Cajasso, which they held against attempts to recover it. The enemy's retreat is thus cut off on all sides as far as it is possible for a numerically inferior force to hem in, and shut up one far superior; but what "dash" and the prestige of a great name has already effected it may accomplish again. A proclamation followed up these achievements, declaring that the Dictator would join the King of Sardinia's forces at Rome, and march in conjunction upon Venice. Viterbo, within the territories of the Pope, had been captured by the chasseurs of the Tiber, so that the ground under French protection had been entered upon, the population rising in arms to join the liberating troops. General Fanti, was cooped up at Loreto, near Ancona, by the Sardinian troops, and a seige train had been put on shore at the Sardinian camp, which was close at hand. The result of the affair at Montefidardo was more favourable to General Cialdini than was at first supposed; 150 instead of fifty officers being taken, and eleven instead of six pieces of cannon. This being the position of things, we received news at mid-week that the liberating forces passed on beyond Viterbo, towards Civita Vecchio and Rome. Toscanella was at once occupied, and an advance made upon Cometo. The French were said to be strengthening their garrison at Civita Vecchio. The forces on the opposite quarter of Narni were also taking a more forward position, and a body of light troops penetrated as far as Civita Castellano, about thirty miles from Rome. An armistice was concluded at Ancona. Report stated Santo Leo, near Rimini, had been taken, the garrison made prisoners. Early in the week, Garibaldi's envoy Pallavicini, had had an interview with the King of Sardinia. Advices from Turin inform us, late in the week, that 5000 Sardinian troops were upon the eve of departure from Leghorn for Sicily, and that the absorption of the Neapolitan territories into, and their consolidation with, free and liberated Italy would immediately take place. The King of Sardinia was about to leave for Bologna, the neighbourhood adjacent to the operations of his army. The report had gone aboroad that Garibaldi's propositions conveyed by Pallavicini to Victor Emmanuel had been rejected by the latter.

Italian affairs constituting, as they now do, the engrossing topic of interest, there is but little to record from other quarters, at least in bulk, if not in significance. The "Warsaw Meeting" is attended in some quarters with ominous forebodings. The relations of Russia and France appear, in one view at least, to be somewhat doubtful. It seems that Prince Gortschakoff had had a long conference with the French Ambassador, the Duke of Montebello, in reference to the general state of things in Europe and the affairs of Italy. The Prince after having expressed the sincere desire of Russia to maintain friendly relations with France, said that the alliance between France and Sardinia encouraged the propagation of doctrines constituting a permanent danger to the political equilibrium and the stability of thrones. Russia, he said, would entirely fail in her mission were she not, in common with other States threatened, to raise her voice in defence of social order and monarchical interests. The Prince added that this was the object of the approaching interview at Warsaw. The Austrian view of things pervades this intimation, which seems little short of a threat, and at first sight it would appear as if the Prince was sure that his expressions would be endorsed by the Warsaw meeting. Lord John Russell, however, is, according to the German press, to have an interview with the Prince of Prussia, on the 6th October, and this, coupled with the almost unanimous confidence of the press in that country, that the Prince will be true to liberal interests, seems to afford some assurance that there will be at least one dissentient from an absolutist programme at Warsaw. The meeting, it has been rumoured, will be put off from the 13th, as originally fixed, until the 20th of the month.

We learn that the naval authorities at Toulon have received orders to prepare a considerable number of transport vessels for the conveyance of troops. It was asserted that three steamers are expected at Malta with reinforcements from England. Whether the naval preparations at Toulon were intended for the conveyance of French reinforcements to Civita Vecchia, or for the reconveyance of French troops in Italy to France, was a problem which gave rise to some discussion.

The electric sympathy has spread to Greece, where it is manifesting itself in the expression of a strong feeling adverse to the great type of absolutism among the Western powers, and favourable to the liberal movement, and its supposed countenancer if not supporter. Letters received from Athens state that a demonstration on the part of the students had taken place before the King's Palace, amid shouts of "Down with King Otho!" "Down with Austria!" Some cries of "Napoleon for ever!" were also heard.

