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THE LEADER.

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

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News of the Week.

QUEEN VICTORIA is to open Parliament in person; so it is authoritatively announced. The fact would possess some importance for the People, if it were to be supposed that the Queen would be met by real representatives who could state the actual wants and wishes of their constituents. It is also announced that the Address is to be moved and seconded by the Marquis of Kildare and Mr. Peto, the member for Norwich. The Marquis is an intelligent and liberal man, who bears a higher repute for intentions than performances. Mr. Peto is well known. But what importance attaches to the fact of their making the first speeches in the House of Commons this session we do not perceive. It would be far more interesting for the public to know what Ministers mean to do—how they are going to destroy Pope Pius's Bulls—what taxes they are going to repeal: what substantial improvements they are going to introduce into the Poor Law—how they will meet the demand for Chancery Reform, and so forth. But even on these points, the less anxiety will be felt. It is to be presumed, that any measures contemplated in Downing-street, will not make much difference; they will, probably, rank in importance on an equality with the facts already announced, that the Queen will be in the House of Lords on the 4th of February, and that Lord Kildare and Mr. Peto will make the first two speeches.

As to taxes, a kind of competition is going on between the advocates of repeal in different directions. Tea is competing with windows and the knowledge taxes; and much may be said on behalf of the cup which cheers but not inebriates. The window-tax movement is a very respectable one, and it will very greatly benefit the working classes, but not so immediately as the reduction of the tea tax, one of the heaviest and most unjust, and pressing with peculiar severity on that commendable luxury of the poor.

The heat of the Papal movement is removed in a great degree to Ireland. Much is made, both by Protestant and Catholic, of the bull dividing the long-conjoined bishoprics of Cloyne and Ross. The Roman Catholics have hitherto nominated their own Bishops for the Papal confirmation, and the appointment of Dr. Keane to be the new Bishop of Ross is seized by ingenious Protestants as an aggression on the Roman Catholics of Ireland. The grievance, however, appears to be singularly felt vicariously by the Protestants alone, on behalf of their Roman Catholic brethren, who are not at all demonstrative of the injury which they sustain. They ought to be hurt and indignant, but they appear to be pleased and exultant. Bishop Keane, it is said, will take up his head-quarters at Skibbereen, the head-quarters not long since of famine; and the very spot where English aid came most

opportunistically. What strange association of ideas may crowd the breast of the new prelate when first he surveys that capital of his diocese.

Another point, of which much is made, is the insertion of Professor De Vericour's *Analysis of Christian Civilization*, in the *Index Expurgatorius*, the periodical enumerating the books prohibited to pious Catholics. The ultramontane party sustains a new paroxysm of indignation against the godless Colleges, and the Ministry which appoints to them the author of a forbidden book: it happens very unfortunately that Ministers have been placed by Lord John Russell in a position to weaken their support of the rational Roman Catholics against the bigoted extreme. Not long since it was reported that there was a disposition to give up M. De Vericour, who has published a very mild and orthodox view of his subject, in order to conciliate the Roman Catholics: it would be strange if the Whig Ministry, among its other inconsistencies, were to accompany the deadly battle against the Papal aggression by a surrender of the blameless De Vericour. One point is worthy of note. The Government at Rome can put De Vericour's name in the *Index Expurgatorius*, can excite the comparatively few of the extremely bigoted in Ireland, but it cannot suppress the colleges; it cannot remove the Professor—a useful illustration of the principle which we pointed out last week—that sect is powerless while it remains destitute of civil authority.

The Irish prelates will not be left out. They have sent in their separate address to Queen Victoria, setting forth the identity of their case with that of the English Church, and alluding in injured terms to the mode in which they were forgotten by the English Bishops. Most of the prelates have signed this address. Some, we are sure, like the logical Richard Whately, with no feelings of intellectual pride in the act. Others have kept out of the squabble: and we have some difficulty in reconciling the signature of Dr. Monsell with the excellent spirit in which he rebuked the Anti-Catholic asperities of his own clergy, when they formally addressed him on the subject. The consolatory fact, however, is that there is a good strong backbone of sense even in the Irish English Church.

A report has been circulated this week by the *Morning Chronicle* that Lord John Russell and Lord Ashley intended to unite in a new reformation—the revision of the Prayer-Book; but Lord Ashley disowned the soft impeachment, and denies the whole project. There is to be no reformation of the Prayer-Book, for fear lest the endeavour to settle the points of dissension should bring on a crisis, and force the Church to divide itself into its several sects.

In France the New Ministry has sustained its second and deliberate defeat; has resigned, and the President is in the thick of another Ministerial

crisis. The juncture is marked by very strange features. The principal event is considered to be the course taken by the most skilful professional politician in France, M. Thiers. After having been a sort of agent for the restoration, a Constitutionalist under Louis Philippe, and then almost a Republican—after having become recently a representative of the Legitimist party, he has now, like Mahomet, gone to the Mountain, formed a coalition with it on its own terms, and thus effected the consolidation of that large majority which has defeated the Ministers. The speech with which he brought this about, was remarkable even amongst his mischievous orations, for its hostile, provocative, and threatening tone. It was calculated to set all parties against each other, to raise angry passions on every side, and prevent tranquillity. We, who have no sympathy with quietude where the settlement rests on bad principles, cannot see with satisfaction an aimless hubbub, which the professional politician is raising for his own purposes. He affects to be a strict Parliamentarian, but he has kept together a majority formed of separate fragments, so entirely opposed, that it can never act together, for any positive purpose. A majority, including Legitimists and Red Republicans, Political Economists and Socialists, with Changarnier for a free Captain, is not available for any useful purpose.

We here see the practical difficulty in the working of a numerous body like that of the Assembly, without any power of sending it back to the country. The Assembly is disorganized; but it must await the stated period for its reorganization by the will of the people. Meanwhile, the President resorts to the questionable expedient of selecting his Cabinet from the minority of 286. Much is made of the eminent names included in that minority, among which we find the Duc de Broglie, chairman of the very commission on the Ministerial crisis, de Montalembert, Leon Faucher, Doru, and other men of undoubted eminence. Molé and Odilon Barrot, who belong to the majority, stopped away. On the other hand, the names in the majority are not such as to be slighted, including as they do some of the most eminent of the old bureaucrats, of the military men, of the popular leaders, and of the Legitimists. Changarnier is understood to be very angry because his merits have been passed over with silence in the resolution against Ministers. In the face of the disorganized majority, the minority is acting with some approach to unity, as if it were a majority; but even the appointment of a Ministry will not settle the crisis of the political world.

A new conspiracy is reported as having been just discovered—the union of the Communes meeting at the house of the Associated Cooks at the Pigole Barrière, and having in petto strongly incitatory proclamations, combining Red Republicanism and a sort of Luddite Communism. Whether this is a new police trap like the Alibi-Yon affair, a real

conspiracy, or the distorted account of some more creditable plan, we have as yet no means of certifying.

Madrid has lost its soldier master General Narvaez: worn out with the ceaseless harassment of his office, he backed the oft-rejected tender of his resignation with the announcement that, unless it were accepted, he would shoot himself, and, on obtaining his wish, he instantly left Spain. The conjecture that he did so in the fear of being sent to the Philippines by his successor, shows the state of the country, where he only is free who has his foot on his brother's neck. It is probable, however, that the rough Ramon fled more in the fear of being "sent for" again.

Bem has been buried at Aleppo with all the honours of a Mussulman-soldier-saint. He died firm in the faith of the Crescent and the Sabre, despising civilian theories of politics, hating Russia.

THE FRENCH MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The debate in the National Assembly, which began on Wednesday week, lasted till Saturday, when Ministers were defeated by a large majority. This unexpected result was owing to the amendment of M. St. Beuve, which, instead of complimenting General Changarnier, as M. Lanjuinais proposed, without expressly blaming the Cabinet, threw the general overboard, and distinctly declared a want of confidence in Ministers. M. Thiers spoke at great length on Friday against Ministers. They were in a grave situation, he said, and it was necessary that the truth should be spoken. He charged the Government with disturbing the harmony which had so long existed. For his own part he had cordially assisted Louis Napoleon in every measure calculated to strengthen his authority until the message of the 31st October, which he disliked on account of the pretension it put forward to a sort of omnipotency. The doctrine then broached was that nothing could save France but a strong Government, and the Assembly was represented as the cause of all disturbing or dangerous agitation. The Socialist elections in Paris, however, opened people's eyes, and the President, having consulted him as to what ought to be done, he and his friends recommended the modification of the Electoral Law, which was soon afterwards carried with the most satisfactory results. M. Thiers, after condemning the Dotation Bill, because it tended to introduce habits to the Elysée not conformable with the simplicity of a Republican magistracy, proceeded to examine the *procès-verbaux* of the Permanent Committee, and expressed indignation at the cries of "Vive l'Empereur," uttered in the plain of Satory. Whether they were encouraged by the Government or not, it was certain that General Neumayer had been superseded in his command because he prohibited those cries.

General Cavaignac was one of the speakers on Saturday. He blamed severely in the name of all sincere Republicans, the law of public instruction and the electoral law of the 31st of May, those great misdeeds of the majority. The constitution might be revised. But it was not the constitution which invented the national sovereignty, nor could this fundamental principle be destroyed by any party. There could be only two parties, for the Monarchy or the Republic. Those who ill-guided the Monarchy paved the way for the Republic. At present the Republic was ill-guided, and it was to be feared that if it continued to be so it would have to make way for a restoration of the Monarchy. In conclusion, he declared that he adhered to the amendment of M. de St. Beuve, which consisted in a simple vote of want of confidence against Ministers, and was the only one which ought to be adopted by the Republican party.

As there were several amendments before the chair a violent struggle took place as to which should be first put to the vote. That of M. St. Beuve—"The Assembly declares that it has not confidence in the Ministry, and passes to the order of the day," was at last declared to have the priority, and was carried by 417 votes against 278; a majority of 139 against Ministers. "It is impossible," says a person who was in the gallery, "to describe the scene of noise, interruption, laughter, and agitation which the Assembly presented throughout the latter part of the sitting. At the close, the members all rushed to hear the result of the scrutiny. The motion of so many feet raised a dust which presented the appearance of a thick fog."

While the debate was going on the President appears to have been determined to show that he felt very much at ease whatever the Assembly might choose to decide. The ball which he gave at the Elysée, on Thursday, is described as one of the most brilliant given in the place. The correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Friday, says:—

"I am unable to say whether there was any intention of making a demonstration last night in favour of the President of the Republic, after what had passed in the Assembly, or whether it was from curiosity, but it is a fact that never has so crowded an assemblage met together as last night in the saloons of the Elysée, which were literally crowded to suffocation. The line of carriages began at the Boulevard and Madeleine on one side, and far down in the Faubourg St. Honoré on the other. The Rue Royale was actually covered with vehicles, and the utmost efforts of the police and gendarmes were scarcely sufficient to keep the passages clear. Those who reside scarcely a quarter of an hour's walk from the Elysée spent an hour before they could get to the door. Within, the crowd was so dense, even at the early hour of nine o'clock, that all movement was impossible, and the Princess Mathilde, who does the honours of the President's house, was obliged to receive the ladies in the vestibule and the cloak-room. Before eleven o'clock 2800 persons were present, and not less than 5000 in all presented their respects to the President. All that Paris contains of rank and fashion were there. On no such occasion were so many general officers assembled at the Elysée. It was a perfect Babel of language, and on every side you heard English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Turkish, and Arabic spoken."

"The President was dressed in plain clothes. He walked about the saloons with his cousin, the Princess Mathilde, and chatted familiarly with all he knew. The Prince and Princess of Capua were present, several of the late and most of the new Ministers. M. Lamartine and Horace Vernet were not the least remarked. Dancing was kept up to a late hour."

"I have been this moment assured that many of the small traders of Paris—*le petit commerce*—actually intend to propose a general subscription for the President of the Republic, in the event of his allowance being refused by the Assembly. This subscription would, it is supposed, be national. I know of one woollen manufacturer in Paris who declared the day before yesterday that his name should appear at the head of his 600 workmen, who were ready and eager to subscribe."

After the vote passed by the Assembly there was only one course left for Ministers. They went at once and tendered their resignation to the President, which, after a day's deliberation, was accepted. They still continued to retain office, however, till the appointment of their successors.

The ministerial crisis had not ceased up till Wednesday, nor did any great progress appear to have been made in the composition of a new Cabinet. M. Odilon Barrot writes to the *Débats* to contradict the report of his having been charged to form a Cabinet, and to say that he has only been consulted on the state of things by the President of the Republic. The *Patrie* says that all that can be reasonably supposed is, that Louis Napoleon will take his Cabinet from the 286.

Some sensation was created on Tuesday by the arrest of nearly sixty persons belonging to a secret society of Red Republicans and Socialists. Amongst the papers seized are the programme of the association, and a proclamation to the people, telling them to prepare for the extermination of the Monarchists of all kinds. The principles of the programme are the same as those proclaimed by Barbès and his partisans, viz. Abolition of the public funds, free schools for the people, and protection of the working classes, with emancipation from masters, a graduated property-tax, organization of labour by the State.

GERMAN AFFAIRS.

The great question between Austria and Prussia now is the settlement of the Zollverein. Prussia will not consent to the equalization of tariffs by which Austria wishes to bring about a Zoll union, but is ready to conclude a treaty of commerce for six years, by which raw materials may have free transit through countries separated by different tariffs. M. Manteuffel wishes the North Sea States to enter likewise into this convention. As it is the Free Trade party which supports Manteuffel, he will not be able to play into the hands of Austria on that point, even if he were so disposed. Of Saxony and Bavaria the Austrian Government is secure; the memorials which have been presented to the third commission by them show this. Wurtemberg is equally safe. From Berlin, Hanover, and the Hanse Towns alone can Austria expect opposition.

The Hamburg Free-Trade Union has organized a connection with about thirty commercial towns, and assumed the title of "Central German Free-Trade Committee." The party seems to be developing great activity. The Austrian project has put the north of Germany quite on the alert, and raised that degree of interest for the question which was hitherto wanting. At Marienwerder a free-trade meeting of the landed proprietors of West Prussia was to be held on the 20th instant, for the purpose of signing an energetic memorial against the evils of Protection abuse, in which all the towns corporations of the province would be invited to join. A general congress for the middle of next month at Elbing will be proposed.

It is understood that the whole of the Bavarian troops, under Prince Taxis, will evacuate the territory of Hesse forthwith, unless the Elector shall deem it requisite for the maintenance of order to retain a small portion. But there has been nothing in the conduct of the people hitherto to justify such apprehensions. Cassel itself will continue to be garrisoned by a Prussian and Austrian battalion, most probably until the affairs of the country are arranged. The two Commissioners, who are furnished with instructions, have held repeated conferences with M. Hassenpflug, and it is thought will ere long come to

some arrangement relative to the projected alterations of the constitution. Submission to the ordinances of September being now universal, and the taxes having been paid, or being in process of payment throughout the land, all cause for coercive measures has ceased.

Letters from Hamburg of the 20th instant announce the arrival, and describe the reception at Altona, of the 1st battalion of the Holstein troops, which had been conveyed by rail from Rendsburg. The troops had their colours muffled up in black crape. Count Reventlow-Criminil has assumed the government of the Duchy of Lauenburg, and the public functionaries of that principality have been called upon again to take their oaths of allegiance to the King of Denmark. Another royal proclamation and an address of the Stadtholders to the people of Lauenburg were about to be published. The Copenhagen papers of the 17th protest that no reduction will take place in the Danish army until Rendsburg and Friedrichsort shall have been given up to the troops of the King of Denmark. On the 19th the Austrian forces, numbering about 2500, were about two days' march into Holstein. The Prussians were engaged in throwing a pontoon-bridge over the Elbe, which would not be finished before the 23rd.

PROTESTANTISM AND POPERY.

The most notable event of the week in this department has been the presentation of an address to the Queen by the whole of the Irish prelates, in reference partly to the Papal aggression, but more especially to the question recently mooted in the correspondence between their lordships and the Archbishop of Canterbury. They express great anxiety on account of the silence maintained regarding the invasion of the royal supremacy in Ireland, "where the prerogative of the Crown is, by law, one and the same as in England," and where "the Bishops of Rome have long ago pursued a course not dissimilar to that now attempted in England." They express a fear lest "some ill considered compromise" should be contemplated "for the distinct and special defence of what has been called, by a title unknown to the law, 'the Church of England.'" If the present excitement should lead to the adoption of any measure calculated "to impair the integrity of the united church," they hold that it would do more damage "to the whole church and to the country than any acts of the Bishop of Rome or any encroachments from without could possibly effect." Whatever may be done, they ask that Ireland may have its share of protection against Papal aggression.

The Reverend H. L. Jenner, son of Sir Herbert Jenner Fust, who was said to have "received an intimation that he had better resign his curacy in consequence of his taste for Romanizing practices," has given that statement an unqualified contradiction. A statement somewhat similar in character, respecting the Reverend W. J. Woodward, of St. James's, Bristol, is also contradicted.

Robert Biddulph Phillipps, Esq., of Longworth-house, was received into the Latin communion of St. Francis Xavier's Church, Hereford, on the feast of the Epiphany, Monday, the 6th instant, by the Reverend J. B. Morris, of Prior-park, formerly Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. —*Hereford Times*.

With reference to a statement in one of the morning papers, that Cardinal Wiseman has had notice of an intended prosecution for misdemeanor, we are at liberty to state that no such notice has been given on the part of the Government. We believe that a document has been sent to his Eminence at the instance of a gentleman legally connected with the City, containing some admissions which the Cardinal is requested to make, in order to raise the question of the legality, or otherwise, of his archiepiscopal assumptions. The step has been taken in the exercise of the right which belongs to every subject, to institute a prosecution in any case in which he may consider the criminal law of the country violated, and without the cognizance of her Majesty's law officers. —*Globe*.

An advertisement having appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* stating that Lord Ashley and his friends were endeavouring to procure "a royal commission for a latitudinarian revision of the Prayer Book," and calling upon all true Churchmen to rally against this dangerous movement, Lord Ashley has written to the *Chronicle* giving a flat contradiction that he or his friends are taking any such course.

FATHER GAVAZZI ON THE INQUISITION.

The influx of hearers to the Princess's Concert-hall, where the reverend padre holds forth every Sunday, is rather an interesting sign of the times. And, as the *Daily News* remarks, "When considered with reference to the immense gathering of Italians which the Crystal Palace will attract to the sphere of the eloquent friar's irresistible oratory, its telling effects on the future prospects of the Peninsula can scarcely be overrated."

The subject of last Sunday's oration was "the Holy Inquisition." He gave a rapid sketch of the progress of that bulwark of the Papacy in Southern Europe; entered into the detail of privileges and indulgences and dispensations enjoyed by the familiars and spies of the "holy tribunal;" showed how odious and intolerable its working was found in

Italy; how the Venetian republic manfully flung it back in the face of the Popedom; how even down-trodden and degraded Naples succeeded in resistance to the Spanish-born and papally-nursed tyranny; how the Low Countries flung off the yoke of Spain, mainly in abhorrence of this inhuman institution; how Spain itself sank into the lowest imbecility and decrepitude through its influence on the whole range of society; and then, in allusion to the English Cardinal, after remarking that red hats and red robes were both significantly introduced about the same period that the red hands of the Popedom were first imbrued with inquisitorial blood, he went on thus:—

"On the 8th of December this purple delegate of the conclave told his auditors in Southwark that no fear of the inquisition need haunt the English mind. It had never been introduced into Austria, whence he had just come—Bavaria, which he had just visited—or the Brazils. What dolts he must take you for, men of England! Is the erection of a prison-house and torture chamber necessary for the exercise in England of inquisitorial proceedings? Must an official costume distinguish necessarily the secret familiars of the holy office in London? Is not calumny as crushing an engine as the rack; and cannot the whisperings of malignity be made as excruciating as the thumbscrew? The holy office a few days ago placed on their 'index' the book of a professor of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland; and would put the intelligent writer in a kindred predicament if they could only lay their clutches on him. Is that any hint that England is not to be annexed in the realms of Torquemada, when this Spanish cardinal shall have made himself at home in his London archbishopric, which he should have called by pleasant anticipation, not of Westminster but of Smithfield. No fear of the inquisition! What were the words which fell from the mouth of this cardinal in the Spanish chapel with reference to a persecuted and ill-used man, once a Dominican in Viterbo, then a prisoner in the dungeons of the holy office, now in London? Did not the inquisitor manifest himself in the expressions and hints made use of on that occasion?"

THE GRAY'S-INN-LANE EDUCATION SCHEME.

While a man named William Bristol, who is described as "a desperate-looking fellow," was undergoing examination the other day for some small theft with which he was charged, Fisher, an officer of the detective force, gave the following graphic description of the educational system pursued at the long-established and well-known seminary for pick-pockets, in Fox-court, Gray's-inn-lane:—

"He had known the prisoner for three years as a member of a gang of daring thieves, and as the 'deputy' or sub-landlord of a notorious den in Fox-court, Gray's-inn-lane, which was known as the 'thieves' kitchen,' and which was the rendezvous of burglars, pickpockets, prostitutes, and pot-stealers, a regular receptacle of stolen property, and where nightly could be seen thieves, prostitutes, and beggars, of all ages and both sexes, huddled together indiscriminately; there being, in some instances, eight or ten men, women, and children all in one bed together. Some short time ago he was on duty near Fox-court, and on contriving to peep into the 'kitchen' through a window, he saw the prisoner in the room with a line tied across it, and from this line was suspended a coat, in the pockets of which were placed pocket handkerchiefs. A dozen little boys surrounded the prisoner, and each in turn tried his skill in removing a handkerchief without moving the coat or shaking the line; if he performed the manœuvre with skill and dexterity, he received the congratulations of the prisoner; if he did it clumsily, or in such a manner as would have led to detection had the operation been performed in the usual manner in the street, the prisoner beat him with severity, having, on the occasion in question, knocked down and kicked two of the boys for not having exhibited the requisite amount of tact and ingenuity in extracting the handkerchief. There were, in fact, two kitchens, one superior to the other; threepence was charged for a night's accommodation therein, and in the other the charge was twopence per night. The prisoner was the 'deputy' of both."

THE FUNERAL OF BEM.

The *Pesti Naplo* gives a minute account of the funeral of General Bem, at Aleppo. He was buried as a Moslem, having accepted the "true faith," and with the dignity of a Pasha. His body, wrapped in linen, bound together at the head and feet, was placed in a rude coffin. During the preparations, a number of Mollahs murmured the customary prayers. At the head of the coffin an upright stick supported his fez; the coffin itself was covered with a coloured shawl, and carried on two poles. A military funeral has never been seen in Turkey, and, though many Christians were present, all the proceedings were marked by an Oriental want of order. The French and English Consuls were invited by the Commandant, Kerim Pasha, with several officers, and a crowd of soldiers and spectators were on the ground. The long escort was preceded by twenty or thirty Mollahs, chanting a dismal and monotonous "All Allah"; some of the Christian comrades of the late General wished to carry the body from the gate to the burial-ground, but the Turkish custom did not permit them; everybody pressed round to bear the coffin a few steps, then yielding their places to others. Strong detachments of troops were stationed along the route; the soldiers left their ranks to put their hands to the coffin like the crowd;

even old Kerim Pasha took his turn. Near the burying-ground the body was laid on the tomb of a Mahometan saint while some more prayers were said over it; it was then laid, without the coffin, in a shallow grave, with the head towards Mecca; the cords that bound the wrappers were cut, and the grave filled with earth, and the surface covered with a few flat stones. He was not more than fifty-six, though he looked much older; his frame was weakened by wounds and the fatigues of the Hungarian campaigns, but his restless spirit retained its strength and elasticity to the last moment. After his apostasy to Islam he served the Sultan as zealously as he would have served any other cause; and his zeal was increased by an intense hatred of the Russians, to whom he hoped to render the Turkish army formidable by a better organization of the Artillery.

THE VACANT SEATS.

The number of vacancies, actual and forthcoming, in the representation at the present time, is unusually large even for the commencement of a new session of Parliament. The *Daily News* of Thursday gives the following summary of what had been done up till then:—

"First, there is South Notts, for which the writ is actually out. North Notts, though not actually vacant, is about to have one of its seats vacated by the retirement of Mr. Houldsworth, on whom age and infirmities are creeping. As yet the candidates for the forthcoming vacancy are not named; and who they will be depends, probably, very much on the result of the neighbouring contest in South Notts.

"Next, there is a seat in Bedfordshire, also actually vacant by the death of Lord Alford in the prime of his life. All Bedfordshire would unite in electing Mr. Pym, but, though active in the discharge of the county duties of his station, Mr. Pym is content with a career of unostentatious local usefulness, and declines to represent Bedfordshire; so Colonel Gilpin is about to be returned, to neutralize by his vote the Liberal opinions of Mr. Hastings Russell; at least that is all known of him out of the county. In each of the three divisions of the realm a borough vacancy will occur as soon as Parliament meets. In Dungarvon, by Mr. Shiel's substitution of diplomatic for parliamentary life; in Pontefract, by the elevation of Sir Samuel Martin to the bench of the Court of Exchequer; and in the Falkirk boroughs by the succession of Lord Lincoln to the dukedom of Newcastle. In two of them, Dungarvon and Falkirk, contests are probable; in Pontefract no opposition to the only candidate who has hitherto been announced is at present talked of. In all, Liberalism is likely to prevail, however it may differ in shades or forms of expression, or the nominal party flag under which it is waved for individual success. At Dungarvon, Mr. Maguire, of Cork, is again a candidate, for at the last general election Mr. Sheil only averted his pretensions by a majority of 16. At Falkirk, Mr. George Loch, a Whiggish Liberal, and Mr. James Baird, a Conservative Liberal, are the candidates.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

The Crystal Palace, which is now rapidly approaching completion, has had a pretty good opportunity of showing its power of resistance during the last ten days. The gale on Thursday night week, which was certainly a most violent one, spent its strength in vain upon the building, even in its present unfinished state, and with a considerable portion of the roofing at the eastern and western extremities incomplete; and not a single square of glass, sash-bar, or any other portion of the building, were either removed or injured by its effects.

Repeated objections have also been taken to the thickness of the glass, and several imaginative minds have already pictured to themselves the scene of dismay and confusion which will probably be presented during the Exhibition, when some fierce hail-storm, having swept away the thin covering of glass, shall rain its hailstones thick and fast upon the jewels and silks displayed to admiring eyes, amid the shrieks and cries of assembled thousands of all nations, who will join their discord with the fearful rattling of the "Hailstone Chorus." The elements appear last week to have been anxious to have these points satisfactorily disposed of, for, in addition to the storm of Thursday, the numerous visitors to the building were, on Friday, suddenly roused by a most fearful rattling upon the whole of the roof and sides of the building, which proceeded from one of the most violent hailstorms with which the metropolis has for some months been visited. As in the case of its "blustering" predecessor, we are happy to inform the friends of the Exhibition that not a single square of glass was destroyed or injured by its effects.

Prince Albert, accompanied by Colonel C. Grey and Lieutenant-Colonel F. H. Seymour, visited the building on Tuesday. The Prince arrived shortly after eleven o'clock, and, having minutely examined the progress of the works, expressed himself highly gratified with the very rapid progress which had been made since his last visit. The portion of the transept already completed elicited the warmest praise, and his Royal Highness considered that when the whole was finished, and the scaffolding removed, the effect would be exceedingly beautiful. Having completed the inspection of the building, Prince Albert pre-

sided at a meeting of the Royal Commissioners—the first that has been held in the Commissioners' office in the building. A considerable amount of business in connection with the Exhibition was transacted; and among other things it was decided that a protective ornamental cast-iron railing of six feet in height, designed by Mr. O. Jones, should be set up round the whole of the building, instead of the dwarf iron posts and rails originally intended. The design for the railing submitted to the Commissioners is exceedingly light and beautiful, and at the same time admirably calculated for the purpose of protecting the building. The railings will be set up at the distance of eight feet from the building, and the police will patrol in the space thus provided.

Mr. Paxton has addressed a letter to Lord John Russell urging strongly the propriety of throwing the Exhibition open to the public. He suggests that for the first fortnight the admission should be by payment, and that, for the whole term of the Exhibition, "one day in the week should be reserved for the higher classes of all nations who may prefer to pay for the exclusive privilege of admission rather than encounter the inconvenience of a crowd." With these exceptions he thinks that the entrance ought to be made entirely free. The arguments on which he founds his application are so very cogent that we have no doubt they will have due weight with Ministers.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC OF EXHIBITION VISITORS.—Mr. Thomas Miller, of Edinburgh, in a short pamphlet on the probable effects of the Exhibition on railways, puts forward some calculations, which railway shareholders will deem "very important if true." He says the visitors will be—Foreign and Colonial, 2,000,000; English, Welsh, Highlanders, and Irish, 5,000,000. The total 7,000,000 must, he says, all be travellers twice, coming and going; but he says they will be rated as separate passengers for each line over which they pass, by which the aggregate of the year will be still further nominally increased. He takes the nominal total as £42,000,000. The average fare from the Board of Trade returns he takes at 2s. per passenger per head, and the gross receipts at £4,200,000. Mr. Miller takes the increase of goods traffic at 50 per cent. on that of the half-year ending Dec. 31, 1850, which gives £1,500,000. His total estimate for exhibition receipts is £4,700,000, and this, he affirms, will have a great effect on the price of shares.

THE UCKFIELD AND OTHER BURGLARIES, AND THEFTS.

The seven ruffians charged with having broken into the residence of the Misses Farncombe, at Downland-house, along with a woman upon whom a portion of the booty was found, were brought up for final examination at Tunbridge-wells, on Saturday. All the prisoners, with the exception of the woman, seemed very reckless and indifferent. Two of the Misses Farncombe were in attendance. They seemed very nervous at the position in which they were placed. During the time they were under examination they studiously avoided looking towards the prisoners, and, as if still labouring under some apprehensions of another visit, repeatedly declared that they knew none of the persons who entered their house on the night in question. The butler, Thomas Wood, took his place at the back of their chairs, and occasionally repeated the questions to them.

"Miss Susan Farncombe having been sworn and examined, said, I live at Downland-house, in the parish of Uckfield. On the morning of Thursday, the 2nd of January, about three o'clock, three men came into my room and demanded my money or my life. One remained at the door, and one came to the side of my bed, and another to the foot of the bed. I was alone. I gave him my purse, and, hearing my sister scream, I got out of bed and went to her. I think there were about four sovereigns and a half and some silver in my purse. It was a purple silk purse, with steel beads. When I came back I missed my watch. The men were masked. One of them wore a white one, I was too agitated to observe the colour of the others. I did not recognize any of the men. The men at first tried to prevent my leaving the room; but when I told them I was going to my sister, they allowed me to pass. So far as that went they were very civil. I found two or three men in my sister Mary's room, and they made the same demand. She told them her watch and money were on the table. They took a box off the table containing sovereigns and silver. I cannot tell how much. They also took a trinket-box. They said they knew we had more money, and money they would have—that they wanted bread and cheese. One of them saw the key of a bureau in the lock, and went to examine it. They took £50 out of two pocket-books, in notes, from the bureau. They scattered the other papers about the room. One of them took my sister's gold watch. My sister Mary had some very valuable things, but I don't see any of them here. [The articles found upon the prisoners were lying before the witness on the table.]

"Miss Emily Farncombe: There was a ring valued at seventy guineas.

"Witness: There were several other valuable rings and brooches. There were a gold chain and several gold seals. One of the men asked for the key of the silver, and I said it was in the butler's pantry. One of the men had a pistol in his hand. The men then left the room, and I remained with my sister, who was very ill and greatly alarmed. A man remained at the door to keep guard."

Several articles of jewellery found on the prisoners were identified by Miss Farncombe. At the conclusion of the examination the chairman asked the

prisoners severally if they had anything to say? James Smith answered, "I have nothing to say." Joseph Carter said he was not guilty. John Smith said he was innocent of what he had been brought there for. Thomas Morgan said he had bought the goods and paid the full value for them. William Hillyer said he knew nothing about it, which occasioned a burst of laughter in the court. James Hamilton had nothing to say; and Elizabeth Olliver said she had found the articles at the Leech-pit pond, and the money found upon her (fifteen sovereigns) was her own.

The six prisoners were then fully committed to Lewes Assizes for the burglary and robbery, and the woman Olliver for receiving a portion of the stolen property.

The Misses Farncombe were bound over in the sum of £40 each to prosecute, and were permitted to withdraw from the court. They expressed great anxiety to get away early as they had a journey of fifteen miles, and a wide common to cross. The property hitherto found is of a very trifling value, the plate, valuable gold watches, diamond rings, &c., not having been discovered, although, calculating the time that had elapsed between the commission of the burglary and the apprehension of the prisoners, the police are of opinion that it has not been sold, but lies concealed in the neighbourhood. That the whole of the gang are not yet in custody is inferred from the circumstance of Mrs. Morton, the wife of the constable, overhearing a conversation between three of the prisoners in their cells, in which one of them expressed a hope that "they would send counsel," and another replied that "they might do so at all events."

On Monday morning, at half-past nine, the constables proceeded to Lewes with the prisoners, Smiths, Hamilton, Hillyer, Carter, Brooks, Olliver, and Morgan. During the first part of the journey the fellows behaved very quietly; but the van in which they were conveyed had scarcely passed Crowborough before they became exceedingly violent, and most grossly insulted every one that passed, declaring that they anticipated a "rescue." Brooks raised his heavily ironed hands, knocked off the hat of Dadson, one of the officers, and entreated the other prisoners to throw themselves out of the vehicle. Hillyer immediately dashed his handcuffs against the side of the van, apparently with the intention of snapping them; but not succeeding in that he attempted to throw himself into the road. By this time, however, the officers, seeing how the case stood, became most determined in their manner, and having presented their firearms, threatened to shoot the first man that moved, which had the effect of quieting them. Before their arrival at Uckfield, the prisoners raised such an intolerable noise by hooting and yelling, that a horse which was being led by a boy took fright, and started away at a most terrific rate.

It appears that a burglary was committed on the night of the 31st of December, only twenty-four hours previously to the Uckfield burglary, in which all the prisoners except Carter were implicated. The offence was committed at Hartfield, in the White Hart public house, of which Elizabeth Kennard is the landlady. The property is not of any great value, but portions of it were traced to the possession of the prisoners. Another case, which is only yet in its preliminary stage, is the finding of several boxes of linendrapery, &c., in a lonely cottage not far from Uckfield, in which the uncle and aunt of the prisoner, Elizabeth Olliver, reside. These persons are at present in custody, and the whole are likely to turn out members of the same gang, one portion plundering, and the other secreting and disposing of the booty.

George Stingle and Hannah Collins, who stood remanded from Friday on a charge of assault and intended robbery on the person of Mr. Adam Leffler, the musician and public singer, were brought up at Lambeth, on Monday, for final examination. The case was remanded to give the constable an opportunity of enquiring into the characters of the prisoners, and particularly that of the male prisoner, who described himself as a cab-driver. The constable made the necessary enquiry, and discovered that Stingle is a common thief, and had been tried for felony at the Clerkenwell Sessions. While at the bar he cried and blubbered like a boy. He admitted having assaulted the gentleman, but denied all intention to rob him. Both prisoners were fully committed for trial.

Henry Jackson and Henry Claydon were brought up at Clerkenwell on Monday, charged with having stolen, in the dwelling-house of Mrs. Miller, Charrington-street, Somerstown, six table-spoons, six dessert-spoons, and other plate, her property. Jackson was once transported, and has since been twelve times in charge for felony. The prisoners were both remanded.

