

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.

Contents :

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	Page	Swedish Superstition.....	147	PORTFOLIO—		Provinces	158
Parliament of the Week	142	Miscellaneous	147	Fetching Water from the Well	155	OPEN COUNCIL—	
The Dotation Bill	143	PUBLIC AFFAIRS—		Sketches from Life.....	155	Sir Edward Sugden and the Court of	
Pleasures of Prussian Citizenship..	144	Challenge to H.M. Opposition	149	THE ARTS—		Chancery	159
Industry in Disorder	144	The Eye of the Police upon Us!.....	151	Amateur Performance for the Bene-		The Ecclesiastical Courts	160
Repeal of the Window Tax	145	The Protectionist Policy	151	fit of Miss Kelly	156	An Austrian Token of Friendship..	160
The Great Revenue Trial	145	Commercial Morality	151	EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY	157	Penalties of Disbelief	160
Protestantism and Popery	145	Government Pledges	151	DEMOCRATIC INTELLIGENCE—		Huddersfield Mechanics' Institution	160
Audubon, the Ornithologist.....	146	LITERATURE—		Ion's Letters on Political Suicide ..	157	Letters on Unitarianism	161
The late Lord Bexley	146	Fourier on the Passions	152	Letters to Chartists.....	157	Jane Wilbred's Education	161
Dinner of the German Club.....	146	Lavengro	153	General Bem. Louis Blanc's Oration	158	Newspaper Taxes	161
A Melodramatic Plunder Scene	146	Sir Isaac Newton and Professor Coles	154	ASSOCIATIVE PROGRESS—		COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
Murders of the Week	146	Books on our Table	155	Mr. Walter Cooper's Tour in the		Markets, Gazettes, &c.	161-62

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News of the Week.

RETRIBUTION has fallen on the Prime Minister who excited the prejudices and passions of the People, in a canting appeal to their Protestantism, for the purposes of his own tottering Ministry. The disturbance, which he hoped to use as a diversion, has turned upon himself; while he thought to persecute others, he has himself become a hunted animal. The story of the debate is the story of his sinking. Beginning with a retrospective history of Romish encroachment and patriotic resistances to it, his first speech dwindled into gossip about what the Pope had said to Lord Minto, and what Lord Minto had not said to the Pope; by Monday, the discussion had acquired all the tedium of an adjourned debate; the Premier had not command of the House sufficient to take the Tuesday which Mr. Disraeli had appropriated for his idle motion about agricultural distress; and the great Ministerial measure was turned over to a day-sitting on Wednesday. Disastrous day! New discoveries awaited Lord John: Mr. Keogh had detected the Queen in a breach of the Coronation oath, by violating the Scottish Union statute in a recognition of the prelacy of Presbyterian Scotland—a decided aggression; Mr. Oswald avowed that the Free Kirk of Scotland had taken a position not different from that of the Roman Catholics of England; and Mr. Hume detected Ministers in touching up their measure while it was under debate—it had evidently grown bigger in the interval between Lord John's introduction and Sir John Romilly's defence. On this inauspicious day Lord John Russell finally gave up all pretence at consistency—confessed that he had been wrong when he had thought titular distinctions "puerile" and Popish pretensions harmless. He had scarcely made that avowal, too late for free ingenuousness, too early for indomitable stubbornness,—before the clock, striking six, tolled the adjournment of the House, and of Lord John's motion.

He tried to use this No-Popery hubbub for a purpose, but his cunning has turned against himself; it has brought upon him nothing but weakness and disgrace. The disorganization of his party which has taken place was a real judgment on him for his incendiary Durham letter—the proper punishment for perverting sacred things to purposes unsacred.

Are we wrong in supposing that Sir Joshua Walmsley extorted from Lord John's own lips the true commentary on his no-Popery agitation, when the Premier confessed that he had no intention of introducing his measure for the extension of the suffrage this year, and that he should not introduce measures which he thought necessary for the amendment of the Reform Bill until the proper time. Some of Lord John's best notices are given for the Greek kalends.

[TOWN EDITION.]

But the weakness which he courts for himself seems not unlikely to encourage the strength of others. The agitation against the window tax had some spice of humbug in it, while it was a mere move among Ministerialists to back Sir Charles Wood's own intention by a "pressure from without:" it proved itself to be something more genuine at the aggregate meeting at Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday night, when Chartists were seen united with the middle class; for that union means more than the mere repeal of the window tax. The same union manifested itself with no small effect when the meeting against the paper duties was converted into a meeting against the taxes on knowledge; and the development of the "Newspaper Tax Abolition Committee" into the new "Association for promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge" is a proper sequel to that union.

Mr. Disraeli entertained the House of Commons on Tuesday with a demonstration of the Protectionist forces: as a response to the passage in the Royal Speech touching upon the agricultural distress, he moved a resolution calling upon the Ministers to take measures for the relief of that distress; and in his speech he hinted at the sort of measures that he should expect—transfer of local burdens to the national funds, repeal of the malt-tax, and so forth. The very form of his motion deprived it of practical cogency: he proclaimed that he should not attempt the renewal of Protection in the present Parliament; and though he spoke manfully, with no sparing of statistics *à la mode*, it was with the tone of a man who anticipates failure.

Yet he had a strength in that weakness of Ministers, and, if his motion had not been of a kind to preclude aid from many who distrust the Whigs, he would have turned the adverse majority into one against Ministers. It was a narrow division as it was: Ministers could only muster 281 against Mr. Disraeli's 267; although the Protectionist was necessarily opposed by Cobden and the Free Traders, and by Sir James Graham and the Peel party. Lord John's anti-Papal agitation, however, now told upon himself with fearful effect: he had alienated the once docile Irish members! The desponding tone of the Premier showed the sense he had of his position—he already began to speak of "embarrassments." It is quite evident that if Mr. Disraeli's motion were followed up by one of an explicit and substantial kind, but comprehensive enough to include the Bright and Cobden party, pledged not to obey mere "Ministerial" traditions, the Cabinet must go.

Several disorders of the labouring community, in different quarters, are a practical comment on the boasts of our surface prosperity; still more on the imperfect state of the laws regulating labour. At Carlisle the weavers are in so miserable a state that the Poor Law Commissioners have been obliged to send down a special commissioner to inquire. We have before observed that, on any severe trial, the

present law, with its workhouse test, breaks down and what have the Commissioners done at Carlisle? They have ordered industrial employment for the paupers. But, as usual, with the vulgar notion of a mere labour-test, they have appointed an unsuitable employment for weavers.

The wholesale riot of 400 paupers, in a workhouse near Ipswich, draws attention to the state of the labouring class in that part of the country. It is monstrous: unable to find fully continuous employment for their labourers, and anxious to keep wages down to a beggarly level, the farmers have generally connived at a wholesale admission of the labouring class to poor-law relief during the dead season; it is fair to presume that such a gross abuse of the law has been attended by proportionately gross laxities of administration and discipline; and now we see the pauperized labourers of Suffolk breaking out as refractory paupers. To those who remember the demoralizing effects of pauper idleness, or merely vexatious labour-tests, this workhouse eruption is quite intelligible.

The accession of Liverpool to the Sailors' strike in the North, gives a new importance to the movement, which has now continued for some weeks. The Mercantile Marine Bill was a measure conceived with the best intentions—to strengthen the efficiency of the commercial navy; but the Sailors complain, and apparently with justice, that it imposes strange and needless restrictions upon them. They particularly complain of the registration tickets, as giving them a character of bondage. Probably the advantages desired might have been attained by a more purely permissive method. We know well, that the system of tickets, or *livrets*, has worked with a very tyrannical operation in France; where both harsh masters and an overbearing police have done their best to crush the independence of the working man. The plan should be, to impart to the ticket more the character of a degree, honorary and beneficial to the owner. The misunderstandings on this point, remind us how much Parliament is betrayed into mistaken and mischievous legislation, because there is no representation of the working classes in the National Council.

The week has been fertile in murders, but they have not been of a remarkable kind. The most curious story is that divulged at Todmorden, by what proves to have been a false accusation of the crime: a man engaged to a young woman for his second wife, is accused by the first wife on her death-bed with poisoning her, and much fainter circumstantial evidence has brought equally innocent men to the scaffold.

The man who has been threatening the life of Lord John seems to be crazy. But the mere sound of threats on Lord John's life recalls one's sympathy for the man—oppose the Premier as we may.

Burglary is the crime paramount just now in England: the new "Maidstone gang" has been cap-

tured, after a prosperous career, comprising some score of housebreakings.

Our English robbers, however, are outdone by the more picturesque bandits of the Roman States, whose last exploit has been to surprise a town, and hold it, while contributions were levied.

Prince Louis Napoleon has not been half so successful: instead of surprising the French Assembly, that august body has surprised him, by kicking out his Dotation Bill; and the Prince President is fain to fall back on the spontaneous "benevolences" of his subjects.

PARLIAMENT OF THE WEEK.

Considering the very exciting nature of the topic, the great debate on Papal Aggression has been carried on in a very subdued style. On Monday evening the Ultra-Protestant party was represented by Lord Ashley and Mr. Page Wood, but neither of those two speakers indulged in language of a very intolerant character. Lord ASHLEY laboured hard to prove that the appointment of Cardinal Wiseman as Archbishop of Westminster was a very serious affair. There was a great deal in a name. When our Government sent out a Bishop to the East, he was not called Bishop of Jerusalem, but "Bishop of the United Church of England and Ireland, resident in Jerusalem." When Louis Philippe was raised to the throne in 1830, it was on the express condition that he should be called, not King of France, but King of the French. A similar stipulation was made with Leopold, King of the Belgians. If the Pope thought there was nothing in a name, he might have made Dr. Wiseman Archbishop of the Roman Catholics in Westminster, and then no one could have taken offence. But the introduction of a Roman Catholic hierarchy was not simply for diocesan purposes, it was with a view to synodical action, that being required for the introduction of the canon law. His lordship, at some length described the canon law, as setting itself above the statute law in all that relates to churches, to ecclesiastical persons, to their goods, or to their prejudice. He ascribed the recent aggression to the Puseyite movement, which had inspired the Court of Rome with the belief that England was ready to renounce Protestantism. Had they not also seen, last year, 1800 clergymen of the Church of England, most of them having congregations, upon whom they inculcate their opinions, who came forward and signed a declaration against the royal supremacy? Mr. PAGE WOOD was very anxious to show that the mass of the people who had spoken out on this question were not bigots:—

"He wished, as he had always wished, that the opinions of the large masses of the people of England should have yet more weight and effect than even they now had in that House. He had always wished, and still wished, that the suffrage should be extended, and the effect of that extension must be in a great measure, no doubt, to bring public opinion more strongly to bear upon questions that were discussed in that House; but he trusted he should be able to show there had been no feeling of bigotry in this matter whatsoever. It was true there had been great earnestness. (Hear.) He did not speak of individual displays of bigotry, but of the views and resolutions adopted and agreed to by large meetings of our fellow-countrymen. (Hear.) He did not speak of individual speeches, but of the resolutions passed, and he said those resolutions had in the main redounded to the honour, good sense, and judgment of our countrymen. (Hear.)"

He endeavoured to show that Cardinal Wiseman and the Roman Catholic bishops lately appointed were liable to an action at common law. They had clearly infringed the 16th of Richard II., and as clearly the 13th of Elizabeth. He condemned the clergymen of the Church of England, who continue to perform the offices of one church, while preparing to pass over to another. But the clerical defection to Rome is not so very great after all. In nine years only about seventy clergymen have gone over, no very alarming number out of 16,000. As for the proposed bill, nothing more was needed than a simple solemn recital of the position of the Sovereign in spiritual matters, and of the illegality of creating those sees without her consent. The chief speakers on the Ministerial side were the Attorney-General and Sir George Grey. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained the nature of the bill which is to be brought forward. The offence which it was intended to meet was of a twofold nature. The late act of the Court of Rome was an insult to the British Crown, and it threatened to inflict injury upon the Roman Catholics resident in this country. It is mainly to the latter object that the provisions of the bill are directed:—

"It was said the effect of the bull in temporal matters would be to give to certain persons assuming the titles of archbishops or bishops of dioceses and sees the power of dealing with appointments relating to religious endowments made by Roman Catholics; that it would enable them to deal with the property given to support charities, or for other religious purposes, in a different and more extensive manner than at present, and that the result would be to give to those prelates powers not intended to be conceded to them by the persons who founded those institutions. Now, it was of importance, he apprehended, to stop the assumption by any person

being, or pretending to be, as undoubtedly these bishops must profess themselves to be, under the canon law and dependent on the Pope of Rome, of dealing with the rights and interests of British subjects in a manner different from and inconsistent with the manner which had hitherto obtained."

The bill will therefore, in the first place, extend the provisions of the Roman Catholic Relief Act, which imposed a penalty of £100 upon any person who assumed the title of any existing see, to that of any title whatever from any place in the United Kingdom. It will also make every act done by persons assuming such titles, in their character of bishops or archbishops, null and void, and any devise of real or personal property given to any such person by his title will be forfeited to the Crown. This will not prevent bequests to Roman Catholic clergymen for pious or charitable purposes, if properly worded, if granted, for example, to Dr. Wiseman, and not to the Archbishop of Westminster. The measure was urgently required for the protection of the Roman Catholic laity, and he had no doubt that many of them felt quite as strongly on the subject as their Protestant fellow-countrymen did. Sir GEORGE GREY replied to three charges which had been brought against the Government—that they recognised the Roman Catholic hierarchy by giving titles of honour and respect to heads of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland; that they habitually addressed Roman Catholic Bishops in Ireland by titles not permitted by law; and lastly, that a member of the Government was aware of the intentions of the Court of Rome, and that to the propositions contained in the apostolical letter a tacit, if not an expressed consent was given. The appearance of Dr. Murray's name in the *Dublin Gazette*, as "Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin" was owing to inadvertence on the part of the gentleman in the Lord Chamberlain's Office, who copied out the names. The second charge he declared to be untrue, and the third was equally unfounded. With respect to the statement of Abbate Hamilton quoted by Mr. Roebuck, he admitted that the Abbate had written to Lord Minto, who, in return, acknowledged that he had received intimation of the intention to make Dr. Wiseman an archbishop, but repeated that, down to the promulgation of the bull he had been in total ignorance of any design to establish a hierarchy. The bill was opposed by Mr. McCULLAGH who said they were not justified, as a Parliament not exclusively of any denomination, in setting open the gates of sectarian legislation. He could not see that any case had been made out for the intervention, by Parliament, in the internal discipline of the Catholic Church. Mr. REYNOLDS maintained that the bill was an infraction of the agreement entered into with the Catholics when the Emancipation Act was passed in 1829. They had been told by Mr. Anstey that there were two descriptions of Catholics—the Catholics of the Church of Rome, and the Catholics of the Court of Rome. For his part, although he had always been a Catholic he had never heard of these two classes. But if there were two sections of Catholics the honourable member of Youghall must belong to both. "He was a Catholic of the Court of Rome, for the late Pope Gregory XVI. conferred on him the order of St. Gregory." (A laugh.) He was, in fact, "the Honourable Sir Chisholm Anstey." (Laughter.)

In the adjourned debate, on Wednesday, the Ministerial cause was very feebly represented. Mr. NAPIER, formerly secretary to the Brunswick Clubs of Ireland, contended that too much had been yielded to Papacy and to Ireland, and those concessions had led to the present aggression. Colonel THOMPSON said it was easy to see that there was aggression, if they would only look for it in the right place:—

"When the French general had brought back the Pope to Rome over the bodies of his subjects—(hear)—a message was brought to this country from Rome, in which might be traced the memory of Waterloo, and which, with an amiable consistency, and in strict accordance with the custom of States, between whom friendly relations existed, contained an allusion to the exiled family of James II. Then, again, if the Pope had chosen a member of some aristocratic English family for the dignity of Cardinal the case would have been somewhat different, but he had selected a person of Spanish birth for this dignity. Such things were not politic or wise, and they were not anything if they were not aggressive and haughty. He believed the language of *L'Univers* had been not, as was represented, that the time had come for restoring Catholicity in England, but that the time had come for putting down Protestantism by force of arms. ('Hear, hear!' and 'Oh, oh!') Was that a friendly interlocation on the part of the French Catholics?"

Mr. SPOONER advised Lord John to throw himself upon the Protestant feeling of the country, if he found himself unfairly pressed.

Mr. P. H. HOWARD denied that the Roman Catholic laity needed any protection against their Bishops, as had been alleged. The proposed measure involved an aggression upon the rights of property, but he ventured to tell the Government that "not only their legal ingenuity, but their physical endurance would be highly tested before they were able to carry into effect this persecuting enactment."

Mr. KNOGH repudiated the doctrine that Roman Catholics submitted to their priests in temporal matters, and pointed out the inconsistency of Ministers in declining to receive an address signed "John, Archbishop of Tuam," while they received one signed by the Bishops of Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Argyle, "although the recognition of those titles was contrary to the statute law of Scotland, and in direct contravention of the oath taken by the Queen at her coronation." Mr. ANSTAY declared his intention to move the exclusion of Ireland from the bill. Mr. HUMPHREYS lamented the difficulties thrown in the way of financial reform by the proposed measure. He remembered the time when 8000 men could maintain peace in Ireland; at present they required 45,000, and they would need 45,000 more if they began to persecute the Irish Roman Catholics. Mr. OSWALD could see no difference between the establishment of a Roman Catholic hierarchy and the establishment of a Free Church of Scotland, by the men who seceded from the Established church. Government had no more right to prevent the synodical action of the Roman Catholic bishops than it had to prevent the action of the general assembly of the free church of Scotland.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL replied at some length, with the intention of closing the debate. He distinctly denied that he had had any knowledge of the intention of the Pope to issue his bull. His opinions in 1844 had been quoted to prove his inconsistency. He had said that it was puerile and absurd to prevent the assumption of the titles held by the bishops of our church by the bishops of the Roman Catholic church. But if he had been mistaken then in the confidence he placed in the conduct of the Roman Catholic ecclesiastics and of the Pope, his best course was clearly and plainly to avow that he had been mistaken and to take his measures accordingly.

Mr. FAGAN, claiming a right to be heard, moved the adjournment of the debate. Mr. LAWLESS seconded the motion, and was speaking in support of it at six o'clock, when the House adjourned, in accordance with the standing order, which causes the motion to drop.

Tuesday night was occupied with the debate on agricultural distress. At the request of Mr. Disraeli, the following portion of the royal speech relative to the condition of the country, was read by the clerk:—

"Notwithstanding the large reductions of taxation which have been effected in late years, the receipts of the revenue have been satisfactory. The state of the commerce and manufactures of the united kingdom has been such as to afford general employment to the labouring classes. I have to lament, however, the difficulties which are still felt by that important body among my people who are owners and occupiers of land; but it is my confident hope that the prosperous condition of other classes of my subjects will have a favourable effect in diminishing those difficulties and promoting the interests of agriculture."

This admission of agricultural distress, Mr. DISRAELI said, rendered it unnecessary that he should bring forward any evidence on the subject. All parties were agreed as to the existence of great and continued depression among the owners and occupiers of the soil. There was "general prosperity" and "particular distress," both caused by recent legislation. The distress had lasted several years, and was owing, as he contended, to large importations of foreign grain and the very great reduction which has taken place in the prices of agricultural produce, a reduction much greater than any one contemplated some years ago. In 1849, the Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted the existence of distress, but then it was quite partial, and was chiefly felt in the south. The depression in prices, too, was of a temporary nature, not so much owing to foreign importations as to "the language held at agricultural meetings." The fact, however, was, that the average price of meat at Smithfield was 3s. 8½d., whereas, at the time of "temporary depression," to which the Chancellor referred, it was 4s. 5½d. Mutton is now 4s. 2d., it was then 5s. 2d. He quoted this merely to show that it was possible for that gentleman to form an erroneous opinion upon this important subject. Then there was the honourable member for Westbury, a member of the administration, a gentleman distinguished for his statistical acquirements and economical information, who proved that France could not send us a single quarter of wheat. The member for South Lancashire took equal pains to show that the English farmer enjoyed a natural protection against foreign importation, in the article of freight, amounting to 11s. a quarter on wheat imported from America. What was the fact? The eleventh part of 11s. would more accurately describe the real amount of that protection; and, as regards the continent, the expense of transport, generally speaking, was not greater than from port to port in this country:—

"My object in making these observations is not in any way to build upon this question any argument for reversing, or resettling, or questioning the propriety of that legislation which even these false estimates and calculations have led you to adopt. Your legislation might be politic, and it may be beneficial; but these are not the questions I am going into; still, politic as your legislation may be, beneficial as may be its consequences, you cannot deny that all your estimates were wrong, and all your calculations were erroneous. (Great cheering)

from the Protectionists.) Well, the moral I draw from this circumstance is this, that as great men our most distinguished men on both sides, upon this subject have unfortunately not been as sagacious as we always gave them credit for being, it is a reason why they should approach this subject not in a spirit of haughtiness and contempt—nor with an overweening confidence in their own judgment and information; but that, seeing that a most important part of the people of this country is in a state of continued depression, remarking the strange anomaly that that depression, that continued depression, is concurrent with what you call general prosperity, and which I accept as general prosperity; that, observing these things, they will feel it their duty, in a spirit of more temper and more patience than they have hitherto shown, to proceed to investigate this great subject, and take that course which I think both justice and policy recommend us to adopt."

They were told that this was not a farmer's question, that it was merely a question of rent. If the owners of the soil would only reduce their rents, or sacrifice them altogether, there would be no room for complaint. This was a most dangerous error. The truth was, that the tendency of all their late commercial legislation had been to ruin the farmer—to reduce the agricultural community to two classes—the proprietor and the peasant. Let him not be understood as questioning the fact of general prosperity. He accepted the description of the condition of the people, as given in the Queen's speech. Let him not then be met with reports of Poor Law Commissioners and registrars-general; don't prove to him that pauperism had decreased and marriages had increased. All that only proved his case. He did not wish to attack the new commercial system, but to ask them to adapt the position of the owners and occupiers of land to that new system. Let no one support him under the notion that this was an attempt to bring back protection in disguise:—

"I, for one, cannot consent that the laws which regulate the industry of a great nation should be made the shuttlecock of party strife. (Cheers.) I say that if I thought I might by a chance majority bring back the system called 'protection,' I would shrink from it. That is a thing which must be done out of the house, and done out of the house by no chance majority, but by the free, unfettered expression of public opinion, and no other result can be satisfactory to any class, or conducive to the general welfare."

But was there no way by which they could assist the agricultural classes, seeing that they alone were suffering, while all other classes were prosperous? Out of the great mass of taxation, the three most considerable items—customs, excise, and local burdens amount to nearly £50,000,000. The greater part of this was paid by the land. Nearly one-half of the Customs' duties is raised by restricting and prohibiting agricultural industry; two-thirds of the inland revenue are raised by enormous imposts upon agricultural productions; and seven-twelfths of our local revenues are paid by direct contribution upon agricultural purses. Then there was the income and property tax, more than one half of which was levied upon landowners, whose rents have been reduced, and farmers who are making no profits. He did not come forward with any specific measure of relief. That was the duty of the Ministry. It was intolerable that, in a period of general prosperity, a suffering class should exist; a class suffering from unjust legislation, and that no steps should be taken to improve their condition:—

"This House has now an opportunity which ought not to be lightly abandoned—a golden occasion which it is not easy to find paralleled in the records of any Parliament of England. They may perform a great office, and fulfil an august duty. They may step in and do that which the Minister has shrunk from doing. They may terminate the bitter controversy of many years. They may bring back what Lord Clarendon has called, 'The good old temper of the people of England.' (Cheers.) They may terminate this unhappy controversy between town and country. (Hear, hear.) They may build up again the fortunes of the land of England—of that land to which we owe so much of our power and freedom—which has fulfilled the union of those two politics, for combining which a Roman emperor was deified—*imperium et libertas*, and this not by favour, not by privilege, not by sectarian arrangements, not by class legislation, but by asserting the principles of political justice and obeying the dictates of social equity. (The honourable member concluded by moving his resolution, and resumed his seat amid loud cheering.)"

Sir CHARLES WOOD thought it was rather unreasonable to ask the House to come to any definite conclusion after the very "hodge podge speech" they had heard. Every subject which had been discussed in connection with agricultural distress during the last five years had been thrown into that medley, except one—the condition of the agricultural labourers. In 1849 the advocates of agricultural protection rested their whole case upon the injury which free trade had done to the labourer. All that was forgotten now:—

"The honourable gentleman has now brought forward this question with an anxiety to omit that subject, because every argument and prophecy brought forward by honourable gentlemen advocating those views have been signally falsified. I do not say there may not be some parishes or unions in which this improvement has not taken place, but I assert broadly and without fear

of contradiction that the agricultural labourer never in the memory of man was so prosperous as at this moment—(hear, hear)—and even where a reduction of wages has taken place it has not been commensurate with the advantage the labourer has derived from the reduction in the price of his food and necessary luxuries of life."

The effect of this impoverishment was visible in the diminished cost of pauperism. During the two years ending at Michaelmas last the reduction in the expense was £802,000. In Ireland the number of persons receiving outdoor relief had diminished from 1,419,000 in September, 1848, to 370,000 in September, 1850. It was true that the money wages of the labourer were lower now than at some former periods, but the fall in the price of all articles of food enabled him to live better now than when food was dear. As for the landlords, he could not believe that there was any great prospect of a break up among them when he found that rents were giving way so very little. Much complaint was made of the burdens on agriculture. The half of the customs, they were told, was raised "by restricting and prohibiting agricultural industry." This referred to the prohibition upon the cultivation of tobacco in this country. The truth was that the entire market value of the tobacco imported in Great Britain annually did not exceed £500,000, and for this sum they were called upon to give up £4,500,000 of revenue. A similar burden on agriculture was the £15,000,000 or £16,000,000 a year raised from malt and spirits, although everybody knew that these taxes were mainly paid by the consumer and not by the producer. As for the attempt to relieve the landed interest by a transfer of a portion of the local burdens from real property, it was little or no good to the agriculturists, while, on the other hand, it would transfer a portion of those taxes from a class well able to bear them, to the community generally, many of whom were not so well able. He was not in favour of any great change in our fiscal and commercial system. Looking at the working of it since 1841, we have abolished or reduced taxes yielding £10,763,000 a-year, and imposed new taxes amounting to £5,655,000, leaving a balance of reduction amounting to £5,158,000; and yet in the face of that repeal of taxes the revenue had increased £4,726,000 since 1841. Again, look at our exports, Mr. Disraeli had referred to 1846 as a year of great prosperity. In that year the value of our exports was £57,786,000; whereas last year they would not be less than £70,000,000. He concluded by calling upon the House to reject Mr. Disraeli's motion, which was substantially the same as that of last year.

Mr. HODGSON contradicted the flourishing statements of Sir Charles Wood. They would not apply to Cumberland and the adjoining counties. There were hundreds of workmen out of work in Carlisle. The only remedy for the prevailing distress was a large reduction of taxation, and he would support any motion for that from whatever side of the House it came. Mr. GRANTLEY BERKELEY and Mr. SANDARS both complained of Ministers for their indisposition to give any relief to the agriculturists.

The debate of Thursday evening was much more animated than that of Tuesday. The Protectionists had mustered in great strength, and the disorganised condition of the Irish section and the Ministerial party caused much apprehension among the Whigs as to the result of the division. The Marquis of GRANBY opened the discussion by trying to show that the condition of the labourer would be better with dear than with cheap food. Sir J. GRAHAM followed in an elaborate speech full of statistical details to prove the benefits of free trade, especially to the mass of the people. He warned the Protectionists to be on their guard. "They may convulse the country, they may endanger property, they may shake our institutions to their foundation, but there was no power in England which could permanently enhance the price of bread." (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Mr. BOOKER—as Mr. Cobden subsequently remarked—"plunged into the wide ocean of statistics, without compass or rudder," where we shall not attempt to follow him. He was followed by Mr. LABOUCHERE, and Mr. CARDWELL opposed the motion, and Mr. CAYLEY, Colonel DUNNE, Lord JOCELYN, Mr. B. COCHRANE, and Mr. MOORE supported it. Mr. COBDEN warned the Protectionists against engaging in a new strife with the wants and will of the people. The real way to relieve the farmers was to reduce the Government expenditure. Lord JOHN RUSSELL, who was evidently alarmed at the threatening aspect of the House, said "if he were not persuaded that much more than the embarrassment or even the fate of a Ministry was involved in the result of the discussion, he should not think it necessary to speak at any length on the question." He warned the Protectionists to beware lest they threw the country into confusion, and paralyzed trade by an insane attempt to restore Protection. Mr. DISRAELI ridiculed the notion that there was any danger to the country in carrying out his motion. The Queen's speech had admitted that the agriculturists were suffering. What more just and proper, then, than that the House should show its readiness to relieve that distress, if possible. He concluded a speech full of wit and sarcasm, directed mainly against Sir Charles Wood,

Mr. Cobden, and Lord John, by calling upon the House not to be moved by the mock terrors which Lord John affected to feel.

The House having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion..... 267
Against it 281

Majority 14

The announcement was received with much cheering by the Protectionists.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM. — In reply to Sir Joshua WALMSLEY, Lord John Russell stated, on Tuesday evening, that Ministers do not intend to take any steps to extend the suffrage this session. As to the deficiencies of the Reform Act of 1832, said his Lordship—

"I have, on a previous occasion, expressed my opinion to the House that there were certain amendments to the Reform Bill which I thought it was desirable to make, with a view to the extension of the franchise. (Hear, hear.) I still retain that opinion, and I shall certainly carry it out when I think the proper time has arrived for doing so. ('Oh, oh!' and loud laughter.)"

THE PATENT LAWS. — Sir George Grey stated, on Monday, that the Attorney-General is at present engaged upon a bill for a general alteration of the patent laws, which will be introduced when properly matured. A temporary bill is also to be introduced by the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, for the purpose of giving protection to patterns, designs, and inventions during the Exhibition, but for that single object only.

THE DOTATION BILL.

M. Piscatory's report on the Dotation Bill was presented to the Assembly on Saturday. The total amount required for the President turns out to be altogether 3,425,000 francs (about £140,000), whereas the mere salary fixed by the Constitution is only 500,000 francs (about £24,000). The committee contend that the President has no need of such an advance of salary to enable him to maintain the suitable style and dignity of the great power with which he is invested. To give so large an income, they allege, would place him in a position out of all proportion with those around him, in a country where property is so much divided. Much as they desire to maintain the executive power they have no wish to aggrandize it. The Presidency is not Royalty. The President is only the first citizen. He is not the head of the state, he is only the head of the Executive power. This sentiment was received with much approbation. Last year a supplemental salary was voted in the hope that the prudence of the Executive power would respond to the benevolence of the Assembly. It sacrificed its fears, lest the Dotation should become a means of influence—a political instrument to the desire of maintaining harmony between the two powers of the state. That confident expectation had not been fulfilled, and the Assembly, justly alarmed, could no longer keep silence.

M. Piscatory having concluded his report, a discussion took place as to whether the debate on the bill should be fixed for Monday or Tuesday. Ministers were in favour of 306, but the Assembly decided, by 358 votes against 306, that it should take place on Monday. Generals Cavaignac and Changarnier both voted in the majority.

In the discussion on Monday, M. de Royér, Minister of Justice, said the Government did not make it a question of money, but of the highest political order. M. de Montalembert was the chief speaker in support of the Dotation. "He did not come forward as the advocate or friend of the President, but as a mere witness, and he declared, with his hand on his heart, that Louis Napoleon had faithfully accomplished the mission he had received, of restoring society, reestablishing order, and repressing democracy." He went on to denounce the Republic, which, he contended, had been overthrown by the election of Louis Napoleon. "Six millions of citizens, in elevating to the Presidency the son of a King, and the nephew of the Emperor, morally killed the Republic." He warned the majority not to persevere in their present hostile course, or they would have cause to repent in 1852.

The peasantry will naturally say "The Whites have always disagreed, let us name the Red." Then, France will neither have the Empire nor the Parliamentary majority, but Socialism.

M. Piscatory, who closed the debate, disclaimed all hostility to the President. The Assembly only wished to give a lesson.

The question having been put, the ballot gave—

For the Dotation..... 294
Against it 396

Majority....102

In anticipation of the rejection of the bill by the Assembly subscriptions were in course of collection in different parts of the country for the purpose of supplying the deficiency which would be created by such an adverse vote. This fact having reached the ears of the President of the Republic, he caused an official notification to be inserted in the *Moniteur* of Tuesday, expressing his great obligations to those concerned in this spontaneous manifestation of sympathy; but declined to receive any such generous contributions, choosing rather to make a personal sacrifice than endanger the repose of the country.

PLEASURES OF PRUSSIAN CITIZENSHIP.

THE IMPENDING EXPULSION OF THE
POET FREILIGRATH.

The political course that will be pursued by Prussia now that she has disbanded her armies and sat herself down with her rival to give peace to the object of their rivalry, has, ever since the return of Count Brandenburg from Warsaw, been a subject of the most lively curiosity. In England it has been sometimes hoped, though it must be confessed but little expected, that some small share of personal freedom would be preserved to the Germans by the influence of the northern power, and that, if only to support herself by an antagonistic principle of government, she would at least set herself against the full prevalence of those absolutist principles to which the whole continent of Europe seems so nearly falling a prey.

