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The Leader.

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

Contents.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE
Decimal Coinage	1250
Indian Reform	1251
The State of India	1252
Infanticide in the Punjab	1252
The American Affairs	1253
The Church and the Working Classes	1253
Letters from Paris	1254
Continental Notes	1254
Mr. F. O. Ward on the Preventability of Epidemic Cattle Disease	1255
William Chambers on the United States	1255
The Health of the Country	1255

Strikes and Wages	1256
Spirit Rapping Trial	1256
Journal of Railway Accidents	1256
Miscellaneous	1257
PUBLIC AFFAIRS—	
The Opening Year and Opening War	1258
Lord Palmerston and the Lancashire Strike	1258
The Point of Attack in Austria	1259
Radowitz and Prussia's Third Opportunity	1259
Constitutional Reform	1260
The Last Request of the Civil Servants	1260

Young Torydoxy	1261
Political Morality	1261
The Governing Classes.—No. XVI.—The Duke of Bedford	1262
Ultramontaniam in Germany	1263
LITERATURE—	
Moore and Journal Writing	1265
Two Novels	1266
Books on our Table	1267
PORTFOLIO—	
Lay for the New Year	1267
THE ARTS—	
Christmas Week at the Theatres	1267

Number Nip	1268
Columbus	1268
A Course of Pantomimes	1268
Barker's Picture of Nelson on the Quarter-deck of the San Josef	1268
Photography	1268

Births, Marriages, and Deaths... 1269

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

City Intelligence, Markets, Advertisements, &c..... 1269-1272

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

LORD PALMERSTON'S continuance in office as Home Secretary, and the latest intelligence from Constantinople, impart a totally new aspect to the state of public affairs, both at home and abroad; and the altered character is strengthened rather than modified by what we hear through less obvious channels.

It is now expected in all quarters, from St. Petersburg to Constantinople, from Vienna to Paris and London, that war can no longer be avoided. It is regarded as inevitable in all circles, from the high diplomatic and official circles to the Stock Exchange, from the mess-room of barrack or ship to the office of the journal of every party, from the drawing-room to the coffee-house. We believe there is no exception to this general belief, which is indeed justified by obvious facts. Instead of employing peace, the last act on the part of Turkey, in agreeing to continued negotiations, does but render the progress of war more certain. There was, we believe, but one chance for peace, and a disgraceful and a dishonourable peace it would have been: it was that Turkey, at the eleventh hour, should have proved herself impotent and extravagant, and should have made her case so bad as to have justified the Allied Powers in sacrificing her to her invader. She has not done so. The Porte has agreed to the propositions of the Four Powers for a renewed negotiation. The negotiation was to be conducted by the representatives of Russia and Turkey, in the presence of the representatives of the Four Powers; it was to have for its object a definite understanding as to the performance of certain stipulations on the part of Turkey, and the withdrawal of Russia from any invasion which menaces the sovereignty and independence of Turkey. The effect of this conference would have been, that Turkey would have secured her independence against indignity from one power, and Russia would have secured the substantial guarantees which she has demanded without the necessity of snatching them by any such violent and indecorous process as she has attempted. Turkey has agreed to negotiate for those objects; and on the invitation of the Four Powers, who sanctioned her refusal of the previous note, she has stated the conditions on which she would enter upon the negotiations. The conditions are three, namely, that the place for the renewed negotia-

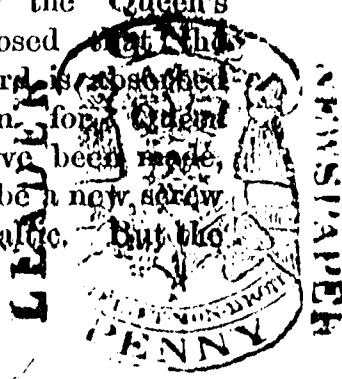
tions shall not be Vienna; that the Four Powers shall give their guarantee for the evacuation of the Principalities on the conclusion of the new treaty; and that the existing treaties with Russia shall not be renewed. In those conditions there is nothing unreasonable. Austria has behaved in such slippery style as to justify the wish of Turkey for transferring the conference to any place rather than Vienna; and, we may add, that England happens to be represented at Vienna by a nobleman, estimable in his private character, tasteful in his personal pursuits, but clinging to opinions which have gone out of office in this country, and suspected of aiding in those court intrigues which have served the purposes of particular families, and have essentially promoted the intrigues of Russia. The offer to accept the guarantee of the Four Powers for the evacuation of the Principalities, instead of being a demand, is a concession on the part of Turkey—a concession which proves her reliance on the honourable treatment of the Four Powers and her desire to sustain the comity of nations. The demand to discontinue the existing treaties with a power that has so grossly abused those treaties, is too reasonable to be the subject of complaint. This temperate and dignified proceeding on the part of Turkey pledges such of her allies as are acting in good faith to remain firm to the alliance, and it constitutes a new ground upon which they may act. Instead, therefore, of furnishing the pretext by which they might have backed away from the contest, it closes the door against retreat on their part.

There is, however, not the slightest reason to suppose that Russia will accept all these conditions; on the contrary, as soon as the communication of the Four Powers, accompanied by the statement of these conditions on the part of Turkey, shall reach St. Petersburg, the reply of Russia is likely to be couched, whether formally or virtually, in a declaration of war against not only Turkey but her allies.

It is well known that both sides are preparing for the extreme measures which the critical state of the relations renders urgently probable. We mentioned last week the hostile declaration of Persia against this Government; and, although that declaration does not bear very immediately upon anything which is passing in Europe, although we have no reason to fear that a Persian army will land in Kent, or the Persian fleet sail up the Thames, yet it proves the extent to which Russia is pushing her preparations. They

have now shown themselves on ground which concerns us more nearly. It is well understood that Russia has sent to Sweden an order that the ports of that country shall be closed against English and French ships. As Denmark has already constituted itself a fief, held as it were by a cadet branch, with a reversion to the Crown of Russia, there could be no difficulty in obtaining the co-operation of that power in excluding French and English ships—the less since the Danes, however opposed to the Russianizing tendencies of their court, nurse violent resentment against the country of Nelson. If Sweden were to acquiesce, the Baltic powers would be leagued to shut England and France out of that sea, and Russia would be defended, without expense, by two kingdom outposts. It is said that the Court of Sweden is inclined to favour that great patron who is in the habit of swallowing up his *protégés*—that patron who saved Austria, as a means of acquiring Bohemia; who protects Denmark as a means of cutting off intermediate heirs to the Danish throne; and who is still gracious towards Sweden after appropriating Finland. But the Swedish people are understood to cherish a feeling of national pride and independence which will compel their court to reject the insidious and dangerous overtures of Russia.

We believe that the preparations of Russia for attacking us, either in our more distant interests and our more distant dependencies, or by some direct blow upon ourselves, have not been more active than those which our authorities at home have carried on. Of one class of preparation we are quite sure. The best feeling prevails in our fleets. Whatever the officers of high rank may feel of perplexity at the diplomatic restraints under which they are placed, and at the unpunished arrogance of Sebastopol, the sailors of the fleet in the Bosphorus can hardly be kept back; they long to have a fling at the Russian. And for our own part we may say that, before many weeks or even days are over, we expect to hear of more decisive action than any which has been reported. Not long since the First Lord of the Admiralty went down to our naval ports to superintend preparations for building the Queen's new yacht. Is it to be supposed that the whole attention of the First Lord is absorbed entirely in yacht-building, even for a *Queen Victoria*? Various statements have been made, such as the one, that there is to be a new screw fleet destined for service in the Baltic. But the



only preparation of which we are aware is, that the minds of our officials have at last been quite prepared for the exigency which can no longer be avoided. If we are not mistaken, while orders have been sent out to blockade every port in the Black Sea, to drive every Russian ship into those ports, and, if necessary, to bombard Sebastopol itself, military precautions at home have been carried to the largest extent: every regiment in Ireland, except one—the Thirty-third—is under orders for foreign service; the English regiments are under orders to increase their strength; and the fear of the people of Glasgow, that a Russian fleet may indulge a pic-nic excursion up the Clyde, natural as it is, may be set at rest. Under these circumstances it is not surprising if an impression should prevail that Baron Brunow, the Russian ambassador, will terminate his protracted residence in the British capital, probably within three weeks time.

But little is now said respecting the influences which have beset the Court and sought to incline it towards un-English objects. No explanation has been given. We have observed in the columns of our contemporaries a most extraordinary uniformity in stating that Court intrigues existed, in declaring popular horror of such proceedings, and in warning the distinguished personage, who was supposed to have taken part, that the very suspicions of such a course involved danger if not "wickedness." Our journals agree on few points; some of them do not agree even with themselves; and when they are unanimous, especially when they are outspoken, as they have been in this case, the feeling must be one widely and deeply set in the English heart. We are inclined to put a very positive interpretation upon the silence which has followed these general denouncements. We interpret it thus—that the warning has had its effect; that those who are best informed feel assured that the suspected operations have at least been relinquished; and that, whatever may have been the case last week, there is no longer any necessity to urge that warning. We trust it is so. But the occasion is of so grave a kind, that it is not desirable to relinquish the popular vigilance until we see the Crown engaged, by its responsible Ministers, in a decisive course on behalf of England and of justice.

We do not pay much attention to the last reports from India, about a Russo-Persian approach towards our territories; partly because the *Daily News* seems to us to prove that these reports are only the Indian branch of an old report which had already reached us, and which must have anticipated the hostile proceedings of Persia. These innumerable rumours percolating through the Himalahs, are so very remote from the facts in which they originated, as to be little more than shadows. Much more interesting are the occurrences that bear upon the actual state of India; and however they may relate in some cases to the very painful incidents of social economy, they are prospectively of the most cheerful kind. We do not modify that expression even in regard to the wholesale infanticide in the Punjab. The crime is one which we habitually associate with some institutions, not only of India, but of other countries. It is more nakedly a superstition than some crimes which prevail in more civilised countries; but we suspect that in the amount of depravity and misery, it may be more than paralleled in that country which we are apt to reckon the most civilised in the world. However that may be, it is a trouble which belongs to India; and we derive our encouragement from the course which the Indian Government has thought it wise to adopt; it is, to assemble the chiefs of the accused district, to make a declaration of English feeling in regard to the crime, to invite from those chiefs a declaration in the same sense, and to suggest new regulations for marriage; for the crime itself originates, first, in the desire to escape the necessity for a dowry, which custom has established in the district; and, secondly, amongst those who are under no such necessity, in the desire to imitate the practice of rank and wealth. But the course taken by our Government proves how considerable must be the reliance which well-informed officials have on the effect of public opinion amongst the natives, and the capacity of those natives for adopting more enlightened views. Certainly Mr. Raikes, and those who accept his suggestions, expect from the Hindoos a capacity of prompt reform, which the English people do not find even in the English Cabinet. The detection of "khutput" in Bombay

we regard as being amongst the cheering circumstances. Khutput means official corruption, and the recent instance consists in the interception of a packet which was actually passing through the Post-office, and which contained a report to Government discreditable to the Gwicowar of Baroda. For asserting the existence of such practices Colonel Outram, the Resident at Baroda, was superseded; he has scarcely been replaced, and has not yet arrived at his old post, ere this new proof bursts forth. Now the corruption is no novelty—Government knew it; but the detection is cheering; especially coming, as it does, at the time when the public opinion of England and India unites in the desire to sweep away these corruptions, and to establish a system of purer government. The Bombay Association is admirably carrying on its work of collecting facts and representations to be laid before the English public; and is thus proving that the natives who can think so well, and can push discussion with so much zeal and discretion, are certainly capable of sharing the conduct of their own affairs.

To pass at once from the extreme east to the extreme west, let us notice the report of the conquest of Lower California by a band of adventurers from San Francisco. It is a filibustero expedition, at which, of course, the Government in Washington must frown, and at which English routine politicians are scandalised. But in truth the transfer of a province, even to a Committee in Safety of Yankee blood, from the laggard and disorderly Government of Mexico, is actual promotion.

It is very generally supposed that Lord Palmerston's return to office is accompanied by arrangements agreeable to himself, on the subject of the difference with his colleagues. In the first place, it is understood that, although Government had already determined upon a more energetic course in the East, that energy is at once facilitated and guaranteed by his resumption. In the second place, he is understood to have objected generally to certain distributions of the members disengaged by the disfranchisement of several boroughs, and especially to the disfranchisement of the particular borough for which he sits—Tiverton. Lord Palmerston has been noted for a certain fidelity to those who assist him—it is a quality for which his subordinates adore him; and if he carries out this faith in regard to his constituency, it is probable that no candidate would be able to oust him at a future election for Tiverton. It is remarkable that the same objection which induced Lord Palmerston to fly off, precluded Sir George Grey from coming on; for it is understood that Sir George made a difficulty of sitting in a Cabinet which proposes disfranchisement of the very borough for which he sits—Alnwick. Now the most flattering account of the Reform Bill as it was likely to pass the Cabinet did not lead to any high popular expectations; and of this we are sure, that a vigorous and national course abroad will be regarded by every class of the English public as much more important than the introduction and carrying of the anticipated Ministerial Bill. A lasting warfare abroad is not a favourable season for heated discussions amongst ourselves; and for our part we should be content to see every object of internal discussion set aside for the moment. Under the circumstances of the country it appears to us that there is but one reform bill which could be advanced with good taste or policy, but that would be a very short enactment—namely, to declare that every Englishman that can give an authenticated name and address is entitled to vote for his representative in Parliament.

The operative council at Preston addressed a memorial to Lord Palmerston, inviting intervention between the working people on strike and their masters, who are locking out. He has replied with much good sense and with comparatively little information, as he candidly avows to the memorialists; and in a separate paper we have made free to urge upon them the expediency of collecting the information which he seeks.

The Lancashire strike, however, has entered on a portentous phase—the masters of the whole cotton district, assembled in conclave at Manchester, have resolved to support the masters of Preston. We cannot but regret this step. A contemporary says that the conflict will now be "equal," and ventures to hope that the ring-leaders among the delegates will be "punished." It is winter, nipping frosts prevail, and snow deadens alike the tramp of the locked-out hands and the roar of the carriage-wheels of the capi-

talists of Lancashire. Will not the feelings of the men be doubly embittered, now that capital has formidably combined? May not the peace be broken? Lord Palmerston, who cannot interfere now, nor even give that sagacious advice expected, may find that he will have to interfere unpleasantly. We have great trust in the patience and fortitude of the working classes; but there are limits to endurance, especially under a winter sky and an exasperating treatment. Surely Lord Palmerston might have told the *manufacturers* what is the fact—that *they* have neglected, and do still neglect, to supply their operatives and the public with sound information and wide data on the subject of the cost of production and the state of trade? The Home Secretary might have informed the lords of cotton that a few manufacturing statistics would be as useful as agricultural statistics. With sound information we should neither have the Preston revolt nor the Manchester Holy Alliance.

DECIMAL COINAGE.

LIVERPOOL is taking the lead in reviving public attention to this question. A communication on the decimal coinage question has just been addressed by Mr. William Brown, of Liverpool (the mover of the late House of Commons' Committee on the subject), to the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, urging that every step should be taken to familiarise the public with a knowledge of the advantages of the system, so as to convince the Government that in their friendly feelings towards it they may rely upon the support of the country. With that view, Mr. Brown concisely recapitulates, in the following manner, the nature of the evidence obtained on all sides as to the desirableness of the change, and exhorts the various representatives of our commercial interests to assist in the duty of making it known as widely as possible:—

"The report of the House of Commons' Committee was unanimous in favour of a decimal coinage, and in urging the Government to its adoption; indeed, there was not a single division during their frequent sittings."

"All our present gold and silver coinage can be made available. The sovereign taken as the unit, and divided into 1000 mils; the half-sovereign, 500 mils; the crown, 250 mils; the half-crown, 125 mils; the florin, 100 mils; the shilling, 50 mils; and the sixpence, 25 mils. The copper is the only coin that must necessarily be altered, and 1, 2, and 5 mil pieces are recommended. The half-crown, the three-penny, and the fourpenny pieces were recommended to be withdrawn, and 10 and 20 mil pieces, and any other coins that convenience may require, from time to time issued. The nomenclature is of very little importance—if persons choose to use the name 'farthings' in place of 'mils,' they may."

"It has been said that if the pound sterling is adopted as the unit, we shall require an entire new silver coinage. That is quite a mistake. If the mils are marked on all new silver coinage as issued, as the committee recommends, and pass for exactly the same amount as that now in circulation, none of the present silver coinage need be withdrawn until worn out—its remaining in circulation would at once show the least intelligent person that there was no difference in value between the old and the new."

"There was but one opinion in the minds of the witnesses or of the committee, that great advantages would arise from our adopting a decimal coinage, and only one witness suggested any other unit than the pound sterling, although at the same time a decided advocate of the decimal principle. He thought that we might adopt the penny; but, when it was considered that the pound sterling is known to all the world in our exchanges, that our national debt, dividends, and all large contracts, rents, &c., are associated in our minds with pounds sterling, and that the penny is most generally used for the small payments of the day, for which a substitute can easily be found in a new copper coinage, as before stated, the penny found no favour with the committee."

"The system of buying and selling bullion, which has hitherto been customary, has lately been abandoned by the Bank of England, which now buys and sells it decimally. The Master of the Mint, Sir John Herschel, informed us he meant to follow its example."

"Lieutenant-General Sir C. W. Pasley and Mr. Henry Taylor gave us some very striking examples of the decreased number of figures that would be necessary, and the consequent saving of labour that would arise from our adopting a decimal system of bookkeeping and calculations over that now in use."

"Professor Airy, Royal Astronomer, stated that the poorest dealers of all referred everything to the standard of a pound sterling, and that to disturb it as the unit would lead to great confusion."

"Professor De Morgan considered that adopting a decimal system of arithmetic would save one-half or four-fifths of the time in teaching it, and leave that saving for the pursuit of other studies; he frequently finds it necessary, as a matter of convenience, to turn £. s. d. into decimals, work out his calculations in them, and reconvert the decimals into £. s. d."

"Mr. Lindsey and Mr. Kirkham, who have extensive dealings with the poor, and take as much as 1000 farthings each per week, gave a very decided opinion, that if it was explained to the poor that they could get 25 mils for their sixpence in place of 24 farthings, there would be no difficulty in their meeting the change, but Mr. Kirkham thought they they would prefer the name of farthing to mil. Our evidence clearly stated that the quantity of any article sold to the poor would readily be adjusted to the value of the coin received."

"The Duke of Leinster gave us information, that when the Irish currency was changed from 13d. Irish to 12d. English, it was soon understood by the poor, and no difficulty arose with them.

"Dr. Bowring says that his Chinese servant, and a Chinese boy in his service, by the use of decimals, were rapid and accurate calculators. He never knew them to make a mistake; they were an over-match for him in the use of figures, and he never met a Chinaman who had not those advantages.

"The above is merely a glance at the Parliamentary evidence, which is most valuable, and which ought to be read to be sufficiently appreciated. The Board of Trade had previously addressed letters to several persons who, it was thought, could give information on the subject; those persons were called before the committee, and there never was more concurring testimony offered in favour of a decimal system than by the witnesses who attended.

"It will be perceived that the proposed new mil or farthing is 4 per cent. less than our present farthing, but that with reference to the gold and silver coinage this difference is compensated by getting 25 mil pieces for a sixpence in place of 24 farthings, and 50 for a shilling in place of 48 farthings, which is a very trifling disturbance, and will be far outweighed by the advantages arising from the adoption of a pure decimal currency.

"Under these circumstances it is hoped that you will encourage the adoption of the committee's report, as presented to Parliament, and that you will suggest to the authorities to afford their aid by the expression of their views by petition to Parliament. This, I believe, is all that is wanting to confer a great national benefit, by putting us in a position, by a labour-saving machine (for such it practically is), more easily to meet our foreign rivals in the markets of the world. We know the advantage of labour-saving machines in all our manufacturing towns, and in our improved instruments of husbandry. The saving of labour, by increasing the demand for our industry, requires more hands to carry on the work, and, in every view, is an important benefit."

A meeting, convened and presided over by the Mayor, Mr. John B. Lloyd, for the purpose of affording the inhabitants an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the benefits of a decimal currency, was held on Wednesday, in the Sessions House of Liverpool, and was attended by several of the leading merchants. The first resolution was moved by Mr. William Brown, M.P., and Chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon the subject, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Bonch, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, recognising the principle and advantages resulting from the system. Another resolution, pointing out the facilities attending upon a decimal coinage to all classes in the community, was proposed by Mr. Thomas B. Horsfall, M.P., and adopted. Several speeches were made by the mercantile gentlemen present in favour of the adoption of the proposed currency, and the meeting concluded by unanimous votes of thanks to Mr. Brown and the mayor for their exertions in the cause.

INDIAN REFORM.

THE Bombay Native Association, formed 26th of August, 1852, for the purpose of promoting improvements in the Government of India on the expiration of the Charter Act, rendered its first annual report at a large meeting of native gentlemen of all castes, held at Bombay on the 9th of November. The following speech of the president, Jugganathjee Sunkersett, Esq., which was delivered in Gujaratee, affords a general view of the position and intentions of the society:—

"I trust that the report of our proceedings, submitted this year to you, will appear satisfactory, and will induce you to lend further assistance to, and to take still greater interest in, the cause of Indian Reform, for which the association was inaugurated in this very hall on the 26th of August, 1852. Our discouragements have been many; but we have surmounted obstacles beyond the expectations of the most sanguine. The attention of the British public has been drawn to the state of India to a greater extent than it was ever before. Our proceedings for the past year have cleared our ideas, which will enable us to act in future with much better effect; and we trust that hereafter we will show redoubled efforts and dispatch for the advancement of the best interests of this country. The sympathy which we have met with from the great mass of our countrymen is no doubt a subject of great satisfaction to the committee; and this satisfaction will still further be enhanced, by the reflection that men of large views and liberal sentiments in England, have also regarded with approbation our humble proceedings, which, we trust, may produce beneficial results. We are glad at the foresight which originally contemplated the keeping up of our association, so long as there was any prospect of accomplishing our object and doing good and bettering the condition of our countrymen. If you approve of the recommendation made by the managing committee in their report, which will be read to you presently, we will keep up and extend our organisation and increase our sphere of usefulness; especially as our prospects are bright, and as the duration of the India Bill, which has recently passed into law, has not been limited to any length of time, and it has been so formed as to present no obstacles to any alteration, improvement, or addition which may be deemed advisable or necessary. The committee will be glad to resume their patriotic labours and to make fresh appeals to the British public, to the Imperial Parliament, and her Majesty's Government, with the view of pressing our claims on their attention, and obtaining such changes and reforms as have been overlooked."

It seems that the secretary has been obliged to resign in consequence of the increasing pressure of his

professional engagements. This gentleman is Bhawoo Dajee, Esq., a medical graduate, educated in European science. His successor is Nowrozjee Furdoonjee, fourth interpreter of the Supreme Court, whose book on the "Judicial Administration of the Bombay Presidency" came before the British public a few months ago.

The report of the committee, too long for insertion entire, presents several points for notice.

After advertng to the constitution of its committees and working staff, it occupies itself with its petitions to Parliament. Its first and great petition was agreed to at a public meeting, despatched to their agent in England, Mr. John Chapman, and through Sir Edward Ryan, Sir Erskine Perry, and Mr. Cameron, was presented to the Peers by Lord Monteagle, and the Commons by Mr. Leveson Gower. Thanks are given to all these parties, and special notice is taken of the zealous and efficient advocacy of some portions of the English press.

"Several hundred copies of an abstract of the petition (which could not be published entire, consistently with the courtesy due to Parliament) were printed, and appeared in the columns of most of the leading journals, with, in many cases, notices highly approving of the tone and contents of the petition. Several of these notices are annexed in Appendix B. This, your committee are happy to state, has greatly contributed towards attracting the attention of the British public to the affairs of India.

"The notices of the Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta petitions, as well as the timely appearance of some able pamphlets on Indian affairs by several eminent and disinterested friends of India, have tended still further to awaken and maintain the spirit of interest in, and inquiry respecting India, which has lately arisen in England.

"We trust the effect thus produced will continue to be supported, until such arrangements are made for the government of these vast territories as will conduce to the improvement and happiness of the natives, and reflect honour on the British name.

"To the British press generally, and to the *Times* in particular, we feel deeply indebted for their able and sustained advocacy of the claims and interests of the natives of India."

The report then proceeds to notice the pamphlet of Mr. Bruce Norton, on the Judicial System of Madras, the applicability of its statements to that of Bombay also, the institution of the India Reform Society in London, under the presidency of Danby Seymour, Esq., M.P., and the secretaryship of John Dickinson, Esq.; the thanks due to Mr. Bright, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Hume, and other active and tried friends of India; and the advantages derived from "the recent and valuable works of Mr. John Dickinson, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Norton, and Mr. Chapman," by means of their circulation in India as well as in this country. It then states that the association has formed a library of the most valuable works on Indian affairs, to which is added a collection of the published records of the local government.

Advertng, then, to the change in public opinion from apathy to some degree of interest, which has been produced by the efforts of the several Indian Associations and their European friend, it states that it has remitted no less than 1000*l.* to the India Reform Society of London; viz., 400*l.* from their own funds, and 600*l.* the produce of a separate subscription; from which we infer that the London Society has been chiefly supported by Indian contributions—a most encouraging fact when rightly viewed.

The second petition is next mentioned; it was directed against the one-sided character of the evidence then being taken by the Parliamentary Committees, and prayed a remedy.

Noticing, then, the want of information in England, and consequent apathy of public opinion here, as presenting great difficulties to their undertaking, at its commencement, the report congratulates the people of India on the defeat of the original intention merely to renew the old act, and on the gain of several important improvements in conformity with the prayer of the Bombay petitioners. They had objected to the anomalous and detrimental construction of the Home Government, and that Government has been altered somewhat for the better; they had objected to the payment of the directors by patronage, and that evil has been diminished; they had objected to the exclusive system of supplying members for the civil service, and that system has been revised, although they still have to complain that it does not put competent natives on a fair footing; they objected to the general condition of the legislative and judicial departments of the Government, and those departments have been improved, and measures taken for carrying on reforms to a useful, although, perhaps, not to a sufficient extent. Finally, the association asked that the opportunity might always remain open for further ameliorations, without being impeded by a grant of power to the East India Company for a definite term of years, and Parliament was pleased so to determine.

The committee then recommend renewed and sustained efforts in the same cause in these terms:—

"Your committee cannot but congratulate the Bombay Association on the success that has so far attended their efforts, combined with those of their countrymen at the sister presidencies and of their friends in England. As this

is only the first instalment of reforms that may be expected to follow in due course, your committee recommend the association to persevere in their efforts, to keep up and extend their organisation and resources, and to work with unabated zeal. Now that the natives of this country have, in some measure, succeeded in removing the ignorance and dispelling the apathy of the British public, in regard to their actual state, their requirements, and their grievances, and have secured many able and disinterested supporters in and out of Parliament, we may with confidence anticipate complete success.

"Your committee would therefore recommend the Bombay Association to resume their patriotic labours, and at the next and subsequent sessions to press their just demands on the attention of the Imperial Parliament.

"The impression in England is already very general that the new act will prove only a temporary measure. The character and value of further changes will, in a great measure, depend on the wisdom and discretion with which the Native Associations, the representatives of the people of India, conduct their proceedings. If the natives of this vast empire use vigorously the opportunities afforded them by the new act, the time cannot be far distant when the public feeling of the British people, the claims of the natives of India, and the mutual interests of both countries, will lead to a liberal and efficient system of administration, to the abandonment of the principle or rather the practice of exclusiveness, and a more general concession to the natives of their rights and privileges, and of a more efficient administration of Government."

The remaining public matter noticed is the proposal by the Association to the Government of the establishment of Courts of Request in the interior, presided over by local native officers, partly chosen by the people; a subject which the Government said the Sudder Adawlut was considering, and which it was, indeed, known that court had long been considering without effect. We trust, however, that the Indian Law Commission, which has just commenced its labours, will not deem this one of the least of the reforms it has to achieve.

We have only space to add, that of 33,519 rupees given, or subscribed to the society, only 16,966 have been spent, and to recommend to serious attention the following speech of Bhawoo Dajee, Esq., delivered to a large meeting of natives, of whom the greater part understood it in the English language:—

"I rise to return, on behalf of the committee, their best thanks to the meeting, for the kind expression of confidence in their proceedings. The Gujaratee not being my vernacular tongue, I crave the indulgence of the meeting in permitting me to address it in English. I feel the less hesitation in doing so, as I know the great majority of the native gentlemen here assembled understand the English language.

"Our countrymen at Calcutta held a monster meeting in the Town Hall on the 29th July last, and some admirable speeches were then made commenting on Sir C. Wood's speech, and the new India Bill, and on some of the evidence given by Messrs. Halliday, Marshman, and others, before the Select Committees of the Houses of Parliament.

"Mr. Halliday's insinuation that the natives of India would not be proud of the elevation of their countrymen, was proved to be not founded on fact: we may, I think with truth, disclaim the existence of any such feeling in this Presidency—although it cannot fail to be excited when an incompetent native is placed in a responsible office, the natives being as averse to see their own incompetent countrymen in high posts as incompetent Europeans.

"During the last year the Bombay Association has presented to the Imperial Parliament two petitions respecting the wants of this Presidency. They have had the distinguished eminence of not being contradicted. I purposely do not allude to a reply by the Sudder Judges to the statements contained in the twenty-second paragraph of our first petition, as the committee will in a few days, in an answer which they have prepared, prove to the impartial public that the reply of the Sudder is inconclusive and deceptive. Our petitions, in conjunction with those from Bengal and Madras, have drawn the attention of the British public to India and its wants. It is well known that before the arrival of the petitions, the Ministers intended simply to renew the bill of 1833. From the reports of the committees it appeared that the act of 1784, encumbered with the various deteriorations it has suffered by each successive enactment, was about to be extended with little alteration to 1874.