Mr. John Varley, tailor and draper, Tottenham-court-road, went to bed on Friday evening about eleven o'clock, having first seen that all the doors and windows were properly fastened, as every prudent housekeeper should do. About four o'clock next morning he was aroused by the constable ringing the bell, and on going down stairs he found the chain of the door unhooked and the bolt removed. In the passage he found a large bag full of cloth, and close by several pieces of cloth. Notwithstanding all his watchfulness the thieves had been too many for him. Some one it is suspected had secreted himself

in the shop about the hour of closing, and, when all was quiet, had let his comrades in. A policeman had, fortunately, been watching them, and, having given the alarm, two of the burglars were secured on the spot, and the other three in the course of the morning. The whole five John Williams, alias Greenfield, alias Shallow Jack; James Colter, alias Young Dutch Sam; William Johnson, alias The Irish Barber; Charles Gosling, alias Little Charley; and John Moran, all well-known burglars, were brought up at Marlborough-street on Saturday, but the evidence against them not being complete, they were remanded till Wednesday, when they were finally committed for trial.

Two boys, named Thomas Sheehan and John Lee, each aged seventeen, were brought up at Thames-street, on Monday, the former charged with stealing fifty-five gross of steel pens the property of Mr. Joseph Gillott, his master, of No. 37, Gracechurch-street and Birmingham; the other with receiving them knowing them to be stolen. A Jew, named Asher Barnard, gave evidence against the prisoner Lee. This Jew, it seems, purchased largely of the boy, to the amount of several gross of Gillott's pens, and afterwards gave notice to the police. On examination, he gave but a very poor account of himself, and was warned by the magistrate that he would share the same fate as his dishonest co-religionist, Barnett, and be transported for ten years, unless he discontinued such practices. The prisoners were committed for trial.

Mr. James C. Wheeler, of Northgate-street, Gloucester, when on his way home to Longford, at seven o'clock on Saturday evening last, in a road much frequented, was attacked by a couple of fellows, at a short distance from the New Inn, and within a few hundred yards of several houses, and had his gold watch and chain forcibly taken from him, fortunately, he was able to describe one of the robbers so accurately as to lead to the detection of the ruffians, who are committed for trial.

Two men have been apprehended in Swansea, one a soldier belonging to the 77th Regiment, now stationed in that town; the other a shoemaker from Bristol, both charged with breaking into a watchmaker's shop in Swansea, on the morning of Thursday week.

Two men, named Henry Davis and William Davis, alias Ledbury, have been apprehended and examined on a charge of burglary at the house of a widow named Elsmore, residing at Elwalt, East Dean, Gloucestershire. It seems three fellows knocked at her door and represented themselves as neighbours wanting some cider. The woman suspected they were robbers, and refused to go down to them, on which they broke into the house. They were armed with a pickaxe and hatchet, and wore canvass masks. They demanded money, and during a short parley a young girl named Jones made an attempt to leave the house, but a hatchet was held over her by one of the men, who swore he would murder her if she dared to move. Two of the men went up stairs, while the one armed with the hatchet stayed to keep guard over Mrs. Elsmore and her niece. Having ordered them to turn their backs to him, and not stir, he said they only wanted money. Mrs. Elsmore said, "Spare our lives, and I will give you all I have," which is up stairs. He then ordered them both to go up stairs, and followed them. Mrs. Elsmore gave them her money, fifteen sovereigns, and from 8s. to 10s. in silver; they searched several boxes and found three old gold wedding rings and one silver one, which they took; and after telling Mrs. Elsmore and her niece to remain up stairs until they were gone, they went down and ransacked the kitchen cupboards, and found six silver tea spoons, and part of a gammon of bacon, which they took, and then left the premises.

DEPORTATION OF PAUPER CHILDREN TO BERMUDA.

At the usual meeting of the Marylebone board of guardians, last week, an application was made by a Captain Burrows, of the brig James, for a number of boys and girls between the ages of twelve and fourteen, from the workhouse, to be conveyed by him to Bermuda as emigrants. His object in taking them out, he said, was to apprentice them as domestic servants until they were eighteen. His charge for taking them was £6 per head, the parish providing their outfits. In reply to a question from one of the guardians, Captain Burrows said there were no funds provided to assist them in getting other situations on returning home at the end of their apprenticeship, but they could easily get other situations. He had already taken sixty children from St. Pancras workhouse; he would sail on the 25th instant, and would take any number of children. The board considered the matter too grave to be hastily decided upon; they would not, however, send any children on the 25th. The report of the affair having appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* of Saturday, the attention of the Poor-law Board was called to it, and the result was a letter to the St. Pancras board, asking whether it was true that they had been sending children to Bermuda, and if so under what circumstances? The St. Pancras board met on Tuesday, when the letter from the Poor-law Commissioners was read. The Chairman also read an article from the *Chronicle* of Monday, condemning the conduct of the guardians. He was sorry that the editor had not enquired into that matter before he wrote that article. Had he done so he would have found that the guardians took the utmost care of the children sent out, both on board the vessel and after their arrival at Bermuda. It was a mistake to suppose that a wealthy, extensive parish like St. Pancras cared nothing about its children provided it was relieved of their maintenance. He corrected the state-

ment that sixty children had been sent out; only forty children had gone with five adults, making altogether forty-five. He had instructed Mr. Stewart, a surgeon, who lately left for Bermuda, to visit the children, enquire into their condition, and reward the well-conducted with 2s. 6d. each. He had received letters from three of the children in which they spoke in the highest terms of their situations and their comforts:—

"Mr. Godden said that when the first children were sent out, he went down and examined the vessel, and the place fitted up for them. As he was a nautical man, he was well versed in everything connected with shipping, and, therefore, could not be deceived. Everything was admirably arranged. There was a complete separation made between the boys and the girls' apartments. The latter had the side cabin, and were superintended by women: while the boys were placed under the care of men. But he should remark that Captain Barrows was then only mate of the vessel. The food, bed and bedding were unexceptionable. In fact, he would have willingly sent his son by the vessel, for whose voyage he had paid sixty guineas, or his two nephews, who lately went abroad. (*Hear, hear.*) Everything was done to protect the children from contamination. One girl, aged nineteen, said she would take care of those with whom she went. Their outfits consisted of six pairs of stockings, two pairs of shoes, two suits of clothes, and every other article of dress requisite for the voyage. The captain bore a most excellent character, and every arrangement was made for the comfort and safety of the children."

In the course of the discussion it was stated that none of the children had been sent out without their own consent and that of their parents having been obtained. One of the guardians said they might not have acted in a strictly legal manner, as the act of Parliament requires that they should go before a magistrate, but everything in their power had been done to secure the comfort of the children.

MR. COBDEN ON NATIONAL EDUCATION.

The National School Association held its first annual meeting, at Manchester, on Thursday. Mr. Alexander Henry, M.P., took the chair, and, after some preliminary business, called upon Mr. Cobden to move the first resolution, which was—

"That the present aspect of the educational question gives high testimony to the value of the efforts of this association, and promises a complete and speedy triumph."

Mr. Cobden said they were indebted, in some degree, for this meeting to a recent movement in Manchester by gentlemen who had hitherto not taken a prominent part in the cause of national education. He congratulated the meeting on the fact that those gentlemen had adopted the principle of local rating, and had also given their adhesion to the principle of secular education. But the plan by which they sought to accomplish their object was not new. It was merely the transfer to Manchester of the contest which has been going on in the House of Commons and the Government. "It was, in fact, a proposal whereby everybody should be called upon to pay for the religious teachers of everybody else." The scheme could never work. The very men who had devised it would chat out before they had taken a twentieth part of the trouble which the Lancashire Association had taken in grappling with the real difficulties of the question. We had precisely the same difficulties to contend with which the people of America and of Holland had before they could establish proper systems of education. We must follow the same principle as they had done, and there never was a more favourable period for trying to obtain a national secular system of education. There was more religious discord prevailing and impending than he had ever known, and at the same time a more general feeling of the importance of secular education.

"Where was our boasted superiority over Frenchmen, Germans, Danes, and Italians, when the American Minister could come to our Town-hall, and taunt us with the ignorance of our people, no one daring to rise up and say we had done as much as they had in America? He agreed with Mr. Lawrence that there was danger in such a state of things, and that not a day should be lost till it was remedied. The honourable gentleman advised the association to pursue its own course steadily, showing no opposition to anybody, but inviting the concurrence of every one; and if he could be of service on any deputation, even to the new body who had come forward in this town, to aid in removing any difficulties to unity of effort, he should be most happy to give his services. He sat down amid great cheering."

Mr. Milner Gibson afterwards addressed the meeting in seconding the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

MANSLAUGHTER AT THE PECKHAM LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The investigation into the cause of the death of Moses James Barns, a pauper inmate of Peckham Lunatic Asylum, was brought to a close on Saturday. At the inquest held on the body it had been clearly established that Barns had had his left arm and four of his ribs on his left side broken on the 23rd of December, and that, although it was the duty of Hill, the keeper in the infirmary, to report the slightest

casualty to the medical attendant, he did not say a word about them till four days afterward. By the coroner's direction, however, no keeper could be held responsible for any act, no matter how brutal a nature, provided that act had been inflicted on a lunatic, and none but lunatics were present when it was perpetrated. The result was that, although the coroner's jury could not have the slightest doubt that Hill had caused the death of Barns, they simply returned a verdict of "Manslaughter against some person unknown."

From the evidence given on Saturday by Richard Donnelly, an inmate of the asylum, it appeared that on the Monday night before Christmas Barns, who was rather sulky and easily irritated, refused to go to bed, and Hill was brought to him. Hill is described as having "behaved a little more harshly than usual. He took hold of Barns with both his hands by the upper part of his arms, and threw him down suddenly on the ground." The fall was a hard one, and a few minutes after Hill went away Barns complained of being hurt. There was no doubt but the injury he then received was the cause of his death. Hill was fully committed to take his trial at the ensuing sessions for manslaughter.

THE MURDERS OF THE WEEK.

The number of murders and murderous assaults this week is greater than usual. The most remarkable case was one committed at a lonely farmhouse in Cheshire.

Mrs. Mary Kinder, an old lady, aged seventy-eight, lived with two unmarried daughters in a farmhouse, near the top of a hill named Werneth Lowe, on the road from Stockport to Mottram. On Thursday week the two Misses Kinder had gone from home, on a visit to a married sister, living a few miles distant. In the evening, about a quarter past six o'clock, the servant girl, who had been sitting in the house with Mrs. Kinder, went to assist her brother in milking the cows, leaving her mistress sitting before the fire. In little more than twenty minutes she returned, and was surprised to find the house in darkness. On entering the inner parlour she found the old woman stretched on the floor. Her first impression was that her mistress had fallen into a fit, but on raising her up she found her quite dead, and a large pool of blood where the body was lying. She ran to tell her brother, who immediately went and brought some of the neighbours. On examining the house it was found that a chest of drawers in one of the bedrooms had been broken open, and also a box in the man-servant's bedroom, but no property of much value had been taken away. About £13 in cash was secreted behind the pillows at the head of Mrs. Kinder's bed, which the villains missed, as they also did the silver spoons in the parlour cupboard. It is supposed, however, that the murderers were scared before they had rifled the house. The murder appears to have been committed with a large hammer, such as is commonly used by stone-breakers. A single blow of such a weapon would easily inflict a wound like that which caused Mrs. Kinder's death.

An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday, and many people expected that disclosures would be made which would implicate Josiah Fox, the servant man, but the evidence appears to free him from all suspicion. None of the witnesses having thrown any light on the mysterious affair, the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder, against some person or persons unknown."

Maria Kolfe, aged fifteen years, in the service of a Mr. Cook, of Marigold-street, Bermondsey, left her master's house to visit her parents, on Saturday night week. On her way home she unfortunately called upon some female friends, with whom she went to several public-houses, and drank so much spirits that she became quite intoxicated. On the way home she insisted on going by Bermondsey-wall. When her companions reached Salisbury-street they found that she was missing. They searched everywhere, but were probably not in a fit state to find her. Her parents went to the police station, and every exertion was made to discover her whereabouts, but nothing could be heard of her until Monday, when a waterman named Trimbell, discovered her body lying in the mud off Fountain-stairs, Bermondsey. It was removed to her father's house, washed and searched, but no marks of injury were to be seen upon her person, although it was fully believed that the unfortunate girl had been subjected to violence. At the inquest, which was brought to a close on Saturday, the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased was found drowned in the river, without marks of violence on the person; but how she came into the water, or by what means she met her death, they had no evidence to show."

William Shirley Brook, musician, composer, and teacher of languages, was brought up at Lambeth on Tuesday, on a warrant charging him with threatening and attempting to strangle his wife. Mrs. Brook said for the last two years out of the seven she had been married to the defendant, her life had been rendered most miserable and wretched by the conduct of her husband, in drinking to excess, making use of the most violent threats, and ill-using her. For the last two months, he had given way to his passion for drink and violence to such an extent that he became almost intolerable; and on Sunday morning last, he attempted to put his threat of strangling her into execution, by twisting her bed-gown about her throat while in bed; that she actually felt herself being suffocated, but by some effort she drew herself away from him so as to enable her to alarm the servants in the house, and bring them to her assistance. All she wished the magistrates to do was to bind him to keep the peace, so that she should be left to attend to her house in peace. The constable who had gone to serve the warrant said the neighbours were in daily fear that

murder would be committed. Mr. Brook, who is described as "looking as if he had just recovered from a debauch and whose appearance was rather ferocious, his face being nearly covered with long black hair," when asked what he had to say to the charge, replied that he was labouring under an affection for which he was obliged to drink, and he would admit that, while under the influence of spirits, his temper was not the best, and he might have committed himself. With respect to the charge urged by his wife of attempting to strangle her, he should submit it to his worship's own judgment whether he thought it likely that if he had used the violence spoken to by Mrs. Brook she could have cried out for assistance? The magistrate's "own judgment" was that Mr. Brook must find two sureties in £20 to keep the peace, and be of good behaviour towards his wife for two months.

Considerable excitement prevailed in the neighbourhood of Orchard-street, Westminster, on Tuesday, in consequence of a rumour that one of the Grenadier Guards had been found on the pavement facing the house of a person named Rogers, in a state of insensibility, having received very severe injuries on the head. It appeared that he had been in the habit of visiting a female named Church, who resided on the first floor, and there is strong reason to believe that a quarrel ensued, and that the injured man was thrown out of the window, a height of twenty feet. He was conveyed to Westminster Hospital, when it was discovered that his head was fractured, and he was otherwise severely injured.

George Carnt, a farm labourer at Lawshall, near Bury St. Edmund's, has been committed to prison on the charge of having murdered Elizabeth Bainbridge, a dressmaker in the same village. She was a married woman, but had for the last seven or eight years been separated from her husband, who is now a soldier. On the afternoon of Monday last Carnt and the young woman were together in the village public-house called the Harrow, which is kept by her brother. For the last few months an intimacy had sprung up between the two; at any rate, if his addresses were not reciprocated, it is said that he was very anxious to ingratiate himself in her favour. About half-past three or four o'clock on Monday afternoon she left the Harrow by the front door, and almost immediately after he went out by the back door, and they were seen in a few minutes crossing a field in company. This is the last time she is known to have been seen alive. She said she was going home to her father's, a distance of a mile and a half. At seven o'clock Carnt returned to the Harrow, his clothes literally covered with dirt and saturated with wet, and without his hat and neckerchief. Mr. Payne, the landlord of the Harrow, asked him where his hat and neckerchief were. Carnt replied, "They are in the pond: the halter will be my neckerchief; the devil has got me; pray, don't touch me!" Payne despatched a man to his father's to ascertain whether his sister had arrived, who returned with the answer that she had not. Upon learning this, police constable Keable was sent for, and, on his arrival, he asked Carnt, who had been changing his clothes, "Where Betsy was?" to which he made no answer. Keable went for her father, and commenced a search along the route she must have gone to her father's house. For nearly a mile they traced the footmarks of a man and woman, when they suddenly stopped near a pond. On inspecting the pond with the lanterns, Keable perceived something dark, and on jumping in found it was the body of the deceased. A large bruise, as if from a blow with the fist, was discovered on the right cheek, and several severe scratches on her face, neck, and hands. The bushes near the pond bore evidence that a fearful struggle had taken place between the deceased and another party, and that she had been violently dragged along the hedge from the spot where the footprints ceased to the pond. In the pond, and close by the body, were found a hat and neckerchief, which can be identified as belonging to Carnt. Round the neck of the woman was also found a silver watch, which belonged to him. Her dress exhibited other evidence of the violence of the struggle, being torn from the top to the bottom; her victorine, which lay on the edge of the pond, had also been torn through the fur, and thus forced off her neck. Keable proceeded at once to the Harrow, where Carnt still remained, and told him that the body had been found, and that he should take him into custody on a charge of murder. He made no reply, nor showed any emotion. On searching him they found in his breeches pocket a wedding-ring, corresponding with one which she invariably wore, and which was missing from her finger. Since his apprehension Carnt does not allude to the event in the remotest degree. The only allusion made was in the course of Monday night, when one of those who sat up with him said, on drinking some brandy-and-water, that he was afraid it was the last they should ever drink together; Carnt, throwing himself back on his pillow, with considerable emotion exclaimed, "I am afraid so." If he were the murderer of the deceased the only motive conjectured for it is an alleged jealous feeling as to her receiving the addresses of another.

Elias Billot, an old man, aged sixty-five, a shipkeeper in the harbour of St. Helier, in the island of Jersey, left his house on the night of Saturday week to go to sleep on board the Intrepid. Next morning he was found lying dead at a short distance from that vessel, with marks of violence on his body. It appeared in evidence that part of two sheets of copper were cut off the bows of the Pallas, a vessel lying near the Intrepid, on the night of Saturday to Sunday, and it is supposed that Billot had detected the thieves in the act of stealing the copper, and in order to escape punishment they committed the horrid deed.

John Walker, aged 58, a commission agent and collector of rents in Liverpool, died on New Year's Eve, after a few days' illness. No suspicion was entertained that he had come to his end by foul means, till several days after his death. It appears that Walker

had had a sum of money (about £52) left him a few weeks before his death, and, having no box in which to deposit his cash, he went about with it in a bag. Shortly after he fell ill. A surgeon attended him, who considered that he was labouring under *delirium tremens*, and prescribed accordingly. In a day afterwards he called again, when the parties keeping the house told him that he need not call again, as they would get a surgeon from the dispensary, who would attend for nothing. A few days afterward Walker died. As this along with other circumstances had excited some suspicion that there had been foul play, the body was exhumed on Saturday, and the stomach and intestines have been submitted to examination.

A MYSTERIOUS CASE.

A good deal of excitement was caused in the neighbourhood of Fitzroy-square, in the early part of the week, by a rumour that the sudden death of a young woman, in a house in Fitzroy-street, inhabited by a number of unmarried "ladies," had been caused by poison. An inquest was held upon the body on Thursday, when the following facts were stated:—Sophia Dudley, who described herself as a widow, and had occupied the house in question, for the last ten years, first saw Julia Cooper, alias Jane Lochlaw, at Brighton, three weeks ago, and brought her from there "to make night-gowns and shifts, and to be a kind of companion." This girl, nineteen years of age, had no acquaintance in London, nor did any one visit her during those three weeks. For the last two weeks she had been suffering from a severe cold, and complained of pains in her side and stomach. On Saturday night she was very ill, and on Sunday morning she died, after a few hours severe illness. One of the "ladies," fashionably dressed, and with a great display of jewellery, stated that Julia Cooper seldom left her room. James Wilcock, a Chelsea pensioner, stated that Jane Lochlaw was the daughter of very respectable parents at Dundee. When a mere child she left her home and he had adopted her. He saw her last about seven weeks ago, when she visited him at Chelsea College, and then returned to Brighton. He had no idea that she was in London. The old man, who was much affected, said he had £120 belonging to this child, but he would not keep it as she had a father. From the evidence of Mr. Jones, surgeon, who had made a *post mortem* examination, it appeared that she died of disease of the heart. The jury returned a verdict of "Natural Death."

SUICIDES AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

Richard Randall, aged 50, residing in Norton-street, Portland-place, committed suicide in Kensall-green Cemetery, on Friday afternoon, by cutting his throat. Before leaving home he had bid his servant good bye, saying she would not see him again alive. He had been in a desponding way for some time on account of disappointments in business.

Hannah Barber, a married woman, aged forty, having quarrelled with her husband, on Sunday morning, and feeling tired of life threw herself into the canal, at Western Villas, Regent's-park. No sooner had she done so than she repented, and called on the constable in attendance there for assistance. At the risk of his own life the constable saved the poor woman, and took her to the station where she was properly attended to.

Henrietta Smelt was brought up at Guildhall, on Monday, charged with attempting suicide, by throwing herself from the parapet of Blackfriars-bridge, on Sunday morning. She had been caught by some persons who were passing just as she was about to leap into the river. On her way to the station-house she said she wanted to destroy herself because she had lost her wedding ring. When examined by the magistrate she said she could not tell what had induced her to contemplate suicide. She was not living with her husband, as he was in a situation where he was supposed to be single, but allowed her a proper maintenance, and called every week to see her. On promising that she would never again be guilty of a similar attempt, she was discharged.

A baker at Norwich destroyed himself on Tuesday with a dose of oil of almonds, to be revenged on his wife, with whom he had quarrelled about the disposal of a large twelfth cake.

The landlord of a beer-shop in Poole went into such a violent rage last week, at seeing one of his customers strike a woman, that he was attacked by apoplectic hysteria and died in two hours.

As Mr. Jukes, minister of the John Bunyan meeting-house, Bedford, was going to chapel last Sunday, with his wife, just before they reached the chapel, Mrs. Jukes fell dead upon the spot.

Mr. Morrison, stoneware merchant, High-street, Perth, died very suddenly on Thursday week. He was sitting in his armchair waiting his breakfast, when his daughter came with it she found him with his cheek resting upon his hand lifeless. He was eighty-one, and had seldom had a day's illness all his life.

Much alarm was excited in the neighbourhood of Cowick-terrace, Exeter, on Wednesday, on account of the mysterious death of Miss Curtis, a maiden lady, residing in one of the houses. The charwoman, who visited the house at certain periods, was there on Saturday, and left Miss Curtis, who resides alone, in her usual health. On Sunday morning the outer window shutters were not opened, which attracted but little notice, and they remained so until Wednesday, when, on the charwoman going as usual, she could not gain admittance. After some little difficulty an entrance was effected, when Miss Curtis was found in the parlour, seated in a chair near the fire-place, and quite dead. The window-sash was raised and the bolt of the shutter lifted; it is therefore supposed that she had commenced to open the shutters on Monday morning, but that on finding herself suddenly ill she had taken a seat where she was found, so that she must have been dead three days before the body was discovered.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the visitors at Windsor Castle this week were several members of the ex-Royal Family of France. On Monday the Queen walked on the slopes, accompanied by the Duchess de Nemours and the Duchess d'Aumale. At a later period in the day the Countess de Neuilly paid her respects to the Queen and Prince Albert, and in the afternoon left the castle, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess de Nemours and the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale.

It is stated to be her Majesty's intention to open the ensuing session of Parliament in person.

We have reason to believe that the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne will be moved by the Marquis of Kildare, and seconded by Mr. Peto, M.P. for Norwich.—*The Times*.

Lord Wharncliffe has withdrawn from a contest with Lord Redesdale for the chairmanship of committees in the House of Lords. Lord Redesdale's election is now certain.—*Herald*.

In consequence of the death of the Marquis of Northampton, for many years President of the Royal Society, the usual meeting of the society, on Thursday, did not take place.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Order of the Garter has been conferred upon the Marquis of Normanby, in consideration of his important services as Ambassador in Paris, and in several other high offices of State.—*Times*.

The Marquis of Hastings died in Dublin on the afternoon of Friday week, at the age of nineteen. His mother, the Marchioness of Hastings, arrived from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, county of Leicester, a few hours before he breathed his last. She was accompanied by her second husband, Captain Yelverton, nephew to the Duke of Leinster. The Marquis of Hastings was born in 1832, being the son of the late Marquis of Hastings, by the present marchioness, a peeress in her own right, viz.—Baroness Grey de Ruthyn, and who, on her second marriage, assumed the name of Yelverton. The late marquis was an ensign in the Fifty-Second Regiment of Foot. He is now succeeded by his brother, Lord Henry Weysford Charles Plantagenet, born 1842.

Lord Robert Tylour, second son of the Marquis of Headfort, died at the Barracks, Fermoy, on Sunday evening last, in consequence of the breaking of a blood vessel on the lungs. It appears that his lordship was walking in the town of Fermoy, when he saw a man beating a dog. On remonstrating with him, the man struck Lord Robert a blow, which he instantly returned, and then said, "I am choking with blood." After lingering some days, he died without pain or suffering.

Field-Marshal Thomas Grosvenor died at his house, Mount Ararat, near Richmond, on Monday last, in his 87th year. He was the son of Thomas Grosvenor, Esq. (who was brother to the first Earl Grosvenor), and, consequently, first cousin to the late Marquis of Westminster. He entered the army at the age of fifteen, and, after serving with his regiment in Holland and Flanders, took part in the expedition to the Helder in 1799. He was appointed Colonel of the Sixty-fifth Regiment in 1814, and was honoured by her Majesty with a field-marshal's baton on the 9th of November, 1846. He sat in several Parliaments as member for Chester, and afterwards for the borough of Stockbridge, and throughout his parliamentary career was a firm supporter of Mr. Pitt's policy, and, in general, of Conservative measures.

George Augustus Frederick John Lord Burghersh, eldest son of the Earl of Westmoreland, died on Wednesday, in the 32nd year of his age.

The Lord Chancellor has presented the Reverend Charles Cuthbert Southey, son of the poet, to the vicarage of Ardleigh, Essex, vacant by the death of the Reverend Henry Bishop.

Sir E. Bulwer Lytton has lost no time in commencing to give effect to the munificent intentions in favour of the establishment of a new literary fund which he expressed at the termination of the theatrical entertainments given by him at Knebworth. The play which he then undertook to write, for performance, in furtherance of that object, by the literary amateurs, is already written, and will be shortly in the hands of the actors for whom it is intended.—*Athenæum*.

The Queen has conferred a pension of £100 a-year on the Civil List upon Mrs. Liston, widow of the eminent surgeon, whose affairs at his decease were not found in the prosperous condition that might have been expected from his extensive practice and professional reputation. Her Majesty has also placed upon the Civil List for £60 a-year the widow of Mr. Sturgeon, of Manchester, upon whom a pension was lately conferred, but which he lived so short a time to enjoy.

The Reverend Dr. Warneford has intimated to the Reverend Chancellor Law, the Reverend Vaughan Thomas, and William S. Cox, Esq., his intention to place in their hands the sum of £1400, in addition to the sum of £2000 already paid over by him, as an endowment for a chair of pastoral theology. The professor to be a clergyman of the Church of England, in priest's orders, and a graduate of Oxford or Cambridge.

Mr. Bell, now Vice-Consul at Oran, is appointed Consul at Algiers, on a salary of £800, by which a saving to the public will accrue of £800 a-year, consequent on the abolition of the office of Agent and Consul-General, lately held by Mr. St. John, but which is not to be filled up. This, together with the saving on the reduction of the Consulate-General in Syria (£1000 a-year), makes a total saving on two consular appointments of £1800 a-year. A saving of £1200 a-year has also been made in the consular establishments in China.

Lord John Russell has unsolicitedly appointed the second son of Mr. Douglas Jerrold to a clerkship in the Treasury.

Lord John Russell has addressed a letter to the President of the Edinburgh Royal Society, announcing the

intention of Government to place £1000 at the disposal of the society this year for scientific purposes.

Mr. W. C. Williamson, surgeon, of Manchester, has been appointed by the trustees of Owen's College to fill the chair of natural history, which includes the teaching of botany, zoology, geology, and physiology. Mr. Tobias Theodores, who has long resided in Manchester as a teacher of several modern languages, has been appointed professor of German.

Mr. Corbould, of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours, was engaged some time since by Prince Albert to paint a picture for presentation to her Majesty, the subject selected being the cathedral scene in the opera of the *Prophète*. The picture has been completed and submitted to her Majesty, and will, by her permission, be exhibited at the gallery of the New Water Colour Society at its opening in the spring.

Application has been made by the Shakspeare House Committee to the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford for licence to Mr. Macready to read the tragedy of *Hamlet* in the theatre of the University—the Star Assembly Room, the only other place in Oxford adapted for such a purpose, having been found too small for the large audience they anticipate.

It is said that Messrs. Charles Dickens, Robert Chambers, and Charles Knight will attend a meeting to be held in Dublin on the 30th instant, on the subject of the abolition of the paper duty.

Mr. Roebuck has written a letter to the *Morning Post*, in which he says that justice to Captain Yelverton compels him to make one statement respecting the paper signed "William Doria." That statement is as follows:—"I am alone responsible," says Mr. Roebuck, "for the refusal on the part of Captain Yelverton to meet Mr. Doria. In that matter Captain Yelverton, of necessity, had no voice. Mr. Doria will find that abusive language and tardy valour are with me alike unavailing."

The Reverend Robert Abercromby Johnstone, rector of Ingrave, who was lately charged with a criminal assault on a female servant, having received notice from the Bishop of the diocese of his lordship's intention to issue a commission of enquiry into the scandal arising out of the proceedings before the magistrates at Brentwood, has presented a petition to the Bishop, praying that he may be allowed to withdraw from the charge of the parishes of Ingrave and West Horndon. The Bishop has appointed a curate to reside in the rectory-house.

The inhabitants of St. Imier, in the canton of Berne, have risen in defence of a Prussian Jew, named Basswitz, who has made himself very popular among them by his benevolence as a physician, but had been called upon by the police to depart as a political refugee. A commissioner of the Government has been sent to the place. The French Ambassador has signed a passport to enable Basswitz to proceed to Havre; if he should not leave before the 16th, the Government will send troops to occupy St. Imier.

King Leopold has also a Ministerial crisis. The Belgian Ministry, having undertaken to reduce the present army expenditure of Belgium to 25,000,000 francs, had entrusted the Ministry of War to General Brialmont, on the understanding that he was to act up to the view of the rest of the Cabinet in the plans for reduction. General Brialmont accepted the appointment, but instead of carrying out the views of his colleagues, announced in the Chamber, on Monday, that he could not realize any of the reductions proposed. Hereupon a scene took place in the Chamber, and the result was that Ministers resigned. After two days of uncertainty the Minister of the Interior announced to the Chamber of Deputies, on Wednesday, that the King had accepted the resignation of General Brialmont, Minister of War. The other Ministers consequently remain. The Minister of the Interior is charged with the ad interim administration of the war department.

Letters from Brest state that the French war steamers which cruise off the Italian coast have captured a vessel belonging to Mazzini's committee, and sailing under the Portuguese flag.

The rumour lately current as to the arrest of Il Passatore has been discovered to be false, since he has recently appeared with his band, numbering thirty-five men, at Cassandolo (Ferrara), where they bound the Papal soldiers hand and foot, pillaged eight houses, and killed a man who attempted resistance.

Prince Paskiewich, Prince Poniatowski, and the Archbishop Vladika, of Montenegro, arrived at Rome on the 10th instant.

The Emperor of Austria has raised Charles and Joseph, sons of the Polish Stanislaus Poniatowski, to the dignity of princes of the Austrian empire.

The *Austrian Lloyd's* of Vienna says that the Russian Government has resolved to establish a telegraphic line from St. Petersburg to join the lines of Vienna and Berlin.

Wilhelm Meinhold, the author of the *Amber Witch*, lately the pastor of a parish in Pomerania, is now at Berlin, preparing for admission into the Roman Catholic Church. His works exhibit the strong antipathy he always had to the philosophical rationalism of an influential school of German theology, and his friends have long anticipated his conversion.

The Prussian Court celebrated the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Prussia's elevation to the rank of a kingdom on the 18th instant. The great distribution of decorations takes place on the 18th of January every year. M. Manteuffel was honoured with the cross of the first class of the Red Eagle. In the morning there was Divine service, with appropriate performances of sacred music; at mid-day, during the ceremonies in the palace, an incessant firing of cannon; then a grand banquet given by the King; and in the evening the guests appeared, all in full gala, in the theatre, where Schiller's *Joan of Arc* was performed. At the banquet, M. Manteuffel sat immediately opposite to their Majesties, having on his right Lord Westmoreland; on his left, the special Russian Ambassador, General Gruen-

baum, and Baron Prokesch. The King gave the following toast:—"Fill your glasses, gentlemen—brimful, that you may empty them with me in three draughts:—"

"The first we drink to the *Past*—to the great deeds which our ancestors in Prussia have done—the sovereigns in union with their people!"

"The second we drink to the *Present*, and may we do this the more joyfully because the prompt rising of the people, on my late call to arms, has proved that the corruption of the year 1848 has left the core of its heart uninfected."

"The third is devoted to the *Future*. There are but few among us that can see the return of the next jubilee; but we all wish, with fervent hearts, that the coming fifty years may heap rich blessings on our Fatherland and the world!"

The King of Holland has promised to give the grand hall of the Royal Palace at Amsterdam, formerly the Town Hall, for the temporary exhibition of Netherlands' contributions to the Great Exhibition in London.

A duel with sabres was fought at Madrid, on the 15th instant, between the Count de San Luis, ex-Minister of the Interior, and M. Alejandro de Castro, in which the former was wounded in the head, but so slightly, that he was able to take his seat in the Chamber of Deputies on the following day.

General Narvaez tendered his resignation and that of his colleagues to the Queen of Spain on the 10th instant. The other Ministers also offered to resign, but the Queen positively refused to accept their resignations. Narvaez withdrew in consequence of the insults that he received from Queen Christina, because he would not be a party to a proposition to make her children by Munoz Princes and Princesses of the blood. He left Madrid on the day following for Paris. After some difficulty, M. Bravo Murillo has been put at the head of affairs. In the sitting of the Cortes on the 16th instant, he made known the governmental programme of the new Cabinet. The Ministry, he said, would be tolerant and impartial, and would entrench itself in respect for the law. Good faith, justice, and economy would, as much as possible, preside over all its acts. It would withdraw the budget, which had been presented by the former Ministry, for the purpose of modifying certain articles relative to the public expenditure, so as to effect some considerable savings. The Chambers listened with most silent attention to the announcement of the Ministerial programme, without expressing any opinion either for or against it.

The Flamer, steam-vessel, was totally wrecked on the 21st of November, on some rocks about fifteen miles below Monrovia, to the south of Sierra Leone, whilst the ship was in the immediate charge of the commander, the master acting under his orders. The wreck was complete, the engines having gone through the bottom of the vessel.

The Bengal railway works are proceeding. The public-spirited Hindoos readily give up land, and a novel and effective inducement is afforded by the promise that the names of those who give up their ground voluntarily are to be perpetuated by being inscribed on some one of the bridges or other works to be constructed thereon.

A letter from Kingston, Jamaica, of December 31st, says, "Cholera is still raging in all its malignity; and the mortality in Montego Bay, amongst the children, is greater than it has been in any other part of the island. The ordeal through which we have passed has disclosed to us scenes that the greatest enemies of the island could not have supposed to exist. We have witnessed a degree of immorality, on the part of our people, that makes one shudder to contemplate. The greatest heartlessness has been exhibited by hundreds. A man refused to assist in placing the corpse of his wife within its coffin, unless he was paid to do so, and he is only one of many who are equally barbarous."

The Governor of Trinidad has caused circulars to be written to the respective warden, calling their attention to the possibility of cholera reaching that colony, and desiring them to impress on the minds of the inhabitants of their wards the necessity of extreme cleanliness in their habitations, and of the early removal of all filth, and the filling up or draining of all pools of stagnant water and other noxious matter.

The steamer Niagara arrived out at Halifax at eleven a.m. on the 3rd instant, completely encased in ice of nearly a foot in thickness; but pursued her voyage to Boston, which port she reached on the night of the 4th instant, still in the same condition.