With reference to Austria, the state of her finances seem to be such as to render the phrase "national bankruptcy" the most appropriately descriptive of her present condition.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—This magnificent theatre opens on Monday with Wallace's favourite romantic opera of *Lurline*, when the new baritone, Mr. Wharton, will make his first appearance in the character of Rhineberg. The other parts will be cast as follows:—Lurline, Miss Louisa Pyne; Count Rudolph, Mr. W. Harrison; Liba, Miss Albertazzi (her first appearance); Ghiva, Miss Leffler (her first appearance); Baron Truenfels, Mr. Grattan Kelly; Zelieck, Mr. H. Corri; Wilhelm, Mr. Lyall. To the ingenuity of Messrs. Grieve and Telbin is due the contrivance of entirely new mechanical, scenic, and stage effects of a highly ingenious and attractive character, and which will form an important feature in the *mise en scene* during the approaching season. Thus the scenery which was so universally admired last season for its beauty and artistic merits will be enhanced by the novelty in question. Mr. Alfred Mellon conducts, as hitherto, a band, which now is organized in every detail of numerical efficiency and consummate finish, to a pitch of excellence which in the present state of the art and science of music cannot be surpassed. The managerial department will be in the experienced hands of Mr. Edward Murray and Mr. Edward Stirling. Thus the fifth season of the far-famed "Pyne and Harrison Company," which has now assumed the interest and importance of a national institution, opens under the most brilliant and favourable auspices.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—The habitués of this favourite and fashionable theatre mustered in great force on Monday, to give a deservedly cordial and flattering welcome to Miss Amy Sedgwick, who, as we announced she would in our last number, appeared on that evening for the first time since her recovery. The audience, which was a very full one, and of a highly discriminative and intellectual character, were evidently there not merely to witness the performance of a popular favourite on her return to these boards after temporary absence, but to greet, in a way which betokened something more than mere admiration for histrionic talent, an artiste whose unrivalled powers of displaying in her dramatic pourtrayals the most potent feelings, sympathies and affections of our universal nature, had irresistibly begotten in their minds a strong feeling of personal solicitude. The delineations of a first-class artiste leave an impression that is not soon effaced. They afford us glimpses, and often the only ones that we meet with, of that ideal of life, in which the noble in thought and action, in feeling and in conduct is found, but which we seek for in vain amidst the dull realities and stern realities of actual life, with all its paltryness, meanness, and unkindness. For the moment these pourtrayals of ideal character raise us out of the actual into the ideal, and leave behind them reminiscences that operate permanently for good. And it is impossible not to experience a feeling of anxious solicitude even about those who, though

utter personal strangers in all that relates to the petty conventional details of every-day existence in this "work-a-day world," are better known to us through the medium of our best sympathies and all that makes up the ideal of life, than often are the most intimate associates with whom we are daily brought into contact. On such an occasion as the present we would therefore not adhere to the cold formalities of conventional etiquette, but express the heartfelt satisfaction that animates us in congratulating an esteemed and respected relative or friend on restoration to health after suffering and illness. And we are delighted to record that this fascinating and favourite artiste trod the boards with a step as elastic and as light, and displayed a power as great of rivetting the attention of her audience, as she ever did before the indisposition, which has recently been a subject of such universal regret. She sustained with the same brilliant success as ever, her original character in *Does He Love Me?* and was ably supported by Mrs. Wilkins, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Chippendale, Mr. Howe, and the new and talented artiste, Miss Florence Haydon. Indeed her acting seemed, in some points, if possible, even more finished, and the delicate shades of feeling brought out with even more power and effect, as if determined to excel herself.. And that she may long live in the enjoyment of health, to minister to the æsthetic culture of the public in that highly intellectual department of the drama to which she has devoted her incomparable powers, and which she so brilliantly adorns, must be the earnest wish of every one to whom true genius is not an empty phrase. A new ballet on a subject from that friend of our childhood, the father of fable, uncle Æsop, entitled *The Sun and the Wind*, in which those talented saltatory artistes, the Leclercqs, will appear, is to be produced at this house on Monday.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Late in the week Mr. J. R. Planche's successful drama, in two acts, entitled *Secret Service*, in which Mr. F. Robinson, Mr. H. Wigan, and other members of the powerful company appeared, was performed at this house. The lateness in the week, and the fact of this department of our paper having been previously filled, coupled with an unusual pressure of matter in other departments, compelling us to postpone the insertion of some important articles till our next number, prevents us from entering into details in the present notice. We must therefore confine ourselves to the simple announcement that the piece was received with the strongest marks of approbation by a full and a fashionable audience. A new comic drama from the pen of Mr. J. M. Morton, will, we believe, be shortly produced at this house.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This house is announced to re-open on the 1st of October under the sole management and direction of Madame Celeste, when Mr. Tom Taylor's new play of *The Brigand and his Banker* will be performed for the first time. We have reason to believe that a powerful company is being organised by the popular and talented manageress. Among other names it will be found to comprise in addition to Madame Celeste, those of Mr. George Vining, Mr. John Rouse, Mr. Villiers, Mrs. Keely, Miss M. Ternan, and Miss Lydia Thompson, as well as some that are entirely new to English audiences. Miss Rosina Howard, an American artiste of considerable note for her vocal and dramatic powers, Miss Josephine Gougenheim, who comes with a very favourable reputation achieved in the transatlantic theatres, and Mr. H. Watkins, an American comedian, who has gained much popularity in the Western hemisphere, will be introduced to the London public under the auspices of the new management. Indeed, from Madame Celeste's well-known experience and tact, as well as all appliances and means at command, for establishing a theatre upon the most attractive principles, there are good grounds for expecting that the forthcoming season at this house will be in the highest degree successful.