The utter fallaciousness of these hopes may be judged of *ex pede*, from the treatment of the poet whose name stands at the head of this article, in which we intend to point out one of the most vexatious persecutions that has come to our knowledge, and which carries in itself the evidence that Prussia has fully resolved to adopt those absolute principles which have hitherto been supposed to bring forth their full fruit only in the East and South. It is well known that Freiligrath was in England from 1846 to 1848, that, owing to the political state of his native country offering him an opportunity of successfully advocating his opinions, he returned to Germany in 1848; at first to Dusseldorf, and after a short stay there joined in the editorship of a republican paper at Cologne. For a poem published in that journal, he was persecuted by the State, but acquitted by the jury; his being the first trial by jury in Prussia for a political offence. After the first successes of the revolutionary party the paper could no longer maintain itself, and Freiligrath retired from Cologne to Bilk, a small village, near Dusseldorf, where he gave himself up to purely literary occupations, publishing a collection of his earlier poems and a masterly translation of the *Venus and Adonis*, entirely withdrawing himself from all political activity.

On his arrival at Dusseldorf he deposited his London passport (granted him as a Prussian by the Chevalier Bunsen) with the police, and received a leave of residence (*ufhaltungs karte*) for a year. At the expiration of this term he applied for its extension, but was told that it could not be granted him, and that in six weeks' time he must depart. On his representing that his wife had just been confined, and that he could not go at such short notice, he was told that he had already received his final answer, and that no other could be expected. On this Freiligrath applied to be admitted as a member of the Commune of Dusseldorf, which, by the law of the 31st of December, 1842, could not be denied him as a Prussian subject, and which admission would give him a settlement in Dusseldorf, and relieve him from dependence upon continued renewals of his leave of residence. To this application the Communal Councillor replied, after much consideration, that the question of his admission could only then be entertained when he had proved that he had not, since 1831, lost his rights to be esteemed a Prussian citizen.

To this Freiligrath replied that he could not be called upon to prove a negative; but that, should any one maintain that he had lost his citizenship, he would be prepared to answer such assertions. He was then told that it was no negative he was called upon to prove, but only a *relative negative* (a truly German distinction), and that he must produce, within fourteen days, official attestations of his legal residences since 1831. In spite of this short time, the requisite attestations were forthcoming, which produced answer to the effect that he had indeed established his citizenship up to the date 1841, but that he had still to prove that he had not since forfeited it; and that, if he did not understand the former requisition, he was at liberty to furnish any positive proof of his citizenship that he pleased. Thus, first negative, then relative negative, and now positive proof! To this he replied by a full account of every place of residence he had occupied up to the year 1841, when he lived at St. Goar, and by proving that he had twice offered himself for conscription; had always paid taxes as a Prussian; that between 1841-8 he had been travelling in Switzerland, France, Belgium, and England; that the Prussian Ambassador had allowed him his passport as a Prussian, on his return in 1848 to his native country; and that the law of December, 1832, clearly stated that a Prussian could only lose his citizenship in one of three ways—either, first, by permission, at his own request; second, by judgment of the courts, in case of refusal to return from a foreign country when called upon to do so; or, third, by a ten-years' absence in foreign countries; and that by none of these clauses could he be proved to have lost it, since he had dwelt in Prussia up to the date 1844, as proved by the legal attestation of the Burghermaster of St. Goar, had never requested to be released from his citizenship, or refused to return to his native country at the requisition of the courts.

To this it was replied that his passport gave him

no title, that it was merely granted him on his own representation that he was a Prussian, that it had also expired, being good only for a year, and that he must give full particulars of where he had lived since 1844; and a further leave of fourteen days was granted him to do so, which fourteen days were reduced to four days by antedating the document ten days. To this Freiligrath replied that it was indifferent to him what they might think of the Chevalier Bunsen's passport, as he had proved, by their own admission, that he was a Prussian subject up to 1844, and that he expected the protection of the law, which they must know, as well as himself, and that it was no part of such law that any Prussian who had left his country for a time should give the full particulars of where he had been at every hour of his absence.

He then appealed to the Ministry at Berlin, who referred the matter to the Council of the Circle to which Dusseldorf belongs, and from that time (last November) to this no answer has been given him in spite of his repeated application for decision in his case. The absence of this decision can only be accounted for in one way, the Government must find in the members of the Council of the Circle an extreme repugnance to expel Freiligrath in the face of the law, and are thus unable to cover an intended act of tyranny with any appearance of legality.

That the proceedings at Dusseldorf are the result of direct orders from Berlin is notorious in that town; but the rigorously constitutional and unexpected resistance of the poet has involved the Government in a difficulty from which it hopes to escape by temporizing and delay, expecting that by wearing out the patience of the object of their pursuit they may be relieved of his presence by his just disgust if they cannot be by the law. That they will be so relieved no one can expect; the whole course of Freiligrath's procedure has been to maintain his legal right, or show his fellow-countrymen how little those legal rights can be relied upon. Such a course of conduct as this cannot fail of sympathy in English minds; this passive resistance is the resistance of the intellect, and as such far more dangerous to absolute governments than an attempt at meeting organized brute force by unorganized, a means which has ever failed, and must always fail those who use it.

But while the matter remains undecided, what is the position of the object of this persecution? Is it not evident that a man constantly expecting an order to quit his country with, perhaps, twelve hours to realize his effects, and remove a wife and four infant children, is more tormented by such a Damocles' sword than by the blow itself? What hope of tranquillity of mind, what possibility of literary exertion? What means of life? What comfort in living? In effect, it is nothing short of gradual starvation, and an amount of tyranny utterly insupportable.

It is highly probable, as suggested by the *Cologne Gazette* of the 5th of the present month, that the purpose of the Government is to follow out this course of delay, till, by repeated postponements and complicated law proceedings (the expense of which Freiligrath has, of course, to meet), they may have so impoverished him, that they may at last refuse him his settlement on the plea that he cannot show grounds for the belief that he can maintain himself without becoming with his family a charge upon the funds of the Commune; that they are capable of such a course is already proved in the case of Baute, alluded to in the above number of the *Cologne Gazette*.

First to ruin a man by law expenses, and then to make his ruin a ground of denying him a justice which could not otherwise be refused, is a refinement of tyranny more in keeping with astute Italian despotism than with anything that could have been expected from a nation professing to hold an advanced place in European intellect.

The revenge lost at the trial we alluded to is thus followed up—as law could not reach its object—police persecution must; and this conduct pursued towards a man who has quite retired from public life, who once enjoyed the king's pension for his literary eminence, which pension he himself resigned on his adoption of Republican views; towards one who has fulfilled every legal duty, furnished every legal attestation required, and set himself in a position from which nothing but an act of absolute power can expel him, is ample testimony to the political views of his Government, and gives the clearest indication of the course to be pursued in Prussia.

Hessian patriots are to be subdued by quartering dragoons upon them till they are ruined, and Prussian poets are to be impoverished by expensive law suits, and then exiled because too poor to be admitted to a local settlement, a consummation calling for an indignant protest on the part of all who have the interests of a free literature at heart.

INDUSTRY IN DISORDER.

CARLISLE HAND-LOOM WEAVERS—SUFFOLK PAUPERS—
SAILORS' STRIKE—MASTERS AND WORKMEN.

The Carlisle papers contain a report of a meeting which took place at the Town-hall last week, to take into consideration the state of the handloom weavers of that town, of whom there are said to be "21 fully employed, 1300 partially employed, and 531 unem-

ployed." Mr. M'Gibbon, a manufacturer, said there was no hope of speedy improvement, and a Mr. Rome said "he had been told by the manufacturing firms with whom he traded that they were actually selling their goods for less than they cost them; and that they would close altogether for a time were it not that by doing so they would lose their connection, and distress would become more prevalent." The Poor-law Commissioners have sent down Mr. Hawley to inquire into the state of matters, and he has ordered that no able-bodied person shall be relieved out of the house except in return for work performed. Before the meeting broke up it was arranged that a number of the men should be employed at trenching, for which they would receive one shilling a-day.

A rather alarming riot occurred at Barham Union-house, near Ipswich, on Sunday evening. The workhouse is very much crowded, there being about 490 inmates at present, of whom 120 are able-bodied men. Among the latter, much dissatisfaction has lately prevailed touching the dietary, and on Sunday evening the mutinous spirit broke out in violence. While at supper, one of the men made a signal, and instantly about forty of them commenced a furious attack on a wooden partition that divided them from the female ward. Governor, schoolmaster, and three police officers interposed, but without success; the partition was smashed, the officers pelted from the premises, the porter struck to the ground and terribly kicked, and the superintendent had to make his escape. Glass, window-frames, benches, floors, tables, chairs, clocks, &c., were smashed, amidst yells of delight. The provision stores were first ransacked. Then the wines speedily disappeared, and the stores of beer were either drunk or wasted. Maddened by drink, the inmates wrenched the fastenings from the doors, stripped the roof of tiles, tore up the brick stone floorings, and made a large breach in a substantial brick wall. Having provided themselves with a good stock of missiles, they showered them over the walls upon any who might happen to be near. The Reverend F. Steward, a magistrate, rode off to Ipswich for a detachment of the military, who arrived about ten o'clock, but they were not allowed to dismount. Two hours later a considerable police force was assembled, and by the aid of a battering-ram the door was broken open. The constables, with drawn cutlasses, rushed upon the rioters, who, after discharging one or two sharp volleys of bricks, stones, and glass, retreated in all directions. There was a hot pursuit, every place was scoured, thirty-seven prisoners, many of them intoxicated, were captured, hurried out of the building, and placed under the guard of the soldiery. On Monday they were examined before the magistrates and committed to take their trial at the next Ipswich quarter sessions, on the charge of destroying the property of the guardians, and of obstructing the police in the execution of their duty.

The agitation against the New Mercantile Marine Bill begins to look rather formidable. The organization in the north-east ports is most complete, comprising Hull, Seaham, Sunderland, Newcastle, Shields, and other towns. The entire shipping trade on that side of the island is stopped. At Shields and Sunderland a good deal of mobbing has taken place. Two men who attempted to sign articles at Sunderland were hustled by a number of seamen and pelted with mud. The women appear to be the most furious in their wrath against recreants. One poor fellow was attacked by a mob of about 200 women, at Shields, and was severely mauled. At North Shields a crimp, who had picked up a few men for a vessel about to sail, had to fly for his life before a crowd of enraged women.

At Liverpool a determined stand has been made against the "registry ticket," one of the main features in the new bill. On Monday a procession of about 1000 sailors, with an effigy of Mr. Labouchere, paraded the town, marched towards the Town-hall, went on 'Change, much to the astonishment of the merchants assembled there, and having walked round the area, proceeded to a suburban district, where they burned Mr. Labouchere in effigy.

William St. Clair's appeal against the decision of Mr. Bingham, one of the magistrates of the Marlborough-street Police Court, under which he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, was heard before Mr. Sergeant Adams, at the Middlesex Sessions, on Monday. Mr. Bodkin, in support of the prosecution, detailed the facts of the case. On the evening of the 21st of November, notice was given to the glaziers employed at the Crystal Palace, that for a day's work each man was to put in fifty-eight panes of glass, for which he would receive 5s. 2d., and so on in proportion for all above that number. This arrangement did not please the men, and more than one half of them struck work. One of those who did so was St. Clair. He wrote to Mr. Fox, the contractor, stating that, unless an arrangement was made with the glaziers, by which they should be enabled to earn a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, an advertisement would appear in all the London papers stating that the building was being botched up by a system of sub-contracting—and that it would, therefore, be worthless and unsafe. On the following Monday, the

men who had struck work went to the building to get the wages due to them, and St. Clair, observing Mr. Fox, asked him to grant him an interview. Mr. Fox inquired his name, and on being told that it was St. Clair, he recollected the letter, and declined to hear anything he had to say, upon which St. Clair said, "I'll make you repent this." Mr. Fox then gave him into custody, and on his person was found a copy of a letter, which he admitted was written and sent by him to Mr. Fox. The magistrate before whom he was taken convicted him of having endeavoured by threats and intimidation to make Mr. Fox alter his mode of conducting his business, which the act made a misdemeanour, and sentenced him to two months' imprisonment, the maximum punishment being three months. Against that conviction St. Clair appealed.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Cochrane were the principal witnesses. They proved the main facts of the case. Mr. Parry, who appeared for the appellant, asked if it was not owing to the worthless and unsafe mode in which the glazing had been done, that so many thousands of panes had been blown off the roof. Mr. Fox denied that so large a number had been blown off. Out of 300,000 panes of glass not more than 250 had been blown off. He denied also that they had reduced wages. The men had struck under that idea; but the truth was that they earned more under the new arrangement than they had done under the old, and when they found out that they were very glad to return. Their average earnings after the alteration were £2 5s. per week.

Mr. Parry addressed the bench, urging that the letter was not of so threatening a character as to warrant the appellant's being subjected to the punishment awarded. Mr. Sergeant Adams held that it was, and the magistrates having concurred, the conviction was confirmed, and St. Clair was committed to prison.

REPEAL OF THE WINDOW TAX.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster was held at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, on Wednesday, at noon, with a view to take steps to impress upon Government the necessity for the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the window tax. Lord Duncan occupied the chair, and was supported by Sir Benjamin Hall, Mr. W. Williams, Mr. Wakley, Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. Lushington, and other members of Parliament. The various speakers strongly condemned the tax as iniquitous in its imposition, and most damaging to health in its operation. In addition to the usual resolutions it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this meeting pledges itself to use every legitimate means to cause the removal of this obnoxious tax from the statute book, and earnestly appeals to all members of Parliament, in the event of the Government refusing its total, immediate, and unconditional repeal, to offer such constitutional resistance to the passing of the supplies as will show that the Ministers no longer possess the confidence of the people."

A resolution was also passed pledging the meeting to oppose "any attempt to reimpose the unpopular house tax." Most of the metropolitan members who spoke declared their intention to vote for stopping the supplies if the window tax were not repealed.

Mr. Ernest Jones, as a representative of the working classes and as a Chartist, in supporting the last resolution, assured the meeting that the working men and Chartists were anxious to support all practical measures of reform.

THE GREAT REVENUE TRIAL.

The Court of Exchequer has been occupied since yesterday week with one of the most important revenue cases ever tried there. The defendants were the London Dock Company, against whom eleven informations were filed by the Attorney-General, to recover the amount of duties alleged to be due in respect of 8000 lb. of foreign cocoa, and 25 cwt. of foreign sugar. The Solicitor-General, Sir F. Thesiger, Mr. Watson, Mr. Ballantine, and Mr. J. Wilde were counsel for the Crown; Sir F. Kelly, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Macaulay, and Mr. Groves appeared for the defendants. The case was opened by the Solicitor-General, who said he was prepared to prove that a systematic plan of abstracting goods under their charge had been carried on by the London Dock Company, by which the merchants of London and the Crown had been grossly plundered. He did not say that individual shareholders or directors were chargeable with a direct knowledge and perpetration of open fraud, but a dishonest system was pursued, which held out strong inducements to the servants to commit depredations on behalf of the company, and the amount being considerable in the year, it helped to swell the dividends, and to "make things pleasant." The company had a most ingenious way of carrying on their frauds, by packing sound sugar in out-of-the-way places, under the pretence that it was sweepings. In one case they appropriated 10 bags of sugar out of a cargo of 900 bags which was shipped for Antwerp, and the whole of the contents of these 10 bags were converted into sweepings by the company's servants. In cocoa the amount of plunder

was very large. Cocoa was an article which hardly admitted of sweepings at all. The whole of the sweepings of cocoa at the West India Docks in sixteen years amounted to only 16lb. At the London Docks, where the importation of cocoa is no greater, the sweepings in one year amounted to 8000lb. This showed that the sweepings were neither more nor less than the grossest depredations on the merchant and fraud on the revenue. By this system of plunder the company had actually obtained a profit equal to the whole of the wages they paid annually.

A number of witnesses were called on the part of the Crown. Among others John Cockshot, a landing surveyor, stated that he had seized a large quantity of sugar of superior quality, which he was told was warehouse sweepings. He seized no less than £4000 of goods. In one day he seized about twenty tons of what they called "sweepings." There was one place, well known among the men as "Davis's corner," a very dark place, where good sugar, under the name of sweepings, was said to be converted into molasses, and sold at 15s. per cwt. At another place, called "the inclined plane," where surplus packages were transferred from the cargoes to which they belonged, in a very mysterious way, if the witnesses might be credited. Another witness said he had been ordered to cut open bags of Mauritius and Manilla sugar, and put the contents of them into casks. Most of the witnesses had formerly been in the service of the Dock Company, and were now employed by the Custom-house. One of them admitted that he had been round to the men in the employment of the Dock Company to induce them to make statements against their employers, but he denied that he had told them what to say. He himself remained three months in the service of the company after he began to give information at the Custom-house. George Goodwin, who had been in the service of the company as a clerk, produced a memorandum book, from which it appeared that the gross amount of the sweepings from 1842 to the present time did not amount to much more than £4000 a-year.

Sir F. Kelly, in his speech on behalf of the Dock Company, said he was prepared to prove that the whole case on the part of the Crown was a gross and wilful fabrication. The London Dock Company had been established in 1795, prior to which it had been proved that frauds to the amount of £172,000 per annum were committed on the revenue in the article of sugar alone, although we did not import one-third of what we do now. So excellent had been the arrangements of the company that property to the amount of £20,000,000 or £30,000,000 had passed through their hands without complaint from the Customs or the mercantile world. "The charges which the Solicitor-General had made and insinuated he repelled with scorn and indignation. The imputations were false from their beginning to their ending; and he threw them back upon those who had cast them upon the London Dock Company in so unscrupulous and disgraceful a manner." The jury must bear in mind the class of witnesses called. According to those witnesses a regular system of felony had been carried on in the London Docks, which a few years ago would have been punishable with death. Then, nearly all the witnesses had been betraying the company—even supposing their statements were true—while eating the bread of the Dock Company.

The examination of the witnesses up to the present time, has not thrown any light into "Davis's corner." On Thursday, the Lord Chief Baron said he was afraid they would not be able to finish the case during the sittings.

PROTESTANTISM AND POPERY.

"John Archbishop of Tuam," has addressed a long epistle, through the *Freeman's Journal*, to Lord John Russell, in which he endeavours to show that the persecution to which the Church is about to be subjected will have the effect of adding to the number of her followers. Alluding to the growth of Romanism in England, as attributable in a great measure to the Irish immigration there, he proceeds as follows:—

"The very persecution which you menace—for disguise it as you will, it is rank persecution—will have the effect of spreading and consolidating the Catholic Church against which its rage is to be directed. The brute force with which your Lordship is about to defend the falling ramparts of the Protestant Establishment will not fail to awaken attention to the congenial instruments to which it has been indebted for its first erection. The consequence of this historical inquiry will be an increasing accession to the ranks of Catholics of those intellectual men whose researches, guided by humility and grace, will open to their view and their abhorrence those appalling scenes of lust and cruelty, and sacrilege, and spoliation by which, in an evil hour, that establishment was ushered into the world. With the increasing numbers of such converts the tide of Catholic immigration to your shores will more than keep pace—an immigration sure to be as steady as the cruelty that continues to propel it will be untiring, until at length you hear the exiled Catholics of Ireland addressing you from every quarter of England in the language of Tertullian—

'We have filled your cities, towns, fields, armies, senate; the 'conventicles' alone we leave to yourselves.'

Dr. Ullathorne, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, has also addressed an epistle to Lord John Russell, in which he asks him whether he deems it wise to put the Roman Catholic hierarchy "in conscientious opposition to the law," he says:—

"Will it aid the sanctions of the State and that opinion which, as your lordship views it, is the best support of law and Government, to force us into a position where, standing, as we are bound to do, upon the law of God and our conscience, we are compelled to count for nothing enactments which we can only consider as assaults upon the cause of Heaven and of our souls—enactments which, in fact, come from no divine fountain of justice, but are the offspring of party contests and sectarian dislikes."

A deputation, consisting of Rear-Admiral Vernon Harcourt, Mr. J. B. Ryder, chairman of the board of guardians of St. Luke's, Chelsea, and Mr. Thomas A. Young, waited, by appointment, upon the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Lambeth Palace, on Tuesday, to present an address, adopted at a meeting of the Protestant laity of St. Luke's, Chelsea, in which they called upon him to exert all his influence to suppress the preaching of corrupt Romish doctrines, and the use of superstitious practices in the church. In reply he said:—

"He hoped he should not be deemed undeserving of their kind opinion, if he were not enabled—owing to the difficulties by which the question was surrounded—to fully carry out their desires. Probably the deputation was not aware of the great difficulty it was for those in power to settle the matters now agitating the church, owing to the present uncertain state of the ecclesiastical law. He agreed with the address, that the popish practices therein complained of did exist in the church, and he deeply regretted that any encouragement thereto should have proceeded from amongst any of the Bishops; he would use all his influence to repress these innovations, and he believed his brethren would do the same. It was gratifying to find that the heart of the public was with them, which would very much encourage and assist them in their efforts to check these objectionable practices; in consequence, however, of the state of the law, great difficulty was experienced in bringing the business before the courts, lest they (the heads of the Church) should be foiled in their attempts to remedy the evils complained of. The subscribers to the address particularly feared the evil of the dissemination of false doctrines; he admitted that it was the great evil, but the doctrine and practice were certainly connected. With respect to erroneous doctrines, so great was the difficulty in suppressing them that though they had long existed in the Church only one case had occurred within the last fifty years, where a person had been condemned on account of erroneous preaching, and he was a Socinian."

A deputation from the three denominations of Dissenting ministers had an audience of the Queen at Windsor Castle, on Tuesday, when they presented an address expressive of their conviction that we are indebted, under God, for our national prosperity and greatness, and especially for our civil and religious liberty, to those principles of the Protestant reformation which placed the House of Brunswick on the throne. They ascribed the recent Romish aggression to the legislative patronage of Popery and the anti-Protestant teachings and practices in the Established Church. They stated their claim for the right of conscience for themselves and others, but they did not consider that these rights would be impaired by her Majesty's disallowance of territorial titles and jurisdiction conferred by the Pope. They prayed that the development of Popery should be only so far permitted as was compatible with the security of the throne and the liberty of the subject. To this address her Majesty returned the following reply:—

"I receive with much satisfaction your renewed assurances of loyalty and attachment to my person and Government. I fully appreciate the importance of a firm adherence to the principles of the Protestant reformation, and you may rely on my earnest desire, in asserting the just prerogatives of my Crown and the constitutional rights of my people, to maintain unimpaired the blessings of civil and religious liberty which are so justly dear to this country."

A long correspondence has taken place between the Bishop of Gloucester and certain members of the congregation of St. Mark's Church, New Swindon, who are dissatisfied with their minister, the Reverend Mr. Hodgson, on account of his Puseyite tendencies. The Bishop takes Mr. Hodgson's part on most points, and the grumblers are not at all pleased.

Sir J. Stapleton, brother of Lord Beaumont, and a recent seceder from the Church of Rome, writes to the *Globe* reminding Protestants that the temporalities of every sect are a proper subject for legislation, and that through these "we may strike a blow at the Pope without endangering religious liberty." He recommends that the administration of charities be left to a central board, and local boards formed of Roman Catholic laymen. At present the properties are administered by the clergy, who depend on the bishops, who, in their turn, are appointed at Rome. "Such a measure," says Sir J. Stapleton, "would give a death-blow to the Ultramontane party,"—but it might prove a two-handed sword.

The Earl of Winchelsea has published an address on the Papal question, in which he says:—"Fellow-countrymen, brother Protestants,—The milk-and-water measure proposed by her Majesty's Prime Minister last night against the recent act of Popish aggression is a gross insult to the Protestant feeling of this country. If you value the maintenance of our civil and religious liberties let no time be lost in addressing the Crown for a dissolution of Parliament, and for taking the sense of the country upon a question which involves everything which is dear to us as Englishmen and Protestants."

The *Limerick Reporter*, a main authority on Romish ecclesiastical affairs, announces that the Pope has conferred the dignity of Cardinal on Dr. Cullen, "Lord Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland, and Apostolic Delegate." It is also announced that the Very Reverend Tobias Kirby, president of the Irish College at Rome, has been appointed coadjutor Bishop of Downmore to the Right Reverend Dr. Blake.

"Sir Chisholm Anstey," Knight of the order of St. Gregory, has received notice to quit from the Catholics of Youghal who returned him to the Imperial Parliament. They have requested him to resign the trust which he has betrayed on many occasions. They say they can forgive his advocacy of the atrocious Coercion Act—his indifference to Irish independence in the matter of Repeal—"but," continue his constituency, "the act by which you have forfeited our confidence for ever is your advocacy of penal measures against the Catholic hierarchy of England, and your support of a Minister who, having already awakened a fell spirit of religious bigotry in this country, now seeks by legislative enactments to violate the rights of man, and suppress liberty of conscience." Meetings of Roman Catholics have been held at Carrickon-Shannon, Youghal, and several other places, at which petitions against the Ministerial measure were adopted.

AUDUBON THE ORNITHOLOGIST.

The American papers received this week contain a notice of the death of John James Audubon, the great American ornithologist, which took place on the 27th of January, at his residence on the Hudson River, in the 76th year of his age. He was born of French parents, on a plantation in Louisiana, near New Orleans, and from his earliest years he was taught by them to study nature. In an interesting autobiographical sketch published about twenty years ago, he gives the following account of his first attraction to ornithology:—

"When I had hardly yet learned to walk, and to articulate those first words always so endearing to parents, the productions of nature that lay spread all around were constantly pointed out to me. They soon became my playmates; and before my ideas were sufficiently formed to enable me to estimate the difference between the azure tints of the sky and the emerald hue of the bright foliage, I felt that an intimacy with them, not consisting of friendship merely, but bordering on frenzy, must accompany my steps through life, and now, more than ever, am I persuaded of the power of those early impressions. They laid such hold upon me that, when removed from the woods, the prairies, and the brooks, or shut up from the view of the wide Atlantic, I experienced none of these feelings most congenial to my mind. None but aerial companions suited my fancy. No roof seemed so secure to me as that formed of the dense foliage under which the feathered tribes were seen to resort, or the caves and fissures of the massy rocks, to which the dark-winged cormorant and the curlew retired to rest, or to protect themselves from the fury of the tempest."

As he grew up this bias to the study of natural history was fostered by his father, who accompanied him in his forest rambles, and procured all kinds of rare birds and flowers for him. While yet a boy he was sent to Paris, where he studied drawing under David, but he does not seem to have liked the models which he was set to copy—"Eyes and noses belonging to giants, and heads of horses represented in ancient sculpture." At the age of seventeen he returned from France—then in the midst of its revolution—to the woods of the New World, with fresh ardour, and began a collection of drawings under the title of the *Birds of America*. This collection having multiplied upon his hands, after many years of devoted toil, he was persuaded to undertake the publication of his great work, and with the view of obtaining subscribers he visited Europe in 1824. Everywhere was he well received. On the Continent, Herschel, Cuvier, and Humboldt, whom he had encountered in America, gave him a hearty reception. In Edinburgh he was warmly received by Brewster, Jeffrey, Wilson, and Sir Walter Scott. Professor Wilson gives a graphic description of Audubon in an article in *Blackwood's Magazine*:—

"When some five years ago we first set eyes on him in a party of literati, in 'stately Edinburgh throned on crags,' he was such an American backwoodsman as took the shine out of us modern Athenians. Though dressed, of course, somewhat after the fashion of ourselves, his long raven locks hung curling over his shoulders, yet unshorn from the wilderness. They were shaded across his open forehead with a simple elegance, such as a simple Christian might be supposed to give his 'fell of hair,' when practising 'every man his own perruquier,' in some liquid mirror in the forest glade, employing, perhaps, for a comb, the claw of the Bald Eagle. His sallow, fine featured face bespoke a sort of wild independence, and then such an eye,—keen as that of the falcon! His foreign accent and broken English speech removed him still further out of the commonplace circle of this every-day world of ours, and his whole demeanour was coloured to our thought by a character of conscious freedom and dignity which he had acquired in his lonely wanderings among the woods."

His *Birds of America* was highly successful. He obtained 175 subscribers, at one thousand dollars each, and the work was completed in fourteen years. For some years before his death he was employed, along with Dr. Bachman, in preparing for the press, *The Quadrupeds of America*, which was published last year.

THE LATE LORD BEXLEY.

Nicholas Vansittart, better known of late years as Lord Bexley, died on Saturday last, at his country seat, Footscray, Kent, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. His career, though not distinguished by striking ability, was a highly successful one. He was the son of Mr. Henry Vansittart, Governor of Bengal, who perished at sea when Nicholas was only four years old. The latter in due time went to school at Cheam, in Surrey, to Christchurch, Oxford, where he took the degree of A.M., and ultimately was called to the bar on the 26th of April, 1791. His success was not brilliant. He attended sessions, went circuit, and duly presented himself in the courts at Westminster, with about the same degree of success which falls to the lot of nine-tenths of the unfortunate individuals who travel that dull round from year to year. In 1796 he was returned to Parliament for Hastings, which he represented till 1802. By the influence of Lord Addington he then became member for Harwich, a mere Treasury borough, and in 1812 he exchanged it for Old Sarum, so renowned in Parliamentary History. The latter abuse he represented till 1823. He was made a Lord of the Treasury, in 1804, and, after the death of Mr. Perceval, was elevated to the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer, which he retained till 1822. He was then created Baron Bexley, and appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, which post he held till 1828. From that time till his death he mingled little in public life.

William Cobbett, who addressed many of his pungent letters to "Statesman Vansittart," as he called him, was very fond of describing the marvellous rise and progress of the man who began life a "Commissioner of Scotch Herrings" and ended in "a peerage and half a million of money":—

"What is most curious in the history of Van is, that while a nation, whose money matters Van held the management of, was growing poor, Van was growing rich! This is something very wonderful. In human life, generally, we find that all belonging to the same concern become rich or become poor together. All being under the influence of the same cause, all experience a similar effect. Just the contrary with Van, who has been rising into enormous wealth, while the industrious millions, of whose wealth he has so long had the fingering, are sinking into misery."

It is said that Lord Bexley has left a large amount of real and personal property. He was married to a daughter of Lord Auckland, who died young and left no family.

DINNER OF THE GERMAN CLUB.

The "German Club" gave a dinner on Wednesday last in honour of three distinguished of their countrymen, namely, Johannes Ronge, Struve, and Kinkel. The president of the club, Dr. Julius, assisted by the vice-president, Mr. Franz Thimm, were the leaders of the banquet, which was in many respects a national and interesting one.

A number of gentlemen were present who had been members of the Chambers at Frankfurt and Berlin; others who have highly distinguished themselves as journalists or as men of letters.

After the removal of the cloth, the president proposed "The Deutsche Vaterland," which was followed by Swindt's song—"Was ist der Deutschen Vaterland." Mr. Thimm next proposed "The English Nation," which was drunk with flattering enthusiasm, and three "Hochs." The toast of Mr. Gerstenberg, who dwelt at length upon the merits of the noble actions of the guests, was enthusiastically responded to by all present, but the most interesting scene was the reply of these guests.

First Ronge (the well-known reformer and leader of the German Catholics) spoke of freedom both in religion and in political life. Next spoke Struve, and his reply was such as would be expected of a dignified and eloquent Republican. But when Kinkel rose, a fine, almost handsome figure, the burst of enthusiasm was great, and he spoke like a poet; he said he only remembered two evenings of his life—the one when he took leave of his sleeping children to take up the musket for the political cause of his country, and the other the banquet evening, when he took leave of his sleeping children, feeling happy and free, and honoured by his countrymen on a free and foreign soil. He spoke with a voice full of music, and uttered thoughts full of nobleness and dignity. As may be imagined, plenty of glees were sung, and a "Commerce," amongst which the celebrated, "Edite, bibite," "Gaudemus igitur," and even "Der Pabst lebt herrlich in der Welt" finished a well attended banquet, in honour of these three distinguished Germans.

A MELODRAMATIC PLUNDER-SCENE.

In that pleasant part of the Papal dominions called the Legazione di Forli, about half-way between Forli, the capital of the province, and the pretty little town of Cesena, so beautifully situated at the foot of the Appennines, a romantic incident, quite in the Radcliffe style, was transacted one evening about a fortnight ago. The scene of the adventure was the little fortified town of Forlini-Popoli—the ancient

Forum Popilii—which contains a collegiate church, a castle built by Cæsar Borgia, and about 4000 inhabitants. The account of the affair is given in a letter from Rome:—

"On the 25th of this month (January), the theatrical corps of Forlini-Popoli was playing the *Death of Cæsar*. By eight in the evening, the hour when the theatres open in Italy, all movement has disappeared from the streets, windows are closed, and the inhabitants have retired to their homes, the coffee-houses, or theatres. This absence of activity in the streets, which every one remarks at Rome, is still more complete in small towns. It may then be understood how, at Forlini-Popoli, and particularly on an evening when the theatre was open, the streets should be so deserted as to make possible the occurrence now to be related.

"The first act of the piece had terminated, and the curtain had just fallen, when suddenly it rose and disclosed—instead of the actors, who had disappeared—ten brigands of the band del Passatore, who, armed with muskets and carbines, levelled them so as to command the entire range of the pit and boxes. At the same moment, another party, consisting of thirty brigands, made their appearance on the floor of the house, the issues of which were guarded, and, armed with sabres and pistols, menaced the spectators. A moment of stupor, during which no one dared move, elapsed, when the chief of the brigands advanced to the foot-lights, and, exhibiting the keys of the two gates of the town, said:—'Gentlemen, you see by these that you are entirely in our power: any resistance on your part would lead to disasters which I should be the first to deplore, but which it depends on you to avert. Listen, then, to what I have to say. I am about to call out the names of several among you: as I pronounce a name let him who bears it step forth from his box and repair to his house, in company with one or two of my friends, who will assist him to bring hither all his hoards, and that without defrauding us of a porpetto.' This said, the orator displayed a paper, and commenced reading the fatal roll. Submission was inevitable. A dozen carbineers formed the sole police of Forlini-Popoli. Six of these were in the theatre and had been gagged by the brigands. The six others, surprised in their guard-house, had ventured a vain resistance. The burgomaster was the first victim.