The proprietors of the United States steam-vessels having determined on establishing an alternate fortnightly departure from America, their vessels, of which the Baltic, now arrived, is the first, will leave every second Wednesday. A weekly departure will thus take place throughout the entire winter.

Publishers of all newspapers in the State of New York have been requested to send to the Secretary of State two copies of each newspaper published by them on the 1st of January, 1851, or the earliest publication after that time; one copy to be deposited in the State library, and the other to be sent to the World's Fair, in London.

A New York paper says: "An enormous mass of zinc ore, from the mines of the New Jersey Mining Company, is to be sent to the Great London Exhibition. The dimensions are five feet long, and between three and four feet broad and deep, the weight being nearly eight tons. It took a week to bring it over the mountains on one of the largest-sized trucks, with a twelve-horse team, and, in coming down the mountains, blocks and tackle, fastened to the trees, were required to hold it back."

A robbery to the amount of 100,000 dollars was committed on the specie train, intended for the Crescent City steamer, while crossing the Isthmus of Panama. It seems that the Isthmus is infested with an organized band of robbers, probably outlaws from the United States. The train was attacked only a few miles out of Panama by sixteen men, armed to the teeth, and three of the muleteers were killed in the affray. The party rallied, however, defeated the robbers, killed one and wounded two others, taking two prisoners and the booty. The brigands were not Americans. Many robberies have

recently been committed on the Chagres river, where bodies of murdered men are frequently seen.

The Papal power, in its aggressive character, has entered California. A bishop has been sent to that El Dorado, who, in addition to his spiritual duties, "is to examine and exhibit the titles of the old Jesuit property in California, and who will, it is thought, lay claim to 150,000,000 dollars' worth of land, as the property of the early Jesuit missionaries in that country."

The Valparaiso papers, received on Thursday by the Pacific mail, bring accounts of a political outbreak which had taken place at Aconcagua and other provinces in Chili. The insurgents at first proved successful in their operations, and held possession of the before-named town for a day or two, liberating all persons confined in the prison there. Troops were soon ordered out by the authorities, the appearance of whom soon infused terror into the minds of the rioters, who instantly fled, or concealed themselves. When these accounts left, tranquillity was almost restored; but so many secret clubs were at work to overthrow the Government that it was thought, unless the Ministry were prompt and determined, the disturbances would soon be renewed.

Lima continues to be at the mercy of thieves, who are said to have plundered all the convents. There is not a night without four or five alarms. The Government, without means of repression, is unable to protect the citizens against these robbers—three hundred in number—perfectly well armed and organized.

A general meeting of delegates from the several branch Reform Associations in the borough of the Tower Hamlets, took place on Tuesday evening, at the Temperance-hall, Mile-end-road, for the purpose of deliberating on the steps to be taken to secure an efficient representation of the borough in the next Parliament. A resolution was unanimously adopted, recognizing the importance of efforts tending to secure the election of Liberal members for London and Middlesex, and calling on the Liberal voters resident in the Tower Hamlets not to support any candidate for those places who did not come forward on the principles of the National Reform Association.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held in the large yard attached to the workhouse in the New-road, on Monday, to petition for the total repeal of the window tax. The meeting was attended by deputations from Islington, St. Anne's, and others of the metropolitan parishes; that for Islington came in procession, many of the members wearing blue scarfs, on which were inscribed in large white letters, "unconditional repeal," "no surrender;" the carriages which conveyed these gentlemen to the scene of action were placarded with bills bearing similar mottoes. There were about 800 persons present, and amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Sir J. Duke, M.P., Mr. C. Lushington, M.P., Mr. W. Williams, M.P., Mr. W. Mowatt, M.P., and Sir De Lacy Evans, M.P. The chief speakers were Mr. W. Williams, Sir De Lacy Evans, Lord Dudley Stuart, and Mr. C. Lushington. Resolutions pledging the meeting to agitate for the total abolition of the window-tax were carried with great enthusiasm.

The annual soiree of the members and friends of the Whittington Club took place at the club-house, Arundel-street, Strand, on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Mr. Charles Lushington, M.P. The handsome suite of rooms, which have recently undergone the process of renovation, were thrown open to the visitors, and the large ball-room was decorated in a most elegant and attractive style. The walls of the various apartments were adorned with pictures, many of them the choice productions of the old masters. There was also an interesting collection of models and works of art, including specimens of electrotyping, and various articles of vertu. All these objects served to occupy the attention of the company during the early part of the evening, and, shortly before the hour at which dancing was announced to commence, Mr. Lushington delivered a brief congratulatory address, in which he stated that the period of his presidency had expired, and he thanked the members of the institution for the compliment they had paid to him and Mrs. Lushington, in according to them the privileges of life members. At ten o'clock dancing commenced, and the amusements were kept up with increasing spirit until a late hour. The attendance was very numerous, and amongst the company were General Sir De L. Evans, Mr. Douglas Jerrold, and Mr. C. Knight. It appeared from a printed statement circulated on the occasion that the financial and general condition of the institution for the quarter ending December 25, 1850, has been more satisfactory than at any previous period. The number of members now on the books is 1637, including 112 life members, and the number of subscriptions due at Christmas was 738, of which, up to the present date, 368 had been renewed. On the retirement of Mr. Lushington, Mr. Monckton Milnes has undertaken the office of president, whilst many distinguished names have been added to the list of vice-presidents.

We perceive that a public meeting is to be held at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, on Thursday next, to coöperate with the Chancery Reform Association in its efforts to obtain an entire revision of the equity practice of the Court of Chancery. The chair will be taken by the Right Honourable Lord Erskine, and the meeting will be addressed by other noblemen and members of Parliament.

At the time of high water, about five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, the tide rose till the river overflowed the banks in several places, and covered part of the Temple-gardens to the depth of several inches.

Intelligence reached Liverpool, on Thursday evening, that the United States Mail steam-ship Atlantic, Captain West, which left that harbour on the 28th ultimo, for New York, broke both her engine-shafts at sea, when nine days out, and was compelled to retrace her passage. She did not arrive at Cork till last Wednesday. All the passengers and crew are safe.

A numerous and highly respectable meeting of the working classes was held in the Waterloo-rooms, Edinburgh, on Tuesday evening, to consider the subject of National Education. The chair was occupied by Professor Gregory, who made a few remarks on the desirableness of a national system of education. He was followed, in a speech of great length, by Mr. George Combe, who proposed a resolution to the effect that "the meeting approve of the basis of the Association for National Public School Education in England and Wales, expressed in the following words:—'The National Public Schools Association is formed to promote the establishment, by law, in England and Wales, of a system of Free Schools; which, supported by local rates, and managed by local committees, specially elected for that purpose by the ratepayers; shall impart secular instruction only; leaving to parents, guardians, and religious teachers the inculcation of doctrinal religion, to afford opportunities for which the schools shall be closed at stated times in each week.'" This motion was seconded by Mr. James Simpson, advocate, and enthusiastically agreed to.

It is proposed to establish in Birmingham a scholastic institution for the sons of ministers, no establishment of the kind existing in the midland counties. The thoroughly unsectarian nature of the proposal is guaranteed by the fact that among its supporters are the Reverends Angell James and Brewin Grant, and Mr. George Dawson.

A "full meeting of the soap trade in Scotland" has been held in Glasgow to memorialize the Lords of the Treasury for the abolition of this tax on health, comfort, and commerce.

Messrs. Marshall, the large spinners, at Leeds, state that flax grown in the East Riding of Yorkshire has been found fully equal to that produced in Belgium.

The seamen of Shields, Sunderland, and other ports in that district, have struck work for an advance of wages, and in opposition to the "Mercantile Marine Bill," the provisions of which they say are "degrading to the character and feelings of seamen generally, highly unnecessary in the northern ports, are a tax on our labour, and will ultimately entail slavery and misery on us as a class." Some owners in Sunderland have paid the wages demanded, and sent their vessels to sea; others have sent their vessels out in spite of the men, with crews at less wages. With the exception of a disturbance with a police boat, everything has been peaceable and quiet.

A new invention for filtering water has recently been patented. The idea is very simple. A hollow sphere of silicious stone, enclosed in a ball of iron, supplied with two taps, constitutes the apparatus, entitled "Foster's Patent Filter," which exceeds in simplicity and efficiency anything before devised. Like Etzler, who turned the natural power of the waves to mechanical purposes, Mr. Foster attaches this filter to the service pipe, and makes the power which propels the water through the main to force it through a fire stone and porous sphere, by which it is filtered more rapidly and completely than by the imperfect percolation of the common filter. Water companies might fix these filters in every house, and secure, at a small expense, perfectly pure water in every dwelling. Housewives will value a filter which fills itself, and by the operation of a common pipe also cleanses itself.

A lady who lately resided at Blackheath some years ago made a will in which she provided that £50 should be paid to her medical attendant on condition of his cutting off her head at her death, to prevent her being interred alive.

It is stated that the proceedings against Mr. Sloane will be removed by *certiorari* from the Old Bailey to the Queen's Bench. Mrs. Sloane is not yet apprehended, but there is reason to believe that she will be in custody before the trial comes on.

A fire of a very destructive character broke out in Little Britain, on Wednesday morning, in the spacious premises belonging to Mr. Robert Whitaker, playing-card and pasteboard manufacturer. The total loss by this disastrous event must, at a moderate calculation, reach several thousand pounds. Fortunately, the principal part of the valuable designs, which have taken some years to accumulate, have been saved; but for a time the whole of the workpeople—numbering upwards of forty—will be thrown out of employ.

A fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Todman, chandler, in High-street, Stoke Newington, on Sunday night, and, although every effort was made by the firemen, the adjoining buildings caught fire, and were not extinguished till several houses were entirely consumed. It is not known how the fire originated. On the same evening a fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Pursell, biscuit bakers and confectioners, Cornhill. The fire was eventually extinguished, but not till considerable damage had been inflicted.

In the immediate vicinity of the Albert-gate, Hyde-park, a building of considerable extent, for the Chinese new exhibition, is now in course of construction. About the hour for the men employed at the premises leaving off on Saturday a number of the hands approached one end of the scaffolding on which they were at work; the instant they did so their weight lifted a large portion of the brickwork, as well as the stone cornice, which caused the scaffolding and a great part of the wall to fall. Five or six of the bricklayers and labourers were precipitated to the ground, amidst the bricks, stone work, and scaffolding. They were all more or less injured, two of them seriously and one dangerously.

During the performance of the marriage ceremony at St. Giles's, Camberwell, on Wednesday week, between a lady, the heiress of some property, and a clergyman, a most extraordinary scene took place. While the parties were at the communion-table a man, who had been in the body of the church, rushed towards them, and commenced tearing the dresses of all he could get near. The alarm was so great that cries were made for the police, nor was it without diffi-

culty that he was ejected. As soon as the madman got into the churchyard, and was released, he ran away at a tremendous pace. He is said to be related to a respectable tradesman in Southampton-street, and has for some time been very eccentric in his manner.

At West Houghton, near Bolton, demands have been made upon an aged widow and three other householders (two of them in very humble circumstances), amounting altogether to the pitiful sum of 4s. 8½d., for church-rates. For this paltry claim four chests of drawers were seized, valued at £17, and sold by auction; and this notwithstanding goods equal in value to the demand might easily have been taken from the shops of the parties. About the same time, a Quaker in Preston had three pigs seized, worth at least two guineas, for a claim of 2s. 2d. for tithe.

A gentleman in Kirkaldy, Scotland, has trained a couple of mice, and invented machinery enabling them to spin cotton yarn. The work is so constructed that the common house mouse is enabled to twist twine and reel from 100 to 126 threads per day. To complete this, the little pedestrians have to run 10½ miles. A halfpenny-worth of oatmeal, at 1s. 3d. per peck, serves one of these treadwheel culprits for the long period of five weeks. In that time it makes 110 threads per day. At this rate a mouse earns 7s. 6d. per annum. Take off 5d. for the board, and 1s. for machinery, there will arise 6s. clear for every mouse annually. The mouse employer was going to make an application for the lease of an old empty house, which would hold 10,000 mouse mills, sufficient room being left for keepers and some hundreds of spectators.—*Eastern Counties Herald*.

The inaugural banquet of the Lord Mayor of Dublin took place in the Mansion-house on Tuesday night. His lordship awaited his guests in the reception-room, and gave each a cordial welcome. The Lord Lieutenant, attended by his aides-de-camp, arrived about half-past seven o'clock, and was escorted to the room where the company had assembled by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and the aldermen and town councillors, who were attired in their robes. The whole of the speeches made in the course of the evening were of the most flattering and complimentary description. The Lord Lieutenant described the corporation as representing "the wealth, the intelligence, the respectability, the opinions, and the interests of the second city in the empire, and which may well challenge comparison with any municipal body that ever was, or is ever likely to be called into existence." No allusion was made to political questions, or to the abolition of the Lord Lieutenancy.

The project for founding a Catholic University in Ireland makes very slow progress. At the monthly meeting of the committee, held last week, subscriptions were handed in to the extent of £1600, and it was arranged that simultaneous collections should be made on the 17th of March to place the project on a more solid basis. It is evident that the Catholic laity do not participate in the enthusiasm which the Catholic clergy display.

An Irish paper states that, at the inauguration dinner of the Mayor of Kilkenny, Alderman Smithwick, in the course of his speech, said that, as regarded himself, he was not so ambitious about his country as others. All that he wanted for Ireland was an Irish King and Queen, and an Irish House of Lords and Commons.

The lead mine recently discovered near the town of Galway has now a number of hands employed on it at full work, and the results promise to be highly profitable.

The nephew of Dr. Higgins, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Ardagh, has been appointed master of the Longford workhouse, with a salary of £50 per annum, and rations.

As Mr. James Hagerty was returning from Killucan to his residence at Knockshobawn, one night last week, he was attacked by an armed party of eight men. He instantly drew a large clasp knife from his pocket with which he cut and hacked away at his opponents so vigorously that they were compelled to retreat. The struggle was a desperate one, and it is supposed the majority of the ruffians were severely wounded. Mr. Hagerty had upwards of £200 on his person at the time, and there can be no doubt but robbery was the object of his assailants.

A very unfortunate occurrence took place at Cahirciveen on Saturday evening last, which, it is feared, must terminate fatally. Mr. Maurice O'Connell, M.P., a Mr. Twiss, and some other gentlemen dined together at Fitzgerald's hotel. Some discussion arose after dinner between Mr. Twiss and another of the party. The person with whom Mr. Twiss had the discussion left the room. When he had gone, the latter observed that he had never seen a duel, whereupon Mr. O'Connell said he would show him the way, and got a pair of pistols that had been for seven months in Dublin. They took one each, presented at each other, and pulled the triggers, when unfortunately the pistol Mr. O'Connell had, happening to be loaded, the ball passed through the right shoulder of Mr. Twiss, and lodged in the other, causing the most frightful suffering, and inflicting, it is greatly feared, a mortal wound. Dr. Crump was called in at once, and the wounded young man made a declaration that the transaction was purely accidental, stating that he would not die in peace if he did not make a declaration to that effect.

For several years back one of the most miserably poor of the poor of Skibbereen was James Kane. He contrived to eke out existence by disposing of a few bones and old rags, and, now and then, a handful of grass plucked from the roadside; but at last his precarious means of livelihood utterly failed him, and he was driven to the shelter of the workhouse. This poor man, according to a Cork paper, is now on his way to London, in company with an eminent solicitor, to receive a legacy of £10,000, and property to the amount of £500 a-year. It appears that an uncle of his made this large fortune in business in London, and that James is his next of kin and heir.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

The Prize Essay on 1 John ii. 18.—The prize has been awarded to the writer of the essay signing S. S. H. The authors of the unsuccessful essays, several of which are of great merit, may have their MSS. by applying at our office.

Dorset's letter received.

W. J.—The Index to the first volume of the *Leader* will be given in our next number.

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

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

All letters for the Editor to be addressed 9, Crane-court, Fleet-street, London.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, Jan. 25.

An important meeting was held at Manchester, on Thursday evening, at the Albion Hotel, called together under the designation of a "social soirée," at which was put forth by the honourable member for the West Riding of Yorkshire a sort of manifesto, indicating the policy he and his friends are disposed to take on the leading questions which are likely to come before Parliament during the approaching session. The parties invited to the soirée were the leading members of the committees in South Lancashire and Manchester having the charge of the registers of voters, at whose suggestion the meeting is said to have taken place. Mr. Alexander Henry, M.P., and Mr. Brotherton, M.P., were present, and took part in the proceedings. Mr. George Wilson took the chair.

Mr. Milner Gibson, spoke first, chiefly in favour of large reductions of taxation—the abolition of the taxes on paper, newspapers, and advertisements; Mr. Bright, who followed him, ridiculed the No-Popery movement, and urged the importance of adhering to principle, even at the risk of unseating the Whigs. Little progress would be made in the cause of Reform if they were always trembling for the fate of a Ministry.

Mr. Cobden defended the course he had pursued last session, and indicated very plainly that he will not go a step out of his way next session to keep the Whigs in office. "I must confess," he says, "that, in regard to fiscal matters, I believe the Opposition party would do quite as much in the way of retrenchment as the Whigs—I am not sure that they would not do more." He denounced the proposed attempt to impose some restriction on religious freedom, under the pretext of checking Papal aggression.

"We shall be told, pretty often, no doubt, that unless Government interferes the privileges and prerogatives of the Queen of England will be invaded by the Pope—not by Cardinal Wiseman. Cardinal Wiseman is a British subject; he cannot invade the prerogative of the Crown without being guilty of high treason; and if he is so guilty let him be tried by law. But what prerogative has been invaded by the conduct of the Pope? Not the temporal prerogative. Why, the Pope has at this moment in his army a few thousand French and Austrian troops; and I have it on the best authority, that if these troops were removed dire would be the dismay and speedy flight of the whole body—Pope and Cardinals. (*Cheers and laughter.*) It is not, then, the army of the Pope that is to threaten the temporalities of the Crown. Are the temporal prerogatives threatened by sea? You may have a list of the entire naval force of the Pope—it amounts to two gun brigs and a schooner. (*Laughter.*) Put one quarter of an effective service on the coast of Sussex, it would be quite sufficient to guard the whole island against it. We are told, however, that the spiritual dominion of the Queen is to be perilled. Now, are we as politicians, who are called upon to vote money for ordnance and for shot and shell to meet and repel the aggressive enemy that meets us with similar weapons—are we to forge the spiritual artillery with which we are to meet this aggression? (*Cheers.*) If we are, I beg you to consider how capably we are suited in the House of Commons for that purpose. (*Loud cheers and laughter.*) Admitting, if you please, that we are, the great majority of us, eminent for our piety, how are we constituted? (*Laughter.*) Are we all churchmen, owing to the spiritual authority of the Queen? Why, about forty or fifty of us are Roman Catholics; and, mark me, you will have a great many more Roman Catholics returned from Ireland at the next election. We have an Independent or two, we have three or four Unitarians, and we have a Quaker I am happy to say, and I wish we had a good many more—(*great applause*)—and we have a prospect of having a Jew. (*Laughter.*) Now, is not that a very nice body of men to uphold the Queen's supremacy as head of England's church? If you wanted to give us a task in the House which should last till Doomsday, then give us the task of settling the question of Papal aggression. (*Cheers.*) I say, give it to the politicians to settle if you want it never to be settled at all. As has been well expressed here by Mr. Bright, politicians have been at the work already for 400 or 500 years. They have tried every available means; they have tried fire and faggot, and then came the penal laws which went every length short of extermination. . . . But there is one symptom, and almost the only symptom, which has consoled me in this agitation for religious disabilities, and it is this: the calm, passive,

and in many respects contemptuous silence and indifference with which it has been regarded by the great mass of the people of this country. (*Cheers.*) If the same tumults had occurred fifty or sixty years ago, owing to the ignorance and bigotry of the mass of the people of this country, half the Roman Catholic chapels would have been in flames, and half their occupants' lives in danger. (*Hear, hear.*) And I thank the demonstration only for this—that it has given me, more than anything else, a conviction of the great progress that has been made in real intelligence by the great mass of the people, especially in the north of England. (*Cheers.*) I will not say so much of the south."

The whole of the speakers were much applauded, and the meeting was altogether very enthusiastic.

The Queen gave a dramatic representation at Windsor Castle on Thursday, the performance taking place in the temporary theatre, which was fitted up the same as on former occasions. About eight o'clock her Majesty the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and the Princess Helena, accompanied by the royal dinner guests, comprising the Duchess of Kent, the Baron and Baroness de Brunnow, the Earl and Countess of Minto and Lady C. Elliot, the Marquis and Marchioness of Worcester, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Speth, Lord and Lady Ashburton, the Right Honourable Fox Maule, and Colonel Wylde, entered the temporary theatre. A select party had been honoured with invitations to witness the representation. The performances were Douglas Jerrold's comedy, *The Prisoner of War*, and Planche's vaudeville, *The Loan of a Lover*.

The metropolis and the suburban districts were visited yesterday with one of the densest fogs that has been witnessed for some time past. All travelling by the usual steam conveyances was completely out of the question. At four o'clock in the afternoon it became so dark that it was extremely difficult to see more than a foot in advance; the consequence was that several accidents happened both on the river and along the public roads. Near Westminster steam-boat pier, a boat containing three men and a female, who were making for College-stairs, ran their vessel against the stairs and all four were thrown overboard, and narrowly escaped drowning. At the foot of the various bridges, and along the streets, several vehicles came into violent collision.

A public vestry was held in the vestry-room of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, last evening, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the Legislature for a total repeal of the window-duty. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That the window-duties are impolitic, unequal, and unjust, and ought to be entirely abolished without further delay; that the window-tax not only operates unequally and oppressively upon the occupiers of the middle and lower class of houses, but is entirely destructive of all those sanitary improvements which have been sanctioned by the Government and Legislature."

The Government has offered a reward of £150 for the discovery of the person or persons who so brutally murdered Mrs. Mary Kinder, on the 16th instant, at Roads Fold, Chester. It is announced also that any accomplice, not being the actual murderer, who will give such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of his or her confederates, will receive her Majesty's free pardon.

The wife and four children of John Mitchel, the Irish exile, arrived in Liverpool on Saturday, from Dublin, for the purpose of embarking thence for Australia. They were accompanied by Father Kenyon, who made the necessary arrangements for their departure in the Condor. Seven boys from the Metropolitan Ragged Schools were also passengers in the same vessel, which left Liverpool on Thursday.

The latest accounts from Paris bring no intelligence of any progress having been made in the formation of a new Ministry. It is said, on the one hand, that M. Leon Faucher has opened negotiations with other parties; on the other, that the President will be obliged to form a temporary Ministry from friends, who are not members of the Assembly.

It is said to be beyond a doubt that Rendsburg and Altona are to be occupied by the Diet's troops; Lubeck and Hamburg are also for a certain period to be garrisoned by Austrians and Prussians. Only about 5000 men of Austrian troops will for the moment enter Holstein. Fredericksort will be occupied probably by the Danes. No proposition has been made by Count Sponneck at Vienna for the withdrawal of Holstein from the Confederation.

The *statu quo ante*, 1847, is now to be the fate of Hesse Cassel. Every vestige of Liberalism, of course, disappears. The *Kaffeller Zeitung*, of January 21, says that a retrograde policy is to be immediately and vigorously adopted. "Everything that has happened since 1847 is to be blotted out, and we are to be pushed even further back than that period. The new election is to be abolished, and for it is to be substituted Chambers composed as they were in the year 1831. The laws respecting the press, religion, and the jury are to be set aside, or to be reduced to insignificance. At the very most, the institution of the jury is to be confined to the crimes of 'theft' and 'murder.' All political offences are to be tried by other tribunals; that is, by the 'permanent military tribunal.' Besides the Commissary of Police, Hornstein, the Burgomaster, Henkel, has been arrested and imprisoned; and many more arrests are expected."

The President of the German Association for the Section of National Commerce, Prince Felix of Hohenlohe, has addressed a letter to the plenipotentiaries assembled in conference at Dresden, exhorting them to labour seriously at the accomplishment of the customs union between Austria and the rest of Germany.

The Leader

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1851.

Public Affairs.

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

WANTED, A NATIONAL PARTY.

FRANCE is reduced to a negative; the State is under litigation like a property in Chancery, while factions contend over it. The State is not simply divided, but it is so split into fractions that there is no one majority; for the majority in the Parliament which declared want of confidence in the Baroche ministry includes in itself three or four oppositions:—

"The Minister," says the Paris resident of the *Times*, "was declared unworthy of confidence by some, because he had carried the laws of public instruction, of electoral reform, and of the press; by others, notwithstanding his having carried them; by some, because he had removed General Changarnier; by others, notwithstanding that removal. The reasons alleged by the latter were totally different from the reasons alleged by the former. In a word, this vote of want of confidence implies a vote of confidence; the blame of some implies the approbation of others."

In such a state of the technical majority, the President has been seeking a Cabinet from the minority, which is promoted to the titular rank of a "virtual majority." This is not only to stultify all Parliamentary rule, but it is really and avowedly to set the nation aside. Through the conflict of factions, France cannot act. We see in this dead lock of public affairs, threatening at once stagnation and revolution, the consequence of that degenerate patriotism among public men which has neglected to hold up a master principle. The nation is incapacitated. No faction even can gather to itself sufficient strength for a counterfeit public action. There is ferment without movement, contest without activity. So low has the conduct of public affairs become, that statesmen positively accept information from the Police—"the Prefect of Police," says the writer we have just quoted, "encourages them [the Baroche Ministry] to remain in office, and declares that public opinion is in their favour and entirely against the Assembly;" placing "public opinion" on a level with thieves and vagabonds! Such are the results of Guizot negatives, of Thiers empiricisms, and Louis Philippe manoeuvrings.

It is almost the same in England, though we do not know that our Ministry has yet sunk quite so low as to consult the Commissioners of Police on the national view of a Ministerial crisis. Public affairs stand upon an even balance, like the ladder on a juggler's chin, and a trifle, such as the Russell-Durham letter, can cause as much staggering to the poor public as a cabbage stalk thrown at the ladder. Like France, the nation has become incapable of action; it is capable only of "fantigue." We are in so bad a condition that the *Times* positively anticipates the paralyzation of the Commons by the recent translation of Lord Lincoln to the Upper House, and the possible removal of Lord Ashley! "What," asks the leading journal, representative of "respectable" opinion, "is the immediate prospect suggested by the recent changes? Is the withdrawal of chiefs and the decline of party spirit to conduce to no other result than Ministerial omnipotence?" Frightful question! For the "Ministerial omnipotence" dreaded by the *Times* is nothing else than the omnipotence of impotence—the absolute unquestioned power to do naught. It is the same with us in England as in France: the nation, with all its wants and aspirations, all its miseries and its greatnesses, is negatived by dissension and indifferentism; even faction, split down to unpreponderating fragments, is neutralized, and absolute impotence rules supreme.

The great "practical politician" whom we have quoted has just undertaken an enterprise of a fantastic order suited to the nightmare catalepsy of the day: teaching the Roman Catholics that the bull "dismembering an ancient Roman Catholic diocese of Ireland" is a "Papal aggression" upon them, and, putting on an air of sympathetic indig-

nation, the *Times* calls upon said Roman Catholics, the Irish majority, to act with the English majority in resisting that aggression.

Now, there cannot be the slightest prospect of any such union—it is only said for the sake of saying—a transparent pretence to cover over that ludicrous state of confusion into which Pope Innocent of the House of Bedford has brought the conduct of public affairs; the quasi-Ministerial journal must discuss public affairs, but in order to do so with anything like gravity, it must first of all at least pretend to place them in a state capable of grave discussion, and then in that imaginary state, it proceeds to treat them with all due solemnity.

The reason for all this reigning absurdity is the same in England as in France—there is no master principle: instead of positive principles, public men have learned to substitute negative expedients, such as the combination to “keep out the Tories”; old endeavours for the past are placed in lieu of living necessities, and instead of popular freedom, men will even now “go for the Reform Bill”; the vessel has been put for the thing, and Liberal principles are replaced in the affection of Parliament men by “the Liberal Ministry” which has descended to us from the past. More than one doating nurse mistakes the tomb for the cradle, and is nursing the political corpse of a John Russell in the hope that some day it will grow to be a man. For any present purpose and future movement, our leading and professional politicians are without positive principle.

Nor can they be revived while the public remains without. In the public, too, we see many a section advocating its specific, but no master principle—none large, noble, and exalted enough to be the motive of a nation. The place for a national party is vacant.

IRISH MANUFACTURES.

THE Munster Traders' Association, which has just commenced its active work, is both a sign and an engine. The address of Mr. Maguire, unless the scheme is to end in smoke, describes one of the most revolutionary projects ever entertained. The plan of action ranges itself under three heads—the founding of Industrial Schools, the establishing of a Commission Warehouse for the sale of exclusively Irish manufactures, and the formation of a Mechanics' Institute. The Mechanics' Institute was opened on the 8th instant, the schools were to be established a few days later, and the preparations for the commission warehouse advance rapidly. The schools will instruct children, commencing with girls, in light occupations, such as sewed muslin work. The commission ware-room will be the means of selling such articles, and articles made by the ticken weaver or web weaver, who now wanders many a long mile to find a market for his wares. But the society, it appears, will labour still more generally to promote the purchase of Irish manufactures, which is at present impeded by two difficulties—the difficulty of discriminating between the genuine Irish manufacture and the English interloper, and the discredit which has been brought upon Irish manufactures, by ill-made importations, which dishonest traders have passed off as native produce. This is Mr. Maguire's injunction:—

“In one word, ask for Irish manufacture, when you want to purchase a coat, a hat, a shirt, a cloak, a gown, a shawl, a cap, a blanket, a piece of flannel—any article whatever; and when you can get it, in the name of common sense and common humanity, buy nothing else.”

The plan, therefore, although not ostensibly, and, we presume, not intentionally, is practically a measure of non-consumption against England—as much so as that of the New Englanders before the revolt of our North American colonies. Practically, it would work as a retribution upon England for that misgovernment of Ireland, which has wedded English mistake to Irish foible, and has engendered a frightful progeny of disorder, want, disease, and wretchedness. Under the present relations of England and Ireland, the Irishman labours without receiving even that scanty pittance out of the fruits, which is thrown back to the English labourer or the hunting hound: the promoters of the Munster scheme are in the right when they endeavour to break off that process; no theory of old Political Economy or Free Trade can justify it. They are right to consider the life and well-being of the Irishman as of more importance than the trade of the country; they are right in holding by the principle that the primary object in distributing the employment and duties of a People is to secure for each a fair chance of subsistence.

If we are less confident of success for the project than we could wish to be, it is because Mr. Maguire and his friends take up a position of weakness and flinching, instead of resolution and strength; and they do so, we think, because they do not thoroughly perceive the very simple causes of Ireland's poverty. For an illustration of what we say, let them look to our colonies, where the feeble industry, the turbulence, and the lack of enterprise ascribed to the Irishman at home, disappear from the race, and are seen no more. We regret to see Mr. Maguire complaining that “the manufacture” of articles, once profitably made in Ireland, is now crushed beneath the flood of English enterprise, whereas we believe that the English and the Irish could divide among them the several branches of industry, with profit to both Peoples, if both were placed upon an equal footing. We regret to see Mr. Maguire teaching his countrymen to look to manufactures rather than to agriculture—to the secondary rather than the primary—to the unstable rather than to that which is based upon the land; the very root of all Irish misery lying in the corrupted state of her land tenure. We regret to see him expressing a fear of “annihilation from the poor-rate;” a sound poor-law being the provision by which, if they become corrupted in individual hands, land and industry revert to the state. It is not poor-rates that Ireland has to fear, but land rents. A land that cannot support the People born upon it, ought to pay no rents. The first charge upon the land is the subsistence of the sons of the soil, and until that be satisfied there is nothing for any other claim. You may note this great distinction between the Irish and the English People—whereas the land of the English has been confiscated, as to a class, in Ireland it may be said to have been confiscated, as to a race. If the Irish People had possession of the land to which the Irish People is born, it would not see produce drained away for rents, and it would learn by the stoppage of that drain that it is the loss of its produce, and not the invasion of English manufactures, which brings ruin.

Then the Irish People would not need to fear, but would invite the coöperation of English enterprise. One article of food, which is shamefully withheld from the English People by a blind reliance on trading agencies, is the fish that abounds off the coasts of our island: experience has thrown great doubt upon the bent of the Irish coasting population, for that spontaneous, steady, and daring cultivation of the sea, which belongs to the more truly maritime English race: were the Union really consummated, what hosts of Englishmen might find employment on the Irish coasts. If the English Government were forced to restore Irish confidence in England by a more open, as well as diligent, labour for the rescue of Ireland, the jealousy would be annulled. One obstacle which hinders such a compulsion is the want of concert between the English and Irish People; and that want of concert, again, is hindered by a want of administrative organization for the People.

Meanwhile, such movements as that at Cork are signs of the degree to which society is stirred by these fundamental questions; and it will be a sad neglect of duty in the popular leaders, if they lose the opportunity afforded by that stir, to secure a large stride in the progress of the People.

ANOMALOUS PRICES OF BREAD.

A REBELLION in the Bread Basket! N. C., of Avenue-road, complains in the *Times*, that “the bakers are now getting enormous profits”; which he infers from the fact that he pays 7d. for the 4lb. loaf, while the poor get that quantity for 6d., and, “according to the assize in the time of George I., the sixpenny loaf should weigh, of best bread, 5lbs. 3oz., and of seconds, 6lbs. 15oz., wheat being then at the same average as now. Sorrowful Sevenpence appeals to the leading journal in a more eloquent strain:—

“You are constantly telling us of the advantages of free trade and of the consequent diminution of the price of bread; recently, also, you have informed us that bread is selling in the highest priced shops in London at 8½d. the 4lb. loaf. I think, therefore, you should in justice bring your powerful influence to bear on the bakers of Clapham. The price in London is, you say, 6½d. The League bread is sold at Kennington for 5½d., yet here in Clapham we are charged 7d. Now, Sir, in 1835, the average of wheat was as nearly as possible what it is now, and bakers then sold in the city of Bath, excellent bread for a penny a pound, viz., 4d. the loaf. Yet, here we are paying 7d.”

Is this honest? asks Sorrowful. We do not know that it is, but we much doubt whether the disho-

nesty is chargeable upon bakers. We doubt whether bakers, as a class, are making fortunes very generally. The fact is, that the baker deals in a plain homely article, which, except to families who live in affluence and luxury, forms an important item of expenditure; and there is, therefore, a constant pressure to abate the price. In poor neighbourhoods, of course, the pressure is still more intense. The bakers that serve the easier classes, properly avoid very frequent changes of price, and they will rather continue to lose for a little bit than charge more to a regular customer, making good the loss at a better season. The baker of the poor is put to closer shifts: his price goes up and down with every change in the market; and, if the easier customer pays a little more for his bread, the additional price includes the cost of sending round, of credit and keeping accounts, of changing over-stale bread, and the like. Few men of the middle class would like to be placed, in all respects, on a footing with the cheap-bread customer. On the other hand, your sevenpenny customer is not always the safest—no offence to Sorrowful, who is, no doubt, as punctual, as he is punctilious in pence.

It is not the dishonesty of the individual baker that creates these mysterious aggravations of price: they have a more distant and a wider cause—the excessive division of employments, which overcrowds every branch of industry with superfluous intermediate agencies. The baker has as hard a time of it as any other tradesman: the difficulty you feel to pay his price is the identical difficulty he feels to pay your price. If you could get the *Times* to screw him down by its hyper-hydraulic pressure, it would be most unjust, unless Baker induced the *Times* to screw you down also; and it is the same all round. The evil arises from the disproportionate mass of industry thrown upon secondary employments, which do not afford the necessities of life out of themselves, as primary employments do. This looks like that social bugbear, an “abstract truth,” which most of us regard as equally horrid and useless; but it happens to be the reason why Baker calls upon you to pay him sevenpence a loaf, and why you find a difficulty in doing so.