"That for the next twenty years the natives of Hindustan were, as heretofore, to be in a great measure excluded from public employment in their own country, although pronounced by Act of Parliament as equally eligible for this as Europeans, and proved by the testimony of the Duke of Wellington, Lord William Bentinck, the Earl of Ellenborough, Sir George Russell Clerk, Mr. J. Sullivan, Mr. Holt Mackenzie, and all the ablest statesmen of the age, to be eminently qualified for office. We were to have, till the close of the present century, a constitution, which was framed during the end of the last. We were to have three separate sets of the Government of India, the principal function of each of which seems to be to thwart and retard the operations of the others,—the Leadenhall-street division costing 130,000*l.* a year, being merely the ministers of patronage, and place of record, without one atom of power beyond this, that of suggesting, criticising, and obstructing, the Board of Control, costing 250,000*l.* a year, managed by a President appointed without any necessary qualification to the office, whose average tenure of office has, since 1820, fallen short of two years, void of all responsibility, endowed with absolute power, governing in secret, and presenting to Parliament when asked for information, collections of papers so infamously curtailed and garbled as to mislead in place of enlightening, and whose main contributions to the policy of India during twenty years have been wars, which have cost thirty millions sterling, including amongst them the Scinde infamy and Cabool disaster. We have three Governments in India costing half a million sterling annually amongst them,

so completely under a parcel of London clerks as to be compelled to send home particulars of everything they say or do, to be commented on, checked, or controlled by parties incapable from position of forming a correct opinion on what they decide, and finally, in India, we have had public education neglected, improvement thrown aside, irrigation and the means of communication overlooked; though to neglect such as this we have, since the Charter Act of 1833, been indebted for famines, which have swept away nearly two millions of human beings, and sacrificed to Government above eight millions sterling, a sum which, if properly expended, would have been sufficient to have averted for ever the calamities by which in a few years its loss was occasioned. Against things so monstrous as these, in reference to which the Ministry seemed deaf or unheeding, were the petitions directed as well as against local grievances. Appeals to the people of England, through the Press, were also made by the India Reform Society, and the result has been that the Ministers were obliged to grant more reforms than they at first intended. The double government still remains, however, slightly modified; but its days are numbered. The report just read has given the prominent innovations in the last Charter Act, and we ought no doubt to acknowledge with thankfulness, the few improvements which have been introduced by the Ministry, in which we cannot help lamenting to notice, uncommon with our Calcutta brethren, the absence of any provision for the extension of public works, for the admission of even a single native into the Legislative Council, and the virtual exclusion of the educated natives from the Civil Service by the continuance of the Haileybury College, as the exclusive medium of admission into that service. The British Government professes to educate the Natives to an equality with Europeans, an object worthy of the age and of Britain; but if Englishmen, after educating the Natives to be their equals, continue to treat them as their inferiors; if they deny the stimulus to honourable ambition, and show the Natives that there is a barrier over which superior Native merit and ambition can never hope to pass, and that these are considered traits, to which a Native cannot hope to exhibit—are they not in effect undoing all that they have done, unteaching the Native all that he has been taught, and pursuing a suicidal policy, which will inevitably array all the talent, honour, and intelligence of the country ultimately in irreconcilable hostility to the ruling power?—will not the British nation be breaking its pledged faith? The time has come when these things should be considered. As to the argument that the Natives cannot be trusted in places of great responsibility, it is admirably met by Mirabeau, in a work dedicated to the Emperor of Prussia. He says (something to this effect), 'If the Jews are so degraded a race that you cannot trust them with the rights of citizens; if you desire a reformed generation, it is only by teaching them what those rights are, and how they can be exercised, that you can hope to improve them.' Begin this immediately: until they are accustomed to the exercise of their rights, there can be no reformed generation; the only thing you cannot regain is lost time.

"One fact is proved beyond doubt. Englishmen are most anxious to listen to us everywhere, to befriend us, and to give everything we desire in reason if we would be only true to ourselves. They are ready to do much more for the Natives than the Natives are doing for themselves. Nothing shows better the interest evinced by some of the ablest men than the visit to this country of Mr. Danby Seymour, president of the India Reform Society, who, at his own charges, has come out to seek information and gain experience, to be turned to the good of India. I doubt not, my countrymen in this presidency will give this philanthropic gentleman a hearty welcome when he comes over here, and our very best thanks are due to the liberal-minded gentlemen whose names are stated in the report as having, with energy, zeal, and good sense, greatly forwarded, while in England, the good of England and India.

"It is, no doubt, our duty now to seek for further reform; to be awake, and united with the reformers in the sister presidencies and in England; and we may again win successes corresponding in nature to, and exceeding in magnitude, those which have been attained by the united agency of the petitions, the agitation in India, and the reform combination in London."

To native gentlemen, of whatever colour or creed, who can worthily respond to these sentiments, we have only to say that their resolution to continue their organisation, and to come before Parliament every year, with candid admissions of real benefits, and suggestions of further needed and practical reforms, is the only course which comports with their dignity, their capabilities, and their duty.

THE STATE OF INDIA.

The Overland Mail arrived on Monday, with the usual despatches from our Eastern Empire.

The intelligence is scanty and unimportant. A force had been sent forward from Peshawur to occupy the outlet of the Kohal Pass, and to build a fort there, to keep the Afghans in order. A Persian messenger had been sent to Dost Mohammed, at Cabool, for the purpose, it was surmised, of inducing the Afghans to join the Persians against Turkey. Russian forces are reported to have arrived at Khiva.

The *Bombay Times* tells an anecdote, showing that *Khutput* survives.

"Lord Falkland is expected to return to Bombay during the commencement of next month, and leaves India, it is understood, early in January. He will return from the hills by way of Poonah, to witness the spectacle of the military camp which is now being formed at that station. The intelligence of the restoration of Colonel Outram to the appointment of resident at Baroda, which is confirmed by Calcutta papers just received, has given, we may say, universal satisfaction; but he has yet to war against corrupt intrigue. An investigation has been going on in the Bombay Secre-

tariat during the last week, which proves that *Khutputism* is as rife as ever among us, and that the Guicowar of Baroda still makes use of its influence successfully. A summary of Baroda affairs was recently prepared in the Secret Department of the Secretariat from numerous documents. For what person it was intended, or for whose edification drawn up, we know not, but it extended over nearly a ream of foolscap, and no doubt contained much valuable information. Lord Falkland being at Mahabuleswar, it became necessary to send the document by post to that station, and accordingly it was put into the Bombay Post-office for transit, and eventually made over to the mail contractor. But the agents of the Guicowar, who had made *Khutput* in the Secretariat, not only knew that the document was in course of preparation, but became cognisant of the very hour—nay, minute, that it was posted, and determined to possess it; for this purpose they bribed some of the subordinate servants of the mail contractor, and the document, while on the way between the Post-office and the steamer, disappeared, and has not since been heard of. The inquiry has only as yet elicited a confession from one of the servants, who acknowledges that he was offered a bribe of 200 rupees to abstract the packets *in transitu*."

The news from China still leaves matters where they were; with the exception of Amoy, which it is said is in the hands of the Imperialists. A letter from Hongkong says:—

"We hear there has been a mutiny on board the flag-ship. It seems that on the 8th of November the men, who have not had liberty for eighteen months, sent in a petition on the subject to Admiral Pellw, who immediately ordered the ship to be got ready for sea. In the evening there was a noise below, when the drum was beat to quarters, and some of the men refused to come on deck, upon which the officers were ordered to compel them at the point of the sword, and in doing so several of the men were severely wounded."

INFANTICIDE IN THE PUNJAB.

(From the *Friend of India*.)

ANOTHER chapter in the black history of Indian crime. It is not the least among the many obstacles in the path of the Indian Government that it is called upon to contend with crimes which have become almost national customs. Founded, like Suttee, upon superstition, like infanticide, upon a social prejudice, or like Thuggee, upon the mere love of plunder, they have spread in the course of years over whole races, and have become part of the daily life of organised communities. It is not that the strength of the Government is unable to cope with them on account of their magnitude, for Government could have exterminated the Thugs in a twelve-month. The difficulty is the utter impotence of the ordinary aids to authority. It receives no information, for the entire people is guilty. It can gain nothing by treachery among the criminals, for, in the people's idea, there is nothing to betray. Its European experience is of no value, for the European theory supposes that natural affections are stronger than social prejudices. Its European agents are at fault, for the proofs of good character and of heinous crime are often united in the same person. The respectable, well-born, intelligent Rajput who governs his estates with an ability which extorts the admiration of the collector has murdered his female children, and would have assisted to burn his mother alive but for the law. The wife who would kill herself rather than allow a European to see her face, and towards whom her sons express the deepest respect and affection, has consented to the slaughter of her own children. The manner in which a native retains occasionally, amid great virtues, a criminal side to his character might form one of the most curious chapters in psychology.

We make these observations, which many of our Indian readers will consider somewhat trite, because it is the dogged adherence to English ideas which renders our system so unintelligible in England. To proceed to facts:—Late in the year 1851 Major Lake, Commissioner of Goordaspore, in the Punjab, became aware of the existence of infanticide among a class in his own district. He reported the facts to the Board of Administration, and inquiries were immediately commenced. All the commissioners received orders to report upon the prevalence of the crime within their respective jurisdictions, and to suggest measures for its removal. Considerable delay appears to have occurred in collecting the information required, but at last it was obtained in a form which enabled the Judicial Commissioner to report upon it. It was found to prevail more or less in the Umballa, Ferozepore, Jullundur, Hooshearpore, Lahore, Mooltan, Jhelum, and Leia districts—in fact, over a tract of country as large as an European kingdom. It was not, however, practised by all the inhabitants. It is confined chiefly to the Bedees or descendants of Nanuk Gooroo, men generally of great wealth and influence, and to the Rajpoots, generally poor, but among whom the custom is one of immemorial antiquity. The Khetrees, however, some Bramhuns, and even several of the Mussulman tribes, maintain the practice, and the higher the rank the more certain are the female branches of destruction. It is believed, also, by the most experienced officers, to have infected all classes in a greater or less degree, and we may readily imagine

that even where the motives which influence the highest class were absent, the lower orders would acquire from their example a degree of carelessness for their children's lives. The motive for the crime differs among the different classes. With the Rajpoots of the Punjab, as among the Rajpoots everywhere else, it is simply pride. They must marry their female children, and they must marry them to their equals. This is occasionally difficult, and they slay them to avoid the inconvenience. Then, even if they find bridegrooms, they must give a dowry more than proportioned to their means. Their extravagance sometimes reaches a point which is almost incredible among a parsimonious people. One chief gave his daughter seventeen lacs of rupees, another expended ten lacs, and a third gave a lac to his niece married to a poor Bramhun of the plains. Their insane pride, to which that of the Highland chief is almost humility, forbids them to diminish its amount. It is a question, as Major Edwardes has observed, between the father's wealth and the daughter's life, and the life is taken and the wealth retained. Then, again, in some instances, it is regarded simply as a means of proving the purity of their race, a mere habit of imitating the upper classes. The Munha Rajpoots, for instance, when in the hills, are the lowest of their tribe, and their children are consequently safe. But in the plains they become the highest, and, in order to prove that they are such, they slay their children. Yet the Rajpoots are the noblest of the Indian races. The same causes are in operation among the Mussulmans. The highest tribes, jealous of the purity of their lineage, are jealous also of their wealth, and the female children are sacrificed to save them from an unequal marriage and their fathers from too liberal donations. Added to all this, the principle of consanguinity is pushed to the wildest extreme. Almost every Rajpoot is the relative of every other; all who are descended from one common ancestor consider themselves blood relations after the lapse of centuries, and, down to the last degree, marriage is forbidden. Every Rajpoot Campbell considers himself not only the kinsman of the Duke of Argyll, but within the forbidden degrees. It is among the Bedees only that a different set of motives appears to come into operation. They are the descendants of Dhurm Chund, the grandson of the great Nanuk Gooroo, and considered themselves of the priestly caste—the Levites of the Punjab. They murder on the strength of tradition, and add occasionally a mocking ceremony to the crime. The child is buried; a piece of coarse sugar is put between its lips, and a hank of cotton in its hand, and the father cries—

"Eat your goor and spin your thread,
But go and send a boy instead."

Be the motives what they may, it is certain that in hundreds of families in the Punjab there has been no daughter born for generations. It is certain that in thousands infanticide is a custom, to which no member of them probably would hesitate to allude; that, all over the Punjab, there is a disproportion in the number of female births not to be accounted for by ordinary causes, and that in certain districts this disproportion rises to a height which implies the extinction of the female sex. The evil must be remedied, and the authorities have resolved upon the means. They are utterly opposed to English ideas. A London magistrate would redouble the vigilance of the police, and, if possible, increase the certainty of punishment. Such measures by themselves would be useless in India. It is the social police which in England prevents crime, and we have no social police. The authorities, guided, we imagine, by Mr. Raikes, whose success at Mynpoorie has given him an European reputation, have attempted to strike the evil at its root. They have taken advantage of the dawning abhorrence of the crime among the people themselves, and have endeavoured to induce them to remove the temptations to it. The people are to be distinctly informed that the practice is regarded by their new rulers as a crime; a census is to be drawn up, distinguishing the male and female children; and lastly, a great meeting has been called of the chiefs of districts, aided by the Commissioners of the Jullundur, Lahore, and Cis-Sutlej divisions, and presided over by the Chief Commissioner. All the native chiefs who can be expected to attend will be invited, and new rules for marriage and other ceremonies will, it is hoped, be formally adopted. The meeting is to take place on the 29th and 31st of October, in the holy city of the Sikhs, and can scarcely fail to produce the result intended—viz., an unanimous declaration of opinion against the practice. That every effort has been made to secure a favourable result we need scarcely affirm, and the interest taken in the matter by the Governor-General is sufficiently manifested in the following sentences from a minute dated the 7th September:—

"2. The Governor-General in Council has read these papers with deep interest and much gratification. He can conceive no purer or higher source of pride for the public officers of a State than such a record as this of the wide and rapid success of their exertions on behalf of the honour of our rule in the rescue of suffering humanity."

"3. The Governor-General in Council desires me to express, in the strongest language of cordiality and sincerity, the high and grateful approbation with which the government of India regards exertions on the part of its officers which are so eminently calculated to reflect honour on the British name, and to add largely to the material happiness of the people whom Providence has lately confided to our care.

"4. I am directed to say that you, and the officers under you, may rely with implicit confidence upon the desire of the Governor-General in Council to manifest his appreciation of the wise and benevolent object you have proposed to yourselves, and of his readiness to afford you at all times every encouragement and aid which can be supplied by the full measure of his power."

THE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

THE TARIFF.

THE Secretary of the United States' Treasury has sent in his report to the Senate, containing the proposed alterations in the tariff.

The revision of the customs' duties is the subject of first interest in the annual report of Mr. Guthrie. His plan of revision is briefly and very clearly set forth. It is not complex in the detail, though by what difficulties it is likely to be surrounded in practical execution, the public will best judge after the publication of the list of free articles, and the schedule of ordinary and extraordinary duties. The whole system of levying the revenue from imports is to be reduced to three: 1. The present free list is to be so enlarged as to take from the present annual resources of the department 8,000,000 dollars. 2. The dutiable articles are all to be brought under 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, or 100 per cent. *ad valorem*. The articles bearing the highest duty, and all articles in the free list, to be specified; all others to bear 25 per cent. 3. The *ad valorem* system is to be adhered to, unless Congress should deem it wise to make an exception in favour of specifics on iron, with a view to give more steadiness to that great interest. These modifications will reduce the revenue, first, by the 8,000,000 dollars on the free list, and also 4,500,000 dollars by the re-adjustment of the maximum and minimum duties. Together 12,000,000 dollars, which it is thought will still leave the Treasury an income of 45,000,000 dollars a year from the Custom-house. The modifications of the tariff are not designed to go into effect until after the 1st of January, 1855.

Much of the report is given to the estimates and business detail of the department. The total imports and exports of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June last were: imports 263,777,265 dollars; exports 202,965,375 dollars.

For the fiscal year ending 30th June last, the purchases of the public stock amounted to 6,394,508 dollars. This swelled the actual expenditures of the year to 53,026,818 dollars. For the current fiscal year, the revenues are calculated to be 56,572,079 dollars: the ordinary expenditures, actual and contingent, exclusive of the public debt, 46,203,325 dollars. During the first quarter of the year, and to the 3rd December inst., the purchases of the public debt amounted to 9,670,421 dollars, or 16,064,929 dollars from 1st July, 1852, to 3rd December, 1853, of which present Secretary has purchased 12,722,779 dollars since 4th March last.

THE NAVY.

The Secretary of the Navy, in his annual report, advocates the re-organisation of the navy, and recommends the appropriation of 5,000,000 dollars for building several steam-propelling frigates. He says there are not forty vessels which could be brought into service in ninety days, if needed. He also recommends the establishment of machine shops, and an increase of enlistment-men from the present number (7500) to 10,000. Under the head of "re-organisation of the navy," he recommends a retired list on reduced pay for the faithful who have become infirm; the discharge of the inefficient who have no claim on the bounty of their Government for services rendered; promotion regulated by capacity and merit, and not by mere seniority of commission; pay to some extent controlled by sea service. A board of officers of various grades, to be selected by the president, can be convened periodically to report to him the names of those who, in their judgment, should be made the subjects of the rules prescribed, but their report to be binding on the president only so far as he deems proper. A system of rewards and punishments to the sailors, and honourable discharge, is suggested as a means of encouraging more permanent enlistments. The secretary is decidedly opposed to the restoration of flogging in the navy.

THE ARMY.

The Secretary-at-War, in his annual report, says:—After a full consideration of what is now and probably will hereafter be required of the army, I urgently recommend that the minimum organisation of all companies be fixed, as in the mounted riflemen,

at sixty-four privates, and that there be added to the present military establishment one regiment of dragoons and two regiments of riflemen. The increase is materially less than that recommended by the commanding general, and is considered absolutely indispensable to the proper efficiency of the military service. It will give a minimum organisation of 15,528 officers and men, but may be expanded if the limit fixed by the law of June 7, 1850, be continued, to 17,414; and on a war establishment of 128 privates per company, to 27,818, giving for a state of war an effective increase of from 10,000 to 12,000 men, without the creation of new regiments.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

Most of our readers know that the Rev. Frederick Maurice has been one of the principal workers and promoters of the recent co-operative experiments of the working men of London. It is, therefore, natural that they should feel a manly sympathy for him under his recent treatment by the authorities of King's College. Accordingly we are not surprised to find them presenting him with an address. This they did at a festival in the hall of the Working Men's Association, Castle-street. The room was exceedingly crowded; amongst the company were several ladies, and a number of the personal friends of Mr. Maurice.

Mr. Joseph Corfield took the chair, and in a brief speech explained the object of the meeting, and paid a high compliment to Mr. Maurice for the exertions he had made to improve and elevate the working-classes of the metropolis. With regard to the dispute between Mr. Maurice and the Council of King's College, and which had led to his separation from that establishment, it was not his intention, nor was it the intention of the committee, to express any opinion. He would only say, in reference to this point, that it was to be expected that with his kindly disposition and known benevolence, Mr. Maurice would give a more liberal and a more genial interpretation to those passages of Scripture relating to future punishments, than those would do who were not impressed with similar feelings. But whether Mr. Maurice's interpretation was right or wrong, he thought the course which the council of the college had pursued towards him was not calculated to narrow those divisions in the Church of England which unfortunately existed. It was a fact which there was no disguising, that the clergy of that Church did not at present possess that influence over the working-classes which their position, their talent, and their means ought to give them; nor would they possess it until they followed Mr. Maurice's example, and instead of merely preaching to them from the pulpit, came amongst them, made themselves acquainted with their feelings, their wants, and their defects, and endeavoured to elevate and instruct them by practical means. (Cheers.)

The following address, which bore the signatures of 960 persons, was then presented to the reverend gentleman by a deputation of the committee:—

"TO THE REV. FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE, M.A.

"DEAR AND RESPECTED SIR,—The undersigned members of the working class of this metropolis desire to express to you those feelings of admiration and regard with which your conduct has inspired them. To the greater number you are known chiefly from the services you have rendered to the class to which they belong, by your efforts to improve their condition and introduce a higher and purer tone into their daily life, and from the sacrifices you have made for the maintenance of what you conceive to be vital and essential truth. Those only among them who have enjoyed the pleasure and the privilege of personal communication with you, can fully understand the extent to which those services have been enhanced by the urbanity of manner and kindness of heart which your intercourse with them has uniformly exhibited. It is with pain and bitter regret that they have become acquainted with recent events connected with your position as a public teacher in one of the chief educational establishments of this country; and while they desire to avoid any expression of opinion as to the theological aspects of the dispute which has unfortunately arisen, they are convinced that that establishment will be less favourably regarded in consequence of its results; and the authorities in connection with it having looked upon you as unfit to rank among its most honoured teachers, working men will come to the conclusion that those authorities are not entitled to their respect. As working men, living among working men, knowing their views and feelings, they assert with confidence that the affectionate regard for you which they have attempted to express may be accepted as a faithful reflex of the feelings entertained by many thousands of their fellows; and they believe that if anything tends to bring the many into real communion with the Church, it is that it numbers among its members men like yourself. That you may long continue to pursue your useful and honourable career; that the eminent services you have confessedly rendered to the Church and to the cause of education may meet with a more generous and grateful appreciation; that those who at present misunderstand and misrepresent you may learn by your example, and that they may at least emulate you in the wisdom and zeal with which you have advocated the cause of the working

man, is the sincere and earnest desire of those whose names are hereunto suspended."

In returning thanks Mr. Maurice dwelt at length on the relation between the Church of England and the working classes. After a brief allusion to his expulsion from King's College, he continued:—

He valued this expression of their approbation, not on account of his own acts, but for the cause in which he had laboured to some extent, but in which others of his brethren, some of whom were now present, had laboured far more, and whose representative, when he was put so prominently forward to receive the thanks of the working classes, he could only look upon himself to be. What he had done was merely in the performance of his duty as an English clergyman in carrying forward the business of the Church, for which he believed it had been sent into the world—that business being to testify to the world, and bear witness of—the love of God for man in the great work that had been accomplished for his salvation, and to prove thereby that men of all classes and all stations were bound to unite and go forth as the helpers, the instructors, and the deliverers of their brethren. This was the business and the duty of a Christian Church, and this was the business and the duty for which the Church of England existed. This was the testimony which the clergy had to bear; and if they did not feel they had a right to bear it they had better give up their profession altogether, and say "our mission is nothing, our position is a lie." The present meeting was a proof that there was a power in the land, which, if exercised, could not but operate for good—the power of the Church in uniting all classes together, and claiming the working men as sharers in the great work of conferring the highest blessing the world could possess. It was clearly recognised that the power existed, and that it should be exercised not to oppress any class, but to aid—not to crush down but to raise up. (Cheers.) But while the working men were thus forward with their gratitude when they believed that power was exercised properly, he trusted they would be equally ready with reproof when they felt that it was neglected. The word "education" was used in the address in reference to his late connexion with King's College; he hoped that word would not be allowed to fall without some result. The hall in which they were assembled had been established as a hall of association for those who were bound together as fellow-labourers, but it was also a hall of education—education being one great purpose of the association. Now, as every one appeared to have his own particular scheme and notion of education, let those who were pledged as members of that association to work with and for each other, determine upon some plan of their own, and, within their own sphere, carry it out. Something had been done last year in the establishment of classes and otherwise, let something more be done in the ensuing year, and in this way they would confer more practical benefit than if they talked for years about the possibility of doing something greater in a larger sphere. For himself, if circumstances prevented his working as he had worked, and would wish to work, in one department, he felt that it was his duty to work more in another. He believed the educational institution with which he had until lately been connected had been, and was still, doing a great work for the middle and higher classes of society—he hoped it would continue to do that work. There were dear and honoured friends of his connected with that College, in whose hearts and understandings he had the greatest confidence, and he trusted they would go on labouring, and that the highest amount of good would result from their teaching. But it was his duty, in conjunction with those whom he was now addressing, to consider whether they could not do something of the same kind for the working classes, and extend to them something of the same kind of training and instruction which the other classes enjoyed. He solicited their aid to this end, and requested them to furnish him with such hints and suggestions as might occur to them, so that working men and their children might be brought within the influence of those collegiate institutions which of late years had been so beneficially extending their operation in this country. Returning to the duty of clergymen, he remarked that the church could only maintain its influence by working for the union of all classes. The clergyman ought to feel that he was not identified with one class more than with another, and that he stood amongst them not to glorify himself or his order, but to bring all classes together. This duty was more especially incumbent upon them at a time like the present, when the war of classes was becoming more and more tremendous, as exemplified in the strikes in the north of England. But while it was the duty of the clergy to endeavour to allay the unfortunate differences that existed, and to bring about a reconciliation, they must remember that such a reconciliation could never be effected by merely preaching to the workmen about the law of supply and demand. Let them endeavour to prove that the strife in which the workmen and masters were engaged was hopeless and ruinous to both, and to show how the money which was raised with so much of sacrifice by the former to support the strike might be employed for their permanent benefit instead of their certain injury. (Cheers.)

Mr. Maurice wound up with a stirring allusion to the Eastern war in illustration of his views:—

He had done all he could to make the Churchmen's message a real one, and not a sham; and he had always held that they ought not to say they were bringing blessings if they were not. When he saw two great countries struggling together—one the country of the Mussulman, and the other going forth with a proud and Christian name, singing Christian songs of victory—when he saw that country desiring to set its hoof upon the nationality of all other countries in the world, and that it was pledged to put down that which was right and put forward that which was unjust—when he felt that one foot of that great bear was resting upon Hungary, and the other upon Italy, then he felt that when that power went forth in the name of the Cross he was bound on such an occasion to rejoice in the victory of the Crescent, rather than in that which pretended to be the supporter of truth and was not. (Great applause.) This was a principle which he would carry out anywhere.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

LETTER CV.

Paris, Thursday Evening, Dec. 29, 1853.

The crisis in France is extraordinarily aggravated, and it will be difficult enough to get over the next three or four months without a catastrophe. I have mentioned in a former letter the frequent cases of incendiarism arising from personal enmities. I have mentioned the distress of the manufacturers and the shopkeepers—the former without commissions, the latter without customers. Now we find even official bodies venturing on remonstrance. The provincial municipal councils were ordered to vote extraordinary charges for the maintenance of the bread tax at the nominal rate of 40 centimes the kilogramme (2lbs.). In their December session several of these councils protested against this heavy impost, and some even declared their refusal to pay it. "If," they said, "as the Government alleges, the enemies of the present régime are but a knot of factious malcontents, it is not fair that the mass of honest and good people should be taxed for fear of a few malcontents." The Municipal Council of Paris has begun to show its teeth at last. It first sent a deputation to Bonaparte, to remonstrate on the bread-tax in Paris. This tax, you may remember, is fixed at the rate of 40 cents. a kilogramme (2 lbs.). The city has had to reimburse the bakers the difference between the fixed rate and the market price. Not less than 8,000,000 of francs (320,000l.) has been sunk already on this impost, in four months only, at a rate of 2,000,000 francs (80,000l.) a month, threatening a deficit of from 20 to 24 millions of francs (800,000l.—960,000l.) in good time. At present all classes gain alike by this forced cheapness of bread. The city wants to return to the system of bread-tickets delivered to the working classes and paupers only. This would effect a saving of some 16,000,000 francs (640,000l.) on its eventual expenditure. The deputation, therefore, requested Bonaparte to abolish the present system, and return to the bread-tickets; but Bonaparte flatly refused, insisting that the ticket system was a bad one, and that the present tax must be maintained. Thereupon a second deputation was sent to Bonaparte to represent that the consequence of this charge would be to expose the city to an enormous deficit, and to urge that the sums voted for the public architectural works should be devoted to the payment of the bread-tax instead. Bonaparte replied, that he wouldn't hear of anything of the kind; that not bread only, but work must be found, and that the city must vote, not six, but eight millions of francs for the public works. The city, on receipt of this reply, declared open revolt, and voted unanimously, excepting the votes of the Government agents, the abolition of the present bread-tax, and the return to the ticket system. Bonaparte will soon set matters to rights, by cancelling their decision, appointing (for it is he who appoints) another municipal council, and, if necessary, decreeing the budget of the city.

Now, the fact is that this vote of the council was a manoeuvre of the Fusion. All the members are Orleanists, and they act under orders in Paris, as in the provinces. As for the republican party, it is still as death. Not but what it still inspires fear; witness the recent discovery of depôts of arms in the Faubourg St. Antoine, and the ridiculous affair at Lyons. There, as at Paris, exists a vast secret organisation. The police, despairing of laying their hands on it in Paris, tried to do so at Lyons. A secret agent of M. Carlier, ex-prefect of police, was despatched to Lyons, with orders to hold no communications but with Persigny himself. This agent, disguised as an operative, frequented the cabarets where the working-men meet, and tried to make acquaintance with them. Most of them had nothing to say to the fellow; some few did fall into his trap. They seduced others, and thus a few groups were got into good working order for the police. The agent gave himself up for one of the Lyonnese chiefs; simulated reports, deliberations, orders of the day, and the whole apparatus of conspiracy. On the other hand, the secret agent of Persigny fancied he was in relation with real working-men, and that from ramification to ramification he was rapidly gathering into his hands all the threads of an immense organisation. Unhappily for the Government it was all a delusion—"diamond cut diamond." These pretended adepts were themselves mere agents of the secret police of Lyons. They, too, fancying they had laid their hands on a grand ringleader, transmitted regularly reports of conversations, &c., to the prefect of police at Lyons. That distinguished functionary, naturally anxious to distinguish himself for skill and activity, was only too eager to light the match in order to extinguish it. His agents set to work to incite the Paris agent to bring matters to a head: that is, to a complete insurrection. The Paris agent driven to a corner promised a regular outbreak; so he distributed to every man his part. Off went the agents to the prefect to denounce to him the day, the hour, the plan of this famous insurrection. That day the whole garrison

was ranged in battle array in the streets of Lyons: troops from the neighbouring quarters were summoned by forced marches to the defence of society; but as the Lyons' agents on the one hand stuck to the prefect, and the Paris agent found himself without a single backer, there was not a soul in the streets, and the police were "sold." Such is the truth of the ridiculous affair at Lyons. The police was completely mystified by itself. Two days after the *Moniteur* confessed as much.