MADAME CLARA NOVELLO.—One of the farewell performances of this accomplished English soprano took place at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday. On a future occasion we shall give a detailed notice of this series of performances, which have been arranged with a view of throwing a brilliant *eclat* around the retirement from public into private life of this justly-celebrated *cantatrice*. That admirably-trained choir, the "Vocal Association," of which Mr. Benedict is the able and talented conductor, particularly distinguished itself on the present occasion. In consequence of its great reputation, the number of applicants to take part in the performances was so large, that multitudes were disappointed in their expectations, and found themselves too late. The oratorio performed was the *Creation*, and in sacred music Madame Clara Novello is admitted to be unsurpassed. The *Messiah* has been fixed for this day (Saturday).

THE STANDARD THEATRE.—Mr. Barry Sullivan's engagement here terminates during the present week. An artiste who can play, as Mr. Sullivan does play, and with unequivocal success, characters so diverse as Macbeth and Charles Surface, Hamlet and Evelyn, Beverley and Huon, gives token of possessing qualities of the very highest order. Original genius making itself manifest through the multiformity of its conceptions, practical aptitude in their protean embodiments, indefatigable powers of study and application, combined with a quick and ready apprehension—all these are accomplishments which if Mr. Sullivan did not possess them in an eminent degree he could not have won the success he has achieved. To body forth the portraitures of character and the workings of the most potent passions of our nature, in all the variety presented by the intellectual drama from Shakspere to Bulwer and Knowles demands a degree of versatility and a combination of qualities but rarely found united in one and the same person. It is true that some of Mr. Sullivan's impersonations are less striking and impressive than others, because some of the parts in his numerous repertory are less interesting than others. There are plays the effectiveness of which depend upon the working-up of incident, imbroglio, and intrigue; there are others in which all details of this kind serve but as the subordinate adjuncts of some grand collossal conception of individual character, round which they are grouped, and for enhancing the impression of which they are intended. Of the first kind, *The School for Scandal* is an instance. Charles Surface is a very uninteresting personage. The Tom Jones of the novel is diluted in the play to a sort of non-entity. His reckless prodigality and pronounced libertinism has just such a dash of generosity and romance as serves to avert contempt and disgust. But there is no difficulty of situation to give scope for the display of strong passions in conflict, or deep feelings bursting forth under a combination of cruel repression. There is therefore in this character but little for Mr. Sullivan to do; and however well he may dress, look, and play it, so far as it goes, he cannot be expected to make something out of nothing; a difficulty that metaphysicians tell us transcends the power of Omnipotence itself. But in such a part as Huon, the powers of this actor find room for development, and the result is one of the finest characterisations ever presented on the stage. *Love* is a play which belongs to the second classification we have indicated. All is secondary to the evolution of character, and a masterly portrayal of the workings of deep and ineradicable passions; in short, it is a piece admirably adapted as the vehicle for really great histrionic powers. But we must now close this department, which we have gradually been led to extend beyond our usual limits. We have only space left to add that the engagement of Miss Julia St. George commences at this theatre as the present week closes.