ARE WE GOING BACKWARD?

ADAM SMITH remarks that “it is in the progressive state, while society is advancing to the further acquisition, rather than when it has acquired its full complement of riches, that the condition of the labouring poor, of the great body of the people, seems to be the happiest and the most comfortable. It is hard in the stationary, and miserable in the declining state.” What a change must have come over society since the *Wealth of Nations* was written, if this was a true state of the case at that period! Since the world began there never was a time when society was “advancing to the further acquisition of riches” more rapidly than at present, and yet the condition of the labouring poor is very much inferior to what it was a century ago.

Take the city of Glasgow, for example, which is so frequently quoted as an instance of the rapid progress of wealth and population, under the combined influences of trade and manufactures. People talk with astonishment of the rapid growth of London, but its progress has been slow compared with that of the western metropolis of Scotland. At the death of Charles the Second, in 1685, the population of London, according to Sir William Petty, was about 696,000, and in 1850 it had only reached about 2,200,000, having little more than trebled the number of its inhabitants in 165 years. In 1801 the population of Glasgow was 83,769, and in 1851 it is estimated at 450,000, giving an increase of nearly four hundred and fifty per cent. in fifty years. Supposing it to go on at the same rate for the next half century, Glasgow would contain 2,050,000 inhabitants in 1901, which is nearly as many as there are in the metropolis at the present day. Here, then, we have a city which presents all the outward marks of prosperity; let us enquire whether the condition of its labouring poor has improved along with its increasing numbers. All political economists agree that the quantity of animal food which a nation consumes may be taken as a tolerably accurate test of the condition of the people. We shall adopt that test in comparing the present state of the working class in Glasgow with what it was eighty years ago.

The Scotch papers have lately quoted certain tables of the consumption of provisions in Glasgow, during the last three years, for the purpose of showing that, under the operation of free trade, the

condition of the people has greatly improved. The *Scotsman* recommends to the special attention of the agriculturists the following table, showing the number of cattle, sheep, and other animals slaughtered in Glasgow during the three years ending in 1850:—

	1848.	1849.	1850.
Oxen.....	19,788	22,282	26,200
Calves.....	3,206	4,204	4,588
Sheep.....	69,290	82,681	96,104
Lambs.....	43,658	49,817	54,400
Goats.....	13	18	29
Pigs.....	3,195	1,925	3,934
	139,150	161,527	185,255

Now, we entirely agree with the *Scotsman* that this denotes a considerable improvement in the condition of the mass of the people during the last two years. But we wish to make a much wider comparison than this; not for the purpose of testing the value of Free Trade, that question being now fairly settled, but with a view to ascertain whether the condition of the poor is retrograding or improving. Fortunately, we are able to give, from Mr. Cleland's valuable statistical tables appended to the Glasgow Mortality Bills, and from Denholm's *History of Glasgow*, the consumption of animal food in that city for the years 1772 and 1822; so that we have only to compare the population at those two periods with what it is now, in order to ascertain whether the condition of the people has improved during the last eighty years. In the first place, we may state that the population was, as nearly as can be estimated, in

	1772.	1822.	1850.
	40,000	150,000	450,000

The consumption of animal food at the three several periods, so far as that can be ascertained from the number of cattle and other animals slaughtered, was as follows:—

	1772.	1822.	1850.
Oxen	6,411	14,566	26,200
Calves	9,204	8,557	4,588
Sheep	23,110	57,520	96,104
Lambs	10,790	68,637	54,400
Pigs	89	6,539	3,934
	49,604	155,809	185,226

Between 1772 and 1850 the number of inhabitants has grown from 40,000 to 450,000, an increase of 1025 per cent. During the same period the number of oxen slaughtered annually for the supply of that large family, instead of keeping pace with its demands, has only grown from 6411 to 26,200, an increase of little more than 300 per cent. In 1772 the annual supply of butcher's meat appears to have been equal to one carcase for each family of six persons. At present it is not equal to one carcase for every seventeen persons. In 1850, a year of great commercial and manufacturing prosperity, and notwithstanding all our boasted progress, the annual supply has been reduced to less than one-half of what it was at the former period, after making a liberal allowance for the increased weight of cattle at present, compared with what they were eighty years ago.

As regards sheep and lambs the falling off from 1772 to 1850 is not quite so great, but the difference is not material. Comparing 1822 with 1850 the falling off in the consumption of mutton is very remarkable. In the former year there was more than one sheep for every three persons, last year there was little more than one for every five persons; while the total number of lambs slaughtered, for three times the number of inhabitants, had diminished from 68,637 to 54,400, and that of pigs from 6539 to 3934. The large number of calves slaughtered in 1772 may be taken as evidence of the backward state of agriculture at that period. The farmers had not then learned the art of providing abundance of food for their cattle during winter, and, therefore, found it more profitable to kill a large proportion of the calves than to rear them. Taken altogether, however, the table is an instructive one, and well worthy the attention of all political economists.

We are anxious to draw the special attention of our northern contemporaries to the startling facts contained in it, in the hope that they may, perhaps, be able to give some less gloomy explanation of the falling off in the consumption of food than the one we have rendered.

AN UNIVERSAL LAW.

A PASSENGER trying to pass from a steamboat to Hungerford pier, three or four days ago, missed his footing and fell in.

"A gentleman tried to throw the hawser, but it was too heavy; a man on the pier tried with a clumsy boathook to reach him,

but, in the first instance, he pushed it below the chains, and before he could get it above, as it was almost too heavy for him to lift, the poor man was out of his reach. I called to him frequently to throw the boathook into the water, but he would not; if he had there was still a chance, as the poor fellow kept for near five minutes above water. No boat was near, and, the tide running rapidly up, he was carried past the stone pier of the suspension bridge before he sank.

"Had there been a life-buoy, a grating, or a spare light rope. life, in this instance, might have been saved. Is there *no law nor any regulation* to compel the owners of these vessels to have some apparatus of this nature on board boats in which so many people travel, that, in case of accidents, there might be some chance of saving life? In this there was nothing at hand—had there been, this person might have been saved."

Laws and regulations will never reach all possible and minute contingencies; for that, there needs an influence that shall be present at all times and places. We heard an intelligent and not prejudiced Englishman complain the other day that Roman Catholic charities, works of benevolence, and duties, are all performed in the name of religion; "they are always dragging in religion," he said. This is inverting the process: from various causes which would need more time than difficulty to explain, religion does exercise a more living influence in Roman Catholic countries, and especially in the Roman Catholic country. The people there do more for the love of God and for the sake of Jesus Christ, in daily life, than is done amongst us for any one's sake, except the honest penny. Perhaps nothing shows more painfully the deadness of religious feeling amongst us than the indisposition to do good in an impersonal and unostentatious way. Men have not faith enough to cast their bread upon the waters.

CIVIL WAR.

VIOLENCES multiply amongst us so fast that the fact ought to stimulate the inventive faculties of our intelligent tradesmen, or "competition" is disgraced from its boasted function. Highwaymen infest our great thoroughfare streets, burglars are growing common as rats; yet we have no tempting wafer to abolish house-breakers like other bloodthirsty vermin; and "life preservers" are the very things which highwaymen themselves use, improved to the most deadly degree. Really your honest peaceable man, who is not tired of life, seems to have no refuge or hiding-place but the tomb. As men attacked by bears feign to be dead, might not merchants, bankers' clerks, and other preserved game, seek a temporary respite in the garb of mortality, and find a safe-conduct through London during business hours in the shape of a death's head surmounting a snowy kind of toga? Perhaps *whistling* might be a safe habit, on the Horatian principle—"cantat vacuus"; which is based on the idea that thieves take musical gaiety for the outward and visible sign of an inward empty pocket. Or your inventive tinman might encroach upon the province of the clothier, and supply a suit of complete armour, which would have the double convenience of warding off blows and keeping out rain.

It may be a question, however, whether this domestic predatory warfare does not invite the strict application of the Quaker principle, or, as it is now called, the Peace principle; according to which, instead of resisting the belligerent highwayman by force, you should spontaneously offer your wares to him, on reciprocity terms. It is averred that you might rely on his at once falling into that free-trade view; and by a perfectly amicable exchange of purse and life-preserver, you would promote the circulation of property, extend the blessings of civilization to the barbarian, and be able to retrench the expense of a liveried police.

SHIPMENT OF PAUPER CHILDREN.

WISDOM as well as humanity guided the St. Marylebone Board of Guardians in refusing to supply the demand for pauper apprentices, who appear to be at a premium in the Bermuda market. St. Pancras has not been so punctilious. When Mr. Burrows, a master mariner, applied to the Marylebone Board, last week, for a supply of boys and girls, and the Board enquired into the nature of his proceedings, he stated, in self-defence, that the St. Pancras Board had already allowed him to take out sixty. He lands them in Bermuda at £6 a head, including freight, bed, and board, and he apprentices them as domestic servants until the age of eighteen.

A guardian of St. Pancras assures the *Morning Chronicle* that the number of boys and girls sent out is only forty, that they have obtained good situations, and that "some" of the children are well treated. But what of the rest? If Jane Wilbred, a pauper servant not apprenticed, within an omnibus ride of her own parish, was converted into a domestic slave, how can the Pancras guardian answer for every pauper sent to the Bermudas?—a group tainted with convict slavery, and not unallied to the West Indies.

It is true that emigration for English paupers will generally be the path to a greatly improved condition; but the youth of the emigrants, the wholesale manner of their emigration, in private hands, their pauper origin, and the apprenticeship, are circumstances of much suspicion; and no process of this kind should be suffered,

however honest a man Mr. Burrows may be. All emigration, especially of children, should pass under the supervision of the responsible Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

CHANCERY REFORM.

THE public meeting, announced in our advertising columns, to fortify the Chancery Reform Association in its active efforts, ought to be well attended. The Court of Chancery has enormous power: while it claims the superiority due to "equity" over "common law," it has converted equity into a mystery, tyrannical by the help of its high pretensions, its Egyptian darkness, its inquisitorial rights over person and property. There is a popular delusion that Chancery deals only with the rich; but many a poor man knows better. The mystery must be torn open, and "equity" made something more than a noble name: the public has ample power to achieve the Reform, if it will use but the diligence needed to back those who are active in the work.

SOCIAL REFORM.

EPISTOLÆ OBSCURORUM VIROBVM.

No. XXVI.—EDINBURGH REVIEW ON ENGLISH SOCIALISM.

TO THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

Jan. 21, 1851.

SIR,—Allow me to express to you the satisfaction which is felt generally by English Communists at the service which you have done by introducing the *Edinburgh Review* into the discussion of the Associative principle. The more so, since you have set an example of excellent spirit. You have recognized the importance of the enquiry, and you have treated writers on the opposite side with courtesy and with candour as to their motives. I could not, indeed, pretend to my brother Communists, or to the many who watch this discussion with so much interest, that you have given a fair account either of the doctrine or of the arguments by which the doctrine is supported; but those slight dislogisms which tarnish your manner here and there, such as the reproach of "selfishness" against the Socialist writers, "feebleness of logical faculty," and so forth, I regard as little foibles incidental to the ardour of a student familiar with early prejudices, but not with this subject. You mean to be fair and honest. You also mean to be a close and logical reasoner; and with that conviction I am surprised to find your argument weakened by an intermixture of very strong presumptions, such as the one that the Communists generally expect social changes not to be "mere slow improvements"; that they impute "all the miseries of the people" to "one source—competition instead of combination"; that nearly all "cheapness" "must" arise, "directly or indirectly," "from the operation of the competitive element"; and that there is no alternative for associated trades but competition with each other, or a fusion attended by "all the evils of monopoly." In this last mistake I might retort your phrase that you take a "complacent satisfaction with a partial glimpse"; but, in truth, I do not impute to you any such contentment with half logic: I ascribe your mistake to want of familiarity in handling the subject, which has made you, while looking at a part, forget the correlatives of the whole. You will easily perceive, however, that you cannot have "monopoly" without *property*.

Allow me to urge back upon you the passage which you address to Mr. Kingsley, because it is perfectly applicable to yourself, and it admirably expresses the spirit which you and I should both invoke:—

"He has satisfied himself with a half comprehension of the subject, and appears to have shrunk from the intellectual effort which a thorough investigation would require. An enquiry so vast, so difficult, so momentous, —where a false doctrine or a false step may involve consequences which will echo through all time,—demands no common qualities. It demands, primarily and pre-eminently, a close observation and humble imitation of the plans of Providence, as far as it is given to man to discern them and to aid in their accomplishment; it demands profound compassion, but profounder patience; boundless sympathy with every form of suffering, combined with quiet resolution in the application of the most searching probe; an unshaken conviction that no great cardinal truth of science can be discarded with impunity, or worshipped and followed without leading to ultimate and mighty good; a firm faith that sound principles will, in God's good time, however slowly and through whatever tribulation, work out his merciful and happy ends; and that no short cuts unsanctioned by these principles—such as human infirmity and natural impatience under suffering, either witnessed or endured, are constantly tempting us to take—can lead us one moment sooner to our goal; and, finally, it demands nerve to wait, alike through the distresses of others or our own,

till the appropriate seed has ripened into the appointed harvest."

“Patient because eternal.” All this is excellently said. Let us pursue the enquiry on those conditions; I invite you to do it. But if you do so you will find that your claim on behalf of the “thinkers,” or the economists of the old school, as contradistinguished from the “feelers” or the Communists, is very inaccurate. Contrasting the “feelers” with the “thinkers,” you say:—

"Far different is the course of the latter class: *their* life is spent in a laborious research into remote and hidden causes; in a patient and painful analysis of the operation of principles from the misapplication or forgetfulness of which our social disorders have sprung; in sowing seeds and elucidating laws that are to destroy the evil at a distant date which they themselves may never see,—while sometimes its pressure may be aggravated during the period which they do see.

"Little do the mere impulsive philanthropists know, and ill can they appreciate, the strenuous effort, the stern and systematic self-control by which the votary of economic science, the benevolent man of principle, keeps his head cool and clear in the midst of the miseries he is called upon to contemplate; and the resolute nerve which is needed to throw cold water on the mischievous schemes of sanguine and compassionate co-trivers. While these men rush fiercely on social evils, fancying it possible to sweep them away by a coup de main, and always insist upon scrambling out of the bog on the wrong side simply because it is the nearest."

Now I for one, assure you that I never "rushed fiercely on a social evil"; nor "insisted upon scrambling out of the bog on the wrong side." You do not seem to be aware of the fact that many Communists at the present day have been students of Political Economy; that there are some of us, indeed, who trace our theoretical pedigree, not less than yourself, up to Adam Smith. To use your own words, you should have taken "due pains in the first instance to assure yourself of the unexaggerated correctness of these facts." And you might usefully urge that injunction upon many of your brother economists; for you are mistaken if you think that they uniformly follow that rule. Read, for example, what Mr. Porter says in his *Progress of the Nation*, of pigeon-breeding and idleness as fertile causes of the poverty in Spital-fields! I will not, however, make you answerable for the rashness and imperfect logic of all standard economists; and you will yourself outgrow the habit of doing so in regard to Communists when you have become a little more familiar with the substance, the *thing* which they are endeavouring to make out, and are less dazzled or diverted from your purpose by the mere trivialities or laxities in what they say. As to "due pains" of every kind, we may all of us improve; and you and I, who are aware of these necessities, ought especially to beware of rashness in judgment.

We are, however, making decided progress. You and I—to borrow your own words—agree “that the world can never have been intended to be, and will not long remain, what it is.” You admit the associative principle so far as it is applied to working associations, and so long as “these schemes are not announced as great discoveries and mighty engines for the rescue and redemption of society”; and you allow more generally that “the doctrines of Communism or Socialism have acquired an importance, and spread to an extent which entitle them to serious and dispassionate consideration.” What I should most desire students to earnest and candid as yourself to do would be, not to discuss the “right” or “wrong” as a matter of controversy between you and me—what does it matter which of us shall be “in the right”?—but to concentrate your attention upon the great social question—What is the necessity which impels men to these Communistic impulses, what is the nature of the sense which suggests Communism as a remedy for social evils? The confirmation or refutation of Communism must equally lie in the answer to those two questions. That there is some distinct motive, apart from “want,” which has not suggested the doctrine in Ireland, or from mere tyranny, which has not made Communists of the artisans in Egypt, is apparent from such facts. The want, whatever it is, thus felt by large and increasing numbers, not only among the bookmen of London, Paris, and New York, but among the peoples of England, France, Germany, and the United States, must indicate this one remedy. You say that that remedy is wrongly adumbrated by Socialism; but you might very usefully employ your labours in extracting from the mass of obscurity and error the true thing underneath, the *substance* of that erroneous doctrine.

You who so heartily admit the evils and the inevitable change, cannot seriously take the reme-

dies which you indicate here and there as sufficient. You propose that some "lady or gentleman," instead of "rushing wildly to join or found a society for sending distressed needlewomen out of the country, should take in hand the individual case," and put these poor girls in the way of regular employment. You advise that "each lady who subscribes a hundred pounds to Governess's Benevolent Institutions" should "keep her eye fixed upon two or three individual governesses" instead. You also appear to have in view "a remodelling of human nature by Divine or Christian influences; and," you add in italic type, "*when this remodelling has been achieved, all systems will become indifferent, for the evils of all systems will be wiped away.*" It appears to me, from the context, that you indicate some millennial state of things, worked out through Political Economy of the old School and Christianity: now, are the two compatible? You will not accuse me of resorting to cant when I say that the whole spirit of the hard self-reliance dogma of Political Economy, and the whole spirit of the religion preached by Jesus, whose teachers and whose disciples were actually Communists in practice, are so incompatible, that no one man can, in sane reason, adhere to both—you must give up Christianity or that imperfect Political Economy. If Political Economy is true, Jesus preached what is not sense. I grant that the practice of English statesmen is more guided by the doctrine of Scotch philosophy than that of Jesus; but how do you, who stand upon logic, stick to both?

I observe, however, that you place Political Economy in a curious position. You emphatically deny that it "has hitherto had it all its own way," and you have a page to show that in practical life, and, in fact, Political Economy, has not ruled "this anomalous and enigmatic world." "It is difficult," you say, "to name a single precept of that science which has not been lost sight of or habitually contravened." You, therefore, place Political Economy on an equality with Communism, as a theory in books which has never yet been carried out in the practice of life; a theory, in fact, which is competing on equal terms with the opposite theory. You assert, indeed, that the truth of "those principles of purely economic science is confirmed alike by every instance of conformity, and every instance of disobedience"; but, unless you were to explain clearly and fully some anomalies that we Communists observe in practical life, you cannot expect this assertion to be taken for granted. Can you tell by what specific breach of economical laws Paisley sank again to poverty, after recovering from its depression on the demand for Paisley shawls? You may say that Paisley, in the first instance, had been "over-peopled"; but, if we are to trust to the laws of supply and demand, the demand for Paisley shawls justified the amount of population in Paisley; and we do not know by what fault of the Paisley people they lost their commerce, since they could not see that capricious Fashion, the instigator of "demand," would suddenly transfer its passion from sober grey to the more lively Yorkshire shawl. Did it never occur to you that there is some striking significance in this fact, which you so candidly mention—the "systematic violation of the principles of Political Economy"? Possibly it might be that the theoretical laws of that science are not workable.

Any laws advocated with so much ability and so much consentaneousness in the influential class of public writers as Political Economy has been, could scarcely have been so systematically neglected and violated unless there had been some essential impracticability; and what I contend is, that the imperfect Political Economy of your school is essentially impracticable and imperfect. It calls upon us to abrogate the most powerful natural instincts, and it teaches us to convert commerce into a struggle between nation and nation, between man and man, instead of cultivating a common understanding, a concert in labour. It is counter to nature, and rude in its advice. You are very much mistaken, however, in supposing that Communism is something opposed or adverse to real Political Economy; and the supposition is one of the strong presumptions which pervade your excellently intended paper. If you view it in a less prejudiced point of view, you will perceive that, right or wrong, Communism is a chapter *added* to the old book of Political Economy. When we had advanced no further than the writers who have followed Adam Smith, Free Trade was properly the ultimate conclusion of the science; and it is perfectly true that trade *ought* to be free. But it is an exceedingly crude notion of economy that trade can be the

general regulator of practical life, of the intercourse between individuals and nations, and even of industry. Trade relates solely to exchanges, and although the laws of trade must harmonize with those of production and supply, they must be in point of fact subordinate to the vital conditions and to the industrial faculties of mankind. We can have industry and provision for human wants without trade. Such things have been in the world; and although commerce is a facility, it is as little a final law as it is a final end. Even partial truth, however, will accord with whole truth; and Communism does not gainsay that trade should be free, as trade. Communism, in fact, would carry freedom a great deal further: it would contend that there has been too much lawmaking in society, and that we may revert with advantage to simpler and more primitive master laws. It would argue that not only should trade be free but also the two great sources of trade, land and labour; not only trade which is the active process of distribution, but also that other passive half of distribution, property. Habituated to carry it out, in theory, "all their own way"—for the Protection theory was an adversary not worth counting—the Economists of the old school have so far fallen asleep over their materials as to forget that much of what they see around them is not natural but artificial—that the exclusion of the People from the land, for example, is not a natural, but an artificial result of laws; that the labourer is labouring under laws that force him to work yet fetter him in his mode of working; and that even the laws that erect property into an institution are artificial. A sense that Political Economy has hitherto been imperfect has been marked in some of its most distinguished professors, especially among the younger; and the tendency of all these most cultivated enquirers is to make additions to the old book of Political Economy drawn from the suggestions of Communism. William Thornton clean departs from the simple reliance on trade, and demands economical arrangements specially devised for the benefit of the living men and women in a land. He says, indeed, that the cultivation of small farms is good economy; but it is a great departure from the old ideas of mere free trade. John Stuart Mill has made still more striking innovations upon the old doctrine: it was a great innovation to recognize "custom" as one of the chief instigators of industry, besides the spur of necessity or want; and Mill positively advocates association. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, who has surveyed the doctrines of economy and the field of active life in the comprehensive glance of a statesman, has declared, in writing, that the day will come for Chartism and Socialism; and he has been heard to remark, with his characteristic sagacity, that the Communists were wrong in arguing their doctrine on the basis of systems, for that they ought to turn their energies upon the discussion of the fundamental principle from which Communism takes its rise. This is precisely what the Communists of our day are beginning to do, and the *Edinburgh Review* is very usefully following and aiding them in the discussion.

You quote a passage from what I say on the principle of concert in the division of employments, and you accuse me of "mixing up things totally distinct, as the produce of labour with the distribution of that produce": this is an interesting example of the the habit of thinking, according to a certain fashion, that makes so acute a writer as yourself unable to look at simple realities, until they are translated for you into the jargon of your school, or into scientific diagrams totally stripped of original living nature—poor nature, by which Fuseli and Political Economists have been so "put out!" My fundamental position is this:—The first thing for us to consider is the well being, in body and feeling, of the living creatures who are born to the earth; and we must consider that substantial well-being in body and heart before "the advancement of the nation," which generally means the luxury and dignity of particular classes; or "the advancement of commerce," which means the multiplication of goods, many of them not at all necessary. An Englishman on his piece of land is able to provide for himself, mate, and progeny, as we see in other quarters of the globe: when his industry produces its fruits, he has a right to retain those fruits until the equivalent is rendered to him; and while artificial laws deprive the Englishman from standing on his land, using his hands upon it, and grasping the equivalent in his fist, Society is bound to provide him with the equivalent—the opportunity of obtaining subsistence

by labour. If the effect of advancement in the condition of the nation and of commerce is to make the larger number of Englishmen less comfortable in body and mind than they would be in a ruder state of society, there are those, and I am one, who will go to the displaced Englishman and tell him that he had better combine with the multitude of his fellows to alter that sort of advancement, and bring back things to fundamental rights. Read what Thornton has said as to the practical deterioration in the condition of the English labourer.* Although it may be true that he has now a better supply of broad cloth, knives and forks, and such non-essential articles, they have very little bearing upon substantial happiness. But, further, if the advancement of the nation had been guided by a more accurate and enlightened view of the laws which regulate production and call forth the genius of the People by placing them in the best circumstances, — although I am no disciple of the doctrine of "exterior circumstances," which you condemn, — I contend that our advancement should have been greater, more sound, and more stable in its results. In pointing to concert in labour as the complement of the division of employments, you forget that I am pointing out a principle, and that in eliminating that principle I was no more bound to describe all the institutions that might hereafter arise from it than Adam Smith was bound, in analyzing the division of employments, to describe the Factory System as it actually exists amongst us. I have contended that we must sternly avert our ideas from system-making and bring them back to an examination of principles; and I maintain, not only that the principle of concert is the true complement to a division of employments, but that it is already in operation, unavoidably — as it dictates the agglomeration of work in a factory, the institution of Commercial Exchanges, or "Bourses," like those which are seen in every capital; it has dictated, imperfectly enough, the construction of that railway system which is too vast to be affected in any but a very trivial degree by the ruder principle of competition. It has suggested those demands for official agricultural statistics which have been made in Parliament; and it is the very principle of a sound Poor Law, which ought to be an engine for "transferring surplus employment from one branch of industry to another." When you have read this passage, and perhaps done me the honour to glance at the letters (following those which you have criticized) on the subject of the Poor Law, you will perceive your mistake in supposing that there cannot be any "third alternative" for unqualified competition or the revival of guilds.

You have your "visions of the future of the working classes," "as bright as hopeful as any Socialist could indulge in;" you desire to see them "strive onward to the assertion of their free humanity;" and, if I understand you, you rely in a great degree upon the extension and elevation of the religious motive. These are among the things in which we agree: but having these faiths and aspirations, what is my surprise to read a passage like the following: —

"All, however, that can now be done is to remove every legal obstacle in the way of the improvement of the condition of the people, to facilitate and encourage every effort

which they make in a right direction; and to promote their education as far as religious prejudices and passions will allow. All this Government is now doing, with a single purpose and a zealous will."

Of all the assertions that ever I read, disproportioned to the views and aspirations of the writer, this one is perhaps the most astounding. If, indeed, your future for the working classes is based in any degree upon the efforts, the intention, or even the wishes of the present Government — if the kind of millennium which you seem to anticipate through some more perfect working of Political Economy be founded at all upon what the present Government is now doing, you entertain a hope the most imaginative. To believe in a millennium requires faith; but a millennium based on the present labours of the Whigs!

I have no such faith in the powers that be; I have no belief that anything can be done for the working classes without their own concurrence in the effort. It is for that reason that I endeavour, in the first place, to ascertain the principle upon which measures for their elevation and well-being must depend, and then to arouse them to the effort by showing how their material ill-being is in great part dependent upon causes that would be altered, if their rulers had either the knowledge or the will to begin the work. I tell the working classes that they need not suffer the ills which now most affect them; that the continuance of their suffering is the artificial result of existing laws; and that, if they will unite in the effort to compel an alteration of those laws, their condition may be improved, if not suddenly, at all events with an immediate beginning. They can see in your paper the kind of contradiction by which this representation of mine is met; and I believe that your essay will aid me very considerably in obtaining the belief and confidence of the working classes.

For that reason, for the disposition to candour which you have shown, and the ability with which you have conducted the arguments on your side of the question, I have to express acknowledgements as emphatic as I can render them.

Yours, with sincere respect,

THORNTON HUNT.

"WHENCE COME WARS AND FIGHTINGS?" — Duelling, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, was very prevalent, nor has it abated in King James's. It is one of the sincerities of Human Life, which bursts through the thickest-quilted formulas; and in Norse-Pagan, in Christian, New Christian, and all manner of ages, will, one way or the other, contrive to show itself. A background of wrath, which can be stirred up to the murderous infernal pitch, does lie in every man, in every creature; this is a fact which cannot be contradicted; — which, indeed, is but another phasis of the more general fact, that every one of us is a Self, that every one of us calls himself I. How can you be a Self, and not have tendencies to self-defence! This background of wrath, — which surely ought to blaze out as seldom as possible, and then as nobly as possible, — may be defined as no other than the general radical fire, in its least elaborated shape, whereof Life itself is composed. Its least elaborated shape, this flash of accursed murderous rage; — as the glance of mother's-love, and all intermediate warmth and energies and genialities, are the same element better elaborated. Certainly the elaboration is an immense matter, — indeed, is the whole matter! But the figure, moreover, under which your infernal element itself shall make its appearance, nobly or less ignobly, is very significant. From Indian Tomahawks, from Irish Shillelahs, from Arkansas Bowie-knives, up to a deliberate Norse Holmgang, to any civilized Wager of Battle, the distance is great. — *T. Carlyle, in Leigh Hunt's Journal.*

VARIATIONS OF THE BIBLE. — No thinker of ordinary intelligence can fail to perceive, not merely difference in degree of completeness, but contrast, between the religious conceptions which represented the Deity as sanctioning or prescribing the cunning trickery of Jacob, or the savage cruelties of Joshua, and those which preside over the sublime remonstrances of the prophets; but the explanation is still sought in the theory of accommodation, that is, the puerile and unworthy religious conceptions invariably accompanying an absence of intellectual culture, which in other nations are referred to the general principles of human development, are, in the case of the Hebrews, supposed to have been benevolent falsities on the part of the true God, whereby he allured a barbarous race to his recognition and worship. — *Westminster and Foreign Quarterly Review.*

THE LIFE OF ART. — The apprehension and representation of the individual is the very life of art. Besides, while you content yourself with generalities, every one can imitate you; but, in the particular, no one can — and why? Because no others have experienced exactly the same thing. And you need not fear lest what is peculiar should not meet with sympathy. Each character, however familiar it may be, and each object which you can represent, from the stone up to man, has generality; for there is repetition everywhere, and there is nothing to be found only once in the world. At this step of representing what is individual, begins, at the same time, what we call composition. — *Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

Literature.

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

THERE is a story told of a provincial editor who, discovering that one of his neighbours had hung himself, would not cut him down, nor mention the discovery to any one, but kept the body under lock and key for two whole days. His reason was simple and sufficient. His paper appeared on Thursday; the paper of his rival on Wednesday and "Do you think," he triumphantly asked, "I was going to say anything about the suicide, and let that scoundrel have the paragraph?" That was the true editorial passion. The desire for special news in the soul of an editor is intense, all-absorbing. Life itself is viewed only with reference to the "paragraphs" it will furnish. "Calamities are godsend." A murder is like rain in the drought season. Revolutions are fortunes. We know a gentleman whose position being one which naturally makes him acquainted with the deaths of distinguished foreigners, is haunted by a news-hunter in the necrological line. The crow is not swifter to pounce upon carrion than this resolute hunter upon announcements of death. He enters with a glowing face, eyes sparkling with expectant gratification. "Well, anybody dead?" Nobody has died for the moment. He is unhappy; blank disappointment lengthens that radiant face. He feels somehow aggrieved — if not insulted. But, if there is a death to announce, then how his hands are cheerfully rubbed, how elastic his step, how his eyes dilate with the vision of the "paragraph" — if not "article" — this death will furnish! He is happy; some one has died, and he has occupation; the sexton of literature, he sings only while digging a grave!

We sympathize with this worthy necrologist. To hunt up the news and gossip every week for this part of our paper is no light matter; and, like true hunters, we prize the game we run down rather according to the trouble it has cost us than to the value of the game itself. That provincial editor has our entire sympathy. If a poet were discovered by us hanging in his bedroom — we would let him hang till Friday; if information reached us that an august political economist had murdered his grandmother, or that a dramatist had thrown a manager into the river, a padlock would close our lips, and this column should be the first to announce the fact to the world!

The truth is, that even the best hunters sometimes fail to unearth a fox, and we may confess to similar ill-fortune. The week has given us no gossip; nothing at least that admits of publication. We are forced to turn our telescope on the Continent and see what they are doing there. In France George SAND's new drama, *Claude*, draws forth universal approbation; and LOLA MONTES has received a slight respecting her Memoirs. The King of Bavaria — we have it on good authority — has been so little flattered by the dedication of these Memoirs that he has requested her not to mention him in them. Probably all her illustrious friends will share this feeling.

Recently we mentioned with approbation *La Dame aux Camélias*, by DUMAS the younger, and are sorry that his last work, *Dante, da Lys*, should have so completely altered our estimate of him. It is a disolute book; not so much in the scenes and intention as in the tone, which implies in the writer an unhealthy morality. Above all it is uninteresting. But what can you expect from a young man who makes his début in the boudoir of a courtesan?

"*Le Français ne mûrit*" is never at a loss for subjects to ridicule. The last, last we have heard is a witty interpretation of a five-franc piece. On the face there is the head of Liberty, arched by the words, *République Française*; the tresses of Liberty's hair are elaborately drawn, while the

* Thornton cites a chain of testimony showing the condition of the agricultural labouring classes during the hundred and fifty years ending with the fifteenth century. "Fortescue, Lord Chief Justice to Henry VI., dilates with contagious exultation on the plenty enjoyed by the lowest class of his countrymen: 'They drink no water,' he says, 'unless it be so that some for devotion, and upon a zeal of penance, do abstain from other drink; they eat plentifully of all kinds of flesh and fish. They wear fine woollen cloth in all their apparel: they have also abundance of bed-coverings in their houses, and of all other woollen stuff. They have great store of all huetlements and implements of household. They are plentifully furnished with all instruments of husbandry, and all other things that are requisite to the accomplishment of a quiet and wealthy life, according to their estates and degrees.' Fortescue was a panegyrist, but he is confirmed by the most matter-of-fact compilations, the statutes at large; several of which are cited, as directed, not only against high wages, but against the luxury of the labouring classes; forbidding expenditure and dress, such as velvet coats, silk stockings and shoe-buckles, or caps with Brussels lace would be now. This legislation, continues Thornton, 'exhibits agricultural labourers in a condition which was probably never attained by the same class in any other age or country, unless, perhaps, by the emancipated Negroes of the British West Indies. Yet the description applies only to the lower order of peasants — to those who worked for hire, and had either no land or none but what was allowed them in part payment of wages. What, then, must have been the prosperity of the small freeholders and cottage farmers? It is true that in the midst of this abundance, the English peasantry of the middle ages ate off wooden platters, never knew the luxury of a cotton shirt or of a cup of tea, and slept on straw pallets within walls of wattled plaster, and that they cultivated they used barley instead of wheat bread. But it is absurd to imagine that because they had to put up with these inconveniences, their situation, in more important respects, was measurably superior to that of their living descendants.' — *A Plea for Peasant Proprietors*, pp. 75–77.

bandeau on her forehead has the word, "concorde" very illegibly engraved. This is read:—*Sous la République Français on voit des tresses (détresse), mais on ne voit pas la concorde* (Under the Republic we see distress, but we do not see concord). The reverse of the medal shows the words, "Liberté. Egalité. Fraternité." After each word there is a full stop—or, as the French call it, *un point*. You have only to remember that *point* means *none*, and then read the inscription as an irony:—*Liberté? point. Egalité? point. Fraternité? point.*

This is the age of Newspapers. A recent calculation made in Vienna gives no less than 1262 journals and papers as actually known in Europe, not including therein Austria! There are of course many provincial papers not included in this list, but the following comparison is curious. In Paris 160 papers of various kinds are published; in London, 97; in Berlin, 79; in Leipsig, 68; in St. Petersburg, 36. The number of journals published in Germany, exclusive of Austria, in the German language, is 645, nearly three times as many as Paris and London put together.

A NEW PHILOSOPHY: THE ALPHA.
The Alpha, or the First Principle of the Human Mind. A Philosophical Enquiry into the Nature of Truth.
Chapman and Hall.