While affairs seem drawing on to a dénouement in Paris, while Henry V. (according to a letter from M. de Blacas) is preparing to visit London, while all the parts of the new comedy are being distributed to the actors, Bonaparte remains impassible as ever. He has lately passed his time in standing sponsor to the infant children of his followers. One day it was to the child of his foster-brother, another to his architect's son. When he is not standing godfather, he is engaged in meditating grave and important decrees: such as that which forbids public functionaries to assume the title of *Monseigneur*, a title appertaining of right to the Princes of the Imperial Family exclusively. The mania for etiquette is pushed to the last bounds of burlesque. What do you think they pass their time about at the Tuileries just now?—rehearsing the ceremonial of obeisance and presentation to be observed this year at the court. The ceremonies are to be those of the Court of Bavaria. All the world of officials, from ministers to footmen, are learning how to bow gracefully, and the women how to curtsy majestically. The introduction of questionable ladies is to be severely guarded against this year; there will be none but special invitations. It is also rumoured that a certain batch of princes and dukes is to be created on New Year's-day. A pretty noblesse for the France of 1854! The marriage of Prince Napoleon Jérôme is also talked of. More fortunate than his cousin, he is to marry a real princess—his cousin Pauline Marie of Baden, just eighteen.

The greatest confusion and perplexity exist with regard to affairs in the East. It is certain that Bonaparte has resolved to act; but it is equally certain that the action of France will continue to avoid clashing with (*de ne pas heurter*) Russia. What a mockery! To talk like a bully, and act like a poltroon! How can we complain of Lord Aberdeen, when we are at least as bad as he is? The French fleet will enter the Black Sea with orders to prevent the repetition of the Sinope butchery, but to avoid collision with the Russian fleet. It seems the English Government likewise deems this course of action noble and consistent, and has sent similar orders to its ambassador and admiral. At least, we hear so.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

AUTHENTIC details of the butchery at Sinope were brought to Constantinople by the *Retribution* and *Mogador* steam-frigates, which had been sent to reconnoitre the scene of the attack, and to bring back the wounded Turks.

The following table shows the loss of ships and men, and the number of wounded:—

"The Navick, 52 guns, 500 men, Ali Bey, captain (killed); opposed to a Russian three-decker. Blown up.

"The Nezim, 52 guns, 500 men, Hassan Bey, captain (killed); opposed to a Russian two-decker of 80 guns. Destroyed.

"The Farsli Hat, 38 guns, 400 men, Ali Maher Bey, captain (killed); opposed to a Russian two-decker of 80 guns. Destroyed.

"The Gullu-Sefit, 24 guns, 200 men, Selis Bey, captain (killed). Destroyed.

"The Aon-Illah (flag), 36 guns, 400 men, Osman Pacha (lost leg and made prisoner); opposed to a Russian three-decker of 120 guns, which lost spars.

"The Damiatta, 56 guns, 500 men. Destroyed.

"The Nedghi-Feschir, 24 guns, 200 men, Hussein Bey, captain (prisoner). On shore, dismasted.

"The Kaïd, 50 guns, 500 men, Elan Bey, captain (escaped); opposed to a large three-decker. Blown up.

"The Nezeniah (flag), 60 guns, 600 men, Hussein Pacha, second in command, and Captain Kadi Bey (killed); opposed to a large three-decker. Blown up.

"The Faisi Merbout, 22 guns, 240 men, Izet Bey, captain. Destroyed.

"The Taif steamer, 16 guns, 300 men, 300-horse-power. Not engaged.

"The Iregli steamer, 4 guns, 150 men, 150-horse power. Destroyed.

"Making a total of 434 guns, and 4,490 men.

"Russian guns 600, besides four steamers and two frigates not in the action. Weight of Russian shot, 68lbs., 42lbs., and 32lbs. Several shells and carcasses used did not explode.

Wounded and sound, brought to Constantinople by

Retribution and Mogador	200
Left at Sinope, in charge of badly wounded	10
Wounded, left at Sinope, could not be moved	20
Prisoners, as supposed	150
Escaped on shore, it is presumed	1,000
Escaped, per Taif steamer	300
	1,680

Total number of men	4,490
Accounted for	1,680
Unaccounted for	2,810

The letters of the 12th, by Trieste, again speak of the affair of Sinope, mentioning that the Turkish Government had found it impossible to obtain any official report of the combat, as there did not any longer exist a single person, either of the authorities of the town or of the officers of the fleet, in a state to draw one up. The wounded Turks were left by the Russians, these letters declare, pell-mell on the beach, such conduct being very different from that of the Turks, who have in all cases been as attentive to the wounded amongst the Russians as to their own men. The same letters repeat that the first intelligence of the situation of the Turkish fleet at Sinope was taken to Sebastopol by a steamer of the Lloyd Company. Hussein Pacha's conduct was marked with great gallantry, and when the first vessel on which he was on board was set on fire, he got on board another and continued the combat. When this second vessel foundered, he threw himself into the sea, and although badly wounded in the head, succeeded in reaching the shore by swimming, when he was killed by a cannon ball. The loss of Turkey in the combat is estimated at 30 millions of piastres, and 3000 men killed or wounded.

The Russian Admiral Nachimow addressed a letter to the Austrian Consul at Sinope, "regretting the destruction caused to the town," and stating that it was "mainly caused by the obstinate resistance of the Turks, and by the fire spreading from those of the ships which blew up."

Amongst the ships destroyed at Sinope was a British merchant brig. Two of the seamen were lost. The captain and the rest of the crew got on shore. Another merchant brig was likewise burnt. The crews were brought to Constantinople by the *Retribution*.

The greatest indignation prevailed at Constantinople. Cries of "To arms" were heard in the streets. The Capitan Pacha had demanded to be sent before the Grand Council to clear himself from the responsibility of the disaster at Sinope.

The winter equinox has set in very severely on the Euxine. As many as eighty merchant ships are reported to have been lost, and the price of grain had risen enormously. A Russian man-of-war schooner had been compelled to bear up for the Bosphorus on the night of the 15th; she threw her guns overboard to avoid reprisals, but was provisionally taken by the Turks.

The Russian successes of Prince Andronikoff and General Bebakoff in Asia, seem to resolve themselves into two battles, of which the results were at least doubtful. At all events, the amazing successes conveyed by the Russian bulletins to St. Petersburg were not known at Constantinople.

On the 12th ult. the anniversary of Servian independence was celebrated at Belgrade, and for the first time the usual prayer aloud, "for our Russian protector, the Emperor Nicholas," was omitted. The Russian Consul-General, who frequently crosses from Semlin to Belgrade, did not assist at the ceremony. On the same day Izzet Pacha, the resolute old commander of the fortress, was gathered to his fathers.

No action has taken place on the banks of the Danube; but several skirmishes between the Cossack cavalry and the Turkish irregular cavalry. The correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Kalafat, says that it will take 50,000 of the best Russian troops to "pay a visit to Kalafat." He speaks in the highest terms of the discipline and efficiency of the Turkish forces, as also does the Spanish General Prim, who is now on his return to Spain, with the intention of returning to the scene of war in the spring. A second line of breastwork is being thrown up at Kalafat.

Persia has declared war against the Porte, and against England, at the instigation of Russia. The Shah supplies a force of 30,000 men to be under the command of General Yermolo. An embassy from Dost Mohammed, a determined enemy of Russia, has arrived at Teheran.

A private letter from St. Petersburg of the 19th instant, affirms that the exchange of the ratifications of an offensive and defensive treaty between the Government of the Shah of Persia and Russia took place on the evening of the 18th instant.

From Constantinople we learn that the meeting of the Grand Council, originally appointed to be held on the 20th, had taken place on the 18th, for the discussion of the collective Note communicated to Reschid Pacha by the ambassadors of the Four Powers, pursuant to the agreement of December 5.

The Porte was not disinclined to enter into negotiations with the Four Powers, on the following conditions:—

That the seat of the conference should not be Vienna.

That the evacuation of the Principalities should be guaranteed.

That no concession should be made to Russian claims.

That all treaties between Russia and the Porte, especially the treaties of Kainardji and Adrianople, should be annulled.

A further meeting of the Grand Council was announced for the 22nd inst. It was foreseen that there were insuperable obstacles in the way of an armistice both in the Black Sea and in Asia, and it was not likely that Russia would be disposed to yield to the conditions laid down by the Porte.

The *Caton*, an express steamer of the French Government, has left Marseilles, bearing the final instructions of the two Governments of France and England to their ambassadors. She is expected to reach the Turkish capital on the 5th of January.

The First Aide-de-camp of the Minister of Marine is the bearer of these despatches. By them, formal directions are given to the ambassadors to send the two fleets at once into the Black Sea. Their mission will be to the effect that they are not to allow any ships of war, whether Russian or Turkish, to navigate that sea; and they are directed to send back all Russian ships into Sebastopol, and all Turkish ships into the ports on the south side of the Euxine; and, in case of a refusal on the part of either, in case of necessity to use force. The Black Sea is to be declared a neutral sea during the continuance of the war.

The most important news from Germany is the death of General Radowitz, at Berlin, at noon on Christmas-day. His death was tranquil. General Radowitz, many years the favourite adviser of the present King of Prussia, and some time his recognised adviser, was born Feb. 6, 1797. His family was originally Hungarian. His mother was a Protestant, and his father a Catholic. He entered the army in the service of Westphalia, then the kingdom of Joseph Bonaparte, and at the battle of Leipsic commanded a battery of artillery, and was severely wounded. On the dissolution of the Westphalian kingdom, he entered the service of the Elector of Hesse-Cassel, and falling into disgrace with that prince through a palace intrigue, he retired to Prussia, and became the confidential intimate of the Prussian Royal Family, and rose to high rank in the Prussian army. In 1828 he became major, and in 1830 chief of the artillery general staff. In 1821 he had first become acquainted with the present King, then Crown Prince, to whom his tendency to religious mysticism rendered him peculiarly congenial. In 1836 he was named Minister Plenipotentiary of Prussia to the Germanic Diet. In 1840, on the prospect of a war with France, he was recalled to Berlin and sent to Vienna to stir up the Austrian Government to the defence of Germany. The war never came, but General Radowitz effected a series of valuable reforms in the Federal army. In 1847, he was actively elaborating a new scheme of German federation under Prussian headship. In April, 1848, he retired from the Prussian service, and was elected to the National Assembly by a town in Westphalia. He spoke often and effectually in the Assembly. In 1849, when Prussia was almost at war with Austria, Radowitz was, for a short time, Prime Minister of Prussia; but the King gave way, and dismissed his favourite servant, who, it may be remembered, paid a visit shortly after to our Court. Since then he has lived apart from public life, engaged in writing works on Church and State, and to the last devoted to the idea of German unity, to be brought about by the voluntary union of governments and peoples. General Radowitz was undoubtedly a man of rare capacity and of enthusiastic aspirations; and his death will be felt by Prussia as a national loss.

The ecclesiastical war still rages in Baden. The Jesuits have been ordered to quit Friburg within a week, and the clergy have been cautioned against using seditious language in the pulpit.

The Ministerial candidate, M. Boncompagni, has been elected President of the Chamber of Deputies in Piedmont, by a majority of 74 out of 107 votes.

A Russian courier is stated to have arrived at Stockholm on the 11th inst., commanding Sweden to close her ports to English and French vessels and subjects. The Swedes are to a man against Russia; the Royal Family doubtful. Sweden and Denmark are both taking measures of defence.

A series of duels has taken place at Madrid. First, M. Soulé, son of the American Ambassador, challenged the Duc d'Alba (brother-in-law of the Empress of the French), for an observation overheard at a ball on the subject of Madame Soulé's dress; secondly, M. Soulé the elder challenged the Marquis de Turgot, the interlocutor of the Duc d'Alba; and a third duel is reported to have taken place between the French and American Consuls at Santander. The Duc d'Alba disarmed M. Soulé the younger and spared his life. M. Soulé the elder wounded the Marquis de Turgot in the knee. The ball has since been extracted, and the French Ambassador is recovering. These encounters have caused great sensation in Madrid and Paris. Lord Howden was one of the seconds of the Marquis de Turgot.

The Portuguese Cortes assembled at Lisbon on the 19th inst. to record the King Regent's reiteration of his oath. The young King was also present. The King Regent in his speech promised strict fidelity to the constitution on his own part, and on behalf of his son, the King. The British squadron was in the Tagus under Admiral Corry, but expected to leave on a cruise. The *Duke of Wellington*, steam line-of-battle-ship, was crowded with visitors daily.

The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier arrived at Madrid on the 20th inst. The Government had decreed the Budget for 1854, subject to the revision of the Cortes at fitting season.

From Rome we learn that the Congregation of the Index had condemned, among other works, Eugène Pelletan's *Profession de Foi du XIX. Siècle*.

A letter from Vienna, of the 21st, says:—"A Russian councillor, M. Duez, has arrived here with presents from the Emperor Nicholas for the Emperor Francis Joseph. Amongst them is a magnificent camp tent and the necessary furniture."

An Imperial decree, dated Saturday last, enacts that the Universal Exhibition of Agriculture, Manufactures, and the Fine Arts, which is to commence at Paris on the 1st of May, 1855, shall be under the direction and surveillance of a commission, which shall be presided over by the Prince Napoleon; and a second decree appoints Lord Cowley a member of the commission, as M. Drouyn de L'Huys was of the commission of the National Exhibition in Hyde-park.

In order to meet the immense charges imposed on the municipality of Paris by the price of flour and the forced cheapness of bread, a *Caisse de Service de la Boulangerie* has been established by the Government, to act as an intermediary between the bakers and the city. This fund is to pay every fortnight to the bakers of Paris the difference between the price of 80c., the present rate of the loaf of two kilogrammes, and the price established by the market lists. At a later period, when abundance shall have returned, the *Caisse* will be reimbursed for its advances, by levying on the public, by the intermediary of the bakers, a slight difference between the selling price and the cost price. How this precious imperial stop gap will answer remains to be seen. It reads like ruin.

MR. F. O. WARD ON THE PREVENTIBILITY OF EPIDEMIC CATTLE DISEASE.

We have been favoured with an extract from a private letter, written lately from Hasselt, in Belgium, by Mr. F. O. Ward; whose observations we gladly publish, as tending to throw new and valuable light on the obscure and much vexed question respecting the cause of epidemic pleuro-pneumonia in cattle, and respecting the efficacy of the new method of inoculation, now generally relied on in Belgium and Holland, as a preservative against its ravages.

This question is one of the deepest interest to the British public, seeing that this terrible malady sweeps away many thousands of cattle which would else be available for the supply of our markets—while those which escape reach our shores, not only enhanced in price, but probably also deteriorated in quality, by the epidemic influence. Mr. Ward writes as follows:—

"* First, however, you will want to know why I am here. I was asked to accompany two members of a Government Commission, to aid in investigating a terrible epidemic malady (called pleuro-pneumonia), which decimates the cattle at Hasselt, and elsewhere in Belgium and Holland, the especial object of the commission being to appreciate the alleged preservative virtue of a method of inoculation proposed and practised by Dr. Willems (of Hasselt), who squeezes the virus out of the lungs of the animals which die, and introduces it with a lancet into the tails of the living. The tail swells, pustules form and discharge, the animal suffers a general fever, recovers, and is thenceforth (so the inventor alleges) proof against the epidemic. Many thousands of beasts have been thus inoculated, and a vehement controversy rages as to the value of the discovery. I went round the stables at Hasselt, and visited Dr. Willems, the inventor, himself. Without deciding whether or not the inoculation defends the cattle from the affection, I saw enough to convince me that in this, as in other cases, preservative and curative methods may be wholly superseded by the application of our sanitary rule of prevention.

"The first thing I saw on entering one of the infected establishments (I should have mentioned that they are all distilleries, where the cattle are kept to utilise the residuum of the stills), was a man filling a water-cart with a dirty, yellow-looking liquid, which he pumped up seemingly from some underground reservoir, and which emitted a violent stench. This I learnt was the 'purin,' i. e., the stable excrement, especially the more fluid, which is collected in large tanks, and sold as manure to the farmers. On entering the stables I found them low, dark, ill-ventilated; the litter befouled with dung; and the odour of cow-breath, mingled with all the other perfumes, quite overpowering. I inquired in what part of the stables the disease had first broken out, and was shown a corner which, on further questioning, proved to be just above the great urine tank, which extends (underneath the poor animals' stalls) ten or twelve yards in length, and five or six yards in width and depth! with untrapped holes to receive the stable washings, and (of course) to emit the gaseous effluvia.

"The second stable was shown me in triumph to contradict my view. 'Here,' they said, 'the malady has never appeared, yet this shed is darker, and has fewer doors and windows than the other.' 'Where is the urine tank?' I asked. 'Outside!' was the reply.—[The writer here gives a sketch of the two cattle sheds, showing the position of the urine tanks, and the greater prevalence of the disease in their neighbourhood.]

"On further inquiry, I made out that the malady rages chiefly in winter, when the stables are crowded with cattle, when the doors and windows are kept shut to maintain the heat, and when the urine (for which there is then less sale) accumulates in the tanks beneath. To add to all these causes of disease, the aliment in some of the establishments is slightly alcoholic, so that the beasts are in a constant state of semi-intoxication. They give them as much as they can cram (to each a hectolitre, about 22 gallons, per diem), and allow them no exercise, in order to shorten as much as possible the fattening time (which costs from 60 centimes to 1 franc per beast per day). This last fault they push so far as (in some instances) to be annoyed if you make a beast, which may happen to be lying down, get up, lest the movement should exercise the animal, and *pro tanto* retard the engraissement!

"I have offered to plan a model-stable; and, on condition of my rules being observed, to forfeit a guinea per beast for every beast attacked in that stable. One of the richest distillers in Hasselt is coming to confer with me on this subject at Brussels, and I hope to introduce a reform in which we English are also greatly interested, seeing that we receive these animals in exchange for our razors and calicoes, and have to eat their flesh. To what extent such flesh is harmful is not yet certainly known, but instinct anticipates science in preference of meat untainted by disease. One point of great importance I made out, that the inoculated beasts, whether or not they are preserved from the epidemic pleuro-pneumonia, are not always preserved from dreadful abscesses, which in several cases have formed within them under the diaphragm, near the liver; and which sometimes yield (as M. Maris, a veterinary surgeon of Hasselt, assured me) a pail and a half of purulent matter, the stench of which is frightful!"

WILLIAM CHAMBERS ON THE UNITED STATES.

MR. WILLIAM CHAMBERS, of Edinburgh, has recently been on a visit to the United States. He has concluded his tour of investigation. As the following farewell letter to the *New York Tribune* is alike honourable to him and to the people and institutions of the country which forms its subject, our readers will be glad to possess it:—

"Sir,—I beg, through the medium of your columns, to say a few words of farewell before departing for England, which I do to-morrow in the steamship *Europa*.

"I have been able, during the last three months, to realise the long-cherished wish of visiting America. Necessarily brief as has been my sojourn, and recalled home sooner than I anticipated, my excursion through the British American provinces and the United States, has imparted indelible impressions on my mind. Greatly satisfied with all that has fallen under my observation, and deeply grateful for many personal attentions, I cannot depart from your shores, without tendering my sincere thanks to all for the unmerited kindness that has been extended toward me, as well as for the opportunities frankly and hospitably afforded for my researches into the social and other circumstances of the country.

"I leave the United States with much regret. I carry with me the conviction that a great and splendid future is before them. Contrary to the opinion of most travellers from England, I see here a young but rapidly growing nation offering an example to the oldest communities in Europe. It is far from my wish to flatter; but what do I not feel vast delight in seeing? I am overcome with the stupendous proportions and capacity of the country—its far-stretching fields for human subsistence and happiness; of the American people, so little understood, and often misrepresented, I candidly own that their remarkable love of order, their energy and perseverance, their love of independence, the self-respect of even the humblest classes among them, their striking sobriety, their admirable educational systems, their many excellent libraries and universal fondness for reading, their press free from fiscal exactions, their flourishing religious institutions untampered by civil polity, their economically and spiritedly got up railways, now pushed half way to the Pacific, the neatness of their dwellings, their wonderful—and to an Englishman, alarming—progress in the mechanical arts, the marvellous growth of their cities, and I will add their civility to strangers—I say all this gives me unqualified pleasure; and when I contrast their cities, free of pauperism and vice in its most loathsome forms, with what meets the eye in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other large cities in Britain, I feel that travellers from the old country have really little reason to speak disdainfully of America, or to exaggerate faults which at most are only partial and of no sort of account.

"Such being my impressions, it will be my duty to represent, in my own poor way at home, things as they deserve to be spoken of. Nor shall I fail to speak of the advantages to be derived by an emigration of the labouring classes generally to this country—fleeing, as they will do, from a perishing and unimprovable condition to a state of comfort and boundless prospects of well-doing.

"Trusting that you will impute these unstudied thoughts to a sentiment of grateful emotion, I am your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CHAMBERS.

Astor-house, New York, Dec. 13, 1853."

THE HEALTH OF THE COUNTRY.

We have before us a report just issued by the General Board of Health on the cholera:—

"Though since the last announcement there has been a general subsidence of cholera, as was the case at this period of the year in 1848, yet there has been no day in which cases of the disease have not occurred in different parts of the country, but in England it has rarely assumed an epidemic character. Its progress appears to have been particularly checked, during the recent cold and frosty weather, in those districts which are in a marshy condition, and the surface and malarious evaporation of which is usually in proportion to the elevation of the temperature.

"On the other hand, in Scotland the disease has been all along steadily persistent, and in several places has assumed an epidemic character. Scarcely is the severe visitation of Dundee terminated, when another significant warning, a decided outbreak, has taken place at Glasgow. There were recorded, from the 17th to the 25th inst., 17 deaths from this disease. On the 26th there occurred suddenly 36 attacks in the city parish alone, and 10 deaths in the barony parish. This was followed the next day, the 27th, by 28 attacks and 9 deaths in the city parish, and 13 attacks and 5 deaths in the barony parish. Dr. Gavin, the medical inspector, is on the spot, and, with the co-operation of the local authorities, is actively engaged in organising preventive measures. During the epidemic of 1848 and 1849 Glasgow suffered more severely than almost any other large city in Great Britain. It is remarkable that in Scotland the disease has proceeded unchecked by the cold of winter. In 1848 the pestilence was at its height in Glasgow on the first day of the year of 1849, while the ground was covered with snow and a severe frost prevailed; and at the same time it raged with great violence at Coubridge and several other towns.

"Since the commencement of the epidemic there have occurred in Dundee 315 deaths; in Liff and Benvie 20 deaths; in Leith 9; in Kilburnie, 15 deaths and 100 attacks of diarrhoea; in Dalry, 14 attacks of cholera and 9 deaths; in Arbroath, 20 deaths; in Beith, 7; and in Kilwinning, 60 cases of choleraic disease, 13 cases of developed cholera, and 10 deaths."

Attention is drawn to the state of Redruth, Cornwall, where a severe outbreak has occurred; and still continues. Since the end of September there have been 41 deaths in a population of 11,000. The town is in a filthy state. At Liverpool, we learn that no fewer than 100 deaths have occurred since the beginning of October. Here also the disease makes its appearance in the filthiest localities. It is strange that in the rich town of Liverpool there should be scarcely any of the most necessary conveniences of civilised life. Merthyr Tydvil is also in a like disgraceful condition.

In the week that ended on Saturday, 1399 deaths

were registered in the metropolitan districts. The increase arises from two causes: the rate of mortality has been raised by the coldness of the weather; and more than a due proportion of inquests are included in the return, such cases having accumulated during the quarter without the coroner's signature, which is necessary to complete the registration.

In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52, the average number of deaths was 1124, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1236. The return of last week, therefore, exhibits an excess on the estimated amount.

Last week the births of 800 boys and 745 girls, in all 1545 children, were registered in London. In the eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 the average number was 1267.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.748 in. The mean temperature of the week was 33.1°, which is 5.6° below the average of the same week in 38 years. The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day of the week, and on Sunday and Monday the decrease was 9°. The highest temperature was 41.0°, on Friday; the lowest was 27.0°, on Monday. The highest and lowest on Saturday were 36.3° and 27.7°. The mean dew-point temperature was 30.6°. The wind blew generally from the north-east.

STRIKES AND WAGES.

THE struggle at Preston still continues with unabated resolution on either side. The Master's Association have adjourned until the 26th January. At the same time the masters of Lancashire have taken a decided step. At a meeting in Manchester, on Wednesday, the manufacturers came to a formal resolution "to support the Preston manufacturers in the present struggle." How, it is not stated; but the *Manchester Examiner*, the organ of the masters, declares that now, for the first time, the contest is equal!

It will be remembered that a short time ago a memorial was addressed to Lord Palmerston in reference to the contest at present going on between the factory operatives of this town and their employers. That memorial was adopted at a general meeting of weavers' delegates. On Sunday Mr. Kinder Smith, president of the Operatives' Executive Council, received the following reply from the Home-office:—

"Whitehall, Dec. 24.

"Sir,—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial, dated the 15th ultimo, signed by you, on behalf of the power-loom weavers of Preston and its neighbourhood.

"Lord Palmerston has delayed till now answering this memorial, in the daily hope that he might hear that an amicable arrangement of differences had been come to between the workpeople and their employers. I am, however, to assure you that his Lordship read the memorial with much sympathy, and with deep regret.

"It was impossible that he should not sympathise with the feelings of a large number of a most deserving class of the community, who have been led to think that they are suffering under acts of injustice, and it could not but excite his deep regret to reflect upon the severe privations which the state of things to which the memorial refers must have inflicted upon those on whom it so hardly bears.

"Lord Palmerston desires me to state that he feels bound, moreover, to do justice to the temper and moderation with which the memorial has been drawn up. His Lordship is sorry, however, to say that he has no means of interposing to apply a remedy for the evils referred to. It would be impossible for him, without much more detailed information than he possesses, to form a just opinion as to the merits of the points in dispute between the working men and their employers, and he could not, as a member of the Government, possess any right or power to interfere in the matter.

"Under these circumstances, his Lordship would only venture to suggest, in the most friendly spirit, some topics for the consideration of the memorialists. They must be well aware that, labour being a commodity like any other, its money-value in the market must be regulated by the same general principles which govern the price of other commodities, and that among these governing principles the most influential are the cost of production and the relative proportions of demand and supply. The cost of production, in regard to labour, means the price of the necessities of life, and the proportion of demand and supply must depend very much upon the periodical fluctuations of trade. It is greatly to be wished that both the working men and their employers would allow these general causes to act silently and gradually in equitably adjusting, from time to time, the proper rates of the money-reward for labour; and it is scarcely to be doubted that, by forbearance on both sides, and by mutual and reciprocal good feeling, these arrangements might generally be effected without a recourse to such injurious methods as strikes and lock-outs. It may be said that in times when, according to the general principles above adverted to, an increase in the rate of wages would be just, that increase might be too long delayed, and the working men be thus subjected to undue privations, if the adjustment were left to the gradual operation of forbearance and good-will. But may not an appeal be made to the result of recent events to show that even such inconvenience would be less than the evils arising from extensive and general strikes? These evils are many and great. The strike of the workmen deprives the strikers of their wages, and, so far as wages are concerned, it deprives them of the means of subsistence. On the other hand, the strikes of course stop production, and,

unless markets happen at the moment to be much overstocked, strikes give to the foreign producer a position of advantage from which he may not afterwards be so easily dislodged; and if strikes were to become too frequent, or of too long duration, a part of that capital which is now applied to giving employment to labour at home, might possibly be transferred to other countries, to the disadvantage of British industry; and that this is not a groundless supposition is proved by the fact that British manufacturing establishments have been formed in Belgium, in France, and in Mexico. This, too, leads to a reflection upon the opinion which seems to have actuated the strikers, that the general prosperity of our export trade was in itself a proof that the rates of wages ought to be increased. Lord Palmerston does not pretend to form any judgment as to whether that opinion was well or ill founded in the particular instance to which it referred; but his Lordship has desired me to remark that our power to supply foreign markets with manufactures depends upon the cheapness at which those manufactures can be sold; that their price must depend mainly on the cost of production; and that the wages of labour form a material part of that cost.

"Therefore, as our exported manufactures must always be running a hard race with the similar manufactures of other countries, an apparently flourishing trade may possibly be checked by an increase of wages, which would add to the cost of production, and the gains made by the manufacturer may often consist of a very small profit upon each separate article, the aggregate amount of gain depending on the quantity exported, and that quantity depending on the cheapness of the commodities, which cheapness again is governed by the cost of production.

"In directing me to submit these general reflections to the consideration of the memorialists, Lord Palmerston does not mean to give any opinion on the immediate subject of dispute, but his Lordship would earnestly entreat the working men to lay aside those feelings which are too apt to be engendered by a struggle, and to endeavour, if possible, to come to some arrangement with their employers.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"H. WADDINGTON.

"Mr. Kinder Smith, Preston."

SPIRIT RAPPING TRIAL.

