

News of the Week.

T last the convention between France and A England-the basis of the combined action in the war-has been concluded. The ratifications were exchanged a few days back, and the substance of the treaty is now public property. It states the objects of the alliance to be the reestablishment of peace between Russia and Turkey on a permanent basis, and the prevention of such dangers as have now disturbed the general peace of Europe. The two Western Powers bind themselves to co-operate with their naval and military forces for the accomplishment of those objects, and not to accept any separate proposition for peace without communicating it to each other. They disclaim any exclusive advantage for themselves, and invite the rest of Europe to join in the alliance. The character of the treaty was known some time back, and the time which has expired before the ratification has given rise to many surmises, and even to reports of lingering "difficulties" between the two Governments. It has been hinted that the French had proved impracticable on certain points. There is no doubt that it was difficult to arrange the basis of a combination which must last for some time, without awakening feelings of jealousy and pride on either side. Moreover, the treaty had to be so framed that the union which it offers to other States would be practicable for them as well as for the Western Powers. Should the treaty be well observed, and carried out by the Two Governments that have adopted it, the time expended in arranging will not have been wasted. The Governments have still to be judged by their actions, and their action will be more important on the stage of the war now about to open, than in the preliminaries which are closed by the publication of this treaty and of the Russian notice in answer to the declaration of war. This Russian document is a characteristic affair. It is remarkable for the absence of statements of fact, and for a certain argumentative, specialpleading style; being, in short, less a declaration of the Russian intentions than a laboured reply to 'the English declaration. It declares the English summons to surrender the Principalities insincere, because it is made long after the event; to be insulting in its partiality, since it is directed only to one of the parties in the quarrel; and meriting the only reply which the Emperor gave The principal one declares that British subjects The reports of the Sturges, the un-English lan-

it -silence. In the presence of the declaration of war, the Emperor "accepts the situation which has been made him, reserving to himself to employ all the means which Providence has put in his hands to defend with energy and constancy the honour, independence, and safety of his empire." Being forced up into a corner, he can no longer avoid battle by trickery, and so he braves it.

The uneasiness created by the slow progress of our arms North and South, the very slow progress of our soldiers and ships to their place of destination, and the changes of counsel which are observed, occasion much public uneasiness. and give opportunity for a large amount of open complaint, and still more whispered insinuation, that Ministers are not doing their duty. The complaint takes many forms. Sometimes it is said, with Lord Grey, that the evil lies in the bad organization of the War department, whose duties are divided between the Horse Guards, the War Office, the Ordnance, the Victualling Office, and the Treasury; separate compartments, which own a very imperfect control under the Colonial Minister. Others declare that there is a split in the Cabinet, and that the Government is thus driven first to one side, then to another. While a third party add to this latter statement the assertion that Lord Aberdeen and some other Ministers positively try to thwart the war in which they profess to have acquiesced. There is not as yet the slightest proof in support of these statements; and they rather indicate an uneasy feeling, than really establish any charge. In the meanwhile it must be admitted that such intelligence as we have is not altogether favourable to confidence in the public. If Admiral Plumridge has really taken five vessels as prizes in the Baltic, there still is too much reason to apprehend either that Sir Charles Napier is cramped by instructions unfavourable to his activity, or that he finds greater difficulty in approaching the enemy than we might at first have supposed. In the Black Sea the Russians report themselves to have succeeded in eluding the vigilance of our fleet, and to have conveyed to their own arms in Asia those very reinforcements and stores which it was the object of the fleet to intercept. The public is panting for some great success; and at present, while we have little and doubtful success, the only thing great is the delay or the doubt.

may freely trade with neutral and friendly ports, and neutral or friendly ships from neutral or friendly ports may convey merchandise to this country, without any reference to the origin or ownership of the property. By another order, Russian ships which have actually commenced their voyage before the declaration of war, even when coming to this country, are secured immunity at sea and free entry and departure in English ports. Taken together with others that have preceded them, the orders give a larger freedom and security to commerce during actual war than have ever been granted before.

One of the best guarantees for the honesty and efficiency of the Ministry is the active co-operation of a man who, like Sir Hamilton Seymour, uniformly speaks in a strain of straightforward vigour. Sir Hamilton is new to public speaking at home, and it was "a great card" for the Lord Mayor to get him at the Easter festival of the Mansion-house, on Monday last. For the day Sir Hamilton was a more conspicuous guest than Lord John Russell or Lord Palmerston; and in the peculiarly plain, colloquial, and racy language of the diplomatist there must have been a freshness for the civic ears altogether marvellous in proceeding from official lips. Sir Hamilton compared the English system of diplomacy with the Russian: the English, he said, consists in observing what passes and in stating it to Ministers at home, whether such statements be calculated to please the Ministers or not. There are old stagers in the profession of diplomacy who will be astounded to hear this called the "English system." We are much more inclined to call it the Seymour system; but it is unquestionably lucky for England that it should have been begun by so able a master just in the nick of time. Sir Hamilton confirms a long entertained opinion of our own, that the frauds which the Czar plays off upon other countries are retaliated upon himself, in the shape of false reports from agents anxious to please him and to represent their own success. Thus he is made to have a totally false impression as to the condition of the Christians in Turkey, the stability and strength of the Government in France, the popular feeling in England, and other facts not less important to his plans. In short, he is made to believe that every country is exactly in the state in which he would wish it to be; and hence, no doubt, a great part of his otherwise unaccountable arrogance.

Three new Orders in Council are issued to regulate the effect of the war upon commerce.

LEADER THE

guage of the Cobdens, the accommodating pictures drawn by some singularly bending Americans, must assist his agents in the flattering delusion-a delusion that has been spared to our Government by that manly straightforwardness which Sir Hamilton Seymour modestly ascribes to the system, but which we centainly ascribe to the man, while we thank him for meroducing it.

In the absence of any finish or decisive ligence respective the engress of the mance with Austria and Prussia, we have statements that Holland has declared a thorough neutrality, declining to permit the exportation of contrabands of war, or the entrance of privateers into her harbours; Sardinia has done the same; a demand to the same effect has been made upon Spain; and we may anticipate that a similar demand will test the feelings of. Naples and other States that cannot but lean to the Russian side.

Spain, however, appears for the moment to be seized with a paroxysm of good faith and politic amity. Mr. Soulé is promised indemnity for the Black Warrior; though the Government still haggles over the amount to be paid; new orders are issued for the better government of Cuba, and the better observance of anti-slavery treaties with this country; and Spain would seem for the moment to be recovering from her dream of impunity in treachery to her alliances.

In the United States we see active agitation on the subject of England, Mexico, and the Nebraska territory. An idea prevails that the Orders in Council issued by our Government necessarily involve a revival of our claim to the right of search, which America has formerly denied and successfully resisted; but our own readers are aware that the subject has been under consideration, and we have as yet no reason to suppose that our own Government contemplates any offensive adhesion to an old claim.

The Mexican question turns upon a supposed corrupt desire in the American Government to get rid of a surplus in the treasury by paying for a barren slip of barren soil along the border of the Gila. The correspondent of the Times asserts that the American Government will not only reserve five million dollars to pay off American claims upon Mexico, but will also give heavy commissions to its agents if they effect a friendly conclusion of the Gadsden treaty. We have no faith in these easily got up affectations of penetrating official secrets, and pretending that the baser crimes and treasons are manufactured in every Government The most stirring question for the time was the threatened duel. The Nebraska Bill proposed to override the Missouri Compromise, by permitting the institution of slavery in a new territory North of the compromised line. The Free-soilers mostly objected to that concession, although it was represented to them that a concession in that direction would also serve as precedent for the corresponding concession of some free-soil state South of the line. On the whole, however, the balance of opinion appears to have been against the Bill; and that may account for the fact that Mr. Cutting; after intimating that he was in favour of its principle, made that motion for referring it to a committee of the whole House which was considered fatal to it. Mr. Breckenbridge, of Kentucky, who supports the Government, fired by the apparent breach of faith in the other member, launched forth a philippic; which drew upon him a challenge; and Washington expected to see the parliamentary debate continued with the rifle. Luckily that scandal was saved; but the Bill appears likely to fall aside. Affairs at Stockport have taken a very unhappy turn, and we augur much further embarrassment from the mistake which the magistrates have made. We have full accounts from our own correspondent, whose letter will be found in another column. The masters having announced a withdrawal of the ten per cent. increase of wages which they had granted, and having refused the alternative of short time suggested by the men,

justified by an anticipation of disorder, which the What did they write from Constantinople ? They conductor f the working classes had forbidden ; and nothing in more calculated to sow mischief, bad feeling, and the most dangerous ideas, than this prostitution of magisterial authority to the alli-ance of the masters.

in authority. But what is Government doingthat practical Government, led, in these matters, by the rapid Palmerston? We may hold a day of humiliation and prayer, for success in arms; but it would be far better to hold a day, and a long day of works, to fulfil the laws and conditions of life, health, and Goda

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

THE Chief of the City gives a banquet to Ministers and others every year, at Easter time. This year the feast was held on Easter Monday, and amid a great gathering of city and Parliamentary notables there were the Ministers, Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston, with their spouses; the Duchess of Somerset, the Bishop of Chester; Sir Hamilton Seymour, and Lord Robert Grosvenor. It is not however for the revelations made by Ministers-revelations usually of the common-place sort-that we record this city banquet at length; but for the capital speech of the late Minister at St. Petersburg-a pure noyelty, as regards municipal festivities.

The order of, the proceedings did not differ from that of any ordinary dinner. First came "the Queen," "the Royal Family," "the Army and Navy," and so on. To "the Health of her Majesty's Ministers" Lord John Russell replied, certainly not in a manner worth recording here; except in the following passage, which may be usefully quoted :---

"One-thing, perhaps, I may be parmitted to say, not on behalf of the Ministers, who must always be prepared to meet any criticism which their conduct may bring upon themselves, but on behalf of those gallant men in our navy and army who have lately left our shores to maintain the reputation of the flag of our commtry., I beg you to believe that these gallant men are one and all of them intent on doing good service to our country wherever best it can be done, I know very well that criticism is apt to rest upon the men who it may seem; at the time, do not exactly carry into effect the designs of the critics or the plans of those who know not the difficulties and the dangers which have to be encountered. But I beg of you to believe that all of these men are animated by a sincere desire to do their duty, and that at no former time, even when the glory of our country, was wound to its highest pitch, had we men, either in the naval or the military service, on whose discretion, skill, wisdom, and judgment, we may with more confidence rely. I therefore trust that, without listening to hasty and often unfounded reports, you will wait to see the whole of the actions performed by these men; and depend upon it they will prove worthy of their Queen and their country." (Cheers.)

wrote that that interesting invalid the Sultan got worse and worse, that his flesh and his appetite were quite gone, and that his obstinacy was such that he refliced to take the prescriptions which the Imperial physician was good enough to send him. What did they write from London? They wrote that John ance of the masters. Choice a comes again with slow but stendy steps; and from the General Board of Health innes an of sial winning, signed by the Secretary Mr. The Tayler. It is not too soon. Summy the foll epidemic will arge again with more fatal by meddling with affairs with which he had no direct the way of England. He must say here easter Durope; the field will lie the weight of responsibility upon all in authority, and many not in authority. But what is Government doing. Count that-but to general, reports sent from the country. What did they write from France ? Why they represented that country as having hardly escaped from one revolution or political change, and as being only bent upon avoiding another-that the men of commerce were intent upon realising large fortunes: that the Government was imperial in its sympathies; and above all, the idea of a close connection between England and France was treated as a myth-as a thing to be talked of, but never to be realised.

SATURDAY,

But it might be asked what was the English Minister about all this time? The English Minister. he might tell them, was a very small man. He did what he could, but his voice was small, for it was not what was said to the Emperor of Russia in the English language that availed anything, but what was said to him in the Russian language; and he was persuaded that if there had been any one among his advisers of courage or of character sufficient to tell his Majesty the exact truth, his Majesty would never have followed his present unfortunate course. The result was, that England was now plunged into a war with a country with which we had long been on the most friendly relations-a country that had many sympathics with this country, as might be expected when it was considered that half of its produce was not only purchased by England, but paid for before hand; and with a very kindly people, for he could not conceal it, that he had found there many kind hearts, among the people-(cheers)-and when the present mists of prejudice had been dispelled there were many friendly hands there which it would give him great pleasure again to shake. (Loud cheers.)

But if they had lost an ancient ally on the one side, the circumstances of the case had had the extraordinary effect, with regard to another country, of wining away the results of centuries of jealousy and of hostility, and of producing a state of friendly feeling which, he trusted, would be equally durable. He need not say that he alluded to their ally the French nation. (Cheers.) In every language there were words of peculiar significance and importance. Thus, when they said in England that a man behaved himself like a gentleman, they bestowed upon him the highest compliment, and they meant that such a man would not only fulfil, but would go beyond, his engagements. Now, in the French language, the words loyal and loyaute had the same significant meaning. And in speaking of the French cabinet, he must say that, as far as his own powers of observation had gone, those terms were peculiarly applicable to the acts of the French Government. (Cheers.) As far as he had been able to observe, nothing had been more loyal-nothing more marked by loyaute -than the proceedings of the French Government. He did not wish to go into any personal affairs, but there was one slight circumstance which occurred to himself, and which he thought, as regarded the conduct of the French Government, had not attracted the attention it deserved. Among the arts that were used--'dodges,' he believed, was the modern word --(laughter)---to separate the English and the French Governments, the Russian cabinet meted out a very different treatment to the English Minister from what was awarded to the French Minister. For instance. Sir Hamilton received one fine winter's morning the agreeable intimation that his back was more passports were ready-and that it was desirable he should set out from St. Petersburg as soon as possible. Nothing of the sort was done to the French Minister. But it happened that this little act was foreseen and discountenanced at Paris; and it so happened that when the French Minister heard of this, acting upon his instructions, he wrote to the Russian Cabinet requesting that a similar passport might be made out for him, and so off he went. (Cheers.) It was therefore possible, and he hoped it was probable, that the long centuries of hostility that existed between France and England might now be succeeded by as many centuries of peace. Before sitting down, let him endeavour to point out the difference between the first and the second empires. The one appeared to him to rest upon war and upon open-air meetings. Such a step could only be tonce a single word of truth in the whole relation. Paris the cries of 'Vive la Reine Victorie!' 'Vivant

362

Praising, Sir Hamilton Seymour, the Lord Mayor proposed the health of the diplomatic service, and coupled with the toast that gentleman's name.

Sir Hamilton Seymour, on rising, was loudly cheered. Unfortunately, he spoke in a low tone of voice, which in many parts of the room was altogether inaudible. After returning thanks for the honour which they had done him in drinking his health, he said he could have been well content to sit down at once, as he was altogether unaccustomed to address large assemblies, but that he had a long story to tell.

He might begin by remarking that the confidence which they were pleased to place in him, and the confidence they reposed in him, were due in a great measure to the system of diplomacy adopted by the English Government. That system was remarkably simple. It consisted in a man keeping agreeable to the Government than his face-that his his eyes as wide open as he could, and in writing home observations, not such as were most likely to please the English Government, but such as they appeared to be to the man himself. That was the system universally adopted by English diplomatists, but unfortunately it was not followed abroad. In particular it was not adopted by the Russian Government, and the consequences were what they had all seen. Had the Russian Government followed the same practice, he believed that none of the present evils would have come to pass. But, unfortunately, a contrary course was adopted; for nothing could be more inexact, nothing more false than the notions with regard to Europe in general that were circulated through Russia. What did they write with regard to the provinces of Turkey? They wrote that nothing but the greatest horrors prevailed-that the | a disregard of national rights; the other rested upon priests were murdered at the altar-that the Christian | an extreme desire for peace, as long as peace could be temples were burned-that the grossest sacrileges preserved on honourable terms, and upon the greatest were everywhere committed-things that made his respect for the rights and privileges of other nations. the men have struck; and the magistrates forbid hair stand on end till he found that he could not There had lately resounded through the streets of

les Anglois!' He believed he was speaking the universal sentiments of his countrymen when he said that Englishmen would respond to those cries with the shout of 'Vive la France-vive l'Empereurvive le defenseur de les droits de l'Europe." (Cheers.)

He would not detain them longer: If any observation had appeared in his speech tinged with asperity; he hoped they would excuse it. He dared to say that many of them, in travelling, had experienced the discomfort, when arriving at a station, of finding that they had left an umbrella or a carpet-bag behind them, and they would therefore excuse any annoyance felt by a poor traveller like himself, who had left behind him the whole of his luggage, and who therefore naturally felt a little excitement on the subject." (Cheers and laughter.)

This speech made a great sensation. It had the singular honour of not being reported by the Times

-why it would be difficult to say.] The toast-giving continued. Lord Palmerston testified to the great merits of the British House of Commons; Lord John Russell did honour to "the Lord Mayor"; Sir E. Kelly, in replying for the Bar, paid big compliments to Lord John Russell, and Mr. Sichells, of the United States' Legation, spoke of the strong sympathy felt by his countrymen for the Turkisli cause. So it ended-the speech of the Minister who has suffered a burglary at the hands of an Emperor remaining the speech of the evening.

CONTINENTAL NOTES:

The week has been characterised by an absence of Conti-nental news, and all that is worth telling from foreign parts

is easily summed up. In Paris the gay doings in hononr of the Duke of Cam-bridge and Lord Ragian culminated on Monday. They comprised grand dinners at the British Embassy and the comprised grand dinners at the British Embassy and the hotel of the French Foreign Minister, visits to cavalry barracks, to the Louvre, and Versailles, where the great waterworks were set playing for the behoof of the Duke of Cambridge. The great closing festivity, on Monday night was a grand ball and concert at the newly-decked Elysée, given by the Empress to the Duke and Lord Ragian. It was got up with that profusion of brilliant cloth, choice shrubs, gilding, and picturesque out-door illuminations which is so decidedly French. The Emperor and Empress were present; they left at one o'clock, but the dancers kept up the ball till daylight. The next morning Lord Ragian started for Marseilles, and

The next morning Lord Raglan started for Marseilles, and on the following day the Duke of Cambridge setiont, not by the most direct road, the road of a soldier to the field of battle; but to Vienna; whither he has gone to compliment the Einperor on his approaching marriage. Thence he will go

viá Trieste, to Constantinople. Marshal St. Arnaud departed on Saturday for the East, and Prince Napoleon, after receiving the ovations of Marseilles, sailed from Toulon on Monday. It is said that Gene-

ral Baragnay d'Hilliers presses for troops. The correspondent of the Morning Chronicle was the first to announce that an offensive and defensive treaty had been signed between France and England. Yesterday the Times wrote an follows :---

"We learn from Paris that the convention between the French and English Governments which was signed a few days ago. in London has already been ratified, and that the text of this important document. will probably appear this morning, in the Moniteur. The object of the alliance of the two Courts is stated to be the re-establishment of peace between the Emperor of Russia and the Sultan on a perma. nent basis, and the preservation of Europe from the dangers which have disturbed the general peace. For this purpose, and in order to rescue the dominion of the Sultan from foreign invasion, the English and French Governments agree to combine their military and naval forces in a manner sufficient to accomplish the result they have in view. They bind. themselves not to accept any proposition for the cessation of hostilities against Russia without having communicated to each other the nature of such overtures. They distinctly disclaim all exclusive advantage to themselves from the events which may arise, and they invite the rest of Europe to co-operate with them in an alliance destined solely to protect the public interests of Europe. The latences of the hour at which this information reaches us compels as to defer till to-morrow all further comment on this impertant convention, which seems to supply the necessary basis to the operations in which the English and French forces are now engaged, and will, we trust, cement the permanent alliance of the Wesiern Powers." Some of the provincial journals have spoken of the intention of founding military establishments on the shore of the Mediterranean, near Toulon, or in the north at Dunkirk or Boulogne. The Union says :--- "A similar establishment is spoken of on our western coasts. If the rumours on this subject are not erroneous, numerous regiments of infantry and cavalry, destined eventually to take part in the expedition to the Baltic, are to be écheloned along the shore from Brest to Cherbourg, so as to be ready for immediate embarkation." The Moniteur of Wednesday stated that the Austrian Ambassador at Paris had left for Vienna, to be present at the marriage of the Emperor; he would be absent ten days. Mr. Laing, M.P., Chairman of the Crystal Palace Coinpany, accompanied by Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Cecil Boothby, one of the Direction, and Mr. Grove, the Secretary, had an interview with the Emperor on Monday, at the Tuileries. The deputation was introduced by Lord Cowley. The Emperor expressed the greatest interest in the success of the undertaking, and promised to send contributions from the Imperial manufactories of Sevres, the Gobelins, and Beauvais. He also intimated his intention of sending a deputation of distinguished persons to represent France at the ceremony of the opening of the Fulace next month.

Cardinal Wiseman, who arrived in Paris on Saturday evening, had an interview on the same day with the Em. peror. The Cardinal was on his way to Londom

The Turkish news is not of a striking character. At the time we write the armies were in their old positions-the Russians in the Dobrudscha, where they were making good their foothold, and the Turks still at Karasa. But from hour to hour we expect news of hostilities. Réports are numerous, but sadly wanting in authenticity. They are, that the great Russian depôt, Folkschan, has been destroyed by fire, with all the arms, ammunition, stores, clothing, and provisions laboriously collected there; that Odessa has been taken; that it has not, and that it is blockaded; and that the Russians have entered Kostendje, which, on evacuating the Turks fired.

On the other hand; there is no doubt but that the Greeks; except those of the Roman Catholic faith, have been compelled to fly from Constantinople. The diplomatic documents which have been published show that the Ministers of England and France, as well as of the Porte, regard the Greak Government as compromised in the Albanian insurrection. Lord Stratford indignantly disclaims all sympathy for the foolish authors of a violent and unprincipled policy, that can only tend to the benefit of Russia, and even finds it necessary to charge the British consuls to deny that the allies will assist the insurgents, or protect the Greeks from expulsion from the Sultan's dominions.

Accounts from Constantinopley of the 5th instant, state that Count Zamoiski has at length received the permission of the Turkish Government to form a Polish legion. The legion, when organised, will be sent into Armenia, and serve against, the Russians in Georgia. Count Zamoiski is the nephew of the Prince Adam Czartoriski.

According to Constantinople mercantile letters of the 6th of April, Baron Bruck has issued orders to all Austrian vessels to quit Constantinople. It is conjectured that the order relates only to Austrian vessels of way in order to avoid the importunities of the Purks that they should join the allied fiets vin the Black Sea

The declaration of war made by England and France was published on the 6th in the Turkish camp at Kalafat. After a salute of 100 cannon shots had been fired from the ramparts, the troops marched out in battalions, and fixed each three volleys of musketry, the military band filling up the intervals with martial airst

The Paris Putric contradicts, ""on authority," the reports of the death of Culonel Dieu. According to a letter from Constantinople of the 5th; the colonel was then at the head quarters of Omar Rashs, and in perfect health

We are still without any kind of information from Germany respecting the intentions of Austria and Prussia, and only know that a treaty has been concluded between tients It is however, considered doubtful whether it would be ratified by Amstein.

The Invalide Russe publishes a remarkable article des scribing how the garrisons on the Circassian, coast, were removed and the forts burnt, "with that success which accompanies all the operations of the fleet in the Black Sea," between the 3rd and the 10th of March --- a fortnight before war was declared in London:----

" In coasting along the shores of Circassia, and whenever they arrived opposite any post, they left the vessels necessary, for the embarkation of the garrison; but on approaching Navaghinsk, two steamers, the one French and the other English, were signalled. The embarkation was suspended, and measures were taken to prepare for action; however, the enemy's ships remained in the offling, passed before ours, and the embarkation was resumed.

"In the meantime, opposite the post Veliaminoff; these two steamers stopped the hired transport Bzyb; two officers hailed her and addressed to her commander, Lieutenant Tchebyscheff, the following questions -

a certain date, without the proper papers, shall be set free, and that free labour shall be introduced into the island; and lastly, that there has been a run on the San Fernando Bank at Madrid, caused by the dismissal of the old governor and the appointment of one-M. Slarente-of a less scrippulous character. The bank is perfectly solvent, we are told.

By advices from Madrid, of the 13th inst., we learn that the Queen has amnestied the soldiers of the Regiment of Cordova who took part in the revolt at Saragossa.

The Pays writes that Russian agents are traversing Spain and Portugal with the view of exciting revolts there.

THE WAR

THE BALTIC FLEET.

FIVE, perhaps ten, prizes have been secured by the Baltic fleet. The fortunate officer to gain the first spoil from the enemy is Admiral Blumridge; commanding a flying squadron of paddle-wheel steamers. The admiral, with the whole flest, were last heard of near the island of Gothland, whither they had gone to look out for the enemy. No fewer than eighteen sail of the line were in the harbour at Helbingfors.

We have letters from our own correspondent on board the fleet, an officer who is likely to do his duty gallantly in the struggle, and, like all his brothen, full of enthusiasm and old English spirit. He writes as follows:---

"We arrived at Winge Sound on the lating Sir Charles Napier immediately started in the Valorour for Copenhagen to make arrangements for the fices remaining in some port of Denmark. The Swedes seemed well inclined to fraternise with us. Steamers with crowds of well-dressed people came out from Gottenburg, and cheered us most lustily. Most and vegetables were sont on board many of the ships and no money would be accepted ... The fleet bee not been idlo general exercise with great game eveny morning; usually firing: at: a matka we have also morning: usually firing at a mark we have also had parties every morning practising Minischooting. The latter weapon is certainly a great improvement on "Brown Bess." At 500 yards more than half the shots struck the target. On the 24th Sir Charles Napier returned from Copenhagen, and on the fol-lowing morning the squadron started for Kiege Bay, pilots having been engaged at Fredericksmann, the day previous, by her Majerty's ship Tribute. The new vigation of the Great Belt, through which we paged; is difficult and tedious. The field and fore ness, in Jutland, the first night (25th); and at Reef ness; in Zealand, the second aight (26th). The glass now fell rapidly, and shortly afterwards it came on to blow a heavy gale. The signal was made to strike topmaste, and used ships let go their moond anchor. On the morning of the 28th the fleet weighed, stunding downs the Belts. As 2 P. m. the Leopand was ide served approaching with our Minister at Copeningen on boards. What his business might be we know not, but shortly afterwards so signal was made to discharge pilots and procure new ones; and the news was speedily circulated that our destinations had been changed from Kiege to Kiel, in Schlemig-Holstoin. That night we anchored of the Nybourg and the next day, having cleared the Belt; woreached the vicinity of Kiel.

" No: communication took place with the shore; although we remained there three days exception steamer, which was sent in for letters and one day's fresh beef for the crews. We cannot account for the non-appearance of any of the matives, boatmen; or others, who might have realised fortunes in a few, hours by catering for the ships, save by the supposition that the Denish authorities prevent, their supplying us. We shall have to annex Schleswig-Holstein: before long, on hand it over to the Duke of Augustenburg, or the King of. Hanover, and, as report says we are popular with the natives, I dare say we could do it in less time than was wasted on Lord Malmesbury's convention in 1852. On the 1st instant we arrived at Kioge Bay without any disaster, if I except a collision which occurred between the Princess Royal and the Cressy. The latter vessel lost her foreyard and the former her quarter. boat. This accident is attributed to the thickness of the fog and the unaccountable conduct of the Princess Royal, who stopped without any signal having been made, when the fog prevented one from seeing six yards ahead. Here, then, we are as Hioge; but distant from the town of Copenhagen nearly fifteen miles. A signal was made to send for letters from England, but to our intense disgust hardly an officer received a letter. "April 4.-The fleet is still here. Sir Charles, Napier has issued an order declaring that it is expedient to keep on good terms with Danes and Sweden; and requesting, in the event of the service permitting officers to go to Copenhagen, that they will conduct themselves properly, and not kick up a shindy. This is good news for us, for it seems to say there is a chance of our getting leave, though, up to the present time, no one has been allowed out of any of the ships. Noon.-The Hecla has arrived with letters and an announcement of declaration of war. Our has at last induced the Spanish Government to pass a decree for the better observance of the slave-trade treaties, ordering that slaves in Cuba shall be registered, and all found after sixpence postage on our letters, and half of them

" 'What steamers have you seen near the post of Nava-ghinsk?' Answer—'Some Russian steamers of war.' " 'What are they doing at that point?' Answer—'There is an admiral there, and he has not told me his instructions.' "'Who is burning the posts, you or the Circassians?' Answer-'We.'

" 'Why do you burn them ?' Answer-' Because such is the order given."

"" Where is your fleet?' Answer-'I don't know, but I believe it to be at sea, and very near.'

"After having received these answers, the two steamers departed, having described themselves as the Mogudor and the Sampson.

"From all these posts, besides the garrisons, which make up an effective force of 5000 men, they embarked all the families of the soldiers, the workmen, and a great part of the stores of the Crown. The rest, as well as the buildings, were burnt, and the fortifications were blown up.

"Our military resources have thus been sugmented by an important body of picked troops, accustomed to war by lang service in the centre of an unsubdued country."

The Grand Duke Constantine has personally assumed the command of the Russian fleet at Helsingfors. He hoisted his flag on the 1st instant.

The Austrian and Prussian Ministers at St. Petersburg did not attend the reading of the bulletin announcing the passage of the Danube, although they were invited.

According to advices from Turin on the 15th inst., the Sardinian Government has issued an order prohibiting any privateers under the Russian flag from being armed, provisioned, or harboured, with their prizes, in Sardinian ports. Prince Lucion Bonaparte had an audience of the Pope, on the 11th, that lasted an hour and a half. The Prince has been made much of in all the the towns of the Papal States. From Spain come three important items of news. First, we hear the Black Warrior question is far from settled, and that Mr. Sould has made great demands; next, Lord Howdon

nave been sent back. Sir Charles Napier has just ignalised: Lads,-War is declared. If they come but we will meet them; if not, we will seek them; and depend on a sharp and quick fire: Sharpen your cutlasses, and all is our own." Unhappily the signal was rather bungled, and we have not got the exact words. Such is the spirit of it, and all the ships have manned the rigging, and cheered violently.'