THE author of this strange volume comes before the world with lofty pretensions. He is not a truth-seeker, but a truth propounder; he brings a revelation, not an enquiry. He pronounces all that has gone before—*all* that philosophies and religions have offered to us in the shape of a solution, to be sterile and false. He brings with him that "Truth which is the exponent of all Truth," and which sweeps away Philosophy, Religion, Morality, to place in their stead one luminous principle which shall enlighten the world.

Now, it is always a matter of legitimate suspicion when a man thus sets himself in antagonism to the whole past; and this suspicion will operate so injuriously to the author that, instead of listening to his arguments, men will shrug their shoulders and pass on. As a philosopher, therefore, he has been guilty at the outset of a most unphilosophical disdain for his own race; but we could willingly overlook that, or a much worse fault in an author who really opened new tracts of thought, or rendered old tracts more solid, more even, and more serviceable. Setting aside the claims of this writer to a possession of God's truth on the highest of all subjects, let us calmly ask whether he is in possession of man's truth on the subject—or whether even he has a plausible and truthful-looking scheme to propose?

We are bound to answer both questions with an emphatic No. The fault may be in our long training in the old philosophies—in a leaven of the world-old ignorance which may have so dulled our vision, that we cannot recognize the pure white of truth. Let it be granted so. Let the fault be wholly ours, we have then to ask: How does the author expect mankind to be convinced of the truth of his system if their former training have so unfitted them to recognize what he believes to be self-evident? For ourselves, we are forced to judge this system as we judge other systems, and we find it far from convincing "the Truth which is the exponent of all Truth"; on the contrary, we find it a curious mixture of assumption, confusion of ideas, and metaphysical word juggling.

First and foremost we have to declare our conviction that the author is radically unphilosophical in his methods, that he is a man never trained to any one science, or so trained as not to have disciplined his thoughts into effective action. Trusting rather to the native force of his intellect, and the happy results of long-continued introspection, than to the ascertained methods of enquiry, he becomes enmeshed in the cobwebs of his own speculations. Thus it is that he can sit down satisfied with having discovered the absolute truth, and all the while be cheating himself with metaphysical juggleries like these (which are the great truths he announces as discoveries): *The First Principle of all things is intelligence. If there were no ignorance there could be no error. If there were no injustice there could be no crime. If there were no error, no crime, there would be no unhappiness and the virtues would disappear.*

The reader may smile, but we assure him the re-

velation of Alpha is contained in the above sentences. Much demonstration is employed to prove that Intelligence is the Principle of all things, that God is Intelligence, that Man is a lesser Intelligence, that Intelligence is happiness and perfection, while unhappiness and imperfection result from ignorance only. If we were all intelligent we should all be virtuous, because "right convictions compel right sentiments and right actions."

We believe we have done the author no injustice in this statement, and we fear no contradiction from scientific thinkers when we say that such a statement implies a profound disregard for philosophic method, and a profound misconception of human nature. We will show this presently; meanwhile let us simply demur to the gratuitous assumption with which he starts, viz., that Intelligence is the First Principle of all things. That is the sort of phrase which metaphysicians glibly utter, but more modest enquirers might suggest: 1st. How do you know that? What do you know of the First Principle of things, and what of intelligence? 2nd. You have analogical ground for assuming the Deity to be intelligent, but none for assuming that He is Intelligence. 3rd. Further, how can Intelligence be the First Principle of a thing? That remains to be shown.

Upon this assumption that Intelligence is the Principle, Aim, and End of every created thing, the author bases his system. So long as he remains with the Deity and creation, he has it all his own way. No man can disprove cosmology; for the simple reason that no man can prove it. The author, therefore, may sport as he pleases amidst the chaos of unformed worlds, and tell us "all about" them. With First Principles we profess no acquaintance, and leave him undisturbed with them; as the sailor said of ghosts, "we don't understand their tackle," but when he descends upon earth and speaks of human beings we begin to feel more confident.

Vice, we are constantly told, is only Ignorance, and there would be no Virtue were it not for Vice. The author is strangely mistaken in supposing this is a discovery of his own. It is as old as Socrates. Indeed we may say, in passing, that the ideas in this book, so far from being novel, will be recognized by every metaphysical reader, as having frequently been promulgated, and as having passed through his, the reader's, mind; but as having passed through it—rejected as crude or false. The peculiar error to which we now direct attention—viz., that Vice is Ignorance, and that Knowledge compels right actions—could only be entertained by one unaccustomed to scientific methods, and will afford us a good illustration of the author's reasoning.

Starting with the assumption that Intelligence is the great reality and first principle of things, he of course seeks in man only the intelligent man. "THE REAL MAN," he says in all the emphasis typography can give, "IS THE SPIRITUAL MAN, THE INTELLIGENT PRINCIPLE." By this grand method of elimination anything could be proved. But we abstain from parodies, and quote this passage:—

"Man is not a moral being, nor is he a religious being; he is simply an intelligent or intellectual being. If his knowledge enable him to comprehend his relationship to the Deity, his Ordinator, a reverential feeling of pious homage is the necessary result of the conviction. Call this religion, or give that act of homage any other name, no matter; it is the necessary result of his knowledge. Without the intelligence or intellectual principle there could have been no perception, no act, no homage, no religion; hence man is not a religious being, neither is he a moral being; he is simply and solely an intellectual being."

The "hence" is a logical sequence we do not follow; we might as cogently assert that "hence" man was simply a muscular being, because without muscles he could not move, could not live, could not think. Cannot the author read the plain language of fact, which says that man is not simply any one thing, but a very complex being, having various modes of action—vital, intellectual, and emotional? Such plain writing ought also to convince him of the radical mistake in his philosophy. For it is quite idle to say that if man really knew the whole consequences of his acts he never would act otherwise than rightly; idle because the "if" is so immense! Those who talk in this way forget that man cannot foresee all the consequences. If he were otherwise constituted—if he had no passions, no desires, no instincts—if he were purely and simply an intelligent being, then once give him knowledge and you give him virtue; then Vice would be simple Ignorance. . . .

But who does not see the vicious reasoning which employs such an *if*? Men—as at present constituted—are intelligent, but they are also instinctive and emotive beings. Intelligence is one mode of action by which an organization manifests itself; but it is only one mode, and is controlled by other modes. Instincts, Desires, Passions are not less integral portions of the human soul, and they mislead men into vicious actions, more than ignorance misleads them. No greater mistake can be committed than to place all our actions under the impulse of the intellect, and to suppose that our knowledge of what is right will compel us to do what is right:—

"Video meliora proboque,
Deteriora sequor."

"I know and testify to the good, yet I follow the bad."

In the face of this universal experience, how can a man assert that Vice is the same as Ignorance, and that we do wrong because we are unenlightened, when it is clear that, in most cases, the wrong we do is owing to our instincts and passions *disregarding* the intellect, and acting in defiance of it. Take a familiar illustration. Jones is fond of port; a pint does him no apparent injury; a bottle makes him quarrelsome, reckless, and profligate. He knows well enough that, if he drink a bottle of port, he will thump his wife, destroy the furniture, pass the night in a roundhouse, and suffer terrible headache on the morrow. He knows this as well as he knows most things: he foresees the consequences, and—drinks the bottle! Now, it is quite true that our opponent might say, Jones only *partially* foresaw the consequences—his conviction was not *absolute*—he suffered his desires to sophisticate with him—he listened to the sneaking suggestion that *this* time, perhaps, he should not become intoxicated, and so on; whereas, if he clearly and unmistakeably saw his action in its true light—saw the *inevitable* consequences, and recognized them as inevitable, then he would not drink the bottle. Some such reservation as this there must be in the minds of those who talk about Vice being Ignorance. But are they aware of what it amounts to? It amounts to this: *Give man the omniscience of an angel, and he will act like an angel!*

What are these hindrances to a perfect prevision of consequences—what are these sophistications—these "perhapses," but the operation of those other faculties which man has besides reason, and which make him a man, not a mere intelligence? "Oh," says this school, "make him an intelligent being, and then!" . . . Make the Lion cease to be carnivorous in his instincts, and he will become a pleasant playfellow for your dogs and children!

The error, as we have already indicated, lies in eliminating from human nature all the conditions except intelligence, and theorizing as to how men would act if they were so constituted. But Nature is not to be coerced by our philosophy; on the contrary she insists upon our philosophy taking its shape from her: and this command *The Alpha* violates in every chapter.

In justice to the author we should add that his error is natural to a man accustomed to meditation and aware of the control exercised by reason over the passions. Personal history suggests what universal history confirms, that greater morality accompanies increased enlightenment; and hence it is an easy leap to jump to the conclusion that knowledge is virtue. But the conclusion is false nevertheless. We have no space here for an essay on moral culture, but must briefly say that the progress of morality has been coincident with but not derived from progress of intelligence. The moral faculties have undergone a change no less than the state of intelligence. *Social experience has educated social feelings*; the intellect has, of course, guided this education—it has thrown its light upon the objects—but it has not been the motive force. To do unto others as you would be done by is not more clearly apprehended by the intellects of our day than it was by the intellects of many centuries ago; but in our day the moral law is nearer its fulfilment, not because the intellect apprehends it, but because the social sympathies acknowledge it—because our moral culture, or the education of our feelings, is such that they are enlisted in its cause.

There are many other points upon which we should combat *The Alpha*, but we have examined its fundamental positions, and they suffice to show that the revelation does not come from heaven, nor is it likely to make many converts. But we must

not close this notice without emphatically recording our admiration of the author's varied powers. He seems to be a self-taught man—a solitary, independent thinker who has worked out his conclusions for himself. Had he read much philosophy he would have seen that his ideas are no novelties; but they are discoveries to him, and bear the stamp of original thought. In dash, vigour, sly touches of humour, and occasional bursts of eloquence the book is also remarkable, and shows the native force of the author's intellect. Had we not already extended this article beyond due limits we would quote some admirable extracts, but the curious reader must consult the volume itself.

EUPHRANOR.

Euphranor, a Dialogue on Youth.

Pickering.

CICERO has left us, among his legacies, an agreeable and ingenious defence of Old Age—which has been reproduced in many forms; but no one, that we remember, has written a defence of Youth. Probably because Youth has written its own eulogies in its glorious deeds, its glowing enthusiasms, its health, insolence, and vigour, its beauty and its charm! Probably also because it felt that no defence was necessary. "The history of heroes," says Disraeli, "is the history of Youth." And this is somewhat the opinion of the author of *Euphranor*, who adopts the definition of Chivalry given by Kenelm Digby in his *Godefridus*, "the general spirit which disposes men to generous and heroic actions," and concludes that Youth is the age of all Chivalry. This is backed up by a weighty aphorism of Bacon's: "for the moral part youth will have the preëminence as age hath for the politic." Nay, since we are upon authorities, let us not forget Goethe, who in his old age told Eckermann that if he could have his way young men should be appointed even to the highest offices of the state, they being really the most capable; and Plato—(whom *Euphranor* is so fond of quoting that he will be glad to receive this text)—says, in the *Republic*, that great works are only accomplished by youths: νέων δὲ πάντες οἱ μεγάλοι καὶ οἱ πολλοὶ πόνοι—though some one standing beside him might have whispered "you did not write the *Republic*, nor the *Laws*, nor the *Timæus*, nor the *Phædon* in youth; and your fellow-citizen Sophocles was ninety when he wrote the masterpiece of tragedy."

But why dispute as to the age of greatness? That is the age of greatness in which the man is great. He is always young while his genius is creative. It is not the sprinkled snow of years upon his head which makes a man old, but the loss of elastic hope, enthusiasm, and creative power. We leave the discussion here and return to *Euphranor*, which we commend to our readers as a scholarly, thoughtful, charming little volume, that leaves the mind hungering for more. The imitation of classic dialogue is admirable, because it is so thorough an adaptation of the original spirit. Instead of the stiffness of imitations it has the free movement of an original fancy. The classical reader will trace the author's step among the footprints of the ancients, but to the ordinary reader it will seem as if the author followed the dictates of his own fancy. The framework is simple yet delightful. The narrator is a physician at Cambridge, with more friends than patients. *Euphranor*, a young collegian, somewhat Puseyite, calls upon him one lovely morning, and insists on dragging him out into the country somewhere. They row, they walk, they dine, and they discuss. Other figures cross the scene, just to give it variety—all of them admirably touched, especially Lycion, the apathetic young Englishman, whose life is a lounge, a cigar, and a game at billiards—but who is really capable of high and manly life if he were not spoiled by the affectation of gentlemanly apathy. As a specimen of the quiet humour which plays in lambent flames through this little book, and serves to express character, read this passing sentence:—

"Lycion now called up to his friends in the billiard room, one of whom appeared at the window, cue in hand, and shook his head, saying, however, in a confidential way, that 'all would be right in a few minutes,' and so retired. On which Lycion had nothing to do for it but light another cigar, and lying down on his back with his hat over his eyes, compose himself to inattention."

The conversation is discursive enough, but it always returns to the main topics, which are youth and the education of youth. *Euphranor*, as a Platonist, is very unwilling to concede any influence to the body over the mind, whereas the physiological studies of the doctor have naturally led him

to view the connection as extremely intimate. *Euphranor* appeals to the

"Instances we have of the greatest minds dwelling in the craziest and puniest bodies."

"Great parts," I answered, "as great wit in Pope, for instance."

"Mens curva in corpore curvo," quoted *Euphranor*. "No, wit itself is said to be a kind of dishonesty of thought, so let it e'en be a disease—of the body, if you like. But look at Pascal now—"

"Well," said I, "great mathematical and reasoning faculty. But these do not make up a Man. A bon-mot, a poem, a problem, are no more specimens of the whole Man than that celebrated brick was of the whole house. What is your author in his Affections and Temper as well as his understanding? What as relative, friend, neighbour, and so forth? the 'whole, sound, round-about' man, as Locke says."

"But Pascal was a notoriously religious and good man," argued *Euphranor*.

"Notoriously ascetic," said I, "that is to say, of a diseased religion. He would not let his family be too much about him lest their mutual love should deprive God of his due. I should instance Pascal's religion as looking much like the refraction from a sickly body."

The Doctor, indeed, throughout shows a sensible, open, manly mind, and his scheme for the education of a young gentleman is that of one who knows his subject. Here is one passage from it:—

"After the due dandling and rocking of first infancy, give him a clear stage to roll in; he will find his own legs when they are strong enough to bear him. Then let him romp as much as he likes; and roar too—a great part of children's fun, and of great service to the lungs. And that (besides the fresh air) is so great an advantage in sending children to play out of doors, they don't disturb the serious and nervous elders of the house, who ruin the health and spirits of thousands by 'Be quiet, child—Don't make such a noise, child, et cetera.'"

"Ah, I remember," said *Euphranor*, "how you used to play at hide-and-seek with us in the shrubbery, rather exciting us to rebellion, when my aunt ran out to warn us in, or reduce us to order."

"Or for fear your dresses should be dirtied," rejoined I, "for that is one of the fetters laid upon children's wholesome growth. They must early learn to look respectable: as also shouting is vulgar, you know. Then what screaming from the window if a little dew lay on the grass, or a summer cloud overcame the sky?"

"I suppose you would have shoes with holes in them on purpose to let in water, as Locke does," said *Euphranor*, laughing.

"I wouldn't keep a child from exercise in the dirt because he has no whole shoes at home, at all events," answered I.

"He catches cold."

"I dose him instantly and effectually."

"But he dies."

"Then, as a sensible woman said, 'he is provided for.' Your own Plato, I think, says it is best the sickly and delicate should die off early at once."

"Rather a Pagan doctrine, if he does," replied *Euphranor*. "However, we will suppose Sir Launcelot survives—what else?"

"Where did we leave him?" said I.—"O yes—I remember—in the mud—where, by-the-bye (much better than if shut up in a school-room or parlour), he makes acquaintance with external nature, sun, moon, stars, trees, flowers, stones, so wholesome in themselves, and the rudiments of so many ologies for hereafter."

"Not forgetting animals," said *Euphranor*.

"By no means," said I, "and especially the horse and the dog, whose virtues we said he would do well to share."

"Horses and dogs, in the women's apartments," said *Euphranor*, laughing. "O yes," I said, "his acquaintance with the dog begins in the cradle: and the horse, who, as we said, has given his very name to the spirit of Youth, Devotion, and Courage, we began talking about—Sir Launcelot cannot too soon make his acquaintance—to pat him—to feed him—to be set upon his back, either in the stable, or during exercise up and down the avenue."

"And it is wonderful," *Euphranor* observed, "what forbearance the nobler animals show for children; how great dogs suffer themselves to be pulled about for hours by them: and horses will carry boys with a kind of proud docility, who would kick and plunge under a grown-up rider. Perhaps they like children's soft voices and light weights; for which very reason, I have heard, they are more manageable by women."

"Yes," said I, "and have they not also a sense of humour that is amused at being bestrid by urchins; ay, and real generosity, too, that will not take advantage of weakness."

We give also his summing up:—

"What I have to turn out is, not a Genius, but a YOUNG GENTLEMAN, qualified at least for the common professions, or trades, if you like it. Or if he have means and inclination to live independently on his estate, may, in spite of his genius, turn into a very good husband, father, neighbour, and magistrate. No mean vocation, in my opinion, who really believe that healthy, courageous, good humour, and activity of soul, do radiate a more happy atmosphere throughout a little circle, and, through that, imperceptibly, to the whole world, than cart-loads of poems, sermons, and essays, by dyspeptic divines, authors, and universal philanthropists, whose fine feelings and bad stomachs make them tyrants in their own families, and whose books go to draw others into a like unhappy condition with themselves."

The volume may be read in an hour, and no one will regret the hour spent over it.

THE CHURCH IN DANGER.

"God is Love." A Sermon preached in St. Peter's Church, Brighton, on Sunday, December 29, 1850. By the Reverend H. M. Wagner, M.A., Vicar of Brighton.

Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

A Letter addressed to the Vicar of Brighton, in Reply to a Sermon entitled "God is Love." By William Coningham.

C. Gilpin.

A Letter to the Reverend H. M. Wagner, on his Sermon. By John Nelson Goulty, Protestant Dissenting Minister.

C. Gilpin.

God is Love, and demands Church Rates! If you are startled at the impiety of this logic blame not us. The logic is not our own; to the Vicar of Brighton belongs the merit of this incomparable syllogism; but whether the English People will raise statues in honour of the modern Aristotle we venture not to prophesy. One thing we will say: If the Church is "in danger," as loud voices tell us, it will never be rescued by vicars of Brighton.

It appears that a large majority in the vestry negatived a motion for a new Church Rate. Those who wanted the rate were in nowise perplexed by this decision against them; the chairman declared the votes of the majority null, and carried the motion by the minority! The rate thus made was enforced by violence: two parishioners who refused payment are now involved in a lawsuit. To defray expenses of this lawsuit, and assist these steadfast men in their refusal to pay a minority rate, a committee has been formed in Brighton and subscriptions collected. Whereupon the vicar, incensed with Christian indignation, and alarmed for his rates, preaches a sermon on the text, "God is Love." This sermon, and two replies to it, lie on our table.

We will not be merciless—we will not treat this clerical sermon with the same seriousness as we should treat a lay production; faults of logic, and faults of style, may be passed over in silence, as they only come from a vicar who is accustomed to have it all his own way with an uninquiring audience. We will merely remark, in passing, that clergymen of his calibre should be very cautious how they step out of the pulpit into the public streets. This sermon, we have no doubt, was sufficiently effective from the pulpit. It did as well as another to sleep over. But when the public see it in print, they will judge it by the light of reason and say But we promised not to be cruel! Besides, he is in better hands: Messrs. Coningham and Goulty have already ripped his sermon to pieces.

Mr. Coningham's Letter contains much valuable matter on the legal and constitutional side of this subject of Church Rates. We extract one passage:—

"It will be worth while to trace briefly the gradual steps by which the High Church party has endeavoured insensibly to build up a precedent in favour of the validity of church-rates (those free-will offerings of the faithful on which so many law-suits are pending) when levied by the minority of the vestry. The Church in the first instance violated the general canon law of Europe, by shifting from its own shoulders the liability for church repairs, and endeavouring, by custom, to fix the burden on the parishioners, who voluntarily taxed themselves for the purpose. The custom being established, the next step was to enforce it by ecclesiastical censures; and when these failed, by the aid of the temporal courts. Finally, when the law proved insufficient, the novel and unconstitutional principle of government by minorities, a principle unknown to the laws of England, was declared first in the ecclesiastical and then in the temporal courts: the custom of a voluntary tax upon the conscience thus being converted into an obligation which the parishioners 'by the common law of England are bound to perform,' and the vestry reduced to a mere ministerial body without a voice in the matter."

Having settled the legal point, Mr. Coningham says:—

"And now, sir, I will proceed to investigate the morality of your sermon, and of your proceedings in thus citing two of your parishioners to appear in the Court of Arches for non-payment of rates, and in refusing to wait till the *Baintree* case should be decided in the highest court of appeal."

"It appears to me that you assume two things which are not founded on fact. First, that a church-rate made by the minority of vestry is a valid rate by the law of England: the single case now set up as a precedent being actually under appeal. And, secondly, that you and your wardens have been compelled by a sense of duty, and by the necessity of repairing the parish churches, the 'thing' being 'not of our own seeking,' to engage in an expensive law-suit. On the voluntary principle—the principle upon which Christ desired Peter to pay tribute—you might have readily collected not merely the penny rate to which by rigid attorneyism you have been reduced, but that much desired sixpence in the pound, which you vainly attempted to carry on the 28th of May, 1846, and which was refused upon a poll by 1328 votes to 754. In the face of this statement, supported as it is by an unanswerable array of facts, you will hardly venture to affirm that in thus dragging Messrs. Bentley and Mighell into the Ecclesiastical Courts you are only

acting in compliance with the express injunctions of Christ and his disciples? At the same time allow me to draw your attention to the concluding verses of the chapter from which your text is taken."

Winding up with this:—

"And now, before concluding my letter, I desire to ask you a very serious question, and one to which I publicly demand a distinct and definite answer.

"At the twenty-second page of your Sermon, which appears to contain the pith of your argument, you say that you 'would suggest to those whose hearts are right and judgments mature, and who fear God, to aid the Wardens (for this thing is too heavy for them), by forming some organization for the vindication of the law.' This means, in plain English, that you would suggest a voluntary congregational collection for the purpose of assisting the Wardens to enforce the minority church rate in the Ecclesiastical Courts, for the repairs of the parish churches. You thus refuse to accept a voluntary collection for repairing the church, but you 'would suggest' that one be made to assist you in compelling others to do that which you will not allow to be done voluntarily.

"Now the question I ask is this:—Are you, are the Wardens, or are both, the promoters of this law-suit? For if you be the promoter of this suit, or if you incur any share of pecuniary responsibility in this most arbitrary measure, you have, in thus asking your congregation to 'aid the Wardens,' not the Vicar, 'by forming some organization for the vindication of the law,' committed an act which I shall leave the public sense of truth and common honesty to characterize by its proper name."

There is one bit of information for which we thank Mr. Coningham, because (as Christianity claims to be the religion of the Poor) it affords a pleasing illustration of the Apostolic Church. A rather dissolute gentleman in Rome once said:—

"Pallida mors æquo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas Regumque turres;"

and we know that "Pale Death does kick with impartial foot at the palace door no less than at the hovel." But if all men are equal in the eye of Death, they are not equal in the eye of the clergyman—to worms they all go, rich and poor, but not with the same Christian consolation; so Mr. Coningham tells us, at least:—

"You speak of a cemetery (the only place where rich and poor do meet on equal terms) as a spot 'where charity should bide and melt in sympathy with the tears of bereavement.' What are we to think of your pure and 'Apostolic church,' which tolerates a practice (chiefly confined to some of the metropolitan parishes) by which an extra fee of five shillings is required, for 'desk service,' whereby the poor who cannot pay are deprived of half the burial service? May I not in turn quote (Matt. xxiii. 4)?"

Mr. Goulty's letter is more theological; it exposes the vicar's misquotations of Scripture, or rather his misapplication of texts, with great effect. The reader may imagine what use the vicar would make of Scripture—"for his purposes"—when we tell him that the text "God is love" is chosen as the demand for church-rates, "Love" being proved in the apostolic words to be the "fulfilling of the law;" and the law to be fulfilled the vicar quietly assumes is the law of church-rates!!

When we think of Mr. Bennett's treatment by his bishop, when we see trivial ceremonials and symbols sufficient to outbalance all the good of active piety and real clerical work, and when, on the other hand, we see the Vicar of Brighton left undisturbed by his Bishop, we can understand the agony of that cry "The Church in Danger," for the cry is a reality. The sooner it is put out of danger by the most summary of methods—being put out altogether—the better will it be for Religion, the Church, and the Community.

THE FIRST ANGEL.

The First Angel. A Novel in 2 vols. Saunders and Otley.

THE writer of this work is much cleverer than the work itself. One cannot turn over its pages without feeling that either from youth and inexperience, or else from having chosen a department for which he is unfitted, this writer is wasting talents on an immature work. The best passages are those of reflection; as we might expect from one who had cultivated his intellect and whose artistic tendencies were not strong. There are also touches of description which show an artistic and even poetic feeling, so that we are driven to the conclusion that the writer is very young, and has not yet seen enough of the world, reflected enough on his own experience of it, nor sufficiently studied the great models of dramatic art, to enable him to put a readable probable story together. All that relates to the mere writing is superior to the generality of novels; all that relates to the story, to pictures of life and portraiture of character belongs to the Circulating Library, and that not of the best. In

support of our praise take this bit of English landscape:—

"There is a large market town in one of the midland counties of England, formerly a place of strength, and the scene of many stirring deeds in the olden time. A fine river flows beneath the site of the ancient fortress. Its banks are broad green meadows, with gentle slopes—scarcely so much as hills—rising at a little distance, where many jovial old English mansions lift their red faces over the large shrubberies of antiquated gardens, and among groves of trees planted a century ago. The river runs east and west, and these mansions, fifty years since, were chiefly on the southern side, with a north aspect, therefore, looking towards the town; but one of them, in consequence of a bend in the stream, had its face turned nearly to the west, so that the setting sunbeams fell full upon it in summer evenings, turning the windows into fiery beacons, and pouring rubies upon the large sloping lawn in front when the dew began to fall."

Here again is a passing touch:—

"The sun was going down before them, in the pale splendour of autumn, for the great eye of the universe, like human eyes, grows pensive and sometimes mournful in its beauty when the season of gay life and glowing joy is past, and the cold winds of death are coming."

The reflections have a tendency to lengthen into essays, but they are always well expressed and worth reading. Here is one on an old subject:—

"It is interesting to observe the very different paths by which men are led from time to time to the renunciation of their habitual opinions in matters of religion. It is seldom, perhaps never, that a system, or even the centre of a system, is renounced at once. The decay is usually gradual, and begins at the extremities. There is a feeling of repugnance towards some doctrine or form which the system contains, or a desire for some other doctrine or form which it excludes. The repugnance or the desire engenders thought and leads to enquiry—the eternal source of change among those whose faith, like that of most of us, has been a habit, and not a choice, a thing to be received, not a thing to be sought for.

"For, in truth, few men enquire seriously into the foundations of their faith till they begin to be dissatisfied with it; and the dangers of such enquiry are not at all exaggerated by those who would have men sleep upon authority, lest they should awake into scepticism. To dig down through our habitual belief, in search of that base of truth which has never yet been sought, and haply may not be there; to subject to calm deliberation opinions which were not calmly deliberated when we adopted them, but received on hearsay, or from an authority whose trustworthiness is itself one of the opinions to be enquired into; to examine the proof of theorems which we have acted upon unproved, as if they were axioms; and thus, after the temple of our faith is built and garnished, to look for the first time at its true foundations, not knowing beforehand whether they be rock or sand,—this is indeed a perilous undertaking. Many are the souls who, at first sight of instability at the bottom of their favourite edifice, have fled in terror or in bitterness, and henceforth built themselves no temple at all. It must always be so while men are taught to believe before they enquire rather than to enquire in order that they may believe.

"Perhaps there is nothing more difficult than to predicate of any individual what it is that he will not believe, from a knowledge of what he will. One man, who sees no difficulty in the Athanasian creed, is confounded by the idea of baptismal regeneration; another can believe that God made the world, but cannot believe the truth of a miracle; a third accepts the irreconcilable doctrines of God's omniscience and man's free will, but rejects the Trinity because it involves a contradiction: so mysterious are those strange and wonderful beings whom we call our souls."

The foregoing extracts are sufficient to make us desire to see the author's next attempt, though we counsel him either to some severe revision of his own capabilities to see if they really lie in the path of fiction, or else to more careful study of his art and its requisites.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Chancery Infamy; or, A Plea for an Anti-Chancery League. By H. W. Weston, Secretary to the Chancery Reform Association. Fifth Thousand. Effingham Wilson.

Chancery Reform. The Equity Jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery. A Lecture. By William Carpenter. Effingham Wilson.

Perhaps of all the monstrous abuses in England none equals in enormity and unreasonableness the indefensible condition of Chancery Courts. Chancery has become a word of terror; the synonym of lifelong delay and ruinous expence. The romance of Chancery exceeds that of all other courts. As nobody but those interested in the abuses can defend them, the public will be glad to learn that an Anti-Chancery League has been established, of which Lord Erskine is the President, and which if it have courage must eventually succeed in putting an end to the present anomalous state of things. The two pamphlets at the head of this notice are worthy the attention of every reformer. We shall return to the subject.

The British Journal of Homœopathy. No. XXXV. S. Highley. This quarterly journal though professedly advocating Homœopathy will interest readers not prepared to adopt that system. Dr. Madden's article on Uterine Diseases, for example, though read before the Homœopathic congress is one to engage the attention of all practitioners. Besides that article, which is almost a treatise, the present number contains papers on the Theory of Homœopathy and on Pneumonia.

The History of Greece, from the Earliest Period to the Roman Conquest; with a Sketch of its Modern History to the Present Time. Adapted for schools and families. By Miss Corner. Dean and Son.

Miss Corner's books are well known. She does not treat the subject in a very lively style, nor does she aim at an ambitious style; but her books are painstaking compilations, clearly expressed. The present volume contains in small compass a view of Greek history from the Pelasgians to the Roman Conquest, with a bird's-eye view of modern history. Every page is built up from Grote, Thirlwall, the Library of Useful Knowledge, and Dr. Smith's Dictionaries of Greek Biography and Antiquities, so that the results of the best modern scholarship are given. Questions are added to each chapter, and a full chronological table is added.

The Peace Advocate and Correspondent.

This little journal is devoted to the advocacy of peace. With the object we fully concur. To recommend the infusion of physical force in this paper plainly would not do, but a little more force of some kind would greatly increase the efficacy of the articles. There is a strong sentimentality in them which repels the business sense of many whose suffrages must be won before the peace question can obtain legislative sanction.

The Miscellaneous Works of the Right Honourable Sir James Macintosh. Complete in one vol. Longmans and Co.

The Daughter of Night: a Story of the Present Time. By S. W. Fullom. 3 vols. H. Colburn.

The Life of Jesus Christ in its Historical Connection and Historical Development. By Augustus Neander. Translated from the fourth German edition. By John M. Clintock and Charles E. Bluementhal. H. G. Bohn.

The Ecclesiastical History of Eusebius Pamphilus, Bishop of Cæsarea, in Palestine. Translated from the Greek by the Reverend C. F. Cruse, A.M. With notes selected from the edition of Valesius. H. G. Bohn.

The Hand of God in History; or, Divine Providence Historically Illustrated in the Extension and Establishment of Christianity. By Hollis Read, A.M. W. Collins.

Lectures on Social Science and the Organization of Labour. By James Hole. John Chapman.

Transportation not Necessary. By C. B. Adderley, M.P. J. W. Parker.

Knight's Pictorial Shakspeare. Part 7. (Taming of the Shrew.) C. Knight.

NOTES AND EXTRACTS.

RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES.—I remarked, more in thought than openly, that difference of opinion in religious matters had always sown dissension among men, and made them enemies; nay, that the first murder had been caused by a difference in the mode of worshipping God.—*Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

THE KING'S LIBRARY.—It is a curious fact that George IV. sold the library of his father in an underhand manner to the nation. The books were not alone priced by the Emperor of Russia, but they were actually consigned to St. Petersburg; when Mr. Heber, of doubtful fame, hearing of the negotiation, prevailed on Lord Sidmouth to induce the King to retract it, which was done by the modern Sardanapalus, upon the Ministry consenting to make up the money he had sold them for. This was actually done out of certain funds furnished by France under the Restoration for the compensation of losses by the Revolution; and the Baron de Bode, whose case has been so often before the public, was one of the sufferers by this sleight-of-hand proceeding. The amount deducted for the King was, however, subsequently made good out of the droits of the Admiralty; but not until the House of Commons of the day had called the Ministers over the coals for this transaction.—*Quarterly Review.*

RE-READ GREAT WORKS.—I read some pieces of *Molière's* every year, just as, from time to time, I contemplate the engravings after the great Italian masters. For we little men are not able to retain the greatness of such things within ourselves; we must, therefore, return to them from time to time, and renew our impressions.—*Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

MANLY SPORTS.—"All strong exercise is more or less dangerous," I replied; "in digging, rowing, running, we may sprain, strain, and rupture, if we do not break limbs. There is no end to finding out dangers if you look for them. Men have died of grape-stones sticking in the throat—are we never to eat grapes again, or are they to be carefully picked of their stones first? And as for Courage, which is the strength of soul I speak of, some men are born with it under a lucky star, and, the phrenologists say, under a good constellation of bumps. But even then it will require exercise to keep it in repair. But if men have it not naturally, how is it to be acquired except in the demand for it; that is to say, in danger? and to be laid in in youth, while the mind is growing, and capable of nerving, so as to become a habit of the soul, and to act with the force and readiness of instinct?" "Mamma will say it is to be found in good books, good principles, religion, and so on," said Euphranor. "And there may be found the long-concocted resolution, that, after all, the struggles of natural fear may nerve a man to be a martyr at last. But while it succeeds in one, it fails in a thousand. For here comes the ancient difference between resolving and doing; which latter is what we want. Nay, you know, the habit of resolving without acting (as we do necessarily in facing dangers and trials in books and in the closet) is worse for us than never resolving at all, inasmuch as it gradually snaps the natural connection between thought and deed."—*Euphranor.*

HOD-MEN OF SCIENCE.—Would to God! (exclaimed Goethe), we were all nothing more than good hod-men. It is just because we will be more, and carry about with us a great apparatus of philosophy and hypothesis, that we spoil all.—*Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

Portfolio.

We are most anxious to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself. — GÖTHE.

PLEA AND COUNTER-PLEA
Concerning the "In Memoriam" of Alfred Tennyson.

By ARCHER GURNEY, Clerk.

I.—FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

Why, Tennyson! what hapless mood
Hath moved thee pages, fond as these,
To print, to publish, all at ease?
What self-delusive hardihood!
These weary rhymes, which evermore
Beat time to nothing in thy brain,—
These weary rhymes, as sad as vain,
Why blend them with thy poet-love?
Thus might one wail, from morn to eve,
And still from eve to morn anew,
That leaves are green, that skies are blue,
That shadows round their circles weave.
But thou didst prize thy Friend! 'Tis well;
Nor will I seek to question here,
That grace, that genius, void of peer!
Thy fancy wrought the giant-spell,
Nay, if it pleased thee to rehearse
Thy sorrows to the weeping skies
In vague and boundless melodies,
Though sickly, fair befall thy verse!
But these things, man, were not for print!—
Here lay a string of pearls for thee,
Where others painted beads would see.
What! a whole book and nothing in't!