IN the state of Ohio there is a town called Cleveland. Recently there was a remarkable trial there, which the *New York Tribune* has been good enough to report. It will amuse our readers. The trial lasted several days, and took place in the Court of Common Pleas. It is called, Dr. Underhill *versus* Dwight Jarvis. The defendant had charged the plaintiff with being a "disturber of religious worship and a contaminator of public morals," because, in company with a "medium," the plaintiff visited St. Timothy's Church, Massillon, and during the sermon the well-known "spirit rappings" were heard, which occasioned a disturbance. Hence the action for libel. It was not claimed that plaintiff made or instigated the raps, nor that the medium had any voluntary agency in their production, but that the presence of the medium with her spiritual friends, the plaintiff among the number, was the cause of the sounds being heard at that particular time and place. It in fact became a question for the court and jury to determine, whether "mediums," through whom these sounds purported to be made by departed spirits, are to be allowed in orthodox assemblies, and incidental to this the question arises, what are "orthodox assemblies?" It was not proved that Dr. Underhill designedly went to St. Timothy's Church to make a disturbance, but it was proved that incidentally while there, in company with a medium, a young lady under his charge, a disturbance did take place in consequence of "knockings" attendant on said medium. It was admitted the medium did not make, nor could she prevent the "knockings;" and the question seemed to turn upon a matter of duty as to whether said medium and her friends, under such circumstances, ought or ought not to have left the church. Mr. D. R. Tilden, one of the plaintiff's counsel, took the ground that the phenomena witnessed there was "spiritual," and that the plaintiff was not to be held responsible for what the spirits did; that the "disturbers" and "contaminators of public morals" were beings of another world, and the defendant must change the *venue*, and bring his action there, if he wanted to reach the culprits in the case. He said there were many things new and marvellous in it, things he could not comprehend, but that was no reason for him why it should be discarded. He said the orthodox faith contained historical incidents ten times more marvellous, incomprehensible, and impossible of belief, than anything as yet found in the spiritual theory. He instanced the dialogue between Balaam and his ass, the physical impossibility of the liberal fulfilment of Joshua's command upon the sun and moon to "stand still," "Jonah swallowed by the whale," &c., items in the orthodox faith, wonderful if true. He claimed that this new theory had got to combat the prejudices of the age, and particularly the persecutions of the church. Every newly-discovered truth has had to do this, from Copernicus down to the present time, but he warned "foggydom" to learn wisdom from the past, and not carry their opposition too far. He thought he saw a necessity for the spiritual

theory—the old orthodox creeds, what there was left of them, had failed to convert but a small part of the world, and of that part nine-tenths doubted the existence of a hereafter at all. Religion, too, had become so expensive that poor people could not afford to be saved by the ordinary means of grace, i.e., going to church. It would as soon think of breaking into Windsor Castle as getting into the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches of that city. The Hon. R. P. Spalding followed on the same side. He said Aristotle, the Grecian philosopher, some 200 years before Christ was born, promulgated the doctrine that there was only one living and true God. For this heresy he was tried and condemned to death. Christ afterwards, for preaching the same doctrine, was crucified between two thieves. The unpopularity of a new theory was no evidence of its want of truth. Take the Bible account of the flood—Noah contended against the whole antediluvian world, that the deluge was at hand, and he alone had faith to prepare for it. It is true that Spiritualism is yet largely in the minority, but its adherents are multiplying with the most astonishing rapidity, not only in this, but in the old country. It is the only theory that gives us any tangible evidence of a future state, or indicates the condition of departed spirits in another world. The believers are, many of them, among the best minds in the country, distinguished alike for their learning and integrity. They believe because they cannot help believing when the facts and phenomena are placed before them. They have a right to believe, and to enjoy the full privileges of their belief, the same as adherents to any other faith. Mr. D. K. Carter closed on the part of the defence, ridiculing all claims of Spiritualism. He defended the churches in their right to worship God as they pleased, and claimed they should be unmolested by spirits, in or out of the flesh. He did not deny the right of spirits to rap, but they must do so at the proper time and place. The jury were discharged, not being able to agree on a verdict.

JOURNAL OF RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

SATURDAY.—Collision.—A goods train from Bolton to Manchester run into by a goods train from Bury at Clifton Junction. Driver and guards hurt; pointsman, it is feared, fatally injured; much property destroyed.

WEDNESDAY.—The Taff Vale Railway has a branch from Merthyr to Dowlais. More than a mile of this is an inclined plane, rising 400 feet in that distance. This is worked by a stationary engine. The officials neglected to attach the rope to the mid-day passenger train before starting it. It consequently dashed down the incline with prodigiously increasing velocity as it neared the bottom. The guard leapt off the break soon after the carriages commenced their descent, and was uninjured. None of the passengers were, however, enabled thus to escape, as they were all locked in the compartments, and their shrieks while passing along the bridges over the roads near the town were most appalling. The branch joins on to the main line at the bottom of the incline by a sharp curve. The train abandoned the rails at this spot, leapt clear up into the air a great height, the carriages separating into shreds, the passengers being thrown out; and, with the debris of the train, falling like a shower into the Taff river and on the adjoining cinder tips. Notwithstanding this extraordinary violence, some of the passengers were enabled to walk away comparatively unhurt; others are much injured, and two women are dying—one having her back broken, and the other a fracture of the skull, besides which they are frightfully lacerated and torn almost to pieces. Had the train been worked with a proper break, it could have been brought to a stand, or, at all events, its speed down the incline would have been so reduced as to avoid the fearful results of the catastrophe.

THURSDAY.—Collision on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Line.—Two trains, the one following the other, left Manchester in the morning, one for Rochdale, the other for Oldham. The first arrived safely at Newton Heath station; and having no passengers, either to take up, or put down, was going forward, when the Oldham train came up at 15 miles an hour, and dashed into the first train. The last carriage was smashed, the passengers thrown about the line, a young woman killed, another woman fatally wounded, and eight seriously injured. The exact cause of the accident is not very clear. The station-master, Mr. Whittaker, says he turned on the danger signal as soon as he saw the first train. The driver of the second train says it was not turned on when he passed the signal post. It is possible that both may be right. The signals are 400 yards from the station, nearer Manchester, and are worked by a lever and wire at the station. The morning being misty, the station-master would not see the first train until it was within 15 or 20 yards from the station, and it was nearly at a stand-still; and, supposing the second train to have gained more than ordinarily in speed, its engine might have passed or be passing the signal post when the danger signal was turned on.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WE remark in the records of the Court that the Duke and Duchess of Nemours, political refugees and fusionists, visited her Majesty on Monday. The next day the Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, who had been staying at Windsor Castle since Saturday, left for Lisbon.

The Queen, accompanied by Lord and Lady John Russell, have witnessed Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Alfred skate in the Home-park.

On Thursday, at the Privy Council held at Windsor, Parliament was ordered to be further prorogued from the 3rd of January until Tuesday, the 31st of January, 1854, and a proclamation was issued summoning Parliament to meet on that day "for the despatch of public business."

The Reverend Edward Hartopp Cradock has been elected Principal of Brazenose College, Oxford.

Mr. Harington, son of the late Dr. Harington, has been elected a student of Christchurch.

Dr. Mill, regius professor of Hebrew in the University of Cambridge, and canon of Ely, died on Christmas-day.

Dr. James Gillkrest, inspector-general of army hospitals, died on the same day. He was an old officer. His peninsula medal had twelve clasps. Dr. Gillkrest is also known for his services during the visits of cholera.

The Emperor of the French has ordered the sum of 700 francs to be paid by Messrs. Orsi and Almani, merchants in London, for the benefit of the Dreadnought Hospital establishment in the Thames.

It is quite true that the original petition has been withdrawn, it is equally true that an amended one has been substituted, which prays not only for the unseating of Messrs. Horsfall and Liddell, but that a commission may sit in Liverpool for the purpose of inquiring generally into the practices which prevail here during Parliamentary contests. It prays, further, for the entire disfranchisement of the freemen of the borough.—*Liverpool Times*.

Mr. O'Connell gives the following description of his unsuccessful opponents at Clonmel, comprising the League deputation, Messrs. Gray, Lucas, Duffy, and Moore:—

"I have stepped into the vacancy that otherwise might have been attempted by a creature, or a co-conspirator of the newspaper-triumvirate of Dublin, who have taken upon themselves to rule the country, and lecture prelates, priests, and people upon their duties.

"This ominous and heterogeneous conjunction of a Protestant advocate of high Catholicity, an English teacher and expounder of Irish rights and Irish feelings, and a Catholic plagiarist from the wild and half-heathen Carlyle, and panegyrist of the anti-Catholic Kossuth, the anti-Christian Mazzini, and their Red Republican and murderous abettors, decided that you, who were ever true to Ireland and her religion, required to be lectured upon your duty. Accordingly they invaded your town to spread, as is their wont, and to the utmost of their deplorable ability, dissension, calumny, bitterness, and confusion!"

"John Archbishop of Tuam" has sent a letter of sympathy to the "persecuted" Archbishop of Freiberg.

A Government school of mines has been established in Cornwall.

Lord Palmerston has issued directions for the appointment of a Roman Catholic priest to her Majesty's prisons. His pay will be regulated upon an average of the number of Roman Catholic convicts, and not by the number of visits he may make.

The Ranger of Hyde-park has recently caused fresh notices to be affixed to the various gates of the park, in lieu of the former ones, on the subject of the use to which the carriage drives and rides are to be appropriated. The admission of hackney carriages of all kinds is prohibited, and no laden carts or other vehicles of the kind are to be allowed to pass through the park. No horses ridden by stablemen and others, for the purpose of exercise only, are to be admitted for that purpose.

The splendid Christmas weather has greatly exhilarated the denizens of London who can bear it. We have had frost and snow throughout the week. The pieces of water in the parks have been sufficiently frozen to admit of multitudes enjoying the pleasures of skating and sliding. Early in the week, the more adventurous spirits met with severe duckings, but no life was lost, owing to the great exertions of the women of the Royal Humane Society and the police. On Thursday, however, the ice was so thick in the parks, that thousands engaged in inspiring exercise with perfect safety.

The usual returns of the paupers in the metropolitan unions show a considerable increase, chiefly in the out-door poor, over last Christmas. The customary beef, pudding, sweetmeats, and tobacco was served out to the paupers on Sunday.

A reformatory school has been in operation near Gloucester for the last eighteen months. Twenty-three boys have been received; four are failures, three have been provided for, the rest are under treatment. The total cost of the school has been 400*l.*; but deducting 170*l.* for stock on the land, ten acres, that cost is reduced to 230*l.*

Engineers are at work on the lines around Devonport. They have long been left incomplete: it seems they will now be finished.

The opening of the railway from Carmarthen to Haverfordwest was celebrated with great pomp at the latter town on Thursday.

The London mail of the 4th of February next will be despatched to Australia by the *Bosphorus* screw steam-vessel, the General Screw Steam Shipping Company having obtained the contract for its conveyance.

It has been decided that the new steam yacht for the Queen shall be built of the following dimensions and capabilities:—Length of keel, 300 feet; length on deck, 315 feet;

beam, 40 feet; depth of hold, 22 feet; diameter of paddle-wheel, 30 feet 6 inches; stroke of piston, 7 feet; diameter of cylinder, 84 inches; tonnage, 2340. The revolutions of the engines have been estimated at from 25 to 28, which will yield, it is calculated, a speed of from 15 to 16 knots per hour. The engines are to be manufactured by Penn, upon the oscillating principle, but which, to obtain the speed calculated upon, must be worked upon the high-pressure gauge. They will occupy great space in the body of the vessel, and consequently allow of less ventilation and working room for the engineer's staff, and admit of the stowage of a less quantity of coals.

The *Cyclones*, now loading in the London Docks, is to sail next week, and will convey the requisite apparatus for the Royal Mint, about to be established at Sydney. The melting pots, and other necessary apparatus, which are stated to be of a new and improved kind, have been supplied by Messrs. Morgan and Rees.—*Daily News*.

The late Mr. Pigott's library and manuscripts—a collection which comprised some curious and rare books on the occult sciences, scarce *fæcietæ*, jest books and songs, and other works in general literature—has recently been disposed of under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, of Wellington-street. Among some of the more curious, rare, and valuable articles, may be mentioned—Lot 35, "Anderson's House of Yvery," wanting some plates, 10*l.* 12*s.*; 300, the "Marriage of Heaven and Hell," by Blake, 4*l.* 16*s.*; 352, "Jerusalem," by the same, 4*l.* 16*s.*; 595, "Walpole's Hieroglyphic Tales," of excessive rarity, six copies only having been printed, 7*l.*; 653, "Coryat's Crudities," 8*l.*; 702, "Gould's Birds of Europe," 75*l.*; 846, "Harington's Metamorphoses of Ajax," 4*l.* 5*s.*; 884, "Heydon's Theomagia," 4*l.* 19*s.*; 1011, "Hoare's Monastic remains," privately printed, 7*l.* 10*s.*; 1056, "Merry Jest," Eld, 1617, 6*l.*; 1057, "A Banquet of Jest," Royston, 1657, 6*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; 1357, a collection of early newspapers from 1645 to 1665, 17*l.*; 1737, Charles the First's copy of the "Annals of Tacitus," 5*l.*; 2014, "Vicar's Jehovah-Jirah," 9*l.* 15*s.*; 2033, Dr. Dee's far-famed Speculum, 13*l.*; 2034, the "Magic Crystal" of the same great astrologer, 15*l.* 10*s.* The manuscripts contained—Lot 2040, "A Brief Chronicle from the Entering of Brutus to 1595," 11*l.* 5*s.*; 2042, "Seyer's Collection for his History of Bristol," 20*l.*; 2044, Byron's original manuscripts of the "Curse of Minerva," 22*l.* 10*s.*; 2045, "A Fragment," by Chatterton, 6*l.*; 2082, "Heraldic Collections for Somers etshire," 21*l.* The lots generally brought very high prices, after much spirited competition.

Out of 8,557,763 acres and 30 perches of land in the various parishes of the several counties in England, 61,496 acres 3 roods and 23 perches are occupied by railways, whilst in Wales, out of 639,427 acres 2 roods and 18 perches, 3550 acres and 23 perches are occupied by railways.

Mr. Oliveira seems to have met with success in France in pushing his inquiries as to the practicability of an adequate supply being available for the increased demand were the wine duties reduced. The present annual produce of France is stated at 900,000,000 gallons, while the capacity to increase is virtually illimitable. Under these circumstances, Mr. Oliveira observes, "Our present consumption from all countries being six millions of gallons, if it were in four years to increase tenfold, which is not at all improbable, producing with a 1*s.* duty a revenue of 3,000,000*l.*, we should require sixty millions of gallons, which France alone, to say nothing of Portugal and Spain, would supply without any effort whatever."

The Bey of Tunis, who has the reputation of being one of the four best chess players in the world, has challenged the Chess Club of the Passage Jouffroy, Paris, to a rubber game for 1000*l.* sterling. The first game has already begun. The club drew the first move.

The progress which chromo-lithography and nature printing has made since the year 1851, and the marked attention which has been recently called to the latter, in consequence of the successful efforts of the Imperial Printing-office at Vienna, have induced the Council of the Society of Arts to bring together a collection of recent specimens. It is understood that upwards of fifty specimens of nature printing from Vienna, of every variety—botanical, geological, entomological—will be shown, and also some of the earlier productions (as far back as 1847) of Dr. Ferguson Branson, of Sheffield, to whom, it is believed, the invention is due.

Mrs. Bloomer and *The Lily* have emigrated to Mount Vernon, Ohio. In the last number of her journal, she says:—"Our husband having purchased an interest in *The Western Home Visitor*, published at Vernon, Ohio, and determined upon removing to that place forthwith, we, as a true and faithful wife, are bound to say in the language of Ruth—'where thou goest I will go;' and so, before another number of *The Lily* reaches its subscribers we shall, if all is well, have settled in our western home."—*New York Tribune*.

The number of murders in all parts of the country excites some attention. Last week, a man named Evans, cut the throat of a woman named Wilford, with whom he was living, in order to prevent her from giving evidence against him on account of his brutality. A woman named Cunningham was shot while sitting at her loom, in the parish of Beith, Scotland. The investigation before the coroner into the murder at York was concluded on Saturday evening at York. The jury returned a verdict of "willful murder" against Isabella Campbell and Caroline Nicholson. The coroner then bound over the witnesses to appear and give evidence, and issued his warrant for the committal of Campbell and Nicholson to York Castle for trial at the Spring Assizes.

An inquest has been held on the naked and bruised body of a boy found at East Acton; and the evidence indicates both crime and mystery. The body has been identified as that of Richard Medhurst, the son of a horsehair-cutter. He was last seen alive some seven weeks ago. Then he was induced to get up into a pony chaise-cart, driven by a tall man, with a full face, and wearing a fustian coat. Mr. Thomas Francis, surgeon, Acton, said that he saw the body

on Monday, the 19th, when it had the appearance of having been covered with a quantity of ointment. The hands and feet seemed as if they had been tied with chord. The body was extremely emaciated, and there were sores all over it. There were also several scratches, as if done by some pronged instrument like a fork. There was a bruise on the bridge of the nose, and the right eye was black, swollen, and filled with echymosed blood. There was no food in the stomach or large intestines, and there were some dark spots on the mucous membrane. On the back and hips were sores as if from lying for some time in one position. On opening the brain, he found congestion of the vessels, and on opening the chest, he discovered the left lung to be very extensively diseased. The inquest was adjourned in order that further evidence might be collected; and that the coroner might ask the Home Secretary to offer a reward for the apprehension of the murderer.

For no apparent reason a man named Heas, on Saturday, first attempted to murder his wife, and then committed suicide. The poor woman had recently been confined. Heas taunted her about her child. On Saturday, taking her mother out, he lost her in the streets, ran home and stabbed his wife in bed with her infant at the breast. The wounds she parried partly with her arm, screaming murder, and rushing from the room. Heas stuck himself through the carotid artery.

No fewer than five bodies of infants have been found concealed behind brickwork in a cottage at Ditching, Essex. For some years the cottage has been tenanted by a labourer named Gatland and his daughter, the mother of two living illegitimate children. A judicial investigation is in progress.

Game-preserving conflicts are common just now. There was one on Sunday night in the preserves of Mr. Lewis Buck, M.P. for Devon. Fortunately, it was not fatal. Two poachers were captured.

Lieutenant-Colonel Layard, in a fit of temporary derangement, cut his throat in seven places. He was staying at Palmerstown; Mrs. Layard had left him for a minute; when she returned she saw him gashing at his throat! He soon died. Mr. Layard was formerly Member for Carlow, and was well known in political circles for his lively speeches and adherence to Liberal principles.

Mr. James Hurst, solicitor, cut his throat on Monday; cause, lowness of spirits.

Some mean fellows have robbed the ornamental water in St. James's Park of three white and one black swans.

There were no fewer than eight fires in the metropolis on Tuesday night.

Another serious fire occurred in Great Winchester-street, City, on Thursday. It destroyed the house and property of Mr. Burgin, upholsterer, and damaged the surrounding houses. There were also four other fires.

The Royal Paper Mills at Esher, Surrey, were burnt down on Friday week. It was a very large building, full of windows; and the flames darting out at these apertures, and curling upward, leaping from place to place, and overpowering the water from the numerous engines on the spot, formed a magnificent though terrific spectacle. About 250 persons are thus thrown out of employment.

There has been a terrific conflagration at New York, which consumed the large publishing establishment of Harper, Brothers, and fifteen other buildings. The loss is estimated at 200,000*l.*

The *Prince*, a Dublin steamer, saw, on Wednesday, a ship in a strange state. Presently the captain saw a flag of distress. Steaming up, they found about twenty persons floating in the ice-cold water on spars and pieces of wood. The sea ran high; the captain lowered his boats, but the seamen would not venture into them! A fishing-smack came up, and with a little skiff saved six. The rest perished; the crew of the steamer looking on—the captain running about weeping.

There have been heavy snow storms in divers parts of the country, and the winter has fairly set in with a seasonable rigour.

Great mortality has occurred of late in emigrant ships going from Liverpool to New York. During November there were no fewer than 1141 deaths in 13,762 passengers.

A brewer at Selby has been drowned in a vat of ale. There is a story in one of the Irish papers of a marriage between two sisters, to cover the shame of one. They were united, it is said, in the name of the sweetheart to whom the lady had permitted too great an intimacy. But the story reads like a hoax.

Postscript.

SATURDAY, December 31.

THE *Moniteur* of yesterday announces that, according to the latest advices from Constantinople, the Divan was in perfect harmony with the representatives of France, England, Austria, and Prussia, as to the conditions on which the Porte could with honour concur in the re-establishment of peace.

The intelligence of the acceptance by the Porte of the Note of the Vienna Conference is confirmed by despatches received in Paris on Wednesday at the Foreign-office. Turkey has accepted the propositions of the allies; but of the intentions of Russia nothing certain is known—certainly not by the French Government. The only Power that is believed to be deep in the confidence of the Czar, and to be cognizant of the manner in which he will receive these advances, is Austria—and Austria is silent.

It is important to remember that the orders to the combined fleets to enter the Black Sea were despatched (if they were despatched) no sooner than

the 21st of this month; so that, even weather permitting, the ships would not make any demonstration off, not to say on, Sebastopol before the middle of January. *La Presse* states, on the authority of a private letter from one of the ships of the Anglo-French squadron, that the demand of the Porte that the fleets should enter the Black Sea was refused, because the fleet destroyed at Sinope was under orders to convey munitions to Circassia, and to excite Russian subjects to revolt. Is this credible? Meanwhile, the indefatigable impotence of diplomacy appears not even yet to have exhausted all attempts to make things comfortable for Russia, and to avenge Sinope by an armistice, if not a pacification. We believe, however, that events will be too strong and too swift for words; and it may, perhaps, be found comfortable for our Ministry to meet Parliament on the last day of January with a more striking vindication than any note or protocol. Admiral Dundas may supply a brief and telling paragraph to the Queen's speech.

It is stated that Dr. Bowring will succeed Sir George Bonham as Governor of Hongkong.

M. Visconti, the Imperial architect, who designed the magnificent completion of the Louvre, and of the Rue de Rivoli, and the tomb of Napoleon at the Invalides, and who was the director of all the great public works now in course of execution in Paris, has died suddenly.

The report of M. Soulé's death in a duel with the Duc d'Alba at Madrid is not confirmed by letters from Madrid of the 23rd inst.

The weather, so frosty yesterday morning at daybreak, rapidly relaxed soon after, and by ten o'clock there was a south wind and a sudden thaw! The skaters looked with dismay upon the rapidly dissolving ice; when, lo! about noon another change, the wind in the north once more, and the slushy streets and thawing snows grew hard again. What will it be to-day?

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Physiology and Phrenology" in our next.

J. A. LANGFORD'S Sonnets should have a place, if in our crowded columns place could be found. We have been obliged to decline a great many verses lately from the same cause. Even for verse in type a long while space has been wanting.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1853.

Public Affairs.

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

THE OPENING YEAR AND OPENING WAR.

THE beginning of the year 1854 presents in some respects a parallel, in others a contrast, to the beginning of 1853. In January last the condition of the country was not only prosperous, but it had been so, and it continued to be so. We began the year with a rising revenue, notwithstanding the reduction of the sugar duties and the commutation of the window-tax, with Consols at par, and 22,000,000*l.* in the Bank of England, with exports showing a progressive increase during the previous year over the year before it, and with everything promising a continuance of prosperity, save only in one momentous point; the weather had been wet, and the hopes of a change to rescue the crops were disappointed by a continuance of weather in which cold alternated with damp, and the gloomy sky of January, 1853, finds its natural fruit in the dear bread of January, 1854.

It was expected that the prosperity would continue, and it did continue, and has continued, notwithstanding some further disappointments. The cotton trade appeared to have got well over the disturbances brought forward by false reports of a short cotton crop in America, when there was a redundant crop; but the export trade had been stretched to a point which forbade further expan-

sion. While the exports have enormously increased, the price per piece has greatly diminished. The enormous emigration, progressively increasing upon an average of 300,000 a year, was kept up. The continued imports of gold from America and Australia stimulated trade, which was further stimulated by the demands of Australia and America upon our manufactures, especially in iron. Other trades followed the prosperity of the great staples; building has increased immensely, not only in London, but even in secondary and third rate towns, and wages rose almost in all trades. The demand for a rise, however, was resisted in Stockport, and, though ultimately yielded there, it has been partially resisted in Manchester, and wholly in the district in which Preston is a centre; and thus it happens that we have the continued strike in Lancashire. The woollen trade has, upon the whole, been steady; coal and iron, which were flourishing at the commencement, have received a new impulse from the reduction of the import duties in France. The flax trade is extending in the north of Ireland. The report of the American President of the universal prosperity in the Union, and of reduction of import duties, especially that upon iron, to 25 instead of 30 per cent., promises a further impulse to trade; and thus, notwithstanding the high price of bread, and sundry new demands upon the poor-law, the condition of the country is really sound. Perhaps at no time after a short crop has the country been really so little distressed as it is now, the poor-rates so little burdened with paupers. Consols, indeed, are not at par, but they are at 94½, have been again above 95, and are now oscillating about the level of 94. The speculators have used immense exertions twice over to create panics and bring Consols down; they succeeded in reducing them below 90, but scarcely for a moment. Notwithstanding the adverse prospects abroad, such is the sound state of trade, and such the substantial confidence in Government, Consols continue comparatively high in price, with a perfectly firm market. The dearth of bread was expected; if the check in the cotton was not quite so much expected, it can be accounted for on causes not peculiar to the year, and general prosperity can be accounted for on still broader causes. Our expectation has been justified by its continuance, and on the same grounds we look forward with confidence to the year now opening.

Politically there has been a very serious change. As at the end of 1852, so at the end of 1853, we have had a Ministerial crisis. The Derby and Disraeli Cabinet broke up, and Lord Aberdeen induced the leading men of all parts to unite in forming a national Cabinet, conservative so far as discretion went, but liberal so far as it accepted the opinions of the community at large, and the duty of accomplishing deliberately sanctioned improvements. The main function of the Cabinet was to restore that confidence in the Executive which had been shaken by the incompetency and inconsequence, and detected corruption of the previous Cabinet: that purpose was answered. Lord John, however, thought himself bound to introduce a Reform Bill, and this brought to a point the difference between Lord Palmerston and his colleagues, which appears to have turned mainly on the conduct of affairs in the East. Lord Palmerston resigned his office on the 15th December, he fulfilled the expectation of many by "continuing" in his office on the 24th. The Cabinet is re-united, no longer for the purpose of establishing confidence in the Executive among the English people, but for the purpose of maintaining in Europe the presence of a united Government and a united nation.

That necessity is the more urgent from the changed aspect of foreign politics. At the close of 1852, there was some very slight shadow of doubt as to the state of our relations with France; we have within the last few days drawn closer the firm alliance which has subsisted between the two countries; but Lord Palmerston's continuance in office is understood to indicate that the Government adopts a very energetic policy in defending Turkey against Russia. The semi-Ministerial *Times* has declared that "we are entering upon a state of war." Russia is collecting new means of aggression from the extreme south to the extreme north, instigating Persia to disturb our frontiers in India, and commanding Sweden

to close her ports against us in the north. It is not to be supposed, however, that our own Government has been idle; it is evident that they have sought an alliance for us in Europe, amongst those states which incline to a constitutional freedom. The people of England and America are daily learning better to understand the common interest which they have in accepting the duty of being the Champions of Freedom for the world. Our colonies, from Australia to North America, have received the last gifts of self-government; the West Indies are offered the same, with pecuniary assistance for Jamaica; and, should our Ministers adopt a real national policy, there is every reason to suppose that they will enter upon the contest which awaits them with the support of a united empire. At the beginning of the year 1853 every hope would have turned upon the maintenance of peace; at the beginning of 1854 there is not a class which does not begin to feel resentment at the forbearance too long shown to the common enemy. The exchequer is strong to sustain the Government; trade is preparing to accommodate itself to a new state of the world for a time; and the confidence, even of the timidest class in the country, is shown by the firmness of the quotations on the Stock Exchange. The promise of a declaration of war on the part of our Government is hailed with satisfaction by the people; and a hope is dawning that, instead of leaving the extremes, Democracy and Absolutism, to fight out the weary fight of anarchy on the field of Europe, our Government will unite with its natural allies—whether sovereigns or peoples—to make constitutional law respected, and to release the nations which the insolent leaders of Absolutism are unjustly holding in thrall.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE LANCASHIRE STRIKES.

THE working-classes who are on strike in the North have not yet responded to the challenge which they have received from several quarters;—they have not yet made good their assertion, that on commercial grounds the masters would be able to pay them ten per cent. more than the current rate in wages.

We are well aware that in again calling our friends in the North to this point, we incur the risk of seriously damaging our popularity amongst them; at the same time that, assuredly, the masters will not consider us to be their organ or friend. But we have quite another, and higher solicitude—to establish the truth, and especially to establish that practical truth upon which alone the working-classes can really stand. We know that after the first fit of impatience at reading our words has passed, many who were irritated for the moment will recognise the friend whose honesty prevents him from flattering; and even if it were not so, even if the *Leader* depended on its working-class readers—which it does not—we would sooner let it go down, a sacrifice to truth, than sustain it at the cost of aiding what we regard as delusion.

It is most important that the working classes should see with perfect distinctness the actual state of the case against them. In order that the true merits of their interest may be understood and appreciated, they ought to see the facts with the same kind of perfect distinctness with which they see a piece of sculpture—it should stand out hard, with a distinct outline, so that no man can mistake the point about which he is talking.

We have before us three documents, all of which must have obtained much attention from the working-classes: they are, first, an extract from an address to the "Master Spinners and Manufacturers of Preston;" next, a small pamphlet called "The Strike, a letter to the working-classes on their position and movements; by a Lancashire Man;"* and thirdly, Lord Palmerston's reply to the Operatives' executive council at Preston. Now although there is much in the Home Secretary's letter which is indisputable, it appears to us, that not one of these documents fully hits the case.

The Lancashire Man puts forward many arguments to show that the capitalist has a right to dictate his own terms for admission to work in

* This little pamphlet is published by Mr. John Chapman of the Strand, and, by Messrs. Johnson and Hawson, in Manchester. We say an extract of the address, for we have only seen that passage which was published in the *Times*; the entire statement has never been sent to us.

his own mill; that if he cannot work at a commercial profit in England, he will go away; that if the cost of production be raised above a certain height in this country, we shall be unable to meet the manufacturers of America, Belgium, Germany, and France; and that probably, after the strike, all the hands who have put themselves out of work will not be re-absorbed into employment. All this is true, and it will meet with the perfect concurrence of those employers to whose class the Lancashire Man belongs; but it is said in that "affable" kind of way which is peculiarly offensive to those to whom it is addressed; and we know that it has been met amongst the working-classes with a desire that it should be "answered." It tells a few truths, delusive even to those who recognise their truth, because they are partial; and it puts them in such language as would not invite, but repel the concurrence of the working-classes.

The Address, in like manner, has of course received the acclamations of the author's constituents; but it is equally calculated to delude them by the partial character of its truth; and it can have no force with those who perceive the truth in another light. The argument is mainly this. The author is endeavouring to show that the manufacturers must be wrong, if not dishonest, in saying that the cotton trade is less profitable than it used to be; and he works out his case by comparing the declared value of exported cotton goods, month for month, in 1852 and 1853; the exports of 1853 showing a great increase. For the month of November, for example, the exports had increased from 4,855,666*l.* in 1852 to 6,168,626*l.* in 1853—an increase of 1,312,960*l.* Now this is no contradiction to the statement on the part of the manufacturers. That the gross aggregate value of the exports has increased, nobody has ever denied; but the question is, how many pieces go for that increased value? It will be found that the quantity has increased far more than the gross aggregate value. It is evident that while a larger number of lower-priced articles may form a larger aggregate sum of money, yet as there are more pieces and also more manufacturers to share the payment, and as the cost of production in raw material, wages, machinery, &c., has not diminished in the same proportion, the profits have been greatly narrowed. Now the statement of the manufacturers is this:—if they were to suffer a rise in the cost of production, the cost price would so nearly approach the selling price, that it would not be worth the manufacturer's while to keep his mill going, and he would rather give up business altogether. The manufacturer has as much right to strike as the working-man—both are using the right at present; both sides, however, cannot abstain from making some appeal to public opinion; but neither side has yet taken the trouble to give that information in distinctness and in detail which would enable all the world to judge.