NATIONAL CHORAL SOCIETY.—Arrangements have been made for securing Exeter Hall for the opening performances of this great national union, which already numbers 600 enrolled members, and the organisation of which is rapidly and successfully progressing under the able directorship of Mr. G. W. Martin. The plan of forming a great National Choir upon a scale of gigantic magnitude, embracing within its scope all the existent choral societies of the country, and augmented by the accession of new members, was conceived by Mr. Martin several years ago, and the idea is being now successfully reduced to practice by its talented originator, whose qualifications specially fit him for accomplishing the task he has undertaken. As a composer he is well known as the author of various prize glees and choral part songs, which, unquestionably, rank among the most perfect productions of the kind ever written. His arrangements of compositions of this kind, are also second to none. And his reputation as a trainer and organiser of choirs of collossal proportions, is commensurate with the former. The performance of his works, at Exeter Hall and the Crystal Palace, under his own conductorship, have thoroughly established his claims in all these departments of the musical art. Nor is the National Choral Society alone the only movement of the kind to which he has given the first impulse and of which he is directing the progress. His plan for training Volunteer corps in singing choral marches when on the march, is progressing in a manner equally prosperous, great numbers of members having, we believe, already joined the movement.

THE FESTIVALS.

The advent of Festivals occurs at a dull season of the year, in point of news, though in point of fact it is a most lively and pleasant season as regards fagged and jaded London, who, as to part of that very complex noun of multitude is fairly used up with intense fatigue of having plenty to eat, and nothing to do and all day to do it in; and as to other part thereof, is prostrated with over work of body and of mind; and as to both parts, is rushing off in all sorts of divergent lines (of railway) into rural felicity, to recruit his flagging energies in the diversified recreations of floundering in the sea, horizontalising on the sand (when the weather permits), or revelling in the pastime which the humane and beneficent game laws so considerately provide.

Accordingly, news being at a premium, the reports of the Festivals are swollen to a magnitude commensurate with that to which the rivers of the country have been expanded by the prodigious rainfall which has descended, like a minature celestial Niagara, during the present inclement season. The journalistic mind has tortured its faculties in the attempt to *exploiter* and utilize these details (for frog-showers, and our old friend, the toad in the hole, in the centre of a lump of stone compacted into its present mass millions of years ago, have been rather conspicuous by their absence of late), until they have become familiar in our ears as household words. And, by the rule of three, if a twice-told tale is tedious, a ten times told tale must be still less tolerable; so we shall not, therefore, trouble our readers with a repetition of the æsthetic dish they have been presented with at breakfast, dinner, and supper, for the last three weeks, beyond briefly signalising two new and important works that have been produced at Norwich. These are Herr Molique's oratorio of *Abraham*, and Mr. Benedict's cantata of *Undine*, announced for performance in our number of the 8th instant.

To begin with the cantata. Although the story contained in Fouque's novelette of "Undine," may be presumed to be tolerably well known to our readers, it having been translated into most languages, and an impetus given to its popularity in England by the criticism of Coleridge, who declared that the heroine, a water nymph, under the influence of human passions, was a greater conception than any of Walter Scott's, his being only delineations, while Fouque's was an entirely new creation—we shall briefly recall the outline of the tale:—Undine, a water spirit, is in love with Hildebrand, lord of a castle on the banks of the Danube, and Kuhleborn, chief of the water spirits, disapproves of the attachment. Hildebrand espouses a lady named Bertalda. To avenge the slight offered to the race of spirits, Kuhleborn summons all of them to his aid, and destroys the castle and its inmates, while Undine laments the fate of her faithless lover. The cantata, after a short overture in F major and minor, commences with a chorus in D minor, for female voices. This is interrupted by a bass solo in G minor, allotted to Kuhleborn, and the burden of the chorus is then taken up again, the whole concluding in an animated strain, describing the life of the naiades, in which the male voices join, and is succeeded by a recitative of Hildebrand and Undine, by whom a song, in E flat, with harp obbligato, explaining her origin, follows. This song is accompanied by a chorus of invisible spirits, for soprano and alto voices. A short canon, between the lovers and Kuhleborn, in A flat, precedes a scena and aria of Hildebrand, in B

flat, "From worldly cares and toils afar," and a march, announcing the arrival of Bertalda, being heard in the distance, he, in an allegro, "Loud sounds the trumpet," determines to forsake the water nymph, and to lead the life of a knight and hero. The march faintly heard during Hildebrand's air, is now approaching, and Bertalda, on her arrival, is received by a wedding chorus in E flat Her song, in B major speaks of her anticipations of happiness as future mistress of the castle; and this leads to a duo in G, "Happy day," between Bertalda and Hildebrand. Undine comes forward to warn the pair, and offers to renounce her love for Hildebrand if he will renounce Bertalda. A quartet follows in C minor, expressive of the feelings of Undine, Bertalda, Hildebrand, and of Kuhleborn. A bass scena, with chorus of spirits, is then introduced, and, at the bidding of Kuhleborn, the spirits demolish the castle; the work of ruin being described in a chorus in D minor. Undine is carried away by her companions, deploring the fate of her lover, her voice growing fainter and fainter, until it dies into silence, and the cantata ends. In the various ingredients of melodic idealization, combinative power in the balance and co-ordination of harmonies, artistic skill in the production of instrumental effects, this work is entitled to an unqualified award of praise. The author, Mr. Bendict, whether as an accomplished composer, a talented organizer of details, or as the possessor of the highest qualities of a conductor, has made another decisive addition to the great reputation he already enjoys in all these capacities.