Though somewhat behind the telegraphic announcement, yet we are sure our readers will gladly peruse the following account of the reception of the war declaration by the fleet, written by an officer of the Duke of Wellington, and published in the Plymouth Mail. The date is April 4:--

"At noon to day the Old Duke looked as if she was dressed for a holiday-she was covered with flags, forming a general signal to the fleet which had anything but a holiday signification-it was the Commander-in-Chief's declaration of

enemy to meet. Should they offer us battle, you will know what to do with them. Success depends on the precision and quickness of your fire. Also, lads! sharpen your cut-

lasses, and the day is your own.' "The Blenheim, Captain the Hon. F. T. Pelham, imme-diately answered, 'Ready and willing;' the Neptune, Captain Smith, 'Ready;' and every ship manued her rigging and gave three such cheers as are seldom heard in those waters. Ourselves and all the ship's company were then called upon deck, and Commedore Seymour read the signal to us; and the men were beginning to follow the example of the other ships, when the old admiral came forward, and, leaning over

the poop railing, said-"Now, my lads! You have just heard what the commo-dore has said to you, and all I have to say is, you must be cool and collected-don't throw your shot away. A shot fired in the air or the water is of no use. Make every one of them tell; we have quite a different system now to what we had in the last war. "I have no doubt some of you have been in action before, but it will be different to what you have been accustomed to; but Admiral Chads showed you the other day that a shell bursting between decks is not so dangerous as you imagine, and if one comes on your deck, you must lie down and it won't hurt you more than the common splinters of an ordinary action. Should we meet the Russian fleet at sea, as I dare say we shall, you well know how to dispose of them. We will now man the rigging, and give three cheers for the Queen, God bless her ! "The men rushed to the rigging and gave three times three for the Queen and one cheer more, and three for the Com-mander-in-Chief. This was followed by the rest of the fleet, and gave three for the fleet,

and peal after peal came floating over the waters, until the most distant sounded like the echo of the other. Hands were piped down-men under punishment were forgiven, and an extra glass of grog given each man at supper time."

THE ARMY.

At the latest dates all the troops, except the Guards, had sailed for Gallipoli. Nothing could exceed in heartiness the entente cordiale between the French and British soldiers at Malta. They marched about arm-in-arm, unable to converse except by signs; and the Frenchmen, nothing loth, had to suffer that peculiarly English greeting and symbol of friendship, the interchange of liquor. Writing on the 31st of March, the Times' correspondent, at Malta, gives an admirable description of the Zouaves, and their reception there:-

"The Zouave (who was an object of some curiosity to us all) wears a sort of red fez cap, with a roll of cloth at the ase to protect the head; a jacket of blue cloth with red facings, decorated with some simple ornaments and open in front so as to display the throat; and a waistcoat, or under coat, of red comes down to the hips. Round his waist a broad silk sash is folded several times, so as to keep up the ample pantaloons and to support the back. The pantaloons, of scarlet cloth, fit close over the hips, and then expand to the most Dutchman built dimensions, till they are gathered just below the knee in loose bagging folds, and almost look like a kilt. From the knee to the ancle the leg is protected by a kind of greaves, made of stout yellow, embroidered leather, laced (with black stripes) down the back and descending over the shoe. The whole costume is graceful, easy, and picturesque. The men (natives of France, and not Arabs as many suppose) are young smart fellows, about 5 feet 6 inches in height, burnt to a deep copper tint by the rays of an African sun, and wearing the most luxuriant beards, moustaches, and whiskers; it is, however, hard to believe these fierce-looking warriors are Europeans. The Platon and another vessel arrived yesterday with Zouaves from Africa and the usual freight of horses, and the streets were full of men in scarlet and blue uniforms walking armin-arm together in uncommunicative friendliness, their con-versation being carried on by signs, pointing to their throats and stomachs, to express the primitive sensations of hunger and thirst. In most cases the men saluted the foreign officers as if they were their own, and the greatest cordiality existed among them." The allied army at Gallipoli was 5000 strong at the latest date; but it is probable that the whole force at Malta, together with some thousands of French troops, known to be on their way, have landed by this time. The newspaper reporters complain of the want of wood, water, and shelter, at the point of debarkation; and tell all sorts of stories about rows between General Canrobert and the Pacha of Adrianople; but the General himself, writing to the French Government, is not only silent about the rows, but expresses his satisfaction at the accommodation provided.

Brigadiers-general Airey and Buller; four troops of seconded, and Colonel Chesney supported this mocavalry, 17th Lancers and 8th Hussars, several tion. Mr. Richardson, as an amendment, moved strong detachments of infantry, and some troops of that the resolution reflected on the intelligence of artillery. The cavalry it would appear, are to be the people of Manchester; but it was negatived. sent by sea, after all, and in sailing vessels. In all A second amendment was moved by Mr. A. Watkin. the towns through which the troops march to points to this effect:--of embarkation they are received with the greatest enthusiasm.

The launch of the Cossack screw steam-frigate, pierced for thirty guns, with one large pivot-gun, all on the upper deck, and built for the Emperor of Russia by Mr. Pitcher, ship builder of Northfleet, took place on Saturday, at half-past two o'clock; she was towed up the river on Monday. She appears a remarkably finely built vessel, on good lines. She has the figure head of a Cossack, and when rigged will have a similar appearance to the Highflyer, except that she is apparently longer.

The Commissioners of the Admiralty gave notice at Lloyd's on Monday, that they required an additional number of transports, of from 650 to 800 tons burden, for the conveyance of troops and stores to the seat of war. They are to be hired for four months certain. The Commissioners have determined not to take up any vessel for transport service that has discharged a cargo of guano.

The launch of the Royal Albert, 131, screw steamship, has been postponed to Saturday, May, 13 when it will take place in the presence of the Queen, Prince Albert, and other members of the Royal Family. The ceremony of naming the ship will be performed by the Princess Royal.

The exact number of persons who visited Woolwich dockyard on Monday, to go on board the Royal Albert, was 11,156. The numbers who visited the dockyard on Tuesday appeared to be greater.

MR. URQUHART AT MANCHESTER.

MR. URQUHART issued an address to the Manchester people, calling upon them to meet him at the Corn Exchange, to hear his opinions on the causes and ob. jects of the war. About a thousand people assembled, and Mr. Alderman Heywood agreed to preside, on condition that free discussion and fair hearing should be permitted and given. At the outset, Mr. Urquhart read a letter from Mr. John Bright, expressing the views of that gentleman. Mr. Bright says that he differs entirely from Mr. Urquhartexcept in condemning the war-and therefore could not attend the meeting. The remainder of the letter, "received with mingled cheers and hisses," was as follows:---

"I believe the war to be altogether unnecessary, and that nothing can be said either for its justice or its expediency. I believe, further, that after having permitted this country by a series of blunders to drift into war, the Ministers who have chiefly spoken on the subject, with the exception of Lord Aberdeen, have misrepresented the facts of the case, and have thereby misled public opinion. With regard to the professed objects of war, I believe them to be impossible of attainment, and that Russia, in her wildest dreams of ambition, never imagined so many calamities to Turkey as have been brought upon that devoted country in a single year by the friendship which our Government has professed towards her. It is a melancholy circumstance that the English publicthat the English public-not examining, and not reflecting -accepting, with a child-like simplicity, the declarations of statesmen, whose only present bond of union is a partnership in the guilt of this war, and relying on the assertions of a press, more anxious for a trade in newspapers than for truth, should give their sanction to proceedings as much opposed to their own interests as they are to every principle of morality. Our countrymen fancy they are fighting for freedom, because the Russian Government is a despotism; they forget that the object of their solicitude is no less a despot; that their chief ally, but the other day, overthrew a republic, and imprisoned or expatriated the members of a freely elected Parliament; that they are alternately coaxing and bullying Austria (whose regard for freedom and justice Hungary and Italy can attest) to join them in this holy war; and that the chief result of their success—if success be possible-will be to perpetuate the domination of a handful of the followers of Mahomet, from among millions of Christians, throughout the provinces of European Turkey. There was a time when it was fashionable to have sympathy for Greece. Now Athens is to be re-occupied by English and French troops if a strong anti-Turkish feeling is mani-fested there. Five years ago English Liberals wished success to the insurrections in Italy and to the war for independence in Hungary. Now the efforts of the Greeks for freedom are In Hungary. Now the efforts of the Greeks for freedom are pronounced ill-timed, and we, who are sending our fleets and armies to perfect their subjugation to the Turks, are the best judges of the moment when their fetters should be struck off. The people, or a portion of them, are drunk with a confused notion of fighting with Russia. They con-found the blowing up of ships and the slaughter of thousands with the cause of freedom, as if there were any connexion in putters wholly apart. I cannot hope to change this in matters wholly apart. I cannot hope to change this feeling, and fear you cannot. Time and experience alone will convince them, perhaps when too late, that a great national crime lies at their door." The first resolution—"That it is not safe to enter into war, without a thorough knowledge of the cir-cumstances"—was adopted. The second was proposed by Mr. William Coningham-" That the English people having been indifferent to its external The departures from England this week have relations for many years, it is expedient that it now

comprised the general officers, Lord Lucan, and employ itself in comprehending them." Mr. Pare

"That this meeting, concurring in opinion with the great majority of the British people that the war with Russia in defence of Turkey is a just and necessary war, desires to express its earnest wish that the war may be carried on with the utmost vigour, and continued until the power of Russia shall be reduced within such limits as will be consistent with the peace and safety of the world-(loud and general cheering)—and that, in furtherance of this view, the restoration of Poland, Hungary, and Italy to the state of independent nations, having free institutions, is greatly to be desired." (Renewed cheering.)

Mr. Urquhart's speech, as reported in the Times, was to the following effect :---

He said, the result of our sending troops to the East must be that the English contingent of 25,000 men would take Constantinople, while the French would get possession of that padlock of the Turkish empire, the Dardanelles ; and that, in fact, the troops sent to the East were sent for a Russian aid. (Cries of "No, no?" and hisses.) Did the meeting object to his entertaining an opinion? Our troops would never fight the Russians; we should require a head to fight the Russians. They were fighting against a necromancer. It was a body fighting against mind. God had given power of body to the English, capacity of mind to Russia. And did they think that the relationship was changed because they had the power of moving armies? He would tell them this-that the whole of these events were planned by Russia long ago. Let them not think that the matter was to be decided upon the Danube. People here were listening for the thunder of guns in the Dobrudscha; while, in Turkey, they were waiting for the indications of thought here. Mr. Urquhart drew a retrospect of the past wars between Turkey and Russia, dwelt on the danger of revolutions in Europe involved in the war, and our own danger in reference to India, and on the secret correspondence by which our Ministers had entered into a bargain with Russia for the partition of Turkey.

A gentleman inquired when that bargain was made?

Mr. Urquhart: When they got the English Government holding secret communications with the very power to resist whom its whole policy was directed, what could be the object of concealment? If it was not that there had been infamy, the men must have been fools. It was his object to excite their attention to the fact that they had been bought and sold. He took these means to save himself with them, and he was labouring to save both them and himself. He might have sold them if he liked, bût he was determined to save them. This, then, was the bargain-Constantinople for Russia, and Egypt and Candia for the English. Mr. Urquhart said, the Great Napoleon might have had the same bargain, and read his statement, made at St. Helena, to that effect. (The speech was interrupted by cries of impatience, laughter, and incredulity, about equally mingled.)

The Chairman decided that Mr. Watkins' amendment was not an amendment; but the meeting solved the difficulty about dealing with it, by expressing a wish to have both motion and amendment, and accordingly carried each of them. A third resolution was carried, to the effect that an association be formed in Manchester for the purpose of acquiring and disseminating constitutional and diplomatic knowledge; and this concluded the proceedings.

[SATURDAY,

364

ADDRESS TO THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

THE Polish central democratic committee begs to send a copy of the subjoined address to the Russian army to the editor of the Leader, and expects from his well-known sympathies its speedy insertion; an expectation we should be sorry to disappoint :---

THE FREE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY TO THE RUSSIAN SOLDIERS IN POLAND.

Brothers,-At last the Czar has succeeded in calling down war upon Russia.

His colleagues, fearing their peoples more than any other enemy, have in vain shuffled back and made every conces-He has succeeded in provoking them to a contest.

He has had no pity for Russian blood. But we, Russians and Poles, exiles in the land of the stranger, we shed tears at the recital of these exorbitant levies, of these heavy surcharges imposed upon the people, of our soldiers hurried on by thousands to a useless death.

To die for a just cause is noble. It is for this that man's heart contains courage, fortitude, devotion, love. But to perish without serving one's fellows for a caprice of the Czar, that is indeed pitiful. The whole world compassionates the Turks-not from sympathy with them, but because their cause is just. They are attacked, and they have indeed the right of self-defence.

And our poor soldiers? They shed their blood in torrents, fight valiantly, heap the ground with their dead bodies, and no mnn, save us, laments their fate, no man appreciates their bravery.

The Czar says that he is defending the orthodox church. But it is not attacked; and, if the Sultan has oppressed it, why then has the Czar kept silent since 1828?

The lot of Christians, adds the Czar, is hard in Turkey. We have never heard that the Christians in Turkey are more oppressed than the peasants are with us, especially those, who, by the Czar's command, are given in bondage to the nobles. Would it not be better to begin by freeing the slaves at home: these, too, are orthodox, and, what is more, they are Russians !

No; the Czar defends no cause, he has no good object in

grounds, but-on fields of battle?

It is he that has begun the war: may it fall solely on his own head! May it set a limit to our sad state of stagnation 1

After 1812 came the 26th of December. . . .

What will come after 1854?

Shall we, then, be so slothful as to let the present hour escape; such an hour as will not return for long? Shall we not be able to profit by the storm called down by the Czar upon himself?

already she raises her head again, and awaits but the first

opportunity to reclaim her rights, her freedom. What will you do when the Polish nation shall fly to arms? Your lot is the worst of all. Your comrades in Turkey are soldiers; and you, who are in Poland, will you be merely executioners? Your victories, they will cover you with shame; you will have to bluch for your courage. The blood of kinsmen is washed out with difficulty. Beware of again deserving the name of Cain. It might cleave to you ever after.

We know well that it would be from no wish of yours, if you were to march against the Poles. But it is time you should have a will of your own! Do you think it easy, then, to constrain the will of thousands in arms, who under-

stand one another? One day, we no longer remember in what province, when the new administration of the crown domains was introduced, some peasants revolted (it was the case in nearly all the provinces). Troops were sent for; the peasants did not disperse. The general ordered his men to load. The soldiers executed this order, supposing it to have been merely given for frightening the insurgents. But the people were not intimidated. Then the general gave the colonel the sign to fire. The latter uttered the order, the soldiers presented, but did not null their triggers. but-did not pull their triggers. Amazed, the general dashed up and himself cried-Fire! The soldiers grounded their arms, and remained motionless.

Well, what think you was done to these soldiers? Abso-lutely nothing. The commanding officers were so afraid of the business, that they passed it over in silence. That is an example of what you may do. But abstaining is not all. The hous is come to prove the set of the set

is not all. The hour is come to range yourselves on the side of the poor Russian people, as the Polish army did for its own in 1831.

We are approaching a mighty period. Let it not be said that, in so solemn a moment, so terrible a one, you have been

left without brotherly advice. We forewarn you of the danger that threatens you. We wish to preserve you from a crime. Have confidence in us.

It is the Russia of the future that speaks to you through us. Russia free and young, condemned to silence in its native land, but whose voice resounds in exile—the Russia of martyrs, of mines, of Siberia, and of casemates-the Russia of the Pestels and Mouravieffs, of the Ryleiffs and Bestoujeffs-that Russia, of whom we are the heralds, of which we are the speaking-trumpets.

We are your wail of grief, your hatred, your cry for vengeance on your oppressors. . . . We denounce to the world the murky crimes of your Government; we are a living reproach to it, we stigmatise it; we brand it with a

hot iron, as it does to living men. If our word be harsh and acrid, it is because it is the echo of the lamentations of violated women, the death-rattle of old men who died under the lash, the clank of chains that fettered our dear poets, our best friends, when transported to Siberia.

In the land of the stranger we have commenced an open struggle by words, but in expectation of one by deeds.

Our words are an appeal; our voice is the distant sound the bell announcing that the matins for the grand festival

It is not the Russian people whom you defend in Poland. The Russian people, in the very first hours of its awaking, will deny you, and will curse your victories. You are upholding there the pretensions of the Czar-of that Czar who leaves the half of Russia in a state of thraldom, who takes nine recruits out of every thousand, who permits his officers to strike his soldiers, and his police agents to beat the citizens, and everything that is not peasant to belabour whatever is peasant. Know, then, that in defending him you are maintaining all the scourges of Russia; that in fighting for him, you are fighting for the seignorial rights, the knowt solvery robberg complicit by the official the knout, slavery, robbery organised by the officials, and larcenies carried on in broad daylight by the nobles.

Poland has suffered quite enough from Russia. Even if she has often been in the wrong, she has long since expiated her faults. . . . Her children at a tender age have been carried off, her women cast into prison, her defenders have perished in Siberia, her friends are scattered over all the surface of the globe, her trophies have been taken away to St. Petersburg, her traditions have been falsified. They have not even left her the past.

No,-on Polish ground no laurels grow for the Russian warriors. It is too saturable for women's tears and the blood of men, shed by your fathers, --perhaps by yourselves. On the banks of the Vistula, near the graveyards of Praga and Vola, there can be no military glory for you. The only glory possible for you in Poland is that of reconciliation and alliance.

What have you to do, how are you to set about it,—this is what you will learn as soon as the proper time arrives. But, until events arrive, convince yourselves of the trath of our words, and by all that is sacred to you, swear not to take up arms against Poland.

This oath, it is not demanded of you by the Czar, but by the conscience and remorse of the people. And even should you perish for this cause, your deaths will be holy, you will have fallen expisiory victims, and by your martyr blood the indissoluble yet free alliance between Poland and Russia will be sealed; the commencement of the free association of all the slaves into one united and federal republic.

(Translated from the Russian.) March 25, 1854. . · ·

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

At the recent meetings of the Privy Council, under the presidence of the Queen, several orders were agreed to and have been promulgated. We quote that now popular journal, the Gazette :--

"At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 11th day of April, 1854, by the Lords of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. The Lords of the Council having taken into consideration certain applications for leave to export arms, ammunition, military and naval stores, &c., being articles of which the exportation is prohibited by her Majesty's proclamation of Feb. 18, 1854, their lordships are pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that permission cherela be order, and it is hereby ordered, that permission should be granted by the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury to export the articles so prohibited to be carried coastwise to ports in the United Kingdom, and likewise to all places in North and South America, except the Russian possessions of North America; to the coast of Africa, west of the Straits of Gibraltar, and round the south and east of Africa; to the whole coast of Asia not within the Mediterranean Sea or the Persian Gulf, and not being part of the Russian territories; to the whole of Australia, and to all British colonies within the limits aforesaid, upon taking a bond from the persons exporting such prohibited articles that they shall be landed and entered at the port of destination; and that all further remission to export such articles to other parts of the world be only granted upon application to the Lords of the Council at this board.

"C. C. GREVILLE."

On Saturday last her Majesty took the chair at a meeting of her councillors at Windsor Castle, and resolved on issuing the following important orders. It will be remembered that a "declaration" on the rights of neutrals was appended to the declaration of war, by which the Queen waived a part of her rights. That declaration is rendered precise by the following order of the 15th instant :— "Now it is this day ordered, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, that all vessels under a neutral or friendly flag, being neutral or friendly property, shall be permitted to import into any port or place in her Majesty's dominions all goods and merchandise whatsoever, to whomsoever the same may belong; and to export from any port or place in her Majesty's dominions to any port not blockaded, any cargo or goods, not being contraband of war, or not requiring a special permission, to whomsoever the same may belong. "And her Majesty is further pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby further ordered, that, save and except only as aforesaid, all the subjects of her Majesty and the subjects or citizens of any neutral or friendly state shall and may, during and notwithstanding the present hostilities with Russia, freely trade with all ports and places wheresoever situate, which shall not be in a state of blockade, save and except that no British vessel shall, under any circumstances whatsoever, either under or by virtue of this order, or otherwise, be permitted or empowered to enter or communicate with any port or place which shall belong to or be in the possession or occupation of her Majesty's enemies."

tion, and that any such vessel, if met at sea by any of her Majesty's ships, shall be permitted to continue her voyage to any port not blockaded.' "And whereas her Majesty, by and with the advice of her said Council, is now pleased to alter and extend such part of

the said order, it is hereby ordered, by and with such advice as aforesaid, as follows; that is to say :--that any Russian merchant vessel which, prior to the 15th day of May, 1854, shall have sailed from any port of Russia, situated either in or upon the shores or coasts of the Baltic Sea or of the White or upon the shores or coasts of the Baltic Sea or of the White Sea, bound for any port or place in her Majesty's dominions, shall be permitted to enter such last-mentioned port or place, and to discharge her cargo, and afterwards forthwith to de-part without molestation; and that any such vessel, if met at sea by any of her Majesty's ships, shall be permitted to continue her voyage to any port not blockaded. "And her Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice aforesaid, further to order, and it is hereby further ordered, that in all other respects her Majesty's aforesaid Order in Council, of the 29th day of March last, shall be and remain in full force, effect, and operation."

in full force, effect, and operation."

The Gazette has also published proclamations commanding the good folks of England, Ireland, and Scotland to observe the 26th of April as a day of prayer and humiliation. The language of this dogument will at once shock and amuse our readers.

and in the most devout and, solemn manner, send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty for implor-ing his blessing and assistance on our arms for the restorntion of peace to us and our dominions; and we do strictly charge and command that the said day be reverently and devoutly observed by all our loving subjects in England and Ireland, as they tender the favour of Almighty God, and would avoid His wrath and indignation."

In England the Archbishops and Bishops, to facilitate this purpose, are directed to prepare a suitable form of prayer; but the like direction is not, for good reasons, addressed to Scotland.

AN ANGLO-POLISH LEGION.

CERTAIN Poles in England have offered to form a Polish Legion, which, being supplied with munitions of war, shall fight side by side with the English and French troops against the common enemy. An ad-dress to that effect having been sent to Lord Aberdeen for his approval, he replied as follows :---

"Downing-street, April 13. "Sir,—I am desired by my Lord Abordeen to acknowledge the receipt of the letter you addressed to him on the Brd inst., in which, adverting to the declaration of war by England and France against Russia, you express a hope, on behalf of yourself and your countrymen residing at Ports-month that her Maiserr's Government will allow to mouth, that her Majesty's Government will allow you to form a Polish Legion, which, being supplied with munitions of war, shall fight side by side with the English and French troops against the common enemy; and I am to acquaint you that your letter has been referred for the consideration of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies .- I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant, "CLENTON G. DAWKINS.

" Major Stawiarski, 43, Grigg-street, Southses, - Portsmouth.

In the last war we employed a German Legion in Spain. Surely no scrupulous feelings for Austrian or Prussian susceptibilities should be an obstacle to the employment of Poles against their worst enemy.

of the resurrection of nations have commenced also for the Russian people. This voice shall not cease to resound until it shall be changed into a tocsin or a hymn of triumph.

Far as we are from you, we are your relatives, your bro-thers, your only friends. We have reconciled the Russian people with the peoples of the West, who were apt to confound us with the Government of St. Petersburg. The Poles have stretched out their hands to us as to Russians. Such is also the sense of the words that we have addressed to them, such is the meaning of our alliance with them. They have appreciated our love for the Russian people. On your side, understand it too, and love the Poles, because they are Poles.

What do the Poles desire?

An independant Poland, that shall be free to confederate with Russia when emancipated from autocracy, but without allowing herself to be absorbed by her. Federal unity is perhaps that which is most opposed to the uniformity of a despotic centralisation.

The actual annexation of Poland to Russia is an absurdity, a fact of brutal violence. After three and twenty years of persecutions, the Government dares not displace one single regiment throughout entire Poland without sending another to replace it.

These forced unions do but perpetuate hatred, and time cannot modify it. Is Hungary or Lombardy Austrian ?---and is even Finland Russian? It is only the Baltic pro-vinces that find the Holstein-Mongol government of St. Petersburg to their taste, and who arm from devotion their children in defence of the Greek orthodox church-with Luther's Bible in their pockets

If we Russians, if we do not choose to comprehend the necessity of Poland's restoration, Poland will not fall off from Russia the less: she will be severed from her by others. And then she will become, not independent, but a stranger to us.

The question between Poland and Russia is a family one. No foreign intervention. We ought to solve it between ourselves-that, too, without arms.

The next order, dated the same day, is as follows :----

"Whereas by an order of her Majesty in Council, of the 29th of March last, it was amongst other things ordered 'that any Russian merchant vessel which, prior to the date of this order, shall have sailed from any foreign port, bound for any port or place in her Majesty's dominions, shall be permitted to enter such port or place and to discharge her cargo, and afterwards forthwith to depart without molesta-

EXCULPATION.

WE readily give place to the subjoined explanatory statements, one of which, it will be seen, is official; the other we quote from the Glasgow correspondent of the Times.

With respect to Mr. Pitcher's case, Mr. Osborne writes as follows, in reply to a letter from that gentleman:----

"Admiralty, April 12. "Sir,-With reference to your letter of the 8th inst., wherein you state that you have been accused of attempting concealment and withholding information from her Majesty's Government as to the ships building by you for the Russian Government, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, that on inquiry being made by officers from the department of the Surveyor of the Navy as to the circumstances under which the two vessels in question were being built by you, you have behaved in the most candid manner, and afforded every information, stating that they were being constructed for the Russian Government, and that in subsequent communications with you on the subject of the transfer of these vessels, and their equipment for the purpose of being fitted and adapted for her Majesty's service, you have afforded every information and facility.

"Their Lordships command me to add, that so far from having reason to complain, they are of opinion that throughout this transaction you have behaved with perfect candour and honour.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

" B. OSBORNE.

1

"W. Pitcher, Esq., Northfleet Dockyard."

The Napier case (seizure of engines) is also satisfactorily explained, if we may put faith in the following statement from the Times' Glasgow correspondent:--

"These engines were ordered in July, 1852, by a Colonel

Schuabbe, and, although it was not so stated in the contract. the Merses Napier had no doubt whatever that they were intended for the Russian Government, and they, made no merget about such swas their opinion. When Land Palmer-ton inspected the works, during this visit to Glasgow, in can-turn limit, Mr. Mapier, jun, pointed out the engines to his Londship, and intimated that they were under construction For Manager. When was became imminent the Mesars. Napler mitered intercommunication with the Admiralty on the sub-jent of the oppines, and on the 22rd of February last they stated in writing that they believed the engines to have been mined on Rassian second, but that they would not sllow to the shipped without giving information to the Reitigh Government and obtaining its authority. On the 7th of March Last Colonel Schwabbe wrote, at length and formally to the Mesars. Napier, stating that he had assigned, en the and of that month, the appines to the house of Merck and Go, of Hamburg, and that one of the partners of the firm was then in London to implement the assignment, and to undertake to pay the remaining instalments due on the completion of the engines. Immediately on receiving this document the Messra. Napier sent a copy of it to the Ad-miralty, and thus matters rested until the broad arrow was pillited on the engines on Tuesday. At would thus appear that the Mapiers were no parties to the attempt to send the mignes clandestinely out of the country. The manit is disclosed be, that the British Government will acquire equines, pay the remaining instalments, and guarantee the builders from any claim from Russia on the advent of peace."

THE WAR OF ST. PAULS.

Sr. PAui's, Knightsbridge, is again notorious, and the scene of a holy warfare, in which the Bishop of andon, the independent churchwarden of the parish, the incumbent, and the Archdeseon of Middlesex appear as combatants. Some time ago Mr. Westerton. the churchwarden forwarded to the incumbent, the Honourable and Beverend Robert Liddell, a anonopial of complaints and protests against his made of conducting the service on Sundays. First, he complained of a procession, described as follows:

"On each and every morning of Sunday, and while the clergy bell of the said church of St. Paul is ringing, the choristers, boys, and other lay persons employed in and about the said church are, either, by your direction or with your privity, formed into regular, order, and, being so ar-ranged, and amounting to the number of about twenty, pro-ceed in such order from the clerk's yestry in a kind of theatrical procession, and in such order, and arrangement. theatrical procession, and in such order and arrangement, and in all respects pimilar to what is observed in Bomish churches. The rear of this procession is occupied by one of the clergy belonging to the said church, who, by gesture and general bearing, secures to the first portion of the specterle an attention and curiosity which prepare the congre-gation for the next act. This consists of a second procession; somprising yourself, your curstes, and such other, clargy as any willing todend their services to the spectacle, each bearing, with much comp, and coremony, one or more of the wessels mark in the offices, of the church. This procession of the slorgy procession in pompone coremonial order from the vestry tewards that portion of the church, which is in Protestant churches usually appointed as the place, of the communion-table but which, in the instance of the church of St. Paul. is occupied by a high altar, on the summit whereof is fixed a large and massive cross. As you, the said incumbent, approach this place, you look towards the said cross, and bow to it with theatrical gesture, and then, with other histrionic displays, incurvations, and bowings, place, upon the 'cre-itentia', or 'diminutive preparatory altar,' the vessel which you have borne in the procession. Immediately, after, the performance of this portion of the strange ccremonial, a curate advances towards the same spot with similar gestures, curate advances towards the same spot with similar gestures, means follows that a custom in itself decent is to be con-bowings, and genuflexions. The curate then deposits the sidered a peculiarly Romish custom because it is observed in piece of furniture or utensil which he has brought into your the Church of Rome. 'It seems to me to be quite as proper hands, and you, on repeating the said ceremonial action, proceed to place this vessel beside that already deposited offices should walk to their places in regular order as it is upon the said 'credentia,' or 'diminutive preparatory altar.' that they should straggle in one by one and take 'their sents The curate then takes his place on the south side of the as they may happen to enter the church. It is customary "High altar," followed by the others in procession, bowing and gesticulating with much solemn vehemence, and this remnant of the procession proceed to take their respective places in some symmetrical order, not easily defined, but so regulated as to produce the greatest scenic effect upon the spectators." There are similar processions backwards and forwards. Another grievance is that the service is: ""intoned;" that is, half said, half sung, and thereby rendered indistinct, contrary to the rubric. Then a cross is, set up on the "high altar," and, further, a "credence table," a "mere Popish utensil," is used. . MI have further to complain of the continual use of divers vessels, utensils, scarfs, or maniples (such as aro used by the priests of the Roman Catholic Church), veils, corporals, and other things unknown to the services of the Frotestant Reformed Church----baving, in fact, no names in the wulgar tongue whereby I can describe them, and which are at the church of St. Paul, either placed from time to time apon the said 'high altar,' or borne, worn, or carried by the officiating clergy. And I also complain of the vells of em-broidered lace, of the bouquets of flowers, and other foreign frippery, which are constantly to be seen upon or attached to the said high altar,' and in other parts of the said shurch ; and I protest against the use of the same, and humbly but earnestly insist that such meretricious ornaments and impertinences tend only to obstruct the reverential performance of Divine worship-that they are unknown to and disfigure in an estentations or singular manner, so as to awaken the services of our church; and I further insist that they are more calculated to distract and draw away the attention of idle curious than to edify and improve the more devout scribe an exact scale for the bodily expression of devout and earnest members of the congregation. I have further to feelings. I have already expressed my dislike to frequent complain of, and I protest against the appropriation of the offertory money in the purchase of this incretricious trum-

pery, and L.cannot regard , the appropriation of such money for such and other purposes without expressing my most marked disapprobation of such a misspilication of alms in-tended only for 'pious and charitable uses, 'and the promotion of God's; Holy Word.