Lord Palmerston has felt this difficulty. Nothing can be more creditable to him as a statesman than his frank "sympathy with a large number of a most deserving class who have been led to think that they have been suffering under acts of injustice," or his regret at their sufferings, and his recognition of the temper and moderation with which their memorial is drawn. But, he says, it would be impossible for him, without much more detailed information than he possesses, to form a just opinion on the merits of the points in dispute. Public opinion, to which both sides appeal, cannot pronounce a judgment, because neither side lays before it information in detail. There is reason to fear that neither side forms a perfectly distinct apprehension even of its own case, for want of the same explicit analysis of the facts. The working classes should try to give Lord Palmerston detailed information, of which he justly declares the want. They now have the challenge from the Home-office, and not only are they bound in honour to accept it, but the very endeavour to comply with the want that Lord Palmerston rightly feels, would constitute a study well worth the labour which undoubtedly it involves.

THE POINT OF ATTACK IN AUSTRIA.

ENGLISHMEN understand bad government very distinctly when it presents itself in the shape of oppressive, and yet resultless, taxation. To tax people is "vulgarily" regarded as an original sin of rulers; but to tax them without profit adds folly to crime. We have before called attention to the state of the finances of Austria, and they are worth a continued attention on the part

of those who take any interest in the recovery of English influence on the Continent, or in the progress of constitutional freedom. We, indeed, apply this financial truth somewhat differently from the ordinary fashion. We do not hold with Mr. Cobden, and other economists of his class, that a nation cannot go to war whose finances are deranged. There is no *à priori* logic which can prove any such proposition, and experience as little confirms the assertion as abstract logic; for although we have had instances of states making a peace, because they had overspent their money on war, yet that argument has never prevailed until enormous sums had been sacrificed to the desire for victory. The United States of America often harassed Washington with short supplies; but still they did manage to find supplies enough to purchase their independence. When Napoleon lacked means, he rendered war self-supporting. England did not feel financial exhaustion until she had spent nearly a thousand millions sterling. And Austria has kept up a war establishment throughout a great part of the peace, and has paid the expenses of the Russian auxiliaries, notwithstanding the assurance of peace economists, that Austria could not go to war because of the expense. So far as the expense of war is concerned, she incurs it already.

Nevertheless, her financial condition must have great influence on her political prospects. It is the weak point; but we ought to understand how that weak point is to be hit. Our readers will remember that the "Impartial Observer," who wrote a rose-pink account of "The Present State of the Finance and the Currency in Austria," endeavoured to show that all was in the most promising condition. The annual deficit, he said, which had been 122,000,000 florins in the revolutionary year 1849, had fallen to 54,000,000 florins, and would be still less in the current year; he entered into minute particulars to show how the paper currency, with which Austria has from time to time raised the wind, was in process of redemption; he pointed to a reduction of the army as a means of keeping down the expenses; he described Lombardy as "recovering" after the revolutionary disorder of 1848, and he promised new acquisitions to the exchequer from the emancipation of the peasantry and from a new survey of the land-tax in Hungary.

Now let us look at the working and the results of these promised plans. In Lombardy the plan is this: The people, as all our readers know, are kept in subjection by the most tyrannical means; three cannot meet in the streets; people who hold revolutionary writings or "revolutionary objects," even unknown to themselves, if not still liable to death under Gorczkowsky's proclamation, are liable, whether men or women, to be imprisoned and beaten by sticks in public; and, as we know, the rich are liable to have their property confiscated without inquiry. The Austrian Government announces to the Central Council in Lombardy the gross sum which it requires, and the local municipalities have the privilege of assessing locally the distribution which the Central Council requires from them. Lombardy has cost Austria a great deal, in the military charges of reducing her to submission, and will probably continue to cost more than she did before 1848, because there is the incessant example of constitutional freedom and parliamentary representation in Piedmont, next door to the Lombards, who cannot speak, meet, read, nor do anything but pay taxes. However, the expenses of keeping down the Lombards are declining from what they were in 1848, and that is what the Austrian financier means when he says that "Lombardy is recovering."

In Hungary the nobles commenced, in 1825, to surrender the privileges which they had too long held; and although the constitution was still disfigured, even down to 1849, with distinctions belonging to a past age, few could be discontented with the progress which the country had made, and was still making, in practical freedom. Austria has more than once appeared, like all despotic Governments, as the patron of the working classes for crooked purposes. To extinguish a nationality this conservative power, *par excellence*, preserver of order and saviour of society, organised a savage communistic terrorism, which has found no parallel in revolutionary annals. The peasantry in Galicia were set to burn the mansions and to murder the nobles at a fixed price per head, paid by Government; and the same authority conceived the idea of freeing the peasants in Hun-

gary, in order that they might produce more, and that the Austrian exchequer might rake the surplus to itself. A new survey of the land-tax has been instituted; and, according to the last report, the tax is levied equally in the central province of Austria, where the land has a value like that in our own metropolitan county, and in Hungary, an agricultural and pastoral county, where there are still great grass plains which have been likened to the prairies of America. It is true that the land is fertile, and that the timber is of the best; but what is timber in its native woods before it is brought to market? Before Hungary could be taxable, acre for acre, equally with Austria Proper, she should have equal roads, and equal accessibility to markets. The impoverishing tendency of the new system is such, that even the peasantry feel little gratitude for the imperial favour. If by the exercise of military control, the semi-patriot, semi-profligate robbers, the Robin Hoods of Hungary, have been put down, the place of the robber is supplied by the tax-gatherer, who comes to demand, in an alien tongue and insolent fashion, the black mail of imperial exaction.

Now what prospect is there that this state of things will improve? Let us see. The deficit which was to have diminished this year, amounts to 95,000,000 florins; the reduction of the forces which was to have been carried out, has been abandoned; and the paper money which was to have been redeemed, has been subject to a new kind of manœuvre. It has been announced, that paper money received in payment of taxes will be subject to a discount of 15 per cent. This act on the part of the Austrian Government is as if a bank were to offer to receive its own promissory notes at a discount; but there is this difference—that the notes of the banker are voluntarily received by somebody in the first instance, whereas the issue of the Austrian paper is compulsory. Austria has been trying to borrow money, and for that purpose has made elaborate attempts to prove her credit sound. The pressure on the exchequer, therefore, which dictates this last swindling trick, must be excessive and urgent; yet Austria cannot forego her military expenses, nor can she of course waive her exactions upon Lombardy and Hungary—Lombardy and Hungary which abut close upon countries constitutional in their politics or free in their commerce, and stirred with the desire to shake off Absolutist oppressions. This is the weak point of Austria. She can go to war—notwithstanding the bankrupt exchequer, she *does* go to war; nay, despite the hatred it excites, she must grasp her provinces more cruelly in her claws, and must devour them more voraciously with her double beak. In proportion as Austria aspires to exercise her strength in Europe, she must make her own subjects hate her. Her two richest appurtenances, the Lombardo-Venetian provinces and the Hungarian kingdom, are her natural enemies—the natural allies of her enemies.

RADOWITZ AND PRUSSIA'S THIRD OPPORTUNITY.

Radowitz is dead. The statesman whose varied life had, at so important a period, been passed by the side of the Prussian throne, has been removed from the scene just as Prussia is once more called upon to select her destiny. Radowitz was a reformer who had sympathies that commanded a response in the bosom of Frederick William. His peculiar mind enabled him to form a link between the severed trinity of feudalism, German philosophy, and Anglican constitutionalism. His attempts at constitution-making, indeed, were more marred by mysticism than distinguished by that grasp of practicabilities which enables men to command the situation. But we must remember, that if Radowitz proposed, Frederick William disposed; that the statesman might not have been more practical, if he had proposed measures unlikely to be accepted by the monarch whose fiat was awaited. He was the equeiry that, in the rugged and unfamiliar path of reform, led the horse of a king with a timid heart and an uncertain head; and of course he was obliged to accommodate his guidance to the foibles of his charge. He has now gone, and should Frederick William once more need to take horse for that troublous path, he will perhaps miss his faithful equeiry.

For, unquestionably, Prussia has now a third opportunity, after having missed two of so promising a character. In 1848, when the spontaneous heaving of Europe loosened Germany to its foundations, the King of Prussia had the first of these three opportunities. The way had been

prepared for him by many measures of internal reform, and especially by two. Hardenberg's emancipation of the land and the peasants had conciliated the affections of the multitude to the throne, and consolidated the internal strength of Prussia. And the military organisation of the country, which renders the people and the army nearly one, also furnished that political system which, under the hands of a strong popular Government constitutes the most powerful form of national strength. The Zollverein had already drawn round Prussia many of the minor states. Liberals in other states of Germany also regarded Frederick William as a man who would be prepared to introduce amongst them, if not democratic principles, at all events some such regulated freedom as that which had been familiarized to him by his visits to England. We are inclined to suppose that Frederick William would gladly have been the great constitutional leader of Germany, but his intellect, courage, and will were not strong enough for the place: his hands could not find the heart to relinquish their hold on familiar prerogatives, and after illusory love-letters to his "beloved Berliners," his cowardice took the common form of cruelty; he cannonaded the Berliners for their too demonstrative sense of their own political existence, interrupted his own Parliament in its constitutional work, and broke with the revolution which he might have directed. The first opportunity was gone.

Another was offered. In the little state of Hesse-Cassel, an impotent Prince, literally backed by only one single individual, attempted the most impudent revolution which despotism ever sanctioned. He broke the constitution which Hesse-Cassel had enjoyed. The entire nation—the chambers, the judges, the upper classes, and the lower—the whole population unanimously appealed from the revolutionary King and his Minister, Hassenpflug, to the constitution and to the law. The Prince and his Minister fled. Austria advanced with an army to reinstate those two agitators: Prussia advanced on the other side to support the constitution. The armies of Prussia and Austria met—shots were exchanged—Prussia compromised—the Prince was re-enthroned—the constitution was crushed. On that small ground of Hesse-Cassel, Prussia might have fought the battle of Constitutional law against Absolute lawlessness, and the King might once more have been recognised as the true leader of the German people. But the second opportunity was lost.

The third now offers itself. By the accidents of Russo-Turkish disputation in the East, coupled with the common European sense that Russia has overstrained her insolence, to say nothing of the circumstances which raised questions between Austria and other thrones and their peoples, there is every prospect that the whole of Europe will once more be cast loose for the strongest to take the government. Who shall be the strongest? The answer of that question would be the prediction of the victory in that war, of the rulers that will remain after the storm. Prussia may be one of those rulers. This time, at all events, nations which were laggard before—England most especially—now perceive that the contest which was raging between Absolutism and Democracy must be resumed for universal revolution or universal tyranny, unless constitutional law can assert its presence in the field, and can reduce the other two extremes to submission. France, strangely as she is situated internally, unites with England to combat the great bravo of lawless despotism. Europe therefore is taking sides, and Prussia is asked on which side she will stand. The question is important for Europe, but still more important for Prussia. The King might now recover his good name and the credit he once had. In the interval since the lost opportunities of '48 and '50, Austria has developed her attempts to league Southern Germany against Prussia. Austria has also proved how little sympathy she has with Germany at all, and how precarious is her own hold on that heterogeneous empire, which she will be unable to keep from disruption should her armies be employed about other work. Austria is at once a rival whom Prussia might rejoice to be rid of, and an antagonist whom it would be easy to crush. Should King Frederick William discern the true bearing of the alliance with the Western Powers, he would, *ipso facto*, become, throughout all German ground stronger than Austria, the non-German power of Germany; he would become, *ipso facto*, the leading sovereign in that

federation. The opportunity is offered to him to take his place as the constitutional leader of Germany without compromising himself in relations with any Uncle John of Austria, or trafficking with democratic transactions. It is strange that Russia's opportunity should open just as she loses Frederick William's old equerry in the path of reform. But though we must regret that faithful, if doubtful leader, we may console ourselves with the reflection, that perhaps the statesman who had grown stiff in old fashions of statesmanship anterior to '48 and '50, might not be the best of guides in the troubled path of '54.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

THE new number of the *Westminster Review*, published this day, contains a valuable contribution to the discussion of a subject which has hitherto been consigned to the melancholy lucubrations of *doctrinaires* in theory and borough-mongers in practice. When we have briefly indicated the scope and substance of the paper to which we desire to call the serious attention of our readers, it will, we think, be allowed, whatever opinions may be formed of the writer's conclusions, that his treatment of the subject is at once broad and practical, comprehensive and direct; his principles generous and positive, and his point of view large and statesmanlike. We reserve our own criticism of details, while we present such an abstract of the article as may facilitate to the general reader that attentive consideration which its substantial merits, no less than the time and place of its appearance, appear to demand.

The writer, after adverting to the causes of the quietness with which the question of reform is now approached, notices the distrust of the working classes which still haunts those above them. Taking this distrust, however, as a fact which can only be gradually got rid of, he proceeds to discuss the question with the fact taken into account. First, however, he argues that the question ought not to be postponed; for that we are in more favourable circumstances for its discussion than the inevitable periodic crises of our commercial system are likely to permit for a long time to come. Of these crises a theory is given in a note on principles we cannot now stay to discuss, but which may justly claim most careful attention.

Next are considered the several principles or devices on which proposals for reform have been made to rest;—"representation co-extensive with direct taxation," household suffrage, property qualification in general, and the natural equality of men. The practical difficulties attending the latter basis are admitted, while the truth of the principle itself is maintained, and its place in the theory of reform pointed out. The qualities a Government must have in order to be strong and stable are next considered, and then a question is propounded on the answer to which nearly all the details of reform depend, viz.—Is representation to be that of classes or persons? If of classes or *interests*, then inequalities in relation to numbers are no blemish; if of persons or *rights*, then inequalities are injustice. But then, pursues the writer, this again depends on the general purpose of our legislation. If it is a simple defence of *rights*, and is to be of a nature to apply to all men alike, and impartially, then the representation ought to be that of persons; and this, it is asserted, it ought eventually to become. But ours is now a legislation in a great degree for *interests*, and as long as it remains so we shall have, by the force of circumstances, an unequal and confused representation of classes. This kind of representation, as well the principles on which it rests, are rejected as final bases; while, however, the practical necessity of bearing with them for the present is admitted.

But if classes are to be represented, we ought, it is urged, to admit not only the wealthy but the poor, who are now scarcely represented at all; and we ought to admit them not merely as voters, when they may be swamped by superior numbers or intimidation, but by means of boroughs specially selected, so as to afford them members capable of speaking in their own sense. Twenty or thirty "working men's boroughs, enfranchised by universal suffrage," not, like the Tower Hamlets, too large for them to work, nor, like Stamford, overridden by a single landlord, are the means by which it is suggested they may be admitted to a voice in the Legislature, at once effective for good to all classes, and calculated to give no alarm to any.

While the ballot is rejected as an ineffectual defence to the voter, it is proposed to repeal all laws against bribery, on the ground that laws which have evidently but little public sentiment to support them, and have failed for so many generations, are clearly useless, while probably they prevent the growth of the public sentiment which could alone suppress the practice. We could afford to spare a useless law, and had better do so, than that the maintenance of it should expose law to the ignominy of perpetual failure. Bribery is shown historically to have increased just as Parliament has admitted *interests*, as distinguished from *rights*, to become the subject-matter of legislation; and until this great cause of its existence is got rid of, it seems unlikely the practice should be suppressed by mere law.

The next proposal is to effect an entire revision of the electoral system every ten years, or, rather, to convert the existing limited franchise into a trust of only ten years' duration, renewable, with needful modifications, at the expiration of each decennial period; during each such period it is proposed to require that at least two general elections should have taken place. On this decennial revision reliance is placed for a gradual purification of the system, and a gradual drawing of it nearer to true principles.

After noticing various plans of reform, and the books in which they are proposed or advocated, the writer turns to an entirely different view of the subject. He asserts that improvements in the process of drafting from the mass of the community the persons to be entrusted with the making of laws must fail in great part of their purpose, unless the practice and functions of Parliament itself be reformed also. The enormous mass of the private bill department of legislation is pointed out, together with the vast evils which it entails. It overpowers the strength of Parliament, absorbs its attention, degrades its intellectual character, unfits it for the calm consideration of great principles, and forces on it the duties of a legislation to be effected in haste, confusion, and on insufficient acquaintance with facts. To individuals the injustice of the system is what would be felt if every case of litigation in our law-courts had to pass through the Parliament; and the plainest principles of individual and public liberty are violated by the Legislature still retaining in its own hands the determination of cases which have become generic in their character, and which ought to be determined elsewhere by other authorities, on principles laid down by the Legislature and known to all.

To remedy these evils as well as to supply a serious want in our constitution, which has occurred through the invasion of our ancient local institutions, it is then proposed to divide the United Kingdom into districts of four or five counties each, and to give to each a local legislature, to which should be committed the investigation and primary enactment of all private bills, and also such matters of local legislation as should affect only the district itself. On this plan the Supreme Legislature would be relieved of all that lowers its capabilities and embarrasses its action, and would be occupied in the settlement of general principles, and in superintending and controlling the application of them through the local legislatures.

We cannot further extend this notice by adverting to the arguments by which these several proposals are sustained: for them, and for much we have not been able to notice at all, we must send our readers to the article itself.

THE LAST REQUEST OF THE CIVIL SERVANTS.

PUBLIC discussion has had its legitimate effect in compelling Ministers to abandon the absurd and unjust system hitherto in force respecting the Superannuation Fund of the Civil Servants; or rather, we should say, it has had half its legitimate effect, in compelling Ministers to abandon that absurd system, but we fear without compelling them to adopt a more rational system. They talk of a mere abandonment, giving up the absurdity without an effective substitute. Should they do that their conduct will be something like the behaviour of a woman who has been convinced that her conduct has not been quite correct, and immediately cuts the friends who remonstrate with her.

The general character of the present system is well known. In 1829 the Ministers of the Crown

conceived the idea of making the Civil Servants contribute towards an allowance made to them on superannuation. It was agreed that they should contribute one-half, and they were rated at 5 per cent. on salaries above 100*l.*, and at 2½ per cent. below that amount. The old salaries were not disturbed. As the allowance, however, is very small, the Civil Servants usually delay as long as possible the sentence of superannuation; most of them dying in harness. This is the case with the new men, with those whose appointments date subsequently to 1829. The effect has been that those who contribute to the Superannuation Fund receive very little in return for their contribution: they pay for the superannuation of those who pay nothing; and they also pay unacknowledged tax to the State. For instead of forming a fund, as the name professes, what the State does is simply to pocket the money. Now if the money had been really funded, it would not only have paid for superannuations, but it would have formed a provident fund to meet pensions for the dependents of the Civil Servants, and which would have sufficed to provide for the pensions for all time to come without any further assessment. So that the modern Civil Servants who are taxed and get so little, provide for the past, and for the indefinite future, but not for themselves. Ariosto, the Italian poet, who adopted the device of bees smoked out from their hive with the motto "*Sic vos non vobis*," might have been a Civil Servant.

There is now no difference of opinion as to the injustice of this arrangement, and it is understood that the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to relinquish the assessment of the 5 or 2½ per cent., and to grant pensions of superannuation for Civil Servants out of the bounty of the Crown. The general committee of the Civil Servants object. They say, very justly, that the service has become used to pay the deductions, and that there is no necessity to abandon the assessment; that the fund already accumulated in the hand of Government gives them a moral right to be considered in disposing of that accumulation; and they desire that while assessment should be continued, the proceeds should be devoted to form a provident fund.

If the deduction were relinquished, the virtual effect would be a gratuitous rise of salary, in the proportion of 2½ per cent. for the lower salaries, and of 5 per cent. for the higher. Now this would be not a very great advantage; for while it would be a sort of Christmas gratuity to the less provident, it would only be a trifle more to the income of the more provident, and would do nothing towards that which the service most desires—a safe, certain, and well regulated provident fund.

Mr. William Farr, of the Registrar-General's Office, has shown how an insurance may be provided by annual payments suited to the circumstances of the contributor, and modified in this particular manner,—that if the payment should be temporarily suspended or cease, still the actual value of the amount accrued by accumulation might be secured for its ultimate purpose. Thus, a person who made an annual payment to secure for himself an annuity under certain conditions, another payment to secure an allowance in sickness, and a third payment to secure an allowance for his survivors, would be sure of receiving a pension to some amount apportioned to his actual payments—although sickness might have disabled him from contributing his payment; and he would secure the allowance to his survivors, although sickness or superannuation had cut off his payment on that score. In other words, Mr. Farr shows how savings might be laid up, and distributed for three purposes, with an absolute appropriation for them, in lieu of the present plan of insurance, which is calculated on the probability that if payments be stopped the accumulated amount will be forfeited. These tables are peculiarly suited to the Civil Service, since the risk of superannuation and cessation are comparatively small. The narrow amount of the salaries in the Civil Service, however tends to check any voluntary insurance, and a voluntary insurance is less desired, for this reason. One of the charges upon the civil servant consists of the claims of widows and children; and this is a claim which few men of humanity can resist, notwithstanding the more intimate but remoter claims on behalf of the contributor's own wife or child at some indefinite period. Now every man would probably be inclined to insure for his wife and children, if he could be certain, in the first place, of being protected from that pressing claim in the mean time,

and also if he were sure that the custom of charitable contributions would not be continued. At present he counts upon a kind of higgledy-piggledy chance. He would much rather reduce it to certainty; but he must have the consent of the whole before the full benefit of the change can be obtained. We are not without grounds in saying that this is the prevalent feeling of the service; since the general committee have made the inquiry of all the public servants in London and Dublin, and have obtained an affirmative response of 88 per cent. of the whole number. The minority of 12 per cent. is variously distributed into those who made no return from absence or sickness, those who prefer the present system, those who would be glad of the simple release of the reductions, and others of unclassified opinions. The proposed plan of insurance would be guaranteed by the actual accumulations; that which Government would contribute would be certainty and uniformity; and the request for so much assistance on the part of Government from its own servants can scarcely be disregarded by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

YOUNG TORYDOXY.

It seems we committed a mistake in considering seriously the position in the religious world assumed by our young Tory contemporary. We humbly ask pardon for having indulged the illusion for a moment. It is plain that its professions on the subject of religion had no purpose, except what belongs to an apocryphal faction; that they constituted not a confession of faith, but an apology for a hit at the Coalition, whom it is not our business to defend.

The retort in the *Press* of last week leaves no doubt as to this. No doubt our young Tory friends are quite right in turning away from the gravest discussion with a schoolboy's scoff. We are not ashamed to express regret, for ourselves, that we have been betrayed into supposing that they were in earnest—even on the subject of religion.

POLITICAL MORALITY.*

ONE's enemies don't often write books; but it is a great advantage when they do; for then the assailed meets face to face, and can deal with the hoarded hate, and all it can suggest, of all whom he has conquered—or forgiven. Some gentleman—as a politician, we suspect he belongs to the tea party—has written a book against Mr. Disraeli; not a light guerilla pamphlet, but an artillery-division book—a solid quarto, of about 640 massive pages. This is "*A Literary and Political Biography*," addressed to the new generation;—the object being to "expose" the real character of Mr. Disraeli, and to point a disastrous moral to his sinister career. The writer acknowledges that he is terrified by the cheers with which the Oxford under-graduates saluted Vivian Grey when he entered the theatre to receive his degree; and this painfully proper person appeals to the cheerers against their idol—who, sure of the affection of the advancing, is supposed to be able to afford indifference to the doubts of the receding, generation. Such a warning, based upon the political application of the thrilling story of Tom who didn't care, is worthy of a schoolmaster's views of the exigencies of contemporary politics; and the style of the exhortation is the style of one who has always been a boy among men.

We are not aware whether the Peelite party, who have to face the session with but one dread—the dread of Mr. Disraeli—have put up a pedagogue to print this pretentious lecture. But it is very certain that, as Mr. Disraeli's power will, next session, depend on the point of what he says, not on his own character for virtue, a solemn silliness like this book will but aggravate the sting of the sarcasm, and the world's enjoyment of it.

Whatever Mr. Disraeli's crimes, we are not participators; and if the Tories cannot defend their adopted and their champion, then he is defenceless. But on the question raised, in reference to Mr. Disraeli—What is political morality?—we have to object to singling out an individual for a reproach due to a system and a

* The Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli, M.P. *A Literary and Political Biography*, addressed to the New Generation. Bentley. 1854. 16s.

class. Personally, Mr. Disraeli does not afflict us, either as a writer or as a politician: and it is odd that the serene essayist of these complacent 640 pages has undertaken to guard youth against the seductiveness of a writer whom he regards only as a writer of *persiflage*, and of a politician who is only a "phosphorescent" satirist. We cannot see Mr. Disraeli's sins. His assailant supposes that Mr. Disraeli has carried personal and political satire to an excess unprecedented in our history: and such a supposition is natural in a person whose knowledge of Parliamentary history enables him to assert that Gerard Hamilton was the only man who ever made a successful first speech in the Commons. We have great faith in the usefulness of political insolence; we believe the horror of a *mot* is not less effectual than a knowledge of the law of impeachment in keeping statesmen in order. We are also quite sure that a satirist cannot succeed, unless he happens to be right; and that a libel does no harm, beyond a momentary mischief, if the assertion be not true. But it cannot be denied, that of all the wit ever manifested in Parliamentary and political debate, the wit of Mr. Disraeli is the most polished. He was never once called to order in his most excited—and they were perhaps malignant—analysis of the *bizarre* character and coarse career of Peel; and in republishing those novels and sketches, which the awful author of the "*Biography*" denounces, in decent sorrow, as disgraceful for their poisoned personalities, it is remarkable that Mr. Disraeli has not, in a deliberate reversal, seen occasion to alter a syllable. This last circumstance, indeed, should have been considered by our author, were he not too sad to be syllogistic, as the complete refutation of one of his main propositions—that Mr. Disraeli must be a political profligate to consent to lead Tories without believing in Toryism. Bolingbroke, this writer says, could not be a real Tory leader, because he was an infidel, consequently incredulous of the Church creed, on which Toryism depends. Now it happens that no Tory leader, except Percival, has, since 1800, given any clear proof that he believed in a tittle of the tenets of the Church he upheld. But, at least, it must be admitted that Mr. Disraeli is the most honest of all these Protestant and Tory chiefs; for whatever the facility with which he has accepted the position a caste of Crétins, needing him, were compelled to offer him, there can be no doubt whatever that in all his works he has expressed with the utmost candour his profound contempt, in principle and detail, for Church and State. He has justified the Jews for the crucifixion: he has ridiculed the aristocracy: he has analysed the Venetian constitution; and he has declared that in England there are "two nations." The great error of those who study such a biography as that of Mr. Disraeli is in applying to him a set of moral rules which would be even only partially applicable to a Burke or a Canning—native adventurers. Mr. Disraeli is not merely a professed adventurer, but he is a professed foreign adventurer. Thomas Paine, in a French assembly, was more French than Mr. Disraeli is in an English assembly. "I, Sir, have no hereditary or class convictions," he told the House of Commons: and all his superiority, as a critic of politics, springs from the fact that he can have no political passions, being no patriot—that he can have no political prejudices, having no local principles. This superiority sustains him against all charges of sycophantic inconsistency in alternating his partialities among parties. His sole object, as a professed foreign adventurer, who never disguises his notions of the degradation of the country in which his lot is cast, is to gain power—or, if not power, fame; purely, if possible: but at all events power or fame: and when the Tories elect him to the captaincy they, not he, are disgraced—they do not use him—he uses them. He told the world when he was only nineteen that it was his oyster; and he has ever since kept the sword wherewith to reach the fish—or the pearl—flashing in the world's eyes.

The prolonged and decorous howl of this Biography could only be excused by the display of proof that Mr. Disraeli is a sinner among saints—a solitary black sheep among a mild flock. This genteel purist appears to take for granted, like so many innocent Englishmen, that their "*House*" is "*in order*," and that an adventurous burglar, of unroutine manners, has no business in it. But in estimating both the immorality and the danger of Mr. Disraeli, we must inquire—what has he done? An "*if*" in history

is the resource of eccentric historians. If Alcibiades had made a hit at Syracuse, Greece, not Rome, might have been mistress of the world. If Montcalm, in America, or Lally, in India, had conquered the English, there never would have been a French Revolution, and England would have become a third-rate power. But if there had been no Mr. Disraeli, would British politics have been purer? Was it Mr. Disraeli who retained the Protectionists, selfish and stupid; or did he only turn to account the already-created Marquises of Carabas—Lord George Bentinck and Lord Derby? Was he the cause of the electoral corruption which was exhibited by the country at the last general election? Mr. Disraeli, clearly, is the consequence, not the creator of a system; only in a very bad system indeed could Mr. Disraeli, with such tactics as he has adopted, have been a success. A state is generally worthy of its statesmen, a people of its heroes. Our Brutus attributes the condition, and assigns the future, of Rome to Cæsar, as Madame de Staël believed French political scoundrelism and servitude the effects of the inhuman genius of Bonaparte. A sounder view, however, is, that Mr. Disraeli and Mr. George Hudson are the creatures of political and social corruption—perhaps also the victims of it. States—says this author, who refers, with schoolboy acuteness, to Greece and Rome—States sink when public men forget the laws of public morality and private virtue. So they do: but not for that reason; it is because the public applaud these improper heroes. Mr. Disraeli's career is a career of shifts, and shams, and combinations; but he has, in some sense, redeemed his own errors by the keenest anatomy of the want of intellect and the want of principle of all the contemporary statesmen whose careers have been like his own. This shocked moralist complains that Mr. Disraeli, as a writer, has made Rigby ridiculous, and as a politician, is always sneering and laughing at "our most distinguished" public men. Why should he not? Rigby was Gil Blas; and the punishment of human contempt was to be inflicted, not by 640 pages of inflated rebuke, such as this, but by a Le Sage's sketch, such as Coningsby's. And why should Mr. Disraeli be immolated, as the Peelites are perpetually demanding, on the altar of Sir Robert Peel? This enlightened nation is partial to that statesman's name: he wronged parties, but he righted a people. But, if it be true, as our sages tell us, that the constitution is only to be carried on by "party Government," are parties to forgive traitors? Sir Robert Peel, several successive times, betrayed the confidence of honest gentlemen: and he merited every castigation which he received: and, at least, not for him is to be claimed delicacy in the rebukes of opponents, for on two occasions, to the two most distinguished of modern House of Commons' personages, he, himself, had resort to dastard and vulgar satire,—he hinted in 1828 that Canning kept office because Canning was poor, and his only reply in 1846 to the magnificent—and as long as party orations are read, immortal—attacks of Mr. Disraeli, was the suggestion that in 1841 Mr. Disraeli would have been very glad to take office from him. Who are Mr. Disraeli's victims now? Sir James Graham, who is not only as unprincipled, but dull; Lord Palmerston, who would be more dangerous but for Mr. Disraeli; Lord Aberdeen, who needs criticism; and Lord John Russell, who was only saved, from 1846 to 1851, from worse disasters by Mr. Disraeli's opposition. Are any of these men so loftily pure, or so palpably wise, that we could do without the relentless and daring penetration of Mr. Disraeli? We do not believe that, in regard to any of these competitors, he is influenced by private hate. At least, he need not envy them; he faces Mr. Gladstone, as the second hero, in the shrewdest assembly in the world; and, even if personal hate were at work, we should not think less of a man who is a good hater. Undoubtedly, it improves the piquancy of debates;—and if the State is being ruined, let us at least be amused.