We come now to Herr Molique's oratorio of *Abraham*. The words are selected from the Old Testament, and the persons in the oratorio are Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Isaac, two angels, and a messenger, represented by the following voices:—Soprano, Angel, Hagar, Isaac; alto, Angel and Sarah; baritone, Abraham; bass, Messenger. There is a tenor, without any specific character, but simply used as a narrator. After the first chorus, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord," Abraham is commanded, in a recitative, to depart from his country; and, in answer, prays, in an air, for guidance. The departure is narrated in a recitative by the tenor, and a quartett, "Go in peace," follows. A tenor recitative then announces the arrival of Abraham in Canaan, and the promise to him of that country. An air, blended in chorus, follows, and another tenor recitative continues the narrative, and relates the contest between the herdsmen of Abraham and those of his brother Lot. Abraham appeals to his brother in the aria, "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee." An angel appears to Abraham and promises him a son, and numerous posterity, after which the people join in a chorus of praise. A messenger now arrives with tidings of a battle in the vale of Siddim, and capture of Lot and his household, and his own escape to tell the tale. Abraham, on hearing his report, in a brief recitative, followed by a spirited air, calls his people to arms. A choral prayer, invoking aid, follows, and is succeeded by a tenor solo relating the success of Abraham's expedition. His return being accompanied by a military march, Abraham expresses his thanks in a recitative, and the people join in a grand chorus, terminating the first part of the work. The second opens with an air for soprano, "I will extol thee, my God." The promise that Abraham should be "father of many nations," is repeated in a tenor recitative, and the expression of gratitude and joy is allotted to a trio for alto, tenor, and bass. A bass recitative, followed by a chorus, denounces divine wrath upon the cities of the plain. Abraham then intercedes with an angel on behalf of the cities, the dialogue being carried on in recitative. In a recitative which follows, God is described as looking down to see if there were any righteous, and the negative is given in a plaintive air, and the judgment of heaven is depicted in a chorus, ending with a slow movement, sinking gradually into silence. The scene then changes; a tenor recitative, relates the birth of Isaac and the mockery of Hagar's son, and a duet follows between Sarah and Abraham, the latter vainly striving to appease the anger of the former. Abraham being commanded by an angel, in a soprano recitative, to comply with the demand of Sarah, a tenor recitative relates the dismissal of Hagar and her child, and a chorus follows, "Commit thy way unto the Lord." A tenor recitative, preceded by a descriptive symphony, narrates the anguish of Hagar when she cast her child under a shrub that she might not see him die. Hagar expresses her anguish in the air, "Hear my prayer, O Lord," is comforted by an angel, sees a well of water, and her child is saved; a chorus, "Great is our Lord," following these events. Abraham is now commanded to go into the land of Moriah, and offer up his only son Isaac. Abraham expresses his sorrow in a recitative "The joy of my heart is ceased." Then follows a tenor air "Pour out thy heart before the Lord," and a recitative announcing Abraham's departure, leads to a dialogue betewen father and son, who supplicate God for mercy, and an angel interposing (alto recitative), renews the promise of divine mercy. Abraham and Isaac express then their gratitude in a duet; and a recitative by Abraham declaring that God hath shown him "marvellous kindness," leads to a grand closing chorus, "Great and marvellous are Thy works." This work forms a conspicuous item in the category of productions, which, for want of a more specific title, we should be disposed to designate as the Mendelssohn School, though in no respect an imitation of the works of that great composer, whose name we have indicated as a distinctive appellation. On the contrary, for originality and inventive power, as well as for a vein of genuine melody, the Oratorio in question will bear a rigid scrutiny, and places the name of its author high on the list of contemporary composers. Mr. Benedict and Herr Molique were deservedly made the subjects of an "ovation," by the delighted and multitudinous audiences assembled to listen to their respective works.

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