"Libava, lastly. to .complain that, whereas by divers in-junctions of Edward VI., and otherwise, the setting up of candlesticks apon the communion table is expressly forbidden; and that, moreover, the said practice is not anywhere ardsined in: any of the canons or other laws of the Reformed Church;; that, in total diaregard of such injunctions and other lawsin that behalf, and notwithstanding the ordinary custom of the Reformed Churchita the contrary, candlesticks have been placed upon the said (high altar,' and still remain standing thereon; and [I (do accordingly protest against the nse of the same, either as ornament or furniture of the said church of St. Paul."

As Mr. Liddell merely acknowledged the receipt of this memorial Mr. Westerton carried his case before the Bishop of London and the Archdeacon of Middlesex. The latter could render him no redress, and with the former he has carried on a long and angry correspondence. But the Bishop's reply to the memorial is of interest, as showing the mature of the controversy about these mechanical contrivances for celebrating Divine service: according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, and also the character and peculiar mind of the Bishop.

"You complain of certain forms and practices observed in the celebration of Divine service in the church of St. Paul, Knightsbridge, as being Ropish and offensive, and you pray that I will cause inquiry to be made into the matters complained of, and admonish the said Rabert Liddell and his gurates, and others, to discontinue the said " Popish and superstitious practices,' and especially that I will direct the removal of 5 the high altar, and the cross standing thereon, and sthe credence stable, and several sother "superstitions things 'referred to in your memorial. "In the first place, I have to observe that when you speak

of Mr. Liddell as having introduced into the performance of public worship the several Popish practices and innovations set forth, you appear to have forgotten the fact that these forms were introduced, not by Mr. Liddell, but by his pre-decessor, eleven years ingo; that Mr. Liddell has continued them as the found them, with the exception of a few obserwances which were discontinued at my request, and that no formal complaint of them has been made to me since the date of his incumbency. This, it is true, does not render legal anything which is in itself illegal, but it relieves Mr. Liddell from the charge of having introduced the practices in question, and throws the onus of that charge upon me for not having sooner interfered to put a stop to them. To some extent I may, perhaps, be justly liable to that charge, but not to the extent which you imagine. For the sake of avoiding fresh disturbance in the district, I may possibly have erred on the side of indulgence, not forbidding that which was not clearly "Popish and superstitious,' as certain other observances in the chapel of St. Barnabas appeared to me to be, which I did interfere to prevent, and which were the grounds of my disagreement with Mr. Bennett. "I will now proceed to notice, one by one, the beads of

your memorial :--

"You complain that before the commencement of Divine service the choristers and other lay persons are formed into regular order, and so 'proceed from the clerk's vestry in a kind of theatrical procession in such order and arrangement. and in all respects similar to what is observed in Romish churches;' and that "the second act consists in a solemn procession of the clergy, each bearing, with pomp and cere-mony, one or more of the vessels used in the offices of the church.'

"With regard to the first matter objected to, it by no in many of our cathedrals, perhaps in all of them, for the choristers and singing men to walk in procession from the vestry to the choir, followed by the clergy in order, two and two. To this custom, if there be no ostentatious display, I see no objection, although, if it gave offence to pious persons, I should recommend its discontinuance. The case is different with respect to a procession of the clergy bearing the vessels and elements used at the Holy Communion. This I regard as a distinct, imitation of the practice of the Romish Church, and Mr. Liddell has assented to my request for its discontinuance. If the vessels or elements are brought into the church before the celebration of the Holy Communion begins, they should be brought without any procession or ceremonial before the commencement of Divine service. "With regard to 'bowings,' 'genuflexions,' and 'gesticu-lations,' Mr. Liddell denies the truth of your statements. I did not observe any such gesticulation when I held a confirmation in St. Paul's Church on the 24th of March, nor were any such noticed by a confidential person who attended Divine service there at my request on Sunday last. The custom of bowing on entering a church or chancel is a very ancient one, and very generally observed in our church till within the last 100 years. I have been told by some old clergymen that when they were young it was the general practice, at least with the clergy. I do not observe it inyself, but I should be loth to impute a superstitious feeling to those who do. The rule to be followed in this and similar cases is not to use outward marks of reverence suspicion and call forth observation. I do not see how it is possible to lay down a stricter rule than this, or to pregenuflexions in my charge of 1880. I have reason to believe that Mr. Liddell is not only not inclined to anything

like extravagance in this respect, but has endeavoured to restrain it in others. I-cannot, however, forbear, from .abserving that our congregations are for the most part too serving that our congregations are nor the inext part too unobservant of the outward expressions of devotion, and that it may sometimes be desirable that the clergy should set them a good example in this respect. With respect to the particular one of bowing the head when the Dizology or ascription of praise is pronounced. I believe it to be a novelty in our church, and have more than once expressed

noverty in our church, and have more than once expressed my disapproval of it. "I now came to the subject of intoning the service. It is well known that I do not approve this mode of per-forming Divine service in parish churches. Lexpressed my dislike of it in my charge of 1842; and all I can say in its favour is, that I had rather hear the prayers well intoned than badly read. But whether I have, authority to forbid it is a different question. (The bichon supports is a different question. (The bishop quotes from the ganons in support of this view.)

"With respect to the communion-table, which the memorial designates the 'high altar,' I have to observe that you use that term incorrectly. The 'high altar' is the principal altar in a church where there are more than one, which is not the case in any of our churches, except in a few instances where a church is divided into two parts, and Divine service is performed in each. The communion-table in St. Paul's Church cannot be termed an 'altar," except, in z figurative sense of the word. It is not of stone, but wood;

not fixed, but moveable. "When, I consecrated the church, the disputes on this article of church furniture had not risen to such a pitch as they have now attained, and the height of the communiontable did not attract my notice. It is now a part of the goods of the parish, and although the churchwandens, with my consent and that of the vestry, might change it or replace it by another, I do not believe that I have anthority to direct them to do so. If any person thinks it to be the duty of the churchwardens to make such a change, they must proceed against them by a suit in the Consistential

must proceed against them by a suit in the Consistential Court. "As to the candlesticks on the communion-table, I have stated my opinion in my charge of 1842, and Lam not pre-pared to retract that opinion. I had rather not see them in parish churches, but I am not prepared to order their re-moval when they have been placed there for several years, "The wooden cross which is fixed upon the communion-table I consider to be objectionable; but when, soon after Mr. Liddell's appointment to St. Paul's, I expressed a strong wish for its removal, I was assured by Mr. Sotheron, M.P., then one of the churchwardens, that such removal would wound the feelings of a great number of the congregation. wound the feelings of a great number of the congregation, and I therefore allowed it to remain in suspense. As this cross (which is not large and massive, as you describe it, but small and light) was on the table when the church was consecrated, though not seen by me, a large offertery dish being in front of it, I am not satisfied that I have anthority to direct its removal without, the consent of the churchwardens and parishioners, except by a formal decree of the Consistorial Court. 'I certainly wish it to be removed, and should be glad if the parishioners would agree to its removal without such authoritative sanction."

His lordship sees no objection to a credence table, or to the use of flowers in church, but is opposed to payment being made for them from the offertory collections. He concludes as follows :---

""I have now touched upon all the allegations of your memorial, and I have to observe, in conclusion, that if the practices complained of 'are offensive to the parishioners of the district of St. Paul, and bring scandal on the whole church,' it is somewhat strange that the parishioners should have so quietly acquiesced in them for so long a time, and that I should only now be called upon by one of the church-wardens to interfere. The best proof that they are not generally offensive to the parishioners, is to be found in the crowded congregations who attend the services at St. Paul's, in their devont: behaviour there, in the yearly in-crease of their alms and oblations, and in their readiness to assist Mr. Liddell in every pious and charitable undertaking for the good of their poorer neighbours." Perhaps the best commentary upon these transactions is to be found in the re-election of Mr. Westerton. The vestry meeting took place on Tuesday, and excited great interest. At two o'clock Mr. Liddell took the chair, and nominated Mr. J. H. Horne, as his churchwarden for the ensuing year. Mr. Augustin Robinson then proposed Mr. Thomas Davidson for the churchwarden to be chosen by the inhabitants of the district assigned to the church. Colonel Knox, M.P., seconded this nomination, whereupon Dr. Hunter proposed, and Mr. James Beal seconded, Mr. Charles Westerton to be areelected the inhabitants' churchwarden. A show of hands was then requested by the Rev. Chairman, which was very decidedly in favour of Mr. Westerton, and Colonel Knox demanded a poll on behalf of Mr. Davidson. The meeting then adjourned for the purpose of taking the poll. Numerous protests by the inhabitants present were made against a poll, as unusual at so short a notice, and taking the parishioners by surprise. At seven o'clock the meeting re-assembled, when the numbers were announced to be as follows:-Mr. Westerton, 203; Mr. Davidson, 200. During the earlier portion of the proceedings questions were asked as to the disposal of the alms with reference to church expenses, the answers to which seemed to be extremely unsatisfactory to the parishioners assembled.

SATURDAY,

366

Mr. Beal then moved the following resolution, which was seconded and carried with acclamation :--

"That the Bishop of London having intimated, in reply to a remonstrance of Mr. Westerton, a desire to be favoured with an expression of the wish of the parishioners in certain

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furniture and practices of St. Paul's, we, the parishioners in vestry assembled, beg to express a strong desire for the removal of the super-altar, the credence table, the cross, and the candlesticks, and hereby authorise the churchwardens to the candiesticks, and hereby antiforms the charten wardens to remove the same. We atrongly protest against the practice of the minister to open the alms chest, and therefrom to pay choristers and washing expenses, as tending to bring alms-giving in its only legitimate form into contempt. We desire also to record our disapproval of the procession of choristers and clergy, and of the practice of intoning instead of saying the services, and desire that the churchwardens will forward a copy of this resolution to the diocesan."

A deputation was then appointed to wait upon the Bishop and present a copy of the resolution to him. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Westerton, and also to the Rev. Mr. Liddell, and the meeting, which had been very enthusiastic throughout, dissolved. A large concourse of people followed Mr. Westerion to his house, cheering him warmly.

THE LANCASHIRE LABOUR-BATTLE. (From our Correspondent.)

Preston, Thursday.

THE orthodox but inconvenient conduct of the London and North-Western Bailway upon Good Friday prevented me from announcing the appearance of Mr. Newton (celebrated in connexion with the strike of the Amalgamated Engineers) as a star in this Cimmerian gloom. On Thursday evening a meeting was held at the theatre for the purpose of giving this gentleman an opportunity of expressing his views. Considering the fact that money was charged at the doors, the meeting was very well attended, and the proceedings were conducted with temper and the cornm. 'Mr. Newton's address, which occupied more than an hour in its delivery, was eloquent, and bore the marks of great preparation; but Lidoubt whether, if it were "screened" through a little logic, much would be found of value to the Preston oneratives at this juncture. Mr. Newton had got his political economy very pat, and produced a little bundle of extracts from Malthus, John Stuart Mill, Adam Smith, and Ricardo, to prove that it is desirable to elevate the condition of the working classes; but when he came to deal with the "Supply and Demand" argument, he threw the political economists to the winds, declaring that labour is not a com-modity, because labour is Man, the bone and muscle, the unperformed toil, &c. [I wonder what Mr. Newton would say if, when he remonstrated with his shoemaker for charging more than his neighbour, the son of Crispin were to turn this own argument upon him: "Sir, how can you bring such considera-tions into the question? What you are now bar-gaining for is the unperformed labour !"] Presently, Mr. Newton defended the strike upon the ground that labour is a commodity, and that the operatives have a perfect right to get as much as they can for it. Mr. Newton complained that the Law of Distribution had not been sufficiently considered by statesmen, and quoted Lamartine upon that point. He concluded his address by likening Capital to Joseph, and Labour to the hairy Esau, and said that the smooth young Joseph had defrauded his elder brother of his birthright, and had given but a mess of pottage in return, and, urging his hearers to "mould the primeval curse until it became a blessing," he sat down amidst a storm of applause.

The Stockport affair being now more developed than it was last week, I am enabled to give fuller information respecting it. I should premise that the Stockport Masters' Association was formally dissolved at the conclusion of the last turn-out there, which terminated, as may be remembered, with the concession of an advance of ten per cent. Lately, and for some cause or other, certain of the Stockport masters have met together and debated the question of wages among themselves. I have not yet been able to ascertain whether those gentlemen have revived the form of the defunct association, but it is quite certain that they have revived the spirit of it; for they have concerted and agreed together to make a simultaneous and indiscriminate reduction of ten per cent. I am informed that notice-papers were even sent by these employers to others who had not taken part in their counselssome of whom adopted those notices, others of whom adopted and afterwards retracted them, and the remainder of whom made no use of them at all. When these notices were issued, the workpeople employed in the mills threatened with the reduction sent deputations to their employers, and told them that they should prefer short time, or even no time at all, to a reduction of the rate of wages. If I am rightly informed, the replies given by the masters were of a nature to lead to the inference that they were at that time divided in their counsels, and not at all certain as to what course they ought to adopt, and that, even so late as last Monday, one deputation was told that the reduction of the ten per cent. would depend, in that case, upon the state of the markets in Manchester on the following day. I said last week that I did not think the operatives would willingly cause a diversion of public assistance from

Stockport operatives would have waited for the set- whom had not worked in a mill for years. These fighting a battle which has lasted for thirty-three weeks, and have spent more than three hundred have reason to believe that the prospect of a prosatisfaction. There is no doubt that a very excited state of feeling now prevails over the Stockport operatives, and so strongly are they disposed to resent any advice to return to work, that, when some of the Preston leaders appeared at an open-air meeting near Stockport the other.day, they were told by several persons in the crowd that if they andke of a return to work, they would be pulled out of the cart. In referring to the reduction of wages at Stockport, the Gentral Committee of Delegates, representing the spinners, mindlers, twisters, and rovers of Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, and Derbyshire, in their usual weekly circular, say that the working classes "know that a reduction in wages, even in a depressed state of trade, is no remedy, but an aggravation of the evil," and subsequently, in the following resolution, they develop this principle more fully :----

"" That this meeting is of opinion that, in a depressed state of trade, it is a most suicidal policy on the part of employers to irreduce the wages of their workpeople, inasmuch as it dees not remedy the avil, but gives encouragement to a reckless course of competition, by which the markets thecome glutted, and goods and yarn depreciated, the result of which is either a stoppage, or a still further reduction of wages; we would therefore, most respectfully urge upon the employers throughout the country to avoid having recourse to a remedy which experience has shown to be worse than the disease.

With the proceedings of the Stockport magistrates the public are by this time familiar. I am informed, upon very good authority, that the course which they have adopted meets with the appropriation of the Home Secretary; but I can only say that, if that be the case, the Home Secretary must have a very exaggerated idea of the state of feeling among the working classes. The enrolment of a few special constables may, indeed, be a very prudent preventive measure; hut I cannot conceive that the suppression of open-air meetings within the borough can have any other result than the excitement of feelings most calculated to promote a disturbance, and the public can regard it in no other light than an act of tyranny on the part of those who occupy the very suspicious position of justices of the peace, and opponents of the very people whose meetings they prohibit. Indeed, it seems to me that the condition of the magisterial bench in all these lesser cotton towns is of a nature to need very searching inquiry. Upon the Preston bench I have heretofore commented, and I understand that upon that of Stockport there is but one gentleman who occupies an entirely impartial position (which exception is said to have testified his concurrence in the proceedings of his brethren, by permitting the operatives to meet in a field without the borough, which forms part of his property) The Mayor of Stockport is a medical practitioner, which is certainly not a position calculated to ensure impartiality of feeling, not to mention the inconvenience of it. Imagine the conflicting claims of Justitia and Lucina! or the dilemma of a Mayor who may at the same time be called upon to read the Riot Act or administer a cathartic! Manchester has a stipendiary magistrate, why not also Preston, Stockport, Bolton, and Wigan? Anything would be better than the present state of things in all these towns; for there is no doubt that in all of them there is a preponderating amount of cotton influence among the magistrates, and a proportionate distrust of them among the public. Reverting to Preston; so far as I am able to judge, the general aspect of affairs appears un-changed. There have been rumours abroad that the funds of the operatives have fallen off; but this is unfounded. The Unionists have been lately revising their lists, with a view of striking off all who have been improperly participating in the benefits of the Union, and these persons have sought employment at the mills; hence a report that the skilled operatives are returning to work very fast. The fact is, that when the masters opened their mills the committees admitted many people upon the Union who

tlement of the Preston dispute before they turned people they are now removing; but of skilled operaout again. This expectation, however, has not been tives there are still 13,000 on strike, who have rerealised, and between 9,000 and 10,000 operatives are, ceived this week the usual relief from their Union, now "on strike" in that town. The leaders of the During the week, forty-six immigrants have then Preston operatives naturally dissent from this course, imported, of whom about twenty-four are dit for and it is not to be wondered at; for, although the work; sixteen have been sent away by train as use Stockport people have pledged themselves not to less. I observe that one of the Manchester journals apply for assistance to any town that subscribes to (the Guardian) states that the number of immigrants Preston, it is difficult to conceive how two strikes of who arrived in the town last week was "butween such magnitude can be kept alive. The argument 700 and 800." This is a very extraordinary over-

On Sunday last, one of the effects of the strike was curiously manifested. It is customary on Easter thousand pounds in the contest. Our object is to Sunday for every factory lass to appear in a new establish the same principle which the stockport operatives would now turn out to protect. If they turn out they damage our cause, and in damaging our cause they damage themselves." And it must be admitted that there is some reason shire edition of the Champs Elysées. Alast on in this. Dividing forces is always dangerous; and I Sunday they were all but described. With the exception of those working at the mills now in full longed sum-out at Stockport is viewed by the activity, the poor lasses had to hidestheir "diminished. Preston Associated Masters with feelings of great heads" and last year's bonnets. So the Preston Strike indirectly affects even the trade of Danstable.

On Monday morning it was discovered that the man who usually undertook the collection of subscriptions to the Union at Mr. Hollins's Royal Sovemign Mill had decamped, taking with him the sub-scriptions for the week, amounting to 14/ 11. Sil. This man, whose name is Thomas MiCann, alian Wilson, was a broad-loom weaver of great ability, and thas been in the regular receipt of sarnings sare. ing from 25s. to 28s. per week net since the re-opening the Sovereign Mill. It is believed that he had got yes heavily into debt, and that he has betaken himself to America; but I have also heard that he has been seen in Bolton. He has left behind him a wife and three children, and it is said that another woman accompanies him in his flight.

The "Mediation Committee" has brought site inbours to a close, and the result will be best gathered from the subjoined correspondences-

REPORT FORWARDED BY W. CORLESS, 199, 10 T.

MILLER, ESQ. "The Mediation Committee, which was nominated at the public meeting held in the Theatm on the 29th of last March, met for the first time on Tuesday evening, the 4th of April. It will be proper here to remark, that two or three persons who were nominated at the meeting declined to act is members of the committee.

bers of the committee. "At its first meeting the committee resolved that pro-posals should be obtained from the operatives as to the terms on which they would resume work; and that the flex. J. O. Parr, the vicar (who officiated as chairman of the committee), should endeavour to ascertain the views of the employers in respect to the proffered mediation. "The second meeting of the committee was held on Tues-day evening, the 11th of April, when the report of the vicar and the proposals of the operatives were received. "The Operative Spinners proposed to accept an average rate of wages, high and low, paid in the principal manufacturing districts of Lancashire. The Weavers were willing to abide by any one of the four following conditions :-- lst. They would resume work at the prices that were paid when the mills were closed. 2nd. They would resume work at the prices now offered by the semployers, provided that within a certain specified and neasonable parind, say a fortnight, the employers would give them the same wages they were the certain spectred, and shandon and participate states of states of wages, ceiving when the mills were slut up, shed. They would, like the Operative Spinners, accept an average rate of wages, high and low, paid in the principal manifacturing districts of Lancashire. 4th. They would agree to arbitration, and would pledge themselves, that in the event of the arbitrators deciding in favour of the prices at present offered by the employers, they would immediately return to work. "The vicar, on behalf of the employers, intimated that from inquiries I have made, I am convinced of the inutility of any attempt at mediation on the factory question."

ANSWEB-OF C. MELLER, ROAD

"W. Corless, Esq. Winckley square, April 15, 1854. "Dear Sir,-Ihe note sent by you and Mr. Shaw, along with the report, will be laid before the committee of the Associated Masters, at their not meeting on Monday morning.

"I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully, "T. MILLER."

REPLY OF THE ASSOCIATED MASTERS' COMMITTEE. "Preston, 17th April, 1854.

"Gentlemen, —I am directed by the committee of the Associated 'Masters to say, that they have had a letter placed before them signed by Messrs. Corless and G. Shaw, inclosing a report from a Mediation Committee, appointed at the Theatre on the 29th ultimo. The committee believe that the gentlemen who have undertaken this task are actuated by the most disinterested motives, and a sincere desire to effect the object for which they were appointed.

"The only matter now in dispute between the masters and the operatives is the amount of wages to be paid. It is simply the offer of certain wages by one party, and the refusal of them by the other. "This same difference might, and no doubt daily does,

exist between master and servant in all other trades, as well as in domestic circles.

" Rates of wages cannot be settled by mediation, but must be left to the free operation of supply and demand.

"The committee cannot therefore recommend the Associated Masters to accede to any mediation in such a case, as Preston, and I certainly had expected that the had no direct interest in the dispute, and many of it would be the acknowledgment of a principle most dan-

rous and mischievous in its tendency-a principle slike ibversive of the rights of the working man in the disposal his labour, and of the rights of the master in the employunt of his capital.

"The committee, entertaining these views, respectfully ecline, on the part of the Associated Masters, the proposed redistion.

"I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, "JAS. A. EWAN, Secretary. "Messrs. W. Corless and G. Shaw, Hon. Secretaries to a Mediation Committee, 326, North Road, Preston."

REPLY OF THE MEDIATION COMMITTEE.

" Preston, April 19th, 1854.

" To Mr. J. A. Ewan, Secretary to the Masters' Association. "Sir, We are requested by the Mediation Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your note, in which you cour-teonaly state the determination of the committee of the Associated Masters to decline any services which it might be in the power of the Mediation Committee to give. They deeply regret this determination, especially so, as in their opinion the reasons you allege on behalf of the committee of the Associated Masters will not bear the test of any very strict or profound investigation.

1. 4. The Mediation Committee, in accepting offices imposed upon them by the unanimous consent of a large assemblage of their fellow-townsmen, have had no intention of allowing themselves to be drawn into any discussion concerning dis-puted points in political economy. In reference, however, to your remarks about supply and demand they cannot forbear expressing the opinion that the state of the town of Preston is a striking exemplification of the fallacy of the doctrine you have so unconditionally enunciated. Labour here is in great demand, the supply is small, and yet the wages offered are considerably less than such as were paid some six or seven months ago. There are evidently other elements, not perhaps as yet, well defined or scientifically determined, that enter into the true solution of this question. You state that to admit of mediation, in such a case as

this, would be the admission of a principle dangerous and mischievous in its tendency. Such a supposition appears to the Mediation Committee to be based upon an exaggerated notion of the necessity of defending and enforcing abstract individual rights. Now, abstract personal rights, if rigidly enforced, tend not to the consolidation but to the dissolution of fibe bonds of society. Society, in short, is made up of compromises. Moreover, there is a legal maxim, to the effect that persons shall so use their property as not to injure the property of others. Whether in law the maxim be sound or the reverse, it evidently is so in equity and common sense. Now the skill, industry, and capital of classes unconnected with this dispute are materially damaged and depreciated by it, and they, in the opinion of the Mediation Committee, have a perfect right to use all legitimate means in defence of their property-even to the extent of applying to Parliament for powers to do what our chivalrons allies the French are, under similar circumstances, in the habit of doing, namely, to make the settlement of this dispute compulsory. The Mediation Committee are sure that the members of the committee of the Masters' Association will, upon calm consideration, coincide in the principles now propounded, inasmuch as to hold the contrary would be equivalent to maintaining that persons may, when they choose, appropriate to them-selves all the advantages which the institution of society originates and secures, and repudiate the obligations of that institution when it suits their convenience to do so. "We are, Sir, yours truly, "W. CORLESS, G. SHAW, Honorary Secretaries."

This week the Spinners' Committee has vindicated its morality in an extraordinary manner. The secretary, Michael Gallaher, an Irishman, as his name imports, and said to have been educated for the Roman Catholic priesthood, having been detected in

is declared, and the Filibusters, and all 'the dogs of war,' including the Japan expedition, which is to be recalled, are let slip upon the island of Cuba! And, to prevent England and France from giving any aid to Spain, the whole lot of the 200,000 second-hand flint-lock muskets of George Law are to be shipped for the west coast of Ireland, and for those parts of France most convenient to the city of Paris, with the exception of 50,000 muskets for Italy and 25,000 for Hungary, together with the cavalry saddles ordered by Kossuth in Cincinnati before he left the United States. As nearly as we can get at the distribution of the 200,000 mus-kets, it is to be as follows :---

For the south-	west c	coast of	Irelan	d	•	Muskets. 100.000
For France For Italy	· •	•	•	•	•	25,000 50,000
For Hungary	•	•	•		•	25,000
•	To	tal mus	kets			200.000

With the arrival of these muskets at their destinations, the Republicans of Ireland, France, Italy, and Hungary, are to spring up to the bloody work of revolution. Ireland, with the volunteer aid of John Mitchell and liquid vitriol, will be liberated-Lonis Napoleon will be put down-Italy will be made free, including the re-establishment of the Roman republic-and the independence of Hungary will be made good ! But the most important feature in this grand programme is not George Law's muskets, but Kossuth's policy of interven-tion, which is threatened by our Government organ. The interference of France and England in our quarrel with Spain about Cuba will be the signal for armed co-operation, therefore, with the third party in the European war-the revolutionary elements-who are yet to rise up and make the contest a grand triangular fight. And these are to be the three parties in the struggle-first, Russia and her allies 3 second, Turkey, France, and England, &c.; third, the revolutionary elements of Ireland and the Continent. In taking sides with the revolutionary societies we shall be able, in the transportation by the Collins' steamers of arms and munitions of war, to say nothing of vitriol, to accomplish the overthrow of all the monarchies of the Continent, except Russia, and her alliance is to enable us the more effectually to introduce our muskets, artillery, and munitions into Ireland, Italy, and Hungary ! Our Government organ says:---'It is evidently our duty to begin to prepare for the worst. We must demonstrate to the good of every landthose entertaining sentiments kindred to our own-in an unmistakable manner, that we have not only a good cause, but that we are so prepared that, with God's blessing, we shall be enabled to maintain it. We should thus contract an alliance more formidable to our enemies than any ever contracted between crowned heads for the suppression of political liberty.' And this oracle simply comprehends the plan of operations we have laid down. Is not George Sanders in the secret service of our Government ? Rely upon it, we are to have a hand in the European war !"

We don't believe a word of this statement; but print it as a curiosity in journalism.

At the regular monthly meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce, on the 6th instaut, Mr. Walter R. Jones moved a series of resolutions condemning, as contrary to the dictates of sound morality and the principles of justice, the system of privateering, and declaring that the "time has arrived when it should not be tolerated by the laws of civi-lised nations." They also declare " that the efforts now making in Europe to extinguish privateering, by arrangements to be consummated among the diplomatists of the Old World, call for the co-operation of the Government of the United States; and that the treaty made by the United States and Russia in 1785, negotiated by the far-seeing and keen-sighted Franklin, whereby both Governments bound themselves not to issue commissions to privateers, discloses the policy of that early day, and it is well worthy of our support at this time." The resolutions further lay down the principle that free ships should make free cargoes, providing they do not carry goods contraband of war; and they call upon the "Government of the United States to exert a leading influence in this reform." The explorers of Darien, Mr. Gisborne, the American, Lieutenant Strain and his party, some time missing, are all safe. The Governor of New York has vetoed the absurd "Maine Liquor Law," which the Legislature had passed. In Cuba the Captain-General had issued a decree for bidding any but regularly certified graduates in the universities from writing in the newspapers. One of the reasons for this proceeding is, that the uneducated "fatigue their readers by their wearisome productions." It is also remarked, that while the censors can restrain those who assault religion and morality, they have no power of control over "the irruptions of ignorance."

SATURDAY,

General Board of Health, Whitehall, April 17, 1854

The General Board of Health deem it their duty to warn boards of guardians, local boards of health, parochial boards, and other local authorities against placing a false security in the present apparent disappearance of epidemic cholera.

It is of the last importance to bear in mind that a similar decline of the pestilence took place at corresponding periods of its progress on both its former visitations.

The attack of 1831 was premonitory of a more severe and wide spread outbreak in 1832.

The epidemic of 1848, which in the autumn of that year numbered nearly 1000 victims in the metropolis, almost wholly disappeared in the spring, yet returned with redoubled violence in the summer, destroyed nearly 2000 persons weekly for several weeks in succession, and produced, including deaths from diarrhoa, a total mortality of 17,000.

In like manner, the outbreak of last autumn, which commenced with greater virulence than the epidemic of 1848, and destroyed in the metropolis during the first months of its course double the number of victims, has been followed by a lull, which has been more complete than that of 1849. But within the last month the disease has again become more active, and a gradual increase has taken place in the number of deaths, raising, for this month, the total deaths in Eng-land and Scotland to twice the amount of the corresponding period of 1849. The analogy of the preceding visitations therefore justifies the apprehension that the disease, instead of having ceased, is in its period of incubation, and that the epidemic, in its decided form and full force, is yet to come.