"Some time was of course required for this operation, which did not terminate before a quarter to twelve. With a view, however, to shorten the agony of the pit and boxes, two brigands went from spectator to spectator, collecting hatfuls of watches, purses, chains, rings, and even umbrellas. When the harvest was gathered and the booty had been heaped up on the stage, the brigands allowed the curtain to fall, and quietly withdrew, carrying all with them. The money thus obtained amounted to 7000 Roman piastres, or about £1600, and the bijoux, objects of art, &c., to double that sum.

"The next day an Austrian detachment set out in pursuit of the band, which probably had dispersed by that time in the mountains or passed the Tuscan frontier. Their number is supposed to have been about three or four hundred. It is probable that they were in league with some of the inhabitants. However this may be, private houses and public treasuries all have been plundered with the exception of the Monte de Piete, the fastening of which resisted all the attempts made to break it."

MURDERS OF THE WEEK.

Two men, named John Wiles and John Smith, entered the house of Williams Wilkins, shopkeeper, in the little village of Nempnett, Somersetshire, and asked for a loaf of bread. Mrs. Wilkins turned round to give it them, when Wiles struck her over the head with a stick. He then rushed at her husband, an old man, knocked him down, and struck him several blows with a spade; the man named Smith keeping watch at the door all the time. Wiles then took a loaf, several parcels of tobacco, and her pocket containing eleven shillings. The old man died that night, but the woman is expected to survive. The two men, have been apprehended, and Smith has made the following confession:—

"We came up to the house on Saturday morning last. Wiles coming up said, 'It is a little shop and there are only two old people living there,' and he said, 'I will go in and get something before I come out again.' This was between eight and nine o'clock in the morning. Wiles went to the door and asked for a loaf; a woman's voice answered him inside, but I did not hear what she said. He turned round to me and said in a low tone of voice, 'There is a man sitting in there at his breakfast, and it will not do now.' Then he asked me for sixpence, and I said, 'I have not got one.' Wiles said to me, 'What did you send me on such a fool's errand for, then?' This was said loud enough for the woman to hear. We then both of us walked away; we went across the fields to a certain house to try and get some bread. I did not go with him into the house, but I stood in the road, and Wiles told me he had got a bit of bread at one of the places. We had then been about three-quarters of an hour away from Wilkins's house, and then Wiles said, 'I will go back there; the man must have gone out from breakfast to his work by this; and he added, 'I will go in, and I will have something before I come out again.' We then came down the road as far as Wilkins's house, and Wiles went in and said, 'Now, mistress, I have got a few halfpence, and I am come back for the loaf.' When the blows took place I was on the outside, and when I heard the old man scream 'Murder' I went in. Wiles was then beating the old man with a spade. I took the spade out of his hand, and then he took up an 'Italian iron' lying close by, and struck him with that; and he struck the mistress too. He struck the wife with it the last. This blow knocked her straight on the floor, and

then he turned up her gown and broke her pocket off. Before that blow she was on her hands and knees, trying to get up. I turned to go out of the house, and I saw Wiles go into the shop. He took up a loaf, and then what he did I do not know, for I walked on and he came after me. I do not know what he did with the pocket; I believe he left it in the house, for I never saw the pocket after he was out of the house. After this, going down the fields towards Upley, we began talking, and Wiles said, 'I have got a little money, but it is but a little.' He took out eight shillings, a half-crown, and a sixpence, and he gave me 6s. 6d., and said, 'There is half of it for you.' He had also two bits of tobacco. I suppose it must have been half ounces before they were opened. That is all I have to say."

The case of "The Queen v. Bird and his wife" came on for trial, before all the judges, at the Exchequer Chambers, on Wednesday. The question was whether the prisoners, upon their trial for the murder of their servant-girl, Mary Ann Parsons, could have been legally convicted of an assault. Six of the judges were for an acquittal, and eight for confirmation of the previous sentence. Chief Justice Campbell, Chief Justice Jervis, Baron Parke, Baron Alderson, Baron Martin, and Mr. Justice Maule voted against the conviction of the prisoners; and the Chief Baron Pollock, the Justices Patteson, Erle, Wightman, Coleridge, Talfourd and Williams in favour of it.

Mr. Cooper, of Stanfield-hall, near Todmorden, who was apprehended last week, on a charge of having poisoned his wife, has not yet been examined, but a number of circumstances have come to light which tend very much to confirm the impression that he is guilty. A young woman who was servant in the house states that Mrs. Cooper was recovering very favourably after her confinement, up till December 27, when she suddenly became worse, and continued so till her death on the 2nd of January. A day or two before her death she said she had not been so well ever since she had taken the powder that her husband had given her, and which he said he had brought from the doctor. Mr. Cockroft, the surgeon who had been in attendance, when asked respecting the nature of the medicine he had sent, denied that he had ever sent any powder, and immediately summoned Mr. Cooper to the bedroom to ask him about it. Mr. Cooper then said that he had not given any powder to his wife, it was merely some preserves. One woman who was at Stanfield-hall during Mrs. Cooper's illness, described her as suffering from excruciating pain, so great that her feet were drawn up to her breast; her mouth and throat were very sore, and she complained of the powder which she had taken in preserves, as a very nasty one; she had never been right since. On the Saturday night previous to Mrs. Cooper's death, her husband said he knew he would be a single man in January. Speaking of his wife, who was then very ill, he said "If I thought she would not die, I would go and get Miss Eckersley away before her father's face, and go away as far as I could get."

Cooper appears to have carried on an active correspondence with the young lady whom he intended to marry after he had buried his first wife. A number of letters between him and Miss Eckersley have been found in a letter-case which he left at the Queen's Hotel, Todmorden, out of which the following have been published:—

"My dear, dear, dearest Annie,—I cannot tell how it is, but I feel so much in reference to you that I cannot pursue my business for thinking about you. I am strongly impressed that you mean to break me off. I don't know why I should have this impression, but I have it, and I cannot shake it off. I cannot think you would be so cruel, yet this has come over me, and I don't know how. I shall not be happy until I have seen you, and have had some conversation with you. To all appearance the time is not far distant when I shall be left alone, save my dear little child. But if you give me up, then I am undone. Should it be so, I would rather die than live. It is only for you I desire to live; as I am quite sure I cannot be long blessed with my present partner, and you are the person of her choice. You are mine, too, and to be forbidden you would be the greatest punishment that could be inflicted upon me. Do see me as soon as you can. Come and spend as much time as you can here. If you don't, then I must conclude that it is as I have supposed."

"Yours most affectionately, "J. C."

No date is given with the above letter, but there is no doubt that this is the reply:—

"Alford, Nov. 11, 1850."

"Mr. Cooper, Dear Sir,—I write these few lines to inform you that I cannot feel happy, nor have any peace of mind, so long as I have any engagements with a married man. I am sure that the blessing of God can never rest upon us. Mrs. Cooper is an injured woman. How should I like to be in her place? I consider myself perfectly at liberty, whatever may be the consequences. I don't say that I am going to engage myself. I have no thoughts of it. No, not at all. You will never prosper, nor myself either, under any engagements now. I have now done my duty. At all events, with God. I know that if it were true that Mrs. Cooper would die to-morrow, I have no business to be engaged to you to-day. I will not. You must see the propriety of this. I beg you will make this matter your prayer, to be set right. Do attend to your duty and seek the blessing of God. Let us keep his commandments holy, and then we shall

have his blessing. Let the Lord take Mrs. Cooper at his appointed time. I beg you will attend to her. How could we expect to prosper, not keeping God's commandments? You have never prospered since we first made the engagement. Remember, that if you destroy yourself, you will kill me.—I remain, yours affectionately,"

"ANNIE ECKERSLEY."

The adjourned inquest on the body of Mrs. Cooper was held at Bilton, near York, on Monday, when the result of the analyzation was announced. The stomach was found to be free from all poison, death had apparently resulted from natural causes, and Mr. Cooper was discharged from custody.

The inquiry into the circumstances connected with a murder of a man named Firth, near Barnsley, having led to suspicion that his brother had been the murderer, he has been taken into custody. The constable who apprehended him states, that he (John Firth) was exceedingly anxious to know what was the nature of the evidence against him, whether any one had ever been hung for murder when no one had seen the murder committed, and whether any person charged with wilful murder ever got off with transportation? The inquest terminated on Saturday. The verdict was "Wilful Murder against some person unknown." They added, that there was much evidence to throw suspicion on the brother of the deceased, but not sufficient to warrant a verdict of wilful murder against him.

A most deliberate murder was committed at Worksop on Sunday morning week. Edward Jefferies, a labourer, went to the house of Jonathan Brett, a mason, and called him up. Brett, who was in bed, got up, and no sooner had he put his head out of the window, than Jefferies discharged a gun at him. The contents struck him on the forehead, and inflicted such injury, that he died on the Tuesday following. The only cause assigned is, that Brett was too intimate with Jefferies' wife.

A woman named Roberts was found dead in a ditch near Kivernool, Herefordshire, on Sunday week. From the appearance of the body it is supposed that she must have come to a violent end. Her husband had accompanied her part of the way home from market on the day previous, but they had quarrelled when a short distance from home, and, according to his account, he left her and had never seen her again in life. As there are various circumstances which attach suspicion to him he has been apprehended till the result of the inquest is known.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, the Princess Royal, and the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, left Windsor Castle at ten minutes before four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon for the Windsor station. They travelled to town by a special train, and on arriving at the Paddington terminus proceeded, with an escort of the Sixteenth Lancers, to Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at a quarter to five o'clock. They remain in town, with the exception of a brief visit to Osborne, till Easter, when the court will return to the Castle for the Easter holidays.

The Queen and Prince Albert honoured the Lyceum Theatre with their presence on Thursday evening. The royal suite consisted of the Countess of Mount Edgumbe, Honourable Matilda Paget, Lord Dufferin, Lord Charles Fitzroy, Lieutenant-Colonel Honourable Alexander Gordon.

Prince Albert presided on Saturday morning at a meeting of the Royal Commission for the Promotion of the Exhibition in 1851 of the Works of Industry of all Nations. He arrived at the building for the exhibition in Hyde-park at ten o'clock, and the meeting lasted till one o'clock, when Prince Albert took his departure for Windsor Castle.

The Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary left Frogmore, the residence of the Duchess of Kent, on Saturday morning; travelled to town by the Great Western Railway, attended by Baron Knesebeck, and paid a visit to the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house. In the afternoon the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary proceeded to Kew.

Her Majesty has nominated the Duke of Cambridge, Knight Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, to be Grand Master of the order, in the room of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

The ethnographic section of the Vienna Ministry of Trade is preparing for her Britannic Majesty a splendid album, containing the costumes and national melodies of all races comprised in the Austrian empire.

The marriage of the Grand Duchess of Russia, Catherine Miknailowna, with Duke George of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, was celebrated at St. Petersburg on the 2nd instant. The Emperor himself gave all the orders for the ceremonials attendant on this event.

The Earl Grosvenor, who for some years has regularly visited the Highlands on grouse-shooting and deer-stalking expeditions, has now adventured on higher game, having arrived at Ceylon on an elephant-hunting excursion. The *Colombo Observer* states that his lordship is accompanied by the Honourable Frederick Leveson Gower and Captain Egerton. The *Observer* welcomes the noble party, and assures them that every elephant killed is a benefit to the country.

Mr. Granville Evelyn Harcourt Vernon delivered a lecture to the members of the East Retford Literary and Scientific Society last week, "On English Poetry, illustrated by the works of living poets."

The Reverend Thomas Wilson, author of *Nazrani, Catholicity, &c.*, delivered his inaugural lecture on Physical Geography to a numerous and attentive audience at the Ladies' College, in Bedford-square, on Wednesday morning. We congratulate the College on the acquisition of a very able and interesting

lecturer, who appears to unite a profound knowledge of his subject with a most agreeable mode of imparting it. His delivery is natural, fluent, and emphatic, and he appears to possess the rare faculty of familiar and pointed illustration, which at once raises and satisfies curiosity. His language is plain and simple, his arrangement clear and lucid, and an extensive acquaintance with the phenomena of physical geography was displayed by the lecturer in a manner equally removed from pedantry and commonplace.

M. Dupin has been re-elected President of the French Assembly, by 371 votes out of 583; Mathieu de la Drome, leader of the moderate section of the Mountain, obtained 71; General Lamoriciere, 64; M. Baroche, 38; Michel de Bourges, leader of the ultra-socialist section of the Mountain, 16.

The *Gazette of Genoa* of the 7th, under the date of Venice, Feb. 2, says, "The illness of the Count of Chambord has assumed so serious a character, that the sacraments have been administered to him, and little hope is entertained of his recovery. His mother, wife, and aunt d'Angoulême have not quitted his room for some days. The Duke of Modena has arrived here expressly to see him."

Accounts from Frankfort say it is certain that the German Diet will be shortly reestablished, without any modification in its form. All the news received accords with this, and preparations are being made at the palace of the Diet, which will be completed by the 1st of March. Count Thun has been recalled, according to his request, but will remain till the arrival of his successor, who it is supposed will be Count Buol Schauenstein.

The Prussian Government has formally announced at the Dresden Conferences that it will not accept the proposition of Austria, to conclude an Austro-German customs league.

The Central Federal Commission has addressed a circular to the various German governments, desiring them at the earliest convenience to express their opinion as to the fate of the "German fleet." The present state of that establishment is designated as one which cannot be allowed to continue, and the fleet must either be sold or completed. The Central Federal Commission protests that the former alternative would be highly disgraceful, and it proposes a plan for the completion of the Marine establishment.

Letters from Hamburg state that the whole of the Duchy of Schleswig was delivered up to the Danes on the 9th instant, who immediately took possession, and the national flag was hoisted on the fort, and in the country round.

A second effective measure has been resorted to by Russia to efface the last traces of the existence of Poland as a separate kingdom—the removal of the custom-house barriers. The first was the substitution of a Russian for a Polish post-office administration; the next amalgamation act will no doubt be the introduction of the Russian civil law and law courts.

The resolution of Mr. Clay in Congress, directing an inquiry into the expediency of adopting more effectual measures for the suppression of the African slave trade, by preventing American vessels and American seamen from engaging in it, has been passed by the senate, and the question accordingly referred to the appropriate committee. Hitherto American vessels have enjoyed peculiar privileges in this trade, in consequence of the refusal of that government to accede to the right of search.

A deputation, consisting of members of Parliament and other gentlemen interested in the question, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday at his official residence in Downing-street, on Eastern steam communication.

We believe we are justified in stating that it is the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reduce both the paper and advertisement duties to one-third of their present amount. The advertisement duty, in that case, will be only sixpence.—*Morning Advertiser*.

The contract for supplying refreshments in the three places set apart for that purpose in the Crystal Palace, has been given to the Messrs. Schweppe, the soda-water manufacturers, their tender being considered the most advantageous to the public. The refreshment contractors undertake, as soon as the arrangements are completed, to supply a cold meat dinner to all the workmen employed in the building. No cooking will be allowed beyond steaming potatoes, and warming soup, tea, coffee, &c. The prices at which the public will be admitted have been decided upon, and have received the sanction of the Royal Commissioners. The Exhibition will be open every day (Sundays excepted). Season tickets, not transferable, will be, for a gentleman, £3 3s.; for a lady, £2 2s. The Commissioners reserve to themselves the power of raising the price when the first issue is exhausted, should it be advisable. On the first day of exhibition, season tickets only will be available; on the second and third days the price on entrance will be (each day) £1; on the fourth day, 5s.; to be reduced on the twenty-second day to 1s. From the twenty-second day the prices will be, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 1s.; on Fridays, 2s. 6d.; on Saturdays, 5s.

Mr. Hatchell, the new Attorney-General for Ireland, was re-elected member for Windsor on Tuesday, without opposition. The nomination of candidates for the representation of South Notts, took place at Newark on Wednesday; two candidates were proposed, Lord Newark, eldest son of Earl Manvers, and Mr. Barrow, on the tenant interest. The show of hands was in favour of the latter, and a poll was demanded on behalf of Lord Newark, to take place on Friday and Saturday (to-day.) Lord Brackley has resigned his seat for North Staffordshire on account of ill health. Mr. Smith Child has come forward as a Conservative candidate. The Honourable Stuart Knox will be returned for Dungannon

without opposition. The nomination of candidates at Falkirk took place on Tuesday. The candidates were Mr. Baird, of Gartsherrie, iron-master, and Conservative, and Mr. Loch, Ministerialist. The polling took place on Wednesday, when Mr. Baird was returned by a majority of 55. At Pontefract the nomination of candidates for that borough took place on Wednesday, when the show of hands was in favour of Lord Pollington. Mr. Lawley, the free-trade candidate, has been returned by a majority of 314.

A meeting of gentlemen anxious for the freedom of the press, among whom were Joseph Hume, M.P., Richard Cobden, M.P., John Bright, M.P., Milner Gibson, M.P., William Scholefield, M.P., and William Ewart, M.P., was held at the Palace Hotel, New Palace-yard, on Thursday, when the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

Moved by Mr. Cobden, seconded by Mr. Scholefield:—

"That whereas heavy taxes are laid on paper, foreign books, advertisements, and newspapers, and whereas all taxes which impede the diffusion of knowledge, and obstruct the progress of education, are highly injurious to the public interest, and are most impolitic sources of revenue, and whereas the penny stamp in particular almost prohibits newspapers to working men; the persons now present, desirous of liberating the press from all taxation and from all control except that of a court of law, form themselves into a society to be called 'An Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge.'"

Moved by Mr. Thornton Hunt, and seconded by Mr. Campkin:—

"That the officers of the association be a president, treasurer, sub-treasurer, chairman, and secretary, and a committee with power to add to their number."

Moved by Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, and Mr. W. Hickson seconded the 3rd resolution that the following be elected the officers and committee of the Association:—

President—T. Milner Gibson, M.P.; Treasurer—Francis Place; Sub-Treasurer—J. Alfred Novello; Chairman—Richard Moore; Secretary—C. Dobson Collet. COMMITTEE:—William Addiscombe, Thomas Allan, Edinburgh, James Baldwin, Birmingham, John Bainbridge, J. C. Beaumont, Wakefield, Dr. Black, Dr. Bowkett, John Bright, M.P., C. J. Bunting, Norwich, Henry Campkin, W. J. Carlross, John Cassell, R. Cobden, M.P., George Dawson, Birmingham, Thomas Donatty, Passmore Edwards, W. Ewart, M.P., Samuel Harrison, Wm. Hickson, G. J. Holyoake, Joseph Hume, M.P., Thornton Hunt, Joseph Hyde, Reverend E. R. Larken, Dr. Lee, G. H. Lewes, Christopher McGuinness, W. K. Norway, John Parker, Wm. Scholefield, M.P., Edward Wallhouse, W. A. Wilkinson, Thomas Wilson.

The Poor Law board has written to the directors of the poor of St. Pancras respecting the late deportation of pauper children to the Bermudas, warning them against any similar transgression of the law. They accept the explanation of the directors, and express their belief that the future position in life of the children will be greatly ameliorated; but they remark that the proceedings were not in accordance with the rules and regulations laid down by the board.

From the Board of Trade returns, it appears that the exports of the principle articles of British and Irish produce and manufactures last year show an increase, as compared with those of 1849, of £6,845,149. The increase is chiefly in the leading articles of our manufactures. The value of our exports for the last five years is as follows:—

1846	£51,227,060
1847	50,897,790
1848	48,916,325
1849	58,910,883
1850	65,756,032

The works at Windsor Castle have been recently considerably expedited in order that they may be fully completed before the opening of the Exhibition in May. The state apartments, to which the public have been again admitted, are now rendered in every respect perfect, both with reference to ornamental establishment and the comfort of the royal inmates. The warming apparatus by means of pipes is so constructed that the temperature can be raised in a few minutes to 60 degrees. The greatest precautions have been taken to prevent danger from fire, there being a large reservoir at Cranbourne charged with a million gallons of water, and another containing one-third that quantity which can be readily replenished by means of a powerful steam-engine erected on the banks of the Thames in Datchet-lane.

A crowded meeting of the members and friends of the National Public School Association was held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester, on Monday, to hear an address from Mr. W. J. Fox, the Liberal member for Oldham. Mr. Fox delivered a long and eloquent address; and the meeting was afterwards addressed by the Reverend Mr. Walker, of the Church of England, and the Reverend William Mr. Kerrow, of the United Presbyterian Church.

Information was forwarded to the various fire-engine stations by the police, on Monday morning, between five and six o'clock, that a serious conflagration had broken out in the building for the Exhibition, in Hyde-park. The announcement caused no little consternation amongst the various persons passing the engine-houses at the time, and the intelligence was promptly conveyed throughout the metropolis to the far-distant stations for further aid. In the course of a few minutes the engines were horsed, and, being fully manned with firemen, they were taken to the scene of danger; upon reaching which, it was ascertained that a fire had taken place at the west end of the Crystal Palace, and, although at one time it assumed a threatening appearance, the damage done, we are happy to say, was confined to the destruction of a large quantity of shavings, but the building itself received not the slightest injury. From inquiries made by the chief officer of the fire-brigade, it appears that a large quantity of shavings had been placed within the wooden boarding, which were found on fire about half-past five o'clock, but from what cause could not be gleaned.

A man named Charles Gill, who resides at No. 32,

Surrey-place, Old Kent-road, was apprehended by Mr. Inspector Field, on Thursday night, charged with having threatened the life of Lord John Russell. It appears that the prisoner, who is a working jeweller, had addressed a letter to the premier, detailing certain alleged wrongs, and threatening to put a bullet into his head unless certain requests were at once granted. On being seized he betrayed no particular emotion, and at once confessed having written the letter in question. The wife of the unhappy man became greatly excited on her husband's apprehension, and was with difficulty restrained from doing violence to herself.

Another capture of persons connected with the Kent burglaries has taken place. At the Cannon public-house, Chatham, an immense quantity of stolen property was found by the police on Monday night. The landlord, his wife, and four other persons have been taken into custody. The house was a rendezvous of the gang, not more than half of whom are yet in custody. Of the extent to which this gang have carried their depredations, some idea may be formed from the fact that no less than nineteen distinct burglaries have been traced to them during the last few months.

A lady, named Lee, residing at St. John's Wood, entered one of the Atlas omnibuses in the Regent's Circus last Monday to proceed to her dwelling; at the same moment, a man of gentlemanly appearance also entered the vehicle, and seated himself by the side of Mrs. Lee, with whom he entered into conversation. On the omnibus reaching upper Baker-street, he hastily alighted, and took to his heels. Mrs. Lee instinctively felt her pocket, and to her dismay discovered that her pocket-book, containing two £50, five £10, and five £5 Bank of England notes, had been abstracted; and, notwithstanding an instant pursuit, the fellow got clear off.

A gentleman named Parnell, aged eighty-eight, residing in Baker-street, Portman-square, was sitting in front of the fire, reading the newspaper, which appears to have caught fire, as he was found by a servant who opened the door completely enveloped in flames. A young lady rushed into the house for the purpose of extinguishing the flames, but the smoke overpowered her, and she dropped senseless on the floor, where she would speedily have been suffocated, had not some one come to her assistance. The flames were soon extinguished, but not until Mr. Parnell was burnt to death. Mrs. Elizabeth Hunt, a widow lady, aged eighty-five, residing in Pleasant-street, Euston-square, was burnt to death on Sunday. Her shawl had caught the flame from her candle as she stooped to pick up something from the floor. The upper part of her body was burnt almost to a cinder.

W. G. Smyth, who is described as "a surgeon in very good practice, at No. 59, Vauxhall-walk," was brought up at Lambeth Police-office, on Monday, on a charge of assaulting a girl of thirteen years of age. The prisoner, who is a married man, and nearly sixty years of age, but separated from his wife, is said to have been in the habit of inviting a number of young girls, from about sixteen to eighteen years of age, to his house, when he plied them with spirits, and thus succeeded in many instances in effecting their ruin. The names of seven or eight were mentioned in court who had fallen victims to him. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Norton exclaimed that in the whole course of many years' magisterial duty it had not been his misfortune to have heard disclosed such a scene of abominable profligacy as that related, and which made one doubt whether we lived in a civilized or barbarous state of society. An application to admit the prisoner to bail was refused, on the ground that he was entitled to no favour.

Hannah South, aged twenty, lately in the service of John Aylward, haberdasher, New-cross, went out for an errand last Saturday week, and did not come back till a late hour on Sunday night. When she knocked at the door her master, who had gone to bed, told her he could not admit her at that unseasonable hour. She remained for some time, but ultimately went away, and on Wednesday her body was found in the Surrey Canal.

A little boy, named Brittain, only six years old, residing in Chelsea, disappeared in a very sudden and mysterious way this week. He had been playing the truant, and his aunt locked him up while she was absent for a short time. During her absence he got up and ran away. He told a boy whom he met that he was going to destroy himself. His cap, or one like it, has been found on the banks of the Serpentine.

A man named Hills, residing near Canterbury, was fired at by some person, last Saturday night, as he was returning from market, and slightly wounded in the shoulder. A young man named Vigcon, has been committed for trial at the assizes on the charge of having planned the deliberate assassination of Hills.

The Irish Tenant League has published a statement of its receipts and disbursements up to the present time, from which it appears that the total amount subscribed by all Ireland has been only £946 10s. 6d., of which sum £387 15s. has been furnished by Meath alone. Had all the other counties been as liberal, the League would have been able to carry on the agitation much more successfully.

At the Repeal Association, on Thursday, Mr. John O'Connell denounced the conduct of Mr. Anstey, the member for Youghal, in the late debate, as most insulting to the authorities of his religion, and could describe nothing more outrageous except another fact, that Mr. Anstey had been seen at balls, dancing the "fling" in a Highland kilt. The rent for the week was announced to be £13 7s. 7d.

The committee for founding the Roman Catholic University met, Dr. Callen, the Roman Catholic Primate, in the chair. The committee remained in deliberation upwards of five hours; and in the course of the time, nearly £1100 of additional funds were handed in. An address to the clergy of Ireland, for a simultaneous collection, was agreed upon; and the day fixed for the purpose was Sunday, the 16th of March, the eve of St. Patrick's Day.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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, Feb. 15.

The first stage of the debate on Papal Aggression was brought to a close last evening, after a pretty sharp discussion, which was opened by Mr. Fagan. He vindicated the character of the Roman Catholics from the aspersions thrown upon them so liberally during the late agitation. He had been surprised to hear Lord John Russell describe the Catholic religion as having a tendency to fetter the intellect and enslave the soul. Let them not forget that it was the much-maligned society of Jesuits who first introduced the maxim, "The Sovereignty of the people," and that it was the Protestant controversialists, the opponents of the Jesuits, who first broached the doctrine of the "Divine Right of Kings." He warned Lord John not to light a flame he could not establish. He (Mr. Fagan) had voted with the noble lord last evening, but there might soon be a proposition which he and his friends could support, and then, "if the noble lord persisted in his course of oppression, he would see them arrayed against him." Mr. F. PEEL, who was received with marked attention, said it was not his intention to anticipate the course which he would pursue with the bill, in the further stages of its progress, ignorant as he was of its provisions. It appeared that the bill satisfied neither side of the House:—

"Honourable gentlemen on the Government side of the House considered the provisions of the bill went beyond the necessity and emergency of the occasion. Honourable gentlemen on his side of the House considered that they did not come up to the emergency. Now, he had no intention to make any observations in reference to the course taken by honourable gentlemen on the opposite side of the House, but honourable gentlemen on his side of the House had in the course of their speeches contrasted the measure of the noble lord with the speech in which he had vindicated the measure in the same indignant spirit as that which had obviously dictated the letter to the Bishop of Durham. They thanked him for his speech, they thanked him for his letter, but his bill, if they accepted it at all, they accepted only as an instalment of what was due to them. Now, he was not surprised that honourable gentlemen who had at the numerous meetings throughout the country argued this question with so much warmth during the recess as an attack on our liberties, as an assault on the supremacy and prerogatives of the Crown, as an insult to the Church of England and to her bishops, should feel some little disappointment when they found that a question which they had argued on so extended a basis should be reduced into the narrow dimensions of a bill for the purpose of extending and enlarging the provisions of the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1829. But he protested against this question being argued as if it had been prejudged by the sense of the country, however united the voice of that country might have been. He thought their functions there were something more than simply to endorse the opinions pronounced by the country. (Hear, hear.) They were bound to discuss that question for themselves; and the question which they had, as he conceived, to consider was whether the provocation which had been given by the Court of Rome justified the interposition of any legislative enactment; and if it did, whether any measure could be framed of a more binding and stringent character than that which the noble lord had announced his intention of introducing, without infringing on the sanctity of religious liberty. (Hear, hear.)"

As to the bill it could not claim the merit of being a permanent and comprehensive settlement of the question. They had been told by the Attorney-General that its only object was to afford a remedy for a specific offence, and that it was a wise maxim in legislation not to attempt more than that. But that might be a very wise maxim in general; he questioned whether it was so in the present instance. He thought the position of the Roman Catholic Church in this country, in its relations to the Government and the people ought to be more clearly defined. It ought to be placed on such a footing as to render it impossible to have any recurrence of the agitation and tumult through which the country has passed. They must not leave out of sight the fact that the Church of Rome was essentially an Episcopal Church, and, if Bishops were prohibited here, the hierarchy was incomplete; and to that extent the Roman Catholic Church would be interfered with. It was contended that the act by which a temporary system of episcopal government was exchanged for a permanent one was inconsistent with the law of the land and the rights of the Crown, and the bill was directed not only against the mere assumption of titles, but against parcelling out the country into dioceses, as being contrary to public law. He was not satisfied, however, that public law

was applicable to other than Roman Catholic countries. It had been said that the bill would prevent synodical action, and the introduction of the canon law—a code which Lord Stowell had eulogized; but the canon law, without the consent of the Legislature, would impose only a voluntary obligation; and he questioned the policy of protecting the Roman Catholic laity against a code to which they paid only a voluntary submission. If the intention of Ministers was to interfere with that code, and to prevent synodical action, he feared the resources of the Legislature were miscalculated, and that the attempt would afford another illustration of the impotence of temporal power to deal with mind.

"One word on the theological part of the question, for it assumed a twofold aspect, part political and part theological. Unquestionably there had been a virtual denial or non-recognition of the Church of England, and of its claim to be deemed a branch of the great Catholic Church. We had been told that our bishops were no bishops, that our clergy were no clergy, and that our services and sacraments had no more binding force and virtue than mere civil ordinances and regulations of the State. These allegations had doubtless exercised a strong influence on the minds of many persons; but, for his part, he did not desire his view of the question to be influenced by any considerations of that kind. He did not wish to trust to any act of Parliament for the vindication of the Anglican Church. (*Hear, hear.*) He relied with great confidence on the power of controversial writings—on the power of appeals to the good sense of the people—on the power which we had of demonstrating that the pretension of the Church of Rome to spiritual headship was not only claimed without warrant in Scripture, but utterly opposed to it. (*Hear, hear.*) The present time was marked by no feeling of indifference to the Church of England and the extension of her influence. The opinion, perhaps, might not be shared by many, but he was strongly impressed with the conviction that at no period—and this was, in a great measure, owing to the absence of legislative restrictions—was the Church of England notwithstanding the differences and dissensions prevailing in her bosom—notwithstanding the efforts of those who were labouring to overlay the simplicity of the Common Prayer-book with the ritual and ceremonial observances not in consonance with the spirituality that characterized Protestant worship—notwithstanding the efforts of those who were labouring to give the clergy the character of the intercessorial and mediatorial priesthood which did not belong to them—notwithstanding all these unfavourable circumstances, his conviction was that the Church of England was never more deeply grounded in the affections of the great bulk of the people than at this moment. (*Hear.*) Looking around him, and observing in every direction the zealous co-operation of the clergy and laity in building endowed schools, erecting churches, and making provision for the spiritual instruction of the people, he could not close his mind against the conviction that the Church of England was well founded in the affections of the English people. Whatever might have been the past condition of the Church, experience had shown that it could maintain its ground without the aid of artificial support—nay, that she could not only maintain her ground, but make way against rival religious denominations by daily drawing within her pale an ever widening circle of the people of this country. The Church of England had nothing more to fear from the Church of Rome. The basis on which our Church rested—the Scriptures, which every man could read and exercise his judgment in interpreting—rendered her impregnable to the assaults of Rome, and he confessed he saw more evil in abandoning that wise and prudent course of granting full toleration to every denomination of religious associations in this country, which the Church of England, with a true appreciation of her own interest, and with a clear insight into what was conducive to her real interests, had, tardily it might be, but still he hoped heartily, consented to recognise. (*Cheers.*)"

Sir JAMES DUKE, Mr. C. BRUCE, Mr. F. MAULE, Colonel SIBTHORP, and Mr. MUNTZ supported the motion, as did also Mr. BROTHERTON, on the ground that the Roman Catholic laity required protection:—

"He would enable the House to judge as to the right he had for entertaining this opinion. He had received several letters from Roman Catholics of great influence in Manchester and Salford. There were, in fact, no persons who exercised greater influence than they did in both boroughs. They were the constituents of his honourable friends as well as being his own constituents. He would read a letter which he had received from one of them. It ran thus:—'I feel considerable interest in the matter, and am confident that unless Government will protect us all our charity, land and all other property given to our charities, will pass into the sole control of the Court of Rome. (*Cheers.*) As an Englishman, I seek to have our charities administered according to the laws of our own country, and not by a foreign Court and under foreign laws.' (*Cheers.*)"

Mr. BARING WALL condemned the bill as an aggressive measure by which Lord John Russell had recanted his former opinions, and the practical effect of which would be to make every Roman Catholic a Jesuit, and every priest a spy. Mr. SADDLER treated the measure as the product of a "No-Popery" agitation created by a bugbear—the receipt of the Pope. Mr. MILNER GIBSON lamented the backward step which Government had taken. He had been in Parliament since 1837, and during that period he had frequently been asked to lend his aid in removing religious disabilities; but that was the first time he had been asked to assist in imposing restrictions of that kind. They had been told that the country had

taken up this question in a right spirit. He denied that. They had taken it up in a spirit of persecution. It was clear to him that a desire to prevent the propagation of the Roman Catholic religion was at the bottom of the agitation. Thus we had Lord John Russell, in his famous letter, complaining of the Pope for having been guilty of "an aggression upon Protestantism." Not an aggression upon the Queen's temporal or spiritual power, but an aggression on an opinion—on a sentiment. He (Mr. Milner Gibson) did not approve of this Ministerial Popery. Suppose a Roman Catholic Prime Minister in this country (and there was nothing to prevent it), he might, if Prime Ministers were to give opinions upon such points, issue a proclamation that some other things were superstitious; or a Unitarian might write that the doctrine of the Trinity was superstitious:—

"Then there was Dr. McNeill, in his lecture at Exeter-hall—orthodox person and orthodox place, as the honourable member for Oxford University must fully admit. What said Dr. McNeill to the Duke of Manchester, in the chair, and to the assembled audience:—

"My Lord Duke," said Dr. McNeill, "it is the bounden duty of British Christians to guard against domestic intercourse with Roman Catholics. If you allow domestic intercourse with Roman Catholics—if you allow your sons and daughters to become intimate with those of Roman Catholics, you cannot with a good grace, or consistently with your duty as parents, turn round, after allowing the intimacy, and forbid the marriage. If you object to such marriages it is your duty to draw up in time. It may sound very bigoted to separate man from man in the community, but I am persuaded that one half of our misery has been traceable to this domestic intercourse with Roman Catholics. If, instead of the unclean thing being touched and fondled—(*great laughter*)—we had, as the Apostle said, 'come out from among, and be separate,' much that is to be deplored would not have taken place. But you have fondled the unclean thing—(*laughter*)—you have dallied with it—you have taken it to your breast—(*great laughter*)—until at length it has turned round and stung you."

