

The Leader.

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

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News of the Week.

RUSSIAN disaster marks the intelligence of the week from the seat of war; disaster so signal as to alter the whole appearance of the extended battle-field. It must be admitted that our information is scanty and not altogether clear; but still it has the stamp of conformity as to the main facts, and what is chiefly wanting are the details and collateral circumstances. When the allied troops appeared at Varna the immediate relief of Silistria became a settled thing; and it would appear that Omar Pasha despatched a considerable force in the direction of Silistria, with instructions to effect a junction with the beleaguered Turks if possible. The route they took, as far as we can gather, was north-west, and we may infer that they made for the western side of the fortress. It is probable that the intelligence of their coming quickened the movements of the besiegers, for their mining operations were hastily performed; and between the 28th of May and the 13th of June assault followed assault with great vigour. On the night of the 28th, no less than 30,000 men, urged on by their officers, appeared to have been hurled upon the fortress in successive columns of 10,000 each. At first, the fire of the Turks was too severe, and they gave way; but, impelled by their chiefs, they returned with an overpowering rush, sweeping up and into the very embrasures of the redoubt. After a three hours' conflict they were driven back, leaving the ditch filled with dead and dying. Subsequently there were other attacks: mines hastily constructed fell short, and exploded, doing damage to the Russians; and success attended the Turks in every instance. Thus it seems to have stood when the Shumla detachment arrived; and then the Turks dashed forward, scoured through the trenches, and the fight ended in a complete rout. General Schilders was carried, wounded, to Kalarasch; and we are assured the siege was raised. The Russians retreated over the Danube, breaking down the bridges behind them. If this be true, and there is no reason to doubt it, the Turks alone have achieved the finest exploit of the war.

The retreat of the Russians across the Danube alters the whole aspect of the campaign. In the face of the gathering battalions North of the Balkans, it will be impossible for the Russians to hold Kalarasch as a military position. The Turks

at Rustschuk are assuming the offensive. Simniza has become untenable, and Giurgevo will soon be so. Already the effect of the advance from Kalafat has dictated to the Russian General, Liprandi, a compulsory movement in retreat along the Bucharest road. Should the allies, therefore, advance in front, the Russians will be compelled to fall back upon Bucharest from Kalarasch and Giurgevo; and if the Austrians show themselves in the passes of the Carpathians, the Russians will be forced to retreat upon Moldavia, or to fight a battle in the best position they can find on the plains of Wallachia. Should they retreat, their next line of operations must be the left bank of the Sereth, with their left wing resting on the small forts at the mouth of the Danube, and their long line stretching upwards into Poland. Under the recent convention concluded between Austria and the Porte, it is supposed that the Austrians will occupy Wallachia; and should they do so, the greater part of the Turkish army, and nearly the whole of the British and French forces, would be available for operations in the Crimea.

In Asia disaster has also attended the Russian arms. It appears that the garrisons retreating from the forts on the Circassian coast, have been intercepted by the lieutenant of Schamyl, and cut off from the main body. Selim Pasha, who commands in the neighbourhood of Batoum, is placed in a position to take the offensive; while the Russians are compelled on all points to content themselves with the defensive.

In the Baltic the successes of Admiral Plumridge in the Gulf of Bothnia have not been achieved without loss. He has burned and destroyed a vast amount of imperial property at Brahestad, Uleaborg, and other places. He has captured Tornea; but at Karleby he has suffered loss. His men appear to have fallen into an ambushade, and it is stated that a boat's crew have been killed or taken prisoners.