The modifications in its character which the pestilence has recently exhibited, are of a nature to render it doubly necessary that the first indications of its appearance in a locality should be vigilantly watched. In the majority of the places which it has hitherto attacked, it has seized its victims more suddenly and hurried them through its fatal course with

greater rapidity than on any preceding visitation. One stage of the disease, formerly well marked, and of the utmost value with reference to the opportunity afforded for the application of the means of prevention, is now generally much shorter in duration, and often even suppressed, namely, that denoted by the term "approaching cholera." Premo-nitory diarrhœa does still indeed exist, but that also is commonly of shorter duration, and passes more directly and rapidly into cholera, and cholera itself into collapse.

During its first visitation in 1831 and 1832, the attacks of the epidemic, with few exceptions, were confined to the poorer portions of the population residing in the most neglected and unhealthy districts. In 1848 and 1849, it was fatal to larger numbers of the middle classes inhabiting better conditioned localities and houses. As far as the disease has yet advanced, the proportion of the better class attacked is still greater than in 1849.

In that year, among the total number of persons who perished by the epidemic in the metropolis, 81 per cent. were labourers and artisans, and 15 per cent. were tradesmen; but in the places in which the disease has lately prevailed, the proportion of deaths among labourers and artisans has been only 72 per cent., while the mortality amongst trades-men has reached 24 per cent. In like manner, in the epide-mic of 1849, the proportion of the deaths of the gentry and professional persons to the total deaths was 2.6 per cent., but recently it has risen to 3.2 per cent. In other countries the disease has not spared the highest classes, and if the safeguards against it are neglected, there is no reason why it should in our own.

It is further indicative of an increasing activity and intensity in the pestilence, that while the interval between its first and second visitations was sixteen years, the interval between its second and third visitations has been only four years; and that its second visitation was far more extensive and mortal than the first. In the absence of more efficient precautions against it, there appears no reasonable ground for the expectation that the third will be less extensive and ~ mortal than the second.

Besides the loss of life, the pecuniary loss occasioned by

of connubial infidelity, some scandal resulted, and the committee has marked its sense of his conduct by dismissing him.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The New York Herald has long acted as one of the flercest opponents of General Pierce; and part of its policy is to attribute all the absurd articles in the Washington Union to presidential inspiration. It has recently given a striking instance of this tactique, by publishing a letter from its Washington correspondent commenting on a recent article in the Union. The "old George Law muskets" referred to have been a bugbear ever since 1848. Whether they exist at all, we know not; but they always figure in "articles" in troublous times :---

"The Union blows us a powerful blast of war on the Cuba question. It says that there is danger of war with Spain, and that we might as well begin to buckle up for it as not. It throws out some strong hints on intervention, according to the programme of Kossuth, Mazzini, and Ledru Rollin. And this is, perhaps, the plan of operations of the Administration in reference to Cuba and the European war. George Sanders, in behalf of the Red Republicans, has bought up all the old muskets of George Law, at 4 dols. or 5 dols. a-piece. Now, mark you, our Administration is advised of all this; but, not wishing to appear to have a hand in the game, Sanders, as consul to London, was rejected by the Senate, though he will probably remain in his office for several months yet to come. Well, England and France send their fleets to the Baltic and the Black Sea, and their armies to the Danube and across the Alps and the Rhine. In the meanlime, Mr. Soule kicks up a row with the Spanish Cabinet, gets himself turned adrift, and our flag, and our Government, and country, and people, all insulted, and especially the Administration. He comes home blazing for war. The Government fires up, the country fires up-war | Taylor's forcible warning we can add nothing.

THE CHOLERA : AN OFFICIAL WARNING.

WE need do no more than call the serious attention of our readers to the subjoined "Notification" prepared and issued by the Board of Health. The maxim, that "the least said the soonest mended," however valuable as a specific "in certain cases," is of no avail as regards cholera. Too much of the hearty and manful sort can hardly be said; because it is obvious that without much speaking, at least in England, there will not be much doing. To Mr. Tom

these local outbreaks demands attention. Irrespective of the permanent expense entailed on towns both by public rates and private contributions for the maintenance of widows, orphans, and others pauperised by the epidemic, the losses sustained by individual tradesmen, from the interruption, and in some instances, the almost total suspension of commerce, are most severe. In some recent instances the sum thus lost would have sufficed to defray a very large proportion of the outlay required to place the town in a permanently safe and satisfactory banitary condition. It is estimated that the total cost of the visitation of 1848 and 1849 to England and Scotland, exclusive of the cost te-Ireland, could not have been less than 2,000,000l.

From these considerations, the board have learnt with great regret that, since the lull in the epidemic, local authorities in numerous instances have suspended the preventive measures which they had actively commenced, under the assumption that the visitation of cholera is over, and that therefore the occasion for further watchfulness and effort has ceased.

While it is satisfactory to state that a great and growing number of local authorities now manifest an earnest desire to carry into effect every practicable means of prevention, there are some who show the same reluctance as formerly to admit the plainest facts evidencing the near approach of an outbreak. Instead of preparing to meet the danger, they shut their eyes against it. Cases of diarrhosa occurring in unusual intensity, in unusual numbers, and at an unusual season, they regard as of no real significance. Successive deaths, with the symptoms of malignant cholera, they call deaths from English cholera, as if changing the name altered the evil. They suppress as far and as long as possible the knowledge of all local forewarnings, whence a false security is maintained, which, on the outbreak of the pestilence, gives place to panic. On the arrival of one of the board's medical inspectors, who under such circumstances is usually sent for, he finds the union medical officers distracted with the sudden demands made upon themdemands greater than they could possibly satisfy were they to devote day and night to the service, which indeed many

of them do to the peril and some to the loss of their own lives. Thus occupied with the treatment of cases, they are wholly unable to devise, organise, and superintend measures for preventing the spread of the pestilence among the population as yet unattacked. Additional medical assistance has now to be sought from a distance; proper qualified house to house visitors, to perform the service of bringing the premonitory cases under immediate treatment, are to be obtained; houses of refuge are to be procured; dispensaries are to be opened; in short, the whole preventive system has to be organised, and before these arrangements can be made, which ought to have been completed before a single case of

the disease occurred, the pestilence is at its height. One consequence of this neglect of the proper period of preparation is, that in the actual presence of the epidemic, some of the most powerful predisposing causes of the disease cannot be removed without the risk of increasing the evils intended to be remedied. Cleansing operations, which at all times require caution, are then hurriedly and precipitately resorted to, and are sometimes performed in such a manner as to produce positive aggravation of the disease. In some instances cesspool matter has been discharged even into the kennels of the streets, and the contents of foul ditches, in a state to give off poisonous exhalations on the slightest agita-tion, have been spread on the banks close to habitations. tion, have been spread on the banks close to habitations. The board deem it necessary again to caution local authori-ties against such a culpable mode of proceeding, which even in ordinary seasons would be attended with imminent danger, but that danger is greatly increased at an epidemic period. Though accumulations of filth may be removed with perfect safety, with the proper use of disinfecting substances, and under the superintendence of persons of competent know-ledge, yet in an epidemic season the emanations from decom-posing animal and vegetable matter acquire so much potency, that at that time it is better to leave large collections of foul refuse undisturbed, and to cover. them temporarily with layers of quicklime or of fresh earth. layers of quicklime or of fresh earth.

Wherever it has not been already done, an efficient sca-venging staff should be immediately organised and kept in unremitting action. The mortality from the epidemic in towns well scavenged has in some instances been only one-half of that in ill scavenged towns, both being in other respects in similarly imperfect sanitary conditions.

It is sometimes observed, as a ground for inaction, that extraordinary epidemics merely take the place of ordinary epidemics, and only destroy in a shorter space of time those who would have perished probably within the year, by some form of zymotic disease.

But even if this were true, it cannot be too strongly im-pressed on local authorities that ordinary epidemics, which may take the place of an extraordinary epidemic, are themselves preventible and are in great measure prevented by proper sanitary arrangements; as is seen in the compara-tive immunity from these diseases among the inmates of well-managed union-houses and prisons, of well-regulated lodging-houses, and of improved dwellings for the labouring classes. If, therefore, from the favourable state of the classes. If, therefore, from the favourable state of the weather, or from some unknown cause, the disease should return only with diminished force, or should not recur at all as a general epidemic, no properly directed effort can fail to be of benefit, equivalent to the expense incurred. It should not require the occurrence of an extraordinary disease, terri-fying the imagination by the suddenness of its attack and the rapidity of its course, to call forth such efforts; they are called for by ordinary epidemics, which, though less alarming as being always present, are, for that very reason, far more mortal than any extraordinary epidemic. It is, however, so far from being true that an extraordinary

It is, however, so far from being true that an extraordinary epidemic does not increase the average mortality, that it sometimes swells that mortality nearly by the whole number of persons who perish by it. This was the case, to a con-siderable extent, in the epidemic of 1849. Out of its 72,000 victims, 40,000 were added to the mortality of that year. Judging from past experience, there is no reasonable ground to hope that a similar loss of life will not take place in the

on the completion of the works, to break up the pavements. in order to put in house-drains.

The board regard with satisfaction the progress made by some local boards in spite of much opposition and misrepresentation in carrying into effect in their respective towns a combined and complete system of sanitary works at [mode-rate cost. Out of 182 cities and towns, comprising upwards of 2,000,000 of town population, under the Public Health Act, 126 have had surveys made, the first step for effecting improved works. In 70 towns plans for such works have been laid out, and in 13 more the main or public works have been completed. It is expected that in about 35 other towns similar works will be in operation in the course of another vear.

The act itself, constituting the necessary authority, and conferring the requisite powers for carrying out these works, has been obtained at the average expense of 1121.; that is, at little more than a twelfth part of the average expense of a local act.

In the towns in which the works are the most advanced, and which may be taken as average examples of the whole, the public works of drainage have been completed at the average cost of 1d. per week per house.

The supply of water, including the works within the house, the service-pipes, sinks, water-closet and house-drains, has been afforded, with principal and interest, at a rate under $2\frac{1}{2}d$. per week per house; making the total expense for the whole of these works $2\frac{1}{2}d$ per week per house; whole of these works 31d. per week per house

Sanctions for the execution of such works, after careful examination of their efficiency, economy, and completeness, have been given to the amount of upwards of 1,000,0001. and it is estimated that there will be required for the towns already under the act the further sanction of upwards of 6,000,000**2**.

Though the most advanced of these works are as yet too recent for the development of their results on the public health, the diminution of sickness which has already been effected in some of the worst localities, the removal of the sense of depression, which was before so generally felt in these districts, and the cleanliness and comfort experienced by the inhabitants, justify the hope that these amendments will act, in some degree at least, as safeguards against the threatened pestilence.

But no external works, however perfect, can prevent the operation of the causes of disease which arise from residence in dwellings unfit for human habitation, such as under-ground kitchens and cellars, in which no families can maintain health. Nor can the most perfect external works stop the diseases caused by internal filth and overcrowding. The Common Lodging Houses Act, indeed, which enforces certain conditions of internal cleanliness, and prevents overcrowding, reaches the latter evils for the class of houses under its control; but there are hundreds of thousands of the people who live in tenemented houses, placed back to back; each house being divided into many rooms, and each room being in fact the house of the entire family, in which there is a total and habitual disregard both of cleanliness and of the amount of breathing space. These dwellings are considered as private houses, and consequently the Common Lodging Houses Act does not touch them.

With these and other conditions favourable to the generation and diffusion of epidemic disease, too common in all our villages and towns, local outbreaks of the pestilence must be expected, and preparation must be made to mitigate the calamity as far as may be practicable. With a view to assist local authorities in the preparation of preventive measures, the board has issued revised instructions, particularly with reference to the organisation of the system of house to house visitation; and experience has shown that the saving of life in an outbreak of epidemic cholera will mainly depend on the promptitude and efficiency with which this measure is carried into execution.

The board would call the earnest attention of boards of guardians and local boards of health to the evidence which has been adduced of the surprising and almost incredible approaching summer, unless timely exertions are made to success that, in some instances, has attended well directed prevent the calamity, and it is now only that timely exertion exertion, even under circumstances in which temporary measures only were available, and when an outbreak seemed inevitable. Recently, at Tynemouth, where the local authorities exerted themselves with extraordinary energy, no case of cholera occurred though neighbouring towns were devastated by the pestilence. Within the barracks of Newcastle, where all the means at command for cleansing, for the removal of nuisances, and for the avoidance of overcrowding, were employed with great promptitude and energy, no case of cholera occurred, though premonitory diarrhoa was so prevalent among the garrison that out of 519 men, forming its total strength, 451 suffered from this affection; while in the town there were upwards of 1,500 deaths from cholera, and nearly 45,000 persons received relief at the public expense. At a settlement in the Bahamas, in which energetic measures of cleansing were promptly effected, the mortality from the disease scarcely reached 1 per cunt. of the affected population; whereas in the neighbouring settlement, in which no such measures were adopted, the mortality ranged from 12 to 20 per cent. At Baltimore in the United States, during the epidemic of 1849, which ravaged neighbouring cities, neither money nor labour was spared to purify the town, and the cleansing operations were so energetically performed that it was admitted that the town had never before been in so clean a state. For the space of three weeks or a month, premonitory diarrhœa and other symptoms, denoting the presence of the cholera poison, were as prevalent throughout the city as in the barracks at Newcastle; yet no outbreak of the pestilence took place, though at the Baltimore almshouses, situated about two miles from the city, and close to which a large mass of putrifying filth had been left uncleansed, 99 deaths occurred from cholers, out of a population of less than 600 souls. These results recal the observation of a great physician of that country, made nearly a century ago, with reference to through them into sewers in the front streets, there will be sician of the United States, "the Author of nature has night only" high spirits must be looked on with a charitable comparatively few instances in which it will be necessary, kindly prepared an antidote. Pestilential fevers furnish no eye; but there were there, visibly and incontestably, thou-

exception to this remark. The means of preventing them are as much under the power of human reason and industry as the means of preventing the evils of lightning and common fire. I am so satisfied of this opinion that I look for the time when our courts of law shall punish cities and villages for permitting any of the sources of malignant

Secretary, General Board of Health.

GREENWICH FAIR.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

"THE intelligent foreigner"-written down "decisively an ass" in his own country, we always suspect-who does the hypothetical criticism of our British institutions for authors doubtful of their own opinions must have been puzzled at Greenwich. "What's it all about?" is not an unnaat Greenwich. "What's it all about?" is not an unna-tural question when you find tens or hundreds of thou-sands of people collected in a smoky town, or pretending to enjoy "God's blessed sunshine" on a cold day, in an invi-sible-green park much the worse for orange-peel and the ends of penny pickwicks. What precisely brought these myriads of rather dirty people here?---not, probably, their rigorous observance of Lent, for there were many pleasure trains and few exclusively fish dinners on Good Friday, some three days ago. They came to be anused: and here are we profesago. They came to be amused; and here are we, profes-sionally, in Greenwich to see how they accomplish their most innocent design.

Arriving early, as in duty we were bound to do, we were not troubled with more than six adults over the usual number in a first-class carriage; on that head, therefore, we cannot complain. To be sure there were several babies; but they don't count, though they cry. We got out warm, but safe, and not very discontented. Always on the look out for useful information, and having

time to spare, we accepted most of the handbills presented to us. If there is any reliance to be placed upon professions, we must say, from their perusal, that Greenwich is not by any means an expensive place. You can have ten and shrimps for sixpence, and are considered insulting if you offer the waiter a penny; and you can be buried for 11. 12s.; or thereabouts, by sober acd respectable men, with a black horse, plumes, and every needful symbol of grief, virtue, and respectability. There is no harm in the supposition that one may have an appetite, and, ultimately, be interred; but why the terribly prevalent suspicion that you are not; a total abstainer, and are on the point of conversion by an emissary of the Church of Rome? Why has everybody we have as yet met and recognised had his pockets stuffed with assurances that spontaneous combustion is "No Fiction," and rances that spontaneous combustion is "No Fiction," and that something or other will happen towards the close of May to the Pope, and another Vial? That is not amusing or particularly appropriate to a fair. We admit that it is benevolent, and observe that the donor obtained a large re-duction (the original price was a halfpenny) if he took a hundred. But we do not want to take a hundred, so the writer must be satisfied with limited gratitude from us.

We walked up towards the park, observing that the ginger-hread had a look of 1858, and met with another gentleman of a lugubrious turn of mind, whose mission was oratory, and who was enlarging on the text recently attempted to be illustrated in the dead lamb supplied by patriotic hay con-tractors, that "All flesh is grass." We saw where that would lead to, and did not wait for any elaboration of the result, but proceeded towards Blackheath and the avowed donkeys. The scene in the park was the usual business; young gentlemen, of the social position of Sir Richard Whittington at a period considerably prior to his mayoralty. were galloping young ladies—charitably supposed to be the objects of their affections—down steep hills, and, unless they broke their necks in the interim, caressing them at the end of the race with a not sentimental devotion. The females, whose costume was a study, were looking shocked, but de-lighted, and ruining the coats of their admiring persecutors with an absurd instrument of torture ironically called "the whole fun of the fair." Proceeding to the Heath, you arrived at a still livelier and more rational scene of amusement, and found lovers had become perspiring donkey drivers -though, like the fair ones' bonnets, it must be confessed they were a long way behind ; while the beloved, unconscious of Mahomet, were trying to find Heaven on asses' backs with persevering assiduity. But that was not a permanent enjoyment, and you felt that something must be done to relieve its monotony. You returned-possibly with an eye to dinner at some place which did not advertise-and you came upon the other everlasting luxury of rifles out of which flew darts, sticking, perchance, in lucky holes, en-titling you to fabulous amounts of rotten nuts. Everything it appeared, depended on "the quickness," nothing on "the precision," of your fire; and, as the proprietor for his personal objects was always enforcing this bad moral, we passed him invariably, in disgnst. "Three sticks a-penny," to persons who wish the pounds to take care of themselves, is a game naturally contemptible, and, besides being hazardous, it is slow. There is, in fact, no mention of any other amusement to be made, except the universal cating of hyper-brobdignagian oysters and spongy St. Michael oranges. That, surely, might have been transacted at home. In short, the day's amusements were the stereotyped stupidity of centuries-"" the whole fun of the fair" being wooden as usual. But the evening. The evening brought down thousands and thousands unquestionably of the worst class of London society; and however conventional writers may presume upon the benevolence of an inadequate police-however much talk there may be of this "innocent recreation" of the working classes-it was perfectly clear that the real working classes would shudder at the thought of being identified with the debased, grim-visaged mass of jocund rufflams who ap-gone, leaving his watch and all superfluous cash behind: there would be no police-court drunkenness where "for one

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can be made. It is at the present juncture that the extraordinary powers conferred by the Order in Council for enforcing external and internal cleansing, and for the removal of nuisances, should be exercised with the utmost activity, vigilance, and stringency.

Nor should it be forgotten that within the time of preparation which may yet be allowed us, in the actual condition of great numbers of places in all our towns, it is only palliatives that can be applied. Where there is no drainage, no proper water supply, no water-closets, nothing but foul cess-pools, only limited benefits can be expected.

For this reason the board would urge on local boards of health, whose works under the Public Health Act are the most advanced, the great importance of hastening on the completion of such operations as are necessary for the abolition of cesspools, and the substitution of the water closet apparatus; by laying down wherever possible, especially in epidemic districts and localities, impermeable and selfcleansing house drains, and by providing ample supplies of water. Hitherto, almost exclusive attention has been given to the construction of main sewers, but experience has shown that these alone, without systematised connexion with selfcleansing house drains and ample supplies of water, are of little avail in the prevention of disease; but that where foul cesspools have been the principal sanitary evil, as from house to house these have been filled up, and the water-closet substituted, the outbreak and spread of fever and other forms of zymotic disease have been at once arrested.

At the same time that these works are proceeded with, the damp and miry surface in front and at the back of houses should be removed by paving. There are instances in which this single improvement has apparently protected the inhabitants of courts and streets from the recurrence of ordinary epidemics. A flagged surface further affords the means of more effectual cleansing by the hose and jet. Paving may be done in many instances without waiting for the completion of drainage works, and where the principle has been adopted of draining from the backs of houses, instead of

LEADER. THE

ists may just as well remember this-they all came from Isondon.

Of course we went to Richardson's, and we are not sure that they did not produce a new piece. It was difficult to criticise, in a literary point of view, as the band, with an eye to the attraction. of a supplementary audience, performed very noisily during almost the entire performance. Neither was it a great dramatic success; at one time, indeed, it seemed likely to excite popular dissatisfaction, the populace doubting whether. it had had three penn orth for its threepence: but the catastrophe was promptly averted by two mortal combate, and about twenty indelicate allusions. The audience here, too, were really respectable, composed appa-really of steady working men; their sweethearts, and their daughters; and one felt melancholy at their appreciation; but we only record the fact.

After that there was the dancing and its concomitants; but not having gone into the booth, perhaps it would be as well for us not to go into the subject. Not but that it also nay be one worthy of consideration. Perhaps, in conclu-sion one might say of these vast annual fairs—sorrowfully, but looking to the real heart of the business—that they "Begin with gladness; But thereof come in the end despondency and midness."

2020 CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

THERE was a great trial in the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, last week, ir which circumstantial evidence was stad in his favour, short of producing conviction in the minds of the majority of the jury. The facts may be briefly stated as follows :-- At the farm

of Burniside, which lies about two miles west of Kirkton St. Bergany three resided a Scotch peasant family, by name BitDonald consisting of the mother two sons, and a daugh two one of these sons was named William; he was about twenty nine years of age, had been a widower for eight years, and was upon the eve of being married again. The grl to whom he was engaged was Mary Slessor is farm servint, and with her he remained on the most excellent tenns up to the last. This young man-this William M.Donald was in constant communication with a certain My Lonaid was in constant communication with a certain Dr. William Smith, who was established as a surgeon in the heigh loaring village. For some reason or other unexplained, this Dr. Smith had effected insurances to the amount of 2000s your M'Donald's life. It would be tedious to discuss the widence influttely as to the forms in which these insurances were effected; the upahot, however, of the matter was that the policies would not be vitlated in the event of suicide; if taken by a third party for valuable consideration. Dr. Smith when in a condition to profit by the lapse of these insurances. Although this was not directly stated, we presume it to be the case; because, in his own declara-tion, he says that he deel not expect to profit by them if the point of M. Donald's suicide be established. He states, moreover, that the insurances were effected, by his unclea cortain William Milne- and that he was in almost absolute ignorance as to all matters concerning the policies in questions. There can be little doubt that this ignorance was affected; and it is highly improbable that a post Scotch doctor should leave himself in doubt as to the contingencies which might put him in possession of so considerable a sum as that named ... The Dean of Faculty, moreover, who ap-pened for the defence. did not attempt to deny the point; and it may, we presume, be taken for granted, that the pectulary relations stated did really exist between the parties. If William M. Donald could be disposed of, Dr. William Smiththen would be by 20001 the richer man. It was under these circumstances that on Saturday; the 19th time. On going out he said he had a tryst with Dr. Smith for six o'clock that evening. He never returned. The noticeable fact which occurred in the course of the evening the beilingh of St. Fergus, left hi own house a few minutes after half-past seven to go to the church to ring the eight o'clock bell. When about forty or fifty yards on his way he saw a flash and heard a report inthe direction of Dr. Smith's field. The shot was fired between twenty-five and twenty minutes to eight P.M., and was, no doubt, the one which deprived William M'Donald of life. The next morning (Sunday) his family became anxions, and his brother Robert went out to seek him. The nearest way to Kirkton from Burnside lay by a pathway leading through a field of Dr. Smith's. The field was traversed by a cross-ditch; along which the footpath ran, and led down to a road at the back of the houses of Kirkton, towards Dr. Smith's stable. In this field, and in the ditch under the liedge; lay the body of William M'Donald, with a wound on the right check, and a little blood on the face. A pistol lay near the body. The brother went instantly in search of Dr. Smith, but did not find him at home. In about five minutes, however, he saw him coming down the road, accompanied by James Pirie, the farrier of the village. Dr. Smith did not appear, by his manner, to have betrayed any such emotion as is usually found in connexion with guilt. Not only was this so at that moment, but at all stages throughout the transaction. If it was, indeed, his hand which did the deed, never were precautions more wisely taken to stave off a conviction. . The medical evidence, which at a subsequent period of the case was imported into the investigation, went to show the strong improbability that the deceased man had perished by his own hand, or by suffocation, from the small amount of water in the ditch. There was no appearance of a struggle. The medical evidence, however, appears to have been clumsily brought out, or the medical investigation was but imperfectly made in the first instance. The only remaining point on which we shall touch before coming to the question of time is that of the pistol and ammunition. On the one hand, a shopman from Peterhead swore that he had sold Dr. Smith such a pistol as the one found upon the ground in August last; upon the other, the brother of the Provost of Peter-

sands and thousands of countchances with the possessors of M'Donald such a pistol as the one produced. He said it was which humanity shuddered to: claim kin. Philanthro his firm belief that the pistol found was the very one he had sold to the deceased. With regard to the ammunition, nothing conclusive appeared beyond the fact that the prisoner

had recently purchased some caps and a small quantity of powder, the possession of which he accounted for in a manner that might be true.

Now as to the question of time. Upon the day of the murder the prisoner said that he remained in his own house until six o'clock, when he went to the "manse" on a visit to one of the minister's servants. He left the "manse" about seven, or a few minutes after, and went home; remaining in the house about five or ten minutes. He then went into his garden, and brought in some flower-roots which had been previously dug up. When he had finished he walked in his garden for a few minutes, and then went out on a visit to a Miss Anderson. It was then about twenty-five minutes to eight. He remained there about eight minutes, and on going away he stayed near her door for a few minutes longer. He then went to Pirie's, the farrier, with whom he remained two minutes; and then proceeded to a Mis. Manson's-there the stayed ten minutes. Then again he went into Pirie's, where he remained about half an hour. This brings the time down until about half-past eight. The important point is as to his presence at Miss Anderson's at twenty-five minutes before eight. It is certain that he was so, according to the clock in that house. On coming in he had taken up the candle, and drawn Miss Anderson's attention to the fact-but Miss-Anderson deposed that the clock was a guarter too slow-leaving that period of time still unac-counted for, and showing that Smith could have been on the spot; but further than this the evidence does not reach.

The Lord Justice Clerk, in charging the jury, said if this were a case of murder, according to the indictment; it was certainly the most atrocious one that was ever brought before that Court. At an early period of the trial, however, he had taken up the impression that; unless there were more evidence brought than appeared likely, there was not enough to infer the guilt of the prisoner, or to substantiate the fact that a murder had been committed. Since hearing the whole case that impression had been strengthened and confinned. He, however, could not relieve them from the responsibility of judging of the case for themselves, and they would, therefore, form their own opinion on the evi-

dence, and return their verdict accordingly. The jury then retired, and, after an absence of about ten minutes, returned into court with a verdict of Not Proven, by a majority.

The Lord Justice Clerk asked whether the difference of opinion was as to "Not proven" or "Not guilty?" to which the Foreman replied that it was between "Guilty" and "Not proven."

On the return of the verdict a slight hiss from the audience was heard, and on the breaking up of the Court similar expressions of feeling were given vent to; while the retire-ment of the prisoner, who, for his own protection, was kept inside the building for some time, was the signal for another burst of hissing, more loud than before:

Large crowds of people thronged the entrance to the Court during the whole day, and awaited the liberation of Smith; but he was sent off quietly by another door.

THE DAY OF HUMILATION.

The following are the special prayers appointed y the Queen to be read in churches on the Day of Humiliation :---

Instead of the Prayer in time of War and Tumults, the following shall be used.

O'ATMIGHTY God, maker of the universe, and sovereign disposer of the affairs of men, at whose command nations and empires rise and fall, flourish and decay; we Thine unworthy servants most humbly implore Thy gracious aid and protection. We flee unto Thee for succour in this time of peril and perplexity, when, in defence of the rights and independence of nations, now endangered through unprovoked gression, we are exposed to the calamities of war. Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee; Thine especial protection to our most gracious Sovereign. Direct her counsels; prosper all her measures for the welfare of this kingdom, and the preservation of our Church and civil constitution. And let no internal divisions, nor any other sins and provocations of this nation obstruct her designs for the public good, nor bring down Thy judgments upon us. Bless her councillors with wisdom. Inspire her commanders, both by sea and land, with valour and patience; and teach them, amidst all their perils and hardships, to show forth in their lives and actions the united duties and graces of Christian soldiers. O prosper them in all their doings with Thy gracious fayour and protection. And whilst we pray Thee, O merciful Father, to defend us from them that rise up against us, inspire our hearts, and the hearts of our enemies, with the love of peace. Let us do nothing through strife, or pride, or vain glory; but teach us to be meek and merciful, tender-hearted, and full of compassion. And in Thy good time vouchsafe us, we pray Thee, such a secure and prosperous peace as may tend to the glory of Thy name, to the honour and safety of our Sovereign and her dominions, and to the common welfare of mankind.

brance of Thy mercies, to unite with us in rendering praise and glory to Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord: Amen:

We humbly beseech Thee, most merciful God, that by Thy grace Thou wouldst keep alive in us, who have this day presumed to implore such great blessings at Thy hands, a constant sense of Thy presence, and of our dependence upon Thee. Suffer us not to call down Thine anger by sinfulness and disobedience, nor to yield to those evil passions and desires which might justly incur Thy wrath and indignation: But save us; O God; save us not only from our worldly, but also from our spiritual enemies: for the sake of Jesus Christ. our Lord. Amen.

HEATTH OF LONDON.

(From the Registrar-General's Return.)

In the week ending Saturday, the deaths registered? in London showed a decrease on the returns of preceding weeks, The number was 1087; in the previous week it was 1149. In the ten weeks corresponding to last week, of the years 1844-53 the average number was 1013, which if raised in proportion to increase of population becomes 1114. The actual result therefore differs little from the estimated amount: There were 18: deaths: from diarrhose and two from cholers.

Last week the births of 795 boys and 778 girls, in. alf 1573 children; were registered in London. In the nine corresponding weeks of the years 1845-53 theaverage number was 1393.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the borometer in the week was 30:060 in. The mean daily reading was above 30 in. on the first five days. The highest mean occurred on Wednesday, and was 30:219 in. The barometer rose to 30:24 in. at 9 h. A.M. on Thursday... The mean temperature of the week was 48:0 deg., which is 27 deg. above the average of the same week in thirty-eight years. The mean daily temperature was above the average on every day of the week; except Monday. The highest temperature of the week was 68.8 deg., and occurred on Saturday ; the lowest was 331 deg., and occurred on Friday. The mean dew-point temperature was 40.3 deg, the difference between that and the mean air: temperature being 7.7 deg. The wind blew generally from the north-east. No rain fell ex. cept: on Thursday, when the amount was only 0.03 in.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Court remains at Windsor. At a Privy Council,. held on Saturday, Mr. H. U. Addington was sworn, and took his seat at the board; and proclamationsappointing the 26th as a day of humiliation and prayer were ordered. Her Majesty gave audience to the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, Sir James Graliam, and Earl Granville.