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD having opposed the motion, the House divided, when the numbers were—

For the motion 395
Against it 63

Majority 332

The money required to be voted for the naval service this year, will be about £5,700,000, or about £400,000 less than that voted for the current year, and compared with last year it will show a reduction of one million.—*United Service Gazette.*

The Revenue Trial still continues, without any prospect of a termination. James Davis, to whom so much allusion has been made, was examined yesterday. He admitted that his place was called "Davis's corner," but denied that he had ever converted any good sugar into molasses.

Charles Gill, the man charged with threatening the life of Lord John Russell, was brought up at Bow-street yesterday. The man, who appeared to have crazed his brain with scientific pursuits, was required to give bail, himself £100, and two sureties £50 each, that he would keep the peace for twelve months.

A fire broke out yesterday morning on the premises belonging to Messrs. Mitchell and Coy, engravers and printers, Lovell's-court, Paternoster-row, which was not extinguished till the entire building was burned to the ground. Considerable damage has been done to the adjoining premises.

Mr. J. W. Hodgetts, manufacturing chemist, was killed by an explosion which took place at his manufactory, in Springfield-lane, Salford, yesterday morning.

A double suicide, in the French style, was committed in Chelmsford, on Thursday. The parties were George Ponder and Charlotte Parmenter, who had left the work-house about a fortnight ago, and hired a room in Chelmsford. They were both found dead on Thursday morning, and from the appearance of the bodies it was thought that Ponder cut one woman's throat while she was asleep and then hanged himself.

The *Journal des Débats* announces that the Congress at Dresden has agreed to admit all the Slavonian and Italian possessions of Austria into the German Confederation. Prussia and all the secondary States of Germany have given their consent, and Russia has intimated that she will not oppose this addition to the Confederation. The *Débats* adds, that France and England have protested, both at Vienna and Berlin, but that their efforts are not likely to prevent the new arrangements.

The *Croce di Savoia* of Turin of the 9th, speaks in a tone of alarm of a great concentration of Austrian troops on the Ticino, and urges the necessity of the Piedmontese Government demanding an explanation at Vienna on the subject.

It is said that the French Government has determined to add considerably to the garrisons maintained on the frontiers of the Alps, and that, if necessary, a distinct army will be formed on that frontier. Whether the warlike preparations will go farther or not, remains to be seen, and must depend in some measure on the Assembly.

A telegraphic despatch from Paris, dated Friday morning, states that at two on the morning of the 3rd instant the Queen of Portugal gave birth to a princess. The child had received the name of Dona Maria.

PARLIAMENT AND THE PEOPLE.—To the stereotyped Parliamentary "I won't," let the People respond with a hearty "We will." They have it in their own hands. Real representation or sham representation, "that is the question!" but to get the real, and project the sham into the Limbo of Vanity? To do that, sir, you must form a National Party.—*Berkshire Independent.*

The Leader

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 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.

CHALLENGE TO H. M. OPPOSITION.

A TOLERANCE of the worthless is growing to be one of the grossest political vices of our day. In its form it is negative, but its results are positive.

The case of Lord John's anti-Papal measure is an instance. The Opposition has abdicated its function through the working of some mistake as to its duty, or some squeamishness which makes it shrink from vigorous measures. An idea seems to have taken possession of men's minds, that an Opposition is answerable for an act of misconduct if it stop the routine of Government; but the notion is either a shallow blunder, or a transparent excuse for irresolution. The respective duties of Sovereign, Ministry, and Opposition, in our mixed constitution, are so clear that the blunder becomes apparent on the mere statement of it. Personally irresponsible, but capable only of acting through a Ministry, the Monarch is forced to select a Ministry that is capable of working: the Monarch alone is responsible for that duty of selection. The Ministry is bound to carry on the Government according to its own professed convictions: it is by those professed convictions that it obtains its eligibility, through the sanction of Parliament; if it governs according to the convictions of some other party, it commits a double fraud—it ceases to do what it was selected for, and it keeps out of office the men who really entertain the convictions upon which it acts. The Ministry is bound to govern on its own convictions; when it can no longer do so it has both the right and the obligation to retire from office. The Opposition has no share in those duties of the Ministry any more than in that of the Monarch. The duty of the Opposition is to enforce its own convictions negatively—to prevent Government which it considers to be bad in principle or execution; it is responsible for enforcing its convictions to that extent. It is not responsible for what may happen if it drives the Ministry out of office: as soon as it has accomplished that driving out, the function of the Monarch comes into play, and some party must be appointed to office capable of working its conviction. That prevention is the duty of the Opposition, and it cannot be neglected without present mischief or even danger to the stability of our present institutions. Constitutionalists ought to keep that undeniable fact in view.

Take the latest instance. Lord John Russell's anti-Papal measure is a bad measure; not, of course, in the estimation of his own party, but in that of every other party. Men differ as to the grounds: some think it ludicrously inefficient and imbecile; others think it retrograde and tyrannical; a third set think it tyrannical in purpose and imbecile in substance. In fact, there is a manifest majority in Parliament that totally condemns the measure: but the Ministry ought to be prevented from carrying that bad measure; the Ministry that persists in advancing measures imbecile or inefficient, but in either case bad, ought to be ousted simply because its measures are bad. That is not only reason enough; it ought to be with the Opposition reason paramount. An Opposition is not bound to trouble itself with ulterior questions; those are for the next Ministry to consider. If Mr. Disraeli considers a measure inadequate, Mr. Roebuck mischievously intended but insignificant, Lord Camoys inapposite, Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden irrelevant, all those men at least agree in the one broad opinion that the measure is bad; as men out of office they ought to concur in preventing that measure, in ousting the Government which perseveres with it.

It is for want of this simple and direct procedure that parties are stultified, that public affairs are brought to a dead lock, and that the country is governed by the Omnipotence of Impotence.

What would happen if the Opposition were to succeed in slaying the Russell Cabinet? Nothing at all

disastrous to the country. Suppose the Queen were to "send for" Lord Stanley: well, he is pledged to try his hand at something for the agriculturists, labourers included, and it would *not* be Protection. Suppose it were the Duke of Newcastle, with such men as Gladstone, Graham, Adderley, and Cardwell: why then we should have a Government of men with some more statesmanlike aspirations. Suppose it were Cobden: we should have financial reform, extension of the suffrage, and public education. In any case, even if we did not attain at once the very beau ideal of Government, we should at least have movement, one step in the direction of nobler statesmanship, *some* life, and a certain gain in the increased importance, because renewed activity, of the more popular public men. *All* parties spoil their own interest and defraud the public by tolerating a worthless quietism. Practically, the present Ministry is the great obstacle to all the large measures most desired by the public—amended taxation, extended suffrage, public education, poor law reform, *every* reform: it is true that the next Ministry could not give us all those things; but it could not, like the present, debar us from all. The first step in advance is to remove the universal obstacle.

THE EYE OF THE POLICE UPON US!

If ever men were blanched with terror, the dark and bloodthirsty conspirators who daily devise their machinations at the *Leader* Office are the men! Fierce as they are,—bold, big, muscular men, armed to the teeth—(their very toothpicks are poignards)—who sleep upon cannonballs, and squander no end of money on turpentine and vitriol—terrible as they are they tremble behind their barricade, and the muskets drop from their hands as the rumour flies tremulous from mouth to mouth "The Police has its eye upon us!" The eye of the Police—you know what that is? Imagine yourself furtively scaling the balcony which will lead you to your mistress (or descending the area steps if your affections have a culinary bias), using the cloak of night to cover your designs—and a Policeman suddenly flashing his bull's eye upon you, thus "betraying your intent" while he remains all the while shrouded in mysterious darkness! The situation is not enviable, but what are your sensations compared with ours!

When first we heard that the Police had sent for a complete file of our journal, we were puzzled. Surely, we thought, they can't accuse us of not "moving on"? The Austrian Embassy had also been so obliging as to send for our invaluable writing—probably with a view to the Emperor's making a grand Socialist experiment! But this conjunction of the Austrian Embassy and Scotland-yard seemed to imply more than a calm philosophic desire to understand Socialism. We were not terrified, we were simply puzzled.

At last the murder is out. In an article on the *World's Show and the World's Democracy*, the last *John Bull* discloses all our conspiracy, and draws a picture such as must alarm even the stoical police. Our Readers are familiar with our department called "European Democracy," wherein among other atrocities appeared MAZZINI's proposal for the Italian Loan—a proposal which has been heartily responded to. The *John Bull* says:—

"Their note of preparation is not loud, their plan of action simple to a fault. While a portion of them, ungenerously and ungratefully abusing the rights of hospitality, are labouring to disseminate their principles under the name of 'the European Democracy' in this country, which has too readily accorded them an asylum; others have located themselves in defiance almost of the feeble local authorities in the very centre of the European Continent, and have established there a focus for their operations. Under the pretence of a national loan, they are levying black mail upon the inhabitants of the countries which they hope again to revolutionize, working upon the patriotic sympathies of some, and upon the wholesome fears of others, who by their contributions to the exchequer of the 'European Democracy,' purchase security for themselves in the event of another subversion of the established order of things. With the money so obtained, which is said to amount to a large sum, a regular recruiting service is carried on under the personal superintendence of Mazzini; and, strange to say, the recruits, most of them political desperadoes, are shipped off to England, where they are to be provided with arms, and to be constituted into an invading force. While this is going on in Switzerland, another of the revolutionary chiefs, Garibaldi, is collecting a legion of patriotic heroes on the other side of the Atlantic, consisting partly of European vagabonds like himself, and partly of freebooters, who have learned the art of predatory warfare in the Mexican and Cuban expeditions."

The mustering such an army is of itself a portent of evil; but how does it affect England? At a first glance, the unsuspicious mind sees nothing; those who—like the *John Bull*—have the great

Conservative interests to defend, see deeper, and say:—

"But suppose, which is far from impossible or improbable, that, being aware of 'the defenceless state of Britain,' having ascertained the chances of success from their confederates who have been residing amongst us for the last two or three years, and have actually been speculating upon 'the decline of England,' Mazzini and Garibaldi contemplate, as a primary object, the pillage of London, beginning with the World's Show in Hyde-park, where the work of riot and destruction may be commenced with the greatest ease in the confusion which awaits us—suppose that the revolutionary fraternity in Leicester-square and its purlieus have not been altogether idle among our own population, that they have the means, when the time shall have arrived, of calling to their standard the Chartist and Socialist rabble which houses in this metropolis, and the men—*ay*, and the women—capable of bearing arms, of the 150,000 or 200,000 Irish vagrants who, under the fostering care of the 'Catholic' Church, have nestled in London, being imported, it seems, in shiploads, at a shilling a-head, by 'charitable' captains—suppose this to be the primary object of the 'European Democracy,' what means, we desire to know, has our Government taken to meet, or rather to prevent, so grave a danger?"

Ah! Suppose! . . .

The means taken by the Government to meet so great a danger are—First, a purchase, money down, of a complete set of the *Leader*! By that bold stroke they mark their men. The bull's eye is flashed upon us, and we, who yesterday imagined our bloodthirsty schemes were maturing under the shadow of complete obscurity, suddenly find the Austrian Embassy watching us, and Colonel Mayne, from his castle in Scotland-yard, "has his eye upon us."

From this moment we eat our words! Our language will become mild, urbane, official; we shall tie up our arguments with red tape. We will take our view of the Condition of England through the Queen's Speech. The rabble-rousing words we have been accustomed to throw from behind our barricade—the vitriol of eloquence—will henceforth be exchanged for the genteel words in the Dictionary, and the politest of statistics. Reader, you know what ruffians we *have* been; henceforth see the effect of Colonel Mayne's bull's eye!

THE PROTECTIONIST POLICY.

HAS Mr. Disraeli attained that time of life, when it becomes impossible to adapt oneself to the circumstances of the time, but one must continue to wear the costume, the thoughts, the conversation, and even the arrangements of a bygone day? It would seem so. As the old beau believes that when the world grows wiser, it will arrive back at powder and knee breeches, so Mr. Disraeli hopes that political economy of the old school is but the transition state to the older school of Protection! And he aspires to be a leader of the nation! Yet he is a reader of history, and for all his gay versatility a philosopher; and he knows that although fanciful disquisitionists have imagined cycles in the progress of the world, which bring it round to the same point, the repetition is always original; as some singers, on being encored, give a new song. Now we do not desire to see *any* real principle die out, and therefore we regret to see Conservatism committing suicide in the person of Benjamin its ruler.

Looking forward to the renewal of Protection in "the next Parliament," Mr. Disraeli hints at certain provisional measures, and asks the present Ministers to cook them up for him. He fancies that unbounded blessings would shower down upon the farmers if they were only permitted to cultivate tobacco. Under "protection" we should suppose. For not to speak of the fiscal difficulties connected with a revenue of £4,500,000 a-year, it is obvious that the cultivation of tobacco would be no source of profit to the British grower. But why does the farmer not grow flax? That would yield a handsome profit to the farmer, and afford liberal wages to the labourer without any disturbance to the revenue. Mr. Disraeli is indignant at the taxes on malt and spirits, which, no doubt, check the consumption of barley in some degree; but then they produce £16,000,000 a-year. For our own part, we would rather see those sixteen millions raised by a well-regulated Property tax; but would the landlords prefer that? Then there is the £12,000,000 of local taxation and its unequal distribution; but the farmer pays no more than his fair share of it, in many cases not so much, through the cruel way in which the poor are driven off the land; flooding the towns with pauperism produced by land monopoly.

If Mr. Disraeli wishes to be a leader of his day, he really must take the trouble to investigate living facts and convictions, and not continue to

write upon the facts and convictions of ten, twenty, or thirty years back. The time is gone by for talking about war prices and protection, or even tobacco duties and the sacred economy of rent. Rent is *not* a necessary consequence of economy, but it is the consequence only of a perfectly artificial thing,—private property in land; and a very embarrassing consequence it has become. But, to take the bearings of his position, the advocate of the agriculturists may ask a few very simple questions of Mr. Disraeli.

We have free trade: Are the agriculturists content? Are the working classes in any branch of industry content?

If not, is it possible to go back to Protection? Is there any prospect that a majority of the country will be won back to that conviction?

When? Are the agriculturists, especially the farmers and labourers, to wait till Mr. Disraeli finds a Parliament ready to reëact Protection? Are the working classes in field or shop to endure their grievances and hardships till that day, and only to "grin and bear it?"

Is Mr. Disraeli really trying to do what he professes? Has he taken any steps to prepare for the election of a Parliament which shall fairly represent the practical agriculturists, or any branch of industry?

Whether Mr. Disraeli understands the matter or not, we know that all these questions must be answered in the negative, and that if he is not prepared to help in solving the *next* question others will do it without him. Steps must be taken to secure a fair representation of industry in all its branches, not omitting the workers of the looms, nor the agriculturists, nor the labourers of the fields; not omitting the innumerable traders of the middle class now hopelessly toiling against that bankruptcy which is *certain* for so many. A common want must unite all these classes. They will not for ever consent to "grin and bear it." Agriculture cannot continue the struggle without some serious change for its benefit. Free trade has not sufficed, has not really affected the fundamental condition of industry. The wealth vaunted by Sir Charles Wood is true, of classes; but it only the more tantalizes the bulk of the nation, with the farmers and their labourers. At present there is mistrust between farmers and labourers; and men like Mr. Disraeli, who think of elevating those two classes without removing that distrust by speaking the truth to them, are not doing the work of *true* Protectionists. They are dividing the bulls that the lions may continue to feed. But, as our own Fabulist said a year ago, the lions are growing old and toothless; and some will be found to tell the fact to the bulls. Rent-receivers are not "agriculturists," or "field cultivators,"—often the reverse; for they are often exilers of labour and field-scarers. Meanwhile the real agriculturists, the working farmers and the labourers, shall be told that their worst troubles are produced by artificial causes, by causes that can be prevented; that ruinous farming and starvation wages continue by favour of causes that can be removed; just as the working classes of towns are rapidly awakening to the same truth—that low wages, and the contest of class with class which beats down the profits of fair trade, are the fatal consequences of causes which can be removed. Once admit that fact, and they will unite to demand the removal of those causes. Having free trade we see more clearly that we do want something more—a something which Protection purported to furnish: will the Protectionists join in the search and the struggle for that *next* public good?

COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

ENGAGED in the struggle for duties gained or duties saved, the Customs and the Dock Companies are trying to blast each other's character. The trial will probably not close before we go to press, so numerous is the array of witnesses called on the side of the defence; in any event, however, the spectacle is disgusting and even alarming.

Say that the charge advanced by the Board of Customs is true—then we have a great trading corporation, governed by most honourable men, convicted of frauds at once petty and gigantic. If we seek to excuse such practices, we must find the most valid excuse, in the present disposition of English society, to rely on mere trading motives. The question of questions in trade is, "Will it pay?" Gain is the test of all merit. Trading principles have avowedly become the paramount practical rule in statesmanship and in daily life. But the love of gain is not a noble motive; it can-

not safely be accepted as the chief motive even among trading bodies; it cannot save them from temptations to fraud—from evasions of duty among merchants—from adulteration such as we recently described among traders—from the universal disposition to undersell and to compensate abated price by a fraud upon the consumer or somebody else. If the charge advanced against the Dock Company is true, it discloses extensive and alarming rottenness in our trading system.

If it is false? Why, then, it discloses something scarcely less shocking. True or false, the most sweeping laxities have taken place in the supervision of the Customs; the Department itself now says that there have been wholesale embezzlement of "samples," wholesale shifting of goods, and wholesale manufacture of "waste," under the very noses of its officers. If the charge is true, the Department has been guilty of systematic neglect of duties, which is, in fact, ample proof of grossly demoralized condition in the Department. If the charge is false, it is an attempt to cover the laxity of the officials by imputing crime to a public body of respectable merchants.

Such is the condition to which we are brought by the morals of what the *Times* calls "our boasted competitive system." That system is shaking itself to its centre, from its summit to its foundation, by its own internal struggles and discords. We wish to know what is to become of the boasted integrity of our merchants and traders, whose bond used to be their word?

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES.

To understand the full force of the protest against the continuance of transportation, let us see what it is in the region of its completest development: Van Diemen's Land is still the favoured portion of the Australasian lands blessed with the system to which Lord Grey clings so fondly.

As far back as 1838 the horrible evils of convictism were brought before the House of Commons by Sir William Molesworth. The committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the penal settlements laid bare a mass of iniquity that few could have recognised as possible in humanity. Revelations too appalling to be alluded to, poured in on the members in a scorching torrent of hot iniquity; and measures—feeble, halting, half-hearted measures—were then taken to divert, but not to stop, this torrent. Assignment was exchanged for the ticket-of-leave system; and for a time Captain Maconochie's grand philanthropy in Norfolk Island converted, what had been worse than the lowest hell, into a colony of erring, but improving, men. But party intrigues and personal enmity interfered with the progress of this brave man; and all other measures to the relief of the colonists were either quashed or neutralized. Protests, petitions, prayers were alike unavailing. Australia and Van Diemen's Land were still the great prisons of England, tenanted by "vast hordes of criminals, with nothing but their keepers;" and their resources still went to fatten our criminals and to dig the grave of their own prosperity. At last, in 1847, the Home Government, through Mr. Gladstone, signified its intention of forming a new convict establishment in North Australia, for the purpose of relieving New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land from a pressure that almost annihilated them. It would be an endless task to give the Blue Book and the number of each despatch from which we draw our information: it is sufficient to say that the Parliamentary papers and Blue Books from 1847 to 1850, contain every fact that we shall state, and every authority from which we quote. These intentions were confirmed by the "royal sign manual." A few months saw a change of Ministry and the Whigs in office. Lord Grey writes to the then Governor, Sir C. A. Fitzroy, and intimates the resolution of the Government to abandon the new establishment in North Australia, together with their revocation of the royal letters patent. Not long after this, he writes to Sir William Denison, the Whig Governor, in these words:—"It is the intention of her Majesty's Government to stop, altogether, the transportation to Van Diemen's Land, of male convicts at all events, for the space of two years." The same resolution was announced in Parliament; and several high-sounding phrases and liberal promises deluded the unknowing into the belief that Lord Grey was in earnest, and the Government disposed to honesty and truth. Sir William Denison repeated this fair-seeming promise to the Tasmanians, throwing them into convulsions of gratitude and loyalty. His announcement was made the first week in February, 1847. On the

tenth of that month he wrote twice to Lord Grey, imploring an immense influx of convicts as the only means whereby the country could be saved. Pledges, royal words, philanthropic principles, moral sentiments were speedily forgotten; ship after ship laden with convicts anchored in the bays of Tasmania; and ship after ship of free emigrants, which the Government had promised to send out in counterbalance to the convicts, passed those bays to anchor in others where there was more influence and more wealth. The vacillation of the Colonial-office was equal to its untruthfulness. At one time the population of Norfolk Island was to be transferred to Tasman's Peninsula; at another Norfolk Island was to be regenerated by the lash and the bayonet. Now the panacea of convictism was the ticket-of-leave system. Now the payment of £15 was to reform the criminal and make him whole and free. Everything most contradictory and most quackish emanated from the Colonial-office, and almost all experiments were tried but those of earnestness and sincerity. What has been the result? In Van Diemen's Land at this moment, the convict population is rather more than three-fourths of the whole; the male convicts somewhere as seven to one of the female; and the press and speakers at public meetings affirm that nine-tenths of the crimes committed in the colony are committed by the convicts. This is the result of solid panaceas and Whig half-heartedness, and this is the working of the famous ticket-of-leave system—a system that even Sir William Denison, Government tool as he is, faintly repudiates as injurious and illusory. Its effect on the minds of the convicts is most extraordinary. As soon as they are landed, comparatively free men, they are filled with the wildest notions of wealth and luxury, and reject, as too mean for acceptance, wages beyond the brightest dream of an industrious and a virtuous English labourer. This is so notoriously the case, that it has been made the subject of Government despatches, and the golden visions of imaginative criminals have been made to lighten the usually dull contents of official communications.

The present specific is worthy of its antecedents. All convicts wishing to procure their tickets of leave, and to obtain conditional pardons, are required to pay to the Government a certain sum, proportioned to their original sentences, as thus:—Men transported for seven years must pay the sum of £7 10s. in one year and a half; men transported for ten years, £10 in two years; for fifteen years, £15 in three years, &c. &c. To ensure the payment of this sum, no convict is allowed to pass into the hands of an employer until he, the master, shall have guaranteed £5 yearly to the Government. This scheme shows no contemptible genius of finance and finesse; for it is practically a tax paid by the colony for men whom it loathes and repudiates, and morally a compromise by gold for crime. It has been directly and decidedly protested against by the colonists. In public meetings and newspaper articles it has met with the severest reprehension, and its transparent falseness exposed. We make no doubt but that a firm attitude on the part of the Tasmanians will obtain them relief from this, as from all other obnoxious burdens; for a Whig Government is notorious for its tyranny to weakness, and its submission to opposition. With the example of the Cape before it, Van Diemen's Land need not fear. It has but to follow that precedent.

LANDLORD.—In truth whether we look for direct or indirect service from landlords, we look in vain. In vain we try to discover on what pretence they extract from us a rental of £50,000,000 per annum. Unlike the profits of the capitalist, it is not the payment for the use of capital, for this was and is advanced by the cultivator. It is not for labour; they touch no tool nor plough. It is not for their agricultural knowledge; they exceed themselves in patronizing it. Rent is the least justifiable of the many drains, which, united, condemn the labourer of the wealthiest country in the world to live as those of the poorest; the peasant of the most civilized nation to fare worse than those of the most retrograde.—*Holt's Social Science.*

EDITORIAL COMPLIMENTS.—The editor of a Galway paper, describing the qualifications of the conductor of a rival publication, sums up in the following off-hand manner:—"But why waste so much space with such a worthless subject, whose conduct is as notorious as he is himself despicable—a poor, worn-out coxcomb, composed of paint and patches—and although his days are dwindled to the shortest span, he can still descend to anything—even to the discharge of the last honours of the 'Drop.' That, to be sure, would come easy to him, for he was characterized for keeping a 'good drop' when he had the 'Shebeenhouse' some years ago in this town." This last admission is made with evident reluctance; but, for fine vigorous expression, the paragraph completely takes the wind out of the sails of our Transatlantic contemporaries.

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.*

THE death of AUDUBON, the great American naturalist, in his seventy-sixth year, will be heard with a sigh by all who have read his incomparable work. He was truly a Naturalist; to live in the wild woods and patiently watch the habits of the birds was with him a passion, and the ardent enthusiasm he felt in his subject gave to his writing a freshness and a glow which had the effect of genius. To read him was like living in the woods.

FANNY KEMBLE is at this moment in Paris, where she is to deliver her Shakspeare Readings; and we have no doubt will gather "golden opinions from all sorts of people." There is a large, an enormous public of English alone; then, also, we must add thereto the Parisians ambitious of literary culture, who for some years past have been talking incessantly of *Le vieux Will* and GREAT WILLIAMS (as SHE called him), but who as yet have not gone much beyond "That is the question," and the *Hamlet*, which the great DUMAS condescended—at leisure moments—to rewrite and make "logical." Beyond these are a few honest students of SHAKSPEARE who have a genuine love and a genuine knowledge of him—although it may be difficult to persuade Englishmen that a Frenchman can understand "the Swan." From these three sources FANNY KEMBLE may fairly calculate on large audiences. Were MACREADY to go to Paris he would attract immense crowds. They know him well and admire him.

Some weeks ago we announced that LAMARTINE was engaged upon a *Histoire du Directoire* as a continuation of his *Girondins*, and we recounted the magnificent offer he made to one of our own publishers respecting it. That he *did* contemplate such a work we are well assured; and as a proof we refer to the fact that LECOQ, the Paris publisher, twice announced it in his catalogue, specifying the extent and price of the work—4 volumes 8vo. at 20 francs. Since that, GRANIER DE CASAGNAC has taken up the same subject for feuilleton publication, and LAMARTINE suddenly retires from the field, and announces in lieu of his work on the Directory a *Histoire de la Restauration*, in 8 vols., 8vo., price 40 francs, the first volume of which is to be ready in April. The statement of the *Literary Gazette*, in its Paris correspondence, that LAMARTINE receives two thousand pounds a volume, we believe to be wholly fabulous, and contradicted by the entire condition of Literature in France; his original agreement was 12,000 francs for four volumes. We have reason to know also that LAMARTINE is not actually engaged in writing both histories, the "Restoration" being substituted for the "Directory."

While on this subject of history let us mention that M. ELIAS REGNAULT has undertaken to continue the *Dix Ans* of LOUIS BLANC (a bold attempt!) in the shape of *L'Histoire de Huit Ans* 1840-48. We hear also that LOUIS VIARDOT, the husband of the incomparable *Fides*, has written a *Histoire des Arabes et des Mores d'Espagne*: the excellent translator of *Don Quixote* ought to produce a striking work on this magnificent subject. Lovers of modern literature will welcome GEORGE SAND's new drama *Claudie*—of which we will speak at length on some other occasion. Lovers of early literature will be glad to hear that M. DE VILLERMEQUE, who has so often earned their gratitude, has now translated the *Poème des Bardes Bretons du VI. Siècle*. But that is of insignificant interest compared with the work just edited by F. H. VON DER HAGEN, entitled *Gesamtabenteuer. Hundert Altdeutsche Erzählungen: Ritter- und Pfaffen-Mären Stadt- und Dorfgeschichten*. A work which stands in somewhat the same relation to Fiction as the

Lays of the Minnesingers to Poetry; and is interesting as compared with the Italian and French Novelists of the Middle Ages. All antiquarians will pounce upon this work; and, perhaps, Mr. BOHN will find it worth translating for his series.

Some curious calculations connected with the press lie before us, which show that the three parties of "Order"—"Bonapartist"—and "Opposition" are thus distributed. The "Party of Order" (Legitimists and Orleanists) daily subscribes for 85,000 copies; the "Bonapartists" for 60,000 copies; the "Opposition" (Republicans and Socialists), 129,000. With regard to particular papers, these are some of the figures:—

Le Constitutionnel.....	30,000 copies.
La Presse.....	24,000 "
La Patrie.....	14,000 "
Journal des Débats.....	11,000 "
Le National.....	5,000 "

In Madrid, it appears, there are fifty-six journals and reviews. The three parties of Carlists, Progressists, and Moderates, are represented by *La Esperanza*, *El Clamor Publico*, and *El Herald*; of which the Carlist paper has by far the greatest circulation in the provinces. But whoever casts his eye over one of these Spanish papers, and compares it with a French or English paper, will see at once the difference between an active political life and a stagnant indifference and ignorance.

The stupid tyranny which disgraces Prussia at this moment is strikingly illustrated in the case of FREILIGRATH, the Republican poet, stated elsewhere in our columns. We will not dwell upon the subject; it is enough to point the attention of our readers that way, and leave it to the comment of their own indignant feelings.

FOURIER ON THE PASSIONS.

The Passions of the Human Soul. By Charles Fourier. Translated from the French by the Reverend John Reynell Morell. With Critical Annotations, a Biography of Fourier, and a General Introduction, by Hugh Doherty. 2 vols. London: Baillière.

THE existence in society of abnormal men—of men by no means insane in any proper sense of that word, yet differing from the mass of their fellows by the possession of some mental peculiarity or redundancy, producing the appearance of a craze in all that they do—is a fact yet to be taken largely into account in our speculations regarding the causes that have determined and are still determining the career of the human race. Such abnormal men are to be found everywhere; we sometimes detect one by the unnatural haze of his eye, among our fellow-passengers in an omnibus. And in history there have been instances of abnormals, if we may so call them, who, chancing to add to the peculiarity, whatever it was, that made them such, a colossal allowance of all the ordinary and normal faculties of human nature, have been enabled by this double endowment to play a part transcending all common estimates of what the intellect of man can do. In this class of men—men abnormal in the form, and at the same time conspicuous for the degree, of their faculties—may be ranked Socrates, Mahomet, Swedenborg, and several others. Among women, Joan of Arc ought perhaps to be placed in the same category. For the full appreciation of such characters, one must employ a higher calculus than that which suffices for the appreciation of the more usual examples of human eminence. To seek, for example, to explain Mahomet or his activity, by any notions of what mere intellectual originality coupled with moral vehemence may effect, sinking the fact that he believed himself to have habitual intercourse with angels, is at once arrant cowardliness in speculation, and a falsification of history.

In regarding these abnormals, the higher specimens of which have figured so powerfully in history, it is possible, we think, to distinguish two kinds of them. To one class we would give the name of *Sensitives*, or *Sensitive Abnormals*, making use for that purpose of the language of Baron Reichenbach. This chemist has proved that a considerable proportion of the human species—perhaps not less than one-fourth or one-fifth—possess a nervous organization that renders them sensible of phenomena in nature that completely escape the notice of others. These sensitives, as he calls them, feel distinct effluences from magnets, crystals, the human body, the sun, the moon, trees,

stars, and, in fact, all substances, and organisms whatever; they perceive flames and lights rising from crystals, magnets, the human hand, new-made graves, &c. &c.; in short, they are cognizant, under natural or artificial circumstances, of a perfect infinitude of phenomena passing in the universe unrecognized by the majority of men—phenomena which sometimes affect their own being in a manner astoundingly powerful. Other inquirers carry out Reichenbach's investigations so far as to make *clairvoyance*, the power of prophecy, the power of healing by touch, &c., alleged matters of pure science. Without going into that controversy, we simply avail ourselves of the now admitted fact that a considerable proportion of human beings are so constituted as to be cognizant of miscellaneous phenomena to which the human race in general is quite blind. A man possessing this redundancy of perceiving-power in so high a degree as to be accounted a seer, or visionary in the mesmeric circles, we would call a *Sensitive Abnormal*; and any person in whom this sensitive abnormalism should be found conjoined with a large allowance of the ordinary powers and virtues of human nature, would be likely, we think, to play a striking part among his fellow men. But, distinct from this class of abnormals, we think we perceive some evidence of the existence of another class, whom we would name *Dogmatics*, or *Dogmatic Abnormals*. These are persons who differ from their fellows, not by an excess of passive perceiving-power, but by an excess of active conceiving-power. They have come into the world, not with a sensitive organization which enables them to take in a wider range of phenomena than other people, but with some idiosyncrasy or derangement in what Kant calls the *a priori* forms or moulds that constitute the thinking faculty. The internal mechanism by which they conceive and work up what the outward world presents to them is unusual, so that though they may see only the same phenomena as other people, they necessarily acquire from these phenomena quite a different set of notions or conceptions. By the structure of their minds they are led to affirm most positively numerous propositions for which no one except themselves can see a particle of evidence. Persons so constituted we call *Dogmatics*, from the fact that their attitude with respect to their fellow-men in maintaining their opinions must necessarily be one of constant asseveration without the possibility of proof. It is clear that a person may possess this dogmatic species of abnormalism without possessing the other; and it is clear also that if a person were an abnormal of both kinds, that is, if he were both a Sensitive and a Dogmatic—all his mental manifestations would be in a double degree astonishing and unusual. It is not unlikely that some of the more notable personages of history have walked through life with this twofold consciousness of separation from the rest of the race.