The future, the plan of securing at the end of the war the legitimate fruits of war?—that is the question which it is requisite to study as we advance, and it is the one which Lord Lyndhurst brought before Ministers and the Peers on Monday. He took up the treaties which have originated with the Germanic Powers, Austria and Prussia—the Protocol of December, 1853, the memorandum addressed to the Germanic Diet, the treaty between Austria and Prussia, and the Vienna Protocol of May 23, annexing that treaty to

the series; and while he found that the Germanic Powers are seeking only for restoration of peace with Russia, and are objecting to any alteration of territorial boundaries, he asked what security the Western Powers would have, that in the event of proposals of peace from Russia, the Germanic Powers would not accept it, and resist any further prosecution of that power? But, he continued, what security would be obtained out of the present expensive contest for a continued observance of peace by Russia. Her statesmen avow the policy of concealed activity and the plan of taking Europe by "surprise;" her acts prove that she regards treaties as waste paper; and in truth there would be no security for her keeping the peace, unless, as Lord Lyndhurst says, England and France were to take some "material guarantee." But do not the present treaties tend to impede them in doing so? No, said Lord Clarendon, because those treaties are set aside by events which have happened since they were concluded. Austria is effectually committed with the Western Powers and against Russia, and it would be the extreme of folly not to take the present opportunity to curtail the power of Russia, now that she has exposed her policy. Lord Derby agreed with the declaration in spirit, as Lord Lyndhurst might have done; but how can we reconcile with the facts, with the expression of feeling in the House of Commons, with Lord Clarendon's language, with the course actually taken by Ministers, the obstinate enunciation of peace doctrines by Lord Aberdeen, who, in the debate of Monday, ridiculed the idea of danger from Russia, and still avowed that his abiding object is to get at peace as fast as possible?

Perhaps this declaration has not injured Ministers more than the explanation given by Mr. Strutt in the House of Commons, showing how abruptly he was sent from his office in order to accommodate the capricious wishes of Russells and Greys. They arranged it all among themselves, and then told him they were waiting for him to go, because Lord Granville was waiting to sit down in his seat. Thus apprised by the man who had invited him to join the Cabinet, he took up his hat and walked.

Another Ministerial retraction is added to the list. Lord Palmerston, who intended to take the conduct of police out of the hands of local authorities, and to have a constabulary force like that of Ireland, under county control, has drawn a hornet's nest about his ears, and he has withdrawn the bill. The Oxford Bill seems likely to furnish victories to all parties, except Ministers. Mr. Heywood is the new champion and victor. On

Thursday, he proposed to add two clauses to the bill, the first simply involving the admission of Dissenters to the University, without taking the usual oaths or signing the Thirty-nine Articles; the second enabling Dissenters so admitted to take degrees in arts, law, and medicine, without making said subscriptions or taking the oaths. After a protracted debate, he defeated Ministers in the first clause by 252 to 161. Lord John gave way in dudgeon—he would not divide the House on the second clause. Ministers having thus stepped aside, Mr. Walpole rushed forward and enabled them to defeat the daring Heywood in the height of his triumph. Mr. Walpole, not Ministers, rejected the second clause by 205 to 196. Elated by his victory, Mr. Heywood declares that he will propose the clause on the third reading. Now, although we are quite ready to admit Dissenters to the University, and “something more,” we question the propriety of this step; unless Mr. Heywood and his friends care less for the bill than for weakening Ministers. Properly the two subjects are separate—the government of the University and the admission of Dissenters; and distasteful as the bill is to us, we would rather have it than not have it, and should regret if this inopportune triumph of Mr. Heywood caused its defeat in the Lords.