No, Tennyson: I prize thee much,
But mine esteem must fainter grow:
Two hundred leaves of morbid woe,
And of free genius scarce a touch!
Think not I ne'er thy songs did love!
'Tis for thy fame, to me right dear,
That jealously I watch and fear:
Mine inmost soul 't was thine to move.
When thou last struck Love's master-keys,
When grace and passion thrill'd thy strain,
This cheek hath flushed, shall flush again,
With kindling poet-sympathies.

My tears have rained their tribute due
To thy sweet pathos, matchless save
On Shakspeare's page; and thence I waive
All courtesies, and "tell thee true":

These rhymes are blanks; or little more;
For thee, at least, too faint, too dull;
Dim shadows of the beautiful;
Of faded leaves an autumn store.

Quick, send some kindling war-note forth,—
War-note or love-note, which thou wilt,—
To cleanse from literary guilt,
And test and prove and seal thy worth.

Meanwhile, my serious song must flow,
In echoes creeping on for aye:—
"O doleful, doleful, doleful lay!
Oh, dreary, dreary, dreary, oh!"

II.—SECOND THOUGHTS.

Ah, rash and impious haste in me!
Could old experience nothing teach?
These "doleful ditties," all and each,
Are sweet as angels' songs may be!

Yet let my haste memento stand
To hasty critics, one and all,
That each may blot the peevish scrawl,
Or pillory straight his own right hand!

In eager hopes of—Heav'n knows what—
The book I oped, and o'er it threw
Fleet amorous glances; rash they flew,
Like waves on waves, and rested not.

Still dreaming, magic lay beyond,
More strange, more dazzling, mightier far,
I soar'd from gentle star to star,
And craved a comet! craving fond!

More passionate, impulsive strain,
Music more wild, I dreamt to hear;
A brighter love, a keener fear,
A world of rapture and of pain.

So this calm stream, so sweet, so strong;
So this gold sunlight, broad but still;
This hushed repose of vale and hill;
This pure felicity of song;

All this to me seem'd monotone,
Stagnation morbid. In an hour,
Or less, — O Ease! thou fatal dower! —
I read, and judg'd, and scrawl'd: 't was done!
Undone might be! Yet wherefore this?
Rather the beacon-light I set
(Which may I ne'er myself forget!)
And now record the poet-bliss

Which since my inmost soul o'ercame,
In scanning these dear leaves of woe.
Yet were they faultless? Surely, No!
'T was true, they lack'd a constant aim.
For what is fruitless in thy strain,
'T will perish; what is true shall live:
The false is ever fugitive;
The everlasting heavens remain.

And so I witness bear: for meek
And holy pathos, woe more bless'd
Than bliss, most musical unrest,—
For these man ne'er shall vainly seek,
These leaves within! — Of song and light
A lasting treasury hold we here;
For which all gentle hearts most dear
Must count the man who thus could write!

Thus, then, in this my penance-lay,
I own my haste, retract my wrong,
And bless thee, Poet, for thy song:
O be thou bless'd henceforth alway!

And here I end, recanting that,
My "doleful, doleful, doleful" cry:
An Eagle—Tennyson, and I,
'T would seem, a dreary purblind Bat!

AN EPISODE IN A HISTORY.

PART II.—THE DELIVERANCE.

It was a beautiful evening as I left Hamilton, and my walk to Glasgow was so delicious and exciting that it quite dispelled the recent gloom that had clouded my heart, and I half repented of my wish to quit the soldier's life. I began to dream of what I might be if I remained, in a year Sergeant Harwell; in a year or two more a commissioned officer; then Sir Francis Harwell, a distinguished commander in India; then Lord Harwell, delighting the world as much by the mastery of my eloquence and the wisdom of my statesmanship as I had just been astonishing it by my military skill and valour. A very simple circumstance soon dissipated my dreams. I entered a lonely house that stood by the side of the road to get a draught of milk. There was no one within but a young and pretty woman and her little son no less pretty, who was about four years old. I took him in my arms and kissed him passionately as I thought of my own brothers, some of whom were about the same age. The young mother looked at me with pity, and said that she loved her child with her whole soul, but that much as she loved him she would rather see him die that instant than think that when grown up he would become a soldier. This brief sharp speech brought me to my senses. I reached Glasgow late at night, and a benevolent policeman whom I met near one of the bridges took some trouble to obtain me comfortable lodgings. I remained indoors all next day, as, from having been so long at the Glasgow University, I was afraid of meeting some one that I knew. I did not wish to reach my native village in the daytime as I had determined that none of my old acquaintance there should see me in my military dress. As soon as the night had fairly set in I commenced my journey. I had thirty miles to walk. The day had been very beautiful, but I had not gone above a mile when it began to rain and ceaseless torrents kept drenching me and dashing in my face the whole way. When I came to Paisley I was tempted to give up my enterprise. But I felt something like the voice of a good spirit urging me on. I therefore, in spite of rain, and darkness, and mud, pursued my journey. I passed several villages where I had kind friends who would have been glad to give me a welcome even in my soldier's garb. But I resolved rather to lie down by the wayside and die than seek the hospitality of any one. Besides I was so thoroughly worn out by sadness of mind and fatigue of body that I had for the moment grown indifferent to life. How I dragged along my limbs during the last ten miles I scarcely know; I suppose sheer force of will prevented me from being utterly exhausted. As I descended the hills that circle in my native village the roar of the ocean's waves dash-

ing against wild and well-known rocks gave me fresh courage and strength. Approaching my father's door about an hour before the dawn, I stood for a time without having the resolution to knock. When at last I did so, my mother's heart, rather than her ear, told her by a strange instinct who was there. I heard a gentle foot coming rapidly near. What then, oh! God, were my emotions? In a moment the poor wet, weary wanderer was hotly clasped by affectionate arms. My father was stealthily called, so as not to disturb or alarm the rest of the family. He had no reproaches for me, nothing but sorrow or love. Some brief words told my history for the last few weeks. It was seen that that was not the time to question me, however desirous my parents were of knowing more. My wet clothes were stripped off, and I had not been a minute in bed before I fell into a deep refreshing sleep. When I awoke I saw my mother by my bedside. I could then answer all her fond enquiries. My parents and I had a long consultation together, and my father at last said that though he could ill afford the money he would purchase my discharge. He knew that I had never been inclined to vice though excessively rash and headlong. It was, therefore, arranged that he should himself take a journey to Hamilton as soon as possible, to obtain my discharge. Very early next morning, before any one was abroad, he drove me to Paisley. I walked thence to Hamilton the same day. When I came to the gate of the barracks I was immediately arrested for having been absent three days instead of two. I received a severe lecture from the sergeant-major of my troop. My punishment, however, was not very severe. I was confined that night to the guard-house, and was forbidden to leave the barracks for a week or two. In the guard-house I had no other bed than the bare boards, and no other bed-clothes than a cloak which some kind soul lent me. When I left the guard-house it may be supposed that I did not return to my old occupations with much alacrity. I, however, determined to do all my duties with mechanical exactness, if I could not put that spirit into them which I felt now to be impossible. It did not reconcile me to my lot that some of my brother soldiers were as well educated as myself. Not a few had been clerks; one or two had been medical students. I saw that soldiers of this stamp only reconciled themselves to their lot by assuming a coarseness which was not natural to them, and that they were in general more selfish and depraved than those who had not received any education at all. Not more than a fortnight elapsed before my father came to Hamilton bringing my purchase-money, which was nearly double the amount incurred by the *Magician*. When I knew that it was paid, though I deeply grieved that my good father had been put to so much expense by my folly, yet I rejoiced with a great joy that I was no longer a slave, that I had once more a father and that he had once more a son. In a pleasant walk, however, and afterwards when we dined together, we could express our joy by nothing but a kind of holy silence. He had not been gone many days when I was again forced to enter the hospital by influenza. My bed was next to that of a person suffering from inflammation of the brain. For several nights his wild delirious cries and furious gestures and movements scarcely allowed me to get any sleep. He was a recruit, and his father and mother lived at no great distance from Hamilton. They came one day, two pious, simple-hearted old people, to see their son. Their hearts had been half-broken by his enlisting; how much more bitter their agony to stand beside his bed and listen to the ravings of his madness! One evening the surgeon shaved his head and applied leeches. Hideous enough to my sensitive nerves were the streaming blood, the fierce shriek varied by the melancholy moan, and afterwards the face almost as white as the bandages above it. About midnight I was roused from sweet dreams of my childhood and of my village home by one loud, rending, torturing howl, as of the damned. In a moment the hospital attendants rushed in, bearing lights. The madman had sprung up in bed, had torn off all the bandages, and his face and clothes were covered with the gushing blood. I know not whether my terror or my horror for a few instants were greater. Perhaps this fresh flow of blood did the poor creature good, as he afterwards recovered, though probably long ere this he has found in India or elsewhere an unknown grave. When my father learned that I was ill, he again came to Hamilton. I saw him only once. He sat by my bedside, and our

conversation was mournful, very earnest, yet not without a gleam of hope, a prayer for brighter days, a promise of better things. The same week I left the hospital the troop, of which I was such an illustrious and fortunate member, marched to Glasgow. As we entered that city of baillies, kippered salmon, and minced collops, several of my fellow-students passed close by, without seeming to recognize me, and during the remainder of my stay at Glasgow as a soldier, I occasionally saw in the barrack-yard persons whom I well knew, but who did not appear to know me, though for fear of being seen by any old acquaintance I never went outside the barrack gates.

On the 5th of July, 1832, my military life closed. I dressed myself that morning in solemn black, and though I was glad to leave for ever scenes so little fitted to my character and tastes, yet it was not without a heavy heart that I bade my messmates adieu. After I had gone about a stone's throw from the barracks, I could not help turning round to look at the walls for a few minutes, and to ponder on the past and the future; and I could not avoid the suspicion that in spite of what I had suffered I was still a dreamer and a fool. To thrust that suspicion and all gloomy thoughts quite away, I walked on as rapidly as I could till I came to the Broomielaw—the Glasgow quay. I went on board a steamboat which I found ready to sail to my native village. It was a glorious summer's day, and as the vessel passed one well-known and beautiful spot on the banks of the Clyde after another, all the old romance of my nature revived, and a destiny magnificent as the sky above me and the scenery around me once more seemed possible. As we came nearer the familiar cliffs of my boyhood emotions and fancies of a different kind came rushing on my heart. I pictured the glad and welcoming faces of the father, the mother, the brothers, the sisters I was about to meet. As I stepped on shore a little child put its hand into mine and murmured my name, which he was scarcely able to pronounce distinctly. It was one of my brothers. Others of the family were also there. I thought I had never felt so happy as that evening when we were all assembled at tea together. In the subsequent November I resumed my college life at Glasgow, my father having in the meantime paid the printer of "The Magician." The regiment to which I had belonged was still in Glasgow, but I did not once go near the barracks. I often saw my former fellow-soldiers in the streets; but it was easy enough to avoid meeting them, though when they were persons I had known well I was almost irresistibly impelled to rush up and seize them by the hand. It would answer little purpose to append any elaborate reflections to such a record as this. Suffice it to say that I do not regret having been a soldier for a season. The hard and harsh necessities to which my course of existence then condemned me first awoke in me the conviction that life was a grand and stern reality, not a vague aspiring or a fantastic amusement. The headlong impulses of my imagination have often carried me since into exaggerations and extravagances; but in the midst of them all I could not forget that I had been trodden and lacerated by tragic facts, and that grim memory recalled me to myself. And, perhaps, my military career was only meant by Providence as a foretaste of what I was destined to do and suffer ever after. For I did not cease to be a soldier in ceasing to be a light dragoon. I have fought for whatever I considered God's cause with tongue and with pen, ever aiming to make, as far as I could, truthful speech the companion of valiant action wherever placed, to whatever duty called by the Captain of salvation. It is a great gain for us, it is the highest wisdom at which we can arrive here below, that we feel thoroughly and gratefully convinced that the finger of the Holiest has led us on, has directed all our movements, has never deserted us for an instant though our pilgrimage has been little but disaster, disappointment, and pain, and in a worldly sense it seems to have been the most miserable of failures. He who has taught himself amid cloud, and anguish, and incessant disease the sublimest spiritual truths, and applied them to the humblest of his needs and deeds, has done a divine work, and ought to kiss the hand that has so tortured and tried him. Far be it from me to say that I have succeeded in doing all this; but I have endeavoured strenuously thereafter, and, perhaps, the flame and the pertinacity of the endeavour have been gifts to me from the military hospital at Hamilton. God is great!

The Arts.

LEISURE OF A DRAMATIC CRITIC.

I have nothing to do: the theatres are dispensed from bringing out new pieces for the present; so that success is not only beneficial to managers, actors, and authors, but also to critics. Not a single new piece am I threatened with; not a new actor; not even a revival. *Old Love and the New* at Drury Lane will be a stock piece for many nights—people seem to be very unanimous in its favour. Then as for *King Charming* there is a perfect "rage" to see it, and an universal "oh!" choruses its triumph. At the Princess's Shakspeare and the Pantomime nightly fill the house; so that no novelty is wanted there. At the Olympic, *All that Glitters is Not Gold* will keep its place and draw laughter and tears for some time to come.

My office is thus a sinecure. I am a gentleman at large, with nothing in the world to do. My conscience is at ease. For a whole week—or say a fortnight—I am sure not to be quarrelling with anybody, or rather not to have him quarrelling with me because I am base enough not to admire him. That villany I am saved from. Then, again, I have my mornings to myself—free to ramble about the fields, or to sun myself in St. James's-street, without having to give myself a headache over profound criticism. My evenings, instead of being spent in a hot theatre, redolent of humanity, are passed serenely by the fireside, where I relax myself with a cigar and *Aristotle*, or an agreeable volume of *Chrysostom's Opera*. So that, when I am called into active service again, I can fling one of the Christian Fathers at the head of some farce-writer with all the air of a man worthy to be a bishop. The farce-writer is indignant, no doubt, and cannot see "what that has to do with it." But he secretly respects me as a man who reads bigger books than he does; and thus I make my leisure profitable! If, in the next few weeks, my articles become terribly erudite, you will know to what cause it may be attributed; for I am now as idle as a gay, sparkling, light-comedy gentleman during the successful run of a lugubrious tragedy at the theatre which has the honour of his talents; while the heavy fellows are nightly roaring themselves hoarse he has nothing to do but lounge during the day, and go to bed early. He is idle, and is paid as if he were worked to leanness.

Yet, candour before all things! Let me confess that, just as the sparkling comedian to whom I have compared myself very soon gets tired of his idleness and thinks the heavy dogs have had their day, he being impatient once more to resume his position before the public, so I, though glad enough to let the heavy fellows thunder away for a while about politics, religion, literature, and political economy—glad enough of the excuse to be idle for a week or two—yet at last begin to feel impatient, and desire again to see the *Leader* brighten up with something which can really interest people—viz., the drama (for who cares about anything else? Politics are very well to make a noise about—but the real topic in which the public is interested, believe me, is the topic I treat—the drama!) Imagine, then, that comedian daily gazing at the bill, and daily seeing, "Every evening the new successful tragedy, in five acts, entitled, *The Blood of Vengeance*!"—how he must feel the public tire of that bill, and feel that it desires something gay again, some of the "good old English comedy" which he can play with so much spirit! That is what I feel when Social Reform, European Democracy, Taxation, and other heavy matters fill up the columns which might be signed

VIVIAN.

LIVERPOOL STATISTICS.—From a return presented to the Health Committee by Mr. Rishton, the building surveyor, it appears that the number of houses and warehouses erected, or in the course of erection, within the municipal borough of Liverpool, from the 1st of January to the 31st of December, 1850, were 420; comprising, under £12, 41; from £12 to £25, 297; from £25 to £35, 41. Of the 420 eight were warehouses. The following is a comparative statement of the number of houses erected in each year since 1838:—1838, 1025; 1839, 997; 1840, 1576; 1841, 1761; 1842, 2027; 1843, 1390; 1844, 2450; 1845, 3728; 1846, 3460; 1847, 1220; 1848, 656; 1849, 446; 1850, 420; total, 21,183.

MILITIA FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES.—The enrolled militia of the United States reaches the number of two millions, a tolerably large army. Pennsylvania has a greater number of enrolled militia than any other state, which shows that, as the above number is, all those capable of bearing arms are not returned by the different states. The returns from official sources are as follows:—Maine, 44,660; New Hampshire, 27,967; Massachusetts, 101,789; Vermont, 23,915; Rhode Island, 13,658; Connecticut, 57,719; New York, 261,452; New Jersey, 39,179; Pennsylvania, 276,070; Delaware, 9229; Maryland, 48,864; Virginia, 124,202; North Carolina, 79,448; South Carolina, 65,209; Georgia, 57,312; Alabama, 44,331; Louisiana, 438,348; Mississippi, 45,335; Tennessee, 74,252; Kentucky, 88,629; Ohio, 176,456; Indiana, 53,918; Illinois, 120,219; Missouri, 61,000; Arkansas, 17,137; Michigan, 60,017; Florida, 12,122; Texas, 10,776; Wisconsin, 32,203; District of Columbia, 1249.—*New York Tribune*.

European Democracy, AND ITS OFFICIAL ACTS.

This page is accorded to an authentic Exposition of the Opinions and Acts of the Democracy of Europe: as such we do not impose any restraint on the utterance of opinion, and, therefore, limit our own responsibility to the authenticity of the statement.

DEVELOPMENT OF POLISH DEMOCRACY.

[We resume our delineations of Polish Democracy, availing ourselves, as last week, of the aid of the same foreign pen.]

The organization of the Polish Democratic Society is very simple. The Society is divided into sections, whose duty it is to be in continual intercourse with the centralization, and to follow its instructions. The centralization undergoes an annual election by the whole of the society. It alone initiates all acts of a political nature. The Central Committee is responsible for its past proceedings to the newly-elected members for each forthcoming year. The government, in fact, however, remains with little change in the same hands, for from 1836 to the present day, viz., during a period of fourteen years, the elections have only sent altogether twenty members to the centralization. To meet the expenses of the cause every member of the society is bound to pay a progressive impost in proportion to his income.

This impost constitutes the principal source of revenue, and the funds thus collected are devoted, not only to sending out numerous agents to Poland, not only to the costs of the written propaganda, but also to the education of pupils in the French military schools, viz., at the Ecole d'Etat Major, in Paris, and at the Ecole d'Artillerie and du Génie, in Metz.

To what extent the principles of the Democratic Society made way in Poland is best demonstrated by the numerous democratic conspiracies which, being separately formed, and having afterwards ranged themselves under the leadership of the centralization, have been discovered in Poland under the sway of all the three spoliators—Prussia, Austria, and Muscovy.

The association spread by the Polish Democratic Society acquired such an extent that it became no longer possible to postpone the outbreak of an insurrection, for which the 21st of February, 1846, was fixed.

How that insurrection failed we shall not here explain. Whether information from the aristocratic party (as Count Montalembert then publicly confessed), or treason of one of the conspirators, denouncing the plan to the Prussian Government, was the cause of the failure, we shall not enter into;—suffice it to say, that all Poland became the scene of a human battue, carried out against the conspirators for her liberty, and the trials which were held, and the judgments which took place upon them, showed that there never was a conspiracy having more extensive ramifications, or a more universal and national character. Austria, wishing to avoid the storm, incited the ignorant peasantry of Galicia, by the most infamous lies, against the patriots in the classes above them, and, under the protection of her troops, an enormous number of families of patriotic landowners were massacred in their own homes, regardless of sex or age. Muscovy filled her numerous prisons with victims, who breathed their last either on the gibbet or in the citadel of Warsaw, whilst others were transported to people the deserts of Siberia. Prussia incarcerated upwards of 600 individuals out of her Polish population, which does not quite amount to one million, and, moreover, brought nearly 200 of them for high treason before the bar of the Berlin tribunal.

Despite their immediate failure, the efforts of 1846 were not without some good results for Poland; for, however short the duration of the Cracow insurrection, it nevertheless had just time enough to issue its manifesto, whose principles are those of the Polish Democratic Society, and which manifesto proclaimed the thoughts and principles of the future Polish Republic.*

The influence of the movement of 1846 on the emigration was beneficial. The ranks of the Democratic Society were greatly increased. All shades of Democratic opinion fused themselves into the body of the Democratic Society; and from that moment there remained but two parties—two camps in the bosom of the emigration:—*Democracy* and the *Monarchical Party*, which latter party the year 1848 completely extinguished.

It is not in our power, nor would it be discreet on our part, to enumerate all the international relations of the Polish Democratic Society; but if we were to believe all the reports given, and all the accusations uttered by the reactionary press, the centralization of this society has had a hand in all the European movements, and participated in all the events of the last three years. Thus, the events of Berlin, Vienna, Dresden, Breslau, Baden, Sicily, Rome, and Hungary, were not, it would seem, without its active participation.

Time alone can show the real extent of the coöperation of the Polish Democracy in all those movements; but whatever may be the opinion formed of what is already known concerning the part the Polish Democracy took in the great events commencing in 1848, it can hardly be denied that the men who were equal to such emergencies, and who exposed themselves to the hatred of the reactionary Governments, were not altogether without merit.

Indeed, the wholesale persecutions which now engage the reactionary powers, sufficiently show the amount of hatred which prompts them. Everywhere pursued and hunted, there is not a corner on the whole Continent where the Polish Democrats can take refuge. In 1849, the Government of the mock Republic of France, expelled a great many members of the Polish Democratic Society

* We will give that document in another number.

and the whole Centralization, and they are now in the enjoyment of the British hospitality.

These circumstances reduced the members of the Centralization from five to three; but the society itself, notwithstanding all obstacles and persecutions, reckons now among the emigrants more than 2300 members.

Democratic Intelligence.

PROPOSED LONDON CONVENTION.

A NATIONAL POLITICAL CONGRESS CALLED BY THE CHARTIST EXECUTIVE TO BE HELD IN LONDON.

In the following list the Executive have had especial reference to the equalization of electoral districts in proportion to the Democratic population. The law allows only forty-nine delegates to assemble in Convention—and they have endeavoured so to apportion the constituencies as to secure to the fullest possible extent a national representation.

As it has been necessary, in some instances, to comprize several towns in the same constituency, it is hereby recommended that, where such is not yet in existence, a district council be forthwith formed, and the district agent's address forwarded to the general secretary. Should the agents in any of the localities be unacquainted with the names and addresses of the agents in the others in the same district, they are requested to communicate with the Executive, who will supply them with the necessary information.

It is also recommended that these several localities of a district each nominate one or more delegates, as apportioned to the constituency; such nomination to be forwarded to the agent of the district; that, within a fortnight of the time of nomination, public meetings, of which four days' notice shall have been duly given, be held for the election of the delegates, and that the result of the election in each locality be forwarded to the district agent, who, with the council, shall act as scrutineer, and certify the return to the general secretary on or before Wednesday, the 26th of February next.

List of Towns and Districts entitled to send Delegates to the National Convention, called to meet in London, on Monday, March 3rd ensuing.

Aberdeen and North of Scotland.....	1
Dundee, Perth, Cupar Angus, Arbroath, Montrose, Forfar, Brechin, and districts.....	1
Edinburgh, Leith, Kirkcaldy, Linlithgow, and counties of Fife and Mid-Lothian.....	2
Falkirk, Tillicoultry, Alva, Alloa, Stirling, and district.....	1
Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock, Hamilton, and Vale of Leven.....	2
Kilmarnock, Ayr, Cumnock, Girvan, Irvine, and county.....	1
Dumfries, Hawick, and the Border.....	1
Carlisle, Wigton, Cockermouth, Kendal, and counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland.....	1
Newcastle-on-Tyne, Gateshead, Shields, Sunderland, and counties of Northumberland and Durham.....	2
York, Hull, and North and East Riding.....	1
Leeds, Pudsay, Dewsbury, Patley, Birstal, Wakefield, Bradford, Keighley, Bingley, and district.....	1
Halifax, Todmorden, Hebden Bridge, and district.....	1
Huddersfield, Holmfirth, and district.....	1
Sheffield, Barnsley, Rotherham, and district.....	1
Preston, Burnley, Padiham, Blackburn, Clitheroe, Lancaster, and North Lancashire.....	2
Manchester and Salford.....	2
Bury, Bolton, and district.....	1
Liverpool, Warrington, and Wigan.....	1
Rochdale, Heywood, Middleton, and Oldham.....	1
Stockport, Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, Macclesfield, and Cheshire.....	1
Nottingham, Radford, Carrington, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Mansfield, and county.....	1
Derby, Belper, Alfreton, and county.....	1
Leicester, Loughborough, and county.....	1
Northampton, Peterborough, Wellingborough, and county.....	1
Norwich, Lynn, Yarmouth, and county of Norfolk.....	1
Ipswich and county of Suffolk.....	1
Hanley and the Potteries.....	1
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Coventry, and county.....	2
Gloucester, Cheltenham, Worcester, and counties.....	1
Bristol and district.....	1
Bath and district.....	1
Merthyr Tydvil, Newport, Monmouth, and South Wales.....	1
Exeter and Tiverton.....	1
Plymouth, Devonport, Tavistock, Truro, and county of Cornwall.....	1
Swindon, Bradford, Devizes, Trowbridge, and county of Wilts.....	1
Southampton, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, and county of Hants.....	1
Brighton, Hastings, and Sussex.....	1
Greenwich, Deptford, Rochester, and Kent.....	1
Westminster and Marylebone.....	1
Lambeth, Southwark, and Surrey.....	1
Tower Hamlets.....	1
City and Finsbury.....	1

The Executive Committee of the National Charter Association held their usual weekly meeting on Wednesday evening last. The whole of the committee were present except Mr. Reynolds. Mr. James Grassby was called to the chair. Correspond-

ence was read from Bristol, Burnley, Dundee, Hastings, Huddersfield, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Paisley, Peterborough, Cowpen Colliery, Horsham, &c.; and, on the motion of Messrs. Jones and Milne, it was agreed—"That the secretary be instructed to state, in reply to the various localities who had applied for the services of the two members of the Executive, that a tour should be commenced as early as possible; that one of the Executive would proceed to the north and the other to the west; the only amount the localities would have to pay would be the travelling expenses from one locality to the other; and also that the localities requiring their services be requested to forthwith correspond with the general secretary." On the motion of Messrs. Jones and Milne it was also agreed—"That the various funds subscribed for Chartist purposes be henceforth amalgamated in one, to be called 'The National Charter Fund;' and that all agents or sub-secretaries, when forwarding subscriptions, be especially requested to forward them for that fund." On the motion of Messrs. Arnott and Jones it was unanimously agreed;—"That the Hall of the Literary and Scientific Institution be engaged for a public meeting, to be holden on Tuesday evening, February 4, for the purpose of reviewing the Queen's Speech."

Mr. Holyoake then moved, and Mr. Milne seconded, Mr. O'Connor agreeing, the following:—"Reference having been made in the *Northern Star* to a conversation which took place at a previous meeting of the Executive, in a manner which raises a question as to the correctness of the report published of that conversation, resolved that the annexed report, which the Executive unite in declaring to be accurate, be inserted in the minutes."

Mr. O'Connor having stated that he had to lecture at the South London-hall, for the benefit of the Polish refugees, was then about to retire; but Mr. Harney said that before Mr. O'Connor withdrew, he was desirous of asking that gentleman a question. Would Mr. O'Connor be so kind as to state who were the professed leaders of the people to whom he referred in his letter in the *Star* of Saturday last, addressed to the "Slaves of England," who were actuated by "sordid motives," who "are struggling for popularity and gain," who "know nothing of your principles, and care not a straw for you, but merely think of themselves," and "who create disunion for the mere purpose of elevating themselves, and living upon your disunion and credulity?" He (Mr. Harney) hoped that Mr. O'Connor would speak out and declare the names of the selfish and sordid "leaders," and say if he meant the Executive Committee.

Mr. O'Connor commenced by saying, "I will." He then said;—"I did not mean any one in particular; but I may say—

"When caps amongst a crowd are thrown, Those they fit may wear them for their own."

I did not mean this committee, nor any member of this committee. But I will say, what I have often said, that ninety-nine out of every hundred are trafficking politicians. If getting £1 15s. a-week for advocating the Charter, and they could get £2 a-week by turning against the Charter, they would forthwith desert Chartism."

Mr. Harney: Mr. O'Connor's assurance that he did not mean the executive must be satisfactory, so far as this body is concerned. But if Mr. O'Connor in reciting "When caps amongst a crowd are thrown," &c., means to insinuate that the cap fits me, I repel his insinuation. And as regards those who would abandon Chartism for an extra five shillings weekly, I believe that charge to be well-founded as respects some of Mr. O'Connor's most intimate friends; but for myself, Mr. O'Connor is well aware that to maintain my principles I have made a sacrifice, perhaps greater than any other Chartist in my position ever did make.

Mr. O'Connor: I will say what I have said a hundred times to Mr. Jones, that I always regarded Mr. Harney as one of the most honest, consistent, and disinterested of Chartists—Mr. Jones, have I not said so?

Mr. Jones: You have.

Mr. O'Connor: I greatly regretted when we parted. I was sorry to lose Mr. Harney. I believe a better or more honest man does not exist; and I only wish there were a good many like him.

On the motion of Messrs. Milne and Harney an "Address to the Chartists" was agreed to, whose principal features urged the duty of organization, preparation for the efficiency of the London Convention, and "attention to the probability of an approaching dissolution of Parliament, as nothing spreads the principles more prominently than availing ourselves of a general election. Wherever practicable, we would advise the immediate formation of Election Committees, the selection of candidates, and a preparatory organization. In most places, a Chartist candidate might take the field, in many might contest the field, in several might carry the election, in all would further our progress. It is not too early to begin—for Parliament will meet in less than a fortnight, and a dissolution, should such occur, may then take place at any moment." It concludes with this assurance:—"All the friends of Democracy,

whether they be the advocates of Social or Political Rights, that we are the advocates of both; and that the Chartist flag will be found in the van of either. But we also wish to state, that we will not allow, as far as in us lies, the old Chartist Association to be broken, divided, or impaired." Signed,

JOHN ARNOTT, General Secretary.

At the Metropolitan Delegate Council, held on the 19th of January, it was agreed to that the secretary should be instructed to write to the several metropolitan localities not represented in this Council to send one or two delegates to organize the Chartists of London, and to take steps for the election of delegates to represent London in the forthcoming National Convention.—Signed, H. BLOOMFIELD, Secretary.

At a public meeting in the Cripplegate locality, held in Golden-lane on Monday evening, Mr. G. J. Holyoake in the chair, resolutions were discussed as to a reform in the House of Commons, and expressive of approbation of the policy of the London Executive. Messrs. Elliot, Mainly, Bezer, Finlen, Leno, and Crowe addressed the meeting. Mr. Le Blonde received a vote of thanks for his address, he being the deputation from the Executive. A very curious discussion preceded this vote as to the legitimacy of Chartists giving votes to gentlemen. When it at length terminated, the chairman told them that if they would be but as careful in their censures as they were chary in their praise, they would be the fairest and most exemplary locality in the metropolis.

Associative Progress.

CITY MECHANICS' INSTITUTION, GOULD-SQUARE.—On Monday last, Mr. Collet gave his musical lecture, entitled, "Songs of Shakspeare," assisted by Miss A. Hincks. The entertainment was as usual exceedingly well received. Miss A. Hincks was encored in "Take, oh, take, those lips away," and "Where the Bee Sucks"—Mr. Collet in Caliban's song, and both in the duet, "Tell me where is Fancy bred."

A number of friends of Association have arranged to hold a public meeting in the coffee-room, at John-street, on next Tuesday evening, the 28th, to take steps to form a Coöperative Store, in connection with the London Association of Working Tailors, 432, Oxford-street.

REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—Our annual meeting has produced a lively impression in Leeds. Renewed exertions will be made, and this year will, we hope, surpass all others in success. Another election for three individuals to labour in the community will be made on the 27th of February. Two of these are shoemakers, and one a young woman. The rescript will be found in the advertising columns of the *Leader* of this day. Moneys received for the week ending Jan. 20, 1851:—Leeds, £3 17s. 7½d.; Coventry, per Mr. Shufflebotham, £1 7s.; Hyde, per Mr. J. Bradley, 6s. 10d.; Glasgow, J. H., 1s.; London, per Mr. Corfield, 7s. 2d. Communal Building Fund:—Bury, per Mr. Glover, 9s.; Leeds, 8s.; Liverpool, Mr. Shun, 5s.; Hyde, per Mr. Joel Bradley, 2s.

LINCOLN PROPRIETARY MILL.—The half-yearly meeting of the above society took place last night at the committee-room, Roebuck Inn. There was a moderate attendance of members. The Rev. E. R. Larken, of Burton, presided. The Chairman in a few introductory remarks commented on the prosperous condition to which the society was rapidly attaining, and argued that, should the business be equally profitable during the next six months, they would be enabled to extinguish the debt due to the bank. He (the chairman) was quite sure that great credit was due to the parties who had worked the concern, and he was happy to find that the society's affairs were managed with more unanimity than at an earlier period of the society's history. It was stated by the chairman that at their last meeting there was about £100 owing on various accounts, together with a debt due to the bank of about £300 more; now all outstanding accounts were paid, and the society owed less than £200 to the treasurer. The following directors were elected to serve for the ensuing twelve months in lieu of those retiring: Messrs. Clay, Otter, Martin, Cunningham, Hickingbotham, and Holland. Mr. Brown, schoolmaster, was appointed auditor. Votes of thanks were given to the treasurer and to the auditors for their efficient services, as well as to the head miller, Mr. Holden, to the president, and to the chairman.

MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL COÖPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.—This society, meeting at their rooms, Charles-street (opposite the Carpenters'-hall, Garratt road), is under the guidance of the following officers:—President, Mr. James Campbell. Treasurer, Mr. Abel Heywood. Deputy Treasurer, Mr. Luke Merry. Directors: Mr. W. Bloomer, Mr. G. P. Wade, Mr. W. Bullock, Mr. W. Corkhill, Mr. T. Cropper. Trustees: Mr. J. Jolliffe, Mr. E. Field, Mr. R. Spencer. The objects are:—1. To supply members and others with every article of consumption, of the best quality, at, or as near as possible, cost price, and to find healthy and remunerative employment for such members as may require it. 2. The capital to be raised in shares of one pound each. One shilling deposit and instalments of at least threepence per week, until the whole is paid up; five per cent. interest allowed on paid-up shares. 3. The profits, after retaining one-tenth for educational purposes, and one-tenth as a sunk fund, shall be divided among the members in proportion to their outlay. The Rochdale Equitable Pioneers have been in operation for some years; their capital at starting was not more than £40, and it now amounts to nearly £4000. They do business to the amount of £16,000 annually, and sell cheaper than any shop in the town—employ a number of workmen, and distribute profits at the rate of 1s. 6d. in the pound, annually, to the members.—T. PILKINGTON, Secretary.



Open Council.

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

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

AN ANSWER TO SIR EDWARD SUGDEN.

Queen's Bench Prison, Jan. 14, 1851.

SIR,—By your letter, which appeared in the *Times* of the 7th instant, in which you say "it is high time that the public should be informed of the true state of the case as regards prisoners for the contempt of the Court of Chancery," you assail those prisoners generally, and me in particular. The passage affecting me is as follows:—"The remaining prisoner of this class has long been in prison for non-payment of about £40 costs, from which he could obtain his discharge under the Insolvent Act; but he is so frequently before the court and the public as to render it unnecessary further to refer to his case." That the Insolvent Court is appointed for discharge from imprisonment for debt we know; but we know, also, that there are other courts for discharging from false imprisonment. That I am falsely imprisoned you advise me by your letter itself, if I did not know it before, for you declare that every prisoner for contempt must be brought to the bar in thirty days, and I have never been brought to the bar of the Court of Chancery at all. You know this fact, for you say that when you visited the prison in October, you "took a note of every man's name, and date, and cause of commitment," &c. Now, you saw that every commitment was by the Court of Exchequer, and for a different cause, and that that cause was discharged by an order in June, 1845, and, therefore, that I have been falsely imprisoned from that time to the time of your inspection, under colour of a writ of attachment for the £40, which had been previously directed to the warden of the Fleet, and which ought, according to law and to your own opinion now given, to have been returned at latest by the last general return-day in Michaelmas Term, 1840, and that from that time it has been of no legal effect, and that the keeper of this prison, if he had as he ought to have done, put me by force (unwilling man as you say I am to depart) out of the prison on the receipt of the discharge from the commitment, the party who claims the £40 could not have brought an action against him for an escape.