The moral, then, of this elaborately announced, and intimidatingly pretentious, work, glances from Mr. Disraeli to the class among whom he is only one actor. And since the public, as in regard to Sir Robert Peel, is pleased with men in proportion to the benefits they confer, a consideration of Mr. Disraeli's career is well calculated to increase his popularity. In the first place, he has amused and is likely to amuse the nation. In the next place, whatever he has done among factions and confederations, for or against them, he has served

the people in confounding and confusing "Government by party." His books have had a vast influence in possessing the people with a proper conception of the delusive history of the Whig party. And his speeches from 1847 to 1851—ending with his Budget—have succeeded in destroying the Protectionist, or Tory, party. And his personal position and potency, when next session opens, will be a complete demonstration that Parliament must be very much in need of Reform.

VINCE.

THE GOVERNING CLASSES.

No. XVI.

THE DUKE OF BEDFORD, K.G.

I ONCE met that celebrated political critic, the "intelligent foreigner." He was desirous of studying our free institutions; and I, proud of the privileges of a Great Briton, obtained him "orders" for the galleries of both Houses. It was a double debate night: both Houses were sitting; and the Lords sat late,—there was no opera that evening; and our noble aristocracy were consequently being so good as to arrange the destinies of one of our finest colonies. We got first into the Commons, the People's House of which we are all so gratified to speak, and I pointed out, in succession, to the intelligent foreigner, all the young Lords and Honourables with whose names I had the pleasure of being acquainted. To information of this kind, the intelligent foreigner, puzzled, as he always is, merely replied "Ah." I then directed his attention to other Members, such as Mr. Bright, Mr. Osborne, and various plain Mistery—I am afraid I even said "Cobden," "Ricardo," "Smith," and so on; and, apparently, not struck by the sight of these far-famed deputies, the sagacious but perplexed foreigner still confined his comment to an ejaculation hardly worthy of his well-known intellect. When I found that I had shown all the notabilities,—those whom I knew,—I proposed that we should have a look at the Upper House. Fortunately for my talented but not loquacious friend, this chamber was full,—Lord Derby was speaking, Lord Lyndhurst had been, the Duke was expected to speak, and Lord Brougham had spoken several times. Here, also, I named all the names, and with a facility which convinced the strangers around me, who grew respectful, and made inquiries beginning with "Sir," that I must at least be a valet to a peer. But I made no impression on the intelligent foreigner. His eyes expanded; he was wondering with his usual vigour. The division came, the House decided that the colony could not possibly judge of its own affairs, particularly not whether the Governor was an assassin, though he had hung ten per cent. of them—and we were turned out. The intelligent foreigner was tired; and we walked home, being bullied out of the building by policemen, who incessantly discovered that we were in the Peers' way. Timid at the prolonged taciturnity of my companion, and afraid, lest he should have been led to unfavourable notions of our free institutions, by the slight respect which the police had exhibited to me, a freeman, I did not venture to put a decided question to him for some time. He, at last, having made up his mind, answered thus:—(I do not attempt his picturesque English)—"The difference between the House of Commons and the House of Lords is, that in the House of Commons only half the deputies have small heads, and that in the House of Lords all the deputies have small heads."

Struck by this remark, which applied to our illustrious aristocracy, who so patriotically practice silence and stares in the Commons in order to fit themselves for the duties of their rank in the Lords, I subsequently studied, with peculiar interest, this feature in our institutions,—the small heads of our Governing Classes: and as I found that the intelligent foreigner was right, as he invariably is when out of his own country, I was enabled, possessed of this fact, to account for many things which had previously puzzled, and, indeed,—as I fully appreciate the sentiment of that gushing poet, the Right Honourable Lord John Manners, with reference to our old nobility,—distressed me. This was a fact which answered the question—Why so few of our noble families, though they are all the ornaments of

society and the glory of our country (whatever the town may say), obtain distinction in the world,—why even in their own political world they have to hire statesmen as they hire cooks? Can it, indeed, be true that our aristocracy is worn out,—just like all preceding and contemporary aristocracies? It is a humiliating conclusion; but every physiologist is a democrat, and it is to be feared that this conclusion is not to be resisted. Small heads are a beauty, as also are small extremities; small heads, like small ears, parts of the head, are the evidences of breed, or of what is called "blood;" and it is obvious that the physical refinement which is the characteristic of an idle class is a proof of mental degeneracy. The man who founds a house must be a first-rate man, and his characteristics continue long through his race; but as soon as the house gets settled it gets dull:—strength only coming after struggle,—brains with labour. Clever men have seldom clever sons, for the sons have place and fortune ready made, with no need for effort: and how can we expect a clever man to have a clever great-great-grandson, unless the earlier descendants spend all the money, which the British aristocracy provide against by entail? And when three or four generations go on, reposed in facile grandeur, the big-headed founder is represented by a little-headed peer; if he is a tenth or twelfth peer, probably slightly cracked, somewhat cretin, and tolerably imbecile. Some aristocracies hold out a long time. The Roman and the French kept themselves fighting, and in tolerably good mental order, until the Marius and the Richelieu period, when it became a fashion to be, not heroes, but dandies. The Venetians were magnificent at two periods: when they were fighting for their State's pre-eminence in Italy, and when they had to fight for their own existence,—a struggle for life being as good as any other struggle to cultivate the mind. For a similar reason cleverer nobles went back to Paris with the Bourbons than fought against the Republic with the Duke of Brunswick. For a similar reason the Orleans Princes were always cleverer than the Bourbon Princes; as, for a similar reason, the youngest son of a peer, dull dog as he is, is generally not so dull a dog as the eldest son; while peers' daughters are always cleverer as women (particularly poor peers' daughters) than peers' sons are as men. It is well known that the Whig peers of England are ordinarily cleverer than the Tory peers; and the palpable reason is, that the Whigs were so long in opposition—an opposition being invariably more brilliant than a Ministry; and a Radical, like Sir William Molesworth or Bernal Osborne, caught and converted into Conservatives, ceasing to be talented the moment they get on the right of Mr. Speaker. The English aristocracy are comparatively fortunate in some preservatives. They hunt, shoot, ride, and walk a good deal; and, in that way, they somewhat counteract the vicious results of their birth and youth,—born of women who are luxuriated into the delicacy of Eastern sultanas—and bred at Universities where the countenances of the preceptors and the hints of the immortal classics drive the honestest youth to bitter beer, tobacco, Curacoa punch, and a season in Paris or Vienna—London society finishing the education as a liqueur concludes a dinner. Then there is some slight mental education to stimulate into partial exploration faculties flaccid with excessive fortune. He must be a hopelessly idiotic young man who does not get some social knowledge from French novels, and some political sagacity from a Session of Lord John and Disraeli, Bright and Bernal Osborne; and large numbers of the Governing Classes learn French from ballet girls, and get elected by close boroughs. Our male aristocracy do move about in the open air, and do hear or see a great deal of politics;—all their "governors" being political conspirators, on one side or other; and the result is, at least, that our male aristocracy are well made, though they are weak, and can say a little—all of them—though only one or two of them can talk. But if a class is to be clever it must think: and the art of thinking is not practised, because it can be done without, by our peers and our detrimentals,—the latter being, at all events, tolerably sure of a place after forty, and up to forty calculating on a heiress. There are two classes of idiots: the positive pauper and the positive peer: the wild weed and the over-cultivated flower

being equally worthless. Only the middle classes are compelled to think,—by trades requiring thought and observation of men:—only the medium oat will nourish,—only the medium rose will smell. And the cleverest classes are necessarily the classes whose professions are specially intellectual,—the solicitor, the barrister, the physician, the actuary, and the journalist. There are, certainly, instances of clever peers, even of long descent. There is the Earl of Derby; but it is observable he belongs to an Opposition family, and that he was trained as a Whig. But the instances, (modern) of intellectual aristocrats are very rare: and may generally be pronounced accidents—like seven-legged Merinoes, or modest Frenchmen:—Derbies being possible among earls, just as a Burns is among ploughboys. What would become of the British aristocracy but that wives are repeatedly imported from the city, and that the “blood” peeresses pass winters in Italy and Paris, it would be impossible to say. Probably the Bishops might be occasionally permitted to talk for more than ten minutes per bishop a time. For the sake of its influence on the State, the Church might be disposed to agree that, speaking with reference to physical laws, immorality is desirable for an aristocracy.

General reflections like these are fully borne out by observing that the higher the grade—that is, the longer the descent—in the Peerage, the less is the intellect. There are more clever barons than viscounts; more clever viscounts than earls; more clever earls than marquises; more clever marquises than dukes—there being only one duke who can speak English, and he (Newcastle) being the first born duke who has been able to do so since his ancestor, the managing Pelham, used to make the tapestry shudder with his blunders. The ducal condition in this country is, indeed, very melancholy. We have several dukes whose houses were first vigorously founded by royal bastards—and an aristocrat's bastard is always cleverer than an aristocrat's legitimate son, for Falconbridge's reasons; and we have one truly British duke who descends from a solid Dutchman,—the house having supplied two clever men (younger sons)—Lord William and Lord George Bentinck. But a frightful fate seems to have overcome all our dukes, except the present Duke of Newcastle, who has had family reasons to keep off the usual mental sloth of the class. Not a duke has openly participated in our political history since the last Duke of Newcastle did what he liked with his own, and since the present Duke of Norfolk, eight years ago, proposed, with an ingenuity which exhibited the characteristics of his order, that the corn-laws should be tempered with curry powder. The dukes would appear to hide their heads in their coronets; or, at any rate, to agree with Pulteney, that heads of parties are like heads of snakes—best carried on by the tails. A duke occasionally gets into office; but we saw, in the recent case of the Duke of Northumberland, what are the notions with which he enters on his functions, and how absolutely a duke looks to his Stafford “to—ah—in short—in point of fact—see after what is going on” (thus said the duke). A duke is, no doubt, rather a tremendous social personage. One travels, if one is of democratic opinions, with great awe through the Dukery—down in the midland counties; and one writes, if one is devoted to our glorious constitution, with great vigour to the papers, when, a duke dying, and his successor is hurrying to the deathbed, the brutal directors will not absolutely stop an express train, bearing the new duke, at the most convenient, though it be not a time-tabled station. The dukes are humourously rich; even the late Duke of Newcastle would have been rich if he hadn't done what he liked with his own; and the present Duke of Buckingham came into possession of a few counties and a dozen or two of palaces. (In a parenthesis it may be remarked, to sustain the theory suggested, that the moment the Marquis of Chandos was ruined, he discovered capacity, and becoming insolvent, was at once detected to be clever.) Every duke owns a hand of close boroughs: can affect a pack of boroughs; and indirectly wields enormous social and political influence. You may laugh at dukes: all statesmen do; but the first thing every statesman does, also,

on being sent for by the Queen, is to send for a duke. No man can undertake to form a Government, unless he can play a couple of dukes: they are the coloured cards of the political game.

The Duke of Bedford is a most imposing duke. He can shut up Covent-garden, and he can form a coalition. He could pull down half Bloomsbury: and he did pull down Lord Derby. Wonderful man. Who is he? Nobody knows. Did anybody ever see the Duke of Bedford? Nobody. Did anybody ever hear of him? Never: until we, self-governed people, were informed, this time last year, that he had altered our history, destroyed the Whigs and destroyed the Tories, and formed a coalition. Surprising person. What should we have done without the Duke of Bedford? Towards the close of 1852 politics were at a dead lock: Mr. Disraeli had come in with the pantomime season; but his wand had lost its power,—not one of the tricks would work,—and the last thing men concluded was, that Pantaloon and Clown, in the shape of Aberdeen and Graham, would have kicked Harlequin Derby and Columbine Walpole—bewildered with turning—into the gallery. But the Duke of Bedford stepped from the clouds like the Genius who always comes down in a car with a run at the end of the piece: and—whirr—everybody was dancing with everybody, Mr. Osborne was on the top of Lord John's head, Sir William Molesworth pitching hysteric summersaults, and the curtain fell on the most exhilarating tableaux of modern politics,—a blue fire serpent squaring a red flame circle. The Duke of Bedford must be a profound man—for a duke. Solomon was shrewd in offering to each mamma the half of the putative child. The Rabelaisian gentleman was knowing who decided the dispute about the oyster by according to each disputant a shell, and himself masticating the fish. But the Duke of Bedford was the first who acted on the celebrated hint of a perplexed leader—that if the great families would only agree to share, they could both enjoy the plunder of the nation at the same time. But why did he not, why does he not, come forward for the national thanks?—for isn't the Coalition popular, on the peace-and-quietness principle? Is he merely the John Doe of the political cause; or is he a *bonâ fide* personage? And if he is a reality, how is it that he has such great political power as to twist European history? Why a Bedford more than a Norfolk? He can't be cleverer than Norfolk: a duke, as a duke, is undistinguishable from another duke. Yet on consideration he may be a cleverer man. Is it not a British belief that the house of Russell is “illustrious?” Is not their name written on the banner of Civil and Religious Liberty? Ah, yes. Let us not forget the glorious traditions of this family—a family which, as Macaulay said, incorporate and incarnate the magnificent principles of Milton and of Locke—a family which gave two martyrs, a neck to a Stuart and a throat to Courvoisier. Certainly the Stuart martyr took French money, and sneaked out of a party responsibility. Certainly, the family is rich by the plunder of Church lands, which once sustained the poor. Certainly, the family produced the Lord John Russell, who deluded a trusting people with the Reform Bill of 1832, who maintained an alien Church in Ireland, who wrote the Durham letter, and who Russianised Europe. Certainly the family hold an odd number of rotten boroughs; and from 1846 to 1852 insisted on a monopoly for its clan of the whole patronage of Great Britain. Certainly the family was intensely Protectionist and therefore depredatory of the people, up to 1846, and has at this moment sighing souvenirs of a fixed duty. And certainly this illustrious family never produced a better man than the Earl of Bedford, who conducted Philip of Spain to an English Queen's arms, a nobler man than the Lord William Russell, who took French gold, or an abler man than the Lord John Russell, who led the Whig party into a *cul-de-sac*. But it, nevertheless, believes it is an illustrious family—and is believed to be an illustrious family; and that tradition may have some effect in sustaining the intellect of its successive dukes; not to mention the invigorating animus imparted by a constant fear lest the Pope should recover England, and repossess himself of Woburn. There are circumstances which may distinguish the Duke of Bedford

from other faineant dukes: and, no doubt, a Duke of Bedford is politically more powerful than other dukes, so long as he has a brother who leads, not merely a party, but the House of Commons.

But should not the fact that there is a Duke of Bedford, of whom we know nothing, influencing vitally the movements of the state machine, suggest caution in our conclusions that we have progressed beyond the day when a Sarah Churchill, or a Mrs. Masham, or any other old woman governed a queen who governed the country? We hear, from Great Britons who have no chance of getting a consulship, a good deal about the evils of secret diplomacy. But is the Foreign Office the only one of our Government bureaux, whose agencies, and whose policy is secret and mysterious? Secret diplomacy is only a branch of reserved Government; the evil we suffer from, is the evil of—Secret History. The moral of the Palmerston episode in the Coalition annals is instructive to those who have faith in our political system; the whole incident is ruinous to our political pretensions. In a “recess,” when there is no Parliament, and therefore no Ministerial responsibility even in appearance, and when the people of England know as little of the causes of the war into which they are drifting as the people of Russia know of the causes of the war into which they are dragged, a principal Minister retires from office; and after a dismal interval, in which the moanings of curiosity of the leading journals indicate the measure of our self-government, he returns to office; and of the reasons of the first step, as of the reasons of the last, and of the meaning of the whole manœuvre, this great and remarkably enlightened nation is profoundly, not to say elaborately and ingeniously, ignorant. Why? Because the House of Lords having packed the House of Commons with sons and slaves, to resist the towns, the dukes and great peers can afford—to keep out of sight. We are a clever people—even duller than our own dukes. NON-ELECTOR.

ULTRAMONTANISM IN GERMANY.

(THIRD AND CONCLUDING ARTICLE.)

MEMENTO MORI, says the Trappist. *Memento Mori!* is the lugubrious refrain that resounds in the ears of the secular power through all the pretensions of the Papacy. The Roman Church is founded on the doctrine of a despotic Universalism; she calls herself absolute and eternal. The ecclesiastical policy of her pontiffs is for ever pirouetting round that principle of spiritual feudality which Gregory VII., Innocent III., and Boniface VIII. sought to impose on secular power. This policy is sometimes masked; its purpose is never changed. Wherever the Roman Church finds herself, whether by force of treaties or of legislation, subordinate to the State, she will, when she can, re-assert her “rights.” Wherever the hierarchical Machiavellis have obtained these “rights,” they will demand equality between the Church and the State. Accord equality,—and the Church will invade the State, as sovereign and master. The Papacy is a power with which neither transaction nor truce nor repose is possible. If the Catholic Church keeps silence on certain rights “which have been snatched from her by violence,” it is only “because prudential reasons do not render it advisable to urge her claims at the present moment.” (These are the words of a Report by a dean of the chapter on the conflicts between Wessenberg and the Government of Baden.)

The right of surveillance exercised by the State over the Church has existed to a certain extent in Germany ever since the Treaty of Westphalia, as well in the Catholic as in the Protestant states. The monarchical absolutism which triumphed on the thirty years' war, had begun to introduce into the ecclesiastical as well as into the civil administration the dogma of “*L'Etat c'est moi*.” The French Revolution struck a terrible blow at the Papacy; it sought to shatter the system to its very foundation. Napoleon's policy was reactionary, inasmuch as it returned to monarchical traditions and re-established the Church. But Napoleon completed the subordination of the Church to the State. Wherever his sword penetrated he realised in a monarchical form the *bourgeois* idea of 1789, the principle of the preponderance of the secular power. This mitigated

secularism, adapted to the wants of princes, made some progress even in Spain and Naples. The Catholic priests could not but acknowledge that times had singularly changed. As for Baden, more especially, the Papal Church was there placed under severe restrictions by the Crown in the two great branches of its authority. The *placet regium*; the right of preferment exercised by the State; the equality of priests and laymen before the law; the administration of the Church by a Council of State; the examination of theologians with the assistance of a Grand Ducal Commissary, &c., &c.; all these rights, acquired by the Government, constituted, in the opinion of the Curialists, encroachments on the power of ordination, as well as on the power of jurisdiction attributed to the Catholic Church.

In our second article we spoke of concessions which the Baden dynasty had made to the Austro-Papist League. In these compliances to the enemies of all liberty the dynasty acted in opposition to the people. The Chamber, although elected under the triple influence of the Grand Ducal *employés*, the seigneurial aristocracy, and the Ultramontane priests, and although composed of by no means revolutionary elements—even this Chamber, from its first assembling in 1819, presented a decided resistance to any attempt at strengthening the privileges of the *revenants* of the Middle Ages. It pronounced itself against the secret tendency of the nobility to extend its feudal rights, and against the tendency of the priests to interfere in the most delicate relations of political and even of private life. Already then, however, (only one year after the proclamation of the Charter!) the inclination of the Crown to seek for support in the higher clergy and in the high nobility against the spirit of middle-class self-government, which it had evoked in a moment of despair, did not escape observation. The deputies of the Chamber saw one of their colleagues seized by the *gendarme* for having expressed the feelings of the people on the privileges of the higher clergy of the Roman Church, and of the territorial aristocracy. The Grand Duke prorogued or dissolved one Chamber after another, to the delight of the Papists, who were sure of *their* game.

Nevertheless, if the Government of Baden persecuted those who attacked Ultramontanism, it was not, in the first instance, from any very ecclesiastical motives. The Grand Duke Louis (1818-30) was too much of a Prussian corporal to be an acolyte. His paramount consideration was the security of his monarchical sovereignty; concerning the rights of the Throne his ideas were stiff enough. The Episcopate, hoping to take advantage of the hatred of the Government against the "demagogues," insidiously approached the Throne: insinuated that the State could only be saved by the severe discipline of the Church, which, while it formed true servants of God, would react favourably on the spirit of the people. "Spiritual influence," said the Episcopate of Freiburg, in a memorandum of 1827, "should be the first aim of a bishop: therefore, he must have at his disposal canonical punishments; but rewards also are strong incentives to the human heart, and the bishop has the means of dispensing them in the right of *preferment*, which he would not employ, the Grand Ducal Government may be well assured, save in promoting those high interests, which are the object of the Chief of the State." But the Government refused to be seduced by this language of the wolf in the lamb's skin. It was wolf enough itself to laugh at this affected innocence. The most prolix memoranda of the Episcopate were bowed out by the curtest *rescripts*. The State ceded to Ultramontanism on secondary points, where the interests of the Crown seemed to demand the sacrifice. But the Crown would not abdicate its most important rights over the Church.

In the relations between the priests and the Government of Karlsruhe, a significant change took place in consequence of the accession of the Grand Duke Leopold and of the French Revolution of July.

Some years before 1830 the Hierarchy had been strengthened by the intervention which the sacred armies of the Holy Church, Austria and the French Bourbons, had exercised at Naples, at Turin, and in Spain. The *contrecoup* of these events was felt in Germany also, in the redoubled activity of the LEAGUE. In Bavaria, the accession of King Louis had inaugurated the reign of the purple-stockings. The Diet of Frankfurt was occupied with projects for the partition of the territory of Baden. The necessity of "fortifying the Catholic principle," by breaking up

the petty States, was demonstrated in the pamphlets of publicists decorated with Austrian and Bavarian orders. The Government of Munich, contesting the right of succession of the presumptive heir to the Grand Duchy of Baden, who was the issue of a morganatic marriage, demanded the execution of the secret treaty with Austria. In the Duchy of Baden occult influences were at work, which were generally attributed to the powerful instrumentality of the recently-elected General of the Society of Jesus, Father ROTHMAN, whose constant communications with the Papal leaders on the Upper Rhine were ascertained some time after.

The new Grand Duke, Leopold, got the better of these difficulties by espousing, at his accession in 1830, the moderate middle-class liberalism then in vogue. At that time there existed throughout Germany a popular excitement kindled by the revolutions in France, in Switzerland, in Poland, &c. "Down with Jesuitism and Absolutism!" was the rallying cry of the German movements. The puerile inexperience of the Liberals, who were then at the head of those movements, saluted the new Grand Duke of Baden as a hopeful augury for the union and political and religious liberty of all Germany. But, although these movements were badly led, the Austro-Papist alliance, the Baden section of which had, in 1830, the Princes of Löwenstein for its chiefs, was at all events totally incapable of resisting the great current of popular opinion. In vain it protested in behalf of the rights of the *noblesse* and of the clergy. At that time of ferment, the Episcopate also, which had never ceased to utter complaints, demands, reclamations in defence of that right of preferment which it had lost, was roundly dismissed with all its grievances by the Ministry of the Grand Duke.

But since 1832, the general reaction which followed the fall of Warsaw, brought upon the Duchy of Baden also an era of servitude to the crozier. The true character of the Grand Duke came out. He was a timid man, who had seen with terror the democratic spirit looming behind the liberalism of the middle classes. Drowning his mediocre intelligence in the pleasures of champagne, he left the cares of his government to his noble equerries, grand-huntsmen, and grand-drinkers, who, by their relations with the high aristocratic families, were drawn into the hierarchical conspiracy. The château of Karlsruhe fell more and more under the sovereign influence of a Jesuitical camarilla, who were intriguing for the public recognition of the Order of the Society; for the introduction of Grey Sisters, affiliated to the Order; for the modification of the civil code, in the sense of clerical omnipotence; for the expulsion of the *employés* of the State, who were not regular attendants upon the Papal church; for the prevention of anti ecclesiastical communities, which were being organised in the bosom of Catholicism and Protestantism.

The political movement of the country since 1832 embraces an uninterrupted history of resistance to the united Romanist and Absolutist conspirators. The changes which the Baden dynasty introduced into the Code Napoleon, which ever since the French invasion had been the law of the country, were made in the interest of police and clerical authority. A direct influence was accorded to the priests over the private life of citizens, over marriage, over the right of wardship: in short, over all the most considerable interests of family and property. The Catholic priests, acting by the orders of a hierarchy, made a political weapon of the provisions of the law. To resist these aggressions, the people began to rally round the banner of religious liberty (*Glaubensfreiheit*), in the democratic sense of the word.

The priestly Propaganda was then (1832-40) shaking to its centre the neighbouring Switzerland, which had always been the stronghold of Ultramontanism. The former prefect of the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith, Pope Gregory, returned, with ardour, again to the doctrine of *pro posse persequi*. The thunders which he launched against the articles of the Conference of Baden were enough to shake the Governments that slept on the brink of the precipice.

Yet the Governments, except by fits and starts, do not seem to have been thoroughly aroused at that time, though under the impulsion of Pope Gregory Romanism was organising throughout Germany a general levy against the secular powers. The conflicts of the Archbishop of Cologne, Drost von Vischering, with the King of Prussia, Frederick William III., concerning mixed marriages, had their echo from the Rhine to the Oder. The Episcopate of the Upper Rhine, embracing in its circumference the dioceses of Mayence, Fulda, Limburg, Rottenburg, troubled the consciences of believers for a long time after with that question of "mixed marriages." The Baden Government made no sign of the needful energy. It felt itself relieved from a heavy load when, after the death of Frederick William III., his successor, the present Crypto-Catholic and romantic Frederick William IV., re-instated the arrested bishops in their dioceses, and arranged the

difficulties in compliance with the wishes of the Court of Rome.

But that question of "mixed marriages" was revived again later; and without any regard to the difficulties of the Government, the Roman clergy were sometimes seized with a sudden fancy of stirring up a general commotion.

Since 1840 the intimate councils of the Crown and the administration of the State of Baden have been filled with the men who are now the most furious supporters of the pretensions of the Archbishopric of Freiburg, and the most determined enemies of the Government of the Prince Regent.

Ultramontanism was openly employed by the Government in falsifying the elections to the Chambers. Chiefs of the police, censors of the press, governors of towns, administrators of provinces—even members of the Ministry itself were appointed to their offices by favour of their attachment to the Papist cause. At Freiburg and at Mannheim ultra-Catholic journals, surpassing in virulence all the fury of the *Veuillots*, were founded and supported by the money of members of the Government. These stipendiary journals attacked daily, not only the democratic party, but the fundamental law of the State, the code, the administration, the dynasty itself! Very singular friends indeed! Yet the Government, knowing the popular spirit, dared not separate from them. Notorious Jesuits ascended the pulpits of Freiburg and Heidelberg. What Hurter, the secret adept of the Papal Church, had begun in Switzerland and in the south of Germany, was continued in Baden by the Professors Buss and Zell—precious instruments of Loyolism. Buss, a cunning capucin-like Romanist, was, with the Baron of Andlaw and other crusaders, an active member of that party which in 1848 and 1849 was intriguing for the re-establishment of a German Catholic Empire, under the sceptre of the House of Hapsburg. ZELL, a great connoisseur of the classics, a renowned humanist, an elegant Jesuit, is the same man who a few weeks ago, at Vienna, concluded an address with these words: "*Domine, salvum fac Imperatorem nostrum Franciscum Josephum.*" Under the influence of men like ZELL, the Government of Baden consented to the establishment of the Society of Jesus in landed estates in the neighbourhood of Heidelberg: that establishment, it is true, was disguised in appearance, but the Government was well aware that it was the organised centre of dark conspiracies. Moreover, by the introduction of the Order of Sisters of Mercy, the Government provoked a cry of general indignation.

To destroy Radicalism, the State put its agents, its *gendarmes*, all its governmental resources, at the disposal of Ultramontanism, which, marching step by step with the chiefs of the SONDERBUND in Switzerland, strove to re-animate in Baden a fever of religious hate, and, in the spirit of the Inquisition, to persecute free thought. The Government was not ashamed to evoke the most savage passions of dark ages for the sole purpose of dividing the party of its political enemies—the party of the people.

But that "party" was the entire population. If there be one important element more than another which in the south of Germany has contributed to awaken the people as to the tendencies of the dynasty and of the aristocracy: if there be one thing more than another which has contributed to convert a subject into a Republican, that important element is the sombre oppression which Romanism and Royalism united sought to inflict on a people of spirit, honour, and independence. In 1848 the people of Baden distinguished themselves by rising thrice to destroy the throne, the nobility, and clericalism. Peasant, citizen, soldier, all took up the musket, and it was not the Church (far from it!) that thrice saved the Crown. It was the armed force of other dynasties, it was a swarm of Prussian bayonets coming in overwhelming numbers, that protected and restored the dynasty. The "venerable octogenarian," the Archbishop of Freiburg, tells knowingly the reverse of the truth, when he boasts of "the services rendered by the Church to the Crown in days of wild disorder." During the German Revolution, the Roman Church was at the mercy of the democracy. It had not, we may be sure, forgotten its pretensions, but it was powerless. If it was not stripped of its immense property, the fruits of usurpation, of chicanery, and fraud, it is simply because the German Revolution had fallen into the hands of reformers who were too learned to know anything. Thus it was that in Baden the Church preserved its possessions, which amount to something like twelve millions of florins worth—thanks to the ignorance, the carelessness, or the treachery of the popular chiefs.