The de Bode claim was debated on Tuesday, and a few members avowed their agreement with our doctrine, that their honour was individually at stake. But some found a loophole, or rather the loophole was found for them by Sir Alexander Cockburn—a lawyer of much ingenuity and not much blushing. The ingenuity, however, was very poor in this case: he dug out from the archives of British repudiation the first plea advanced by the Government in 1815, that the Baron was not a British subject; and as members were not prepared with the necessary information to go back to the very commencement of the case, and re-argue all the extinct pleas—to fight over again the Waterloos of that day—they declare themselves “convinced” by Sir Alexander Cockburn. And men call these secondhand notions “their convictions,” and think that they are justified in acting upon them! The jury might as well have been “convinced” by the eminent barrister who argued that Tawell’s victim had been poisoned by apple-pies. The House of Commons has again made itself an accomplice with the Government in ratifying the embezzlement of the De Bode money. The King of Portugal has come over to visit our gracious Queen and her husband, the King’s cousin. And also, he says, to seek information for the better government of his own people. He is a young man, and he may learn many things. The spectacle which he began with at Sydenham might tell him what a country can do whose people are free, politically and commercially. It is necessary to think out some questions well before men can arrive at structures like that. The very idea enunciated by Prince Albert in his golden speech at the meeting of mayors, with his own well weighed and artistically-arranged words, was one that could only be developed in a region where thought was perfectly free, and where great intellects had free play to labour together in solving that problem. Commerce and industry must be free to make what he saw there brought together; and there, also, he would see how the sovereign of a free people possesses a moral and material power, augmented by the strength of all beneath her. The Sovereign of England is, indeed, a king of kings; and the country whose Prince first sent science to see what was on the other side of the Cape of Good Hope, may become less revolutionary, more prosperous, and more dignified, if her king improve his journey, as he says he means to do.

During his visit, however, he might see some other things not all so very much to our credit. For instance, if he is considered old enough to read the papers, he may discover something about Margaret Reginbal and Marmaysee, and the English gentlemen who do not only leave their cards at the mansion of that respectable housekeeper. He will find that immorality is not only resident in Lisbon or Madrid, but that moral England has its full share, and that the highest classes meet,—not publicly with the working man, they would be ashamed to do that,—but secretly with those of the humblest classes, whom the working man would totally disclaim.

Looking a little further off, the student-King would see clever, logic-searching, financial Mr. Gladstone telling a deputation of commercialists

that he hesitated to adopt a decimal system of coinage, because the subject is so difficult. It will perhaps take a few years more for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to learn to divide the “pound” into tenths, the tenth into tenths, and again into a final tenth, and then he will discover that it is easier to divide it so, than into twentieths, twelfths, and fourths. How would he manage, Portugal might ask, to reckon in contos and milreis?

Beyond this amusing tale, admitting Portugal would discover one more, scarcely less absurd, and far sadder,—the story of the way in which the Europa was lost—burned at sea by a fire that broke out “accidentally,” with no effective precautions against fire, no boats ready for emergency, no regular drill in launching and manning boats! At every such occasion the British public exclaims that it is “too bad,”—and it always will be said.

M. de Persigny has elaborated the praises of his eighteen months’ administration in France through ten columns of the *Moniteur*. He shows that he is the *chef* of Ministers of the Interior; that he is the great inventor of the system of dictating representatives to the constituencies, a plan he thinks superior to the other mode, practised elsewhere than in France, of obtaining a majority by secret intimidation and secret bribery; and that he is the grand gag which has closed the mouth of the press, and restored writers to the dignity of silence. Mr. Carlyle cries out for each people—“We want to be governed!” Well, here we have France “governed” right imperially. Will the French people acknowledge that Carlyle has expressed the want? Will Carlyle endorse French “government?” M. de Persigny has set a useful example in bequeathing an autobiographic memoir ready done for the annual register: it would be interesting to see the memoir edited by the future historian of the Revolution.

PARLIAMENT OF THE WEEK.

A DEBATE on the Eastern question is the most prominent Parliamentary proceeding of the week. Lord LINDHURST, in calling the attention of the House and the Government to the memorandum recently transmitted by the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin to their envoys at the German Diet, delivered a truly great and historic speech on the position of the German powers, the unchanging policy of Russia, and the principles which should guide England in concluding a treaty of peace.