Fourier, we believe, belonged rather to the class of Dogmatic, than to that of Sensitive, Abnormals. We do not know that he was in any degree endowed with the power of perceiving more phenomena than other people; but certainly there have been few instances of men equally dogmatic, equally incited by the necessities of their intellectual structure to affirm propositions lying wholly out of the circle of possible evidence. Born in 1772, and educated for business, Fourier commenced his career as a teacher of mankind at the mature age of between thirty and forty; and the mass of writings which he produced between that period and his death in 1837, part of which he published in his lifetime, but the greater portion of which he left to his disciples in manuscript, contains probably a greater amount of pure solitary affirmation, pure despotic interference with the world's ordinary ways of thinking, than any other mass of writings in the whole library of modern literature. It is chiefly as the father of one of the prevalent forms of Socialism that Fourier is known; but those who know him only in this aspect can have no idea of the real character of the man. The social theories of Fourier were but a fraction, and, it may be said, the most sensible and business-like fraction of his multifarious contributions to modern thought; and one must turn to his speculations in cosmogony and physical science in general, if one would estimate the whole amount of that craze, eccentricity, or whatever else we may choose to call it, that distinguished him from his contemporaries. His Socialism was, indeed, in his own mind a deduction from, or, at least, the practical complement of his cosmological and psychological speculations; but he was himself willing that it should be viewed apart by the uninitiated

and discussed on its own merits, his more esoteric doctrines being left as a kind of locked chest of treasure to be appreciated by future times.

In social and political subjects, we have said, Fourier is comparatively a sane and intelligible man; it is in physical science, and in what pertains to it, that he runs his career of dogmatic riot. Some of his extravagances in this field of speculation must be already familiar to our readers—matter of laughter as they have been for the last few years. We shall, however, mention a few of them by way of illustration.

The stars, according to Fourier, are animated beings like men. They form groups and societies, and exercise the functions of procreation and industry like human individuals. Their ordinary industry consists in ever and anon producing new substances or combinations—new minerals, new vegetables, new animals—which they exchange with each other. Thus the various substances on our globe are contributions to it from all the members of our particular solar system. The elephant, the oak, and the diamond come from the Sun; the horse, the lily, and the ruby from Saturn; the cow, the jonquil, and the topaz from Jupiter; the dog, the violet, and the opal are indigenous to the earth itself; and so on with the animals, plants, and minerals. All the members of our solar system are inhabited by beings like ourselves, more or less advanced in faculty. The planet Mercury is the most highly gifted. The whole duration of our earth is to be 80,000 years, and it is now only about the 8000th year of its age. Our species consists of the mixed progeny of sixteen distinct races originally created—nine of which were placed in the old and seven in the American hemisphere. We are as yet in a rude state; and in the process of time the whole constitution of our earth, and of its inhabitants, will sustain extraordinary changes. The polar ice will disappear; the salt sea-water will be changed into a kind of lemonade; there will be a climate universally agreeable; new minerals will be created by the use of which in optical instruments we shall sweep a greater horizon of our sphere than at present, and also see through what are now opaque bodies; new vegetables will be created with wonderful properties; and new animals will be created by means of which, when trained like our present horses, we shall travel over the earth at immense rates, swim in the sea, or fly safely in the air. We shall also be able to hold telegraphic communications with the planets, the sun, and even the most distant stars—which last are not really so distant as they seem, for at present our solar system is begirt by a kind of vitiating filmy sphere or crystalline, which beats back the gaze of our eyes and telescopes, and renders all our conclusions with respect to the sidereal universe false and nugatory. When the earth has reached its climax of improvement, it will begin to decline and go into second infancy; and, finally, when its course is completely run, it will discharge its freight of human beings into some other planet, which will continue the old song in a higher strain. Meanwhile, men die and are born again by turns. When men die they go into an invisible world, or heaven, where they remain for a period the double of that during which they have lived on earth; then they reënter other bodies and lead a new life—he who was formerly a king, reappearing, perhaps, as a beggar, and vice versa. Lastly, all things and processes have been constructed by the Deity on principles of free and measured series; that is, either on principles of ordinary numerical sequence, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, &c., or on a principle of recurring intervals and accords, analogous to that of the musical scale. What is done according to free series, constitutes, as it were, the prose or rough work of the universe; the measured or musical series has been reserved by nature for her grander efforts, her poetic exertions. The numbers 7 and 12 are the favourite numbers of the Deity.

We could multiply these instances of Fourier's extravagant dogmatism by the addition of thousands more. These, however, will suffice to verify our view of Fourier as a man abnormal in the mechanism or *a priori* forms of his thought. To make this assertion a little more precise, we should say, that his abnormalism consisted chiefly in these two things—a confusion in his mind between the faculties of conception and belief, as if two of his cerebral convolutions (to employ phrenological language) had run into one, so as to incorporate their functions; and an unprecedented development in his mind of the notion of universal unison, harmony, or analogy. In the first place, we fancy, whatever Fourier *thought*, whatever notion, or vagary arose in his mind, he

ran a great chance of believing it. Most men can discriminate between what merely rises up in their fancy, and what they are to consider true and give forth as such. Thus, in a whimsical moment, I could think that at the centre of the earth there lay a Seville orange stuck through with an ivory paper cutter, bearing the initials D. M. (Duncan M'Tavish?); but I should certainly not think of imparting the fact to my friends as a geological secret. Now, provided such a whimsy had arisen in Fourier's mind, and provided it had had some coherence with the sum-total of his other beliefs, we would not have guaranteed his not promulgating it as a bit of positive truth. That, however, which probably determined the greater portion of his whimsies, or, at least, determined which he should promulgate, and which cast aside, was his dominating notion of analogy as pervading the frame of the universe. From the minutest mineral atom, up to the grandest activities of the archangels, there ran, according to the conception of Fourier, a rhythm, a correspondence, a law of repetitions, identities, chords, and octaves. To his strange and abnormal mind, there was an analogy between the very conic sections themselves and the passions of man. The ellipse seemed to him something extremely resembling love; the circle bore a close resemblance to friendship; the parabola typified the feeling of consanguinity; and that semi-diabolic conic section, the hyperbola, was for all the world analogous to ambition. Full of this sense of the universe as a series of recurring analogies, he dashed with all the power of his mind into the work of universal speculation, caught at all the glimpses of analogy between discordant phenomena that came before him, as one might catch the ends of a billion of depending threads, and then elaborating all his items of observation under the guidance of a peculiar but arduous enough logic, he wove forth such a web of threads' ends as was never seen before.

To sum up, then, the idea of Fourier we have derived from a partial acquaintance with his writings, we would say that he was a man of very large general powers abnormally arranged and put together, who, having accumulated a great mass of excellent intellectual matter, common to him with the most gifted of his contemporaries, introduced into the midst of this matter a leaven of altogether special and idiosyncratic thought, and then proceeded to organize the two together into a homogeneous scientific compound. Hence the appearance of his writings—bristling in one page with the most repulsive tables and terminologies, or stuffed with the most laughter-provoking extravagances; yet presenting, in the next page, observations and generalities of the highest value, the rich produce of a most teeming brain, and calculated, either directly or by what they suggest, to influence the thoughts of his readers by a legitimate action, and to affect advantageously the course of social procedure. He is emphatically a writer who deserves to be read. Indeed, considering what reasons we are every day getting for believing that the *dicta* of the mere intuitional passion for analogies, which was so strong in Fourier, may coincide more than has hitherto been supposed with the conclusions arrived at by inductive science, we would even restrain somewhat the inevitable disposition to laugh at those effusions of Fourier's mind which seem at present to foam over the lip of the bowl of reason; and we would be disposed rather to encourage than to forbid the activity of men who should speculate in the same abnormal way. Willingly, while our men of science and inductive reasoning are hurrying their way onwards to conclusions, never asserting more than they at that moment see, would we let loose into the field of speculation from the other side a band of Dogmatics, wild with a phrensy that would have driven Bacon mad, to cast abroad over all their analogic gaze, and to flood the world with a sea of sheer affirmations. Mightily, we believe (and we might cite Oken and others as examples), would the Dogmatics draw on the Inductives; and in a thousand points the two bands would meet at last. For, after all, though it is a fine thing, in ranging the universe, to know what is the case, it is perhaps a finer thing still to know, out of one's own soul, what *must* be the case. *Ne nos, ob hoc dictum, trucidetis, O filii Baconis!*

So much, in general, regarding a writer with whom it is incumbent on readers of the *Leader* to be in some degree acquainted; our remarks on the particular work before us we must reserve for another paper.

LAVENGRO.

Lavengro; The Scholar, the Gipsy, the Priest. By George Murray. 3 vols.

LAVENGRO is worth reading, but not worth re-reading. A certain freshness of scene, with real vigour of style, makes you canter pleasantly enough through the volumes; but when the journey is over you find yourself arrived Nowhere. It is not truth, it is not fiction; neither biography nor romance; not even romantic biography; but three volumes of sketches without a purpose, of narratives without an aim.

Mr. Borrow has hit the English taste by his union of the clerical and scholarly with what we may call *manly blackguardism*. His sympathies are all with the blackguards. Not with the ragged nondescripts of the streets, but the poetic vagabonds of the fields—the Rommany Chals—the Gipsies, who are as great in “horsetaming” as Hector of old, and great in the art of “self-defence” as any Greek before the walls of Troy—not to mention other peculiarities in respect of property and its conveyance which they share with the Greeks—the Gipsies in short who are vagabonds in the true wandering sense of the term. The English, as an active, energetic, independent race, have always admired the Gypsies; always too had a sneaking admiration for fighters. Here then comes Mr. Borrow to chant with Homeric enthusiasm the praises of “bruisers.” Harken:—

“I think I now see them upon the bowling-green, the men of renown, amidst hundreds of people with no renown at all, who gaze upon them with timid wonder. Fame, after all, is a glorious thing, though it lasts only for a day. There's Cribb, the champion of England, and perhaps the best man in England; there he is, with his huge massive figure, and face wonderfully like that of a lion. There is Belcher, the younger, not the mighty one, who is gone to his place, but the Teucer Belcher, the most scientific pugilist that ever entered a ring, only wanting strength to be, I won't say what. He appears to walk before me now, as he did that evening, with his white hat, white great coat, thin genteel figure, springy step, and keen, determined eye. Crosses him, what a contrast! grim, savage Shelton, who has a civil word for nobody, and a hard blow for anybody—hard! one blow, given with the proper play of his athletic arm, will unseize a giant. Yonder individual, who strolls about with his hands behind him, supporting his brown coat lappets, under-sized, and who looks anything but what he is, is the king of the light weights, so called—Randall! the terrible Randall, who has Irish blood in his veins! not the better for that, nor the worse; and not far from him is his last antagonist, Ned Turner, who, though beaten by him, still thinks himself as good a man, in which he is, perhaps, right, for it was a near thing; and ‘a better shentleman,’ in which he is quite right, for he is a Welshman. But how shall I name them all? they were there by dozens, and all tremendous in their way. There was Bulldog Hudson, and fearless Scrogins, who beat the conqueror of Sam the Jew. There was Black Richmond—no he was not there, but I knew him well; he was the most dangerous of blacks, even with a broken thigh. There was Purcell, who could never conquer till all seemed over with him. There was—what! shall I name thee last? ay, why not? I believe that thou art the last of all that strong family still above the sod, where mayst thou long continue—true piece of English stuff, Tom of Bedford—sharp as Winter, kind as Spring.”

Nay, he thinks the glory of England has departed with the departure of those heroes:—

“I have known the time when a pugilistic encounter between two noted champions was almost considered in the light of a national affair; when tens of thousands of individuals, high and low, meditated and brooded upon it, the first thing in the morning and the last at night, until the great event was decided. But the time is past, and many people will say, thank God that it is; all I have to say is, that the French still live on the other side of the water, and are still casting their eyes hitherward—and that in the days of pugilism it was no vain boast to say, that one Englishman was a match for two of t'other race; at present it would be a vain boast to say so, for these are not the days of pugilism.”

This, as we said, appeals to a large class of Englishmen, and though it would “shock” others and disgust a few, were it the only string to his bow, yet—lucky dog!—he has another and a safer string; *Under the boxing gloves there lies the Bible!* This chanter of Rommany, this companion of horse-stealers, this Homer of the ring, is also a Missionary and a *Lavengro* or “master of languages”—a high Tory and a rampant hater of Catholics! Now a compound of *Bell's Life* and *Exeter-hall* is a piquant novelty in literature. It has made Mr. Borrow famous.

His present book will stand no criticism—but it will bear reading for the graphic force and directness of the style, the fresh air which blows from its leaves, the “out of doorness” into which we all so willingly escape, and the strange company it introduces us to.

While still a child he shows himself a sap-engro, or snake-master:—

“It happened that my brother and myself were play-

ing one evening in a sandy lane, in the neighbourhood of this Pett camp; our mother was at a slight distance. All of a sudden, a bright yellow, and, to my infantine eye, beautiful and glorious, object made its appearance at the top of the bank from between the thick quickset, and, gliding down, began to move across the lane to the other side, like a line of golden light. Uttering a cry of pleasure, I sprang forward, and seized it nearly by the middle. A strange sensation of numbing coldness seemed to pervade my whole arm, which surprised me the more, as the object to the eye appeared so warm and sunlike. I did not drop it, however, but, holding it up, looked at it intently, as its head dangled about a foot from my hand. It made no resistance; I felt not even the slightest struggle; but now my brother began to scream and shriek like one possessed. ‘O mother, mother!’ said he, ‘the viper!—my brother has a viper in his hand!’ He then, like one frantic, made an effort to snatch the creature away from me. The viper now hissed again, and raised its head, in which were eyes like hot coals, menacing, not myself, but my brother. I dropped my captive, for I saw my mother running towards me; and the reptile, after standing for a moment nearly erect, and still hissing furiously, made off, and disappeared. The whole scene is now before me, as vividly as if it occurred yesterday—the gorgeous viper, my poor dear frantic brother, my agitated parent, and a frightened hen clucking under the bushes—and yet I was not three years old.

“It is my firm belief that certain individuals possess an inherent power, or fascination, over certain creatures, otherwise I should be unable to account for many feats which I have witnessed, and, indeed, borne a share in, connected with the taming of brutes and reptiles. I have known a savage and vicious mare, whose stall it was dangerous to approach, even when bearing provender, welcome, nevertheless, with every appearance of pleasure, an uncouth, wiry-headed man, with a frightfully seamed face, and an iron hook supplying the place of his right hand, one whom the animal had never seen before, playfully bite his hair, and cover his face with gentle and endearing kisses; and I have already stated how a viper would permit, without resentment, one child to take it up in his hand, whilst it showed its dislike to the approach of another by the fiercest hissings. Philosophy can explain many strange things, but there are some which are a far pitch above her, and this is one.”

He soon after tames a snake which he carries about with him in his bosom:—

“One day it happened that, being on my rambles, I entered a green lane which I had never seen before; at first it was rather narrow, but as I advanced it became considerably wider; in the middle was a drift-way with deep ruts, but right and left was a space carpeted with a sward of trefoil and clover; there was no lack of trees, chiefly ancient oaks, which, flinging out their arms from either side, nearly formed a canopy, and afforded a pleasing shelter from the rays of the sun, which was burning fiercely above. Suddenly a group of objects attracted my attention. Beneath one of the largest of the trees, upon the grass, was a kind of low tent or booth, from the top of which a thin smoke was curling; beside it stood a couple of light carts, whilst two or three lean horses or ponies were cropping the herbage which was growing nigh. Wondering to whom this odd tent could belong, I advanced till I was close before it, when I found that it consisted of two tilts, like those of wagons, placed upon the ground and fronting each other, connected behind by a sail, or large piece of canvas which was but partially drawn across the top; upon the ground, in the intervening space, was a fire, over which, supported by a kind of iron crowbar, hung a caldron; my advance had been so noiseless as not to alarm the inmates, who consisted of a man and woman, who sat apart, one on each side of the fire; they were both busily employed—the man was carding plaited straw, whilst the woman seemed to be rubbing something with a white powder, some of which lay on a plate beside her; suddenly the man looked up, and, perceiving me, uttered a strange kind of cry, and the next moment both the woman and himself were on their feet and rushing out upon me. I retreated a few steps, yet without turning to flee. I was not, however, without apprehension, which, indeed, the appearance of these two people was well calculated to inspire: the woman was a stout figure, seemingly between thirty and forty; she wore no cap, and her long hair fell on either side of her head like horse-tails half way down her waist; her skin was dark and swarthy, like that of a toad, and the expression of her countenance was particularly evil; her arms were bare, and her bosom was but half concealed by a slight bodice, below which she wore a coarse petticoat, her only other article of dress. The man was somewhat younger, but of a figure equally wild; his frame was long and lathy, but his arms were remarkably short, his neck was rather bent, he squinted slightly, and his mouth was much awry; his complexion was dark, but, unlike that of the woman, was more ruddy than livid; there was a deep scar on his cheek, something like the impression of a halfpenny. The dress was quite in keeping with the figure: in his hat, which was slightly peaked, was stuck a peacock's feather; over a waistcoat of hide, untanned and with the hair upon it, he wore a rough jerkin of russet hue; smallclothes of leather, which had probably once belonged to a soldier, but with which pipeclay did not seem to have come in contact for many a year, protected his lower man as far as the knee; his legs were cased in long stockings of blue worsted, and on his shoes he wore immense old-fashioned buckles. Such were the two beings who now came rushing upon me; the man was rather in advance, brandishing a ladle in his hand. ‘So I have caught you at last,’ said he; ‘I’ll teach ye, you young highwayman, to come skulking about my properties!’ Young as I was, I remarked that his manner of speaking was different from that of any people with whom I had been in the habit of associating. It was quite as strange as his

appearance, and yet it nothing resembled the foreign English which I had been in the habit of hearing through the palisades of the prison, he could scarcely be a foreigner. 'Your properties!' said I: 'I am in the King's-lane. Why did you put them there, if you did not wish them to be seen?'—'On the spy,' said the woman, 'hey? I'll drown him in the sludge in the toad-pond over the hedge.'—'So we will,' said the man, 'drown him anon in the mud!'—'Drown me, will you?' said I; 'I should like to see you! What's all this about? Was it because I saw you with your hands full of straw plait, and my mother there...?'—'Yes,' said the woman; 'what was I about?'—*Myself*. 'How should I know? Making bad money, perhaps!' And it will be as well here to observe, that at this time there was much bad money in circulation in the neighbourhood, generally supposed to be fabricated by the prisoners, so that this false coin and straw plait formed the standard subjects of conversation at Norman Cross.—'I'll strangle thee,' said the beldame, dashing at me. 'Bad money is it!'—'Leave him to me, wifelkin,' said the man, interposing; 'you shall now see how I'll baste him down the lane.'—*Myself*. 'I tell you what, my chap, you had better put down that thing of yours; my father lies concealed within my tepid breast, and if to me you offer any harm or wrong, I'll call him forth to help me with his forked tongue.'—*Man*. 'What do ye mean, ye Bengui's bantling? I never heard such discourse in all my life: playman's speech or Frenchman's talk—which, I wonder? Your father! Tell the mumping villain that if he comes near my fire I'll serve him out as I will you. Take that... Tiny Jesus! what have we got here? Oh, delicate Jesus! what is the matter with the child?'—I had made a motion which the viper understood; and now, partly disengaging itself from my bosom, where it had lain perdu, it raised its head to a level with my face, and stared upon my enemy with its glittering eyes. The man stood like one transfixed, and the ladle, with which he had aimed a blow at me, now hung in the air like the hand which held it; his mouth was extended, and his cheeks became of a pale yellow, save alone that place which bore the mark which I have already described, and this shone now portentously, like fire. He stood in this manner for some time; at last the ladle fell from his hand, and its falling appeared to rouse him from his stupor.—'I say, wifelkin,' said he, in a faltering tone, 'did you ever see the like of this here?'—But the woman had retreated to the tent, from the entrance of which her loathly face was now thrust, with an expression partly of terror and partly of curiosity. After gazing some time longer at the viper and myself, the man stooped down and took up the ladle; then, as if somewhat more assured, he moved to the tent, where he entered into conversation with the beldame in a low voice. Of their discourse, though I could hear the greater part of it, I understood not a single word; and I wondered what it could be, for I knew by the sound that it was not French. At last the man, in a somewhat louder tone, appeared to put a question to the woman, who nodded her head affirmatively, and in a moment or two produced a small stool, which she delivered to him. He placed it on the ground, close by the door of the tent, first rubbing it with his sleeve, as if for the purpose of polishing its surface.—*Man*. 'Now, my precious little gentleman, do sit down here by the poor people's tent; we wish to be civil in our slight way. Don't be angry, and say no; but look kindly upon us, and be satisfied, my precious little God Almighty.'—*Woman*. 'Yes, my gorgeous angel, sit down by the poor bodies' fire, and eat a sweetmeat. We want to ask you a question or two; only first put that serpent away.'—*Myself*. 'I can sit down, and bid the serpent go to sleep, that's easy enough; but as for eating a sweetmeat, how can I do that? I have not got one, and where am I to get it?'—*Woman*. 'Never fear, my tiny tawny, we can give you one, such as you never ate, I dare say, however far you may have come from.'—The serpent sunk into its usual resting-place, and I sat down on the stool. The woman opened a box, and took out a strange little basket or hamper, not much larger than a man's fist, and formed of a delicate kind of matting. It was sewed at the top; but, ripping it open with a knife, she held it to me, and I saw, to my surprise, that it contained candied fruits of a dark green hue, tempting enough to one of my age. 'There, my tiny,' said she, 'taste, and tell me how you like them.'

This commenced an acquaintance with gipsies and their Rommany which has given a colour to his whole life. But our great complaint of Lavengro is that we know not what to believe in it, there is such vulgar artifice of fiction and exaggeration spoiling almost all the scenes. A plain story of his life and adventures told in his direct style would have been invaluable; but in Lavengro there is no truth—at least none separable from the fiction.

The descriptions of scenery are often delightful—those of town detestable. There is also an offensive amount of "swagger" in the book; and pretensions are set up for which there seems no solid ground. To take only one example, it strikes us as remarkable that so much should be said about his knowledge of languages, and so little, so very little evidence given of even the most superficial knowledge. On one occasion he ventures upon a snatch of French dialogue, and puts forth such a sentence as this: "Il dit que tout l'équipage est en assez bon goût."—"He says that the equipage is altogether in good taste," is a phrase which in English no Lavengro could object to, and in the "French of Stratford atte Bowe," of which Dan Chaucer speaks, "en assez bon goût," may pass, but elsewhere "d'assez bon goût" would, we submit, be the phrase of a Lavengro.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON AND PROFESSOR COTES.

Correspondence of Sir Isaac Newton and Professor Cotes; including Letters of other Eminent Men. By J. Edleston, M.A. J. W. Parker.

THE first edition of the *Principia* appeared in 1687, when Newton was about forty-five years of age, and it was not until more than twenty years had rolled over that he could be prevailed upon to revert to this gigantic offspring of his youthful powers, so as to undertake the labour of making the necessary corrections and improvements for a second edition. At length, in 1709, through the laudable importunity of the celebrated Dr. Bentley, Newton was induced to commit the charge of watching this anxiously-desired work through the press to the celebrated Roger Cotes, then Plumian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge, and the first who occupied that chair. This is the Cotes at whose death, when only thirty-four years of age, Newton is reported to have said, "Had Cotes lived, we might have known something"—and yet there exists ample testimony in the correspondence before us to show, that Cotes won these golden opinions of the great master, not as the wages of submissive adulation, but as an honest tribute to his own intrinsic worth. On one occasion Cotes observes with that freedom which great and generous minds never misinterpret, "Your treatise on the Cubic Curves should be reprinted, for I think the enumeration is imperfect. I think there are some other things of less moment amiss in the same treatise"; and this to a man forty years his senior, and who has been charged by some with being of a jealous and querulous disposition.

The letters which passed between Newton and Cotes connected with the republication of the *Principia*, extend over a period of rather better than four years, the second edition having been printed at Cambridge in the Midsummer of 1713.

It is not uninteresting to notice, that Bentley was frequently the medium of communication between the author and editor, carrying packets from one to the other on his journeys between Cambridge and London.

These letters are published by the permission of the Master and Fellows, from a collection in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, which was given or left to the society by the Reverend Edward Hawkins, to whom they were bequeathed by Dr. Robert Smith, the author of the well-known treatises on Optics and Harmonics, who succeeded Cotes as Plumian Professor, and was the son of Cotes's uncle, and first tutor of John Smith, with whom Cotes appears to have kept up from the time he was a boy at St. Paul's School all through his life a brisk mathematical correspondence. Some letters between Cotes and Smith (the uncle) are given in the work before us, but we cannot make out from Mr. Edleston's rather unsatisfactory preface, whether or not they and some others which he has bound up with them, formed a part of the same collection with the *Principia* letters.

From the nature of its materials, notwithstanding certain great faults of style, Mr. Edleston's work cannot fail to reward the curiosity of all who take an interest in the life and times of one of the most illustrious of England's worthies. The value to the general reader is much enhanced by an excellent and minute synoptical view of all the ascertained facts of Sir Isaac's social and intellectual history, illustrated and enlivened by copious notes, evincing much diligence, research, and discrimination on the part of the editor, who is agreeable and amusing enough when he is content to write in his natural vein. We feel grateful to him for the care with which he has hunted up the minutest incidents of Sir Isaac's daily college life, such as the list of his "exits and entrances," his weekly buttry bills, the dividends which he received as Fellow of Trinity; nor are we indifferent to the information that, when engaged in making out his theory of light and colour, "to quicken his faculties and fix his attention, he confined himself to a small quantity of bread during all the time, with a little sack and water, of which, without any regulation, he took, as he found a craving or failure of spirits." This account is extracted from Dr. Cheyne's *Natural Method of Curing Diseases of the Body and Disorders of Mind* London. 1742. A modern school of medicine would, perhaps, recommend to discoverers a similar diet less the sack; we, on the contrary, on Liebigian principles, are advocates rather for a liberal supply of animal tissue to the stomach, and nitrogen to the brain (between whiles of working), when the latter is engaged upon its most arduous and exhausting function of elabo-

rating new ideas, and pursuing original trains of research.

We confess to having experienced great delight in conning over an examination paper in algebra, given by Newton to Flamsteed at a lecture in 1674, which Mr. Edleston has incorporated in his work. The questions in this paper are drawn up in the most approved modern Cambridge style, regularly numbered I. II. III. IV., with subdivisions lettered α , β , γ , δ , and are of the most elementary kind, such as a modern schoolboy could solve without difficulty in the first year of his apprenticeship to the symbolical art; and we think that it redounds to Newton's honour that he could descend from the sublime speculations in which he stood alone and unapproached, to the discharge of the most commonplace functions of a college tutor.

In casting our eye down Mr. Edleston's chronological synopsis, we observed that Newton was only in his twenty-third year when he published his first two papers on fluxions. Perhaps some of our readers may think this not less wonderful than the fact of a certain heaven-born financier becoming First Lord of the Treasury at the same age. The only fact we know to parallel (or perhaps to surpass) it is the publication by the Newton of our day, the venerable and glory-crowned Charles Frederick Gauss, of his *Magnum Opus*, on the theory of numbers at the age of seventeen—a production undeniably less prolific than those to which we have adverted in immediate physical applications, but not less marvellous as a monument of almost superhuman sagacity.

It would be easy to produce many examples from the collection before us in illustration of that magnanimous feature in Newton's character already adverted to, which was evinced in his readiness to acknowledge merit in others, even when displayed in a form rather calculated to wound his own self-love. He writes to Cotes, Letter LXXXII. :—

"I hear that Mr. Bernoulli has sent a paper of forty pages, to be published in the *Acta Leprica*, relating to what I have written upon the curved lines, described by projectiles in resisting mediums, and therein he partly makes observations upon what I have written, and partly improves it."

These observations were of such a sort that Bernoulli expressed to Leibnitz his apprehensions that Newton had refrained in consequence of being offended by them from presenting him, according to a previous promise, with a copy of the second edition of the *Principia*, and of the *Commercium Epistolicum*. But what says De Moivre?—

"J'ai vu M. Newton qui m'a dit qu'il avait lu avec beaucoup de plaisir votre methode de résoudre le problème de la résistance; il vous rend justice en homme qui n'est nullement offensé; il dit qu'elle est admirablement belle et même qu'elle est commode pour des expressions finies."

Folly and presumption, like other diseased natural growths, reproduce themselves in forms of wonderful constancy and persistency in all ages and periods of the history of the human mind. The host of doublers of the cube and squares of the circle which every year of the present century brings under public notice, will recognize a kindred spirit in a certain Mr. Green, B.A., of Clare-hall, whose name occurs in the volume before us, who, discontented with the "Popish titles" of a Cartesian and Galilean Philosophy, proposed to establish what he termed "one which is truly English, Cantabrigian, and Clarendian, and which he would venture to call the Greenica system." This Green had previously submitted to Newton a demonstration that the area of a circle is equal to four-fifths of the square of its diameter, and appears to have been highly huffed by his papers being returned to him unread. "What, then," says he, writing in Latin, "after I had been treated in this way, must you conclude I felt certainly not less than that I or the problem was contemned." A very rational conclusion, we admit, and which seems to have had the effect of spurring on Mr. Green to publish a book for the avowed end of overthrowing his antagonist's principles of philosophy.

Whilst it is desirable to do full justice to the merits of those through whose labours the limits of the human understanding are extended, it is likewise profitable to notice their occasional aberrations, or shortcomings, in order that our just veneration for superior powers may not degenerate into a superstitious subjection to authority. How little could Newton have foreseen the injury which he was inflicting upon the study of mathematical science in this country, from the paralyzing effects of which we are now, after the lapse of nearly a century and a half, only beginning to recover, when, comparing his method of denoting fluents and fluxions with Leibnitz's of representing differentials and inte-

grals, he instructed his advocate to write. "These are only ways of notation, and signify nothing to the method itself, which may be without them." True it is that these ways of notation signify nothing to the existence of the method, but to its applications and extensions, experience has proved they signify everything in the world. As well might it be said that, because natural objects exist equally, whatever names they are called by, that the language of ancient Greece conferred no superiority of thought on the races by whom it was spoken, above those who had no better vehicle of expression than the Chinese or Cherokee. How nearly a too implicit acquiescence in Newton's theory of refraction had nipped in the bud the invention of the achromatic telescope, is too well known to be more than adverted to in this place.

The portrait in the frontispiece which, to our mind, much enhances the value of the book, is from an original drawing in Indian ink, preserved in the Pepysian collection in Magdalen College, Cambridge, which is supposed to have been taken when the intimacy between Pepys (who, by the way, many of our readers may be surprised to learn was at one time president of the Royal Society*) and Newton was at its height, at which time the latter must have been about fifty years of age. It is the most expressive and spiritual, and gives the liveliest perception of the "mens divini" of any likeness of Newton we have ever yet seen.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Knight's Excursion Companion. Part I. C. Knight. This is another of the works issued by Charles Knight for the conflux of nations in 1851. Its object is to describe the "land we live in" by means of a gigantic guidebook to the various notable spots of Great Britain. Illustrated with woodcuts, and still better illustrated with antiquarian lore and a pleasant genial spirit, it will supersede the guidebooks. This first part contains Brighton, Worthing, and Arundel, Lewes, Hastings, Rye, and Winchelsea, Canterbury and Dover, Isle of Thanet, Sandwich, and Deal.

Canterbury versus Rome. Lectures by Ernest Jones. Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5. E. Dipple.

These lectures are now completed, and one sign of their excellence is that the demand for them has caused a reprint of the earlier numbers. Mr. Jones has now made contributions to various departments of literature with an ability that has arrested attention in every work. These lectures display a very ready acquaintance with historical and theological lore, which are here pressed into the service of popular principle. The death of Titus Oates, of Margaret Wilson, and Rowland Taylor are strikingly narrated.

Genevieve: a Tale of Peasant Life. By A. de Lamartine. Translated by Mary Howitt (Parlour Library). Simms and M'Intyre.

A second translation of this indifferent novel—scarcely worthy of one. But Lamartine's name has a great prestige, and the extraordinary cheapness may secure a sale.

The English Republic. No. 2. Watson. This number is more varied and interesting than the first. We have a Life of Mazzini, the most complete which has yet been rendered, containing facts in the life of this soldier of progress not elsewhere to be found. It also contains a chapter on Republican Organization. We think Mr. Linton's objects might be better advanced through existing associations, but those who think differently may read his Plan of Organization.