In 1853, the Grand Ducal Government is engaged in close contest with the hierarchy. The Ultramontanists know the total isolation of the Crown from the people. Initiated before 1848 into the tricks of State, the Papists know well every weakness, every flaw, every anxiety of the Government. It is the State itself that has reared and nursed its foe. It is the Court that has sown the wind—let it reap the storm!

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*.

MEN are tenacious of Error. There is an obstinate vitality in all clear definite mistakes; they grow with rapidity, propagate with profusion, like all noxious things, and are destroyed in one place only to spring up in another. To the philosopher there is something exasperating in this, to the satirist there is an object for his shafts. Once fling forth a bold and definite absurdity, it will make the hollows ring with echoes, and these echoes will reverberate for centuries. Say that a scientific hypothesis "leads to Atheism," and atheistic it will be, beyond power of rectification. Say that LOCKE admits no other source of knowledge than the senses, and all over Europe men with LOCKE in their hands will echo the absurdity.

How incessantly do we hear attributed to BACON the aphorism "Knowledge is power." No such phrase ever escaped him; but BULWER, who first called attention to the fact, has written in vain to rectify the general error. In like manner we hear attributed to COLERIDGE sayings which that arch plagiarist appropriated from the Germans, and attributed, too, by men who have read them in the original. As long as History is written, men will believe that WELLINGTON exclaimed, "Up, guards, and at them," and that the imperial Guard declared *la garde meurt et ne se rend pas*.

Among the current quotations there is one both in England and in France which is constantly attributed to BUFFON—namely, *le style c'est l'homme*—the style is the man. He said nothing of the kind; it would have been an absurdity had he said it. What he really said was this: *le style est de l'homme*—a very different thing, indicating that style is all which can be considered as personal property in literature. The phrase occurs in his *Discours de réception à l'Académie*. In that Discourse, speaking of style as alone capable of giving a work a chance of duration, he distinguishes it from the contents of a work which must get pushed aside by fresh discoveries, he adds, *ces choses sont hors de l'homme; le style est de l'homme même*—these things are independent of the writer, but style is his own peculiar contribution.

Will this rectification be of any use? Of none. Multiply it thousand-fold, destroy the weed in every spot you meet with it, and before you have gone three yards it will reappear. *Magna est Stupiditas et prevalebit!*

Among the new books of solid worth sent us by Germany of late, we will name, for the benefit of scientific readers, the *System der Thierischen Morphologie* by VICTOR CARUS, nephew to the great CARUS, and one whose German tendencies towards abstract speculation are controlled by careful study of concrete realities. He is a bad writer of course; is he not a German? But, although he has the vicious cumbrousness of verbose obscurity, he has not the vicious metaphysical tendencies which spoil so many good Naturalists in his country. His work is a philosophic survey of the Animal Kingdom—a Comparative Anatomy which would well deserve translation if a skilful translator could be found, who should make his sentences readable.

Readers of the same class may like to know that ARISTOTLE's very remarkable treatise *De Partibus Animalium* has also been translated, for the first time we believe, into German by Dr. A. VON FRANKIUS, with the Greek text on the opposite pages. This plan, common in Germany, of giving the original with the translation, is much to be commended. We do it with our Latin versions, but it is seldom thought of with the English.

For making Virtue odious, commend us to EUGENE SUE. When he is revelling in congenial brutalities and infamies, there is a certain lurid power about the man which ensures success with novel readers, who read even while they dislike him; but when he tries to be moral, when he would depict human goodness, there is such an unwholesome canting, maudlin tone about his writing, that patience is impossible. We have no great regard for EUGENE SUE at any time; but when he is virtuous we positively detest him. It was for some time his "dodge" to be democratic and social. Latterly he has taken to virtue. We believe in the one about as much as in the other. Those who believe in and applaud him may read *Fernand Duplessis*; or *Mémoires d'un Mari*, the second and third parts of which are just out. We have tried, and failed. The mixture of Cynicism and Maudlin was too much for us.

Lest, however, we should be accused of falling in with the stupid cant about "French novels"—a cant which extends to all the reprobation deserved only by a few—we will cite with emphatic recommendation GEORGE SAND's last novel, which Mr. JEFFS sends us: *Les Maîtres Sonneurs*. It is one of her peasant-stories, told in naïve Berrichon, full of poetry, fine feeling, and touching traits of humanity. Her admirers regret, indeed, that she should exchange the magic of her own style for an attempt to reproduce the language of peasants; but her late works have, in our opinion, only been successful when she has adopted this style.

The attraction of a new edition of the *British Poets* must obviously lie in

three capital points: good editing, elegance, and cheapness. The first volume of the annotated edition undertaken by ROBERT BELL is before us, inviting closest criticism. We have only had time to turn over the leaves and to assure ourselves that as regards elegance and cheapness it deserves every encouragement; what we may have to say on the editor's notes on DRYDEN, and on the Life which precedes the poems, cannot alter our opinion on the beauty of the volume, equally adapted to the pocket or the library shelves. It is a long while since we have had our Poets edited, and there are few men living whom we could fancy so competent as ROBERT BELL.

A hasty glance is all we have been able to give to the *Foreign Tour of Brown, Jones, and Robinson*, by the incomparable RICHARD DOYLE; we shall be severely scrutinising hereafter; meanwhile, as now is the season when this book for all seasons will be most eagerly sought, we bid you not wait for our verdict in detail. Get the book and judge yourself of its keen yet kindly satire, its humorous perception of national characteristics, and its prodigal invention. It will be invaluable in dull parties—priceless on evenings when you have somebody to entertain and don't in the least know how to do it.

MOORE AND JOURNAL WRITING.

Memoirs, Journal, and Correspondence of Thomas Moore. Edited by the Right Honourable Lord John Russell. Vols. 5 and 6. Price 21s. Longman and Co.

It seems to us that the critics who are so savage upon poor Moore, and take these journals of his as trustworthy evidence, commit a very great, yet not unnatural, mistake. That the publication will permanently obscure the pleasant image of the gay and social poet there seems no doubt; but unless we are wholly mistaken, it will substitute an image completely false. If some lesson be gathered from this experience, it will not have been unworthy the purchase—the twofold lesson, namely, of not writing journals and of not allowing them to be published.

It is generally taken for granted, that in a man's Journals you get the real man, in a Biography only the dressed-up figure of the man. We believe this to be a profound mistake. We believe that, supposing the Biography to be creditably done, it will be as much more faithful a representation, as a good portrait is a more faithful representation than a daguerreotype. Why is it that the daguerreotype likeness is so constantly unlike, untrue, sometimes even unrecognisable? Because few transient aspects are typical—few momentary expressions convey the general expression. Look suddenly at the face you know best and love best, and you will perceive how very unlike it is to the person you know.

So it is with Journals. The writer is in an attitude, and that attitude not natural. He sets down the feelings and impressions of the moment—and sets them down with a view, more or less conscious, of their being subsequently read by others. Now no man is fairly represented by any such process. Even if he were perfectly truthful, he is only selecting his details, and selecting them not with the purpose of conveying the whole of any transaction, but simply of some personal feeling he may have about it. Journals have their value to a biographer, as materials; but they can only be used with success by one who knows how to use them biographically.

To show how false the impression journals give, we may take this case of Thomas Moore. Every one knew that "Tommy dearly loved a lord," every one knew that he was a gay, vain, sunny, careless creature; no one ever suspected him of having the thews and sinews of greatness or magnanimity; no one anticipated finding in his life more than the picture of an affectionate, generous, quick, facile, gay, Irish nature. This life has shown him in colours so contemptible that his old admirers turn against him in wrath. That he was a very affectionate husband all who knew him know; yet critics, taking the evidence of these journals, find out that he neglected his wife! They compare the number of times he dined out with the times he dined in her company; and show that while he was "enjoying himself," she was at home neglected. The critics are probably men who dine much at home, the happiness of their families not being greatly enhanced thereby. Still we say, taking the evidence of these journals, it is undoubtedly true that Moore "neglected" his home; and, nevertheless, a Biographer who would have depicted him as an affectionate husband, and his wife as a happy woman, would have presented the real man. The Biographer would have informed himself of all the facts, he would not have confined himself to dinings out; but the journal-writer is only concerned with the details of each day in as far as they are unlike the ordinary routine; that is to say, supposing him to be accustomed to work in her company, to stroll with her round the garden, to pass several hours in household chat, he will not enter these things in his Journal, but he will enter all the unaccustomed events, and these are all we read; thus are we presented with a pudding made only of plums.

Then, again, as to the inordinate vanity these journals display. Moore was vain! Who doubts it? Who is not vain? But vanity—as here presented—plays a quite disproportionate part in his life, as it must necessarily do in a journal where it is served up cold. To make our meaning intelligible, let us ask you to consider this case: You have written a poem, a play, a novel, or painted a picture; it naturally occupies much of your thoughts; you go into society and hear your work applauded; bright eyes look admiration, pretty lips lavish it; if a coronet be on the admirer's brow, the flattery is of course more caressing to your self-love. It is absurd to suppose you will not be gratified at this: on reaching home, you will tell your sisters, or wife, how Lady Harriet said this charming thing, and the judicious Mr. Jones said that. If you keep a journal, down the compliment goes. It is then warm with new delight, and no one thinks you vain for being delighted. But now suppose twenty years are gone, and your journal is read; how different the effect! Lady Harriet now is old and foolish (she was foolish then, but young and pretty), she twaddles greatly, sits under the odious Dr. Cumming, or reads the *Record*, and the idea of her praise of a poem or picture giving any one delight is preposterous. And what do we care if the judicious Jones *did* think your work a masterpiece? The life is

gone out of that moment; the corpse alone remains; and we who have nothing but the cold corpse "wonder" it could ever have had living value. There is something in the recording of praise, which, when it is read in after years, seems to imply a greater weakness than really exists. Intolerant as our vanity always is of the vanity of another, the intolerance is sharpened in such cases. We get a volume crowded with details of admiration; we read them in an hour, and forget that they represent years; we read them *à froid*, and forget that they were written in the ebullition of the moment.

Journals—and this is their real vice—are necessarily false. The most truthful man that ever lived could not write a truthful journal, unless he confined himself to the merest skeleton of facts, and then it would only be a selection, not a picture. We believe that William Wilberforce was a truly religious man; but the deep disgust with which we read his Journals, the painful sense of hypocrisy which forced itself upon us, is not yet effaced, although now some fifteen years are gone since we read the Journals; and their effect has been to render the image of that man for ever unpleasant in our eyes. We need all the testimony of his life and friends to counteract the effect of his Journals. We will say more: we, too, have kept Journals, and honestly declare that on our reading them at some years distance our impression of our own character was, that it was an odious caricature. Indeed, it is this vivid sense of the moral impossibility of writing a journal truthfully, which has of late years made us desist. For purposes of after reference, we still keep a Journal, wherein dates and bald facts are occasionally entered, and we find all the advantages of a Journal thus secured with none of the drawbacks.

For it is a drawback, and a fearful one, to be constantly attitudinising to an imaginary reader on your own life and actions—it is a danger, and a fearful one, to tamper thus with truth under the mask of secrecy—to suppress, to feign, to exaggerate, to lie! Moreover, we should struggle against, and not encourage, the habit of making our own thoughts and our own actions of such dominant importance as to deserve daily chronicle. There is no danger of our neglecting ourselves; there is danger of our neglecting the work which lies before us.

We reprobate the practice of Journal-writing (in any form but that of mere memorandum-keeping), because it has a vitiating influence on the mind, and earnestly warn our readers to bethink them of this. As strongly do we counsel men who are celebrated, or who hope one day to be, not to let such Journals exist, lest they fall into the hands of Biographers; for certain we are, that no such permanent damage can be done to the reputation of a man, as to have copious publication of his Journals. Letters are bad enough, written as they are on the spur of the moment, in the heat of temper, and the haste of business; but Journals are still worse, because they have a more deliberate air.

With this protest, we pass to the consideration of these volumes, as regards their attractiveness. Setting Moore wholly aside, we think they are agreeable volumes of gossip worth reading once. They have some good stories, *bon mots*, and personal glimpses. But Moore had no great talent for Journalising, and hence we must read with large "skips." They are not for an instant to be compared with Haydon's Journals.

Lord John, who has been roundly abused for his negligent editorship, far more than we think he deserves, contributes very little to these volumes. From the Preface to the sixth, we extract a good passage on the question of Moore's vanity:—

"There is much truth in the maxim of La Rochefoucauld, that 'what most offends us in the vanity of others is that it jars with our own.' Every one says to himself, 'There is a man so absorbed with his own merits that he does not perceive mine.' Still there are different kinds of vanity, and each partakes of the character of the person in whom it resides. Of these kinds the worst is that which makes little display, but is continually at work in depreciating others that our own superiority may become conspicuous. A vanity of this kind is largely mixed with envy. It is an envy too the more odious, as it is not content with hating some single person, or aiming at some single advantage, but hates every person who is admired and loved, and every quality for which a person is admired and loved. This kind of vanity cannot bear that a girl of eighteen should be admired for her beauty, or a child of three for its prattle. Any thing that attracts and absorbs attention is gall and wormwood to it. But above all, when that particular merit which competes with its own supposed eminence is admired, nothing is spared to injure, to depreciate, to depress the person thus endowed. The most sacred bonds of friendship, the strongest ties of affection, are broken to indulge its boundless passion. Truly did Mr. Sheridan say, that ambition and avarice are not so destructive in their rage or so furious in their career as vanity. He must have meant vanity of this kind. There is another kind of vanity, which is in many respects the opposite of that which I have described. It is open and ingenuous, taking for granted that all the world adopts its own estimate of its own excellence, and therefore in excellent humour with all the world. If the world sneers and depreciates, a person of this character ascribes the sarcasm to the malignity of some one, or some few, and goes on satisfied and happy as before. Vanity of this kind is often joined with much kindness, and even with simplicity and candour. It is compatible with a high appreciation of the works and acts of others. It often overflows in benevolence towards family, friends, neighbours, and mankind in general.

"I own it appears to me that an open confession of this kind is preferable to a humility which is often nothing better than hypocrisy. It is difficult to believe that a poet, an orator, or an historian, whose fame is an echo to every effort of his genius, can be ignorant of his own merit. When Horace says—

'Exegi monumentum ære perennius,'

and When Ovid, in the same spirit, exclaims—

*'Junque opus exegi quod nec Jovis ira nec ignis,
Nec poterit furum, nec edax abolere vetustas.'*

I applaud their manly candour, and acknowledge the truth of their prophecies. It is the same with Dante, Milton, Ariosto, and many others. They knew their powers, and were too honest to affect ignorance of them. But when Mr. Burke, who must have been conscious that his eloquence was stamped with genius and fraught with the treasures of a rich imagination, represents himself as nothing more than an industrious plodding member of Parliament. I cannot fail to perceive that he is mocking his hearers, and that he pretends to a humility he does not feel.

"Now it would be folly to deny that Moore had a good opinion of his own powers, and that he was delighted with every tribute, oral, written, and printed, to his talents. But his love of praise was joined with the most generous and liberal dispensation of praise to others. He relished the works of Byron and of Scott as if he had been himself no competitor for fame with them. Another man, in his position, upon seeing the hospitable mansion of Abbotsford, might have felt some envy at the largeness of the possession acquired by the pen of a rival. But Moore only felt that it was a position due to genius; and, when the frail fabric of Scott's fortune tumbled to the ground, lamented with genuine sympathy the downfall of a prosperity to which he himself had never aspired, but which he considered the right of the 'Author of Waverley.'"

This is very true, and the more worth saying, because people in general, are so hard on the vanity of others, not discriminating between the vanity which is innocent delight in self, and the vanity which is aggressive upon others. Consider for example, this naïve self-admiration of John Hunter's:—

"John Hunter once saying to Lord Holland, 'If you wish to see a great man you have one before you. I consider myself a greater man than Sir Isaac Newton.' Explained then why; that discoveries which lengthen life and alleviate sufferings are of infinitely more importance to mankind than any thing relating to the stars, &c. &c."

You smile perhaps; do you see any harm in it? Not more than in Cobbett's advertising, "On Monday next will be published Tusser's Five Hundred Points of Husbandry. By William Cobbett. With a portrait of Myself."

We said there were some capital *mots* in these volumes; a few may be selected. Here is one from the ever-welcome Charles Lamb:

"Charles Lamb sitting next some chattering woman at dinner; observing he didn't attend to her, 'You don't seem (said the lady) to be at all the better for what I have been saying to you.' 'No, Ma'am' (he answered), but this gentleman at the other side of me must, for it all came in at one ear and went out at the other.'"

Here is an exquisitely humorous touch from Luttrell, worthy of Lamb:

"Rogers calling on Wilkie the other morning; when he entered the room, Wilkie exclaimed, 'and your goat'; on which R. turning round saw that a goat had followed him out of the street, and came upstairs with him. Luttrell said it was not an uncommon thing for goats to follow people in this manner, and to affect to belong to them."

This also is perfect in its unconsciousness:

"Keimble's opinion of Kean's 'Othello': 'If the justness of the conception had been but equal to the brilliancy of the execution it would have been perfect; but the whole thing was a mistake; the fact being that *Othello was a slow man*.'"

Every one who knows anything of A. W. Schlegel knows what a coxcomb he was; here is a glimpse of him:

"Dined at Lord Lansdowne's company, Lord Auckland, Macaulay, Rogers, Schlegel, Charles Murray, &c. Rogers seated next Schlegel, and suffering manifest agony from the German's loud voice and unnecessary use of it. Got placed between Lady Lansdowne and Macaulay very agreeably. In quoting Voltaire's '*Superflu, chose si nécessaire*,' I remarked that it had been suggested, I thought, by a passage in Pascal's '*Lettres Provinciales*,' and Macaulay agreed with me, and (remembering, as he does everything) repeated the passage.

"Had some talk with Schlegel after dinner; asked me, if a man conscientiously, and without any intentional levity, published a book in England expressive of his disbelief in the Scriptures, and giving the reasons of his disbelief, how such a book would be received? Answered, that as to the book, I didn't know, but I knew well how the man would be received; and I should not like to be in his place. In speaking of Pope, whom I, of course, praised, but whom he seemed not to have much taste for, he exclaimed, 'Yes, to be sure, there are some fine things in him; that passage, for instance, "Upon her neck a sparkling cross she wore," charming! So much for the German's appreciation of Pope. Intimated that Goethe was jealous of him in consequence of some Indian poem that he (Schlegel) wrote or translated. Rogers and I in doubt whether we should go to Lady Grey's or Lord Burghersh's music; decided for the latter. Told me, that on his asking Schlegel, in allusion to Goethe's death, 'Are there any German poets now left?' Schlegel blurted out, 'I am a German poet,' throwing his arms open pompously as he said it."

Goethe jealous of Schlegel!

Sydney Smith, who was, take him all in all, our greatest English wit, figures often in these pages. The following is charming:

"Told of Leslie, the Scotch philosopher, once complaining to him that Jeffrey had 'damned the North Pole.' Leslie had called upon Jeffrey just as the latter was going out riding, to explain some point (in an article for the *Edinburgh Review*, I believe) concerning the North Pole; and Jeffrey, who was in a hurry, exclaimed impatiently, as he rode off, 'O damn the North Pole!' This Leslie complained of to Sydney; who entered gravely into his feelings, and told him in confidence, that he himself had once heard Jeffrey 'speak disrespectfully of the Equator.'

This also is good:

"In talking of O'Connell, of the mixture there is in him of high and low, formidable and contemptible, mighty and mean, Smith summed up all by saying, 'The only way to deal with such a man is to hang him up and erect a statue to him under his gallows.'"

The following observation is noticeable; it agrees with all physiological deduction:

"Rogers mentioned an observation of John Hunter's, that wherever there was but one boy with a number of sisters, the boy was sure to be effeminate; and John Hunter used to give it as a proof of Homer's knowledge of human nature, that he makes the cowardly youth, Dolon, in the night scene, 'sole brother of five sisters.'"

We close with a subtle remark:

"Quoted an excellent *mot* of somebody to Fontenelle, on the latter saying that he flattered himself he had a good heart—'Yes, my dear Fontenelle, you have as good a heart as can be made out of brains.'"

TWO NOVELS.

Alderman Ralph; or, the History of the Borough and Corporation of Willowacre. By Adam Hornbook. 2 vols. Price 5s. Geo. Routledge and Co. Bentley

Maud; a City Autobiography. 3 vols. Price 10s. 6d.

For purposes of critical contrast, it would be difficult among the books on our table to select two better than the novels before us. *Alderman Ralph* is as characteristically manly and mannish, as *Maud* is womanly and womanish; one smacks strongly, and the flavour is pleasant, of our old novelists; the other as strongly, and the flavour is less commendable, of our modern circulating library. One deals largely in local politics, and but episodically in love; the other has some episodes, but its story is all love. One introduces us to the squabbles and incidents of borough politics, the other into the mysteries of "sentiment" not always of the most intelligible kind. The characters in *Alderman Ralph* are sketched with objective vigour; those in *Maud*, on the contrary, are what the critics call subjective. Life, indeed, as it presents itself to the observing mind of a man, and as it presents itself to the romantic mind of a girl, may be seen indicated in these two works. As a critical exercise, we advise the reader to take up these two books in succession. They are both amusing, but from different reasons; they are both faulty, but their faults are different.

Alderman Ralph is one example, among many, of how little the interest of a story depends upon the magnitude of the topics it employs, and how much upon the treatment. Just as in life we see the passions roused and kept on the stretch by things intrinsically insignificant, so in fiction the real point is to display the passions in action without much regard to what rouses them. Borough politics call forth the qualities of human nature as effectively as national politics. What is the nation, to the parochial mind, but an appanage

of the parish? So in this borough of Willowacre we see heartburnings, jealousies, intrigues, combinations, heroisms displayed as vividly as if, instead of a quarrel about a bridge, the story had moved through a quarrel of cabinets. Here the skill of the author is tested. He makes us interested in his characters; we espouse their likings and their hatreds; we take sides in the quarrel; we get anxious about the "Bridge-Deed;" and we never pause to ask whether the story be worth telling because of its importance, assured as we are that it is worth listening to because of its interest.

From this novel, which might have been written in the last century, it is piquant to fall upon the pages of something so thoroughly in the tone of 1853 as *Maud*—the tone, we mean, of the library. There a young lady of the *incomprise* school, a young coquette of the purely unreal school, a young gentleman who plunges into German poetry upon the smallest provocation, an elderly observant gentleman who loves meekly and in silence, faint water-colour sketches all of originals familiar to the readers of fiction, are exhibited with a skill which carries you through the three volumes. You admire the authoress more than her book, for the obvious marks of superiority she displays; but you also read the book. You say, "I should like to talk to her better than to read her; for the tone and talent shown in her book are better than the book itself: when she is inventing, she is not so clever as when she is reflecting." However, it is something to get hold of a novel one can read, especially by one in our hardened condition.

A Treatise on the Law and Practice relating to Letters Patent for Inventions. By John Paxton Norman, Esq., M.A., of the Inner Temple. Butterworths.

AMONG a population so active and enterprising as our own, and at a period when these qualities are so stimulated by competition, the laws by which the property in inventions is regulated are of the highest importance. The principles upon which the system even now in force is based were enunciated by the Parliament which James I. summoned to Westminster on the 19th of February, 1623. Suffering from the extortion of the "monopolists," the Commons obtained the assent of the Crown and the Lords to their declaration, "that all grants of monopolies were contrary to law, except only under certain restrictions—letters patent for fourteen years or under, for any manner of new manufacture." Prior to this, in the good old days of the Tudors, monopolies of all kinds, including even articles of primary importance, were granted by the Crown to its favourites or instruments without restraint, and of "divine right;" and even the staple commodities of leather, coal, and iron, were only to be purchased of the farmers of the grantees at "famine prices" artificially produced. Until 1852 no material alterations (for Lord Brougham's valuable Acts of 1835 were additions only) were engrafted on the statute of James I.; but by the Patent Law Amendment Act of last year many alterations and some improvements were introduced. It is true that much remains to be done to put the Law of Patents for Inventions upon a sound footing, such as the exigencies of commerce and the rights of inventors demand. Grants are still insecure and expensive, and obtainable only after compliance with some unnecessary and some clumsy formalities. Still, steps have been taken in the right direction, and we trust that further advances will be made ere long.

Mr. Norman has rendered good service to all interested in the subject, and particularly to the practitioners in this department of the law, by the publication of his Treatise, embodying the alterations made by the late Act. Nor is this its only merit; for in a simple and unpretending, and yet in a clear and accurate manner, it instructs the reader in the various branches of the entire system—first elucidating the law regulating their grant and validity, and then explaining the mode of obtaining Letters Patent for Inventions, and the means by which the rights they confer are to be protected and extended.

Mr. Norman's work is not intended to displace from the library the more elaborate work of the author's able predecessor, William Matthewson Hindmarch; but to the artisan it is a sufficient substitute for, and to the lawyer a necessary supplement to, that valuable book.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

- On the Necessity of Principles in Teaching Design, being an Address.* By R. Redgrave, B.A. Chapman and Hall.
- Pantomime Budgets; a Tête-a-tête between Sir John Barleycorn and the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street.* J. Cross and Son.
- The Poetical Works of Robert Burns.* (The Universal Library.) Nathaniel Cooke.
- Too Clever by Half; or, the Harroways.* By The Mofussillite. Nathaniel Cooke.
- The Poetical Works of Alexander Pope.* Vol. III. Nathaniel Cooke.
- Rockingham; or, The Younger Brother.* By the Author of *Electra*. (The Railway Library.) G. Routledge and Co.
- Ned Myers; or, a Life before the Mast.* (Bentley's Railway Library.) By J. Fenimore Richard Bentley.
- A Letter to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.* By John W. Colenso, D.D., Bishop Designate of Natal. G. Bell.
- Home Thoughts.* Vol. I. Kent and Co.
- Customs Reform: Report of City Committee.* M. I. Rickerby.
- Young's Night Thoughts; with Life, Critical Dissertation, and Explanatory Notes.* By the Rev. G. Gillman. J. Nichol.
- The Portrait Gallery.* W. S. Orr and Co.
- Tait's Edinburgh Magazine.* Partridge and Oakley.
- Chambers's Edinburgh Journal.* W. and R. Chambers.
- Chambers's Pocket Miscellany.* W. and R. Chambers.
- Chambers's Repository of Instructive and Amusing Tracts.* W. and R. Chambers.
- Lenny Lockwood; a Novel.* By O. Crowe. 2 vols. G. Routledge and Co.
- Struggles for Life; or, the Autobiography of a Dissenting Minister.* W. and F. G. Cash. Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.
- The Autobiography of William Jerdan.* Vol. IV. Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.
- Justin, Cornelius Nepos, and Eutropius.* Translated by the Rev. J. S. Watson. (Bohn's Classical Library.) H. G. Bohn.
- The Usurer's Daughter.* By the Rev. W. J. Scargill. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.
- Home Pictures; or, the Map of Life.* By Mrs. M. A. Denison. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.
- The Christian Examiner.* John Chapman.
- Two Prize Essays on Juvenile Delinquency.* By N. Hill, Esq., and C. F. Cornwallis. Smith, Elder, and Co.
- Summer Sketches, and other Poems.* By B. R. Parkes. John Chapman.
- Inscriptions and Devices in the Beauchamp Tower, Tower of London.* By W. R. Dick. P. Ramago.
- The Private Letters of Sir James Brooke, K. C.B., Rajah of Sarawak, narrating the Events of his Life from 1833 to the Present Time.* By J. C. Templer, Esq. 3 vols. R. Bentley.

Portfolio.

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

LAY FOR THE NEW YEAR.

It is no sound of laugh or jest,
No burst of heedless mirth,
That sends the Old Year to his rest,
And greets the New Year's birth;
Famine and War, those phantoms grim,
The dying vigils share,
Their voices chant the natal hymn
That hails the infant heir.

O new born year! we may not breathe
Soft lullabies to thee;
No festive garlands may we wreath
To deck thine infancy:
Thy lot it is, ill-fated son
Of many an erring sire,
Their sin and weakness to atone
By penalties of fire.

No cradle song of joy and peace
May greet thy listening ear,
For now on every Eastern breeze
Come sounds of strife and fear;
And as thine early boyhood plays
Among the flowers of spring,
Brighter will burn the battle's blaze,
Louder the trumpet ring.

And when the summer shall unfold
Its blossoms fair to see,
Each one some omen dark will hold
Of dread calamity;
For thee the crimson of the rose
The battle stain will wear,
And the white lily will disclose
The blanched cheek of despair.

Thou wilt but hear the fall of tears
In the thick autumn rain,
And when the glancing sickle shears
The ranks of golden grain,
Before thy darkened gaze will rise
A distant battle plain,
Whereon that bloody harvest lies
Which nations reap in pain.

Yet may this hope a pale, faint glow
Upon thy birthday cast,
That from the scenes of war and woe,
Through which thou shalt have passed,
A brighter future may be wrung
For years that follow thee,
And Peace and Plenty chant the song
That greets their infancy. D.

The Arts.

CHRISTMAS WEEK AT THE THEATRES.

CHRISTMAS is here; and, to quote the brilliant distich of a poetic grocer,

"The time again hath come
For fine Roast beef and Pudding of the plum."

Christmas without Pantomimes is a Pudding without plums: hence all the theatres burst into sudden glory of tricks, tumblings, and transformations. The critic's office, never a sinecure, now becomes a pastime compared with which breaking stones on the Queen's highway would be luxurious, and reading Martin Farquhar Tupper a delight. O ye innocents who fancy "doing the theatres" is a gay and graceful office! who know not how one has to fortify one's mind in contemplation of "forthcoming novelties!" Picture to yourselves the amount of preparatory erudition which is required from the critic when Managers read *Xiphilin*!