At the outset of his speech he described the memorandum as a document stating the course of policy pursued by the Four Powers with the view of obtaining the approval and sanction for that course of the German Diet. The document had not been laid before the House because it was a transaction between two foreign states; but it is a matter of general notoriety, it has given rise to much discussion, anxiety, and uneasiness, and on that account it is necessary to come to some distinct understanding respecting it. As he desired to be accurate, he read from the document itself, quoting the following passage:—

“Both Cabinets have agreed with those of Paris and London in the conviction that the conflict between Russia and Turkey could not be prolonged without affecting the general interests of Europe, and those also of their own States. They acknowledged in common that the maintenance of the integrity of the Ottoman empire and the independence of the Sultan’s Government are necessary conditions of the political balance, and that the war should, under no circumstances, have for result any change in existing territorial positions.”

According to the correct interpretation of the passage, under no circumstances can any changes take place in the existing territorial positions as between Turkey on one side and Russia on the other. Should any doubt exist, it will be effectually removed by reference to the protocol signed on behalf of the Four Powers, in December last. In that document the Four Powers explained their meaning in these terms:—

“In fact, the existence of Turkey in the limits assigned to her by treaty is one of the necessary conditions of the balance of power in Europe, and the undersigned plenipotentiaries record, with satisfaction, that the existing war cannot in any case lead to modifications in the territorial boundaries of the two empires, which would be calculated to alter the state of possession in the East established for a length of time, and which is equally necessary for the tranquillity of all the other powers.”

Therefore, according to the principle laid down in that agreement, whatever may be the result of the war, as far as regards the territorial positions of Turkey and Russia, the *status quo ante bellum* is to remain and be established. It may be said that the protocol was framed before England entered into war with Russia. That is so; but the Four Powers meeting at Vienna subsequently stated in most distinct terms that they confirmed the principles upon which the previous protocol was based. The Four Powers are therefore acting on a principle that

must leave Russia and Turkey precisely in the same position, whatever may be the result of the war.

“In their memorandum to the Diet the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin adopt the same language, and therefore it follows, from their own statements, that if Russia were to agree to withdraw from the Principalities and to enter into a guarantee as to the integrity of the Ottoman empire, neither Austria nor Prussia would take any part in the contest; and if it be true, as has been stated with respect to those powers, that they are acting in common and upon one common principle, why the two Western Powers—it is clear to demonstration, and I must come to this conclusion unless I hear something to the contrary from my noble friend the noble earl opposite—must be content to terminate the war upon the terms mentioned in the memorandum, namely, the admission by Russia of the integrity of the Ottoman empire and the independence of the Sultan, and its consent to guarantee that integrity and that independence.”

But on that subject Austria is acting inconsistently with her own principles. In the memorandum referred to it is declared that the free navigation of the Danube is of the greatest importance not to Austria and to Germany alone, but to the whole of the commercial world. Now, looking to the state of the river, the navigation of which Russia has purposely obstructed, it will be impossible to ensure that important object upon which Austria has so much enlarged—the free and uninterrupted navigation of the Danube—unless Russia be removed from the position she now holds. For, by that most unfortunate treaty—the treaty of Adrianople—Russia obtained the absolute and entire control of the mouth of the Danube, on condition that she kept open the navigation. Instead of doing that, she has thrown every obstruction in the way of the navigation, for the purpose of giving a great advantage to the rival port of Odessa. From this it is clear that Austria will not act consistently if she retires from the contest provided Russia admits and guarantees the integrity of the Turkish empire.

“If,” continued Lord Lindhurst, “any noble lord wishes to go into the details of this question of the navigation of the Danube, I beseech him most earnestly to read the papers which were laid before your lordships last year upon this subject. They will afford him a striking instance of the shuffling—may I apply the word pettifoggery to such illustrious personages?—the shuffling and mendacious policy of Russia, and a lively picture of the diplomatic skill and trickery of the Court of St. Petersburg? (Cheers.) My lords, after what I have said it is not absolutely necessary that a change should take place in the territorial position of Russia on the banks of the Danube? (Hear.) Can you rely upon any other means, except such an alteration as that which I have pointed out, to secure that most important and valuable object upon which so much reliance is placed by Germany—the free navigation of the Danube. (Hear, hear.) I say again, my lords, that that object, so important to the whole civilised world, is in contradiction or apparent contradiction to the principle which has been attempted to be established, namely, that we are to be satisfied, as far as the territorial positions of Russia and Turkey are concerned, with the *status quo ante bellum*, whatever the result of the war may be.”