Reasons for Coöperation: a Lecture delivered at the Office for Promoting Working Men's Associations. To which is added, God and Mammon: a Sermon to Young Men. Preached in St. John's District Church, St. Pancras. By F. D. Maurice, M.A. J. W. Parker.

The Wonderful History of Peter Schlemihl. By Adelbert von Chamisso. With a Vocabulary and Copious Notes. By Falek Lebahn. Simpkin and Marshall.

History of England for Junior Classes, with Questions for Examination at the end of each Chapter. Edited by Henry White. Simpkin and Marshall.

The Mighty Curative Powers of Mesmerism, proved in upwards of one hundred and fifty Cases of various Diseases. By Thomas Capern. H. Baillière.

Orations. By the Reverend John W. Lester, B.A. W. Pickering.

Fifty Lessons on the Elements of the German Language. By A. Heilmann, Ph.D. D. Nutt.

Extracts from the Evidence taken before the Committees of the two Houses of Parliament relative to the Slave Trade, with Illustrations from Collateral sources of Information. By a Barrister of the Middle Temple. James Ridgway.

Regulated Slave Trade. From the Evidence of Robert Stokes, Esq., given before the Select Committee of the House of Lords in 1819. With a Plate showing the stowage of a British Slave Ship during the regulated Slave Trade. James Ridgway.

Remarks on the African Squadron. By S. S. Mansfield. James Ridgway.

The British Squadron on the Coast of Africa. By an American Missionary. With a Map. James Ridgway.

Remarks on the Amendment of the Law of Patents for Inventions. By T. Turner, Esq. F. Elsworth.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider the best Means which Great Britain can adopt for the final Extinction of the African Slave Trade. Presented in Session 1850.

Sir Philip Hetherington. By the author of "Olivia" (Parlour Library). Simms and M'Intyre.

* It was during the presidency of Pepys that the MS. of the first book of the *Principia* was presented to the society by Dr. Vincent.

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—GORTHE.

FETCHING WATER FROM THE WELL.

Early on a sunny morning, while the lark was singing sweet,

Came, beyond the ancient farmhouse, sounds of lightly-tripping feet.

'T was a lowly cottage maiden going, why, let young hearts tell,

With her homely pitcher laden, fetching water from the well.

Shadows lay athwart the pathway, all along the quiet lane,

And the breezes of the morning moved them to and fro again.

O'er the sunshine, o'er the shadow, passed the maiden of the farm,

With a charmed heart within her, thinking of no ill nor harm.

Pleasant, surely, were her musings, for the nodding leaves in vain

Sought to press their bright'ning image on her ever-busy brain.

Leaves and joyous birds went by her, like a dim, half-waking dream;

And her soul was only conscious of life's gladdest summer-gleam.

At the old lane's shady turning lay a well of water bright,

Singing, soft, its hallelujah to the gracious morning light.

Fern-leaves, broad and green, 'bent o'er it, where its silv'ry droplets fell,

And the fairies dwelt beside it, in the spotted fox-glove-bell.

Back she bent the shading fern-leaves, dipt the pitcher in the tide,—

Drew it, with the dripping waters flowing o'er its glazed side.

But, before her arm could place it on her shiny, wavy hair,

By her side a youth was standing!—Love rejoiced to see the pair!

Tones of tremulous emotion trailed upon the morning breeze,

Gentle words of heart-devotion whisper'd 'neath the ancient trees.

But the holy, blessed secrets, it beseems me not to tell:

Life had met another meaning,—fetching water from the well!

Down the rural lane they sauntered. He the burden-pitcher bore;

She, with dewy eyes downlooking, grew more beautiful than before!

When they near'd the silent homestead, up he raised the pitcher light;

Like a fitting crown he placed it on her hair of wave-lets bright:

Emblems of the coming burdens that for love of him she'd bear,

Calling every burden blessed, if his love but lighted there!

Then, still waving benedictions, further—further off he drew,

While his shadow seem'd a glory that across the pathway grew.

Now about her household duties silently the maiden went,

And an ever-radiant halo with her daily life was blent.

Little knew the aged matron, as her feet like music fell,

What abundant treasure found she, fetching water from the well!

MARIE.

SKETCHES FROM LIFE.

BY HARRIET MARTINEAU.

VI.—THE FARM-LABOURER.—THE FATHER.

When George Banks was nearly thirty years of age, he married. He had always been happy, except for one great drawback; and now he hoped to be happier than ever; and, indeed, he was. The drawback was that his father drank. Banks had been brought up to expect a little property which should make life easy to him; but, while still a youth, he gave up all thought of any property but such as he might earn.

He saw everything going to ruin at home; and he and his sister, finding that their father was irreclaimable, resolved to go out and work for themselves, and for their mother while she lived. The sister went out to service, and Banks became a farm-labourer. Their father's pride was hurt at their sinking below the station they were born to; but they were obliged to disregard his anger when an honest maintenance was in question. There was a smaller drawback, by the way: Banks was rather deaf, and he thought the deafness increased a little; but it was not enough to stand in the way of his employment as a labourer; he could hear the sermon in church; and Betsy did not mind it, so he did not. He had a good master in old Mr. Wilkes, a large farmer in a southern county. Mr. Wilkes paid him 12s. a-week all the year round, and £5 for the harvest month. For some years Banks laid by a good deal of money; so did Betsy, who was a housemaid at Mr. Wilkes's. When they became engaged, they had between them £50 laid by.

Banks took a cottage of three rooms, with nearly half a rood of garden-ground. They furnished their house really well, with substantial new furniture, and enough of it. In those days of high prices it made a great cut out of their money: but they agreed that they should never repent it. Banks had the privilege of a run on the common for his cow, and of as much peat as he chose to cut and carry for fuel. He had seen the consequences of intemperance in his father's case, and he was a water-drinker. He seldom touched even beer, except at harvest-time, when his wife brewed for him, that they might keep clear of the public-house.

During the whole of their lives to this day (and they are now old) they have never bought anything whatever without having the money in their hands to pay for it. If they had not the money, they no more thought of having the article than if it had been at the North Pole. They paid £5 a-year for their cottage, and the poor-rate has always been from 15s. to 20s. a-year. It was war-time when they married, in 1812; and the dread came across them, now and then, of a recruiting party appearing, or of Banks being drawn for the militia; but they hoped that the deafness would save them from this misfortune. And the fear was not for long: in 1814, peace was proclaimed. It was a merry night—that when the great bonfire was lighted for the peace. Mrs. Banks could not go to see it, for she was in her second confinement at the time; but her husband came to her bedside and told her all about it. She had never seen him so gay. He was always cheerful and sweet-tempered; but he was of a grave cast of character, which the deafness had deepened into a constant thoughtfulness. This night, however, he was very talkative, telling her what good times were coming, now that Bonaparte was put down; how every man might stay at home at his proper business, and there would be fewer beggars and lower poor-rates, and everything would go well, with God's blessing on a nation at peace. The next year there was war again; but, almost as soon as it was known that Bonaparte had reappeared, the news came of the battle of Waterloo, and there was an end of all apprehension of war.

In eleven years they had eleven children. There was both joy and sorrow with those children. For seven years, the eldest, little Polly, was nothing but joy to her parents. She was the prettiest little girl they had ever seen; and the neighbours thought so too. She was bright and merry, perfectly obedient, very clever, and so handy that she was a helpful little maid to her mother. When three infants died, one after another, her father found comfort in taking this child on his knees in the evenings, and getting her to prattle to him. Her clear little merry voice came easily to his ear, when he could not hear older people without difficulty. The next child, Tom, was a blessing in his way: he was a strong little fellow of six; and he went out with Banks to the field, and really did some useful work,—frightening the birds, leading the horses, picking sticks, weeding, running errands, and so on. But the charm at home was little Polly. When Polly was seven, however, a sad accident happened. She was taking care of the little ones before the door, during her mother's confinement, and one of the boys struck her on the top of the head with a saucepan. She fell, and when she was taken up she looked so strangely that the doctor was consulted about her. After watching her for some weeks he said he feared there was some injury to the brain. Banks has had many troubles in life, but none has

been sorer than that of seeing the change that came over this child. It was not the loss of her beauty that made his heart ache when he looked in her face: it was the staring, uneasy expression of countenance which made him turn his eyes away in pain of heart. She grew jealous and suspicious; and, though no mood of mind remained many minutes, this was a sad contrast with the open sweetness of temper that they were never more to see. She did as she was bid; she went on learning to cook and to sew, and she could clean the house; but she never remembered from one minute to another what she was to do, and was always asking questions about things that she had known all her life. Her uncle (her mother's brother), who was well off in the world, and had no children, took her home, saying that change and going to school would make all the difference in her. But she had no memory, and could learn nothing, while she lost the mechanical things she could do at home. So, after a patient trial of three years, her uncle brought her home, and took, in her stead, the bright little Susan, now four years old. Polly never got better. After a time, fits of languor came on occasionally, and her mother could not get her out of bed; and now she sometimes lies for many days together, as in a swoon, looking like one dying, but always reviving again, though declining on the whole; so that it is thought it cannot now go on very long.

Tom never went to school. There was no school within reach while he was a very little boy, and when a new clergyman's lady came and set up one, Tom was thought rather too old to begin; and, besides, his father really could not spare his earnings. Old Mr. Wilkes was dead, and his son, succeeding to the farm, complained of bad times, and reduced his labourers' wages to 11s., and then 10s., and then 9s., while the poor-rate went on increasing. Tom cannot read or write, and his father is very sorry for it. The boy always seemed, however, to have that sobriety of mind and good sense which education is thought necessary to give. The fact is, he has had no mean education in being the associate of his honourable-minded father. He grew up as grave as his father, thoughtful and considerate, while very clever. He is a prodigious worker, gets through more work than any other man in the neighbourhood, and does it in a better manner. Earning in his best days only 9s. a-week, and not being sure of that, he has never married, nor thought of marrying; and a great loss that is to some good woman.

The school being set up while Harry was a little fellow, he was sent to it, and he remained at it till he was twelve years old. It was well meant for him—well meant by the lady and by his parents; but the schoolmistress "was not equal to her business," as the family mildly say. Those years were almost entirely lost. Harry was remarkably clever, always earnest in what he was about, always steady and business-like, and eager to learn; yet he came away, after all those years, barely able to spell out a chapter in the Testament on Sundays, and scarcely able to sign his own name. He tried to use and improve his learning, putting in, where beans and peas were sown, slips of wood with bones and paste upon them, and holding a pen with all his force when he wanted to write his name; but he felt all along that he had better have been obtaining the knowledge which the earnest mind may gain in the open fields, unless he had been really well taught.

By this time there were few at home, and the home had become grave and somewhat sad. Six children had died in infancy—the oldest dying under three years old. Susan was at her uncle's, and not likely to come home again; for her aunt had become insane, and was subject to epilepsy to such a degree that she could not be left. Some people thought Susan's prospects very fine, for her uncle promised great things as to providing for her and leaving her property; but the story of her grandfather was a warning to her. Her uncle was falling into drinking habits, and this young girl, supposed to be so fortunate, often found herself with her aunt on one side in an epileptic fit, and her uncle on the other helplessly or violently drunk. He was an amiable man, and always, when remonstrated with, admitted his fault and promised amendment. It ended, however, in his being reduced in his old age to the point of screwing out of Susan her earnings at service, under the name of debt, and finding a home with her old father. Instead of enjoying his money, she enjoys the comfort of having gloriously discharged her duty to him, and she seems to be quite content.

But of the small party at home. The sons did not live at home, but they were not far off. Their honest faces looked in pretty often, and they were so good that their father had a constant pride in them. It was little more than seeing them, for Banks was now so deaf that conversation was out of the question. He went to church every Sunday, as he had always done; but everybody knew that he did not hear one word of the service. His wife, exhausted by care and grief for her children, was too feeble to be much of a companion to him; and many a long night now he was kept awake by rheumatism. Yet no one ever saw a cross look in either, or heard a complaining word. Their house was clean; their clothes were neat; and, somehow or other, they went on paying poor-rate. One of the daughters says, "We always lived very comfortably;" and the sons were told that, if their employment failed, they were always to come to their father's for a dinner. Banks worked harder and with more intenseness of mind at his garden, and they still continued to keep a pig; so they reckoned upon always having bacon and vegetables—summer vegetables, at least—upon the table. The youngest daughter lived at home, and earned a humble subsistence by staymaking and dressmaking for the neighbours. She could read and write well enough to be a comfort if any letter came from a distance (an incident which, as we shall see, was hereafter to happen often), and to amuse her mother in illness with a book. Lizzy was not so clever as her brothers and Susan, but she was a good girl and a steady worker.

But soon the second Mr. Wilkes died rather suddenly. Banks's heart sank at the news. He had been attached to his employer, and valued by him, though his earnings had been so much reduced; and he had a misgiving that there would be a change for the worse under the young master. It was too true. The young master soon began to complain of want of money, and to turn off his labourers. He told Banks to his face that being now past sixty, and rheumatic at times, it was impossible that his work could be worth what it was, and he should have no more than six shillings a-week henceforth. It was a terrible blow; but there was no help for it. A deaf old man had no chance of getting work in any new place; and the choice was simply between getting six shillings a-week and being turned off. If his heart was ever weak within him, it must have been now. His savings were all gone years ago; there was no security that he would not be turned off any day. His children really could give him no effectual help; for the sons could not marry, and the daughters were not fully maintaining themselves. The workhouse was an intolerable thought to one who had paid rates, as he had done ever since he married. It was a dark time now, the very darkest. Yet the grave man lost nothing of his outward composure and gentleness. They were not without friends. The clergyman had his eye upon them; and Mrs. Wilkes, the widow, sent for Mrs. Banks once a-year to spend two or three days with her, and talk over old times; and she always sent her guest home with a new gown. The friendship of some, and the respect of all, were as hearty as ever.

Some comfort was near at hand: and out of one comfort grew several. Susan first found herself well placed; and soon after, and as a consequence, Harry, and then, and again as a consequence, Tom; and then, Lizzy. About this, more will be told hereafter. The next thing that befel was a piece of personal comfort to Banks himself. A deaf lady, at a distance, sent him an ear-trumpet,—with little hope that it would be of use,—so long, and so extremely deaf as he was. He took it to church, and heard the service for the first time for twenty years. Steady and composed as he usually was, he now cried for a whole day. After that he cheered up delightfully; but nothing could make him use his trumpet on week days. It was too precious for any day but Sundays. When the lady heard this, she sent him an old shabby one for every day use, and it makes a great difference in his every day life.

Next, the good clergyman found himself able to do something that he had long and earnestly wished, to let out some allotments to labourers. Banks obtained one immediately; a quarter of an acre of good land, at a rent of ten shillings a-year. The benefit of this is very great. He is still strong enough to cultivate it well; and, by his knowledge, as well as his industry, makes it admirably productive. In the midst of this little brightening of his prospects, there is one overshadowing fear which it sickens the heart to hear of; it happened that, by an accident which need not be detailed, the fact got into print that one of the sons at a distance had sent some money

to his old father. The family were immediately in terror lest the employer should hear of it, and should turn off his old servant on the plea that he had other means of subsistence than his labour. It is not credible that such a thing should be done in the face of society. It is not credible that any one should desire to do such a thing. But that the fear should exist is mournful enough, and tells a significant tale; a tale too significant to need to be spoken out.

Banks is, as we have said a silent man. He does not pour out his heart in speech, as some of us do who have much less in our hearts than he. And there is surely no need. We want no prompting from him to feel what wrong must exist somewhere when a glorious integrity, a dignified virtue like his, has been allied with sinking fortunes through life, and has no prospect of repose but in the grave.

The Arts.

AMATEUR PERFORMANCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF MISS KELLY.

The Amateur Company, which a short time since performed Mrs. Centlivre's comedy, *The Busy Body*, at the Soho Theatre, repeated the performance on Tuesday night, for Miss Kelly's benefit. It is sad to reflect how many of those who have sacrificed a life to the public are not permitted to enjoy the well-earned fruits of their labours. But it is at the same time gratifying to find the exertions of those who have participated in the zenith of a performer's exertions, coming forward to give their services in return, in the very temple which Miss Kelly's fortune was employed to erect. The house was well filled. Previous to the comedy, the following pleasant Prologue, written by Mr. W. C. Kent, was delivered by Miss E. E. M. Kent:—

Actors in sport that mirth may be increased,
Our play's in earnest for one night at least!
Gladly we'll strive our purpose to fulfil
For one whose genius is remember'd still.
Hers are the solaces she most could prize,
And hers the aid that every ill defies:
The self-respect from years of honour born,
Of most th' ambition, though of some the scorn.
Once in the noonday of her bright career,
When gleamed the smile, or glittered forth the tear
At the wild mandate of her fitful glance,
Her powers impelled the drama's bold advance.
Let then the memory of those times gone by
Sustain the hopes our efforts here imply;
Enforce the lesson that our tongues would teach,
And win from all the sympathies of each.
Joy to the actress while your acts impart,
Cherish the artist, those who love the art.
To-night a generous aim success ensures,
The grace and worth of which must all be yours:
The merit of your share, tongue fails to tell—
Fain would I think we'll do our parts as well.
Yet, though our efforts meagre praise demand,
Yield us the guerdon of one cordial hand;
Pardon what'er your judgment least commends,
And sink the critics in the warmth of friends.
Three separate reasons for dispelling blame
With kindly sentiments, my lips shall name:
The first in order, though the last in choice,
That mine though bold is but a woman's voice:
The next that, while all vigorously designed,
Our Play's the produce of a woman's mind:
And last, and best, to win your heart's applause—
We've met to vindicate a woman's cause.

The Prologue was most gracefully delivered by Miss Kent, who performed the character of Isabinda in the most lady-like manner. The Spanish costume was in exceedingly good taste. Mr. Kent as Sir Francis Gripe, admirably supported his difficult character. The busy Marplot found a whimsical but gentlemanly impersonation in Mr. W. C. Kent. Mrs. J. Arnould, by her performance of Miranda, evinced an extraordinary appreciation of genuine comedy. Miss Sullivan invested the character of Patch with all the sly humour which belongs to it, and sang the "Last Rose of Summer" with pathos. The characters of Sir Jealous Traffic and Sir George Airy were also well sustained. The reading of all the parts was very far above the average of amateur performances. There was quite as good a "study" evinced as we are accustomed to on the professional stage; and if there were any stage awkwardness there was a total absence of vulgarity. On the fall of the curtain a torrent of applause greeted the exertions of the performers.

After the comedy, Mr. Ellis Roberts, the celebrated harpist, performed his variations on "Cease your fanning," which met with an unanimous encore. The performance concluded with the farce, *Too Late for Dinner*, in which the principal performers in the comedy also appeared.

There is one very important matter usually overlooked in amateur performances, though it is of the very first importance, we mean the stage management. Had this been well attended to on Tuesday the performance would have left little to be desired.

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.

POLISH NATIONAL DECLARATIONS.

We conclude our notice of Poland, and her National and Democratic movement, by reprinting a series of resolutions passed at a meeting of the Polish Democrats in London on the sixteenth anniversary of the Polish Revolution of 1830, November 29, 1846; adding thereto the Manifesto of the Polish National Government inaugurated at Cracow in February, 1846:—

The Polish Democrats assembled in London on the sixteenth anniversary of the Revolution of 1830, seeing that the recent efforts of their country were still imperfectly appreciated, resolved to pay a just tribute to the cause of truth, as well as to the self-devotion of their countrymen, by making the following solemn declaration before England and the world at large:—

I. That they consider the Revolution of 1830, which they meet to commemorate, merely as the beginning of a series of efforts, on the part of Poland, to recover that independence of which the three partitioning powers had treacherously deprived her; that as existence and freedom of action were to her a necessary condition of fulfilling towards herself and mankind, the divine law of justice and progress, her first effort since the partitions must have been mainly directed towards independence, freedom, national strength, and, as a guarantee of these, the integrity of national boundaries. Hence will this effort remain for ever the groundwork of every further and more perfect manifestation of our national life; but hence, also, the unavoidable necessity of not contenting ourselves with aiming at those objects of our former endeavour, but stamping our subsequent efforts with that new character, which national life has assumed in its further development.

II. That the insurrection of Cracow, as defined by the manifesto of the 22nd of February, 1846, was such further development, improvement, and progress of the movement began in 1830. That, although maligned by the enemies of progress and popular rights, it still remains a holy manifestation of the national will, thought, and feeling, and, although apparently destroyed by the snares of Prussian police and massacres of Austrian assassins, it lives in and sways the hearts of the Polish people who are henceforth determined to adhere in all future struggles for their emancipation, to the principle contained in the above-named manifesto. That the revolution of Cracow, by abolishing all privileges and class distinctions, by endowing the agricultural classes with landed property (a principle diametrically opposite to that communistic tendency of which it has been falsely accused), has laid down the basis of the future life of Poland, has satisfied the exigencies of her national existence, perfected the revolution commenced in 1830, and thus proved herself to be advanced in the march of national progression.

III. That the Polish people, as a people, has not participated in the massacres perpetrated in Galicia by the order of the Austrian Government, paid by Austrian money, directed by Austrian officers, spies, and soldiers in disguise, and performed by felons liberated for this purpose from Austrian gaols; that, therefore, the Polish people has not disgraced the national name nor history, and, consequently, not forfeited its rights to national sovereignty. That it was not popular revenge which prompted the assassins of the best friends of the people, since the proscription list, and the scale of rewards for the heads of the murdered, circulated by Government agents, contained especially such names and devoted such to slaughter, as had for years, despite the opposition of Government, bettered to their utmost the condition of the people, and resolved to turn the serfs of their own estates into freeholders, and, making common cause with them, to battle for the emancipation of the country. No, it was not the revenge of the people for oppression suffered at the hands of their landlords; for it is a fact universally acknowledged and corroborated by local evidence, that in no instance the peasants murdered their own masters; but that these murders were perpetrated by bands of hired assassins, strangers to the scene of massacre, to whom the people offered, in many cases, a strong, and in some a successful, resistance. Still further in defence of Polish honour, Poland's hopes, and of the cause of right and truth, we solemnly assert before the world the innocence of the people and the guilt of Metternich and Austria. These, and these only, are answerable for the blood of the murdered in Galicia, equally as the Czars were for the deaths of the victims who fell at Human and Praga. Therefore, we greet the entire Polish people as brothers. The nationality of Poland has gained a great and sure foundation by acknowledging the rights of the people; and when Poland marshals her sons she must conquer, for since the manifesto of Cracow we have a fatherland that is no longer the country of a mere class, but also the fatherland of the whole Polish people.

IV. Finally, we declare that Russia and Prussia are, equally with Austria, the murderers of Poland, the executioners of her children, and that those who suffer for the cause of Poland, under the dreadful inquisitions, on the racks, in the dungeons, and on the scaffolds of Russia and Prussia, are martyrs to the rights of their fatherland, equally with those who perished in the massacres, or by the decrees of Austria. We further declare that the open or secret adherents of any of those Governments who took part in the partition of Poland, are participators in their criminality, no matter under what

disguise, and that these unnatural children of Poland deserve the greatest curse, who, availing themselves of the public indignation against Austria, appeal to the meanest of passions, to fear and selfishness, in order to allure their countrymen into the snares of Muscovite or Prussian policy, and thus strengthen the yoke of these two usurpers.

The meeting, moreover, resolves to publish the above resolutions in the English language, with a faithful translation of the manifesto of the 22nd of February, from the Polish original, in the hands of the Central Committee of the Polish Democratic Society, and a list of the principal murders committed in Galicia by the Austrian Government. The meeting authorized their President and Secretary to carry this resolution into effect, and solicit the English press to give publicity to the above.

E. STANIEWICZ, Chairman.
X. FINK, Secretary.

MANIFESTO OF THE POLISH NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 22, 1846.

Poles!—The hour of insurrection has struck. The whole of dismembered Poland rises and greatness. Our brethren have already risen, and in the Grand Duchy of Posen, in Lithuania, and in the Russian provinces, are fighting against the enemy. They are fighting for their most sacred rights, of which they have been deprived by force and fraud. You know well what has passed and is still occurring. The flower of our youth are languishing in dungeons, the old, whose counsels guided us, are given up to contempt; our clergy is deprived of all respect; in a word, all whose actions, or even thoughts, have shown the resolve to live and to die for Poland, have been destroyed or immured in prison, or are in danger of being so every moment. The groans of millions of our brethren, who perish under the knout, or pine in subterranean cells, or are driven into the ranks of our oppressors and subjected to all the sufferings which humanity is capable of enduring, have struck our hearts and caused them to bleed. We have been robbed of our glory; our language has been forbidden to us; the profession of the faith of our fathers prohibited. Insurmountable barriers have been opposed to the amelioration of our social condition. Brother has been armed against brother, and the most honoured children of our country have been reviled by calumnies. Brothers, one step more, and there would be no Poland, not even a single Pole. Our grandchildren would curse our memory for having left them nothing in one of the finest countries in the world but deserts and ruins, for having allowed chains to be put upon our warlike people and forced them to profess a foreign faith, and to speak a foreign language, and for having reduced them to be slaves of those who have trampled upon our rights. The dust of our fathers, of those martyrs of the rights of our nation, calls to us from the tomb to avenge them; the infant at the breast calls upon us to preserve for him the country which God has confided to us; the free nations of the entire world invite us not to allow the sacred principle of our nationality to be destroyed; God himself invites us, He, who will one day demand from us an account of what we have done with it.

We are upwards of twenty millions. Let us rise as one man, and no force on earth can crush our power. We shall enjoy such liberty as never was known on earth. Let us conquer a state of society, in which every man shall enjoy his share of the fruits of the earth, according to his merits [earnings] and his capacity, in which no [exclusive] privilege, of any kind whatever, will be allowed to remain; in which every Pole will find a full guarantee for himself, his wife, and his children; in which every man disabled by nature in the use of his bodily or mental functions, will find, without humiliation, the unfailing assistance of the whole social body; a state in which those portions of land which hitherto have been merely in the conditional possession of their cultivators, will become their absolute property; in which ALL RENT [white and black, according to the feudal acceptance of the term], socage labour, and other similar burdens [entailed upon these lands], will cease without any indemnity [to the landlords], and those who will devote themselves in arms to the national cause, will be remunerated by a grant of land from the national domains.

Poles! from this moment we recognise no distinction among ourselves; brethren, henceforward we are the sons of one mother, our country; of one father, God, who is in Heaven! Let us invoke His support, that He may bless our arms, and grant us victory; but to draw down His blessings we must not sully ourselves with intemperance or plunder, we must not disgrace our consecrated arms by urging them for oppression, or for the murder of the disarmed dissenter and foreigner; for we do not struggle against [the people of foreign] nations, but against our [common] oppressors. And now, in testimony of our union, let us adopt the national cockade and take the following oath:—

"I swear to serve Poland, my country, by counsel, word, and deed. I swear to sacrifice to her all my personal views, my fortune, and my life! I swear obedience to the National Government, which has been established in Cracow, the 22nd of this month, at eight o'clock in the evening, in Krysztofory-house, and to all the authorities appointed by the Government, as God may stand me in my need."

This manifesto will be inserted in the Government Journal, transmitted in separate sheets throughout Poland, proclaimed from the pulpits of all churches, and placarded in all public places.

Cracow, February 22, 1846.

(Signed) LUDWIK GORZKOWSKI.
JOHN TYSSOWSKI.
ALEXANDER GRZEGORZEWSKI.

KAROL ROGAWSKI, Secretary of the Government.
N.B. The words inserted between crotchets in the above translation, do not belong to the manifesto, having been added merely as elucidatory of the text.

Democratic Intelligence.

ION'S LETTER ON POLITICAL SUICIDE.

Feb. 12, 1851.

SIR,—The second letter of Ion to the Chartists, entitled Political Suicide, I do not feel myself competent to reply to, not from want of experience in Chartist agitations, for I have been among the "enrolled" for fifteen years, but because it is as well to confess that a poor uneducated working man like myself is not master enough to grapple successfully with the eloquent sophisms contained therein.

One portion of that letter, however, relates in a measure to me, inasmuch as I happen to be the unfortunate wight who proposed the resolution Ion is so indignant about, which resolution the meeting at John-street, being "badly educated," took care unanimously to pass.

Now, will Ion keep his eye on the following fact—that the Chartist Executive, of which he forms a part, have been elected (as he very properly says) to develop wider measures, enlarge the Chartist party, improve its character, and advance it towards political success. But to do this effectually, the Executive themselves must be somewhat like that model of a bishop set up by Saint Paul in his letter to Timothy; they must, if not "blameless," at least be "vigilant" of "good haviour;" "not brawlers" nor "covetous" either of filthy lucre, or what is just as filthy, the evanescent adulation of an unthinking mobocracy, calling themselves "dear children," and "old guards." Moreover, they must have a good report of them which are without; but a portion of the Executive has not that good report. One accuses another of belying the well-known character of Englishmen and abetting the cowardly crime of assassination; the other emphatically denies this horrible charge, and justly demands to be brought before his accuser face to face: and does Ion gravely contend "that this is no business of the public;" and that the dispassionately investigating this charge is a form of Political Suicide which must be put an end to? Would the "Anti-Corn-Law League" have tolerated Cobden's charging Bright thus, after the fashion described? Certainly not.

But who is to investigate this matter? Who better than the executive—independent of the natural desire actuating all societies to protect their brethren from foul calumny, or separatethemselves from those found guilty of wilful wrong; it is also undesirable, I think, that they who shield wrong doing, are themselves sharers in that wrong. This is a public matter—you, Mr. Editor, and your coadjutor Ion have been elected by us because we thought you would be true to the cause, and you cannot be true to the cause unless you be true unto yourselves: if the fountain be impure, can the streams be clear? Depend on it, that the passing of that resolution in John-street, demanding the Executive fully to investigate the above charge, will not end in the mere assent to the principle therein contained; that motion was only a step in the right direction; and "badly educated" as the Chartists have been (and heaven knows they have by some), still we have learned the A B C of common justice between man and man, and know by painful experience that democracy can never triumph, or even approach a triumph, while we merely continue to denounce an open enemy, all the while refusing from fear of exposing our weakness (fatal mistake) to lash a false friend naked through our ranks.

JOHN JAMES BEZER.

LETTERS TO CHARTISTS.

III. BEWARE OF QUARRELS.

The working classes have acquired great political knowledge, and possess more energy than all classes conventionally above them; it only needs, to secure their progress, that the direction of their power shall be judicious. This constitutes the reason for reverting to the wisdom of one mode of action, in great favour among them. In order to give place to Mr. Bezer's letter, which illustrates this subject, my remarks must be very brief this week. What has been the history of the Chartist party but a long tissue of personal disputes? "Measures, not Men," has been the cry; but Men and not Measures has been the practice. Throughout political quarters, during the past fortnight, the enemies of Chartism have chuckled at what seems to them the stale, but continually-successful trick, of flinging a personal dispute into the Chartist camp, in order to divert the Executive and prostrate their influence. Mr. Bezer will not fail to see, that Mr. Cobden bringing a charge against Mr. Bright is a very different thing from Mr. O'Connor doing the same to Mr. Harney. Mr. Cobden has a reputation for measure in his speech and care in his facts. Mr. O'Connor makes such an extraordinary use of language and facts, that the most skilful political computer cannot always determine his meaning. Any how the Anti-Corn Law League would not interfere in a dispute; they would, at most, only pronounce judgment when it was ended. When Sir Robert Peel brought a charge of recommending his assassination against

Mr. Cobden, I am not aware that the League ever arrested their movement to interfere with the belligerents.

Mr. Bezer has agitated for many years without reward, and suffered imprisonment without repining, and is entitled to the consideration of his views, especially as he has held them at so much cost. I will, therefore, tell him why I "gravely contend that personal political disputes are no business of the public's." Cannot Mr. Harney take care of his own character? Is not his veracity as great as Mr. Feargus O'Connor's? If, therefore, Mr. O'Connor should make a charge against him (which it now appears he has not), all Mr. Harney has to do is to disprove it, and if he does, will not the public believe him? and if they do what occasion is there for any more to do about the matter? De Morgan relates in his dispute with Sir William Hamilton, that an old Scotch professor, averse to duelling, was once asked what he would do if any one called him a liar. "Why," said the brave old fellow, "I'd tell him to *pruv* it—and if he did I ought to be ashamed of myself—and if he didn't he ought to be ashamed of himself." All personal disputes ought to come to this, and might come to this if the public were wise and set their faces against participation in those quarrels which begin in jealousy and end in hate; which swallow up time, temper, and character, and delay public progress. ION.

GENERAL BEM.—LOUIS BLANC'S ORATION.

On Thursday evening last a public meeting, composed of persons of all nations, assembled at the John-street Institution, to commemorate the patriotism and services of this distinguished hero. Carl. Schaper presided. A brilliant speech was delivered by Louis Blanc. Messrs. Harney, Simony, Szavaz, Kiewiecz, and Drs. Tausenan and Frank paid earnest tributes to the memory of the departed general. We subjoin a translation of Louis Blanc's speech:—

"It is not for a Frenchman, speaking before an assembly of Hungarians, to retrace the prodigies of this war, which was the wonder and admiration of Europe, and which has rendered the name of Bem imperishable. But what a Frenchman may recal here is, that the Hungarian war had not for its only object to protect the inviolability of such or such a territory, to avenge the legitimate pride of such or such a nationality, but also to defend the principles of justice, and the ideas by which the conscience of the Peoples is agitated at the present time.

"Who does not remember the acts of the Hungarian Diet after the Revolution of February? A national and responsible Ministry; civil and political equality, without distinction of language or sect; the equal taxation of all, nobles or not; the land restored to its cultivators. Behold by what glorious reforms did Hungary announce the spirit in which her children drew the sword! In this sense, we may assert that the Hungarian cause was a cause truly European; and that, in the hands of the heroic soldiers of Bem, the flag of independence was also that of liberty!