This being "the true state of the case as regards" me, I may, without the least exaggeration, complain of contempt of all the superior courts committed by yourself in this instance: I may do this on the authority of the great oracle of your court, Lord Hardwicke, who reduced the several sorts of contempts to three; the first of which is the libelling, disparaging, or prejudicing suitors in respect of causes pending in courts.

The Chancery Reform Association fall far short of the "true state of the case" as regards the victims, for they do not appear to know that nearly all the county gaols contain them, many of whom have been there for many years—one of them about two years,—for not giving up books and papers; the reason for not giving up which is, that they are held by his solicitor as lien for the costs of putting in the answer prepared from those books and papers. Now, if this man were brought to the bar, do you say that the court would commit him? No, you say, the court orders no one to do what is impossible. But I can tell you of another case in which they did make an order, and held the man in prison in Winchester gaol more than twelve months, and would have held him till now, if I had not prevented it, without its being known whether he could perform the order or not: the order was that, within a certain number of days from service thereof, he should lodge in a certain bank a certain box containing 500 sovereigns. Before the order was served (and I think it was made *ex parte*, or it would have been a very foolish order) the sovereigns were spent; yet the man was taken on attachment for breach of the order. If he had been brought up, he could not have been committed. All that while he lay at Winchester, not able to put

any solicitor on the move, until I heard of him, which I did by another person who was brought up, but brought up too late, and who, for that cause, was very expeditiously discharged, on the motion of Mr. Teed, and instructions prepared by me, under your act.

If, as you say, "the courts of equity had no power to release prisoners for contempts without the plaintiff's consent, and contempts for mere non-payment of money, or of costs, could not be cleared under the Insolvent Court," until your act was passed, could a humane mind suggest no other cause or blame but that of the prisoners themselves for such a monstrous state of things? However, it appears that the mind of a great thorough-paced lawyer cannot; for all you seem to have lamented was, that the persons so kept incarcerated at the "bidding," as you call it, of the suitors, should have so adapted and contented themselves as to find a "home" in the Fleet; and your sentiments, and those of Sir George Stephen, who comes in to back you with a letter in the *Times* of the 10th, seem most of all outraged that they should have found something to eat!

I deny your position in toto, that "the court only acts on the bidding of the suitor" in these cases, that is to say, in contempts of non-feazance, and which are only supposed contempts. In these cases the theory is, that the court lends its process, which it possesses of inherent jurisdiction to use in cases of real contempt or real feazance, such as abusing its officers or suitors, or prejudicing suits. Real contempts are criminal matters, and indictable; supposed contempts are supposed criminal matters, and within the meaning of the Habeas Corpus Act. And the only possible principle on which these criminal processes were ever granted merely to enforce orders for private benefit was, that the court had no other process to use. Well, then, why is not some other process given? Why, it is given, and ample means too: and now let me put this question:—Why is not the same power and means which appear so amply set forth in the 13th section of your act, in cases of "persons having privilege of Parliament," applied to all other persons? Why is it not sufficient to take the bill pro-confesso in any other case, as in that of privileged persons, and why cannot it be taken pro-confesso in the same manner? The truth is, that there is no law for imprisonment at all, except in criminal cases, in which it reaches all persons; and that it is not one class that is privileged, but the people at large who are filched of their rights.

But I go further, and convict you of being the sole inventor, cause, and author of some imprisonments which have taken place; and this, too, where you were the Chancellor, and, therefore, the court itself. When you were Chancellor in Ireland, in the spring of 1835, you either knew, or you did not know, that there was no such thing as imprisoning for contempt in not answering where the object was to take the bill pro-confesso; and that, if a solicitor imprisoned a defendant when that was the object, he would be fined. Now, nevertheless, and notwithstanding your assertions in your letter about the prisoners being "martyrs of their fellow-men," as soon as you returned, on Peel's going out of office, you being out of employment as a judge, set to amuse yourself again as legislator, and produced a counterpart of your English act for that happy country of which you had lately had the jurisdiction. This English act distinguishes between the Chancery and the Equity Exchequer, not extending to the latter a rule dispensing with writs of rebellion, the reason for which was, that the Exchequer having no Sergeant-at-Arms as the Chancery had, could not, in the manner provided by that rule, dispense with such writs. When the Irish act came into operation, which was just at the time of the general refusal to pay tithes in Ireland in 1837, the usual power of taking bills pro-confesso was found to be insufficient in tithe-suits, because, when the decree was obtained, it could not be executed readily. Some sharp-sighted wight of the law espied this negative recognition of writs of rebellion to take bills pro-confesso; and I recollect the exultations of the *Times* and other papers, that "the law was triumphant," and that it had been found out that refusing to pay tithes was rebellion, punishable by the Court of Exchequer! On taking the first bill pro-confesso in one of those suits against a prisoner under your act, Chief Baron Pennefather said, "the practice was entirely new," and that "those who had framed the act did not appear to have been aware of the previous practice." Therefore, however you are unbragged by the idea of persons being imprisoned by mistake, you see it is the fact, and that, too, by act of Parliament, and with you for the legislator.

I feel there is not space, or I had wished to exemplify that favourite court of all lawyers, the Insolvent Court; and, in fact, I sent an anecdote of it to the *Times* immediately on reading your letter, but which that journal instinctively eschewed; and it is from that journal to the *Leader*, and the rest of the impartial press in town and country, that I appeal for the insertion of this as a faint sketch of "the true state of the case."

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

WILLIAM CORBETT.

BISHOPS AND THEIR POWER.

January 7, 1851.

SIR,—The truly Catholic and unsectarian tone which pervades your columns is really quite cheering, in these days of bigotry and exclusiveness, doomed, as we now are, to listen to the war cries of intolerance and the din of battling sectaries. The position you have assumed, in reference to the anti-Popish crusade, I conceive to be the only one justified by the dictates of charity and the teachings of reason and common sense. There is, alas! far too much real Popery at work in our so-called Protestant Christendom to justify censoriousness on the part of the clergy, the laity, or those Dissenters who have seen fit to sustain them in the strife.

To confine my remarks to a single point—I would ask, is not the aristocratic power at present wielded by our Bishops as essentially Popish, as it is truly subversive of the rights of individuals, and the moral influence of the Church? As in the social world we behold the rich becoming richer, and the poor growing poorer, so in the episcopal world we find the mitred few becoming more absolute, and the clerical many more helpless, year after year. Wider and deeper grows the gulf which yawns between the rulers and the workers in the Church. The moral influence which superior talents, or a well-sustained consistency must ever exercise, is now superseded by a more cold, arbitrary authority,—the promptings of self-will are allowed to lord it over justice; in fact, the Church, which should be the embodiment of the spiritual, has degenerated into a mere copyist and slave of the worldly, or conventional power.

Instances, too numerous to be quoted, might be adduced of the injurious consequences of the toleration of these abuses—instances of wrong without redress—of curates hunted down by their ecclesiastical superiors—condemned without trial—doomed to misery and disgrace without means or opportunity of defence—and all, apparently, on the absurd and monstrous suppositions that Bishops, like despot kings, "can do no wrong."

I find such an instance recorded in a pamphlet now before me, entitled, *Charles James, Lord Bishop of London! What he Can do, and what he Has done!* to which allow me to direct your serious attention. The case to which it more immediately relates, is just one of those which serve to show the real character of the system whose workings they illustrate. It presents to us the strange picture of a clergyman battling for years against the malice and inexorable self-will of a bishop, and in vain seeking, as one accused, to be confronted with his accusers, and made acquainted with their accusations. Untried, unheard, the Reverend Thomas Harvey was condemned by the mitred Lord of London to misery, to fearful loss; deprived of his income, his clerical position as foreign chaplain, and hence, of his peace of mind. Over eighteen years has this persecution extended, and yet now, even now, it remains unatoned for by the dignitary. The clergyman is, it appears, crippled in his resources, and well-nigh broken in spirit; and yet, still the bishop remains inexorable; and, sheltered by the law, defies each effort of his victim to obtain the reparation which justice and charity alike demand for the wrongs of years.

Now, if such things as these still find toleration within the pale of the Church of England, can we feel any just surprise at her gradually losing her hold on the affections of the people, and ceasing to retain the honour even of her priests? Does it not behove all who would behold the rise of a really national and influential Church to resist these abuses, and thus avert the ruin which they must necessarily precipitate?

May I, therefore, solicit your influence on behalf of this case, which though, indeed, the case of an individual, is likewise the type of a system. I have studied it deeply in all its aspects, and am assured of its demanding the support and sympathy of the press, and affording an illustration of the workings of that very power which is year by year weakening the influence and hastening on the downfall of the Church.

Wishing you all success in your noble endeavour to establish a paper at once with the age and of the age,

I remain, dear Sir, sincerely yours,

A FELLOW WORKER.

THE POPULATION QUESTION.

Dec. 30, 1850.

SIR,—Mr. Search, in his remarks on my statement respecting population and production, appears to me to have adopted a tone of flippancy totally unsuited to the subject, and quite uncalled for by the passage quoted. Mr. Search should have confined himself to my statement, and not have introduced topics to which I made no reference. I neither mentioned Malthus's name nor any of his statements or arguments, nor do I feel bound to defend his view of the question. What Mr. Search calls "Malthus's philosophy"—though it is no more his than any other "law of nature"—viz., that there is a tendency in population to exceed production, is considered so well proved, and so generally admitted by Dr. Chalmers and Mr. Mill, that they adopt the doctrine

without deeming it necessary to adduce any "proof." Mr. Mill observes that "the power of multiplication in all organic life is infinite," and that "any vegetable or animal would, unrestricted, in a short time cover the globe." If the facts be admitted, and I see not how they can be denied, that the land and the fertility of the land are limited, and that population is continually increasing (as is evident from comparing the present population of England, for instance, with what it was a hundred years ago), the inference is irresistible that population, unchecked, must eventually exceed the subsistence that the earth's surface can furnish. A statement involving facts "proves" itself. If water be poured into a vessel faster than it escapes, it surely requires no "proof" or argument to show that the water must at length fill the vessel and run over.

Even supposing the means of subsistence to be greatly increased and more generally diffused, as the population would increase with an accelerated ratio, I believe we should soon be in the same position as to poverty and suffering as we were before. On this point, Dr. Chalmers observes, "In the midst of all the minuter criticism to which the doctrine has been exposed, the great historical fact remains unshaken—that, let the means of subsistence be increased, however largely and suddenly, this is sure to be followed by a corresponding increase of population. Every state and country in the world bears evidence to this truth—whether in the steady augmentation of Europe, or in the gigantic strides that are now making in the population of America. The invariable connection as of antecedent and consequent between a great extent of fertile and unoccupied land, and a great multiplication of families when once it is entered upon, is too palpable to be obscured by any sophistry, or by the allegation of any mystic principle whatever." Certainly, the earth is adapted to support a "large portion" of mankind, but not an indefinitely increasing number.

I cannot but suspect that Mr. Search, like many other opponents of Malthus, has not read his work, or he would not treat the geometrical ratio with so much ridicule, leaving entirely out of the question the "checks" from war, famine, disease, and misery, which Malthus considers have hitherto prevented that excess of population which would otherwise have taken place. The question really is not in what ratio population increases beyond production, but whether it increases in any degree at all. The result must ultimately be the same; it is only a question of time.

I do not care to reconcile the benevolence or justice of the Creator with the facts or laws of Nature. Theologians have striven hard upon this point, but not at all to my satisfaction. A fact is not to yield to a speculation or an idea. It may seem unjust that "a creature should be punished for coming into the world," but we see it every day when children are born to poverty or to vicious circumstances; and hence, are doomed to misery or civil punishment, or inherit a diseased constitution; and hence suffer protracted pain, or premature death. Doubtless, had there been the will and the power, the world might have presented a very different scene from that which it has exhibited in all ages and countries.

F. B. BARTON.

AN EQUITABLE EXCHANGE MEDIUM.

January 17, 1851.

SIR,—I beg permission to address to you a few remarks on the currency in reference to the labour question.

The employment, or want of employment, of the working classes has always depended on the state of trade. Now, inherent in the competitive system of buying and selling, is the rising and falling of prices. When prices are low many workmen are out of employment, and a greater number work at reduced wages. As prices advance, wages, perhaps, also somewhat improve, at all events employment becomes more general. But prices cannot always continue to advance, and their increase, beyond a certain point, of itself checks demand, and things again recede to their former position. This is, and always has been, the course of trade. No mere alteration of the currency can cure this evil of the fluctuation of prices. It may aggravate or alleviate, but cannot cure it.

A currency continually encroaching in amount is, with reference to the working classes, undoubtedly preferable to one continually on the decrease: for, when prices are advancing, employment becomes more general and remunerative. But such advance could not under any currency long continue unchecked, as speculation is well known always to discount the future market by immediate enhancement. I think if your correspondent, M, whose letter appeared in last week's number, refers carefully to the period between the years 1801 and 1815 he will find that, although an increase was continually taking place in the amount of the circulating medium, prices did not advance unchecked during that period. And also, as you observe, M must not set aside as nought the effect on prices of the growth of our marvellous manufacturing system during those

years, and which likewise considerably assisted in maintaining a prolonged period of comparative ease for the working classes.

The return to cash payments and subsequent continual enhancement of the value of money in gradually cheapening everything appears to me undoubtedly to have brought great distress on the many, and to have benefited few save those having fixed incomes. The appreciation of money has not only cheapened labour, but has dispensed with it. When prices decline debts due are more difficult to discharge, and trade having constantly a tendency to be unremunerative, some labourers receive less wages, and others are deprived of employment altogether. Therefore, it appears to me that what, in effect, is required by some, viz., a continual slight depreciation of the currency is preferable to that constant appreciation of it which has been taking place during the last thirty years.

But, looking at the currency in another and far more interesting point of view—as to what it can do to aid the emancipation of labour, we must go at once to the enquiry—What is and has been the object of money, and what should it be? Historically viewed it has been but a mere medium of exchange. Futurity will require something more—that it shall not only be medium of exchange, but equitable medium also. Money has hitherto represented wealth; it should in the future represent labour, the source of all wealth. Production has engrossed the past attention of men; equitable distribution will engage their future; and how to effect this equitable distribution is even now fast becoming the problem of the day. It is an impossibility, without the direct and equal or nearly equal payment for labour of all kinds; and it is the departure from, or rather I should say the absence of this principle which permits the unhappy spectacle of ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-lodged, but hard worked industry in juxtaposition with luxurious idleness.

No "Californian Accident," as the auriferous discovery has been termed, no mere paper-extension act, will ever give the labourer the fruits of his industry. Rent, interest, and, above all, profit, cannot exist and labour receive its due reward. But it will be said these are exactions which the workman cannot escape. As regards the first two named, this is, perhaps, immediately true (though not so remotely), but to avoid the exaction of profit is perfectly practicable even without accepting association based on absolute Communism. Suppose, for instance, an association managed as a joint stock company, commencing with agricultural operations, and adding afterwards trades and manufactures; suppose the members of such association paid for their work in labour-notes of their own making, and the produce of their labour priced according to its labour cost, and retailed to them at a general store, would not some such society as this afford an approach to an equitable distribution, and at the same time preserve intact the individual independence of its members? In conclusion, I would remark, that I have little faith in the success of any Communal attempt that does not guarantee to the individual at least an equal amount of independence to that he enjoys under the present competitive system.

Hoping that I have written intelligibly though hastily, and that these ideas, if false, may speedily be proved so by some of your clever correspondents,

I am, Sir, yours in sincerity,

A COMMUNIST.

COMPLETE PROTESTANTISM.

8, Hemsworth-street, Hoxton, Jan. 2, 1851.

SIR,—Though the Roman Catholic agitation has not ceased, we may, at any rate, conclude that men are growing calmer, therefore more capable of seriously reflecting on some of its probable results.

Protestantism, by its divisions, has made the Bible an open question (though Protestants do not in general acknowledge it). Numerous sects base their belief and practice on the Bible, and (though Christ promised, "when two or three were gathered together in his name, there would he be in the midst") their belief and practice differ materially from each other. This is plain, there can be but one correct interpretation of the Bible. As each sect interprets for itself, and interprets differently from other sects, would it not be better, more manful, more consistent, to openly proclaim the Bible to be an open question, than for each sect to arrogantly assume its open interpretation to be the only correct one? One of the probable results of the agitation may be the propelling of Protestantism to the fulfilment of its mission, by the Protestant religious world asserting and enforcing the sacredness of private judgment. This would be a death-blow to dogmatism and persecution. The incongruities and inconsistencies of Protestantism are the vitality of Catholicism. Make Protestantism consistent, then Catholicism will in time be left a lumbering carcass, without the power to act or the hope of resurrection.

Another probable result appears to me to be that, when earnest, thoughtful men perceive Christian Churches denouncing each other; showing, in language neither meek nor mild, the follies, the errors, and superstitions of each other, they may ask, What

is Christianity? What is religion? We know that the population of the world is about 900,000,000; that Christians, whose religion is said to have been promulgated by the Son of God, number, after 1800 years' existence, no more than 261,000,000—these figures including Freethinkers, Atheists, and Unitarians. We know that Mahomedism sprang up after it—a great success; that it has its inspired book, the Koran, as devoutly believed in as the Bible. Brahminism has also its sacred writings (the Vedas and Shastras), of undoubted antiquity. Buddhism, whose devotees number half the inhabitants of the world, have their "bedagat," the morality of which will bear comparison with the Bible. While a so much larger portion of our fellow creatures disbelieve Christianity, believing some other religion, is it not a preposterous assumption to assume that ours is the only true religion? that we are the only peoples to whom God, the Creator, has chosen to manifest himself. Better that religion should be an open question than that we should be so presumptive. Is it not better thus, than in fear of everlasting damnation, to waste our strength in efforts to save ourselves from the shoals and quicksands of doubt, overcoming one difficulty to encounter a greater, till we stand still or surrender our reason?

"Fearing to slide from bad to worse."
"And that in seeking to undo
One riddle, and to find the true,
We knit a hundred others new."

I conclude these remarks by asking freethinkers and Protestants if they give the Catholics credit for more devotion, more enthusiasm, and a higher notion of duty to his convictions than they have? If this is not the case, would they not, instead of attempting to crush by outcry and persecution, welcome an open encounter with the great and persistent foe of private judgment. They seem to forget the opportunities that would offer of exposing the "mummeries" and "tomfooleries." To those who are in earnest and expectant of the future, this agitation is hopeful. Let every advocate of private judgment exert himself as he ought, or hide his head whenever a Catholic (whose mummeries he despises) crosses his path. The year 1851 is portentous. There is a harvest, if the reapers are prepared. We all may help to

"Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler mode of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws."

C. F. NICHOLLS.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

Jan. 20, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—As "The Father of the unstamped Press," as *Tait* has been pleased to designate me, I rejoice to see the renewed efforts, in which you are taking so prominent and able a part, to get rid of all the "taxes on knowledge." If you can turn to the report of my trial in May, 1831, you will see that I at great length pointed out and urged upon the consideration of the court and jury, the unfair licence given by the (then) Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes to the proprietors of sundry publications, while prosecuting me for breach of the law. You complain of the same thing now, and with justice. We should all be placed on a level. But what I want to call your attention to is this. The Board of Inland Revenue, I see, denies that such publications as *Punch*, the *Athenaeum*, and the *Household Narrative* are newspapers; upon what authority this dictum rests I know not; but this I do know, that on my trial, and in the course of my defence, Lord Lyndhurst stopped me and said, that a single paragraph of news, however old, introduced into a paper, made such paper a "newspaper"; which the law defined to be "any paper containing news, intelligence, or occurrences," and that the fact of the commissioners permitting some such papers to be published without stamps was an immaterial one, as they were "not the authorized expounders of the law." Now, I had some months of imprisonment for violating a law which others were permitted to violate with impunity, and were, in fact, encouraged to do so by a supply of stamps for that portion of their impression they wished to transmit by post. The same thing obtains now; and you would be served as I was were you to attempt to do what *Punch* and others are permitted to do. This is really too bad; and I hope you will bring the matter before the House of Commons, and see whether the thing is to be justified.

Truly yours,

WILLIAM CARPENTER.

CHARTIST LEADERS.

4, Navarino-grove, Dalston, Jan. 19, 1851.

[NOTE.—The writer of this letter has forgotten our severe rule of not allowing personalities. We have therefore abridged the latter part of his letter, giving the substance without the illustrations.—ED.]

SIR,—I entertain a very high respect for your valued correspondent, Mr. Holyoake. I always regard his letters as worthy of the utmost attention from your readers, and it is on this account that I cannot allow a sentence in his last epistle (written, as I conceive it to be, very unadvisedly) to pass unnoticed. He says:—

"The reputation of the Chartist party in this country has sunk so low that few men believe it capable of elevation, or care to attempt it. One would suppose that no men of reputation or political knowledge have existed among the working classes for the last twelve years. Yet there has been no lack of them; but they have betrayed their order. It is a harsh word to write, but treason is the appropriate description of the course they have chosen for themselves. They who desert a cause are as criminal as they who betray, &c. &c."

I care not for the harsh terms employed in this sweeping censure on the intelligent men of the working classes, provided the writer had clearly attached it to those who, from unworthy motives, had abandoned their faith in Democratic principle. But it is quite possible I apprehend to have firm trust in those principles, and yet at the same time to feel a strong conviction that the reputation of the Chartist party, or rather "of the men who assume to be the leaders of that party," is indeed sunk so wretchedly low as to be incapable of elevation. I have scarcely the vanity to suppose Mr. Holyoake had my name among others in his mind when writing this sentence; but being one who, in times past, felt proud in aiding with my humble efforts movements toward the attainment of the people's Charter, I feel bound to tell Mr. Holyoake he commits a gross wrong if he brands as traitors to the cause of human freedom, men who prefer standing aside for the present rather than associate with the imbecile set who have dragged Chartism into the mire, and who are as incapable of leading the people as they are unworthy of being accepted by the people for their leaders. I do not blame Mr. Holyoake for taking a different course: he is a brave man and fearlessly places himself (to the amazement of some of his friends) alongside of the member for Nottingham and the enthusiastic barrister who intends to wave the green flag over Buckingham Palace. It may be he is taking a judicious course; "a little leaven may perchance leaven the lump." God grant it may; but let him have a little mercy on weaker brethren. I for one will never shrink from declaring my honest conviction that democratic institutions are necessary for the salvation of this country. My faith in the ultimate success of the people is as strong as ever; but that success will not be accelerated by the help of such men as we find composing the chiefs of the movement. The appearance of some of these on the platform is quite sufficient to drive the writer of this letter out of any Chartist meeting.

Hoping these hasty lines will in some measure modify Mr. Holyoake's opinion, that all Chartists are traitors who withdraw from open agitation, and convince him that there are other causes which operate to prevent some of us taking the course he thinks fit to pursue. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM ADDISCOTT.

PROPOSED PRIZE ESSAYS.

Jan. 10, 1851.

SIR,—In a letter which you kindly permitted to appear in your "Open Council" of the 28th of September, a proposal was made by me for a Prize Essay upon the 18th verse of the 2nd chapter of the First Epistle General of John, to be published in continuation of the *Latter-Day Pamphlets*, at the expiration of the year 1850, as a *Last-Day Pamphlet*, and to be followed by a series of Tracts for the Millennium. My object in now addressing you is to furnish subjects for the other essays, and to request that you will award the enclosed Five Pounds to the author of the best essay upon the subject which stands first in the list. The competitive essays upon this subject to be sent to you not later than the middle of the ensuing month. And immediately the successful essay is published, another prize will be forwarded by me for the successful essay upon the next subject for the next month. And so throughout the list, as each prize essay is published, a similar amount shall be remitted to you as a prize for the next subject in rotation, until the list becomes finished. The competitive essays upon each subject to be sent to C. C., No. 8, King William-street, West Strand, not later than the last day of the months to which they fall in succession, and the most meritorious writings to be published as soon after as convenient. Regretting to hear of the severe illness from which you have recently recovered, and which has so unfortunately delayed the publication of the former prize essay,

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

A CONSTANT READER.

List of Subjects for the Prize Essays to be called Tracts for the Millennium.

- Six Essays upon the following personal or individual duties, the practice of which is Religion:—
1. Prayer, being the worship of One True God.
2. Innocence, being Abstinence from Vice.
3. Self-examination, being an Approval or Condemnation by Conscience.
4. Repentance, being the Remission of Sins.
5. Atonement, being the Reparation of Offences.
6. Regeneration, being a Second Birth, or Innocence Regained.
- Six Essays upon the following social or relative duties, the performance of which is Morality:—
7. To generate, rear, and establish a family.

8. To acquire and communicate knowledge.
9. To promote virtue and to prevent vice.
10. To amend, improve, and reform the laws.
11. To eradicate slavery and to foster equality.
12. To prevent, arrest, or suppress all warfare, and to encourage social and international coöperation.

THE "MORNING POST" AND ITS COMPOSITORS.

Jan. 23, 1851.

SIR,—A communication appears in your Journal of last Saturday containing insinuations and assertions derogatory to the conduct and character of the compositors of the *Morning Post*. Of itself that communication would have been deemed unworthy of a reply; but as you, in your editorial capacity, interfered in the matter, reiterating the language and supporting the position of your correspondent, it would be as well that the facts of the case should now be laid before the public. Let me ask, in the first place, where did your correspondent receive the information that the compositors of the *Post* were working extra hours at low wages? This letter appears in your columns, and is brought before the public eye before one week's work is brought to a close, and previous to one farthing being paid for labour done! How is he justified, then, in bringing forward such accusations when at the time he penned his letter, and at the time it was printed and issued to the public not one of the compositors stigmatized had received any remuneration, fair or unfair, for the labour of the week! This fact of itself shows that your correspondent had little regard to the veracity or candour of his statements. However, for his information, if not for his consolation, it may be stated, that the compositors of the *Post* are paid according to the London scale of prices, as framed by the Typographical Union. Not a single extra hour's work is done without receiving its equivalent as laid down in that scale. Even supposing that any one of the late compositors of the *Post* had been engaged on that paper during last week, he could not in justice to his employers, the profession, or himself, have charged one sixpence more of wages than was received by the present compositors. The cause (if any) of complaint must, therefore, lie in another direction. Perhaps your correspondent sees something grievously wrong in Scotch compositors being introduced at all into a London daily newspaper office. No one will deny the right of an employer, when dissatisfied with a workman, to dismiss him from his employ and place another in his situation; and if an employer finds reason to be dissatisfied with a body of workmen, he is certainly justified in adopting similar steps. Now, it was no fault whatever of the present compositors of the *Post* that the late hands were dismissed from their situations. They did not offer their services at a reduced rate of wages, or to work more hours, nor did they agree to any terms at all encroaching on the rights of the profession. Again, your correspondent seems to labour under the very erroneous idea that, because the present *Post* hands agreed to work at a stated weekly wage (a wage in accordance with the rules of the London society), that they also agreed to labour any number of hours that might be required. Such an idea is destitute of the shadow of a foundation. A certain number of hours' work is done; but every hour over and above is paid strictly according to the standard already mentioned. Some difference, however, does exist in this respect between the daily press and all other systems of working in Britain, which may partly have occasioned the vituperative communication of your correspondent.

Little benefit, however, would accrue from discussing the merits of these points; and no doubt your correspondent will find it the better course of policy to keep such matters as far as possible from the eye of scrutiny and investigation. If he should again come before the public, through the medium of your columns, let him be honest enough to deal alone with facts, and he will find that his weapons are pointless, and his grounds of discussion very circumscribed.

Hoping you will have the kindness to give insertion to the above,

We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

THE "POST" CHAPEL.

[We have inserted this letter upon the principle of fair play; and we have no doubt our correspondent will reply.—Ed.]

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)

The number of deaths registered last week in London amounts to 1037; while in the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1841-50 it varied from 900 in 1843, to 1401 in 1848, and the average was 1149. This average, if it be augmented in the ratio of previous increase of population (1.55 per cent. per annum) up to the present time, becomes 1253, compared with which the present return exhibits a great decrease; but it will be borne in mind that violent epidemics, which multiplied the deaths of the period from which the average is drawn, have also left a less population to yield a smaller contribution of mortality. If the two returns of the last fortnight be compared, it appears that, whilst they almost coincide as regards the total number of deaths, they differ in the

proportions in which prevailing diseases have proved fatal. Smallpox was fatal last week to 21 persons, of whom five were adults. With regard to three of the children who died, and two men, aged respectively 19 and 39 years, it is mentioned that they had been previously vaccinated. The Registrar of Mile-end Old-town Lower was informed by the father of a family that two of his children had been suffering from smallpox; that one, aged three years, who had been vaccinated at the age of three months, apparently with effect, died, and another, who had not been vaccinated, was in the way of recovery. A house in Whitechapel is also mentioned where three children were suffering from the disease, who had all been vaccinated. The disorder seems to be rife in this neighbourhood, and one of the medical men states that he has now 29 cases under his care. The Registrar of Christchurch, Marylebone, reports that "between the beginning of November, when smallpox suddenly became prevalent in his district, and the end of the year, 27 persons died of the disease, and in only two of these cases had vaccination been performed." But in order to settle the respective rates of mortality among the protected and the unprotected, it is obviously necessary to ascertain the number in each class living in any district. In the returns of last week seven localities are complained of as damp from want of drainage or lowness of situation, or otherwise unwholesome. The births of 815 boys and 784 girls, in all 1599 children, were registered in the week. The average of six corresponding weeks in 1845-50 was 1395.

	Ten Weeks of 1841-50.	Week of 1851.
Zymotic Diseases	2290	196
Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat	557	36
Tubercular Diseases	1831	172
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses	1284	137
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels	365	43
Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Organs of Respiration	2549	202
Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion	629	66
Diseases of the Kidneys, &c.	100	18
Childbirth, diseases of the Uterus, &c.	115	7
Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c.	63	8
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c.	13	1
Malformations	23	1
Premature Birth and Debility	253	27
Atrophy	151	15
Age	838	46
Sudden	109	4
Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance	247	23
Total (including unspecified causes)	11485	1037

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SATURDAY.

The market for English Funds opened dull on Monday, with a decline in prices. A fresh Ministerial crisis in Paris, with the doubts pertaining to the final course of events in connection therewith, inclined the speculators to sell. On Tuesday the depression still continued. The non-arrival of the French mail also gave the opportunity for the circulation of unfavourable rumours, although by telegraph the prices of stocks from Paris came higher. The presence of the Government broker as a purchaser was counteracted by sales to the extent of about £200,000 for a Scotch bank, and by some large speculative operations. Consols were at one time as low as 96, but they afterwards rallied, and closed at 96½ to 96¾. The market was firmer on Wednesday, and prices advanced ¼ upon the previous day's quotations. On Thursday the improvement was maintained and Consols closed at 96¾ to 96¾. France being considered favourable. Consols closed at 96¾ to 96¾.

This morning the market opened firm, the news from the range of prices during the week has been, Consols, 96 to 96¾; Bank Stock, 213½ to 215; Three and a Quarter per Cents, 98½ to 98¾; Exchequer Bills, 55s. to 59s. prem. The foreign market has been heavy during the week. The transactions in the official list, yesterday, comprised:—Brazilian, at 90½; Chilean, 104½; Danish Five per Cents., 102; Ecuador, 3½; Grenada Deferred, 33½; Peruvian, for account, 78½, 77½, 78, 77½, and 78; the Deferred, 33½, 32½, and 33½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 96½ and 4; Spanish Five per Cents., for account, 17½ and 4; Spanish Three per Cents., 38; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 92; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 57½, 58, 57½, and 58; and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 91½ and 91.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, JAN. 24.

The supplies of both English and Foreign Wheat since Monday were moderate, and of French Flour much smaller than they have been of late. At the country markets held during the week the trade has assumed a firmer tone, in which our market has not participated, except for floating cargoes of Polish and Odessa Wheat, which are now held for 34s. to 35s.; being an advance of 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per quarter from the lowest point. The finest qualities of Malting Barley sell readily at former rates, while other descriptions continue very unsaleable. With moderate supplies of Oats the trade is very inanimate.

Arrivals from Jan. 20 to Jan. 24:—

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.	Flour.
Wheat	2010	—	5950	3530
Barley	6950	—	1140	—
Oats	3640	1201	8430	—

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 21st day of January, 1851, is 27s. 11½d. per cwt.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.
(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	214	214	214	214	214	214
3 per Ct. Red ..	97	97	97	97	97	97
3 p. C. Con. Ans.	96	96	96	96	96	96
3 p. C. An. 1726.	96	96	96	96	96	96
3 p. Ct. Con. Ac.	96	96	96	96	96	96
3 p. Cent. An.	96	96	96	96	96	96
New 5 per Cts.	7 9-16	7 9-16	7 9-16	7 9-16	7 9-16	7 9-16
Long Ans., 1860.	70 p	70 p	70 p	70 p	70 p	70 p
Ind. St. 10 p. ct.	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p
Ditto Bonds ..	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p
Ex. Bills, 1000l.	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p
Ditto, 500l.	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p
Ditto, Small	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p	58 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Friday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents.	91	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc.	33
Belgian Bds., 4 p. Ct.	90	Neapolitan 5 per Cents.	—
Brazilian 5 per Cents.	89	Peruvian 4 p. Cents.	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts.	—	Portuguese 5 per Cent.	—
Chilian 6 per Cents.	104	— 4 per Cts.	35
Danish 5 per Cents.	102	— Annuities	—
Dutch 2 p. Cents.	58	Russian, 1822, 5 p. Cts.	—
— 4 per Cents.	90	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts.	17
Ecuador Bonds	3	— Passive	3
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris	95.25	— Deferred	—
— 3 p. Cts., Jan. 24, 57.10	—		

SHARES.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.

RAILWAYS.	BANKS.
Caledonian ..	Australasian ..
Eastern Counties ..	British North American ..
Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	Colonial ..
Great Northern ..	Commercial of London ..
Great North of England ..	London and Westminster ..
Great S. & W. (Ireland) ..	London Joint Stock ..
Great Western ..	National of Ireland ..
Hull and Selby ..	National Provincial ..
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	Provincial of Ireland ..
Lancaster and Carlisle ..	Union of Australia ..
London, Brighton, & S. Coast ..	Union of London ..
London and Blackwall ..	
London and N. Western ..	
Midland ..	
North British ..	
South-Eastern and Dover ..	
South-Western ..	
York, Newcas., & Berwick ..	
York and North Midland ..	
East and West India ..	
London ..	
St. Katharine ..	

GRAIN, Mark-lane, Jan. 24.

Wheat, R. New 36s. to 38s.	Maple	29s. to 31s.
Fine	White	23 — 21
Old	Boilers	25 — 27
White	Beans, Ticks ..	24 — 25
Fine	Old	26 — 28
Superior New 44 — 46	Indian Corn ..	28 — 30
Rye	Oats, Feed	15 — 16
Barley	Fine	16 — 17
Malting	Poland	17 — 18
Malt, Ord.	Fine	18 — 19
Fine	Potato	17 — 18
Peas, Hog	Fine	18 — 19

FLOUR.