Then again to write about Pantomimes requires a special erudition. Now as it may be safely assumed that when a man has written a history of any thing, he is *ipso facto* comprehensively ignorant of it, so I, having written a History of Pantomime (as you, reader, know to your cost) may legitimately be said to know nothing whatever of the subject. Ergo, I seek the assistance of a more impartial ignorance, which I find in the person of my respected friend "Q in the corner." To him I confide the Pantomimes of the HAYMARKET, PRINCESS'S, SADLER'S WELLS, and DRURY LANE. The last-named theatre proves what prophetic instinct our "Swan" possessed when he made the bad tragedian Macbeth tremble in his kilt, fervently hoping

That Barnum would not come to Drury Lane.

The poet is certainly a Vates.

The LYCEUM is a bad theatre for the critic at Christmas. Things are done so exasperatingly well there, that nothing varies the hackneyed praise but the power of "pitching into" Planché. What is one to say of Beverley, I should like to know? Hyperboles are not *hyper* enough; and blame is impossible. He has the secret of Fairy Land. He has taste as exquisite as his invention is exhaustless. The great round O of Giotto is not round enough for admiration. In *Once upon a time there were Two Kings*, I will not say he has surpassed himself, for a man cannot see the top of his own head, but I will say that if he were not Beverley he would be Oberon. Most of

the scenes are beautiful, but the one which closes the first act is . . . (if I were a Beverley of the pen I could paint it, not being one I must leave it to your imagination, so much more pictorial!) The last scene of all is quite new. After the many combinations and inventions of splendour which those "last scenes" have shown us, it is surprising to find anything at once so novel and so beautiful as this.

With regard to the Fairy tale itself, the Burlesque element has almost vanished, and the fairy tale alone remains. There is little "fun" in it, although Wright, Bland, and Frank Mathews in the cast would lead one to expect it. Nor are there so many happy lines as Planché usually throws in. Some pleasant music, a charming ballet most picturesquely grouped, with Rosina Wright as a centre, gratify ears and eyes, and aid in Beverley's triumph. The cast of the piece is unusually strong—Madame Vestris (who made her first appearance this season and was welcomed with English heartiness), Julia St. George, Wright, Frank Mathews, Bland, Robinson, and Baker.

NUMBER NIP.

THE ADELPHI also gives up Pantomime; without, however, taking to Burlesque—for which, thanks! Its Christmas piece is a wild, legendary melodrama, interesting as a piece as well as a vehicle for spectacle, ballet, and music. Miss Woolgar is a fascinating German nobleman, ruined in purse but rich in personal charms; Madame Celeste has a part peculiarly suited to her talents of *ballet d'action*, and in a descriptive dance, *La Tauromachie*, produced the wildest delight in the audience; Paul Bedford is a comic pirate, not in the least comic—dismally hilarious; Mrs. Keeley has more changes of costume than effective scenes. The music is pretty and well selected.

COLUMBUS.

THE OLYMPIC has its Pantomime, and the subject is *Columbus*. I don't know anything of Pantomimes, and my ignorance makes me think *Columbus* a failure. There are some admirable things in it—such as the costumes, scenery, masks, Columbine, and the dog, who is by far the best actor in the piece. But the Introduction is not funny; the Harlequin is bad, the Clown bad, the Pantaloon detestable; nothing but the pretty and elegant Columbine—Miss Wyndham—and the "talented" dog, rendered the Pantomime endurable. The piece has been got up lavishly and tastefully. The masks are works of art. There is a certain Archbishop of Toledo, whose mask is worth paying the price of admission to see—such fat, sleek, sensual, priestly imbecility and comfort, are written on his features. The Moors, too, are Moorish; and the Spaniards, Spanish.

VIVIAN.

A COURSE OF PANTOMIMES.

A SIMULTANEOUS rush at Pantomime has been made by the managers. Every theatre, except two, presents us with this kind of Christmas entertainment; for the very first time we have heard a Haymarket gallery shrieking for "Hot Codlins;" and only at the Lyceum does Extravaganza appear, with its musical parodies and its lucid intervals, as usual.

We pulled a cracker bon-bon once, and read in faint little type on the scrap of flimsy, with which the sugar was encircled, a couplet, implying a neat puff of the confectioner; something after this style:—

Quand on a dit "je t'aime," et tout va bien,
Appellez Jujube-fils, et ne craignez rien.

"When faltering lips the secret have confest,—To Chips and Co. we wisely leave the rest." This pretty and practical sentiment, reflecting a great feature of the age, is enforced throughout the opening of the DRURY-LANE pantomime. Appiness, a stout young person in bugles, impresses the fact of her personality on a sceptical and otherwise weak-minded prince, who, after being driven from glittering pillar to dazzling post, is bewildered into acknowledging Appiness as a solid existence, and "wisely leaves the rest" to the stage management. What is done for the delight of the prince our readers must go and see. If they are proper readers, they will like to know that a scene awaits them in the *World of Toys*, where all the houses are toy-houses, and all the trees are those queer curly evergreens that constitute the timber in a child's Paradise.

Here, however, a great effect is missed. The people in this scene ought certainly to have been figures from a Noah's ark, and as tall as the houses. One or two of these buildings might also, with great propriety, have been discovered on their beam-ends. But what is done, is done well; the peg-tops are ingeniously human; and the King's troops are stuck on the scissor-like contrivance, which alternately expands and contracts the phalanx. Tom Matthews was the clown; and we are almost inclined to think, though we know popular opinion will be with us, that his is the correct style after all. If neat tumbling, such as Auriol's, is to take the place of clownishness, then let us have the fanciful dress of the fool, without the bismuth and vermillion. T. M. is, however, the Clown for the gallery. That faction has set its face against all gymnastic displays requiring the introduction of a carpet; and really, of the two things, we believe the "drawing-room entertainments" of professors in salmon-coloured tights are lower in point of taste than "Hot Codlins" and "Tippity-witchet." But the Drury-lane manager has supplied posture-making for those who like it, by the engagement of a certain Ethair family, whose dislocations accompany the conventional fun.

Little Silver Hair and the Three Bears, at the HAYMARKET, are as good as they are in the original tale; so that the pantomimic fun and splendour may be counted so much in addition. The opening scenes are creditable to the author as well as the decorator. Very little has been added to the story, except to make it a fairy tale. The change from a ruined abbey to a scene of fairy brightness was as artistically effected as it would have been at the LYCEUM. The harlequinade was as full of bustle as it should be, and the Columbine was a Miss Mary Brown. Did anyone ever hear of a Columbine among the Browns? It seems hardly possible that her success can be regarded as a triumph by the family.

The opening scenes in *The Miller and his Men*, which is the pantomime at the PRINCESS'S, amaze indeed the very faculties of eyes and ears. They are by turns exquisitely beautiful and wildly grotesque. Over all reigns Art. The fierce movements of the dancers in the second scene of King Salamander's Court, the wild gestures of the crowd, the change of four terrible objects into one human face, far more terrible in its humanity and fleshiness, are all truly indescribable. But is this a pantomime for little children? In the course of

the harlequinade there are scenes quite as ingeniously contrived, and more to the purpose of childish amusement. For instance, there is a startling trick, by which Harlequin contrives to furnish an empty room. Six tall women, in the dress of Watteau's shepherdesses, come in and stand in a demure row. In an instant they are furniture; four chairs, their legs free from any drapery, a French clock, and an elegantly furnished toilette table, stand in the places of the Watteau *pastourelles*. The trick itself is amazing; but when the chairs are used as real chairs, by the pantomimists, the spectators are almost induced to believe that there has been no life in the matter, till the chairs use their arms in self-defence upon the Clown, when applause for the first time greets the device. Cormack is the Harlequin here, and the best anywhere. We may almost say the same of Miss Desborough, as Columbine, but cannot forget the name in the OLYMPIC bills. Mr. Huline, the Clown, is a "new light," and aims at grace in his posturing. It is fair to say that he succeeds always, and is the best translation of Auriol on the English stage.

OF SADLER'S WELLS we hear excellent accounts, but are unable to speak of *Harlequin Tom Thumb* this week.

BARKER'S PICTURE OF NELSON ON THE QUARTER-DECK OF THE SAN JOSEF.

It is not difficult to trace, in the picture now on view at Messrs. Leggatt, Hayward, and Leggatt's, in Cornhill, the hand of a painter accustomed conscientiously to master his subject. Mr. T. J. Barker is rapidly gaining a reputation as an illustrator of British despatches, and may yet stand in the position of a Horace Vernet to our United Service; there being no formidable competition for the post. The picture of "Nelson on the Quarter-deck of the Spanish Admiral's ship, San Josef," is intended as a companion to the "Meeting of Wellington and Blucher at La Belle Alliance," a work noticed by us some considerable time since. Nelson, a commodore at the time, has, with a seventy-four, beaten a Spanish eighty-gun ship, and has led his boarding party across her deck to take, in turn, the *San Josef*, a first-rate, with the Admiral's pendant. On the quarter-deck he is receiving the swords of the Spanish officers. His bargeman, standing coolly by, puts the swords under his arm as he receives them from the Commodore. Round Nelson are grouped his companions in the exploit; Captain Berry and Lieutenant Pierson, of the 69th, being prominent portraits. The uniforms vary so as to produce a pleasant effect. The artist's great anxiety to compile a good likeness of Nelson, from Flaxman's bust and the most authentic pictures, seems to have found its way into the hero's face. It is, to say the truth, the least pleasing part of the work. In general respects Mr. Barker has produced a telling scene. Without compression of time, there is much incidental action going on, such as the striking the Spanish flag, and the hoisting the Union Jack. The linear perspective of the foreground and the truthful distance are evidences of no common power. We have heard the technical accuracy of ropes, spars, blocks, and the smallest matters of detail spoken of with unqualified praise by excellent naval authority.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

[FOURTH ARTICLE.]

IN leaving the daguerreotype, to enter on the different paper processes, our subject widens very considerably. Sir John Herschel's experiments, for instance, have all been subordinate to a grand inquiry into the nature of the prismatic spectrum. He saw in heliography not "an insulated and anomalous affection of certain salts of silver and gold, but one which, doubtless, in a greater or less degree, pervades all nature." He saw in nature "nothing that doth fade;" but continual decomposition and recombination; and he referred to the same great law which governs organic growth and decay this curious pictorial result from the deoxidation of certain inorganic compounds. A similar result was obtained by Herschel with a great variety of substances; notably with the juice of flowers, as we have seen in the case of a semi-cultivated variety of red poppy (*papaver rhœum*). His experiments are no longer, if they have ever been, of much practical utility to the amateur, who seeks only the means of obtaining good pictures in the shortest time. We may, however, qualify even this detracting from the value of Herschel's labours in heliography: he was the first, we believe, to use glass plates, and the introduction of this practice was certainly a most important step. Still, the many beautiful processes discovered by Herschel are, though generally simple and easy of manipulation, imperfect in their results; that is, of course, taking the merely practical view. In some, the sensibility to actinism is too tardy; in others, curious and complex changes occur, which it has been found impossible to arrest, so that the pictures are worthless. Of this unstable kind is the ferro-cyanotype; a process, however, of such exceeding beauty, that we cannot refrain from giving a brief description of it.

The cyanotype is the name given to an endless series of processes in which cyanogen is employed. The particular process we are now engaged with is one in which iron enters and is the main cause of the curious changes already alluded to. This process formed one of the first remarkable examples of the deoxidation of a non-argentine compound, in the practice of heliography; and it occurred to Herschel in his examination of the ferrosesquicyanuret of potassium, a salt abundantly formed by voltaic action on the common or yellow ferrocyanuret. In Herschel's communication to the Royal Society, he gave the following description of the process:—

"Paper simply washed with a solution of this salt is highly sensitive to the action of light. Prussian blue is deposited (the base being necessarily supplied by the destruction of one portion of the acid, and the acid by decomposition of another). After half an hour or an hour's exposure to sunshine, a very beautiful negative photograph is the result, to fix which, all that is necessary is to soak it in water in which a little sulphate of soda is dissolved, to ensure the fixity of the Prussian blue deposited. While dry the impression is of a dove-colour or lavender blue, which has a curious and striking effect on the greenish-yellow ground of the paper, produced by the saline solution. After washing, the ground colour disappears, and the photograph becomes bright blue on a white ground. If too long exposed, it gets 'over sunned,' and the tint has a brownish or yellowish tendency, which, however, is removed in fixing; but no increase of intensity beyond a certain point is obtained by continuance of exposure.

"If paper be washed with a solution of ammonio-citrate of iron, and dried, and then a wash passed over it of the yellow ferrocyanuret of potassium, there is no immediate forma-

tion of true Prussian blue, but the paper rapidly acquires a violet-purple colour, which deepens after a few minutes, as it dries, to almost absolute blackness. In this state it is a positive photographic paper of high sensibility, and gives pictures of great depth and sharpness; but with this peculiarity, that they darken again spontaneously on exposure to the air in darkness, and are soon obliterated. The paper, however, remains susceptible to light, and capable of receiving other pictures, which in their turn fade, without any possibility (so far as I can see) of arresting them; which is to be regretted, as they are very beautiful, and the paper of such easy preparation. If washed with ammonia or its own carbonate, they are a few moments entirely obliterated, but presently re-appear, with reversed lights and shades. In this state they are fixed, and the ammonia, with all that it will dissolve, being removed by washing in water, their colour becomes a pure Prussian blue, which deepens much by keeping. If the solution be mixed, there results a very dark violet-coloured ink, which may be kept uninjured in an opaque bottle, and will readily furnish, by a single wash, at a moment's notice, the positive paper in question, which is most sensitive when wet."

It will be remembered that mercury was an agent named in the process of the daguerreotype. Employed there, however, it must be considered in relation with the nitrate of silver, and not, in itself, as a sensitive object.

The result of another experiment by Herschel is to show that mercury, under certain conditions, possesses direct actinic susceptibility. This is also one of the paper processes, and the mercurial salt is employed with great effect in combination with periodide of iron (much diluted), or with ammonio-citrate or tartrate, when the action is far more powerful. The difficulty of arresting this action here again steps in.

Before closing the present paper, we may appropriately record a striking exhibition at the Polytechnic. Very likely it may have occurred to numbers who have seen the transparent pictures adapted to the stereoscope, that they would well suit the purpose of "dissolving views." To that purpose they are now turned, and with an effect really beautiful. The albumen glass pictures, taken by Mr. Mayall, are not themselves more than two inches square, and have to be magnified forty thousand times, to cover the disc in the theatre of the institution. These pictures, by a simple, and not very expensive, process, can be multiplied. What a seasonable boon for Christmas magic-lantern entertainments!

Q.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 16th November, at Ahmedabad, the wife of Captain D'Oyley Trevor Compton, Assistant Political Agent to the Mahee Catta: a son.

On the 22nd December, at Plymouth, the wife of Captain Mends, H.M.S. Agamemnon: a daughter.

On the 23rd, at Hythe, Kent, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Hay: a daughter.

On the 24th, in Devonshire-street, the wife of Captain Reid: a daughter.

On the 24th, at Kilkenny, the wife of Colonel W. F. Williams, Assistant Adjutant-General: a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 3rd November, at Calcutta, Captain George Gaynor, Second European Fusiliers, and Second Military Auditor-General, to Frances Augusta, third daughter of Captain W. A. Bowen, late of the East India Company's Naval Service.

On the 14th, at Barrackpore, near Calcutta, by the Bishop of Calcutta, Captain H. W. Craufurd, R.N., to Annabella, eldest surviving daughter of the late Very Rev. Edmund Goodenough, Dean of Wells, and of Mrs. Goodenough, of Loughton, Essex.

On the 20th, at Bournemouth, Hants, the Rev. Edward Thring, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and Head Master of Uppingham Grammar School, to Caroline Marie Luise, daughter of the late Carl Johann Koch, of Bonn, of His Prussian Majesty's Customs, Counsellor.

On the 24th, at the British Embassy, Paris, by the Rev. Dr. Hale, William Montagu Leeds, of the Fiftieth (Queen's Own), and third son of Sir Joseph Leeds, Bart., to Emma, eldest daughter of Henry Hildyard, Esq., late of Rio Janeiro.

DEATHS.

On the 19th December, at Nice, Sir William Lowthrop, of Alga-house, Scarborough.

On the 23rd, Elizabeth Alice, eldest daughter of Professor De Morgan, of University College, aged fifteen.

On the 25th, at 6, Duke-street, Portland-place, Cordelia, wife of Sir George Jackson, K.C.H., her Majesty's Commissary Judge at St. Paul de Loando, Africa, aged seventy-seven.

On the 25th, at Brasted Rectory, Kent, the Rev. William Hodge Mill, D.D., Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Cambridge, Canon of Ely, and Rector of Brasted.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, December 30, 1853.

In the absence of any special news, and the conviction growing stronger daily that war has become inevitable, the Funds have been very weak all the week—at one time as low as 93½. To-day there has been a rally to 94, owing to no intelligence of any character whatever. The French Funds sympathise with our own. A rumour, very vague, is abroad this morning that the *entente cordiale* between France and England is not what it has hitherto been. If this prove true, and Coburg intrigue be found to be at the bottom of the difference, we shall see a great drop in the Funds. There has not been much speculation in Railway Shares; a slight depression in Foreign Shares, and in some of our own heavy Shares. Mines have been very sparingly dealt in. The mercantile prospects for the new year, notwithstanding the gloom hanging over us at the present moment, are very satisfactory, and money bids fair to be plentiful. A war or a misunderstanding with France, of course, would alter the present cheerful prospects, and, as I said before, it is more than possible that we shall see Consols 3 or 4 per cent. lower by the next account.

Consols close rather firmer, at 93½, 94.

Consols, 93½; Caledonian, 54½, 55½; Eastern Counties, 13½; Great Western, 83½, 84; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 60½; London and North Western, 103½, 104; London and South Western, 77, 78; Midland, 62½, 63½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 36½, 37½; Scottish Central, 92, 93; South Eastern, 61, 62; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 64, 65; York and North Midland, 47, 48; Dijon and Besançon, 24, 25; East Indian, 3, 4; Luxembourg, 10½, 11½; Ditto (Railway), 64, 74; Ditto, Prof., 14, 2; Northern of France, 84½, 85; Paris and Lyons, 16½, 17; Paris and Orleans, 40, 41; Paris and Rouen, 41, 42; Rouen and Havre, 19, 20; Paris and Strasbourg, 32½, 33; Paris, Caen, and Cherbourg, 3, 4; Sambre and Meuse, 8½, 9; Western of France, 74, 84; Agua Fria, 4, 5; Brazil Imperial, 5½, 6; Colonial Gold, 8, 9; Linares, 11, 12; Mariquita, 4, 5; Nouveau Monde, 4, 5; Port Philip, 8, 9; United Mexican, 44, 45; Wallers, 8 dis.; West Mari-pora, 7-10, 5-16 dis.; Australasia, 78, 79; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 15½, 16; Union Bank of Australia, 74, 75; Australian Agricultural, 43, 44; Crystal Palace, 62, 7; North British Australasian Land and Loan, 8, 9; Peel Rivers, 4, 5; Scottish Australasian Investment, 15, 17; Obornhofs, 3-16, 5-16; Poltimores, 7-10, 9-16; Peninsular Mining Company, 1, 4.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, Dec. 30.

LOCAL TRADE.—We had no market on Monday; and Wednesday and to-day have in some degree been characterised by the absence of activity usual at this season; yet in the business done sellers have had decidedly the advantage, and Wheat is fully 2s. and Oats 6d. to 1s. dearer than last Friday. Barley fully maintains the improvement last noted. The value of Beans and Peas is also fully maintained.

FLOATING TRADE.—There are no arrivals this week off the Coast. The holidays have rather interfered with the course of trade, but, notwithstanding, prices gradually improve, and the English and Irish demand, as well as inquiries from Scotland, are decidedly on the increase. The continental demand continues, though with scarcely so much activity as last week, probably owing to the holidays, as prices are very well supported throughout the North of France.

We may again call attention to the fact we have repeatedly mentioned before, that only a very small proportion of the cargoes shipped in the Black Sea during the last three months are destined for the northern markets.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	219	.....	220	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.	93½	.....	94½	94½	93½	.....
3 per Cent. Con. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Consols for Account	94½	.....	94	93½	93½	94
3½ per Cent. An.	95½	.....	95½	95½	95½	.....
New 5 per Cents.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.	.....	.....	.....	5½	.....	.....
India Stock	.....	.....	249½	245½	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000	.....	.....	.....	3 p	3 p	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	6 p	.....	6 p	.....	7 p	.....
Ditto, £500	6 p	.....	6 p	3 p	4 p	.....
Ditto, Small	6 p	.....	6 p	3 p	4 p	.....

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	92½	Russian Bonds, 5 per	112½
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	65	Cents 1822	97½
Chilian 6 per Cents.	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents.	97½
Danish 5 per Cents.	102½	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def.	22
Ecuador Bonds	4½	Spanish Committee Cert.	.....
Mexican 3 per Cents.	24	of Coup. not fun.	.....
Mexican 3 per Ct. for	.....	Venezuela 3½ per Cents.	.....
Acc. December 16.	24½	Belgian 4½ per Cents.	95
Portuguese 4 per Cents.	42½	Dutch 2½ per Cents.	64
Portuguese 3 p. Cts., 1848	40	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	96

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

On Monday, 2nd January, and during the week,

THE CAMP AT THE OLYMPIC.

(Characters as before.)

THE WANDERING MINSTREL.

To conclude with

HARLEQUIN COLUMBUS.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CON-

CERTS, EXETER HALL.—January 4th, 1854.

GEMS FROM CLASSIC AUTHORS.

After which,

POPULAR ENGLISH COMPOSERS.

Madame Amedie, Miss Thirlwall, Miss Clara St. Casse, Miss Chipp, the Misses Brougham, Mr. Augustus Braham, Mr. Hill, Mr. Lawler.—Soloists, Grand Pianoforte: Miss Rosina Bently. Harp: Mdlle. Louise Christine. Horn: Mr. Catchpole.

BAND—SEVENTY PERFORMERS.

Conductor, HERR MEYER LUTZ.

Stalls, 4s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d.; Area, Gallery, and Plat-forms, 1s.

Tickets to be had at the Hall.

THE LAST WEEK BUT THREE.

KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, PORTLAND-GALLERY, REGENT-STREET, opposite the Polytechnic. OPEN for gentlemen DAILY, at the usual hours, except on Wednesdays and Fridays, from Two till Five, during which hours ladies only are admitted. Explanations for gentlemen by Dr. Leach, and for ladies by Mrs. Leach. Admission, 1s.

Just published, price 2s., post free, 2s. 6d.

NERVOUS AFFECTIONS: an Essay on Spermatorrhoea; its Nature and Treatment, with an Exposition of the Frauds that are practised by persons who advertise the speedy, safe, and effectual cure of Nervous Derangement. By a MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, London.

London: Aylott and Co., 8, Paternoster-row.

TEA IS GETTING DEARER; this is

therefore the Time to Buy.—PHILLIPS and COMPANY are still SELLING AT OLD PRICES, although the market value of Tea has risen 3d. to 4d. per lb., and will be still higher. The Teas worth purchasing are—

The strong Congou Tea, at 3s. 4d. per lb.
The prime Souchong Tea, at 3s. 6d., 3s. 8d., and 4s.
The prime Gunpowder Tea, at 4s., 4s. 8d., and 5s.
The best Pearl Gunpowder, at 5s. 4d.

All who purchase at these prices will save money, as Teas are getting dearer.

Prime Coffee, at 1s. and 1s. 2d. per lb. The best Mocha, 1s. 4d. per lb.

Teas, Coffees, and all other Goods sent carriage free, by our own vans and carts, if within eight miles; and Teas, Coffees, and Spices sent carriage free to any part of England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea and Colonial Merchants, 8, King William-street, City, London.

Phillips and Co.'s Price List of RAISINS, CURRANTS, IMPERIAL PLUMS, FIGS, &c., is now ready, and is sent, post free, on application.

INSURRECTION IN CHINA.—TEAS

are advancing in Price, and from the disturbed state of the producing districts, the well-ascertained shortness of supply, and the increasing consumption, there is every probability of a considerable rise. We have not at present altered our quotations, and are still selling

The very Best Black Tea, at.....s. d.
Good sound Congou.....3 0 the pound.
Finest Pekoe ditto.....3 8
Fine Gunpowder.....4 0
Choice Coffee.....1 0
Finest Homoeopathic Cocoa.....1 0
This is the most pleasant and nutritious preparation of Cocoa.

For the convenience of our numerous customers, we retail the finest West India and Refined Sugars at market prices.

All goods delivered by our own vans, free of charge, within eight miles of London. Parcels of Tea and Coffee, of the value of Two Pounds sterling, are sent, carriage free, to any part of England.

CULLINGHAM AND COMPANY,

Tea-merchants and Dealers,
27, SKINNER-STREET, SNOW-HILL, CITY.

TO THE LOVERS OF FISH.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS for COUN-

TRY FRIENDS. 25 Real Yarmouth Bloaters delivered in London for 2s.; 100 forwarded to any part of the Kingdom for 6s.; 100 fine Devonshire Kipper Herrings, quite a luxury, for 8s.; 100 fine American Herrings for 8s.; they are highly dried, and will keep for years; they are well adapted for emigrants and residents in the Colonies. Also, 12 dozen of fine Albion Dried Sprats for 1s. 6d. Fine Finner Haddock, 4s., 5s., and 6s. per dozen. A Barrel of the best Native Oysters for 5s. 6d.; or a bag containing Half-a-Bushel of good quality Oysters for 10s. All orders immediately attended to by WILLIAM DEEKS, 7, Bow-street, Covent-garden.

N.B. Country residents requiring fresh Fish from London may rely on their orders being punctually attended to, both in price and quality. All Post-office orders, as above, to be made payable at the Strand Money Order-office. The Trade supplied.

DAVIES'S YELLOW SOAP, 38s., 44s.,

48s., and 52s., per 112 lbs.; Mottled, 54s.; Brown Windsor, 1s. and 1s. 9d. per packet; White Windsor, 1s. 4d.; Plain Windsor, 9d.; Honey, 1s. 4d. Sperm Oil, 8s. per gallon; Argand or Vegetable, 4s. 6d.; French, 4s. Sperm Candles, 1s. 7d. and 1s. 8d. per lb.; Transparent Wax, 1s. 10d.; Best Wax, 2s. 3d.; British, 1s. 5d.; Botanic, 1s.; Composite, 7d., 8d., 10d., and 10½d. Store Candles, 7d.; Moulds, 8d. for Cash, at M. P. DAVIES and SON'S Old-Established Warehouse, 63, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.

VARICOSE VEINS, &c.—HUXLEY'S

SURGICAL ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., are still recommended in all cases where a bandage would formerly have been applied. They are light, durable, and more economical than any article yet produced. SPIRAL STOCKINGS at a great reduction in price; Abdominal Belts on a new principle, weighing only four ounces.

Particulars, Lists of Prices, and the articles forwarded by post, on application to HUXLEY and CO., 5, VERT-STREET, OXFORD-STREET. Hospitals supplied on favourable terms.

THE COMFORT of a FIXED WATER-

CLOSET for £1.—Places in Gardens converted into comfortable Water-closets by the PATENT HERMETICALLY-SEALED PAN, with its self-acting water-trap valve, entirely preventing the return of cold air or effluvia. Price £1. Any carpenter can fix it in two hours. Also PATENT HERMETICALLY-SEALED INODOROUS COMMODORES for the Sick-room, price £1 4s., £2 6s., and £3. A Prospectus with Engravings forwarded by enclosing a post-stamp.

At FIFE and CO.'S, 26, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.

Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS**, 39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street), Nos. 1 & 2, Newman-street, and 4 & 5, Perry's-place. They are the largest in the world, and contain such an assortment of **FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, FIRE-IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY**, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, 2l. 14s. to 5l. 10s.; ditto with ormolu ornaments and two sets of bars, 5l. 10s. to 12l. 12s.; Bronzed Fenders complete, with standards, from 7s. to 3l.; Steel Fenders from 2l. 15s. to 6l.; ditto, with rich ormolu ornaments, from 2l. 15s. to 7l. 7s.; Fire-irons from 1s. 9d. the set to 4l. 4s. Sylvester and all other Patent Stoves, with radiating hearth plates. All which he is enabled to sell at these very reduced charges.

First—From the frequency and extent of his purchases; and
Secondly—From those purchases being made exclusively for cash.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The **REAL NICKEL SILVER**, introduced twenty years ago by **WILLIAM S. BURTON**, when **PLATED** by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Tea Spoons, per dozen ...	18s. ...	26s. ...	32s. ...
Dessert Forks	30s. ...	40s. ...	46s. ...
Dessert Spoons	30s. ...	42s. ...	48s. ...
Table Forks	40s. ...	56s. ...	64s. ...
Table Spoons	40s. ...	58s. ...	66s. ...

Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

	Fiddle.	Thread.	King's.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen.....	12s. ...	28s. ...	30s. ...
Dessert ditto and ditto...	10s. ...	21s. ...	25s. ...
Tea ditto	5s. ...	11s. ...	12s. ...

CUTLERY WARRANTED.—The most

varied Assortment of **TABLE CUTLERY** in the world, all warranted, is on Sale at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales. 3½-inch ivory-handled table knives, with high shoulders, 11s. per dozen; desserts to match, 10s.; if to balance, 1s. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 26s. per dozen; extra fine, ivory, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. to 50s.; white bone table knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; desserts, 5s. 6d.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; desserts, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish-carvers. Also a large assortment of Razors, Penknives, Scissors, &c., of the best quality.

LAMPS of all SORTS and PATTERNS.

The largest, as well as the choicest, assortment in existence of **PALMER'S MAGNUM** and other **LAMPS, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and MODERATEUR LAMPS**, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherche patterns, in ormolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**, and they are arranged in one large room, so that the patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected. **PALMER'S CANDLES**, 8½d. a pound.—Palmer's Patent Candles, all marked "Palmer":—
Single or double wicks 8½d. per pound.
Mid. size, three wicks 9d. ditto.
Magnums, three or four wicks 9½d. ditto.
English Patent Camphine, in sealed cans 5s. 9d. per gallon.
Best Colza Oil 4s. ditto.

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