"The kings were not blind to this. The manifesto published by the Emperor Nicholas when he sent his armies to Austria contained these words, 'Russia will fulfil her holy mission.' Now, of what mission did he speak? Peter the Great had said in his political testament, 'I found Russia a stream, I leave her a river, and my successor will make her a vast sea.' The Emperor Nicholas would fain have added to the insolent words of the Czar Peter, 'and this vast sea shall submerge the liberties of the world.' Ah! it will be to the eternal honour of the Hungarians to have figured in the front rank in this supreme struggle of the two Europes of which Napoleon spoke—Cossack and Republican. It will be to the eternal honour of the Hungarians that the Emperor of Russia has not thought it possible to march straight to the Republic in order to destroy it, except by passing over their dead bodies.

"But, at the same time, I proclaim it with profound grief in thinking of my country, shame, eternal shame to the French Government, for having permitted, without a single word of protestation, this sacrilegious aggression. Hungary abandoned, Italy oppressed: behold two stains of blood which this Louis Buonaparte has upon his forehead; blood stains, like those in *Macbeth*, which all the waves of ocean could not efface.

"A great man of this country, Lord Chatham, once said: 'with a man who does not see that it is for the interest of England to arrest the encroachments of Russian power, discussion is impossible.' And to me it seems that we say: 'with a man who does not see that it is for the interest of all Peoples, and even of the Russian people itself, to arrest the encroachments of Russian power, discussion is impossible.'

"Yes, Hungary, in this war, more memorable than that of the Thirty Years, has been the advanced guard of civilization, compelled to engage with barbarism in a final struggle. It is that which gives to the efforts of so many noble warriors an historical importance, and as it were a sacred character. And with respect to Bem, whether he was or was not a Democrat, his glory has been that of being a chief of militant Democracy.

"Most assuredly, citizens, I am not one of those who love war for war's sake. That thieving on a large scale, which men call conquest, fills me with horror, and conquerors with contempt. If I might choose for my country the motto of its foreign policy it should be:—*Pro-pagandism ever, but never Conquest!* I would add that, even when it itself is not an atrocious folly, war is at best one of those ever to be lamented acts of wisdom

which prove the general folly of men. I would add that kings only are interested in the permanence of armies, because they have need of armed proletarians to keep in subjection the proletarians without arms.

"But is the time arrived for the Peoples to sing in chorus a hymn to peace? Let such be the belief of those naïfs philosophers who have lately been hurrying here and there and assembling in their congresses of peace, whilst Russian cannon decimated Hungarian soldiers, and Frenchmen become Vandals, were compelling Italian independence to render up its last sigh.

"For us, citizens, we believe that so long as despots have their satellites it is well that Liberty should have her soldiers. We believe that far from laying down the sword the Peoples ought, to use an expression of one of our revolutionary heroes of the convention, to cast far away the scabbard.

"Without doubt some day, if our dearest hopes do not deceive us, from all parts of the globe this sublime cry shall mount to Heaven: 'Vive la Paix!' But in the meantime, citizens, as long as there shall be oppressors: 'Vive la Guerre!'

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the National Charter Association met on Wednesday evening last. Messrs. Arnott, Grassby, Harney, Holyoake, Jones, Milne, and O'Connor were present. Messrs. Hunt and Reynolds were absent, through indisposition. Correspondence was received from four new localities. Messrs. Hunniball and Piercy, the auditors, gave in their report, which they had found perfectly correct. It was unanimously agreed, "That Mr. O'Connor having pledged his word that the report in *Reynolds's Newspaper* relative to what he said of Mr. Harney at the recent 'Conference at Manchester' is utterly incorrect; and denied Mr. Harney's ever having to his knowledge 'recommended private assassination,' as also that he had stated that he discharged Mr. Harney, the truth being that Mr. Harney voluntarily relinquished the Editorship of the *Northern Star*, this committee feels that Mr. Harney is fully exonerated from the imputations cast upon him in the speech ascribed to Mr. O'Connor; and finally resolves that the matter now wholly rests between Mr. O'Connor and the reporter of *Reynolds's Newspaper*." A deputation, Messrs. Jones and Holyoake, were appointed to wait on the Governmental authorities, to inquire into the destination and treatment of William Cuffey. Several of the local councils having requested the Executive to determine how the delegates to the Convention shall be paid; it was resolved that it will best accord with the principle of equality, and be most just to distant localities, that the delegates be paid their expenses from a general fund; and that the several local councils be urged to canvass the districts for subscriptions, and Chartists generally are hereby requested to subscribe and collect for the Convention Fund.

DEMOCRATIC AND SOCIAL CONFERENCE.—On the 2nd instant this Conference held its monthly meeting in the John-street Institution. The Committee of Observation came to the decision of meeting monthly (on the first Sunday in the month), its proper business being to effect the associated advocacy of Social and Democratic Reform, preferring to aid its being done by existing societies; but if no other body will do it, doing it itself.

THOMAS PAINE.—On the 9th instant, at John-street Institution, the birthday of this politician and theological writer was celebrated by a very numerous meeting. James Watson, the publisher, occupied the chair. "The Development of Reason in Politics and Religion," was spoken to by Mr. Holyoake and Mr. Campbell. Mr. Ernest Jones, Mr. Kidd, and others spoke to the memory of Paine and kindred sentiments. A letter was read from Mr. Linton, saying that he was commemorating Paine's exertions in his advocacy in his *English Republic*. Mr. Holyoake stated that he had received a letter from a Minister of a German Church, expressing the desire of his German brethren for communication with the English friends of Paine.

CHARTIST MONUMENT.—We are informed by Mr. Cox that the monument in memory of Hanchard, Williams, and Sharp has been erected in Victoria-park.

THE SOURCE OF THE PAPAL AGGRESSION.—Bound by the treaty of Vienna, England—while Hungary was crushed under the hoofs of the Cossacks, and Rome mangled by the African soldiers of France—stood on neutral ground; protesting feebly and faintly, in the Queen's speech, calling the Hungarian war of independence a "civil war," while in the Austrian despatches it was termed "a rebellion." Rome was put down. The Pope returned. The cardinals lorded it over the people. The inquisition was re-established. Men, like Achilli and Henri Cernuschi, were imprisoned. Gavazzi and Ventura were proscribed. Timid constitutionalists, who had, like Pantaleoni and Mamiani, acted with the Pope in the autumn of '48, were banished. And, in all its power and all its terror, the Catholic religion was re-organized, its priesthood irritated by defeat, and impatient for revenge. Nearly all over Europe the Catholic power was set up. Russia, semi-Catholic, leagued with Austria, Bavaria, Naples, and the minor absolutists of Germany. What should be done, what could be done? *England's turn came*, and the sharp hints, forwarded to Palmerston by the Austrian Minister in '48, have found their fulfilment in 1850-1. The Catholic coalition was complete, when, favoured by the Puseyite movement and the conversions from Oxford, Pio Nono, acting under the orders of the Catholic coalition, sent his celebrated bull to England. Nicholas of Westminster followed it, and became the outpost of Nicholas of St. Petersburg! The coming of Dr. Wiseman is a retaliation for the Italian progress of Lord Minto in 1847, and for the crime of Palmerston, who supplied Sicily with warlike stores in 1848.—*From the Berkshire Independent, a spirited liberal newspaper recently established.*

Associative Progress.

MR. WALTER COOPER'S TOUR IN THE PROVINCES.

SIR,—Having been requested by several of our friends to send you a report of my tour, I commence by stating that on New Year's-day I was present at a grand festival of the Bury Labour Redemption Society held in the Town-hall, the finest building in the town. Upwards of 800 of our coöperative brethren sat down to tea. Professor Maurice, of London, ably filled the chair, supported by Messrs. Vansittart Neale, Hughes, Mansfield, Campbell, and Lee, promoters from London. Lloyd Jones and myself, also addressed the meeting. There was some excellent music, and on the whole the meeting was one of the finest of the kind I ever saw. It has given a mighty impetus to the cause of coöperation. They have now a coöperative store, and are taking on an average £50 per week. On Monday, the 20th, I lectured at Bury again, and found to my surprise and delight hundreds of men (I am not exaggerating) who came, not merely to hear the lecture, but to pay their weekly pence. They are realizing a capital very rapidly, and intend setting some coöperative shoemakers to work. Verily, with God's help, we'll beat Mammon yet! The next important meeting was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Manchester, the Reverend T. Lee, Independent minister of Pendleton, filled the chair. This gentleman is heart and soul with the working men, and is gloriously doing battle for them in the Pendleton movement, of which more anon. The meeting was addressed by Professor Maurice, Lloyd Jones, Campbell, our friend Hughes gave some excellent legal advice, and T. P. Roberts moved a vote of thanks to the London promoters, which was carried by acclamation. Altogether these gentlemen have great reason to be satisfied with their reception in Manchester, and, seeing how they are attacked in the *Edinburgh* and *Eclectic Reviews*, let us hope that the confidence of the working men will give them increased strength and courage to do battle in the future.

The next important meeting was held in the Bradford Mechanic's Institution. Your able correspondent, Mr. E. Forster, filled the chair. I had often heard that this gentleman was the best employer in England, and most assuredly the kindly and most enthusiastic manner in which he was welcomed to the chair by the working men of his own town is to my mind sufficient proof of the fact. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Lloyd Jones and myself. At the conclusion the Reverend Dr. Godwin of the Baptist College, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, told the meeting that he fully agreed with all he had heard, said some kind things of Mr. Jones and myself, and prophesied that the next time we visited Bradford the Mechanics' Institution would not be large enough to hold the meeting.

I next returned to Manchester, and on the following Sunday lectured twice in the Garratt-road Institution. In the evening the room was perfectly crammed, and the best feeling prevailed.

The next scene of my labours was the Newcastle-on-Tyne district. On Sunday the 12th I lectured twice in the large Lecture-hall, Newcastle, the audiences were good, and the subjects were, "The Present Position of the Working Classes," and "The Literature of Socialism." When I was here four months ago the tailors, acting under my advice, formed a coöperative association. They have succeeded to a remarkable extent. They have had as many as fourteen men at work. They have paid themselves the best wages in the town, and have realized considerable profit. Their present premises are so small that they are taking larger in the best street of the town. The gratitude of those men was quite cheering. They got up a tea-party on my behalf, at which many kind things were said. A deputation of the shoemakers waited upon me anxious to form an association. They have held their first meeting. On Tuesday and Friday following I lectured at Sunderland; Councillor Williams, an old social reformer, filled the chair. At the conclusion of the lectures, the Reverend Mr. Sinee, Unitarian Minister of the town, kindly expressed himself delighted with all he had heard, and moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer. This gentleman is exceedingly beloved by the working men of Sunderland; he has founded a People's College for the working men, and is almost every night engaged in teaching them. At the conclusion of the meeting I had to attend to a deputation of stonemasons who are about to form an association; they have found their own capital, and wished for my advice on their laws. They seem brave and earnest men. As soon as they had gone a body of tailors waited on me for the same purpose. Between my first and second lecture they had met, and twenty-seven of them had paid their money. By this time they number, I should think, between sixty and seventy. I gave them the best advice I could, and it was near twelve o'clock when I got home to the Temperance Hotel.

I next visited North Shields in company with the most active coöperator in Newcastle, Mr. Mason Watson, who, by-the-bye, is a Baptist local preacher, but an excellent, hard-working, earnest man. We were invited by the working men specially to attend a large meeting in the Temperance-hall, capable of holding 800 or 900 persons, which was crammed with attentive auditors. Mr. Johnson, of the town, filled the chair. The Reverends Messrs. Frazer and Duncan had promised to attend. At the conclusion of my speech, the Reverend Mr. Duncan, son of the celebrated founder of savings' banks, said he would be the recreant son of a worthy sire if his sympathies were not in favour of the working class. He would pledge himself to no party politics, but all that would tend to the welfare of that class he would labour earnestly to effect. I have since visited Burnley, Padiham, Heywood, &c. &c.; at the last named place they have only been in operation ten months. They have

divided in profit among them £230, every farthing of which would have gone into the pockets of shopkeeper.

Some of your readers may ask what I am teaching. In a few words I tell you. The great theme is this—whatever is done for the working classes must be done by them. I tell them to make the best laws which their united wisdom can devise. To select the best men they can get as managers; and when they have elected them to render entire obedience to their own laws and managers. If a manager is unfit, his unfitness will soon appear; but obedience is too blessed a thing to do without. It is by obedience to their laws and to their manager that the men of Pendleton have put up sixty power-looms. I had the pleasure of seeing the machinery yesterday. The people's mill will be more terrible to selfish capitalists than a host of street barricades. I tell them, in conclusion, that if they would be free they must no longer be slaves to their own vices. Avoid, as pesthouses, the gin palace and beershop. Freedom is too holy to be polluted by any connection with these places.

Having faith in God, in truth, and in humanity, I believe the "good time is coming."

Yours respectfully, WALTER COOPER.

[This letter was first omitted through our Index—then through an analogous pressure. We regret the delay in its appearance.]

HALL OF SCIENCE.—This hall, situate in the City-road, has progressed under the management of Mr. William Bendall, until it now is both commodious and elegant, and, together with the coffee-room and saloon, is adapted to various forms of meetings and committees. Every night it is occupied with lectures, amusements, or tuition classes. At present, Thomas Cooper is delivering orations there on Sunday evenings on Roman history; on Monday evening, on astronomy, bringing a poet's fervour to illustrate the miracles of that sublime science.

TEMPLE OF FREE THOUGHT.—A society is in progress, the object of which is, by means of donations and shares, to raise a fund for securing a large hall in the neighbourhood of Oxford-street, wherein the industrious classes may assemble to acquire and communicate useful knowledge, and where they may have recreation and amusement at a trifling expense. The hall is to contain a lecture-room capable of accommodating at least 3000 persons, with committee room, library, and depot for books, reading room, class rooms, school rooms for children of both sexes, shop for the sale of publications, and other conveniences. Mr. T. Whitaker, of No. 23, John-street, Fitzroy-square, is appointed the financial secretary, which is a guarantee of the business efficiency of the project. All willing to aid an object so desirable can communicate with Mr. Whitaker.

MR. LUDLOW'S LECTURE.—At the soirée of the Coöperative Store, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, held on Wednesday evening last, Mr. Ludlow delivered a reply to the *Edinburgh Review*. The subject was "Opponents of Christian Socialism. The Reasoner, the *Edinburgh Review*, and the *Eclectic*;" but, owing to the importance and variety of topics mooted in the *Edinburgh Review*, the evening was devoted to that. The rejoinder to the *Edinburgh* was able and complete on the part of Christian Socialism, and it included some passages which seemed contributions to the literature of the Socialistic controversy.

ROBERT OWEN.—The committee formed to disseminate Mr. Owen's views during the Great Exhibition met on Wednesday evening last, when communications were received from Paisley, Halifax, Derby, and other districts highly favourable to the objects of the committee. Parties desirous of promoting this important propaganda will please address the secretary, Henry A. Ivory, 52, College-place, Camden-town.

REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—Dr. Lees has returned to Yorkshire, and we hope that the branches will make arrangements for engaging his services in connection with the society. Monies received for the week ending Feb. 10, 1851:—Leeds, £1 12s. 14d.; Wortly, Mr. J. Barker, 8s.; Burstall, per Mr. William Sands, £1; Hyde, per Mr. J. Bradley, 11s. 4d.; Huddersfield, per Mr. U. Studdard, 5s. Communal building fund:—Hyde, per J. Bradley, 1s. 6d.; Leeds, 9s. Mr. David Green gave a lecture on the Redemption Society on Sunday evening, February 2, at Birkenshaw. At the close a discussion took place. A number entered the society, and a branch was formed. This makes the fourth branch in a cluster of large villages, namely, Burstall, Drigglington, Gildersome, and Birkenshaw. These form the four corners of a quadrangle of villages; it is one of the most densely-populated districts in the West Riding.

SPRING-KNIFE CUTLERS' COÖPERATIVE STORE.—We understand that a portion of the spring-knife cutlers in this town are making indefatigable efforts to establish a store for the sale of groceries and all kinds of provisions generally, to be called the "Spring-Knife Cutlers' Coöperative Store." The chief objects of this society will be to supply its members with a good article at a cheap rate, and the profits that accrue from the business be allowed to work in the concern for the joint benefit of the society; thus ultimately securing to each member a considerable amount of profit for the loan of his subscription. We strongly recommend every individual of that most formidable body, of which there are upwards of 2000 in Sheffield, to rouse themselves, and add their names to those who are already making strenuous efforts to better the condition of their fellow-workmen. A society similar to this was formed in Rochdale some time ago, and the result is most cheering. A committee has been appointed to watch over the interests of the society, and we believe that, at present, it is their intention to admit none but spring-knife cutlers as members; but, in the event of that body neglecting to come forward and support them in their enterprise, it will be thrown open for the benefit of the public at large. The rules upon which the society is based have been forwarded to Mr. Tidd Pratt for enrolment.—*Sheffield Free Press*.



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.

SIR EDWARD SUGDEN AND THE COURT OF CHANCERY.

20, King-street, St. James's, Feb. 1, 1851.

SIR,—Will you permit me, through your influential journal, to answer certain remarks made by Sir Edward Sugden in the columns of the *Times* on the Chancery Reform Association. I beg this favour on three grounds:—1stly. As a member of that society, which Sir Edward has criticized so freely, having been unable to attend the meeting held on the 30th ultimo. 2ndly. In justice to the unfortunate sufferers in prison, some of whom I am prepared to show are much calumniated by the unwarrantable statements of the ex-Chancellor of Ireland. And, lastly, that the facts may be made known to the public, which, with so much circumlocution and artistic adroitness, have been evaded and withheld by that right honourable and learned gentleman.

The charge I prefer against Sir Edward is this, that he has made statements calculated to mislead the public. It would have been more prudent, at the same time decorous, if he had invited strict inquiry into the subject; if he had made himself conversant with the facts before he presumed to publish to the world a direct contradiction to the statements of the association. I have been assured by some of the parties themselves that he did not examine those whom he gives the public to understand he did examine. Did it never occur to him, as a lawyer, that the truth of a matter so pursued was not likely to be long veiled from the public? For though Truth may encounter many crosses by the way, in the end it will surely triumph.

I believe, notwithstanding, that Sir Edward had no desire to propagate a mistatement; still his offence is great in having thus boldly and unhesitatingly disseminated the most unfounded assertions, without prosecuting rigid inquiry, to protect himself from falling into error: some might have been deceived by the cool indifference, the apparent consciousness of perfect certainty, manifested in the mode in which Sir Edward deals with the subject, who were content to take all for granted, without personal patient inquiry. It is obvious the Chancery Reform Association has brought down the anger of Sir Edward by neglecting to take especial notice of that act which he introduced into Parliament, and because the society will not go with Sir Edward in thinking it the most perfect and efficient reform, and all that ever was or could be necessary for the relief of chancery victims.

Sir Edward says, he went to the Queen's Prison to ascertain whether the statements put forward by the association were correct as regarded the Chancery prisoners, and, after examining their cases, adds:—"I could not find one who could be deemed a victim. Several of them, when I asked them whether they considered themselves victims of the court, said they did not!" (One of them only, Sir Edward, told you he was no victim; and, verily, he is not!) When I read this, it was my turn to be surprised; and I was surprised. I then determined to make searching inquiry clearly to ascertain which of us was in error; that if the association was, then to have publicly acknowledged the same. The result of that inquiry is, however, that I find the statements of Sir Edward to be most erroneous. It is unnecessary to mention names—I pledge myself for the faithfulness of my assertions—but should Sir Edward require the names, I am at perfect liberty to supply him. Now, for a little of the system—I found one man who had been in prison for about ten years—he was not originally a Chancery prisoner, and, therefore, Sir Edward says he is no victim; but judge if he be not. He was a soldier who obtained his discharge after long service in India. A relation had died and left him £10,000 or £12,000. Soldiers

are not often good lawyers, at least he seems not to have been, and his solicitor found it no difficult task to impose upon him, according to his own tale. He could not get from him the particulars of his property. It was necessary to get him out of the way. He had purchased some household articles, and of course wanted money to pay for them. He was told he must wait a short time; the affairs of the estate were not quite settled, the will was not quite proved. However, he was sued for the amount, and, ultimately, arrested for £120. Once in prison he was safe. Money was then lent to him, not enough to pay his debt, and get out; but to keep him in food, and from making a noise. This little became in time a good sum. Then, kindly, his friend allowed him to retain the borrowed money on paying exorbitant interest. He must sign papers, give mortgages, &c. Somehow or other it was managed to file a bill against him. Now he was rendered perfectly helpless. A receiver, an officer of the court, was appointed. It has been under the protection of the court some years, and he is allowed to know nothing that is going on. He has never received a sixpence. It is not in dispute, but they have sold the greater portion of his estate; for what purpose does not appear; and to use his own words:—"They have taken all my property from me, and here I am left; all I know is, that when I was brought here, I had ten or twelve thousand pounds." His property has been transferred, by legal means, to the pockets of others, without his leave or knowledge, whilst he is left to finish his earthly career in the Queen's Prison! "What right has he to complain," says Sir Edward, "he can get out immediately by the Insolvent Court!" I may say—"Oh! most wise, most excellent judge; oh! just judge—a second Daniel come to judgment!" This poor man is not allowed a voice in his own affairs. The court holds his property; and it does as it pleases with it. Though the court has his property it does not pay his trifling debts, and liberate him. He sees no prospect of better things. Is he not a victim of Chancery? The court holds his money from him; it will not pay his debts, which its process has been the cause of bringing upon him; nor will it enable him to do so. This appears to me a most atrocious case, for it is clear, that had the court not taken possession of his estate, he would at once have freed himself from his dungeon walls. But if he were liberated to-morrow, it is not impossible that he might have to seek an asylum in the workhouse!

The next case reflects somewhat on Sir Edward's unfortunate memory. He says:—"This gentleman has been in prison since 1846 for not answering, and not delivering up deeds." Sir Edward goes on to say, "that he told him that he was not insolvent, and was about to move for his discharge on the ground of irregularity. The gentleman assured me, that he stated nothing of the sort! and described the interview to be this. Sir Edward was reading the paper when his name was announced. He started round saying:—"Oh! Mr. —, I know you I think;" "Very likely, Sir Edward," was the reply, "for I've seen you before." "Oh! I've nothing to say to you, you're not a victim." "But, Sir Edward, will you have the goodness to hear what my case is?" "No, I want to see some of the others, you are not one that I want." "Then may I ask, why you sent for me? Was it that you might state that, you had seen the Chancery prisoners?" Sir Edward shrugged his shoulders and was silent. He then states, "I did not say what Sir Edward imputes to me, for he would not hear one word I had to say." (This is the way Sir Edward ascertains whether or not the association was correct!) "It is untrue that I have books or deeds which I refuse to give up. My co-defendant is, I believe, detained for some deeds, yet has made affidavit long since, that they have never been in her custody, but always in the hands of the solicitor; whose clerk stated, that he had seen them in the office of his master, but that he will see them all at Jericho ere he will give them up!" What, this infallible court detain persons six or seven years on mistaken grounds? He adds, "I never owed a guinea in my life till I was imprisoned; and now I do not owe any man a shilling. Since I have been kept here, of course, I have been unable to do anything for my family. I have had heavy expenses and much misfortune. I have had enough to do to provide for their daily wants. I am detained for costs which I do not consider I owe." I was made a defendant, and could not help myself." Thus is a man dragged before the court, with the fear of costs on one side, and the grim spectre, Contempt, on the other. It may be very pretty fun, but I fancy it looks vastly like injustice. Another is that of a gentleman, who began by assuring me, that Sir Edward had most imperfectly described the cases of the Chancery prisoners; that he had not written from information given him by those parties he professed to have gone to examine, but had evidently taken his ideas either from imagination or accounts received from the officials of the place. This gentleman, however, gave a graphic description of the visiting masters. It goes any length but that of confirming Sir Edward's opinion, that there can be no oversight in the visiting under the Contempt act. It was on an occasion of one of the senior visitors attending, and being sent

for, he went into the audience-room to state his case and to be advised what course to pursue. When appealed to, the master said, "Really, it is so long since I was at the bar I've entirely forgotten the practice; I can't say what you should do!" On the next occasion another master attended, when a similar farce was enacted. He then assured me that all the visitors seemed alike, and that he had given up appearing before them. Another told me (this was a shoemaker—I have forgotten his name) that, on being attached, he was kept about a fortnight and then liberated—but he was a poor man, and when he was unceremoniously taken from his business, and no one left to manage his concerns, everything went to ruin. When set free, he had no house to go to, so he went to reside in another at some little distance; but because he was not found on the exact spot where he had been previously taken, they charged him—most unjustly he declares—with an intention to run away, and he was taken and committed to the Queen's Bench. "I was not," says he, "taken up to the court, as Sir Edward states, within 30 days, it was 220 days before I was so taken and finally committed."

The case of Andrews must surely have escaped the recollection, if he ever knew it, of Sir Edward; as also that of Captain Hudson, the Keeper; or they would not assert that there has been no case in the Queen's Bench analogous to the one spoken of by Mr. Dickens; but I fancy no one would be inclined to receive such a denial as proof of that illustrious writer's statements being unfounded; even had we nothing more to rest our claims upon, opposed only by Sir Edward's vague attempts at refutation. I bring my witnesses into court, whilst he relies on a flourishing address. In this hard thinking matter-of-fact age, I am not much in doubt as to which will be most acceptable. Sir Edward's argument is truly this, "I think I know better than Mr. Dickens or any one else who dares to impugn Chancery practice; and I say the charges are unfounded." That is the way Sir Edward meets the case, and gets rid of the subject. It might have been more satisfactory had Sir Edward proved that which he so boldly asserted. But that he positively could not do, and for this reason, all his information has been indirectly received. It is founded on hearsay, two or three times removed; he has not an authority he could venture to give, excepting, perhaps, the gentleman who was so indignant at being called a Chancery victim; and here I cordially agree with Sir Edward, this person is not a victim. I do not aver that a man, because he is detained by Chancery process, is therefore of necessity a victim; but I do say that no system ought to entail imprisonment for life, for that which is not a grievous offence against the laws of the land; and I complain that Chancery indiscriminately visits the unfortunate innocent, and the wilful wrongdoer alike; though it is infinitely more probable the latter may escape and laugh at the court.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
M. MERYWEATHER TURNER.

P.S.—This subject will be concluded in another letter.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

Feb. 10, 1851.

SIR,—The Diocesan or Consistorial Courts may decide all matters of spiritual or ecclesiastical discipline arising within their respective limits. They may also declare marriages void, and pronounce sentence of separation, *a mensa et thoro*, but the power of dissolving them, *a vinculo*, and of inflicting pecuniary damages, has been reserved for the Courts of Common Law. In his own court the Bishop is supreme: appointing his judges, advocates, and proctors, who must be members of the Established Church, and who can be removed by him at pleasure. Thus, the Ecclesiastical judge is not only dependent upon fees for the emoluments of his office, but also upon the will of the ordinary for his continuance in it.

The Archidiaconal Courts are generally subordinate to the Episcopal, though in some instances they are independent and co-ordinate. When Sir Robert Peel, in 1844, made his last unsuccessful attempt to reform the ecclesiastical jurisdiction, it was proposed to abolish the whole of these courts, with the exception of five, and they were not to retain any contentious jurisdiction.

Peculiars are places exempt from the jurisdiction of the Bishop. They take cognizance of ecclesiastical matters within their own limits, though the jurisdiction of many of the Peculiar Courts extends only to a single parish, frequently producing the greatest confusion. The town of Padstow, for instance, is in the Peculiar of the Archidiaconal Court of Cornwall, which consists of 175 parishes. The Bishop claiming Padstow *in rure*, yet the boundary line has never been accurately defined. The parish of Freckenham, in the diocese of Norwich, is a Peculiar belonging to the Bishop of Rochester, the wills and records being deposited in the Registrar's house at Huntingdon, in the diocese of Ely. Altogether there are 286 Peculiars.

Suits for tithes are no longer frequent in the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the Courts of Common Law

may restrain them, by a prohibition, from trying any cases of modus or prescription. Personal tithes, however, may be enforced in these courts with an inquisitorial process of examination; and the servant may be sworn to tell "the whole truth" of what he may know respecting the profits of his master's trade.

The whole subject of Church rates (the other great grievance of dissenters) demands immediate attention, but the alteration which has taken place in the state of society cannot authorize the passing of more stringent measures, when a large portion of the community can no longer avail themselves of the services of the Church, without doing violence to their convictions. The liability for church-rates ought to have ended when the rejection of spiritual consolation ceased to be a legal crime. The jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts was based upon the supposition of the duty of spiritual obedience to ecclesiastical authority; but that authority is now exercised by spiritual officers of one religious community over persons who are not members of it; and the censures of the Church (excommunication) are thus applied to those who are incapable of communicating.

The Ecclesiastical Courts and, indeed, the whole ecclesiastical organization of the state require a radical reformation, and the "no Popery" howl, raised by the Whig Premier will, fortunately, tend to accelerate the movement.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. C.

AN AUSTRIAN TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP.

Feb. 11, 1851.

SIR,—The ignorance of the newspapers in Western Germany about Austrian customs has misled them as to the real object of the recent occupation of the free town of Hamburg by Austrian troops. They view it in no very unfavourable light, they say: "The men (Austrian soldiers) marched in with the bands playing, and with green twigs stuck in their caps, as a token of friendship." Why, Sir, for centuries it has always been, and still is, a custom with the Austrians, that on the very day their soldiers are put on the footing of war, and take the field, they stick green twigs in their caps, removing them only, when, after the hostilities, they return to their garrisons.

You thus see, Sir, that what some German editors are pleased to consider "tokens of friendship" are precisely the reverse, viz., unmistakeable signs of hostility.

I hope, Sir, you will excuse my troubling you with this trifling rectification; I thought it a necessary one because there may still be some persons who, in the present occupation of Hamburg, fancy they detect in it a friendly and honest step on the part of the Austrian Government, and who mistake the Austrian soldiers for so many innocent doves, returning to Noah's Ark with olive branches in their beaks, while they are in reality, Sir, but the assassins of so many Gallician families, and the worthy pupils of the Gibbet-marshal Haynau, and "Quales sunt summi civitatis viri, talis est civitas."

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
CHR. STOLZMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel of Artillery of the late Polish army.

PENALTIES OF DISBELIEF.

London, Feb. 10, 1851.

SIR,—Your Dublin correspondent, M. S., in your last number, has suggested to your legal readers that some one of their number should publish for the general information a statement of the legal penalties that may be put in force against published opinions hostile to Christianity. Although not belonging to the legal profession, I am able to inform you that a digest of the present state of the law on this subject may be found in the Report of the Criminal Law Commissioners, which digest might be copied at full into the *Leader* if any one would take the trouble to procure the report for your use, or send you the extract.

Yours, R. N.

HUDDERSFIELD MECHANICS' INSTITUTION

Jan. 30, 1851.

SIR,—During a short visit to Huddersfield last autumn, I was very much interested in a society organized and directed by Mr. Nelson, and composed of some members of the Mechanics' Institution, which is so much indebted to Mr. Phillips, its present secretary, for its great efficiency. I have requested Mr. Nelson to favour me with some account of his little society; and I have permission to make what use I please of his letter, which I trust you will deem worthy of insertion in your columns. There is so much benevolent feeling, piety, and practical wisdom in all their proceedings, that I trust it will be an example for the formation of similar institutions.

Your obedient servant, J. M. MORGAN.

Philosophical-hall, Huddersfield, Jan. 15, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—I greatly need, but little merit your forbearance, for so long neglecting to forward to you the promised sketch of our little society; my only excuse is the very absorbing nature of my employments during the months of December and January, but the press of

business being now over, I have called to my aid, as amanuensis, Mr. Bradley, a member of our society, for the purpose of furnishing you with an account of the origin and constitution of our fraternity.

Since the establishment of the Huddersfield Mechanics' Institution, it has been my privilege to teach classes therein, during which time I had the pleasure of securing in a very considerable degree the attachment of my pupils both personally and professionally. I am willing to believe that their respect for me arose principally from the fact that I felt and exhibited an interest in their mental, moral, and social improvement. This feeling led me not unfrequently to step beyond the duties of a mere scholastic teacher, to give advice of a more friendly and fraternal character. During the first years of the existence of the Mechanics' Institution, party feeling and political excitement ran very high in this locality. During the agitation for the Ten Hours Bill, and against the introduction of the new Poor Law, torchlight meetings were held, and the progress of the classes were not unfrequently interrupted by the shouts of the multitude going in procession to some public meeting. When the exciting character of these meetings drew away the younger pupils of my classes, I took occasion to remonstrate with them upon the evil tendency of mere political agitation, in unsettling the mind and fostering prejudices, especially as it was generally conducted without much regard to strict truth or charitable feeling. My remonstrances had the desired effect, and politics were neglected by the young men, while their own self-improvement was more closely attended to. But while I constantly declared that the evils under which society laboured were not capable of remedy by the plans of Political Economists, I was frequently called upon during our historical readings to explain my own views as to the causes of the social miseries of nations. But, in this respect, I endeavoured to lead the pupils to perceive and judge for themselves the sources of these manifold evils. The conclusion pretty generally arrived at by them was that competition was the root of the evil. I frequently stated it as my belief that it was next to impossible for uneducated, or nominally educated men, to produce any change in society, which would have the effect of restoring the balance of happiness to the human family. I, therefore, urged my young friends to fit themselves by self-culture rightly to appreciate the causes, both apparent and occult, which influence society. Nor did I fail to represent to them that a competitive state of society might have been a necessary arrangement of divine providence, to serve by discipline and warning to inaugurate a higher and nobler social state.