Going farther east, we find the Russian fleet shut up in Sebastopol, and the Russian forts on the Circassian coast destroyed.

“Can it be supposed possible, after we have encouraged the Circassians by every means in our power to oppose themselves to the Russian force, that we are prepared to restore their country again to Russia, by placing that power in the same position which she occupied before the war? (Hear, hear.) How unjust would that be to the Circassians and to our allies in that part of the world! I think it would be wrong to conclude that such a course of proceeding could by any possibility, or under any circumstances, be adopted.”

Having dealt with these points, Lord Lindhurst showed, at great length, by reference to the past policy of Russia, that if she were placed in the same position in which she stood before the war she would renew her attempt upon Turkey at the first opportunity. From the time of Catherine down to the present day Turkey has been considered as the ultimate prey of Russia. And now she considers the victim within her grasp, nothing will prevent her from making every possible endeavour to seize it. Should we maintain Russia in her present territorial position, what will be her future position with respect to Turkey?

“After the termination of the war, which ended by that unfortunate and disastrous treaty of Adrianople, Count Nesselrode, by the direction of the Emperor of Russia, wrote to the Grand Duke Constantine at Warsaw, giving him an account of the provisions of that treaty and the relative situations of Russia and Turkey in consequence; and I wish to refer to the language of Count Nesselrode for the purpose of showing in what position Turkey will stand in future with respect to Russia if the *status quo ante bellum* be adopted. He says:—‘The Turkish monarchy is reduced to exist only under the protection of Russia, and must comply in future with her wishes. The possession of the Principalities is of the less importance to us, as without maintaining troops there, which would be attended with considerable expense, we shall dispose of them at our pleasure, as well during peace as in time of war. We shall hold the keys of a position from which it will be easy to keep the Turkish Government in check, and the Sultan will feel that any attempt to brave us again must end in his certain ruin.’ That is the position in which Turkey will stand, provided Russia is to be allowed to retain what she held previous to the war. . . . Prince Lieven was consulted previous to the commencement of the war that terminated in the treaty of Adrianople, as to what course should be pursued by the Emperor for the

purpose of carrying into effect the design which he then contemplated; and he expressed himself in these terms:— 'Our policy must be to maintain a reserved and prudent attitude until the moment arrives for Russia to vindicate her rights, and for the rapid action which she will be obliged to adopt. The war ought to take Europe by surprise. Our movements must be prompt, so that the other powers should find it impossible to be prepared for the blow that we are about to strike.' That is just the policy which Russia is likely to pursue if she is restored, whatever may be the events of the present war, to the position which she occupied at the conclusion of the treaty of Adrianople."

In pursuing this subject, Lord Lyndhurst narrated how, at the time of the great Greek insurrection the Emperor of Russia, dissatisfied with the conduct of the other powers of Europe, directed Count Nesselrode to write to "the different Russian ambassadors at the European Courts, inquiring what course they were likely to take if he entered the Principalities with a view to coerce Turkey. He wanted to know, in the first place, what course they were likely to adopt individually, and in the second place, what probability there was of any concert between them. The answers are interesting."