The Queen has ridden out this week in company with the Prince and their children. The Duke of Newcastle and Lord Aberdeen have been guests at the Castle.

The Hydaspes, from the Cape of Good Hope, with papers down to the 25th of February, arrived at Plymouth on Thursday: The chief news is that gold has been discovered at a place called Smithfield, in the Orange sovereignty, and much excitement had of course followed the announcement. The worth of the discovery had still to be tested. There were 4000 roops in the colony. The elections of the Lower House had been completed. Mr. Bryer, chief officer of the Hydaspes, was killed at the Cape, on the 20th of February, by the falling of "the shears." He saw the danger, generously pushed all the men in peril out of the way, and was himself the only victim. He was an excellent officer, and is much regretted.

Hear us, O merciful Father, and help us in this our time of need, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord. Amen.

¶ A Prayer for the Safety of our Fleets.

O ETERNAL Lord God, whose voice, mighty in operation, the raging seas and the storing winds obey; who in Thy mercy guidest the mariner in safety through the trackless deep; receive, we beseech Thee, into Thy gracious and almighty protection, the Fleets of Thy servant our Sovereign, the vessels of our merchants, and the persons of all those who serve in them. Preserve them from the perils of the seas, from the efforts of the senemy, and from the danger of disease in distant climates; that

We are glad to see that the merits of Colonel Rose have not been overlooked, and that he has been appointed British Military Commissioner to the French Expeditionary army in the East. He went to Syria in 1840 with the British officers employed there, and was attached to the Staff of Omar Pasha, with the rank of Deputy Adjutant-General. He was wounded in an affair of cavalry, January 15, 1841. He was afterwards appointed to the command of the detachments. When Consul-General in Syria, he rescued the Prince of Lebanon and others from the Druses. He is thoroughly conversant with the waifare and politics of the East.

Mr. Henry Unwin Addington has resigned his office of Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which he has held since March 4, 1842. Mr. Addington entered the service of the Foreign-office so far back as 1807; and was for many years in the diplomatic service. He has been elevated by the Queen to the rank of a privy councillor. Mr. Addington is succeeded as Permanent Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign Department by Mr. Edmond Hamond, who entered the Foreign-office in 1824, and who has been a clerk of the first class since 1841, at the head of one of the departments.

The Horse Guards have made a tardy step in the way of justice, by placing the author of the "Corn Law Catechism" (Colonel Thompson) on the list of Colonels, from which he had been excluded in 1846 by an official manœuvre. But do they not mean to restore him to his proper place in the list, which is at the head of all the Colonels of the 9th of Novemthey may return in safety, and crowned, if it be Thy good ber, 1846; or it is to remain on record that an officer was pleasure, with success in their enterprises, to enjoy the put at the bottom of the list and lost eight years' rank and hand swore that in the year 1848 he had sold William blessings of their native land; and, with thankful remem- standing, for having in and out of Parliament assisted in

LEADER. THD

obtaining Hree Trade for the country? Since they have Majesty's ships Assistance, Resolute, Intrepid, Pioneer, conceded one point, they have virtually conceded the other. North Star, Enterprise, and Investigator. Let us have justice made graceful by being complete justice. -Daily News.

Some additional light is thrown on the bitter hostility of Lord Clauricarde to the present Government: It has long been felt that he resented his exclusion from the Cabinet. It now appears that Lord Stanley, is going to marry His eldest daughter.

eidest daughter. The Reverend Canon Hamilton was formally elected Bishop of Salisbury by the Dean and Chapter on Saturday. Mr. Holford, a rich American (?) merchant, who long resided in the Regent's Park, died on the Sth of April, and has left his large fortuge to the Prince of Wales.

A vacancy has occurred in Queenhithe Ward, in conse-quence of the decease of Mr. James Kinnersley Heoper, the alderman of that ward, who died on Monday evening. The deceased gentleman was elected in 1840, served the office of sheriff in 1842, and filled the civic chair in 1847.

At the annual meeting of the Liverpool Reform Association, on Thursday, it was stated that the reports of the registration show a gain on the part of the Liberals over the Tories of 471: in the Parliamentary, and of 144 in the municipal elections: A resolution in favour of Parliamentary reform, at the proper time, and expressing confidence in the Ministry, was carried.

On Saturday the "five bills" of the Attorney-General to disfranchise certain voters in Canterbury, Cambridge, Kingston-upon-Hull, Maldon, and Barnstaple, were printed. The names of the voters are set forth in the bills, and it is declared that they were proved to have been guilty of bribery before the late commissions. Therefore it is declared that they shall "for ever be disabled to vote in any election of any member or members" for the particular borough named by the bill.

Dr. Carr, late Bishop of Bombay, has accepted the Rec-tory of Bath at the hands of the trustees of the late Mr. Simeon, of Cambridge, the patron. The Rev. J. Brodrick, who has for the last fourteen years been rector of the parish. announced his resignation in vestry last Monday; and stated that the late bishop, in his anxiety to become useful in the church, had accepted parochial duty. The annual value of the homeward voyage from Manilla. The deceased sailors the benefice is 7500

The parishioners of Liverpool, in public vestry, decided against a proposed church-rate of three farthings in the pound; but a poll was demanded, which began of Thursday. On that day there were for the rate voted 302 persons; having an aggregate of 862 votes; against the rate 817 persons, having 635 votes.

Burlington House has been secured to the nation, and thereby prevented from: passing into the hands of specu-culators, who were proposing to turn it into a sort of Lendon Palais Royal, or perhaps to greater desecration. The Chief Commissioner of Public Works has bought it for 150,0001.; and it is said that the noble family to whom this man-

and it is said that the noble family to whom this man-sion belonged have refused larger offers in their anxiety to preserve it from desceration. It is presumed that it has been bought for the purposes of a national gallery, but this we fear is but conjecture. The Caen, journal, L'Ordre et la Liberté announces that Lord John Russell intends to make a handsome present to the cliurch of a neighbouring district. "Lord John Russell is of Norman origin, and his family presensed, previous to the conquest of England, the seigniory of Rosel. The parish priest of the district, wrote last year to his Iordship to request him to participate in a subscription for the purpose of purchasing a bell for his church. M. de Caumont, director of purchasing a bell for his church. M. de Caumont, director of the Society for the Preservation of French Monuments, forwarded the letter to London, with a few lines of recom-mendation. Lord John Russell lost no time in replying;

The trades at New York show a disposition to strike for higher wages. Several are now "out." Jonathan Harrington, present at the battle of Lexington,

died recently, and was buried with great honours. He is the last of the herees whence nobly opened the war of independence.

Secretary Marcy has forwarded to the collector of Barn-staple, for Captain Young, of the American whaling schoper, Wadron Holmes, a beautiful gold medal, a testimonial from the British Government for saving the crew of the British barque Cairo, in 1858

The rights of woman question continues to be actively agitated in the United States. A Miss Severance recently prevailed on the Ohio Senate to hear her read a long memorial. Among the notices of doing in New York is one that the famous "Dr."Harriet K. Hunt" had recently delivered a ecture on woman as a physician.

The South Australian Register, speaking of the Murray, route."

The revenue of the colony of Victoria amounted to no less han 3,202,249L in the year 1853-more than double the

revenue of the previous year. Badly off for steady and industrious subjects, Santa Anna, Dictator of Mexico, has sent one of his men to Germany to induce the Germans to emigrate to the wealthy, peaceful, and free state of Mexico !

James Bailey, who was convicted at the last Somerset Assizes of the murder of a young girl, named Eliza Coles, has been reprieved, with a view to a commutation of the capital seutence, to a penal servitude for life. The intel-tellect of the wretched criminal is of the lowest possible order.

Wm. Henderson Horner, T. Chudderton, and John Harth, the captain and first and second mates of the barque Monngerstem; of London; were charged on Menday before the Liverpool magistrates with the murder of three sailors on were repeatedly flogged, principally by the captain, with a large stick of teak, in which knotted cords were inserted They died on the 4th, 29rd, and 29th of March respectively.

Postscript.

SATURDAY, April 2206.

THE RUSSIAN DECLARATION OF WAR.

THE Emperor has issued his declaration of war. It is published in a supplement to the Journal of St. Petersburg, of the 13th of April, and opens in this wise :—

"France and Great Britain have at last openly left the system of disguised hostility" which they had adopted towards Russia, especially by the entrance of their fleets into the Black Sens

"The result of the explanations which they have given of that measure was of a nature to lead to a rupture of reciprocal relations between them and the Imperial Cabinet. This last fact was shortly followed by a communication, in which the two Cabinets, through their respective consuls, invited the Imperial Government to evacuate the Danubian Principalities within a given term, which England fixed at and informed the cure that he would be too happy to place the 30th April, and France, still more peremptorily, at the at his disposal the sum necessary to purchase the bell, which is to weigh 12001bs." [The real giver of the bell is the Duke Powers thus pretend to exact everything from one of the Powers thus pretend to exact everything from one of the two belligerent parties, without demanding anything from the other? This is what they have not thought fit to explain to the Imperial Cabinet. To evacuate the Principalities, without even the shadow of a fulfilment, by the Ottoman Government, of the conditions to which the Einperor made the cessation of that temporary occupation subordinate-to evacuate them in the brunt of a war which the latter was the first to declare, whilst it is actively carrying on offensive operations, when its own troops occupy a fortified point of Russian territory-was already a condition inadmissible in substance. The two Powers' wished that in form it should become still more inacceptable. They fixed a term of six days for the adhesion of the Imperial Cabinet, at the expiration of which a refusal, or the absence of any reply whatever, was to be by them regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war. To a summons so partial in its tenor; as practically inexcusable as it was insulting in its terms, silence was the only reply compatible with the dignity of the Emperor. Consequently, the two Governments have just publicly made known that Russia, by her refusal to accede to their demand, has constituted herself towards them in a state of war, the entire responsibility of which will rest upon her. "In the presence of such declarations it only remains for the Emperor to accept the situation which has been made him, reserving to himself to employ all the means which Providence has put in his hands to defend with energy and constancy the honour, independence, and safety of his empire." The declaration then proceeds to argue and to combat the declarations and allegations of the Western Powers, while at the same time it disclaims all intention of renewing the exhausted polemic. All concessions are claimed to have been made by Russia, all "disastrous provocations" are referred to the Western Powers. "The occupation of the Principalities, which is taken now, apres coup, as a pretext for the war, did not prevent the opening of negotiations. It would not have any more prevented their continuation, or rather these negotiations under-mentioned Arctic ships will be forwarded if sent to the would have led to something long since, if the Powers the idea of reducing wages, and take the more sensible course Admiralty on or before the 26th of this month:-Her had not suddenly, without any good reason, completely of running short time in cases where it may be necessary.

changed the bases which they themselves had laid down in the first note concerted at Vienna."

Unable to close their eyes to the insufficient motives they allege, the Western Powers are said to have recourse to vague generalities; and it is denied that Russia has over attacked the honour of the two Courts-" if that honour has been placed in jeopardy" it has been done by themselves"-or hurt their m terial interests, or threatened the balance of powers

"The policy of aggrandisement and conquest which they attribute to Russia has been refuted by all her acts since 1875. Of her neighbours in Germany, and in the North, is there one which during the last forty years liave had to complain of an attack, or even of an attempt of an attack of

upon the integrity of his descentions? "As regards Turkey, although we have been at war with her, the peace of Adrianople exists to attest the moderate use we have made of our success; and since then, at two intervals, the Ottoman Empire has been saved by us from imminenterain.

"The desire of persessing Constantinople; if that empires should fall—the intention of forming a permanent establish, ment there—have been too publicly, too solemnly disayowed, for any doubts to be entertained on that subject that do not originate in a distrust which nothing can oure."

The Western Powers are taunted with having struck a fatal blow against the Porte and other States, while Russia it is urged has everywhere, in all countries, maintained, the equilibrium ;; and Enrope is called upon to decide " whether it is from Russia that have come pretensions the most hostile; to the rights of sovereignty and the independence of feeble states; "-citing Germany, Greece, Italy, Hungary! The concluding sentences are as follows:---

" The true motive was publicly proclaimed by the English Ministers, when they asserted before Parliament that the moment had arrived at last when it was necessary to abate the influence of Russia.

"It is to defend that influence, not less necessary to the Russian nation than it is essential to the maintenance of the order and the security of other States-it is to sustain that independence and territorial integrity which are the bases of it-that the Emperors obliged in spite of himself to combinity in this contest, is about to devote all the means of resistance, in this contest, is about to devote all the means of resistance, which are furnished, by the devotion and patriotism of his people. He trusts that God, who has so often protected Russia in the day of trial, will assist him once more in this formidable struggle. He sincerely laments the infinite evils which are about to fall on humanity; but at the same time he feels it to be his duty to protest solemnly against the ar-bitrary pretensions laid down by the two Powers, which throw upon him alone all the responsibility of them. They are free, without doubt, to adopt against Russia such mean sures as may be convenient to them; but it does not belong to them to law the consequences to his charge. The responto them to lay the consequences to his charge. "The respon-sibility of the calamities of a war belongs to the Power which declares it, not to that which is bound to accept it. "St. Petersburg, March 80, 1854.""

There was some excitement yesterday caused by a placard announcing?" Three grand victories gained! by the Turks over the Russians." It turns out the be based on a telegraphic despatch simply stating that Omar Pasha has officially reported that the Turks gallantly resisted the Russians at three. places, and then, as already described, fell back upon Karasu.

A telegraphic despatch, dated Berlin, this morning VS LRAL Lesterday an ouensive and defensive alliance between Austria and Prussia was signed by Baron Manteuffel on the one side and Baron Hess and Count Thun on the other."

of Bedford.]

St. James's Theatre is, it appears; to be opened on Monday, the 1st of May, for the performance of French Plays, under the direction of M. Lafont. Messrs. Hoffman, Bardoul. Ferville, and the excellent Regnier, Madlle: Luther, and Madlle. Fix, of the Theatre Français, are already engaged

to appear during the present short season. The cast of the statue of Richard Cœur-de-Lion; set up as an experiment in Palace-yard, Westminster, was removed on Thursday. Sir Charles Barry objects, that it does not harmonise with the new Houses of Parliament.

On Tuesday, a deputation from Newcastle waited upon General Garibaldi, on board of the ship Commonwealth_i at the Pontop and Shields Drops, South Shields, when Mr. Joseph Cowan, jun., on behalf of the sympathisers of European freedom in Tyneside, presented the general with a magnificent sword and telescope, each bearing a suitable inscrip-tion, as a mark of their esteem and admiration of his character. The general briefly returned thanks. The proceedings were, in accordance with Garibaldi's own wishes, of a private character -Newcastle Guardian.

The Greeks in Manchester are said to have subscribed 10,000% towards supporting the insurrection in Turkey. Those in London and Liverpool are also reported to have raised funds. [Surely this money is contraband of war. But how to get at it?]

A foreign vessel, lying at the quayside in the Tyne, and having on board munitions of war, consisting of shot, was last week seized by Mr. Sanders, landing-waiter at the Custom-house. She awaits the disposal of the Government. The forts which command the entrance of the Tyne, and which during peace had been dismantled of their guns, are about being put in a posture of defence, in case of attack.

Many militia regiments are now in training, and report speaks highly of them. Numbers of men have enlisted into the regulatariny.

Letters for officers, seamen, and marines serving in the

The Baltic fleet has sailed from Brest for the Gulf of Finland. It conveys the expeditionary force, consisting of infantry, artillery, and 1790 horsess: The fleet includes 23 ships, and 1250 guns.

Our correspondent at Preston writes as follows :---

Preston, Friday.

The balance-sheet of the six committees are before me, and the result may be stated as follows:

•	Number relieved.	Sums expended.
Power-Loom Overlookers Throstle Spinners Spinners and Minders Card-Room Hands Tape-Machine Sizers Power-Loom Weaverst	155 412 2,954 1,528 43 7,975 13,067	£. 8. di 58 8 11 120 13 4 699 19 4 362 9 0, 27 12 11 2,118 8 0 £3,387 11 6

From the balance-sheet of the weavers I observe that the non-scrival of money from Stockport, and also the fact of it being a short week through the district, caused a deficit of 500l; which appears to have been supplied from some inysterious source spoken of as—" My Box is open, take your needs." The men, however, speak confidently of the result of this week's collection, and appear to be under noapprohension of any permanent falling off in the supplies. It cannot be doubted, however, that the Stockport strike, if continued, will affect the funds sent to Preston.

Intelligence received this morning from Stockport, informs me that there is a very prevalent expectation of a speedy settlement of the dispute; that the employers will abandon

372

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

IF the courtiers who wished to compliment King Canute upon his absolute dominion over land and sea, had been anything like as wide awake as my Lord Master of the Buckhounds, for instance, they would have placed the monarch's chair on the teach when the tide was falling, rather than Penny rural could have vowed that the sea knew her lord, kept at a respectful distance; and the old king would a cordially echoed their cry. That's what came into my and on inceday as I was borne spinning along through the Englishers tannel into the pleasant old town of Dover; a town which the South-Eastern Railway has served but tiality, neglecting her for the little forward fish-fag of ·Folkestone, whose bedizenment and cleaning up have cost a power of money. The company wants a manager: Mr. Macgregor has had enough of the anomalous place of master and servent-King Foozle and Factotum both in one; and the shareholders return his courtesy and say they're all glad he's gone. That is the fate for everybody who does more than his duty. The whole service must be revised. Take the common ticket charges: you can go down to Hitchin by the Great Northern, thirty-seven miles, for 6s. 6d., first class fare; you are charged 10s. by the South-Eastern for your journey to Tunbridge, forty-one miles (and only thirty by the road). So again with the return tickets, the reduction isn't worth considering. The North Kent line, being one for the people, has a far more defendable tariff. Put me in the power, Oh Men of Kent and Kentish Men! and I'll show you what you should do!

I stopped at the Lord Warden Hotel, which cost the railway company 100,000% or so: and yet is leased out to Mr. Hakes, of Manchester-square, for 1000l. a year. So they say. The coffee-room is pleasantly furnished, and has a nice set of aspects-north and east; but the charges for beer (and I'm obliged to " Bass" myself twice a day, as my eldest boy calls it) are infamous. One shilling for a quart of Allsopp's draught ale ! Think of that, Master Brook, to a man of my consumption. Beds, beef, bread, beer, every-The service otherwise is very reasonable, and thing with a "b" in a hotel should be cheap to a bachelor at anlily rendered: the waiters are respectable-looking men: the chambermaids dragoonish: there was a huge highchecked woman who beat my bolster so, that it lost all its ring, and I could not sleep, for thinking of her brawny arms.

The military exercises are very amusing to a looker-on. "Shoulder arrums! Support arrums! Slope arrums! Load ! Handle c'rtridge! Draw ramrods! Ram down e'rtridge! Return ramrods," and so on ! They've a depôt for a West India regiment; and the sergeant-major was drilling recruits to a finesse and delicacy in the musket practice that dazzled me. Captain P. of the West Surrey Militia assured me he loses two to two-and-a-half pounds of fiesh daily ; having before and afternoon to mount the Grand Shaft staircase (124 steps), and then to go through drill on the heights. I'm boring you with all this, because I wish that the Cockneys should be convenienced with cheap excursions to neighbourhoods bounteously provided with such thorough attractions as Dover presents. The castle, and its uperannusted passages, as old Mrs. Hudson would call 'em, are well worth a journey. Deal is as salubrious a town as any in England. Nothing, says my friend Macarthy of the Carbineers-nothing kills an old woman but a gun. Mahas had a long experience of his mother-in-law, the Honourable Mrs. Glennaquoich Stuart M'Gillwray. At Deal the women die first : so you may conceive the longevity of the natives generally. As I passed through Ringwold, country gaping, gawky lads crowded around the coach. With the aid of two gallons of beer, and a large railway time-table, which I officiously declared was a proclamation from the Queen, calling out volunteers for the navy, I made an harangue, which resulted in four lads out of a dozen accompanying me outside the coach. That evening I shipped 'em aboard the St. George, 120, lying in the roads. She's one of the noblest ships afloat; the best officered of any man-of-war of my acquaintance. Even the boys like their home in her. They've an Hungarian band-master, who is blest with the hand of David for the harp. Not a grain of ill-humour in a ship's company inspired by the presence of a musician such as he. And yet they want, as I told you last week, some 300 or 400 of their full complement-"''cos the Government's so stingy, and don't tell us wot they'll do for Sal, Nan, or Poll, and the little ones," said one of the men in my four-oared galley from Deal Beach, in which old Thornton, the pilot, sent me off. Go to the Royal Exchange roadside inn in this quiet port. Supreme comfort, cheapness, cleanliness, cheerful landlady named Cork-admirable name for a landlady. The officers of the 92nd Highlanders wish their regiment to be reorganised. So do I. At Egmont-op-Zee they overthrew a column of 6000 infantry, saved the English bat. teries, and turned the enemy's position; at Mandora, in Egypt, they drove back the flower of the old army of Italy, the victors of Lodi and Arcola. With all my heart I echo

the prediction of an "Old Gordon Highlander," that on the understanding of *immediate active service*, another 850 bayonets, before the autumn is out, will rally round the old Gordon colours.

Archibald A., of Newgate-street, wrote me to Dover, that Lord Mayor Sidney hadn't made it up with the almoners of Christ's Hospital. The "Spittle" sermon on Easter Monday was preached only before Moon and Wire. Thus neither Lord Mayor nor new president attended with the school to church. Quis curat? The boys were balked of half their show, and that's a shame.

The odore Hook, seeing a Temperance procession, gazed at 'em a long time, and then cried out, "Well, if you are sober, you needn't make such a brag about it." That's my remark on J. B. Gough, who nevertheless, as a Tub-extemporiser, is worth going to hear once. "Greased lightning" is his speech, voluble, incessant, irresistible, flattening like a steam hammer.

It's consoling for a London liver to learn that "the least mortality is during the mid-day hours—namely, from ten to three o'clock; the greatest during early morning hours—from three to six o'clock." Thus I, as a practical philosopher, am moving about, actively concerned over my existence, during early morning hours—the time of danger—whilst during the meridian day, the tempus tempestivum, I am calmly asleep in my bed.

The Society of Arts (most studious men hate temperate habits; its only very stupid or selfish men, like Brotherton and Chadwick, that are moderate and refraining)—the Society of Arts, I say, have discovered, through Dr. Forbes Boyle, that the *Canabis satira* of botanists, cultivated in India for the intoxicating property of its leaves, is the strongest hemp in the vegetable kingdom. The corollary is, "that alc ohol, in its proper place, is a principle of strength." There's a fact for Captain Costigan and Dr. Stone.

Thackeray has returned: I can't but speak familiarly of one of the kindest fellows alive, though he makes mistakes sometimes as well as other men. He is well and happy, and is going to leave respectable old Kensington for the dissolute New Brompton.

The Board of Health have written to me about some of Lady M.'s Pimlico property undrained. I like to learn of their activity even at my own expense. But why don't they submerge Stangate and South Lambeth—hang up the bonecollector, and let his hollow carcase swing at the river side, to scare away the anti-sanatorials? just as they used to deck the land "below pool" with pirates' skeletons suspended in chains.

The country wants rain. The spring corn yearns for the shower: but the crops generally are promising.

As a pig grubs up a pearl unexpectedly, so I, buying a book called Mr. Wray's Cash-box, came upon a jewel, a flower, a gem, the gaud of which dazzled me for a time. Yes, for one shilling there's as pretty a frontispiece as any I know, by Millais, called "The New Neckcloth," with a very fair, unreal, well-told story by Wilkie Collins. "Well worth the money," as my poor brother Bill's parrot used to sing out. Millais is the Raphael of our metropolis—in person and with paint-brush.

A Mr. Cole (any relation to Exhibition Cole?) is offering himself for the manager's chariot at the South-Eastern. What are his capacities; or, rather, in this English country of ours, Who are his friends? New Westminster-bridge, being to be begun next month, furnishes another job for Barry. That gingerbread Westminster Palace, Germanised a little, of his, must have a bridge by its side in "architectural harmony." Oh, yes! and who cares for navigation of the river, as long as the low bridge heightens the Houses of Parliament? Alter the Trinity datum line, do anything you will, but don't interfere with my grand Westminster improvements! What secret, solemn and never-to-be-disclosed, does this spendthrift Sir Charles possess over the Woods and Forests? I have been told that he's actually to design a new street right away to Charing-cross: this Barry the Bold, who builds only to break up, and breaks up only to build. Throughout this long holiday communication you haven't had one word of French. G. M----, who knows French as well as I do Syriac, told me once that the Elety never used French; and some of your correspondents, you tell me, call the use of it affected and insincere. One's as wrong as the other. I am in very jocund health and robust; and am dull and Bosotian accordingly. The four days' run has expanded my lungs, but contracted my sympathies, and I am like an ox, sound in wind and limb, but with little brain. I have no less than fifty letters to open: and Mac, my tailor, tells me I'm to give him a design forthwith for a fancy dress for Walewski's ball to the Queen next month. **M**. M.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications, Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London. Communications should always be legibly written, and on

one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.



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.

STOCKPORT AND PRESTON.

As if the Strike Question were not complex enough already, new difficulties are springing up in Stockport, calculated to plunge the unhappy employers and operatives of Lancashire into even a worse dilemma than before. To those curious mental anatomists who are pleased at the discovery of any new phase in human perversity and folly, these disputes will afford matter for much pleasing speculation; but to all true patriots, to those who are apt to confide in the industry and intelligence of Englishmen, they cannot fail to be a source of the deepest dissatisfaction and disgust.

This time, at least, there can be no mistake about the cause of quarrel; it is clearly expressed on both sides, and the limits of it were accurately defined before the struggle began. This was not so at Preston. When quarrel arose, the public were sufficiently in the dark about it to allow of a great deal of mystery with respect to the matters in dispute. The operatives said that they wanted ten per cent., and the employers said that they wanted the mastery in their own mills. This pretence of the employers (for a pretence they have since practically admitted it to be) won over to their side, so far at least as sympathy was concerned, all those nervous, well-meaning individuals to whom the bugbear Socialism is a constant dread. Hence the fitful thundering of the Times, which, thoroughly informed and clearly persuaded of the justice of the operatives' demand for higher wages, was too much inspired by its constitutional horror of strikes to lend them any efficient support; and hence the alarmist tirades which that portion of the press which damages the Manchester party by its aid have poured out in support of the employers. Hence, too, the anomalous fact, that the manufacturers in other districts have been persuaded into giving pecuniary support to their Preston rivals in a contest which was to ensure to those rivals the power of producing at a less cost than themselves. But now, at Stockport, the cause of quarrel is clearly ascertained; it is whether the employers have a right to reduce the rate of wages in consequence of a depression of trade. The resolution of the Spinners (who appear to be by far the most reasoning and intelligent body among the operatives), quoted in our Preston correspondence, puts the case for the operatives in very comprehensive and intelligible terms, Reduction of wages (say they) "does not remedy the evil, but gives encouragement to a reckless course of competition, by which the markets become glutted and goods and yarn depreciated."

SATURDAY,

Oh! they want to know who I am, do they? Tell 'em M. M. stands for Moi-même.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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

April 22, 1854.]

Statistical Control of the second second

Now, this is not only good political eco-Franklin and his companions, even after the nomy, but also good common sense; and, strange as it may sound, the employers must submit to be told that, for this time at any rate, their workpeople have displayed a higher degree of intelligence than themselves. Consider for one moment the application of the truth enunciated by the Spinners. " Bad times" is an expression to signify an excess of supply over demand. To mend this, the proper course should be to lessen the supply. But what the employers do, and have been for some time in the habit of doing, is this :they go on increasing their stocks, in anticipation of some extraordinary demand, and they take the interest upon the capital thus laid by out of the pockets of their workpeople. Manifestly, nothing can be more unjust.

As a principle, it may be stated that no ordinary depression of trade ought to affect the rate of wages. It is, of course, possible to conceive events which might so permanently and so seriously affect the price of a manufactured article, that a thorough revision of the cost of production might become necessary. Extensive improvements in machinery, and a consequent depression of the retail price, or the birth of any extensive foreign competition, might have this effect. But so long as the retail price remains much the same, and the wholesale price only fluctuates in consequence of the speculations of manufacturers and "a reckless course of competition," then the wages of the labourer | had forgotten their friendship; that the ought not to be interfered with.

to make the operatives pay interest upon an official stroke in it-a new invention of dormant capital is the real casus belli in all the Department. In general, each man-ofthese Lancashire disputes. It would be absurd for the Preston employers to repeat Post-office at that place for any letters that now the assertion by which they once contrived to obtain some public sympathy-that with them, it was a struggle for mastery: indeed, we are glad to perceive, that in their of the letters as they are delivered at Portsreply to the proposals of the "Mediation mouth. All the officers in the experimental Committee" they have the honesty to abandon squadron last year thus received letters. Only that pretence:--- "The only matter now in the other day at Wingo, at least, one letter dispute between the masters and the operatives is the amount of wages to be paid;" But new times have come-new ideas are ---in other words, the right to reduce wages operating. Some clerk in the Post-office, it whenever the glut of the market creates what appears, well up in Manchester finance, conis called " bad trade."

cause of dispute, how can these gentlemen nity for raising a few hundreds, and sughonesty to pocket some thousands of pounds on all officer's letters. The suggestion was weekly from their brother manufacturers, adopted, and as pre-payment is compulsory, upon the pretence that they are disputing for the letters were returned by the Post-office. scribers to the Defence Fund do not pay their precious stroke of state economy has exmoney ignorantly. They know what the cited among the gallant men in the fleet. It battle is about. They know that it is not a touches all officers equally, from the admiral question of authority. They know also that to the boatswain who has left his independent it is a question of wages; and, sooner than abandon the right of rendering the operative to such an imposition as this. subservient to the genius of speculation, they will support a body of rival manufacturers in maintaining a decided advantage over themselves.

hope of finding them had died away. Letters have been written to the Baltic, and not all of them on business. Some indeed spoke of affairs at home, in which, by the privilege of a free country, officers bearing her Majesty's Commission may still avow an interest; some told.of adversities or blessings befalling the houses of the wandering sons; others conveyed the expression of manly friendship; but many no doubt carried still gentler messages-the blessings of the mother, the confidences of the sister, and the tenderest of all claims which can follow the wanderer. These letters have been written, and have been expected. Indeed, it is not difficult to conceive, though it is to describe in words which are always too meagre and cold for these purposes, the great anxiety with which "letters from England" were looked for.