Our young men had from time to time expressed a desire that our conversation should assume some more tangible shape, that they should have the means of further examination, and as this could not (consistently with the objects of the institution) be done in our general classes, I proposed to them, Ist., That they should form themselves into a society for mental and moral improvement; making the study of social science one great object of their association. At their request I consented to take the presidency of such society, on condition that no person should be proposed a member without my consent; that every one upon being proposed and accepted, should enter upon a probation, not of a certain length, but until he had performed certain labour as a test of mental activity and persevering capability; viz., That he should adopt some subject of study, scientific or literary, when, upon passing a creditable examination in which, and his general moral conduct being approved of, he should be admitted to the privileges of membership, if elected thereto by the unanimous suffrages of the fraternity. That the number or names of members should not at any time be stated as an inducement to persons to join the fraternity; a probationer should have no privileges except of attending meetings for instruction, and that prior to his admission to probation he should sign an engagement, cheerfully to abide by the judgment of the society as to his fitness. Upon these principles the society has been established, and is at present regular in its meetings, and in a very flourishing condition; it numbers eighteen members and six probationers. The room in which it meets is open every evening in the week; the president for the evening, in case of my own absence, being the member who has attained the greatest proficiency in the particular science to which that evening may be allotted. Reading, conversation, and general instruction occupy the time of the members until nine o'clock, after which hour, chess, singing, or more desultory conversation occupy the remainder of the evening until half-past ten. Each person, upon being admitted to probation, is, if possible, associated with some member engaged in similar studies with those of his own adoption, his progress being thereby greatly facilitated. Morning classes are occasionally held; these meetings open at five and conclude at seven. A small geological collection has just been purchased for the use of the society; and, as it is found that the present room is too small to accommodate the members, it is proposed, as soon as possible, to obtain a larger one. On Wednesday and Sunday evenings general meetings of the society are held, at which subjects connected with social science exclusively occupy the attention of the members; the meetings on these occasions are always opened by a litany, chants, and reading of the Scriptures, a form of which service has been printed for the use of the members.

More or less of a formal character is communicated to all the meetings of the society, as it is considered that this will not be without its influence in creating and fostering habits of order and subordination amongst the members. Arrangements are in progress for the establishment of branches of the association in neighbouring towns, the opening and conducting of such branches being provided for in the constitution of the Huddersfield Society.

Such, dear Sir, is a brief sketch of our present society; its immediate object, as you know, is to train individual

members thereof in habits of kindly feeling, active benevolence, and correct thought, and to enable them properly to estimate the physical, moral, and intellectual causes which operate to render society the pandemonium it is, while it is our desire, presumptuous as it may seem, through its feeble influence to enable its members more faithfully to perform their duties in society as it is, as also to fit them for one of a more righteous and rational character.

And if nearly two years' experience of the society in its present form, and upwards of ten years' knowledge of the characters and dispositions of its members may enable me to form any estimate of its probable success, it presents a most hopeful aspect, both for its members and also for that sphere of society in which they move. With the best wishes of our association for your own continued health and happiness, and with the most lively remembrance of your kindness towards us, I remain on behalf of the association, Yours, most respectfully,

W. M. NELSON.

LETTERS ON UNITARIANISM.

Feb. 11, 1851.

SIR,—Atticus is very inconsistent in his reclamations against the Unitarians. "They ought to be Propagandists," he says, and immediately admits that "for a truly noble spiritual teacher there must always be higher things than Propagandist preaching."

He brings repeated charges of spiritual pride against them, and yet denounces them for not being "sectarian," and "if sectarian, intolerant."

"A sect which admits that other sects may, by possibility, be right, should forthwith pass an act of self-abolition." If this were the doctrine of the Unitarians, how would Atticus declaim against their unchristian presumption and arrogance—and with justice?

But, if Unitarians have such lukewarm feelings as he maintains they have—if their doctrines are so liberal as to render them liable to the charge of indifference—if they are such parsimonious political economists or such severe moralists as to refuse to buy their converts—if, in short, from the nature of their system they are incapable of making any progress, why does he blame them for not progressing?

From his vigorous sketch of their short-comings, I have been looking for the enunciation of a new and more effective system. Let Atticus unfurl the standard of a holier and loftier enthusiasm than the Unitarians are capable of, and with a prophet's fire compel the nations to march to the renovation of the world. Let him give no reason for ill-natured people to say that he is skilful only in finding fault; and especially let him give no ground to the said ill-natured people for insinuating that he waits for the "shabby guineas" before he takes up the prophet's mantle. I am, Sir, yours,

A.

JANE WILBRED'S EDUCATION.

5, Park-row, Knightsbridge, Feb. 11, 1851.

SIR,—That our English judges know and justly interpret and administer the law is generally admitted. On two counts in the indictment against George and Theresa Sloane the prisoners were held not to be legally guilty:—"They charged that a girl of tender years, named Jane Wilbred, being in the service of the defendants, that they neglected to perform the duty which devolved upon them, of providing her with proper food and nourishment. Now, it appeared quite clear that this girl was permitted to go out, and that she had plenty of opportunities of making complaints and of obtaining assistance, and it was her duty to have made such complaint; and as she had not done so the prisoners could not be held responsible for that which might have been avoided." So said Justice Coleridge.

Before men talk of the "duty" of Jane Wilbred it will not be amiss to inquire what has been the kind of training and instruction she has received at the hands of those who have been entrusted with the education of her early life. Jane Wilbred's was a workhouse education, an education of subjection and obedience. She, like all workhouse children, has been taught to obey, not to complain. She was sixteen years of age, in the words of Justice Coleridge, "almost a child—an orphan, with no natural protector." Evidently in intellect and a knowledge of the world quite a "child." Jane Wilbred could have no personal interest in being maltreated and starved. Why did she submit to such disgusting and painful treatment? There is but one answer—she fulfilled her "duty," was true to the maxims of her monitors, she "honoured and obeyed."

Had the said Jane Wilbred been the daughter of a North American Indian, the child of a despised "Squaw," before she was sixteen she would have been able to provide for her own wants, to have cared for a hut, killed game, and lived on the fruits of the earth; and what is equally valuable, in a "savage" state she would have had a right to have roamed at large unrestricted by game laws, police, or workhouse officials; she would have known her "duty," and no inhuman and misguided wretches in the very refinement of cruelty, would have starved her to a skeleton.

Ours is an age of "progress," "humanity," and

"enlightenment," in which we deny to the unfortunate sons and daughters of poverty, any claim to the earth or its fruits, except such claims as the "law" justifies and "civilization" renders necessary for the "security" and peace of "well-regulated society!"

As a Christian nation we despise the benighted sons and daughters of Israel, and speak of the blindness of the Mosaic law. The Jewish law provided amply for the wants of orphans. I read in the laws of the Hebrews, relating to the poor and the stranger, from the MISHNA HATHORA of the rabbi Maimonides, that "a woman is to be fed, and clothed, and brought out of the house of captivity, before a man; since man is accustomed to wander, but woman is not, and her feeling of modesty is more acute. If an orphan youth and an orphan maid apply to be betrothed, the maiden shall be betrothed before the youth; since the modesty of women is greater. And to her shall be given not less, in pure silver, than the sum of six denarii and one quarter; and if anything be in the alms chest for her worthsake shall it be given to her." Have not pious, Christian, Jew proselytizing Englishmen good reason to thank God that the orphan poor of England are not like the ignorant Hebrews, who knew nothing of modern improvements, and "cheap and easy" poor-law humanity. George and Theresa Sloane may not have been legally guilty of the charges set forth in the counts of the indictment, to which Justice Coleridge referred. No doubt, they were legally guiltless; but was their guilt nowhere? Yes, my indignant friend, "British Society," you are morally guilty of all the counts in the indictment. It is you, with your skilful diet and close-fisted rate-paying economy, your parish poverty and centralized commissioner poor laws, that causes such sufferings as those endured by Jane Wilbred: you had better repent and amend, for as you sow, so must you reap. See to it, or when it is "too late," you may regret your negligence and sins.—I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant, S. M. KYDD.

NEWSPAPER TAXES.

Feb. 8, 1851.

A correspondent, who begins his letter with some very flattering encouragement for our exertions in the advocacy of free opinion, touches upon a most vexatious effect of the advertisement duty:—

"I cordially agree with your views of the bondage of the press, so ably shown in the article on 'Household Words,' in the number of the 18th ultimo; but there is one point which, of course, has not passed unobserved; but it is not brought forward, I think, as it ought to be. I was reading your remarks on *Catholicity the Religion of Fear* (I had the work), and could not help feeling that, if you had been free to have added, price 3d. to your excellent notice, it would have been a pleasing piece of information to many of your readers, and to many unattainable otherwise, and would promote circulation, &c. In this case, your advertisement page supplied the want to all but the casual reader. But in hundreds of cases this is not so; for instance, after reading your instructive notice of Wilson's *Catholicity*, I looked in vain at the head of the article, and advertisements too, to see if it was within my means of purchase; and I may ask at twenty orthodox booksellers without learning—they are, perhaps, even ignorant of its existence. Let the advertisement duty be abolished; let us demand that all useful information be free, looking for the same freedom in this that you have so opportunely and gloriously given to the expression of opinions.—I am, Sir, your humble coöperator,

"W. C."

THE JEWS.—In our thoughts of old clothesmen and despised shop-keepers, we are accustomed to forget that the Jews came from the East, and that they still partake in their blood of the vivacity of their Eastern origin. We forget that they have had their poets and philosophers both gay and profound, and that the great Solomon was one of the most beautiful of amatory poets, of writers of Epicurean elegance, and the delight of the whole Eastern world, who exalted him into a magician. There are plentiful evidences, indeed, of the vivacity of the Jewish character in the Bible. They were very liable to very ferocious mistakes respecting their neighbours, but so have other nations been who have piqued themselves on their refinement; but we are always reading of their feasting, dancing, and singing, and harping and rejoicing. Half of David's imagery is made up of allusions to these lively manners of his countrymen. But the Bible has been read to us with such solemn faces, and associated with such false and gloomy ideas, that the Jews of old become as unpleasant though less undignified a multitude in our imaginations as the modern. We see as little of the real domestic interior of the one as of the other, even though no people have been more abundantly described to us. The moment we think of them as people of the East, this impression is changed, and we do them justice. Moses himself, who, notwithstanding his share of the barbarism above-mentioned, was a genuine philosopher and great man, and is entitled to our eternal gratitude as the proclaimer of the Sabbath, is rescued from the degrading familiarity into which the word Moses has been trampled, when we read of him in D'Herbelot as Moussa Ben Amran; and even Solomon becomes another person as the Great Soliman or Soliman Ben Daoud, who had the ring that commanded the genii, and sat with twelve thousand seats of gold on each side of him, for his sages and great men.—*Leigh Hunt's Table-Talk.*

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)

A gradual increase in the mortality is represented by the following numbers of deaths returned in the last three weeks:—956, 1041, and 1109. In the ten weeks of 1841-50, corresponding to that which ended last Saturday, the average number was 1063, which, if corrected for comparison with the mortality of the present time by assuming the annual increase of population at 1.55 per cent., becomes 1160. This estimated amount differs in no very considerable degree from the 1109 deaths registered last week. The increase, equal to 68, in the present return over the preceding week (ending Feb. 1) arose almost entirely amongst the young, the number of persons who died above 15 years, having been about 590, and remaining in both weeks nearly the same. It is further to be observed, however, that notwithstanding an excess in the general result, the mortality from epidemics is perceptibly diminished amongst the middle-aged and the old, whilst complaints of that class to which the young are subject, if not declining, do not appear to be gaining ground. The excess of last week over the previous one is due, in great part, to the aggravated fatality of pneumonia, and likewise bronchitis, amongst young persons. In the epidemic class, smallpox destroyed twenty children, and five persons about fifteen years; and in only three of the twenty-five cases there is probable ground for inferring that vaccination had been performed with effect and in sufficient time previous to the eruption of the disease. The births of 848 boys and 756 girls, in all 1604 children, were registered in the week. The average of six corresponding weeks in 1845-50, was 1464.

	Ten Weeks of 1841-50.	Week of 1851.
Zymotic Diseases	1981	207
Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat	573	52
Tubercular Diseases	1874	172
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses	1287	117
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels ..	369	50
Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Organs of Respiration	2131	253
Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion	634	62
Diseases of the Kidneys, &c.	82	7
Childbirth, diseases of the Uterus, &c. ..	105	8
Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c.	68	11
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c. ..	12	1
Malformations	34	5
Premature Birth and Debility	201	30
Atrophy	165	25
Age	725	56
Sudden	130	5
Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance	263	42
Total (including unspecified causes) ..	10631	1109

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SATURDAY.

The English Stock Market has not been any better this week than last. On Monday, Consols opened at 96½ to 96¾, and, after several slight variations during the last few days, they closed yesterday at 96½ to 96¾.

The fluctuations in the English Stock Market during the week have been:—Consols, 96½ to 96¾; Bank Stock, 21¼ to 21½; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 98½ to 98¾; Exchequer Bills, 54s. to 57s. premium.

In the Foreign Stock Market a good deal of business has been done in Spanish, in which an advance of price took place in the beginning of the week, succeeded, however, by a reaction. The bargains in the official list, yesterday, comprised:—Buenos Ayres, for money, 52, for the account, 52½; Chilean Three per Cents., 65; Mexican, for money, 33½ and ¼; Peruvian, 80½; the Deferred, 36; Portuguese Five per Cents., 34½ ex div.; the Four per Cents., 33½ and ¼; Russian Five per Cents., 114; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 97½ and ¾; Spanish Five per Cents., for money, 19½, 20, 19½, and 20; for the account, 20½; Passive, 4½, 5, and 4½; Spanish Three per Cents., 38½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 58½ and ¾; and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 91½ and ¾.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, Feb. 14.

We are liberally supplied with all grain this week both Foreign and English. Wheat on the spot sells only in retail at about former rates. Some low sales of floating cargoes of Polish Odessa have been made; in one or two instances 32s. was accepted. Danish Barley was pressed for sale at low rates in the early part of the week. This, however, attracted the attention of buyers, and it has not receded in value since Monday. Oats meet a slow sale at 6d. below Monday's rates.

Arrivals from Feb. 10 to 14:—

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.	Flour.
Wheat	3150	—	11,870	1930
Barley	3440	—	8,730	—
Oats	4570	13,820	10,510	—

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 11th day of February, 1851, is 29s. 2d. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 13s. 6d. to 14s. per doz.	
Carlow, £1 6s. to £1 10s. per cwt.	
Bacon, Irish	per cwt. 41s. to 46s.
Cheese, Cheshire	42 — 69
Derby, Plain	41 — 54
Hams, York	56 — 65
Eggs, French, per 120, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.	

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th of February, 1851, ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£ 27,638,220	Government Debt, 11,015,100	£
		Other Securities ..	2,984,900
		Gold Coin and Bullion	13,608,553
		Silver Bullion	29,667
	£27,638,220		£27,638,220

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital, 14,553,000	£	Government Securities (including Dead-weight Annuity)	14,145,696
Rest	3,239,356	Other Securities ..	11,834,247
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings, Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) ..	6,723,916	Notes	8,463,135
Other Deposits ..	9,360,278	Gold and Silver Coin	639,944
Seven-day and other Bills	1,206,472		
	£35,083,022		£35,083,022

Dated Feb. 13, 1851. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

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

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	215½	215½	215½	215½	215½	215½
3 per Ct. Red ..	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. C. Con. Ans.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 p. C. An. 1726.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 p. Ct. Con., Ac.	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
3½ p. Cent. An.	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
New 5 per Cts.	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½
Long Ans., 1860.	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½
Ind. St. 10½ p. Ct.	68 p	65 p	64 p	67 p	66 p	66 p
Ditto Bonds ..	57 p	55 p	57 p	57 p	54 p	53 p
Ex. Bills, 1000l.	57 p	55 p	57 p	57 p	54 p	53 p
Ditto, 500l.	54 p	57 p	57 p	57 p	54 p	53 p
Ditto, Smal.	54 p	57 p	57 p	57 p	54 p	53 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Austrian 5 per Cents.	97½	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc.	33½
Belgian Bds., 4½ p. Ct.	91½	Small ..	—
Brazilian 5 per Cents.	92½	Neapolitan 5 per Cents.	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts.	—	Peruvian 4½ per Cents.	—
Chilian 6 per Cents.	—	Portuguese 5 per Cent.	31½
Danish 5 per Cents.	—	4 per Cts.	33½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.	58½	Annuities ..	—
— 4 per Cents.	91½	Russian, 1822, 4½ p. Cts.	97½
Ecuador Bonds ..	3½	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts.	19½
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris	96.55	— Passive ..	4½
— 3 p. Cts., Feb. 14, 57.75	—	— Deferred ..	—

SHARES.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.

RAILWAYS.		BANKS.	
Caledonian	12½	Australasian	32½
Eastern Counties ..	7½	British North American	42½
Edinburgh and Glasgow	34	Colonial	—
Great Northern	18	Commercial of London ..	25½
Great North of England	—	London and Westminster	27½
Great S. & W. (Ireland)	43½	London Joint Stock ..	17½
Great Western	89½	National of Ireland ..	—
Hull and Selby	104	National Provincial ..	—
Lancashire and Yorkshire	58½	Provincial of Ireland ..	42½
Lancaster and Carlisle	72	Union of Australia ..	34
Leam., Brighton, & S. Coast	98	Union of London	12½
London and Blackwall ..	7	MINES.	
London and N.-Western	132	Bolanos	—
Midland	61	Brazilian Imperial ..	—
North British	98	Ditto, St. John del Rey	13½
South-Eastern and Dover	25½	Cobre Copper	35
South-Western	89½	MISCELLANEOUS.	
York, Newcas., & Berwick	20½	Australian Agricultural	—
York and North Midland	24½	Canada	—
DOCKS.		General Steam	28½
East and West India ..	—	Penins. & Oriental Steam	70
London	—	Royal Mail Steam ..	70
St. Katharine	—	South Australian ..	—

GRAIN, Mark-lane, Feb. 14.

Wheat, R. New 34s. to 36s.	Maple	28s. to 30s.
Fine	White	22 — 24
Old	Boilers	24 — 26
White	Beans, Ticks ..	22 — 23
Fine	Old	25 — 28
Superior New 40 — 42	Indian Corn ..	28 — 30
Rye	Oats, Feed	14 — 15
Barley	Fine	15 — 16
Malt	Poland	16 — 17
Malt, Ord.	Fine	17 — 18
Fine	Potato	16 — 17
Peas, Hog	Fine	17 — 18

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING FEB. 8.

Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
38s. 1d.	22 10	16 9	30s. 0d.	22 10	16 9
Imperial General Weekly Average.			Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.		
Wheat	23s. 11d.	25 10	Wheat	23s. 11d.	25 10
Barley	25 10	26 0	Barley	25 10	26 0
Oats	26 0	27 0	Oats	26 0	27 0

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.	

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.

Beef	Mutton	Veal	Pork
2 4 to 3 0	2 8 — 3 8	3 0 — 4 0	2 6 — 3 8
2 4 to 3 8	3 4 — 4 6	3 4 — 4 6	3 4 — 4 2

• To sink the offal, per 8lb.

Beasts	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
759	3030	214	295
Monday.	3811	139	320

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 10.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—H. Ashley, Fleet-street, and Little Carter-lane, Doctors'-commons, carrier; first div. of 1s. 5d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—T. and E. Lyon, Birchin-lane, stockbrokers; third div. of 2½d., and first div. of 6s. 0½d., on the separate estate of T. Lyon, on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—R. W. Samson, Essex-wharf, near the Strand, coal merchant; first div. of 2½d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—J. Winn, Charlotte-street, Blackfriars-road, gasfitter; first div. of 2s. 10d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—E. Rust, Good Easter, Essex, brickmaker; first div. of 2s. 9d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—R. Copland, Union-street, Whitechapel; first div. of 2s. 5d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—J. A. Storton, Chandos-street, Covent-garden, grocer; third div. of 4s., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—G. Morton, New-road, Whitechapel-road, draper; second div. of 1s. 11½d., any Wednesday; Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—T. Megary, Love-lane, Billingsgate, coal merchant; fifth div. of 5d., on Thursday, the 13th, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—J. P. Graves, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, auctioneer; first div. of 8½d., on Thursday, the 13th, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street—R. Westmore, West Derby, near Liverpool, joiner; first div. of 2s. 6d., on Thursday, the 20th, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—R. Williams, Chester, engineer; first div. of 20s., on Thursday, the 13th, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—S. Glenny, Liverpool and Newry, corn merchant; first div. of 1s., on Wednesday, the 19th, or any subsequent Wednesday; Mr. Turner, Liverpool—H. Burton; fifth div. of 8d., on Tuesday, the 11th, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—G. C. Searle, Tyndal-place, Islington, apothecary; first div. of 5s., on Tuesday, the 11th, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—A. Campbell, Regent-street, army agent; third div. of 1s. 3d. (on the separate estate), on Tuesday, the 18th, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—George Johnstone, Newbury, publican—Edward Hodges, Swinford, Leicestershire, surgeon.

BANKRUPT.—J. BARUGH, High Holborn, oil and colourman, to surrender Feb. 21, March 24; solicitors, Messrs. Treherne and White, Barge-yard-chambers, Bucklersbury; official assignee, Mr. Graham—W. L. Wood, Charles-street, Drury-lane, pianoforte-maker, Feb. 21, March 28; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Cannon, Birchin-lane—E. Bliss, Barbican, brush-maker, Feb. 21, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Baylis and Drew, Redcross-street, Cripplegate; official assignee, Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings—R. B. COLTMAN, Regent-street, Court milliner, Feb. 22, April 5; solicitor, Mr. Norcutt, Queens-square, Bloomsbury; official assignee, Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street—J. MURRELLS, Colchester, barge-owner, Feb. 21, March 25; solicitors, Messrs. Wire and Child, St. Swinith's-lane, and Mr. Barnes, Colchester; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—H. D. STEVENSON, Bishopwearmouth, Durham, merchant, Feb. 20, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Wright, Sunderland, and Messrs. Maples, Maples, and Pearce, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DIVIDENDS.—March 6, H. Watts, Upper Bryanstone-street, Bryanstone-square, corndealer—March 4, J. T. Wheatley, Commercial-road, Lambeth, lighterman—March 4, P. M. Chitty, Shaftesbury, scrivener—March 5, R. Swansborough and H. Oake, late of Bread-street, warehouseman, and Grimby, flax merchants—March 10, D. Simons, Trowbridge, general dealer—March 7, T. P. Collins, Bristol, tailor—March 6, S. L. Trotman, Liverpool, merchant—March 4, J. Bates, Leeds, share broker.

CERTIFICATE.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—March 4, H. Hamer, Blackfriars-road, linendraper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—C. Scobie, Perth, coppersmith, Feb. 17, March 7.

Friday, February 14.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—J. Johnson, jun., Uxbridge, common carrier; first and final div. of 4s., on new proofs, on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—J. P. Oliver, Blackheath, late commander of the ship Albion; third and final div. of 1½d., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—W. B. Edridge, Long-acre, coachmaker; second div. of 1½d., Feb. 17, and two subsequent Mondays; Mr. Cannan, Birchin-lane—J. H. Gill, Plummer's-row, City-road, grocer; first div. of 2s. 3d., Feb. 17, and two subsequent Mondays; Mr. Cannan, Birchin-lane—W. Pym, St. Osyth, Essex, corn merchant; second div. of 1½d., Feb. 17, and two subsequent Mondays; Mr. Cannan, Birchin-lane—J. N. Reynolds, Upper-street, Islington, grocer; first div. of 5s. 9d., Feb. 17, and two subsequent Mondays; Mr. Cannan, Birchin-lane—J. Wright, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, banker; second div. of 1s., Feb. 15, and any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—A. and W. Prior, New-road, ironmongers; first div. of 3s. 9d., Feb. 15, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—C. Wilson, late of Liverpool, dealer in railway shares—W. Alsop, Plymouth, potter.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.—B. Homan, Westbourne-terrace, Paddington, builder.

BANKRUPT.—P. P. PLATY, Broad-street-buildings, merchant, to surrender March 3 and 27; solicitor, Mr. Lloyd, Milk-street, Cheap-side; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—P. WOOTTON, sen., and P. WOOTTON, jun., Margate, grocers, March 1 and 29; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—J. MANNING, Birmingham, draper, Feb. 24, March 24; solicitor, Mr. Smith, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Christie, Birmingham—E. TETLOW, Leeds, innkeeper, March 4 and 31; solicitors, Messrs. Robinson and Green, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Hope, Leeds—H. HUNT, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant, Feb. 26, April 2; solicitors, Messrs. Wells, Smith, and Dodd, Hull; official assignee, Mr. Carrick, Hull—T. BRIGHOUSE, Liverpool, contractor, Feb. 25, March 24; solicitor, Mr. Paterson, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—J. WILSON, St. Helen's, Lancashire, chemical manufacturer, Feb. 25, March 24; solicitor, Mr. Jevons, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool.

DIVIDENDS.—March 8, J. Griffiths, Strand, linendraper—March 7, T. Benthall, Copthall chambers, stockbroker—March 7, W. F. Newton, Dover-street, Piccadilly, milliner—March 13, F. Leake, Regent-street, relievo leather manufacturer—March 8, J. Hollingsworth, Paddington-street, Marylebone, butcher—March 8, J. Hutchinson, River-terrace North, City-road, Islington, apothecary—March 8, H. F. Ross, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, commission agent—March 14, A. Cranston, Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, cabinetmaker—March 7, W. R. Smart, Chancery-lane, and Thistle-grove, Brompton, auctioneer—March 7, A. Black, Wellington-street North, Covent-garden, bookseller—March 7, G. A. Clare, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, house decorator—March 13, J. Brooks, Winslow, Buckingham, victualler—March 10, S. Bayly, Folkestone,

chersemonger—March 17, J. Crisp, jun., Beccles, corn-merchant—March 17, J. Kitchner, Gravel-lane, Southwark, scavenger—March 10, H. Snelling, Brighton, grocer—March 10, C. Bray, Portsea, trader—March 13, S. Leggett, Norwich, innkeeper—March 7, S. Banfill, Edward-street, Langham-place, cabinet-maker—March 7, J. and J. P. King, Well's-row, Islington, builders—March 7, R. Dart and J. Brown, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, coach-lace manufacturers—March 7, T. and W. Stirling, Stratford, slaters—March 7, J. G. Forster, Aldgate, High-street, tailor—March 7, J. Richardson, Edgeware-road, ironmonger—March 7, V. S. Godfrey, Duddington, Northamptonshire, miller—March 7, T. B. Cousens, Wisbeach, St. Peter's, ship builder—March 14, R. Miles, Pontypidd, Glamorganshire, grocer—March 7, W. Pittfield, Tooting Lower-end, Lancashire, bleacher—March 11, C. L. Swainson and J. Birchwood, Manchester, manufacturers—March 7, J. Crosthwaite, Liverpool, merchant—March 7, J. Meredith, Tattenhall, Cheshire, maltster—March 7, T. Banks, Liverpool, cattle salesman—March 13, G. Page, Wolverhampton, coal dealer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.—March 13, C. Bunyard, Mark lane, seedsman—March 8, S. Adams, Bow, engineer—March 10, W. Eeley, Horsepath, Oxfordshire, butcher—March 14, N. Berton, Princes-street, Hanover-square, tailor—March 12, R. Miles, Pontypidd, Glamorganshire, grocer—March 7, C. Robinson, Liverpool, sailmaker—March 13, W. Pitcher, Pershore, Worcestershire, corn dealer—Feb. 25, J. Simons, Wibloft, Warwickshire and Leicestershire, horsedealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. Towers, Glasgow, stockbroker, Feb. 17, March 10—J. Smith, Glasgow, grocer, Feb. 19, March 12—A. McKechnie, Greenock, shopman, Feb. 20, March 13—A. Smith, Kelso, currier, Feb. 21, March 18.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst., at Downham Rectory, near Ely, the wife of the Reverend F. Fisher, of a daughter.
On the 6th inst., at Streatham-hill, Mrs. J. H. Shears, of a son.
On the 6th inst., at Hartlebury Castle, the wife of the Reverend E. W. Ingram, of a daughter.
On the 7th inst., at Hastings, the wife of Captain Iremonger, of a daughter, stillborn.
On the 8th inst., in Pimlico, the wife of the Reverend T. K. Bowyear, of a son.
On the 8th inst., at Handsworth Rectory, Staffordshire, the wife of the Reverend G. W. Murray, of a son, stillborn.
On the 9th inst., in Eaton-place, the Lady Margaret Milbanke, of a son and heir.
On the 11th inst., in Clapham-road, the wife of the Reverend C. Kemble, M.A., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 5th inst., at St. Michael's, Chester-square, W. Stobart, Esq., to Sophia, youngest daughter of Colonel Wyld, R.A.
On the 8th inst., at St. Pancras, Alfred Eyre, Esq., of Seymour-house, Lee-road, Blackheath, to Emily Catherine, only daughter of the Reverend J. A. Wood, M.A.
On the 10th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Edward Tyrwhitt, Esq., son of the late Sir T. Tyrwhitt Jones, Bart., to Mary Jane, daughter of R. Ford, Esq.
On the 11th inst., at Bridgewater, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Fitzgerald, Madras army, to Anne Evered, daughter of John Evered Poole, Esq., Bridgewater.
On the 12th inst., at St. Peter's Church, Pimlico, Major the Honourable James Colborn, eldest son of Lieutenant-General Lord Seaton, to the Honourable Charlotte De Burgh, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-General Lord Downes.
On the 13th inst., at Hammersmith, John Henry, son of Mr. Besch, of Hanover-street, Hanover-square, to Sarah, daughter of Mr. Morgan, of Albemarle-street, Piccadilly.
On the 13th inst., at Christ Church, Marylebone, the Reverend J. Sheal, B.D., rector of Caldaiff, Donegal, Ireland, to Elizabeth, fourth daughter of the late Sir Lachlan Maclean, of Sudbury, Suffolk.

DEATHS.

On the 14th of December last, at Bellary, India, Lieutenant A. J. Cattle, of the First Madras Fusiliers.
On the 1st inst., at Chester-square, Mary Wollstoncraft, widow of the late Percy Bysse Shelley, aged 53.
On the 1st inst., aged 89, Sophia, relict of the Reverend Thomas Reeve, rector of Brockley, Suffolk.
On the 4th inst., at Boulogne, George Robert Eyres, Esq., aged 77, many years a magistrate for the county of Norfolk.
On the 4th inst., at Woolavinton, Somerset, in the 87th year of his age, the Reverend Stephen Long Jacob, for nearly fifty-two years vicar of Waldershare, in the county of Kent.
On the 6th inst., Mrs. Emma Haggerston, wife of Captain Haggerston, of Exeter, aged 46.
On the 6th inst., at the Vicarage, Creech St. Michael, Somerset, the Reverend John Cresswell, vicar of that place, aged 57.
On the 7th inst., at the Vicarage-house, Hanslope, Bucks, the Reverend James Mayne, Vicar of Hanslope-cum-Castle Thorpe, formerly of Bethnal-green.
On the 8th inst., at Chester, Emma, the infant daughter of the Honourable Thomas and Lady Emma Vesey.
On the 9th inst., at Welchpool, the Reverend John Davies, aged 58.
On the 9th inst., in Grosvenor-street, Louisa, relict of the late Major-General Darby Griffith, of Padworth-house, Berks.
On the 10th inst., at Horsham, aged 94, Maria, relict of the late Robert Hurst, Esq., of Horsham-park.
On the 10th inst., at Richmond, Surrey, aged 80, Sarah, relict of the Reverend John Holloway, of Cardington, Bedfordshire.
On the 10th inst., at the Vicarage-house, Sunbury, Middlesex, Herbert Alexander, youngest child of the Reverend Henry Vigne, aged 16 months.
On the 10th inst., Mrs. Rouse, of the Eagle Tavern, City-road.

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To Professor HOLLOWAY.

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And the Succeeding Numbers.
Nation-office, 6, Lower Abbey-street,
Dublin, Feb. 4, 1851.

CHANCERY REFORM ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Council held this day, it was unanimously resolved—"That the services of Mr. H. W. Weston, as secretary, be dispensed with, and that notice be given that all letters and communications be in future forwarded to Mr. Carpenter, the present secretary of the Association, at 14, John-street, Adelphi." WILLIAM CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.
London, Feb. 11, 1851.

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It is desired to draw attention to the case of a portion of the well-known Polish Hungarian Legion, the unfortunate issue of whose gallant struggle has sent them to our shores. Since their arrival, in utter destitution, in this country, they have been most kindly and generously fed, clothed, and supported by the London operative classes, by whom some £200 or £300 had been raised for them by small weekly subscriptions and otherwise.

It is not surprising that this source of relief should now be dried up, and that it should have become necessary to appeal to the wealthier classes to rival the generous exertions which have been made by the poorer.

An attempt is being made to establish those of this band who remain without employment, and quite without funds, in a sort of associative shoemaking business. Lord Dudley Stuart, as President of the Literary Society of the Friends of Poland, has generously promised to assist in this scheme to the extent of purchasing tools, leather, &c. &c. In the meantime, and until they have some returns from their undertaking, they are penniless. To keep life in these poor fellows, twenty-four in number, has cost sixpence each per diem, or £4 4s. per week.

It is proposed to raise a sum of money not merely sufficient to keep them from present starvation, but to form a fund to provide against the necessity of their selling their manufacture as it were from hand to mouth, at any price, however ruinous, that such a necessity might involve, and also to place them in such more regular and satisfactory employment as from time to time may be practicable.

It need hardly be observed, that the twenty-four exiles in whose behalf this appeal is made, and of whom fourteen served in the late Hungarian struggle, form but a portion of the entire emigration; they comprise, however, that portion whose characters will bear the strictest scrutiny, and who, it is confidently believed, will never rest till they derive from their own exertions what at present they are compelled to accept as charity.

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Feb. 14, 1851.

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