Town-made	per sack 40s. to 43s.
Seconds	37 — 40
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship ..	33 — 34
Norfolk and Stockton ..	30 — 32
American	per barrel 21 — 22
Canadian	21 — 22
Wheaten Bread, 7d. the 4lb. loaf.	Households, 6d.

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.
WEEK ENDING JAN. 18.

Imperial General Weekly Average.			
Wheat	38s. 0d.	Rye	24s. 8d.
Barley	22 8	Beans	26 7
Oats	16 9	Peas	26 11
Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.			
Wheat	38s. 9d.	Rye	24s. 3d.
Barley	23 4	Beans	27 3
Oats	16 11	Peas	27 11

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.*		SMITHFIELD*.	
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef	2 4 to 3 0	2 4 to 3 10	
Mutton	2 8 — 3 8	3 4 — 4 6	
Veal	3 0 — 4 4	4 0 — 5 0	
Pork	2 6 — 3 8	3 4 — 4 2	

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Friday.	Monday.
Beasts	615	4327
Sheep	3650	20,670
Calves	200	119
Pigs	295	285

PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 12s. 6d. to 14s. per doz.	
Carlton, £3 18s. to £4 2s. per cwt.	
Bacon, Irish	per cwt. 43s. to 45s.
Cheese, Cheshire	42 — 69
Derby, Plain	44 — 51
Hams, York	59 — 60
Eggs, French, per 120, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.	

HOPS.

Kent Pockets ..	78s. to 82s.	York Regents per ton	85s. to 100
Choice ditto ..	90 — 150	Wisebeck Regents ..	70 — 80
Smex ditto ..	66 — 76	Scottish Reds ..	—
Farnham do. ..	—	French Whites ..	65 — 70

POTATOES.

Hay, Good ..	70s. to 77s.	73s. to 75s.	66s. to 75s
Interior ..	50 — 65	48 — 58	40 — 60
New ..	0 — 0	0 — 0	0 — 0
Clover ..	75 — 80	80 — 82	73 — 81
Wheat straw ..	24 — 28	20 — 27	20 — 37

HAY AND STRAW. (Per load of 36 Trusses.)

CUMBERLAND. SMITHFIELD. WHITECHAPEL.			
Hay, Good ..	70s. to 77s.	73s. to 75s.	66s. to 75s
Interior ..	50 — 65	48 — 58	40 — 60
New ..	0 — 0	0 — 0	0 — 0
Clover ..	75 — 80	80 — 82	73 — 81
Wheat straw ..	24 — 28	20 — 27	20 — 37

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, Jan. 21.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—Maudes, Jones, and Aspdin Northfleet, Kent, Portland cement manufacturers, first div. of 6d., on Thursday, Jan. 23, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street—J. G. Fuller, St. James's-street, and Streatham, Surrey, wine merchant, second div. of 4d., on Thursday, Jan. 23, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.—H. B. Muriel, Brighton, chemist.

BANKRUPTCY.—F. G. JOHNS, New-yard, Great Queen-street, medical fixture dealer, to surrender Feb. 1, March 7; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—L. P. GOLD-SMID, King-street, Holborn, importer of watches, Feb. 4, March 4; solicitor, Mr. Lewis, Golden-square; official assignee, Mr. Graham—P. VAN DEN ENDE, Strood, Kent, woolstapler, Feb. 1, March 1; solicitor, Mr. Wood, Falcon-street; official assignee, Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street—J. LEMMON, Norwich, printer, Jan. 28, Feb. 27, solicitors, Mr. Jay, Bucklers-bury, and Messrs. Jay and Pilgrim, Norwich; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—W. WALKER, Preston, Lancashire, chemist, Jan. 28, Feb. 18; solicitor, Mr. Blackhurst, Preston; official assignee, Mr. Pott, Manchester—T. LOCOCK, jun., Weston-super-Mare, builder, Feb. 3, March 3; solicitor, Mr. Nalder, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Miller, Bristol—J. RAWLING, Selby, Yorkshire, shoemaker, Feb. 4 and 24; solicitors, Mr. Hawdon, Selby, and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Hope, Leeds—W. H. and C. CATTON, Milnsbridge, Yorkshire, dyers, Feb. 4 and 24; solicitors, Mr. Higham, Brighouse, and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Hope, Leeds—J. BELL, Leyburn, Yorkshire, draper, Feb. 7 and 28; solicitors, Mr. Robinson, Leyburn, and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Young, Leeds—J. BLAIN, Liverpool, stationer, Feb. 3 and 25; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool—J. ROBINSON, Stanwix, Cumberland, cattle dealer, Feb. 5, March 7; solicitors, Messrs. Bendle, Son, and Wright, Carlisle, and Mr. Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; official assignee, Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DIVIDENDS.—Feb. 11, J. Davis, Walton-on-Thames, builder—Feb. 11, C. H. Swann, Sandford; J. Swann, Woolvercote, and W. Swann, Ensham, Oxfordshire, papermakers—Feb. 13, G. Hall and F. S. Fell, Tynemouth, timber merchants—Feb. 13, B. Murray, Stockton-upon-Tees, farmer—Feb. 11, G. Watson, Gateshead, bookseller.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—Feb. 12, G. A. Clare, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, house decorator—Feb. 12, A. French, East Grinstead, plumber—Feb. 12, S. Lavington, Devizes, grocer—Feb. 13, G. Hall and F. S. Fell, Tynemouth, timber merchants—Feb. 13, B. Murray, Stockton-upon-Tees, farmer—Feb. 11, E. R. Arthur, North Shields, shipowner—Feb. 13, E. Cardwell, Manchester, sharebroker—Feb. 13, J. Davies, Kingston, Herefordshire, mercer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. Smart, Edinburgh, fletcher, Jan. 24, Feb. 14—D. Arthur, Bonhill, linen printer, Feb. 6.

Friday, January 24.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—W. Walford, Wolverhampton, common brewer; first div. of 1s. 1d., any Thursday; Mr. Whitmore, Birmingham—C. S. Fenwick, Tynemouth, banker; third div. of 1s. 10d., Jan. 25, and any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—T. Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, attorney-at-law; second div. of 2s. Jan. 25, and any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—W. and S. Shaw, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, timber merchants; first div. of 1s. 6d., Feb. 11, and any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—M. Bakewell, Manchester, size manufacturer; first div. of 2s. 7d., Feb. 11, and any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—W. Lucan, Preston, Lancashire, innkeeper; first div. of 4s. 9d., Jan. 28, and any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pott, Manchester—J. Seelie, Freeschool-street, Horslydown, rectifier; first div. of 11s., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—J. T. Brumeld, Tichborne-street, and Great Windmill-street, china dealer; first div. of 4s. 10d., on Saturday next and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—R. H. Gould, Strand, ice merchant; first div. of 9d. on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—E. Green, Almondsbury, common brewer; second div. of 4d., any day on or after Jan. 24; Mr. Young, Leeds—J. Nash and T. Neale, Reigate and Dorking, bankers; second div. of 2s. 6d. on joint estate, and div. of 20s. on each of the separate estates, on Monday and Tuesday next, and the following Monday and Tuesday, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—J. Page, Sidmouth, butcher; first and final div. of 3s. 5d., on any Tuesday or Friday after Jan. 25; Mr. Herniman, Exeter—W. H. Boon, Plymouth, ironmonger; first div. of 7s. any Tuesday or Friday after Jan. 25; Mr. Herniman, Exeter.

BANKRUPTCY.—G. R. GALLOWAY, St. John-street, brush manufacturer, to surrender Jan. 30, March 6; solicitor, Mr. Broughton, Falcon-square; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—J. H. LEMERE, Maldon, draper, Feb. 7, March 8; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—J. M. BRIDGLAND, Phoenix-street and Denmark-street, Soho, pianoforte maker, Feb. 7, March 8; solicitor, Mr. Cox, Pinners'-hall; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—S. LEE, Loughborough, Leicestershire, bookseller, Feb. 6, March 7; solicitor, Mr. Gregory, Leicester; official assignee, Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—J. GRAHAM, Manchester, joiner, Feb. 4 and 25; solicitor, Mr. Faulkner, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Fraser, Manchester—J. JOHNSON, Coventry, wine merchant, Feb. 6, March 7; solicitor, Mr. Browett, Coventry; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Birmingham.

DIVIDENDS.—Feb. 21, W. Abbott and Son, Bermondsey-street, Southwark, patent hair felt manufacturers—Feb. 14, J. Roden, Stamford, draper—Feb. 18, L. Rudge, Great Barford, Bedfordshire, apothecary—Feb. 18, S. Browning, Faringdon, nurseryman—Feb. 20, R. Turner, Worthing, draper—Feb. 20, W. H. Pine, Honiton, maltster—Feb. 20, S. Shephard, Gullompton, merchant—Feb. 19, J. Frampton, Cerne Abbas, Dorsetshire, money scrivener—Feb. 19, J. Dominy, Ilminster, carrier—Feb. 18, W. Oakes, Oldham, clockmaker—Feb. 20, J. H. Veitch, Durham, printer—Feb. 15, J. Gorbey, Sheffield, steel melter—Feb. 15, J. Woodward, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, paper manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—Feb. 18, E. Brewster and E. West, Hand-court, Dowgate, printers—Feb. 15, J. Williams and W. E. Rust, Strand, booksellers—Feb. 14, W. Keeping, East-street, Walworth, common brewer—Feb. 14, W. Huntley, Hart-street, Covent-garden, licensed victualler—Feb. 14, R. Ward, Brownlow-street, Drury-lane, coach carrier—Feb. 21, W. H. Ambler, Bishop Auckland, Durham, banker—Feb. 18, R. Arthur, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linendraper—Feb. 20, W. Lax, Darlington, land surveyor—Feb. 20, J. F. Brett, Gateshead, tailor—Feb. 14, R. Battersby and J. Telford, Liverpool, ironfounders—Feb. 18, T. Harrison, Stockport, Cheshire—Feb. 18, G. Eckerley, Tyldesley, Lancashire, victualler—Feb. 19, G. M. Smith, Iron-bridge, Shropshire, bookseller—Feb. 24, W. Bradburn, Shiffhall, Shropshire, corn dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. Walker, jun., and Co., Glasgow, calico printers, Jan. 23, Feb. 21—A. Corrie, Dundee, Jan. 29, Feb. 19—G. Paterson, Tranent, farmer, Jan. 29, Feb. 19.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 11th inst., at Bleak, Aberdeenshire, the wife of Captain John Forbes, Inverernan, Third Bombay Cavalry, of a daughter.
On the 13th inst., at Naples, the Honourable Mrs. John Gelli-brand Hubbard, of a daughter.
On the 14th inst., the wife of the Reverend C. W. Hough, of Godalming, Surrey, of a son.
On the 16th inst., at Bury-hill, Mrs. Arthur Kett Barclay, of a daughter.
On the 16th inst., at Tunbridge-wells, the wife of Major Geo. Willock, of a daughter.
On the 16th inst., at Eaton Bishop, near Hereford, the wife of the Reverend W. P. Musgrave, M.A., rector, of a daughter.
On the 17th inst., in St. John's-wood, the wife of the Reverend H. W. Maddock, of a daughter.
On the 19th inst., the wife of the Reverend G. D. Kent, rector of Stratford Tony, Wilts, of a son.
On the 19th inst., at Edgbaston, Birmingham, the wife of Geo. Dawson, Esq., M.A., of a son.
On the 21st inst., at Highgate, Mrs. Robert J. Lodge, of a son.
On the 23rd inst., at College-house, Islington, the wife of the Reverend J. G. Heisch, of a daughter.
On the 24th inst., in Cambridge-square, Hyde-park, the wife of Robert Lloyd, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 4th of December, at Mangalore, Captain H. F. Gustard, Sixth N.I., superintendent of Coorg, to Margaretta Sarah, daughter of the late Reverend J. White, Exminster, Devonshire.
On the 15th inst., at Shepperton, John W. Lea, Esq., B.A., of Wadham College, Oxford, to Letitia Neale, only daughter of the Reverend W. Russell, rector of Shepperton, and rural dean.
On the 15th inst., at Brighton, Signor Raffaele Ciochi, to Jemima Mary Bacon, daughter of the late Reverend E. Frank, of Campsall, Yorkshire, and Earham, Norfolk.
On the 17th inst., at Over-Worton Church, S. H. F. Cox, Esq., of Sandford-park, Oxfordshire, to Fanny Mary, youngest daughter of the Reverend W. Wilson, of Over-Worton-house, in the same county; and, at the same time, Joseph William, fourth son of the aforesaid Reverend Wm. Wilson, to Harriet Ann, eldest daughter of Ambrose Moore, Esq., of Tavistock-square.
On the 18th inst., at Kensington, J. C. Johns, Esq., of Ryder-street, St. James's, to Sarah, relict of the late Lieutenant-General Cleland.
On the 18th inst., at Brighton, the Reverend T. M. Patey, son of G. E. Patey, Esq., of Canford Magna, Dorset, to Eliza, only daughter of H. Bartlett, Esq., of Wimborne Minster, Dorset.
On the 21st inst., at Crowland Abbey, Mr. William Ingram, merchant, of Uppingham, to Charlotte, widow of the late W. J. Cooke, Esq., of Postland.
On the 21st., at Bishop Wearmouth Church, Robert Scarfield, Esq., to Sarah, eldest daughter of the Reverend F. Iliff, D.D., of the Grange, Bishop Wearmouth.
On the 21st inst., at St. George's Hanover-square, Frederick A. Whimper, Esq., Captain of the 55th Regiment, to Caroline Anne, fourth daughter of the late Reverend John Fisher, rector of Wavender, Bucks.

DEATHS.

On the 17th inst., aged 44, the Reverend John Travers Robinson, rector of North Petherton, Somersetshire.
On the 17th inst., at Lille, département du Nord, France, Lieutenant-Colonel John Garland, K.H., unattached, late of Quatre Bras-cottage, Dorchester, Dorset.
On the 19th of November, at Umballah, Eliza, wife of Lieutenant R. R. Bruce, Bengal Artillery, and youngest daughter of the late Major-General A. D. Faunce, C.B.
On the 24th ult., at Bruges, Captain Edwin Thrackston, R.N.
On the 15th inst., at the Rectory, Great Berkhamstead, the Reverend J. Crofts, aged 83.
On the 16th inst., at Honfleur, France, Charlotte Eliza, wife of Commander L. H. Wray, R.N., aged 40.
On the 17th inst., at Dublin, the Marquis of Hastings, ensign, Fifty-second Foot, aged 19.
On the 17th inst., at his rectory, Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire, the Reverend H. Willoughby, aged 45.
On the 17th inst., at Clebury Mortimer, Shropshire, Edw. M. Moultrie, Esq., of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, aged 48.
On the 18th inst., in Eaton-square, Rear-Admiral Rye, aged 86.
On the 18th inst., Frances Hancock, sister of the late Reverend Wm. Hancock, for several years minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Kilburn.
On the 19th inst., aged 86, at Summerlands, near Exeter, Margaret, the youngest daughter of the late John Baring, Esq., of Mount Radford, near Exeter.
On the 19th inst., at Winchester, aged 90, Sarah, widow of the late Reverend Daniel Williams, fellow of Winchester College.
On the 20th inst., in St. John's-wood, Thos. Jacob Lancaster, aged 73.
On the 20th inst., at Walworth, E. J. Carlos, Esq., late of the Lord Mayor's Court-office, Old Jewry.
On the 23rd inst., in Hyde-park-gardens, Mary, the wife of W. Alers Hankey, Esq., of Fenchurch-street, aged 80.

FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS.—The Annual

Meeting of the Members of the above body residing in the metropolis, will be held in the Coffee-room of the John-street Institution on Friday Evening, January 31st, when the Balance-sheet for the past will be submitted, and the Committee for the present year elected.

Chair to be taken at Eight o'clock.

DR. CULVERWELL ON NERVOUSNESS, DEBILITY, AND INDIGESTION.

Price 1s.; by Post, 1s. 6d.

WHAT TO EAT, DRINK, AND AVOID.

"Abstinētia multi curantur morbi."

An Address to the Young, the Delicate, the Valetudinarian, and Invalid; instructive of how to avert many of the illnesses of life; and showing, also, the resources we have within ourselves to remedy them and live again.

Sherwood, 23, Paternoster-row; Mann, 39, Cornhill; and the Author, 10, Argyll-place, Regent-street: consultation hours, ten till five; evenings, seven till nine.

TOOTHACHE PREVENTED by using

BRANDE'S ENAMEL for filling decaying Teeth, and rendering them sound and painless. Price 1s. Enough for several Teeth. The only substance approved by the medical faculty, as being unattended with pain or danger, and the good effects of which are permanent.

Sold by all Chemists in the United Kingdom. Twenty really authorized Testimonials accompany each box, with full directions for use. Sent free, by return of post, by J. WILLIS, FLEET-STREET, London, in return for thirteen penny stamps.

CAUTION.—The great success of this preparation has induced numerous unskilful persons to produce spurious imitations, and to copy Brande's Enamel advertisements. It is essential, therefore, to guard against such impositions by seeing that the name of "John Willis" accompanies each packet.

SASSAFRAS CHOCOLATE.—Dr. DE LA MOTTE'S nutritive, health-restoring, AROMATIC CHOCOLATE, prepared from the nuts of the Sassafras tree. This Chocolate contains the peculiar virtues of the SASSAFRAS root, which has been long held in great estimation for its purifying and alterative properties. The AROMATIC QUALITY (which is very grateful to the stomach) most invalids require for breakfast and evening repast to PROMOTE DIGESTION, and to a deficiency of this property in the customary breakfast and supper may, in a great measure, be attributed the frequency of cases of INDIGESTION generally termed BILIOUS. It has been found highly beneficial in correcting the state of the digestive organs, &c., from whence arise many diseases, such as eruptions of the skin, gout, rheumatism, and scrofula. In cases of DEBILITY of the STOMACH, and a sluggish state of the liver and intestines, occasioning flatulences, costiveness, &c., and in spasmodic asthma, it is much recommended.

Sold in pound packets, price 4s., by the Patentee, 12, SOUTH-AMPTON-STREET, STRAND, LONDON; by appointed Agents, Chemists, and others. N.B. For a list of Agents, see Bradshaw's Sixpenny Guide.

SOMETHING RATIONAL!

A COMFORTABLE SHAVE FOR 3d. PER MONTH.

TO ALL WHOSE TIME IS PRECIOUS.—

PEARS'S TRANSPARENT SHAVING-STICK produces, with hot or cold water, an instantaneous, unctuous, and consistent lather, which softens the beard, and thereby renders the process of shaving more rapid, easy, and cleanly than the old mode. Pears's Shaving-Stick is formed from his Transparent Soap, which has a most agreeable fragrant odour, and its firm consistence makes it more durable than any other Soap. Price of Shaving-Sticks, in cases, 1s. and 1s. 6d. each.

Upon Sixteen postage Stamps being sent to A. and F. Pears, 91, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London, one Stick will be forwarded by Post.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, EYE-

BROWS, &c., may be with certainty obtained by using a very small portion of ROSALIE COUPELLE'S PARISIAN POMADE, every morning, instead of any oil or other preparation. A fortnight's use will, in most cases, show its surprising properties in producing and curling Whiskers, Hair, &c., at any age, from whatever cause deficient; as also checking grayness, &c.

Sent free by post, with instructions, &c., on receipt of twenty-four postage stamps, by Miss Coupelle, Ely-place, Holborn, London; who may be consulted on these matters daily, from two till five o'clock.

TESTIMONIALS.

Lieutenant Holroyd, R.N., writes: "Its effects are truly astonishing; it has thickened and darkened my hair very much."

Mrs. Buckley, Stapleford: "Your delightful Pomade has improved my hair wonderfully."

Mr. Yates, hair-dresser, Malton: "The young man has now a good pair of Whiskers; I want you to send me two pots for other customers of mine."

Mrs. Lello, Worthing: "I use your Pomade in my nursery, as I find it very useful for children's hair also."

DO NOT CUT YOUR CORNS.—BUT CURE THEM. Also will be sent (free), on receipt of thirteen stamps, her only safe, speedy, and lasting cure for soft or hard corns, bunions, &c. It cures in three days, and is never failing.

Mrs. Hughes, Sunbury: "It cured four corns, and three bunions, amazingly quick, and is the best and safest thing I have ever met with."

Address: MISS COUPELLE, Ely-place, Holborn, London.

GALL'S MESMERIC DROPS are declared

by all who have proved their efficacy to be the greatest blessing ever conferred upon the afflicted. In the short space of half an hour they ensure perfect freedom from pain either of body or mind; the most excruciating torments being subdued as perfectly as in a mesmeric sleep. In smaller doses they soothe irritability of the nerves, and produce a pleasing tranquillity unattainable by any other known physical agent. The MESMERIC DROPS do not contain Opium nor Henbane, and although from its effects the active ingredients may be technically termed a narcotic, its exhibition is not attended with any of the ill effects which arise from the use of the narcotic drugs hitherto known. In many of the most distressing and dangerous maladies, allaying pain and tranquillizing the sufferer is the grand desideratum for effecting a cure, and in cases of a less urgent character the happiest effects often follow the administration of remedies which soothe the nerves and allay irritability. In all such cases the MESMERIC DROPS will be found an invaluable resource.

Sold in Boxes 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s., by Neville and Boyd, 50a, New Oxford-street, London; Barclay and Co., Farringdon-street; Hamay and Co., Oxford-street, and all vendors of patent medicines.

N.B.—Should any difficulty arise in procuring them they may be had post free, by remitting the amount in postage stamps to Neville and Boyd.

LUXURIANT AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, &c.

MANY Preparations for the Hair have been introduced to the Public, but none have gained such a world-wide celebrity and immense sale as Miss DEAN'S CRINELINE. It is guaranteed to produce Whiskers, Moustachios, Eyebrows, &c., in three or four weeks, with the utmost certainty; and will be found eminently successful in nourishing, curling, and beautifying the Hair, checking greyiness in all its stages, strengthening weak Hair, preventing its falling off, &c. &c. For the reproduction of Hair in Baldness, from whatever cause, and at whatever age, it stands unrivalled, never having failed. One trial only is solicited to prove the fact. It is an elegantly-scented preparation, and sufficient for three months' use will be sent (post free) on receipt of twenty-four postage stamps, by Miss Dean, 48, Liverpool-street, King's-cross, London.

For Children it is indispensable, as forming the basis of a beautiful head of hair.

AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

"I constantly use your Crineline for my children. It restored my hair perfectly."—Mrs. Long, Hitchin, Herts.

"I have now to complain of the trouble of shaving; thanks to your Crineline."—Mr. Grey, Eaton-square, Chelsea.

Professor Ure, on analyzing the Crineline, says:—"It is perfectly free from any injurious coloring or other matter, and the best stimulant for the hair I have met with. The scent is delicate and very persistent."

CURE YOUR CORNS AND BUNIONS.

Those who wish to walk with perfect ease will find Miss DEAN'S ABSORBENT the only radical Cure for Corns and Bunions. It is guaranteed to cure them in three days, without cutting or pain. One trial is earnestly solicited by all suffering from such tormentors.

Sent post-free, on receipt of Fourteen Stamps, by Miss Dean, 48, Liverpool-street, King's-cross, London.

BOLDERO'S POWDERS for the CURE of OFFENSIVE BREATH.—The large sale is a sufficient guarantee of their efficacy,—a certain cure even in the most stubborn cases. Sold only by Mr. Boldero, in boxes, 3s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. each, at No. 8, Lower James-street, Golden-square, and forwarded into the Country on receipt of a Post-office order, or Postage Stamps for the amount and the carriage.

A NEW MEDICINE.

FRANKS'S SPECIFIC CAPSULE—A form of Medicine at once safe, sure, speedy, and pleasant to those who object to fluid medicines, and suited to the convenience of persons travelling, visiting, or engaged in business.

Each Capsule containing the Specific is made of the purest Gelatine, which, encased in tinfoil, may be conveniently carried in the pocket, and, being both elastic and pleasant to take, affords the greatest facility for repeating the doses without intermission—a desideratum essential to the proper development of the curative effects of any medicine, but more especially desirable in those used in the treatment of the diseases for which these Capsules are particularly recommended, and which so anxiously concern both the medical attendant and patient; the most delicate person may take them with perfect safety, and they are unobjectionable to the most susceptible stomach.

Prepared only by George Franks, Surgeon, at his Laboratory, Blackfriars-road, where they may be had, and of all Medicine Vendors, in boxes, at 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. each, or sent free by post at 3s. and 5s. each. Of whom, also, may be had, in bottles, at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each.

FRANKS'S SPECIFIC SOLUTION.

TESTIMONIALS.

From Joseph Henry Green, Esq., F.R.S., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; Senior Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital; and Professor of Surgery in King's College, London.

"I have made a trial of Mr. Franks's Solution of Copaiba, at St. Thomas's Hospital, in a variety of cases, and the results warrant my stating, that it is an efficacious remedy, and one which does not produce the usual unpleasant effects of Copaiba." (Signed) "JOSEPH HENRY GREEN."

"Lincoln's-inn Fields, April 15, 1835."

From Bransby Cooper, Esq., F.R.S., one of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; Senior Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; and Lecturer on Anatomy, &c.

"Mr. Bransby Cooper presents his compliments to Mr. George Franks, and has great pleasure in bearing testimony to the efficacy of his Solution of Copaiba. Mr. Cooper has prescribed the Solution in ten or twelve cases with perfect success."

"New-street, April 13, 1835."

* These medicines are protected against counterfeits by the Government Stamp—on which is engraved "GEORGE FRANKS Blackfriars-road"—being attached to each.

HEALTH WHERE 'TIS SOUGHT.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Cure of a Case of

Weakness and Debility, of Four Years' standing.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Smith, of No. 3, Little Thomas-street, Gibson-street, Lambeth, dated Dec. 12, 1849.

"To Professor HOLLOWAY,

"SIR,—I beg to inform you that for nearly five years I hardly knew what it was to have a day's health, suffering from extreme weakness and debility, with constant nervous headaches, giddiness, and sickness of the stomach, together with a great depression of spirits. I used to think that nothing could benefit me, as I had been to many medical men, some of whom, after doing all that was in their power, informed me that they considered that I had some spinal complaint beyond the reach of cure, together with a very disordered state of the stomach and liver, making my case so complicated that nothing could be done for me. One day, being unusually ill and in a dejected state, I saw your Pills advertised, and resolved to give them a trial, more perhaps from curiosity than with a hope of being cured, however I soon found myself better by taking them, and so I went on persevering in their use for six months, when I am happy to say they effected a perfect cure."

(Signed) "WILLIAM SMITH, (frequently called EDWARD)."

Sold at the Establishment of Professor HOLLOWAY, 214, Strand (near Temple Bar), London, and by most all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicine throughout the civilized World, at the following prices—1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., and 33s. each Box. There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of Patients in every Disorder are affixed to each Box.

BEWARE OF DANGEROUS IMITATIONS.

Sufferers are earnestly cautioned against dangerous imitations of these Pills by youthful, recently-started ten-shilling quacks, who assume the title of Doctor, forge testimonials, and dare to infringe the proprietor's right, by advertising a spurious compound under another name, the use of which can only bring annoyance and disappointment.

PAINS IN THE BACK, GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, GOUT, LUMBAGO, INDIGESTION, DEBILITY, &c. &c.

DR. DE ROOS' COMPOUND RENAL

PILLS have, in many instances, effected a cure when all other means had failed, and are acknowledged by the faculty as the only safe remedy for the above dangerous complaints, and diseases of the Kidneys, and organs therewith connected, generally, resulting from whatever cause, which, if neglected, frequently end in stone in the bladder, and a lingering death! It is an established fact that most cases of Gout and Rheumatism occurring after middle age are combined with these diseases; how necessary is it, then, that persons thus afflicted should at once attend to these important matters. By the salutary action of these Pills on acidity of the stomach, they correct Bile and Indigestion, purify and promote the Renal secretions, thereby preventing the formation of stone, and establishing for life a healthy performance of the functions of these organs.

May be obtained through all medicine vendors in the kingdom, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s., per box; or should any difficulty occur they will be sent free, with full instructions for use, on receipt of the price in postage stamps, by Dr. De Roos. Testimonials, to test the gentleness of which Dr. De Roos solicits enquiry from the persons themselves:—

Robert Johnson, Ludlam-street, Bradford—"Your valuable pills have so improved my friend in Scotland, that he has solicited me to send him another box, as he feels assured that it will cure him; you can use our names as you think proper, that others suffering may be convinced of their value.—Direct to Mr. John Farquhar, Weaver, &c., Kinross, Scotland."

Mr. J. Higham, Burwell—"I am happy to say that the person, though he has taken only one box, is a wonderful deal better, and will recommend them to anyone so suffering."

Address, WALTER DE ROOS, M.D., 35, Ely-Place, Holborn-hill, London. Hours: Ten till One, and Four till Eight, Sunday excepted, unless by previous arrangement.

To prevent fraud on the public by unprincipled persons, her Majesty's Honourable Commissioners of Stamps have directed the name of the Proprietor to be engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to all his Medicines, in white letters on a red ground, without which none is genuine.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS.

DR. BARKER still continues to supply the afflicted with the celebrated remedy for every variety of single or double rupture, the efficacy of which, in many thousands of cases, is too well known to need comment. It is applicable alike to male or female of any age, perfectly free from danger, causes no pain, inconvenience, or confinement; and will be sent free by post, with instructions, &c., on receipt of 7s. in postage stamps, or a Post-office Order, payable at the General Post-office.

Address, Alfred Barker, M.D., 48, Liverpool-street, King's-cross, London. At home for consultation daily from Ten till One, and Four till Eight (Sunday excepted.)

A great number of trusses have been left behind by patients cured, as trophies of the immense success of this remedy, which Dr. B. will be happy to give to any requiring them after a trial of it.

IMPORTANT AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

"In the five cases I wrote to you about, the remedy has perfectly succeeded; send me another for a case of Scrotal Hernia."—John Armstrong, Navy Surgeon.

"We have witnessed the cure of three cases of rupture by Dr. Barker's treatment, which confirms the remarks we made some time since on the utility of this discovery to those suffering from Hernia."—Medical Journal.

"Your remedy has cured my rupture after everything else had failed. I have used violent exertions since, but there is no sign of its coming down."—Miss Symmonds, Bayswater.

YOURSELF! WHAT YOU ARE! AND WHAT FIT FOR!

"See yourself as others see you."—Burns.

AN EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER of

TESTIMONIALS from all classes, Philosophers, Peers, Literary Persons, and Divines of every denomination, have been received by the ORIGINAL GRAPHIOLOGIST, who continues to give her novel and interesting delineations of Character from an examination of the Handwriting, in a style of description peculiarly her own, filling the four pages of a sheet of paper. Persons desirous of knowing their true character, or that of any friend in whom they may be interested, must send a specimen of the writing, stating sex and age, or supposed age (enclosing fifteen postage stamps), to MISS GRAHAM, 6, AMPTON-STREET, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, and they will receive in a few days a minute detail of the gifts, defects, talents, tastes, affections, &c., of the writer, with many other things hitherto unsuspected.

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ETIQUETTE for the MILLION; or, the Handbook of Courtship and Matrimony. Addressed to all Young People. By Miss GRAHAM, who will forward it post free (under cover) on receipt of eight postage stamps. "A charming little book."—Daily News. "To all contemplating marriage it is worth its weight in gold."—Lady's Newspaper. "We urge all our readers to possess this treasure."—Herald.

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HEALTH, HAPPINESS, and EFFICIENCY

In the various duties of life are intimately connected. Thousands drag on a miserable existence, worried with Indigestion, half imbecile from Nervous Debility, wasting with Scrofula, or eaten up with Rheumatism; and tens of thousands, through some minor derangement of health, are incapable of either fully enjoying the comforts of life or satisfactorily performing the duties of their station. To all such, whatever may be the nature, cause, or extent of their illness or inefficiency, a speedy and effectual remedy is now offered in the recent discoveries of DR. NAPIER. His medicines, directed to the root of the evil (the debility or derangement of the nervous or vital power), remove disease, renovate the whole frame both in body and mind, and permanently invigorate those powers on which Health, Happiness, Energy, and Longevity depend. For the better accommodation of the Public, Dr. Napier's remedies are now issued in the form of Patent Medicines, and his Neurotonic Pills may be had at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per box. Sold by Neville and Boyd, 23, Maddox-street, Regent-street; Barclay, Farringdon-street; Hannah and Co., Oxford-street; Prout, Strand, and by most respectable vendors of Patent Medicines in Town or Country. The Medicines are also made up in the form of a Cordial, 4s. 6d. and 11s. per bottle. A box of pills and a paper containing cases and instructions forwarded post free for Fifteen Penny Stamps, addressed to DR. NAPIER, 23, MADDOX-STREET, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.

MATRIMONY MADE EASY; or, HOW TO WIN A LOVER.

Miss ELLEN DAWSON will send free to any address, on receipt of thirteen postage stamps, plain directions to enable Ladies or Gentlemen to win the affections of as many of the opposite sex as their hearts may desire. The proposal is simple, and so captivating and enthralling that all may be married, irrespective of age, appearance, or position; and last, though not least, it can be arranged with such ease and delicacy that detection is impossible.

YOUR CHARACTER SEEN IN YOUR HANDWRITING.

The ORIGINAL GRAPHIOLOGIST continues with immense success to delineate the character of individuals from a Graphiological examination of their handwriting. All persons desirous of testing this new and interesting science are invited to forward a specimen of their own or their friends' writing, stating age, sex, and profession, enclosing thirteen postage stamps, and they will receive, per return, an unerring description of their mental and moral qualities, pointing out gifts and defects hitherto unsuspected, with their probable influence on future life, with advice in all cases of distress, doubt, and difficulty.

The many thousands who have thankfully acknowledged the value of advice given, and the accuracy of Miss Dawson's delineation of character, establish the truth and value of the science beyond a doubt.

AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

"Many thanks for your description of my friend's character; it confirms all that I have been told of him. The value and importance of Graphology is indeed immense—false friends may be detected, and the character of all in whom we are interested correctly known."—Miss Lee, St. Ives.

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By ELLEN DAWSON.

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"A very instructive little work. The authoress evidently understood her subject."—Glasgow Daily Mail.

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By order of the Council,
 11, Poultry, Jan. 20, 1851. Z. HUBBERTY, Sec.

CHANCERY REFORM.—A PUBLIC MEETING

will be held at the HALL of COMMERCE, Threadneedle-street, on THURSDAY, Jan. 30, to co-operate with the Chancery Reform Association in its efforts to obtain an entire revision of the Equity Practice of the Court of Chancery. The chair will be taken at two o'clock precisely by the Right Honourable Lord ERSKINE, and the Meeting will be addressed by other Noblemen and Members of Parliament.

Tickets for reserved seats may be had at the Offices of the Association, No. 6, Essex-street, Strand; and of Mr. Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange.

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REDEMPTION SOCIETY'S SEVENTH RESCRIPT

for the ELECTION of MEMBERS to go to the SOCIETY'S ESTABLISHMENT in WALES.—Owing to the increase in the boot and shoe business recently established, it has been determined to elect two more MEN'S BOOT AND SHOE MAKERS, who must be good workmen. A young woman who can manage a dairy is also wanted, from eighteen to thirty years of age.

Testimonials as to character, and applications for election, to be sent on or before the 15th of February, 1851. All parties applying will have to pay their own expenses to the estate. The Society wish it also to be clearly understood that they may occasionally be required to work at farm-work. As a rule, they will be kept at their own trades, but when emergency requires they will be expected to give assistance.

The ELECTION will take place in LEEDS, on THURSDAY, February 27, at Eight o'clock in the evening, in the large room of Hall's Temperance Hotel, Heaton's-court, Briggate.

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