Accordingly, not long since the signal was made, on the arrival of a ship in the Baltic, "to send for letters from England." A boat was despatched from each vessel, and its return to the ship's side was watched with increasing eagerness. The mail was brought up, delivered, and distributed: plenty of letters, we dare say, for the men; but imagine the intensity of the disgust when there was scarcely a single letter for an officer on board !

Luckily the cause was understood. It was not supposed that all the friends in England sweetest postage of all had become extin-We have a shrewd suspicion that this right guished as respects the Baltic. There was war, on leaving Portsmouth, sends to the may be there for the fleet. Such letters are always forwarded free of charge, or in other words, the Captain of the vessel takes charge was by the Dauntless, in the same manner. ceived the bright idea that the presence of This being, on their own confession, the the fleet in the Baltic presented an opportureconcile it with the principles of common gested that a rate of 1s. 8d. should be charged in calling out that spirit? The gunnery is position as a foremast-man to become liable Lord Grey called Lord Canning's attention to this matter, and was told in reply that the officers need not grumble, as the charge was only 6d., and the seamen received their letters free. The reply has provoked just indignation; to which a friend in the fleet gives expression :----"Am I, then," he writes to us, "to consider that Government contemplate conferring a boon on the seamen and charging the expense to the officers? but how much more welcome must it be But the Postmaster-General did not speak of the inconvenience as well as expense to which officers are put by this innovation. We all left England under the impression our letters would reach us as usual, and did not contemplate that a new order would proceed from the Post-office. Hence all our arrangements are made, and our correspondents (all of whom will not probably see the recent circular) will not know how to transmit our letters. I am at a loss to say whether regret for own deprivation, or contempt at the meanness of Government, is the at Copenhagen-they are fifteen miles out of provalent feeling."

cite one other piece of injustice perpetrated some years ago by Mr. Cobden's pet First Lord, Sir Francis Baring, which certainly would never have been sanctioned had it been properly explained. Sir Francis Baring reduced the allowance of grog in the navy from one gill to half a gill per diem. Under the old system it was optional for a seaman to take the allowance or $1\frac{1}{2}d$. a day in lieu. When the reduction took place, the men were given the 3d. (the value of the half gill relinquished) per diem, and a further sum of 2d. per day. Now the reduction applied equally to officers and men; but the former were not only refused the 2d. given as compensation, but were also mulcted in the sum of 3d. per diem allowed them before. By this sage proceeding the empire gained nearly one thousand pounds sterling; but lost considerably in character. And who begrudged the officers their paltry farthings? Not the country, for we hear but one prayer, and that is for the success and comfort of all our brave fellows at sea, officers and men; not the Commons, for they have lately voted millions unanimously; but simply Sir Francis Baring and his Five Lords, who never made any complaint against the officers, or showed any reason why they should be so mulcted, but wished to mollify Messrs. Bright and Cobden by showing that if their scheme cost 20,000*l*., they could with impunity rob the officers of 1000%. As the king in the story fined his people a virgin a year to mollify the dragon, so Sir Francis put the twopenny tax on officers to appease the Bright-Cobden monster.

There is really gross impolicy in the new act of economic tyranny. The squadron has now been absent from England nearly month, and during that time we have not heard of a single case of corporal punishment among the crews, nor has there been a court martial or reprimand inflicted on any officer. Are these facts without significance ? Indeed, there is but one idea as to the efficiency of the squadron-namely, that with raw crews it has made more progress in discipline and practice than usually takes place in eighteen months. The officers all admit that their work in instructing the crews is light, on account of the excellent spirit that prevails, and the determination shown to be ready for the Russians; but have the officers no share

THE

LEADER.

LETTER-TAX ON OFFICERS IN THE BALTIC.

"LETTERS from home !"---Every traveller knows the delight of that welcome sound; when the travellers consist of a picked set of men, selected for the very fact that they are instinct with life and with the most generous impulses; of men sent forth from home on a dangerous enterprise, whose deserved solace consists of the messages of confidence and affection which follow them. Nowhere would "letters from home" be so sweet as in a fleet like ours in the Baltic.

Of course the letters are written. We

know what numbers of epistles have followed of such cheeseparing economy; but let us Channel fleet-say a hundred miles west of

superb: we have practical instances: a lineof-battle-ship's broadside is fired three times in two minutes at a target on the rocks, at the mastery in their mills? But the sub- We cannot describe the indignation that this 800 yards' distance, and every shot pitched into a space equal to the size of a pinnace. But have the officers no share in this? Do they make no sacrifices?

> "The officers," writes our friend, "are in three watches instead of five as of old, and in consequence of the exercise all day long, and the necessity of their attending to the clothing of their respective divisions, we generally work fifteen hours of the *twenty-four*. This is not grumbled at—hard work in war is to be expected. When the peace comes, we talk in a different strain. The officers have sacrificed the privilege of taking private stores of wine and fresh stock without a murmur, because they know the decks must be kept clear for action. Clean linen is an improbability, as we haven't got our clothes washed for six weeks. Most of them have given up shirts, and taken to flannel; for we can't expect to lie in a harbour long enough to employ a washer-woman till November. All these privations have been cheerfully borne, and the spirit of contentment and happiness on board the ships could not be surpassed - till this new arrangement about the letters arrived."

We trust the matter will not rest till the entire postage has been taken off. It may be maintained that the officers pay alike with the English at Copenhagen; but they are not Danish waters, and are on the national ser-This is not the first instance, by hundreds, vice. Why should letters be taken to the

LEADER. THE

Cape Clear-for nothing, yet be subject to a charge when taken to the Baltic? The bane of the service has been the want of publicity. A crotchety Minister may annoy hundreds of the best disposed, and most loyal people in the empire; but the matter is not pressed on the attention of his colleagues, or on Parliament. They consequently remain apathetic; witness the apathy of the House of Lords when Lord Canning's excuses were accepted; though any midshipman in the fleet could have spoken out with all the eloquence: of injury. There is a talk of treachery. in the Government; but no abler ally has the Gzar than in the Red Tape Department; for we can truly say that nothing has occurred

so calculated to upset discipline and destroy. efficiency as this ill-judged step of Lord Canning's to exasperate an important body of officers by disappointing and irritating their best feelings. 11 . 131

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

"The Church of England," what is it? We are half-inclined to refer that question to our antiquarian, heraldic, and altogether learned contemporary, Notes and Queries. We despair of discovering any member of the Church itself who can define it nay, who can even point out its nucleus. So vast an institution as the Church might arrogate to itself the right to fade off into space, and to comprise parts which could not be entirely defined; but what is its nucleus ? What its kenaelthe nut which contains the pith of its strength and essence ? ... In vain we seek it.

If we turn to one class of the Church we shall find the essential nucleus described as consisting in certain doctrines of the Evangelical cast those doctrines which are held by Mr. Baptist Noel, and which exist no more within the Church of England than they do outside of it. Between the Church of England and the Baptist it is impossible to draw that line of demarcation which is perpetually restored between the orthodox Church and the Low Church. If we go to another section, we find high altar, processions in the edifice, genuffexions, candles, intonings, manners and customs, doctrines and spirit, which we find also amid the frankincense, the pictures, the plate, and the sumptuous hangings of the Italian Church. It is in this region impossible: to draw that line of demarcation between the Church of Rome and the Church of England which may be drawn between the Pusevite section and the right " English" Broad Church. Perhaps the principal test of the Church of England as a body may be considered to consist in the going to the parish church or chapel of ease, on Sundays. Those who preach there, and those who go there, without being accused of Puseyism or Low Churchism, constitute the nearest approach that we can conceive to the Church of England. But then what becomes of all the churches which the same statesmen have carried out in in England? What brings them into the the colonies, --- sometimes no doubt at the unity of a national establishment? Is it the dictate of rebellion, but at other times at Book of Common Prayer which the Puseyite the dictate of nothing worse than a generous too strictly observes, and the parish refuses | sagacity. to obey? Is it the Bishop who, like the statesmen would treat their countrymen Bishop of London, does not object to the at home as they treat Englishmen in Australia, rigid obedience which Mr. Liddell pays to the Common Prayer and rubric, who wishes the America, they need not fear sedition, and parish to remove the altar about which he they would acquire a power which would lift doubts but does not decide? One of the them to the pinnacle of the whole world. most tangible tests for eliminating these reseceders to Rome is the great laundress question-whether the washing of "surplices, the alms or not? But the Bishop of London, Government, and a strong Government a who does not disapprove much of Mr. Liddell weak people. Elizabeth, Cromwell, William

-refers the question to Mr. Churchwarden Westerton, who makes it a matter of voting in vestry; and, accordingly, the parish set aside, by their own temporal committee, the trimming bishop, their own parish minister, and the rubric. Astounding doctrine, which can be decided by the voting of the inhabitant ratepayers! Astounding Church, which is to be settled by "your vote and interest" on behalf of Westerton!

We may ask in vain, then, whether the essence of the Church is to be determined by the rubric which we find in the Pimlico Church, by the bishop whose authority is supreme, by the parish minister who represents the clergy, by the churchwarden who is elected for a year, or by the vote of vestry which may be upset next year, as it has upset a pre-existing order of things.

We have often said that the Church of England is not the Church of the people of England, nor anything united, enduring, or coherent; and a single parish furnishes our proof. Pusevite, Low Church, and voluntaryism carry on litigation, which is referred to the great tribunal of the vestry, and decided for a twelvemonth by the "inhabitant ratepayers." In truth this appears to be a step towards the suggestion of our correspondent "Catholic," a few years ago, -- that church property should be localised, and each community be authorised to appoint its own minister. But then, why exclude from such a church the hundreds of pious, able, and trusty ministers, who, although now outside the establishment, are as like each other, and as like any national standard of faith actually in use, as the severed sections of the Church resemble each other.

BUSINESS FOR THE "LEAGUE"-OR PEOPLE.

THREE is plenty of work for Englishmen to do, without introducing any new institution, without departing from the great statutes of our constitution, and without importing into this country purely foreign ideas. If Enghishmen were as alive to their own interests as they have been in times past, it would not be necessary for them to be thinking about "Leagues" for the purpose of making their Government obey the public opinion of the country, and faithfully support the national standard at home as well as abroad. Englishmen stand in fear lest the standard of our country-the Red Cross of St. Georgeshould be rendered subservient to un-English despotism, and bowed before the enemies of their country; but they run the hazard of being thus shamed because they have themselves been faithless to the standards of their freedom. Statesmen have stood trembling lest the men of Birmingham should come up to London to ask for an extension of the franchise, or lest a London mob should rise against the enfranchised class; but it is so because statesmen have neglected to carry out at home those rights of our constitution, What we say is, that if English South Africa, the West Indies, or North For there is no libel on the statesmanship of our day worse than the fool's dogma,-which we are ashamed to see repeated in English -rather pats him on the back than otherwise of Nassau himself, could stand forth and that Englishmen can gather together without

witness, as well as the Barons, the Hampdens and the Elliots, the Cokes and Somerses, to the falsehood of the dogma.

Why is it that Englishmen at home are not so free as Englishmen in Nova Scotia, the Cape. or any English colony? Because in those colonies Englishmen have of late years. renewed their rights to possess arms, to dictate the disposal of their own money, and to enjoy a genuine representation in the Legislature-not the representation of an exceptional class, a seventh of the people, but the representation of the whole, in which disfranchisement is the exceptional instance.

But it is instructive for the people to observe that these standards of right, which the colonies have recovered through the vigour of their understandings, the energy, of their action, the firmness of their resolution, and the energy of their hearts, were established by the forefathers of us Englishmen here in England precisely by the same means. Magna Charta was not obtained through any inglorious meanness, by asking John if he would be pleased to concede it, but the franklins as well as the barons of England had created the usage of the land. before, for the preventing of disputation, they had the right recorded in the Great Charter. They got it first, and then put it into a statute. So the Petition of Bights had, to be fought out, with sore trial to people and Crown, before Parliament established its independence, and taught, through Charles and James, how men who violate the law Parliamentary of the land, although they wear crowns, may be punished by decapitation or banishment. When a Somers set down the rights of the English people-to possess arms without distinction of class or creed, to dispose of their own money through their representatives, and to obtain redress of grievance before granting moneys-the English did not present a petition for William to concede, but they compelled his signature to a memorandum of the rights of which he found them in possession. It is the same in England or the colonieswhile the English people took or upheld their own right manfully, there was no abatement of it; but when the English people became sunk in ease-when they permitted lawyers to potter over the policy of abolishing trial by jury, permitted the petition on grievance to be rendered the farcical caricature of professional agitators, and permitted redress of grievances before granting supply to degenerate into a bore at which Ministers laugh and Members hoot-when, for the sake of peaceful streets, they yielded up the arms which are the true defence of right, and deposited the effective strength of the country in the hands of the executive Government,---then that people abdicated self-government. They now talk about Leagues to regain English liberties by establishing republics in Italy, or elective monarchies in Poland; but liberty, like charity, begins at home. Every complaint that the English People make against their Government and "governing classes" recoils against themselves; for he only is illused who is weak in hand and craven in heart; and no people are slighted by tyrant governors, unless the recreant character of that people invites tyranny and contempt. League or no League, there is plenty of work for England to do; and one of the first tasks is to get rid of those refinements which are making us a nation of Hamlets. Our people cannot collect their strength for an enterprise, but, after they have got into action, they begin to ask themselves whether the enterprise is "right!" Our statesmen cannot see a crowd of Englishmen in the streets, but they begin to fear for some "disorder," or babble in unrepressed wonder

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atumalt "Active" mennow fall to discussing the effects of political action; and instead of setting their right hands to lift once more the standards of our freedom, they use those white and softened hands to indite with the best steel pens controversial letters of criticism on the more energetic action of our Brethren in America or elsewhere. Our fair correspondent, last week-we presume it is a woman, though really one cannot always tell men from women now-a-days-who was lost in a maze of scruples as to the right of America to possess Cuba, gives us an example of a very common kind. Being a practical people, we totally set aside the practical considerations, or we should ask ourselves what is this "annexation" which so alarms our tender hearts? What is it but this? The people inhabiting outlying provinces of an inferior Government choose to be transferred done with that evidence? from a bad, feeble, worthless Government, which does not secure even order, which prevents freedom, and stifles commerce, to a free Government, whose description briefly is, that it secures for the individual and the state freedom, power, and prosperity. Look at dently so profitable as to render it impossi-Texas, and say what annexation has done for ble to suppose that she is the only person her, if not to rescue her from subjection engaged in it. Independently of the lower under the corrupt and impotent Government of Mexico, and to unite her in a confederacy there must be many like herself who invest with the powerful, free, and prosperous union of the West? Rightly understood, annexa: tion is nothing more nor less than federa- same business. According to the French tion.

the fanciful scruples that now paralyse their such men, and we affirm that a police which action, the scruples would disappear like this

secret: diplomacy, and it has been proposed to establish a League for the purpose of tearing whose very station and avocations render it: open the veil of diplomacy. Now the veil more public than these wretched dealers can exists only by the sufferance of Englishmen. Let them once more cease to make the grant modes; in vertu; persons in the business of of supplies a matter of course, and refuse money to Government until they know what their Eondon houses; and they acquire, inthe money is to be used for, and there will deed, a sort of celebrity; yet it is not surbe no occasion for any League to do the work prising that many of their victims connive of Parliament.

Lord Campbell has announced a bill, as yet unexplained, which threatens some further invasion of English rights—a bill to prevent unauthorised communications and deputations to foreign Governments. What does this mean? Where is the necessity of have been available; but why is it that pubpreventing Englishmen, by statute, from licity stops short, and does not give us also of Greece stand responsible for the culprits communicating with whom they please? It is the very right of a rebel. It is said on behalf of the measure, that it is to prevent such expeditions as Joseph Sturge's to St. Petersburg: so, to restrain a harmless Quaker from a trip as good for his health and as hurtless to his country as a pilgrimage to Loretto with peas in his shoes, a new chain is to be put upon the English people! It all comes back to the same truth : if Englishmen like fresh chains around the people, to keep Joseph Sturge in bounds; we can only say that we prefer the Englishmen of the sixteenth century, or the English in North America, to our own countrymen at homewhom no League can free. But a League may begin the freedom, if it is prepared for action, on English grounds, with practical objects-and without kid gloves.

LEADER. THE

felony to let the case finish with the punishment of Harrison or Feichtal. It is quite evident that the crime done was not only that committed upon the Belgian, nor was Harrison the only criminal, nor even Madame Denis; there were others, and what is more, some of those others are the prime instigators to whom Madame Denis and Harrison were only agents. Even in the case before the English Court, it was shown that there were other girls who had been wronged much in the same way with Alice Leroy, and unless the affair be hushed up, these other cases, also should be brought to justice. A Paris paper, the Droit, has shown that still further materials might be obtained in the French capital, and affirms that our police have already been seeking evidence there. Now, what is to be

It might have been inferred from the proceedings in our own court, that Madame Denis was carrying on a business of great scale -- so extensive as to involve many besides the persons whom we have already seen;, and eviorder of dealers in so infamous a commerce. considerable money capital, or a large stock of rogue's capital-criminal ingenuity-in the paper: she had an agent who was able to If Englishmen would look hard at some of assume all kinds of disguises; we have seen is not able to track them must be far more incompetent to its duties than a Paris police. Much is said respecting the mischief of But if a police can track one class of crimi--nals, most certainly it can track another-class, be. Like great dealers in manufactures, in Madame Denis have their Paris as well as with them in hushing up the nature of their transactions. But surely the police are under no temptations, or no instructions, to copy that discretion? In the case of the Belgian ---only one sample, remember, of a number -we have so many details that more must

We have the greater parts of the story: A woman of middle age, with a putative hushand, takes a house worth some hundreds, if not a thousand a year rent. She employs agents in Paris and London; she is able to make a free use, of money, and to buy that which money only can purchase secresy and ingenuity. She can cary on a business of this scale and briskness for a long while without exposure; nothing but a determined young heroine, who gets amongst her nets, has broken through the secresy. The police learn all these things; they can find the names; and the genealogy of her victime; they can trace her agents through all kinds of protean disguises'; they can follow her accomplices to Paris, to Brussels, to the most secret haunts of England, or to the furthest parts of the continent. But notwithstanding this facility in overcoming concealment and tracking fugitives through the obscurest retreats, our police appears, from the fact, unable to identify, either the "Greek Prince" or the "Old Marquis" -- the very people whose demand, commercially, creates the supply and the business of Madame Denis. While such is the fact, the weed is cut off, not uproated. For the "Greek Prince" and " the Old Marquis" are the true roots of the weed. Now we must have them, unless the police are to stand convicted of incompetency or connivance.

Nay, conjecture and gossip have been before the police, and have condemned the innocent-unless an easy mistake be rectified. Surmise has already fastened upon the "Greek Brince," gossip already points to " the old Marquis," instructing one that he is neither marquis nor duke viscount nor baron. There must be some reason for this singular inconsistency; that our Detectives can-trace Harrison through all the labyrinths of London and Paris-can follow Alice Leroy to Belgium, and trace her pedigree-but cannot follow the Greek Prince to the neighbourhood of the squares, nor the old Marquis to Belgravia, nor fasten upon a pedigree which has been publicly said to find its place in our peerage. Can this really be incompetence in the police ? If not, further questions occur. Are the police corrupted individually? Do they take bribes not to see and not to speak, or, are they under instructions ? and if so, who gives the instructions ? The peerage of England, and the princedom

375

WHERE IS THE OLD MARQUIS?

THE case of the Belgian girl it is said is not yet finished, though we very much doubt whether there will be a public sequel. Not that the materials are at all exhausted; the London police are understood to be well aware that more might be disclosed; so that it would be a disgraceful compromising of shadow.

those other details which are in many respects even more easy to get at?

From the disclosures in Paris, and at Biberich, in Nassau, it appears that there is a regular export of French, Belgian, and German girls, for consumption in England and America. The emigration of ignorant Germans to America, for a destination unknown to themselves, is not a novelty. Amongst the earliest colonists of the West were German labourers, called "Redemptioners," who were sold by people, speaking in a language strange to them, before their faces. The fate of the Redemptioners, however, was far less lamentable than that of these girls; who might also, in the cruel mockery of modern morals, be called "Redemptioners," since they are cast into perdition, in order that the youth of our societythe young youth and the old-may, as the phrase goes, "sow its wild oats" without disturbing institutions that are fained to go on unbroken. These girls are the Redemptioners, it has been argued by stern moralists, for saving the fate of the more "respectable" of their sex. We must leave America to defend her own morals as she may; but we say that it is an infamous complicity, for the nation, as well as for the criminals of London, if the worst culprits are allowed to be kept in

and may shall be a sold a series of

who lurk in the Golden Books of the two countries.

Meanwhile, the old Marquis, who probably assists the respectable classes of society in keeping up appearances, would aver, as loudly as others, that cases of this kind are. "exceptional ;" and takes his share with: others in his order, "pillars of the State," in county contests between blue and yellow; or some other electioneering colours, for the maintenance of great political principles. And he would be received at the dinner-table and tea-table of any parvenu of the middle classes-those great depositories of British morals,-as if he were a god descended from Olympus to grace the abude of humbler mortals. The English police are not worse than their masters. The method of making out that society is virtuous, according to its own fantastical rule, consists in noticing only the observance of the rule, or the breach only amongst the lower orders; while people wink at the offences of the higher, and pretend that the offences exist not in those upper spheres. But let us have out the old Marquis and the Greek Prince, and make them tell how the case really stands. If they will tell,—for truly there is honour among Marquises, and they are always ready to exchange characters with princes, Greek, or German, or American.

RUSSIAN WRITERS IN WESTERN EUROPE.

Some time ago, foreseeing that under certain contingencies Russia would endeavour furtively to infect the ranks of Continental Democracy with pernicious counsels, the Leader expressed a well-grounded hope that the exiled chiefs of the party would not let themselves be made the dupes of these intrigues. There is a clear possibility that out of the complex insues of the war may be evolved the liberation of the oppressed peoples; but, in order that the true friends of progress may preserve their sympathies for that cause, the peoples and their leaders must keep themselves pure from the contamination of Russia, and not sink down to the deep degradation of becoming the tools of the most hideous of all despotisms.

Since the Leader put forth this exhortation it has been repeatedly insinuated in the continental and English press, and openly averred by word of mouth in political circles, that Russia is making many insidious efforts to ingratiate herself with certain nationalities, and induce them to regard her in the same light as do the soi-disant Hellenes. Have we not all heard of that Kingdom of Poland to be re-established by the Tzar for the heir-apparent of Russia. by wresting their share of the booty from Prussia and Austria? (according to the fourth article of the will of Peter I.) The Poles, we are assured, sick of hope deferred, and disgusted with the cowardice of the Western Governments, would rally with alacrity round a banner which would signify at least national unity. Again, have we not been told that should Austria attempt to escape from the suzerainty of Bussia, the Tzar in that case would "make an appeal to Hungary?" In confirmation of this, it has been alleged, with characteristic Russian effrontery, that in 1849 it was only the Nesselrode party-" the German party"-that carried the question of intervention in Hungary, and that both then and now there glowed in the hearts of the true Russian gentlemen an ardent love for the people that struggled so heroically against old Austria. The Russians, it has been remarked, behaved as courteous foes to subjugated Hungary; and "Nicholas himself appeared some time after at Vienna in a Hungarian uniform." Furthermore, we are reminded that the Tzar's powerful hand was seen in the deliverance of the Greek people. In like manner, he would not object to see an independent Lombardy bestow its iron crown on a prince of the Imperial family of St. Petersburg, and realise in his person the plan already conceived in 1848 by Nicholas in favour of Prince Leuchtenberg. Finally, by way of grand climax, it has been announced that the time is come for the Slave Revolution, which is to spread as far as the further limits of Bohemia, and make VIENNA-the capital of a new Slavonic empire! Can any one be imposed upon by these gross manouvres? What? Russia, the Grand Hetman of absolutism, the sheet anchor of monarchical despotism, Russia of the knout, to be accepted as Liberator by civilised peoples and men not out of their wits! Impossible. It is clear as day, that if Russia strives to insinuate herself into the ranks of the revolutionary peoples, she does so only to become mistress of their movements, to direct or frustrate them as may suit her own ends. Russia desires to disorganise her last formidable enemy-continental democracy: the fact is glaring. Let us look about us a little, however. Public opinion is unconsciously infected by Russian influence to a degree that few suspect. It is true that our notions respecting Russia are not changed by reading the wrathful hymns chaunted by Messrs. ORESTES MILLER, NICHOLAS OGAREF, and GLINKA, in the official gazettes, in honour of "the Russian God" and "Holy Russia." We do not feel our souls inspired with a longing to become Muscovites by the dithyrambics for the triumph of "the Vice-God," the Tzar, which M. NICHOLAS GRETSCH, a Russian state councillor, and notorious as a spy for twenty years in Germany, is now braying out in the St. Petersburg Gazette de Cour. We are not the more charmed with Panslavism for having it pitched like a big stone at our heads by the hands of M. BULGARIN and other official Panslavists of H.M. the Emperor of All the Russias. These spies, agents, and littérateurs may bawl out as much as they please, "We sons of

that holy Byzantium;"* we see in these lucubra-Russia will prove to the vicious sons of the West how dear to us is the holy name of Byzantium, and what a chartered and testamentary claim we have to tions only the contemptible enthusiasm of vile mercenaries paid by an ambitious Tzar.

But there exists another current of ideas a good deal resembling the effusions of MM. Ogaref, Glinks, &c., and which makes its appearance, not in the Invalide Russe or the Gazette de St. Petersbourg, but among ourselves, in the press of the West, in pamphlets dated from France, Germany, and England. Russian writers (few in number but active) have transported their household gods to the countries of the West, in order to enlighten Europe as to the true significance of Russia. Whoever has for several years attentively read the publications concerning Russia, will have remarked how in France, Germany, Italy even, and now in England also, the same idea is continually reiterated in all manner of ways. This idea, so assiduously proclaimed, is that of " the young Russian people throwing itself lustily, "with its fresh and exuberant strength," into the political arens, and charged, like the Germans of Tacitus, with a great historical mission—that of securing the new Rome of the East, Constantinople, and regenerating "decrepid old Europe." It is true this idea belonged primitively to the abject despot Peter I.; but it has assumed quite a different complexion under the pen of the Russian authors before mentioned. They present it under a light literary form. in the domino of a pseudo-revolutionary lyricism, bedizened with all the frippery of "a very interesting movement" indeed. Imagine a hotch-potch of Lamennais and Byron, Hamlet and Baschkire, Isaiah and Proudhon:-there you have the style. As for the matter, these pro-Russian writers set themselves up for merciless critics of old Europe. They are not satisfied with anything in this corrupted West, neither with constitutionalism, democracy, nor socialism: all are adulterated with " conservatism!" Monarchy and republicanism, religion and society, the creed of the bourgeois and the faith of the revolutionist to them are naught; all reek of rottenness. They insist on pushing the unfortunate progressist of the West from consequence to conse quence; they give him no rest; "On, on !" is still their cry to him; and when they think they have brought him ad absurdum, to blank despair, to the impossi. bility of doing anything, then they say to him, "There is nothing left for you but America, or Australia; Europe cannot save herself; Russia will re. generate the world."

Socialist Russia with its admirable organisation of fraternal communes; young Russia, so misconceived, will do that. Far from being the accursed land of ever-renewed despotism, it is the land of the noblest aspirations, gifted with democratic and social institutions, the land of the future. There dwell "the young bare-bosomed barbarians," there from the 13th to the 18th century existed the "great Cossack and agricultural republic," in which all offices were elective, where were found true Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, and every one enjoyed the real rights of a citizen. This Russia has for some time disappeared under the false hues of a decrepid civilisation, factitiously imposed upon it in contrariety with its primitive genius. But the great breaking up of the ice has already begun; the Slave world is in motion; the man of the Russian commune feels his heart bound within him, and says to himself, "What city shall we choose for the capital of the New Grand Russia, social, communist, and Panslave? Shall it be Vienna? Petersburg? Warsaw? or Constantinople?" Decidedly CONSTANTINOPLE! For if MM. Glinka, Gretsch, and others are of opinion that Constantinople must become the City of the Tzar on the ground of orthodoxy, our communist Panslaves declare it necessarily Muscovite from a democratic and social point of view. Reasons for the decision are as plenty as blackberries. We will say nothing about the good faith of these littéraleurs, who preach despair to us for the benefit of Russia. Our task will be merely to reveal an incontrovertible fact, namely, the intrinsic relation that exists between the writings of these hyper-revolutionary Russians and of the authors who write at

the dictation of the Tzar's Cabinet. It is evident that Russia cannot but be a gainer by being represented to the despotic Governments as the mainstay of legitimacy; to the middle classes as a commercial state that thinks of nothing but warehouses and Cobden tariffs; and to democrats as a young people ready to realise the enthusiastic reveries of generous hearts. If by all these means she makes her way to Constantinople her purpose will have been served.

Open Conncil.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ADD. ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIM-SELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

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

GEORGE STEPHENSON.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

4, Grove-terrace, Hackney, April 17th, 1854. SIR,-I am very much surprised that you and all the dailies should have been led so much into error in sketching the life of George Stephenson, as to say, "You may travel from London to Edinburgh, on one uninterrupted line of railroad, all the work of the greatest of engineers-George Stephenson." If the Times had but consulted its advertising sheet, it would have found that the Stephensons, George and Robert, father and son, were the engineers of the eastern route to Edinburgh, uninterruptedly as far as Berwick-upon-Tweed; Messrs. Granger and Millar being the engineers of the North British, from Berwick to Edinburgh. On the western route the Stephensons carried the iron way no farther than Carlisle, Messrs. Penington and Locke being the engineers of the Caledonian, from Carlisle to Edinburgh and Glasgow. The latter gentleman is, I believe, a pupil of the elder Stephenson, and was employed by the old "Grand Junction Company" to complete their line from Birmingham to Liverpool, Mr. Stephenson and the Company having cause to dissolve their connexion. Mr. George Stephenson did not share with his son in the constructing and designing of the Lancaster and Carlisle, nor in the Newcastle and Berwick, both of which lines form an important part of the routes to Edinburgh. I do not state the above facts from any wish to underrate the genius of George Stephenson or the important part which he played in the originating our railway system; on the contrary, I am proud of him as one of ourselves.