Perhaps "the most interesting is that of Count Pozzo di Borgo, who extends his observations to all the principal powers of Europe. He begins first with England; and in answer to the question of what England will do, Count Pozzo di Borgo says:— 'England has recovered from her financial and commercial crisis. She is in a condition to go to war. She perhaps may oppose you, and may be able to do you considerable mischief on the sea, but not a mischief that is altogether irretrievable. With regard to her military forces, she can do nothing. She cannot oppose the march of your armies, and therefore I submit that the Emperor has nothing to fear from England.' He next goes to France, and after lavishing some abuse upon the minister, he answers the question of what France is capable of doing in the following terms:— 'As to the marine of France, it would be of no importance whatever, because everything that could be done by naval forces would be effected by England. With regard to her military forces, her internal condition would prevent her sending them against us; and, besides, her armies will know when they come into contact with ours what they have to expect.' (A laugh.) My lords, we shall see what the result of that will be. Count Pozzo di Borgo having stated his opinion with respect to England and France, and having come to the conclusion that even if united together they cannot by any possibility prevent the accomplishment of the projects of Russia, then proceeds to Austria, and after expressing the utmost rage and indignation against Prince Metternich, who at that time was anxious to form an alliance between the Four Powers against Russian ambition, he goes on to say:— 'To every country war is a calamity; to Austria it is certain ruin.' The result, therefore, of his considerations and his advice was, that the Emperor might prosecute his design without any seeming embarrassment, because none of those powers, either collectively or individually, would be able to oppose him with success. Such is the policy, the caution, the perpetual activity of Russia, always bent upon increasing her power—sometimes by silent means, sometimes by falsehood and trickery, and sometimes by open violence, as in the case to which I have referred. But before I go further I must refer to Prussia. I quite forgot Prussia. I do not wish to read all the remarks of Count Pozzo di Borgo with regard to Prussia. They might weaken some very tender friendships at the present moment. It has been said, I know not with what truth, that a change has taken place in the policy of Prussia. I can assure your lordships, however, that the cohesion between Russia and Prussia is of long standing. Count Pozzo di Borgo says, with regard to Prussia:— 'Being less jealous, and consequently more impartial, has constantly shown by her opinions that she has a just idea of the nature and importance of the affairs of the East, and if the Court of Vienna had shared her views and her good intentions, there can be no doubt that the plans of the Imperial Cabinet would have been accomplished.' I may say this very moment, that if the Cabinet of Vienna had shared 'the views and the good intentions' of Prussia some short time back, the objects of Russia might have been accomplished."

These opinions afford us a satisfactory lesson on the precautions which we ought to exercise, and the apprehensions we ought always to entertain with respect to the proceedings of the Court of St. Petersburg in relation to Turkey. Lord LYNDHURST then wound up his speech thus:—

"Now, my lords, there is another point for consideration, and it is this. It may be said that we are not to be satisfied by the mere evacuation of the Principalities—that we must have an effectual guarantee, without which we cannot be safe in future; but that if the integrity of Turkey is secured, and an effectual guarantee obtained, we may then return to the *status quo ante bellum*, without any apprehension as to the consequences. Now, my lords, let me ask this question—what is an effectual guarantee? Would the guarantee of the Four Powers suffice? What would be the effect of such an arrangement? The guarantee of the Four Powers, as long as they were united, as long as they held together, as long as they did not quarrel upon other important matters, would, of course, be valid; but, in other circumstances, it would be of no use whatever. How can you have a guarantee from Russia? She will not scruple to break through any engagement or treaty which she may make. I look upon a guarantee or treaty with Russia as perfectly valueless—as not worth the paper on which it would be written. Look at her whole conduct, and if any person can be rash enough to put faith in the engagements of Russia, contrary to her own views and interests, he must be rash indeed. The first thing which I recall to my recollection is what took place between Sir Hamilton Seymour and Count Nesselrode. Our active, intelligent late minister at Russia had heard from different quarters of the collection and concentration of troops on the frontiers of Turkey. He was quite satisfied with the authority from whom he received the information, and he applied to Count Nesselrode, who, without scruple, contradicted the statement. 'You are totally mistaken,' he said; 'do not believe all you hear,