I am, Sir, yours, W. M.

THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.—Those aristocratic institutions which have been in Western Europe at once the security and the result of the laws of property, which have invested the rights of territorial possession with a thousand graces and utilities, and which have supplied to well-regulated states their wisest counsellors and noblest servants, are degraded into the temporary possession of so many heads of human cattle, without a thought of independence towards the government, or of duty towards the lower classes of the people. Here alone-we will not say in Europe, but on the globe-is there a nation of sixty millions of inhabitants who have as yet scarcely contributed one single lots to the advancement of human knowledge.—Quarterly Review. AN OLD WOMAN'S PATRIOTISM.—At a recent meeting of the London Missionary Society, the Reverend Mr. Rice, missionary from India, stated that he was lately in the same train with the Fusilier Guards on their way to embark for the East. At the station an old woman, evidently in an agony of grief, came up to him and said, " Oh, Sir, I've got six sons going to the *Russians !* but, hard as it is to part with them, I don't care, if they do but beat the *Russians*. I can give them all up!" The rev. gentleman proceeded to contrast this with the unwillingness of parents to give up their sons for missionary work.

[SATURDAY,

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• Gazette de la Cour de St. Petersbourg, Feb., 1854.

M. de Montalembert, in his approaching trial, will, it is stated, have the professional assistance of four of the most eminent advocates of the Paris bar, but of different political opinions, namely, M. Berryer, M. Dufaure, M. Odilon Barrot, and M. Paillet.

The Constitutionnel states that the Turkish Government has received information from Haireddin Pacha, the Commandant at Kars, that a certain number of Polish deserters had arrived in that town, who stated that more than 12,000 of their fellow-countrymen would quit the ranks of the Russian army the moment they should see a Polish flag flying in the Ottoman army.

The British Minister at Copenhagen has just announced officially to the Government that Sir Charles Napier, having entered the Baltic, has orders to employ all necessary means for enforcing a strict and effective blockade of the Russian ports in that sea, and in the Gulf of Finland.

THE LEADER.

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.

EVERY thinker has had occasion to notice the cool assumptions which often lie in the coupling together of adjectives and substantives by controversialists. As young versifiers have their epithets which are de rigueur, their "melancholy moon" and "ruddy sunrise," not because they have ever been made melancholy by the moon or have ever seen the sunrise, but because they adhere to the etiquette of verse; so dignified philosophers and theologians have their traditional phrases, which they are just as far from having verified for themselves. We are often struck with the absurditles into which even men of talent and candour are betrayed by the unthinking adoption of a jargon which is sometimes only the fossil remains of ideas long dead, sometimes the incarnation of a still living prejudice or perversion. For example, the writer on Comme in the British Quarterly speaks of him as "the most unblushing unbeliever." But for the etiquette in epithets, which we are noticing, so sensible a writer would surely not have allowed an absurdity like this to slip from his pen. To expect an unbeliever to blush for his unbelief is about as rational as to expect an editor of the "Phonetic Nuz," who gives his energies to a crusade against the monstrosities of orthography, to blush for the heretical spelling of that defunct periodical. A man who acknowledges a theory or rule from which he habitually departs, may be understood to have reason for blushing; but a man who sees in that theory a mistake, and protests against it as fatal, could only blush from an unmanly dread of a public opinion which he holds to be false. To say that an unbeliever is "unblushing" is, therefore, to pronounce a eulogy on his moral strength. But perhaps this was the sense in which the reviewer intended it?

Again, in an article on LOCKE in the Edinburgh Review the writer, while vindicating Locks from what he calls a "gross physiological bias," admits that there is a "tang of materialism" in him, and that there is too much truth in the accusation that "his philosophy smells of the earth, earthy." Of course, "gross materialist" and "grovelling materialism" come to the lips or the pen of "lofty spiritualists" as inevitably as the "Venerable Bede" or the "admirable Crichton;" but those-we do not now discuss whether they are right or wrong-who decline to accept any conclusions drawn from definitions of the "immaterial," who find no reason to think contemptuously of matter, and who hold that the "smell of the earth" is a very whole. some smell for human nostrils, may very fairly protest against this opprobrious christening as a begging of the question. To the theory that the mind of man has some kindred with that of the brutes, the spiritualist says, with the Mormon prophet, "The very idea lessens man in my estimation. I know better;" but cogent as this reasoning may be, the man of "gross physiological bias" may reply that in his estimation this theory does not lessen man, while it emancipates brutes from the contemptuous disregard to which eminent spiritualists like Professor WHEWELL consign them, and that therefore, his sphere of reverence is widened instead of narrowed. He may say that the ill-name "grovelling" is most appropriately applied to what narrows sympathy and admiration, and that in elevating the material and the earthly to the height of his loving reverence he is so much the farther from that negative condition,-that to raise "a mortal to the skies" evidences the same love of the angelic as to bring "an angel down."

to have an æsthetic or scientific enthusiasm-unless, indeed, Mr. Disraeli be to him what the potato aphis is to a naturalist, or a "beautiful case" to a physician-might have been expected to be equal to the further martyrdom which publicity would entail.

It is important to know what the people will read when they have the opportunity. The Liverpool report on the reading and readers at its free libraries during the first quarter is now published.

The following list gives a comparative view of the number of volumes issued in each department :---

				1	Volumes,	
Biographies and Histories		•			8576	
Novels .	•				4203	
Miscellaneous Literature .					868	
Geography and Travels					579.	
Geography and Travels . Poetry and Drama			-		954	r
Theology, Morality, and Metaphysics		-			218	
Natural History		•	•	-	181	
Commerce and Political Economy	-	•		•	18	

The readers in Science and Art have been 215; the total number of readers being upwards of 1200.

HISTORY OF FRENCH PROTESTANT REFUGEES.

(SECOND ARTICLE.)

History of the French Protestant Refugees, from the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes to the present Time. By Charles Weiss. Translated by Frederick Hardman. Price 14a. W. Blackwood and Sont.

WE return to M. Weiss's work for the sake of giving the readers few more extracts.

The following passages describe some of the modes of "conversion" which were the prelude to the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes :----

which were the prelude to the Kevocation of the Edict of Nantes:---"For a long time past children had been authorised to abjure Protestantism-boys at fourteen, girls at twelve years old. An edict of the 17th of June 1681 allowed them to return to the bosom of the church as early as at the age of seven years. 'It is our will and pleasure,' said the ordinance, 'that our subjects of the so-called reformed religion, both male and female, having attained the age of seven,' be permitted to embrace the Catholic Apostolic and Roman religion, and that, to that end, they be admitted to abjure the so-called reformed religion, without their fathers and mothers and other parents being suffered to offer the least hindrance, under whatever pretext.' This was encouraging proselytism in its most immoral and hideous form, for henceforward it addressed itself to minors, to feeble beings, incapable of comprehending the acts they were made to perform. "This law had terrible consequences. It undermined paternal authority in Protestant families. It now sufficed that an envious person, an enemy, a debtor; declared before a tribunal that a child had wished to become a Catholic, had manifested an intention of entering a church, had joined in a prayer, or made the sign of the cross, or kissed an image

families. It now sufficed that an envious person, an energy, a debtor, declared before a tribunal that a child had wished to become a Catholic, had manifested an intention of entering a church, had joined in a prayer, or made the sign of the cross, or kissed an image of the Virgin, for the child in question to be taken from his parents, who were compelled to make him an allowance proportioned to their supposed ability. But such estimates were flecessarily arbitrary, and it often happened that the loss of his child entailed nion the un-fortunate father that of all his property. • • • • Soon it becames a fashion to labour at conversion. The discret Madame de Maintenon busied herself in the work with a sort of rage. 'Madame d'Aubigné,' she wrote to her brother, 'ought certainly to convert some one of our young relatives.' To another she wrote—'I am continually seen leading some Huguenot to church.' and to a third—' Be converted, as so many others have been ; be converted with God alone; be converted, in short, in the manner that best pleases you; but, in short, be converted.' Her father, the Marquis of Villetto, a naval officer distinguished for merit and for Protestant zeal, was first cousin to Madame de Mintenon. She several times attempted to win him over; and when she saw that she could not succerd, she resolved at least to convert his children. She caused a distant mission to be assigned to the marquis, and in his absence carried off his daughter, and took her to St, Germain. The child wept; but the next morning she found the king's mass so beautiful the the comentar to become a Catholic, on condition that she complaned, which did not prevent Madame de Maintenon from working at the comprise of his diversed at least to condition the she should hear it every 'day, and should never's be whipped. 'That was,' she says in her memoirs, 'all the argument employed, and the sole abjuration I made.' On his return the marquis bitterly complained, which did not prevent Madame de Maintenon from working at the conversion o

Before we leave the Edinburgh, let us observe that the article on Mormonism is fuller on some points in the history and character of this sect than any previous account published in England. The story of these people reads like a hideous burlesque of human society and creeds, but it is not without suggesting some useful criticism on our civilisation.

The author of the Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli, M.P., a Literary and Political Biography, has published a second edition of his work with a preface, in which he meets the objections made by his critics to the anonymous character of his work. But, like many apologists, he spoils a good excuse by following it up with a bad one. He alleges, first, that the facts in his book are not dependent on any personal authority, but are all "deduced from authentic documents," which "every reader may examine." So far his apology is valid. But he makes an infelicitous addition when he says-"Perhaps it was essentially necessary that a work of this kind should appear anonymously, in order that the public judgment might be unbiassed." If, as he declares, he is "not a party politician," and has "no personal object to attain," the publication of his name, if it could add no force to his arguments, would have induced the public to give them greater attention ; and a writer who, for the better achievement of his purpose, abstains from thus " biassing" the public judgment is in an anomalous mental condition. Perhaps the only candid statement would have been, that the author shrinks from the odium of personal responsibility, and this, together with the documentary character of his facts, would have been a consistent excuse for anonymousness, if not a thorough justification of it. But one who out of pure zeal for the public good devotes time and labour to a subject for which he cannot be supposed

men Billing

Louvois was the author of the dragonnades. He wished to eclipse the proselyting achievements of Madame de Maintenon, of whose influence he was jealous, and, being at the head of the war department, he hit upon this method of making his services important to the end which Louis had most at heart. On such miserable court rivalry depended, at least proximately, borrors like these!

"Nowhere was the violence more horrible than in the south. At Montauban, Bishon Nesmond convoked, at the quarters of Marshal Boufflers, the Barons de Mauzec, de Vicoze, de Montbeton. Suddenly the lackeys of the hotel, hidden behind the door, fell upon them de Montbeton. Suddenly the lackeys of the hotel, hidden behind the door, fell upon them by surprise, threw them down, and compelled them to kneel; and whilst the gentlemen were struggling in the hands of the varlets, the prelate made the sign of the cross over them, and their conversion was held accomplished. The citizens, delivered up as a prey to the frantic soldiery, were compelled to abjure, after a mockery of public deliberation. An aged man at Nismes, M. de Lacassagne, after having been for several days deprived of sleep, yielded to this horrible treatment, and became a Catholic. 'You are now at peace,' Bishop Seguier said to him. 'Alas! my lord,' replied the unfortunate man, 'I expect no peace but in heaven; and God grant that what I have this day done may not close its gates to me.' Whilst he renounced his faith, Madame de Lacassagne, disguised as a servant, wandered in the fields, where many women, overtaken in their flight by the pains of labour, were delivered without aid. At Bordeaux, a brother, of Bayle, who was pastor at Carlat, where his father had just expired, was thrown, by order of Louvois, into a dungeon in the Château Trompette known by the name of Hell, to remain confined there until such time as he should become a convert. He held out courageously; but his courage was greater time as he should become a convert. He held out courageously; but his courage was greater than his strength, and after five months of suffering, alleviated by the tardy intervention of Pélisson, death released him. Some of the horrible cells in that castle were called *chausses* Pélisson, death released him. Some of the horrible cells in that castle were called chausses d'hypocras. The walls, arranged lozenge-fashion, had the form of an alembic, and persons there confined could neither stand upright, nor sit, nor lie down. They were let down into them by cords, and daily drawn up to undergo whipping or the strappado. Several prisoners, after some weeks passed in the dungeons of Grenoble, came out without either hair or teeth. At Valence they were thrown into a sort of well, in which, by a refinement of barbarous cruelty, sheep's entrails were left to putrefy. "Driven to despair by the inventive fury of their torturers, a great number of Protestants feigned to be converted, in order to gain time to realise their property and quit the kingdom. Meanwhile the court exulted in its victory over heresy. Early in September, Louvois wrote to the old chancellor, his father: 'There have been 60,000 conversions in the généralite of Bordeaux, and 20,000 in that of Montauban. The rapidity with which this goes on is

of Bordeaux, and 20,000 in that of Montauban. The rapidity with which this goes on is such that there will not be 10,000 Protestants left in all the généralité of Bordeaux, where there were 150,000 on the 15th of last month.' The Duke of Noailles announced the com-

CONTRACTOR INCOMENTATION

The state of the s

SATURDAY,

plete conversion of the towns of Nismes, Uses, Alais, Villeneuve. "The principal persons of | of anarchy, and have formed with them an invincible rampart against the passions of a mob fidentially, that two of these billets were of a hundred men each. In a second despatch, he informed Louvois that he was preparing for an excursion through the Cevennes, and that he hoped that, before the end of the month, not a Huguenot would remain there. Finally, in a third deepatch, he wrote: "The number of Protestants in this province is about 240,000, and when I asked until the 25th of next month for their entire conversion, I fixed too distant a data for the first the protect the second s too distant a date-for I believe thet at the and of this most sall will be slove.""

"The departure of the Protestants, the most valuable industrial element of the nation, drained away the life-blood of French-commerce. Net in the face of these ruinous results Louis imagined that his measures were those of a great politician as well as saint. Colbert, almost alone among his courtiers and ministers, looked at the persecution of the Protestants with the eyes of reason and humanity, and did his utmost to protect them. After his death Louis heard little but the echo of his self-dattery :--

"It were erroneous to suppose that Louis XIV. did not foresee these fatal consequences; but, doubtless, he guessed not their extent, and thought to give to France durable repose and prosperity at the cost of a fleeting evil. "A considerable part of the nation partook of the dilation; and it may be shift that, with the exception of Vanban, St. Simon, and asmall number of superior minds (amongst whom must be nethoned Christina of Sweden), the nation was the accomplice, either by its acts or by its silence, of the great king's fault. Some days after the publication of the edict, Madame de Sévigné wrote to her daughter: 'You have doubtlest somethesedict by which the king revolves that of Nantas. There is nothing so fine as all that it contains, and upper that any king, done, nor will ever do anget as have doubtlest some the edict by which the king revolves that of Nantas. There is nothing so fine as all that it contains, and never has any king, done, nor will ever do, aught as memorable.' Chancellor Le Tellier, after affixing the seil of state to the fatal act, declared that he would never scalunother, and pronounced those words of the canticle of Simeon, which, in the month of the aged Hebrew, referred to the coming of the Lord. The clergy celebrated the day of revocation by public thanksgivings, in which the people of Paris eagerly took part. "Tonched by so many marvels," exclaimed Bassnet, "let us expand our hearts in praises of the piety of Louis. Let our acclamations ascend to the skies, and let as may to this new Constanting, this new Theodosius, this new Marcian, this new Charlestagne, what the thirty six fathers formerly and in the council of Chalcadon." You have strengthened faith, you have exterminated heretics; it is a work worthy of your reign, whose proper cha-racter it is. Thanks to you, heresy is no more. God alone can have worked this marvel. King of heaven, preserve the king of earth : it is the prayer of the Church, it is the prayer of the bibbops,"

The amalgamation of the French refugees with the general population of their adopted countries has been almost everywhere complete, even to the translation of their names. In Berlin, for example :--

"The Licroix, the Laforges, the Daprés, the Harenge, the Servages, had adopted the names of Krentz, Schmidt, Wiese, Hering, Wild Others had allowed theirs to be altered by a zicious pronunsiation which had Germanized them. Thus was it that the family of Bontement, which was to give to sotemporary Germany one of the most renowned of its Hellenists, say it name transformed into that of Butterson. In the unidst of the patriotic for your annied by the war of independence at the time that Fichte quitted his philosophical lectures to take arms in the ranks of the londwehr, and that Schleiermacher forgot hinself to the point of branding the hero of the Seven Years' War with the apithet of deserter, and compared his writings to the cress that one makes to grav with the spinlet of deserver, and -the refugees established in Berlin held solemn deliberation whether they should for ever renounce the French names they until then had borne, to hlend themselves completely with the Prussian people."

Again ----

"In Holland, as in Germany and England, a great number of refugees, wholly abjuring their nationality, changed their French names into Dutch ones, the translation of those their ancestors had transmitted to them. The Leblance called themselves De Witt; the Dujardins, Tuyn or Van den Begeard; the Deschamp, Van de Velde; the Dubois, Van den Bosch; the Lacroir, Van der Cruijse or Kruijs; the Chevaliers, Enjiter; the Duprés, Van der Weyden; the Sanvages, De Wilde; the Delcours or Delacours, Van den Hove; the Corneilles, Krasij; the Duchatals, Van der Kasteele or Van der Burg; the Lesges, Wija; the Legrands, De Groot; the Domonline, Van der Manlen or Vermenlen; the Dumonts, Van den Berg; the Dunonts, Verbrugge." the Duponts, Verbrugge."

The momentous. offects of this expatriation are far from being exhausted. To the excitement of bad passions, and the impoverishment of the moral strength of the nation, which were its direct consequences, M. Weiss tre s, probably with justice, the comparatively recent political calamities of France :---

fanaticism in the south. Beligious passions, which, since the pacification of Alais, had almost completely slumbered, revived in all France, and especially in Languedoc. The faggots were fired fer the Camisards ; and, following Innocent III.'s example, Pope Clement taggets were nreater the Damsards; and, Tomoving Innocent. III.'s example, Pope Clement IX. adopted Aterrible measures the preached a crusade against the heretics of the Covennes, whom he designated, in his blind ignorance and passionate faith, as issue of the execrable race of the Albigenses. In a built promulgated at Rome the 1st May, 1703, and which was sent to all the bishops in Languedoc, who published it with a charge addressed to the elergy of their discesses, he promised a general and complete remission of their sins to all who should enlist under the holy banner of the church, and contribute to the extingation of the rebels. These incitements, which reminded men of a terrible epoch in the annals of the south, proauced no immediate effect. Almost the entire effective population of the south, pro-duced no immediate effect. Almost the entire effective population of the province was en-rolled in the apyal armies, or in the insurgent bands. The measure of calamity was already full, and none could add to it; but long after the termination of this fratricide struggle, religious hateds were hereditarily transmitted in families; and the massacres of which, in the cotemporary period, Nismes has several times been the theatre, sufficiently prove that the cotemporary period, Nismes has several times been the theatre, sufficiently prove that over yet they are not extinguished. "It is a well known historical law that every excess, in one sense, provokes sconer or later a reaction in an opposite direction. The ultra-Catholic party had had recourse to the temporal arm to various the direction. They had smilten, in the persons of the Calvinists, the right of free examination. They had exalted over the apparent return to Rome of thon-sands of men whom they called new converts. Pursuing their fatal career, they had de-stroyed Port-Royal, and condemned to silence perhaps the only men whose elevated prin-ciples might one day have reconciled the two creeds, and re-established religious unity. It was infidelity, and not the Church of Rome, that profited by this double victory. As Bayle had predicted, sceptics and scoffers gathered all its fraits. The eighteenth century beheld the growth of a generation which rejected Christianity because it hated intolerance, and recognised no authority but that of reason. Protestants whom dragoons had dragged to the altar revenged themselves thus, perhaps, for their compelled submission. Strange to say, the two brothers Condillae and Mably, who so powerfally contributed to shake a despotic church and monarchy, were grandsons of a gentleman of Daupliné, converted by the soldiers of St. Ruth. Reviving philosophical and social theories, which the seventeenth century had left in the shade, and placing, the first, intelligence in matter, the second, all sovereignty in the people, they sapped the bases of religion and royalty. These principles, popularised by Diderot and Bousseau, triumphed upon the day appointed by Divine wrath. The throne was overturned, the altar broken, and society disappeared in a frightful tempest. Who shall say that the Revolution of 1789 might not have taken another course, and have remained pure of the greater part of the crimes and excesses that sulled it, had France possesed the numerous deacendants of that ra even yet they are not extinguished. that of the gospel, would resolutely have supported the middle classes against the abettors

Nismes, he wrote to the minister of war, 'made their abjuration in the church the day after, ny arrival. There was afterwards some coolness, but things resumed their good course in consequence of a few billets I gave upon the houses of the most obstinate.' He added, consalike from an exaggerated democracy and an unbridled despotism."

DAYS AND HOURS.

Days and Hours. By Frederick Tennyson.

J. W. Parker and Son.

WE open with hope and with a certain reverence a book which bears on its title-page the name of Tennyson. It will be remembered that the first appearance of Alfred Tennyson as a poet was conjointly with another brother, Charles, in a volume entitled "Poems by Two Brothers." The second voice has long been silent. A younger brother now appears, and claims a part in the precious heritage of his family. We believe that only a few verses by the author of this volume have hitherto been given to the public. The little poem of "Harvest Home," quoted recently in the Leader. extracted from one of the magazines, was in itself enough to justify glad expectations of a volume by the same pen. It is, to our thinking, one of the best in the collection, and eminently characteristic of the author's qualities. He has, it will be seen, many points of resemblance with his elder brother, the same loving and observant attention to

""Nuture's moices, loud and low,"

the same scate perception of the picturesque, and, to a great degree, the same felicity of description; but the depth, the height, the passion, the originality, and "infinite variety" of Alfred Tennyson, are not here. It might seem unnecessary and invidious to compare the brothers; but they will be compared. Mr. Frederick Tennyson cannot avoid the great responsibility of a great name; and, without in any degree accusing him of intentional initation, there is undoubtedly a sort of intellectual family resemblance between them. The present writer is of the school of poets founded by Alfred Tennyson, imbued with his turn of thought and expression, of which the inferior class resemble him from imitating those mere mannerisms and peculiarities of language and construction, which are patent and superficial ;the higher and more intellectual from being informed with his spirit, from having learnt to see with his eyes, and from having drunk at the same founts of inspiration. The former are mere servile copyists -the latter disciples ; but both are created by him : the development and direction of poetic expression in both have been determined by his previous existence. It is in the highest and worthiest sense that we term this author a disciple of Alfred Tennyson; but we must record our belief that had there been no Alfred, there had been no Frederick, - at least not the Frederick here before us.

The poems in this volume are very much what its title indicates, records of days and hours; vivid transcripts of the present scene or moment, or not less graphic recallings of a dear and lamented past. We will proceed to give our readers some specimens of the charming word-pictures which abound in the poems. The principal difficulty lies in selection, and in the wrong sometimes done to a picture by taking it out of its frame. Here is a verse which carries you deep into "the forest of Arden :"--

"Far off blown boughs shall dapple the deep sward With glooms, and thro' the leaves gold shafts shall lean Of peremptory light, and on the green Touch the dim flowers with blandest Summer stirr'd, Or the swift glitter of a passing bird ; And, ere the shadows swallow up the light, Thine eye shall seize the momentary flight Of eager hunters streaming by unheard.'

And here a noon-tide Claude :---

"At Noon beneath its folded wings The wild Breeze slept-upon all things Lay dreamy stillness without stir, All but the chirking Grasshopper; The clouds hung in the purple skies At anchor, like great argosies; The poplars flitter'd not-the streams Were bridged by long, calm golden gleams, The Sun athirst drank the last drops Of dew, and drew from flowery slopes Rich breaths, that wafted not away; We sigh'd amid the fervent day, But in the hush she looked on me; We heard the roaring of the Sea!"

378

Now for a change of scene :---

"BIRST OF MAROH.

"Thro' the gaunt woods the winds are shrilling cold, Down from the rifted rack the sunbeam pours Over the cold grey slopes, and stony moors; The glimmering watercourse, the eastern wold, And over it the whirling sail o' the mill, The lonely hamlet with its mossy spire, "The piled city smoking like a pyre, Fetch'd out of shadow gleam with light as chill." "The field-fires smoke along the campaign drear, And drive before the north wind streaming down Bleak hill, and furrow dark, and fallow brown ;

Few living things along the land appear;

The weary horse looks out, his mane ast ray, With anxious fetlock, and uneasy eye, And sees the market-carts go madly by With sidelong drivers reckless of the way."

Here is a fresh and graceful little sketch :--

"The open cusement quivers in the breeze, And one large muskrose leans its dewy grace Into the chamber, like a happy face, And round it swim the bees.'

We wish we had space for the whole of "The Blackbird :"-

"THE BLACKBIRD. "How sweet the harmonies of Afternoon 1 The Blackbird sings along the sunny breezo Llis ancient song of leaves, and Summer boon; Rich breath of hayfields streams thro' whispering trees; And birds of morning trim their bustling wings, And listen fondly-while the Blackbird sings.

LEADER. THE

APRIL 22, 1854.]

"How soft the lovelight of the West reposes On this green valley in the ery solitude, On the trim cottage with its screen of roses, On the grey believ with its ivy hood, And murmuring mill-race, and the wheel that flings Its bubbling freehouse-while the Blackbird sings.

" The very dial on the village church Seems at 'twere dreaming in a dozy rest; The scribbled benches underneath the porch Bask in the kindly welcome of the West; But the broad casements of the old Three Kings Blaze like a furnace-while the Blackbird sings.

"And there beneath the immemorial elm Three rosy revellers round a table sit. And thro' grey clouds gave laws unto the realm, Curse good and great, but worship their own wit, And roam of fights, and fairs, and junketings, Corn, colts, and curs-the while the Blackbird sings.

" Before her home, in her accustom'd seat, The tidy Grandam spins beneath the shade Of the old Housyanckle, at her feet

The dreaming pug, and purring tabby laid; Lo har low chair a little maiden flings, And spells in silenco-while the Blackbird sings.

"Sometimes the shadow of a lazy cloud Breathes over the hamleb with its gardens, green, While the far fields with surlight overflow'd Tike golden shores of Enirgiand srousen; A gain, the sum line on the shadow springs, And fires the thicket where the Blackbird sings.

With its peach-cover'd walls, and rookery lond The trim, quaint garden alleys, screen'd with boughs, The lion-headed gates, so goint and proud, The mossy fountain with its murmarings Lie in warm sanabine-while the Blackhird sings."

"We dare not wrong the sail and solemn beauty of the following poem by extract or curtailment. It is worthy of the name of Tennyson.

SORG OF ME OLDSMAN.

"Though Winter yet be not ö'er-past, The breath of Spring steals o'er the les; Is it in mercy unto me April, thon comestin such haste?

"Ah'l genfle friend, I would behold Thy fair young face, thy tender tears, In thy soft voice my spirit hears Itself speak cheerly, as of old.

"When ere the dawn I wake and weep, To think of hearts that beat no more, And cruel memories haunt me sore, Come thouse and through my lattice creep.

"And murmuring in the ivy leaves Waken the early morning bird, Where mirth, by the first day light stirfd, Siggito me from bezeath the eaves.

"Oh! the first snowdrop let me see, The first young primrose laughing out; When the rathe violet sheds about "Its magic soul, bear that to me.

"When in their hearts thy life is born, The young man langus, the young gul sighs And love in light of their blue eyes Moves, as in haven the star of Morn.

Wild horses run in valleys wide, The deer deeps up in oaken glade, The lign from his rocky shade Roars, and runs, down the mountain side.

"When thy swift life moves in their blood Like lightning, lol the strong arise, _ And do great deeds, and o'er the wise

DOINE

Doine; or, the National Songs and Legends of Roumania. By E. C. Grenville Murray. Smith, Rider and Co.

THE little volume before us is a collection of the songs, ballads, and legends -the people's poetry-of the Rouman or Wallachian language. Roumania comprises Wallachia, Moldavia, Transylvania, Bessarabia, &c., the Dacia of the Romans. Of these countries, their people, condition, and literature, little was known in England, probably, till recent political events brought them more prominently before every one's attention. We began to take an interest in "the Principalities;" and to make inquiries about them, but still it was a one-sided interest, attaching principally to the questions how they were affected to Turkey or Russia; what resources for the support of armies they possessed; whether fever and agne lurked in their morasses, or pestileace, threatened in their summer heats. Every book lately published on these countries has been written more or less from the political point of view. It is curious to turn from pages of "facts and figures"-from travels which are military surveys, which regard the fair plains of Boumania solely as battle-grounds, see but boundary lines in her noble streams, and slayes, or soldiers in her men and women-to a book where, as in all really national poetry, you hear the heart of a people beating.

The ballads of a mation, handed down through generations, sometimes surviving alone amidst a total wreck of civilisation and of learning; are invaluable as chronicles, because their vitality is dependent on their truth. They must be faithful transcripts of national character, and must record events and speak sentiments in which the general mass of the people are interested - the hopes they have nourished, the wrongs they have suffered, the virtues most honoured by them, the beliefs most dearly cheriched. Between the carly ballad poetry of most nations we find great rescal blances, resulting from the similarity and simplicity of many circumstances in the infancy of every civilisation, modified of course by influences of climate, race, language, and habits. Hence, as Mr. Murray in his introduction very truly isays, "Poetry which has stirred the heart of one nation has generally an echo in that of another." We think he is right in believing that these wild and poetical "Doine" will not fail of that echo here. We will present the reader with some specimens.

Here is a characteristic ballad, and the contrast is very artistic, between the bride, loving, trembling, weeping, ---- Ohil Jupiter, no blood the Spartan mothers ------

"STEFAN THE GREAT AND HIS MOTHER. "Upan a gloomy rock near an ancient castle, in Moldavia a fair, lady passes the night in weaping. It is the bride of Stefan, Duke of the Moldavians. Her blue eyes glitter like two violets beneath the morning dew; and she dries her tears with her long hair. Her husband has been gone some days to the wars, and she has not heard from linn. An she

still weeps a horn is heard to sound at the castle gate. " 'Open.! mother mine,' cries the faint voice of a spent horseman. 'My army is seat-tered, and I have field hither, from the field 1 Open the gate quickly, for the wind blows keenly; my wounds are painful, and I am surrounded by fors.' At these words the young princess flies to the lattice. But the sparrior's mother sales

him boldly-

knows not how to die for his country is like those ill-omened night-birds who see only in the dark. If thy soul has lost its noble courage, go back then to the realms of Night, from whence thou camest, for the morning breaks.

"Recalled to his duty by these burning words, the duke returns to his army, and the combat is renewed. The Turks are either routed or cut to pieces, and Stefan the First returns in triumph to bis castle:"

Roumania has sons worthy of such mothers. Here is a Leonidas :--

"MIRCEA BEFORE NICOPOLIS.

"The enemy have invaded the country of the Roumans; but the Duke does motione courage, and hastens to meet them with a little army of braves. It is not in the hope of at he raises his standard and rides to the battle; us country t 58 V III sacred duty. "Where are now the grand old times, when all knew how to die for duty?

Roll godlike wisions like a floed. " The Roet barrs his suffering brows Unto thee, and his voice is heard Mingling with song of tree and bird, "Like God's beneath the garden boughs. "But I am old, and in my breast The embers of the ancient fire Flame not again at my desire-Ohil- Lam old, and erave but reat. "Lead me a little in the sun Kind hand of maid, or loving child; My tears the light of Heaven shall gild Until my wintry day be done. "Though in my heart the voice of Spring With its bright flowers and carols clear, Tells me not of the passing year, And the new life in everything; "But takes me back where lie inurn'd The ashes of imperial joys, Discroumed hopes with quenched eyes, Great passions with their torches burn'd. "Some spirit out of darkness brings, And sets upon their ancient thrones The scatter'd monumental bones Of thoughts that were as mighty kings. "Some voice thrills in mine ear like breath Of virgin song, and fair young Love Is seen his golden plumes to move Over the grim grey land of Death. "My heart is like a temple dim, Down whose long aisles the moonlight floats And sad celestial organ notes Hover, like wings of Oherubim, "Touch'd by some unseen hand, around The marble figures of the Dead; But at this hour no living tread Is heard, no disenchanting so und."

"He rides through the daylight and the darkness mounted upon a wild courser, and the rising sun caresses his hair, white as the snow on the Carpathians.

" 'My children,' then says Mircea to his braves, 'God has preserved my life until this day that I might die like a hero. What is the life of one man to the life of a people? It is as one flower to the springtime, as an hour to eternity. They say that the proud eagle of the rocks when hemmed in by the hunters will kill the young ones in ilis nest rather than see them captured. So, like the eagle of the rocks, I would rather see my children die than live in slavery l'

"Oh! when will the grand old time return when a Rouman will choose a glorious death instead of the life of a slave?"

The following is a curious specimen of popular morality on the text

"That they should take who have the power, And they should keep who can!"

It might have been written for our own Robin Hood or Johnnie Armstrong. As a little touch indicating the magnificence of the outlaw, it should be observed that a "zlot" is a coin thirty times the worth of a "ban."

",RICH AND POOR.

"A little below the mill there is a small inn, and there side by side sit two wayfarers, a rich man and poor one. The rich man's heart swells with pride as he gives the host a han to bring some wine for his companion.

"The poor man, however, laughs disdainfully, and calling the host, he gives him a zlot,

and proposes in turn to treat his neighbour. "Poor wretch l' cries the rich man, 'wouldst thou compare thyself with me? Thou hast not even a shirt, while my flocks and herds cover the plain. Thou canst not offer wine to me; we are not equals.'

"' What matters?" answers the poor man. 'If you have lands and wealth, are not riches like the mountain torrent, which to-day swells and roars in the sunshine, but : tomorrow is dried up? Hast thou not as many cares as cattle? for wherever the flock is there is the wolf also."

" ' Poor wretch !' replies the rich man ; ' I would have had pity on thee, but for they succer.' " 'And thou Miserable, with all thy wealth,' answers the poor man. 'If thou hast flocks and herds, I have banquets of fruits and flowers. Thou hast gold in thy kimir (girdle); I have a palosh in mine, to protect life and honour. Thou hast stately halls; I have the wide plain with the azure sky all spangled over with gold for roof. What it takes thee a whole summer to win, I can gain by robbery in a single day. What ho! then,

mine host! Bring wine enough, and fear not for the cost. When the poor man treats his friends, he pays for the feast with his blood !' "

the singular character, the local colouring, as it may be termed, of the misfortunes imprecated on the deceiver :--

"THE MALEDICTION.

"A youth and a maiden are ascending a steep mountain. The youth sings gaily, and caresses his courser. But the maiden walks wearily by his side, ever sighing.

"" Let me mount up behind thee, young lover,' she pleads gently, ' for I am tired; the road is stony and I cannot walk."

" · I would take the up behind,' replies the youth, 'but I cannot. My charger is small and his feet are delicate. He can now hardly bear my body and its sins, my harness and

my arms.' "Thy heart is pitiless,' answers the girl wildly. 'Thou hast stolen me from my kindred, and now abandon me in this desert! God grant that thou thyself may fall into slavery among the Turks, that thy feet and hands may be shackled with irons, that love and remorse may haunt thee in thy saddest days, that my misery may come home to thee, that thy steed may fail thee, that then mayest bite the dust in shame, that theu mayst be nine times wedded and have nine sons; then, that thou mayst marry again, and have a daughter ere one comes to bring the water in thy prison.' "But the youth still rides a-singing on his way."

Though our extracts have been numerous, we must find room for one more, a wild mythological legend. The grand desolate conclusion is very fine.

"THE SUN AND THE MOON.

"For nine long years the bright sun has been seeking for a bride, and nine coursers have grown weary with the fatigue of his journeys; for he has travelled through earth and air with the speed of an arrow or the wind. He has tired his steeds, but he has not found a mate. The only maiden who has met with favour in his sight is his sister Ilena Cozinzena

" Be my bride, sweet sister Ilena Cozinzena,' pleads the brilliant Day Good ; ' our hair is of the same golden hue, and we are equally beautiful. I am the brighter, but thou the gentler; mine eyes are the most ardent, but thine are the most soft.' ""O bright and spotless brother,' answers llena Cozinzena, mournfully; 'a brother and a sister may not marry, for it would be a sin!"

"The sun darkens at these words, and addresses himself to God, praying that he may marry his sister Ilena Cozinzena, since in earth or air there is no maiden so beautiful.

"The angry Deity motions him to follow, and leads him through hell and paradise; through the one to frighten the Sun, and through the other to delight him. He then bids him choose between them,

"And the Sun shining brightly answers—' Better hell than that I should wander for ever lonely through the world! Yes, even hell with Hens Cozinzena.' "Then the Sun returns to his betrothed, and places a crown of gold upon her brow; the crown of a queen. He gives her also a robe made of precious stones of as many colours as the rainbow, and then leads her rebelliously to the altar.

the rainbow, and then leads her rebelliously to the altar. "But there the lamps go out, and the walls of the temple shake and tremble. The presis are struck dumb, and their sacred robes fall off. The beautiful bride, horror-stricken, sees an iron hand descend from the heavens; it seizes and casts her into the sea. "Then the Sun grows pale, and rising into the air, he sets towards the west, descending into the waters, where his bride has disappeared. "But the offended Deity stretches forth his hand over the sea, and changing liena.

Cozinzena into a golden sphere, she becomes the Moon. An awful voice is then heard in the heavens, pronouncing the doom of the disobedient. 'Thou Ilena Cozinzena, and thou bright and spotless Sun ! Ye shall gaze upon each other from afar, and follow each other through illimitable space for evermore, drawing nearer never!'"

We have been, of course, influenced in our selections by their length and variety; but the reader will find in the volume many poems of equal, if not superior beauty. Before concluding this notice, we must remark that the music of six national Rouman airs, appended, render the work additionally interesting.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

History of Oliver Cromwell, and the English Commonwealth. By M. Guizot. 2 vols.

Richard Bentley.

Companions of my Solitude. John W. Parker and Son. Comparative Anatomy. Translated from the German, by Waldo J. Burnatt, M.D. Vol. I.

The Arts.

EASTER FESTIVITIES.

VIVIAN.

Will our readers believe it? Vivian, whose audacity has shocked us many times, has now surpassed himself, and, with reckless coolness, has sent the above blank and paltry asterisks as his copy! We learn that the unfortunate culprit is prostrate; the brilliancy of the season has been too much for him; he has gone to "fields and pastures new" to recruit; but we trust that, when he returns, he will apologise to an expectant public for this gross insult. However, we cannot do better than publish the blank, as one of Vivian's most characteristic contributions.

What to do in his absence? We confess-that is, a sub-editor confesses -that he is obliged to compile from the Times' account of the theatres, beginning with Monday at

DRURY-LANE.

"The company which appeared last night was, we presume, the first instalment of a new troupe announced to give operatic performances, in Italian and German, from the present time until the termination of the season. The directors of the Royal Opera-for that is the title under which the new enterprise has been advertised—have issued an address, in which some plain truths are advanced, in few words, and without parade. The gist of their preamble is—that, while the Germans, French, and Italians have operatic theatres, to which the mass of the people can obtain admission at a very moderate charge, in England there is nothing of the kind; that it is quite possible, nevertheless, to present something of the kind, and in a highly respectable manner; that the great success of M. Jullien, Mr. Hullah, and other innovators, who have had sufficient courage to give musical entertainments on a large scale, and at minimum prices, has shown a love of music to exist very generally among the London public; and that there is no reason why the support which has been accorded to various kinds of concerts by all classes of the community should be denied to operatic performances, presented under similar circumstances, and with the same desire to combine excellence with cheapness. We have nothing to say against these propositions, and we hope, as we believe, that the managers of the Royal Opera will be enabled to make good their words. Much, if not all, depends upon themselves, and on the spirit in which they carry out their undertaking. The performance of Norma, in Italian, was a favourable beginning. On the whole, we have heard inferior attempts at high class and high-priced theatres; and, in every respect, it was creditable and effective. A band of more than seventy performers, under the direction of no less excellent a conductor than Herr Lindpaintner, a chorus of fifty, or thereabouts, and principals in some cases unexceptionable, and in most of average merit, presented an ensemble against which, however effects of detail might be criticised, little could be objected as a whole."

The Times then proceeds to details, praising Madame Caradori, who is a German soprano, with "a tall, commanding figure," and "a more than common share of dramatic energy." The Adelgisa, too, comes in for a share of praise. Mademoiselle Sedlatzek, observes the *Times*, "is a young German singer of good talent and promise, who has only very recently come into notice. She went through that interesting though subordinate part very efficiently, and in the two duets, the first of which was encored, fairly divided the applause with Madame Caradori." Of the gentlemen little is Dİ

The First False Step. A Poem. By James Cargill Guthrie.		said, which is kind. Formes sang in "God save the Queen," at the end of
The Land we Live in ; a Pictorial and Literary Sketch Book.	Johnstone and Hunter.	the opera. The house was crowded, and encored everything.
The last Days of Pompeii. (Railway Library.)	Wm. S. Orr and Co.	THE HAYMARKET
The Gauntles of Freedom.	George Boutledge and Co.	Continues the revue style of piece, of which Mr. Buckstone's Ascent of Mount
	Thomas Harrison.	Parnassus and the Camp at the Olympic were successful examples. The
Early Education. By W. H. Bainbrigge, F.R.C.S.	Blacklader and Co.	new Haymarket revue is very similar in principle to the Ascent of Mount
Julian; or, the Close of an Era. By L. F. Bungener. 2	vols.	Parnassus. It is called Mr. Buckstone's Voyage round the Globe (in Leicester-
Napette and her Louene De Talket Chan	Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.	square). Wherever Mr. Buckstone roams, and whatever climes he sees (in
Nanette and her Lovers. By Talbot Gwynne.	Smith, Elder, and Co.	a dream on the staircase of the Great Globe), the visions which rise before
The Laws of War, affecting Commerce and Shipping. By H.	Byerley Thomson, Esq., B.A. Smith, Elder, and Co.	him are invariably of London lions—the Chinese jugglers, with their knife- throwing trick; Miss Cushman as Meg Merrilies, the Astley's elephants, and
A Poem and a Pamphlet.	Chapman and Hall.	the Sea of Ice at the Adelphi. Every scene is as good as its original, and
Voltairs and his Times. By L. F. Bungener.	Thomas Constable and Co	there is, of course, much besides to "amuse and to instruct" in this geogra-
Manual of Civil Law; or, Examination in the Institutes of Ju M.A.	stinian. By Patrick Cumin, Stevens and Norton.	phical jeu d'esprit of Planché's. THE LYCEUM
Chemistry, Theoretical, Practical, and Analytical, as applied By Dr. Sheridan Muspratt, F.R.S.E., &c. Part VI.	to Arts and Manufac tures. William Mack enzie.	Has no burlesque this Easter, and on Monday the four pieces played were old favourites. A new comedietta was produced on Wednesday, called
A Descriptive A tlas illustrative of the Seats of War, with five	coloured Maps. William S. Orr and Co.	Give a Dog an Ill Name. It was well played by Charles Mathews and Miss Oliver, and, though awfully French in a moral point of view at the begin-
Chambers's Journal. Part III.	W. and R. Chambers	I ning, dexterously evaded the French termination, and concluded with an
The Protestant Doctrine of Justification and Scheme of Salvat By Charles Cholmondeley.	ion Philosophically Confuted. John Chadman.	appeal to English sentiments. It was thoroughly successful. THE ADELPHI,
The North American Review.		Following out its peculiar course of turning to purposes of amusement
The Life of Nicholas I. Emperor of All the Russias. By Edw	John Chapman. vard H. Michelsen.	what ever topic of the day is uppermost, gives us—let the Times tell what— "The results of the 'Overland Journey to Constantinople as undertaken by
History of the Dominion of the Arabs in Spain. (Standard L Jonathan Foster. Vol. I.	William Spooner. ibrary.) Translated by Mrs. Henry G. Bohn.	Lord Bateman, with interesting particulars of the fair Sophia.' The ballad, containing an account of the adventures of this 'noble Lord of high degree' and
The Jerusalem delivered of Torquato Tasso. (Illustrated Li Wiffen.	brary.) Translated by J. H.	his attendant 'Proud Young Porter,' has long been an established favourite, and the mode in which it has been treated on the present occasion will not fail to
The Lamplighter.	Henry G Bohn.	add to its celebrity. The incidents of the ballad were followed by the additions and alterations rendered necessary by the Easter holidays and the Eastern
Poems. By James Macfarlan.	Clarke, Beeton, and Co.	question. After an explanatory lecture from Mr. Rogers, the adventures com-
The Two Princes. By E. B.	Robert Hardwicke.	mence with the fairy camp by moonlight, in which the corps de ballet represent-
	Robert Hardwicke.	l ing the allied troops, after going through a most satisfactory course of military

THE LEADER.

evolutions, embark for Constantinople to assist the noble Lord. The next scene be a pity to mar the effect of a very magnificent and admirably acted tale of is in Proud Turkee, where it is found 'This Turk' (Mr. Paul Bedford) is thrown into a state of alarm by the arrival of Cæsar de Byzantium (Mr. Selby), who is, however, pacified by 'This Turk' consenting to give him in marriage ' the fair Sophia' (Miss Keeley). At this juncture Lord Bateman (Miss Woolgar) and John Thomas, the 'Proud Young Porter' (Mrs. Keeley), having been caught prying into 'This Turk's' harem, are brought on, when the fair Sophia's attachment to the noble Lord is discovered. After undergoing the miseries and delights of a Turkish 'quod,' the noble Lord and his attendant, John Thomas, after an affecting parting with the fair Sophia and her maid Fattyma, are, by the aid of the allied Powers, shipped for England. Part the second of the adventures is occupied by the perils and escape of the fair Sophia from Cæsar de Byzantium, and her marriage with the noble Lord. The piece was exceed. ingly well got up, and the acting throughout was excellent; and the audience testified their approbation in a manner that left no doubt as to its success."

THE PRINCESS'S.

The new "magical drama" of Faust and Marguerite, owing to the great preparations required, was not ready till Wednesday evening. We are told that " the incidents are taken from Göthe's immortal poem, but these are arranged after such a new fashion, that, although no single situation is exactly original, the whole leaves an impression very different from that of the German work."

"The plot" (further observes the Times) "is an instance of French ingenuity employed on the task of transforming the most undramatic drama in the world into a compact effective melodrama. The poetry and philosophy of the original are dismissed at one fell swoop, and nothing is left but such practical dialogue as may serve to connect the 'effects' of the piece. As this total absence of poetry may awaken an uneasy sensation in the mind of the spectator who goes to see Faust and Marguerite primed with strong doses of Göthe, we would advise as deep an oblivion as possible of the original German text; for it would

enchantment by inconvenient reminiscences.

"As a spectacle, this is one of the most tasteful and elaborate ever seen even on the boards of the Princess's Theatre. The whole action takes place in four scenes, but every one of them is a gem of its kind, and the details, architectural and social, of old German life are represented to perfection. Especial attention has been paid to the grouping and movement of the masses who form the background to the principal figures. Thus the throng of visitors who press into the cathedral, while almost every individual has a distinctive occupation, and the crowd (after Retzsch) who surround the dying Valentine, are excellent specimens of mere earthly effects. For the unearthly part of the business we might cite the first revelation of Marguerite to Faust; but the whole piece terminates with such an extraordinary burst of supernatural splendour, that it thrusts all an-tecedents of a similar kind into comparative oblivion. This is the ascent of Marguerite, borne by angels to the regions of bliss, while the cathedral slowly sinks in the foreground. The group is after a well-known picture of St. Catherine, and seldom has a theatrical effect excited so much admiration and astonish. ment. The admiration is bestowed on the beauty of the group, which is wondrously heightened by an effective distribution of light; the astonishment is produced by the mysterious manner in which the figures ascend. Neither rope, nor bar, nor wire is visible, but, like the figures in the last Christmas piece at the Lyceum, Marguerite and her companions sail through empty space by means unknown to the uninitiated into modern stage contrivances.

THE OLYMPIC,

Like the LYCEUM, relied on old favourites, and a new, or as old as new come-dietta, instead of a fairy piece. The Happiest Day of my Life was a Listonian piece, and has not been played, we believe, since Liston played in it. Mr. F. Robson was the hero, on Monday, representing Mr. Gillman, a bridegroom, with whom all does not go as merry as a marriage bell. To Oblige Benson and the Wandering Jew were the pieces that followed.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS. BIRTHS.

CRESSWELL.-April 19, at King's Lynn, Norfolk, the Hon. Mrs. Frank Cresswell: a daughter. ERSKINE.—April 19, the wife of the Hon. John C. Erskine:

- daughter. MABERLEY .- April 5, at Gibraltar, the wife of Captain
- Maberly, R.A.: a son.

- MARRIAGES. DOUGLAS-BARBOR.-March 25, at Charles Church, Plymouth, Leiutenant John James Douglas, B.M., second son of John Douglas, Esq., of Walmer, to Margaret Jane, eldest daughter of G. A. Barbor, Esq., Captain, late of the

- eldest daughter of G. A. Barbor, Esq., Captain, late of the Eighth Bengal Light Cavalry. ST. JOHN-WARREN.—April 6, at the King's Chapel, Gibraltar, Lieutenant John Henry St. John, Ninety-second Highlanders, to Margaret, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, Fifty-fifth Regiment. WALSH--MIDDLEMORE.—April 18, at the parish church, Tunbridge, the Rev. Gorges D Richard Walsh, Chaplain to the Dowager Lady Vivian, to Ellen Catherine, daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Middlemore, C.B., Colonel of the late Lieutenant-General Middlemore, C.B., Colonel of the Forty-eighth Regiment, and late Commander-in-Chief of H. M. Forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands.

- DEATHS. ASHBURNHAM.--April 16, at Richmond, Lady Elizabeth Frances Ashburnham, aged ninety-one, MACKELLER.--April 14, at Brandon-villa. Cheltenham, Admiral John MacKeller, aged eighty-six. PAYLER.--April 15, at 13, Upper Southwick-street, Cam-bridge-square, Colonel James Payler, late of the Tenth Foot aged sixty-seven
- Foot, aged sixty seven.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE. Friday Evening, April 21, 1854.

THE settling of the Consols Account came off on Tuesday, and the results show the existence of Bear speculations to the amount of four millions and a half in the Three per Cent. Consols, and of three quarters of a million of the Three and a Quarter per Cent. Stock. In some instances stock had to be borrowed at the rate of 5 to 6 per cent. per month. A decided success in the Baltic, or any fresh terms proposed by the Czar, or any accident happening to the proposed by the Czar, or any accident happening to the aforesaid gentleman, would probably bring in bond fide purchasers from the public, and the Bear losses would be immense. But this, after all, is a chance against them. On their side they have the daily expenditure, which amounts annually to fifteen millions, the coming deficiency at the Bank, and the uncertain appearance of matters on the Con-tinent, combined with the shifts investigate of matters of the continent, combined with the shifty, irresolute conduct of our Ministry at home. If one is to be guided by reason and sound deductions, the Bears are right—the chances are in favour of the Bulls, and nothing else. Since the settling of the account, Consols rose somewhat, but to-day have been weak and very languid. Shares are a little flatter, but little dealing in them. In Mines, Metcalfes and Port Royals have risen, owing to more cheering accounts. Poltimores are buyers at a premium this afternoon. Money is not quite as easy as last week. It is not impro-bable that some expected failures in Paris are having their effect on the markets generally. Consols close at 87# 874.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, April 21. LOCAL TRADE.-We have fair supplies of Wheat and Barley since Monday and large of Oats. Wheat is held firmly, and

CORN MARKET.

since Monday and large of Oats. Wheat is held firmly, and a moderate trade is doing at Monday's rates. Barley with-out alteration. Oats, notwithstanding the large arrivals, are 6d. dearer, with a good demand. FREE ON BOARD.—Little or no alteration has taken place in the value of Wheat at the Northern ports since our last. The dry weather is general over the Conti-nent, and though we doubt if any injury is yet actually suffered, fears are everywhere feit of the consequences should it continue much longer. The prices of Wheat con-tinue relatively lower at the Baltic ports than with us, and there is little doubt they must continue so till the stocks are nearly exhause id, as merchants will not run the risk of importation in time of war without more than ordinary inducement. At the same time the facilities given by the Governments of France and England, beyond what were enjoyed by merchants during previous wars, will diminish enjoyed by merchants during previous wars, will diminish the risk, and to the same extent encourage importation. The last accounts from New York were dull, though the stock of Wheat was very limited. Freights have declined, and as a large number of vessels had arrived which were not wanted for Australia or California, they were expected to load for England. White Genessee Wheat was quoted 76s. 6d. per 480 lbs., white Western 67s. 10d., red Western 60s. 10d. per 480 lbs., Baltimore Barrels 34s. 6d., all free on board.

FLOATING TRADE.—Since last week, ninety cargoes of Wheat, and teniof. Maize have arrived off the coast for orders. Notwithstanding the firmness of the trade for Wheat on the spot, the steady demand from the country, and the con-tinued proofs of short stocks in the hands of the farmers, there has been very little disposition manifested to purchase cargoes either arrived or on passage, and very few sales have been made during the week. Holders ask full prices and appear in general resolved to consign to this or other markets, rather than make much concession in prices. Still, we dare say, some will be found willing to yield rather than send their Grain to granary, and if so we think our friends would do well to take advantage of the opportunity. We do not anticipate extravagantly high prices, but, cut off as we shall shortly be from the Black and Azoff Seas, we cannot think that anything below present rates can be unsafe.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE. Lessee, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN. On Monday, and during the Week, (Wednesday the 26th excepted) THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE. Principal Characters by Mesars. F. Robson, Leslie, Vin-cent, White, Miss P. Horton, Mrs. Chatterley, and Miss

Marston. After which,

TO OBLIGE BENSON.

Characters by Messrs. Emery, F. Robson, Leslie, Mrs. Stirling, and Miss Wyndham. To conclude with

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R. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT M BLANC, including the BERNESE OBEBLAND and theSIMPLON, EveryEvening, at 30 clock, (encept Saturday), and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at 3. Stalls 3s., which can be taken at the Box-office every day, from 11 to 4: Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

OTICE.—CONSTANTINOPLE.—The LECTURE accompanying the GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE is now delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS by Mr. J. H. STO-QUELER, when the progress and localities of the War will be more particularly explained; and on the other days, as usual, by Mr. CHARLES KENNEY. A very clear and ex-cellent Map has been added to the Illustrations.—Dally, at half-past 2 and 8. Admission, 1s.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

)^{R.} R. KAHN'S CELEBRATED MU. SEUM is NOW OPEN in the spacious premises known SECM is NOW OFEN in the spacious premises known as the SALLE ROBIN, 232, Piccadilly, top of the Hay-market. For gentlemen from 11 till 5, and from 7 till 10 daily. Explanations by Dr. Leach. On Wednesday and Friday, a portion of the Museum is open for ladies only, from 2 till 5. Gentlemen, however, are still admitted on those days from 11 to 2, and from 7 till 10. Explanations given to the ladies by Mrs. Leach. Admission, 1s.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

Consols, 871, 871; Caledonian, 53, 531; Chester and Holy-Consols, 875, 875; Caledonian, 65, 657; Chestol and Holy-head, 14, 15; Eastern Counties, 124, 125; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 56, 58; Great Western, 727, 734; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 60), 61; London and Blackwall, 8, 84; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 98, 99; London and North Western, 954, 964; London and South Western, 764, 774; Mid-band South Western, 764, 774; Mid-band South Western, 764, 774; Mid-band South Western, 98 Brighton, and South Coast, 98, 99; London and North Western, 954, 964; London and South Western, 764, 774; Mid-land, 584, 594; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 28, 30; Scottish Centrals, S4, 86; South Eastern, 584, 594; South Wales, 34, 36; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 644, 654; York and North Midland, 454, 464; East Indian, 14, 24 pm.; Luxembourg, 44, 54; Ditto (Railway), 21, 34; Ditto, Pref., 1, 14; Namur and Liege (with int.), 64, 74; Northern of France, 294, 292; Paris and Lyons, 114, 114; Paris and Or-leans, 41, 48 x. d.; Paris and Rouen, 32, 34; Paris and Stras-bourg, 284, 29; Sambre and Meuse, 74, 8; West Flanders, 3, 4; Western of France, 14, 24 pm. x. d.; Agua Frias, 1, 14; Anglo-Californians, 1 dis., 4 pm.; Brazilian Imperial, 4, 5; St. John Del Rey, 29, 31; Colonial Gold, 1 dis., 4 par.; Great Nugget Vein, 4, 1; Linares, 10, 11; New ditto, 4 dis., par; Nouveau Monde, 4 dis., 4 pm.; Quartz Rock, 4, 4 pm.; United Mexican, 3, 34; Waller, 4, 4; Poltimores, 4, 4 pm.; San Fernandos, 1-16 dis., 1-16 pm.; Metcalfes, 4, 4 pm.; United Mexican, 3, 65; Australian Agricultural, 37, 88; Crystal Palace, 19, 17 pm.; North British Australasian Land and Loan, 4 dis., par; Scottish Australian Invest-ment, x. d. 14, 14 pm.; South Australian Land, 34, 36. BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

		Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
	Bank Stock	214	213	213	212	219	211
	3 per Cent. Red	867	861	861	867	871	86
l	3 per Cent. Con. An.	874	87	88	88	88	88
	Consols for Account	87	871	871	874	881	87
	31 per Cent. An	87	87	87	88	88	87
	New 5 per Cents				l		
	Long Ans. 1860			416	416	4-16	4-16
	India Stock	230	225	1			235
	Ditto Bonds, £1000	2 p	1	2 p	8 d	4 p	5 d
	Ditto, under £1000		2 p		2 p		5 d
ļ	Ex. Bills, £1000	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p	.4p
	Ditto, £500				4 p		4 p
	Ditto, Small	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p	2 p	4 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	Spanish 8 p. Ct. New Def. 17 Spanish Committee Cert. of Coup. not fun Venezuela 34 per Cents Belgian 44 per Cents
Portuguese 4 per Cents. 37	Dutch 24 per Cents
Portuguese 8 p. Cents	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif

ROYAL OPERA-DRURY-LANE.

Tuesday, and Friday, Monday, LUCREZIA BORGIA. Lucrezia, Madame Caradori; The Duke, Mr. Hamilton

Braham.

On Thursday and Saturday, DER FREISCHUTZ. Max, Herr Reichardt; Caspar, Herr Formes; Alice, Madame Caradori. To conclude each evening with a BALLET DIVERTISSEMENT.

Galleries, 1s.; Pit, 2s.; Boxes, 3s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Private Boxes, 21s., 42s., and 63s., to be had at the Box-office from nine to five o'clock daily, and at the principal libraries and Marine to five o'clock daily. Libraries and Music-sellers.

The Prospectus is now ready, and may be had at the Box-office, and all Music-sellers and Libraries.

HE FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBI . TION will open at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East, on MONDAY NEXT, April the 24th. Admittance 1s. Cata-logue 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKIN S, Secretary. logue 6d.

JOHN B. GOUGH.

THE COMMITTEE of the LONDON TEMPERANCE LEAGUE have pleasure to announce that this distinguished Advocate will again visit the Metro-polis, and deliver ORATIONS as follow :--Monday, April 24. Excter-hall, free to the working classes. Monday, April 25, Excter-hall. Wednesday, April 26, ditto. In compliance with the National Fast, the Lecture for this day will be special, and Tickets must be obtained on or before the 25th

Tickets must be obtained on or before the 25th.

Friday, April 28, Morning Meeting, Willis's Booms, King-street, St. James's. An Address to Ladies only. Chair taken at Two o'Clock.

Monday, May 1, Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington. Tuesday, May 2, Manor-rooms, Hackney. Wednesday, May 3, Sadler's Wells Theatro. Thursday, May 4, Hall, Grove-lane, Camberwell. Monday, May 8, Tottenham. Tuesday, May 9, Exeter-hall. Wednesday, May 10, ditto. Thursday, May 11, ditto. Doors open each Evening at Seven, to commence at

Thursday, May 11, ditto. Doors open each Evening at Seven, to commence at Eight o'Clock. Tickets to the Ladies' Meeting, 2s. 6d. and 1s.; to the other Meetings, 2s. and 1s. 6d. each, except the Meeting for the Working Classes, which is free to the body of the Hall; platform, 1s; may be obtained at the Offices, \$37, Strand, and early application is requested.

O ALL BAD WRITERS.-Mr. T. H. L CARSTAIRS continues to give LESSONS to Ladies and Gentlemen in his improved METHOD OF WRITING, which enables those who take advantage of it to acquire as great a degree of freedom and facility as can be desired. Prospectuses of terms, &c., may be had at 81, Lombardstreet, City.

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