or even what you see; the movement of the army is nothing more than the change of position usual at this time of the year. I can assure you, you are misled.' Sir H. Seymour, in writing to my noble friend the then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that it was impossible for him to reconcile what he had heard and knew from all quarters with this assurance. Is this diplomacy? Is this a system or a government upon whose assurances you can place the slightest reliance? I remember some time ago hearing some remarks on the subject of the confidence which ought to be placed, in carrying on these negotiations, on the assurances of the high personages with whom they were negotiating. I recollect my noble friend, whose eloquence I always admire, was most eloquent in his declaration in favour of this confidence. He said—confidence between persons in high station was honourable, and that they ought to be greatly influenced by considerations of honour. So far as relates to confidence in private life, I admit it is of the highest importance that such confidence should exist. But when great interests are at stake, and the happiness of millions is depending upon the result, when you are employing powerful and mighty agents to protect your best interests, give me leave to say that caution—extreme caution—and jealousy are the duties of parties holding high and responsible positions. (Cheers.) The old Parliamentary word 'jealousy' is now considered improper, and a modern substitute is found for it in the word 'confidence.' But if in smaller matters 'jealousy' was considered essential, how much more necessary is its exercise when the interests of millions are at stake, and the liberties of mankind and the independence of nations hang upon the issue? (Cheers.) Confidence, my lords, too often generates credulity—a feeling not creditable to statesmen or ministers. (Cheers.) The history of Russia, from the first establishment of the empire down to the present, is a history of fraud, duplicity, and violence; and the past conduct corresponds in some sort with what we see now going on in that empire. Russia was zealous of establishing the Greek Church in Turkey, and Catherine declared herself the protectress of the Greek Church in Poland. By means of that church and that protectress she fomented religious dissensions in the kingdom, she stirred up political strife, and she marched her armies into the country under the pretences of allying these tumults; she stripped the kingdom of its fairest provinces, and we all know the result. In more recent times, the whole course of Russian policy has been the same. She agreed by treaty with Turkey to respect the independence of the Crimea. When there, her agents stirred up insurrection, and created disturbances, and when her purposes were matured she sent one of her most barbarous generals into the country, murdered the inhabitants, and annexed the Crimea to her own territory. At the same time a line of ships were placed across to prevent the Turks affording any assistance; and all this time, while this was going on, not only was she at peace with Turkey, but was actually negotiating a commercial treaty with that power. Mark well the infamy of the transaction. (Cheers.) It seems an hereditary vice among these barbarous Asiatics—it is characteristic of Asiatic barbarians. St. Petersburg is to all intents a Tobolsk, and if not altogether peopled by Asiatics, it is governed by Asiatics. Napoleon, in going to Egypt, took possession of a rock or two in the Mediterranean, and, alluding to this, Pitt said that nothing was too great for his towering ambition, nothing too small for the grasp of his avarice. So may we say of Russia. She has debauched the European territories within half a century; she goes to Khiva—for what purpose? Aggression and lust of territory. She sends two armies to gain a place, which is not of the slightest value, except as a position to enable her to extend her power and influence, and to annoy us in our territories in the East. She has now attained her object; but the expeditions for securing Khiva and the Sea of Aral were prepared and sent out in a time when she was at peace with us. I might go on for ever with these transactions. There is, however, one of more modern times to which I must refer. Russia always said that she was most anxious to preserve the independence of Turkey, and at the very time when she was making the loudest professions on the subject she was planning the destruction of the empire, and partitioning it, according to her own fancies, at will among other countries. This is the Emperor with whom we are now dealing, upon whose representations, and upon the face of whose statements, and statements of his representatives, we are now to rely. (Cheers.) Prince Menschikoff, during his mission to Constantinople, began with the assurance of Count Nesselrode that he had no authority whatever to do anything except to arrange the matters with respect to the holy sepulchre. After he had been in Turkey a short time, he opened up a secret negotiation, threatening the Turkish Government with the vengeance of Russia if it were disclosed, for the purpose of placing Nicholas in such a situation as to share the government of the Sultan. When Prince Menschikoff arrived, I recollect hearing that he had with him a great military and naval suite, and that shortly after he sent off a military man of high rank to Athens—for what purpose, has since become apparent; and the very moment that he was sent to Athens the troops were moved on to the frontier, and the war was begun. I could, in this manner, run the gauntlet through the whole of the recent transactions of Russia, but it is unnecessary now to do so. The instances which I have named ought surely to put us on our guard against placing the slightest reliance upon any engagement on the part of Russia. What grounds have we for placing reliance on the engagements of Russia? Personal grounds amount to nothing. But a new phrase has been introduced into diplomacy by the Russians, it is 'material guarantee.' (Cheers and laughter.) If Russia will give us what she calls a 'material guarantee'—that is a pledge or mortgage upon something so valuable that she would not like to risk the loss of it if she violated her faith—then that might be of some use. As for her moral guarantee, her faith, her honour, or her word, they are one and all valueless. 'What course,' I may be asked, 'would you propose to pursue?' To such a question I would reply, it is not for me to state my views on such a subject. This, however, I will venture to state—that in no case, except that of extreme necessity, ought we to

make peace without previously destroying the Russian fleet in the Black Sea and laying prostrate the fortifications with which it is defended. (Cheers.) For to leave that fleet so protected, and in that position, would be to leave in the hands of Russia the power of most effectually tyrannizing over and governing Turkey, which latter could not under such circumstances have—to use the phrase I have already referred to, of Count Nesselrode—a will of her own, and would be compelled to submit in all things to the will of Russia. I do not know what course Austria intends to pursue, but I think I may venture to state that she has far more at stake in the matter than either England or France. For if Russia gets possession and holds possession of the principalities, and exercises, as she would do, an enormous influence upon the southern territories, there will be an end to the independence of the empire. If this monstrous—I really do not know what to call it—leviathan, stretching out its many thousands of miles from west to east, and pressing upon her northern and eastern frontiers, shall coil around the southern territories of Austria, she must inevitably lose her independence, or be crushed in the fatal folds. What course Russia will take—whether she may think fit to retain possession of the provinces of Turkey in Europe, is not far from me to predict. Of this I am certain, however, that if she does, she will not stand still—she will not long be stationary there. That is certain. Ambition, like other passions, grows and requires constant feeding. Count Nesselrode said, in emphatic terms, 'Europe contemplates our colossus with awe. She knows our armies only await the signal to fall like a deluge upon the states and kingdoms of Europe.' I must say, of that semi-barbarous nation—an enemy to all progress and to all improvement, except that improvement in which alone tends to consolidate and strengthen its own power—which punishes the education of her people, and renders it unlawful, if that power were once to establish itself in every part of Europe, it would be the greatest calamity which could befall the world.' (Lord Clarendon.)

The Earl of CLARENDON, after some complaints of the irregularity of discussing a document not under the cognizance of their lordships, said the memorandum alluded to had exclusive reference to German interests, and that it did not weaken any engagement which might have been made by Austria and Prussia with England and France. On the contrary, it rather strengthened them. Speaking of Austria, he said the opinion he had expressed in that House three months ago, that she could not remain neutral in the great contest now impending, had been confirmed. It was true that there were some German Powers which looked with awe at the imaginary omnipotence of Russia, but Austria had not shared in that ignominious feeling. In the beginning of this month Austria had sent a summons to Russia to evacuate the Principalities; and with the concurrence of England and France, she had concluded a convention with the Porte, under which her troops would occupy the Principalities so long as might be necessary. At the same time she had engaged to send a force, if necessary, to suppress insurrection in Montenegro, and to assist in putting down that in Greece. By the close of this month, or the beginning of the next, she would have a fully equipped army of 300,000 men; and under such circumstances he felt confidence in her assurances, that her objects and views, as well as her interests, were the same as those of England and France.

"Under these circumstances I think that we may have some confidence in the assurance Austria has given us, that her objects and views are the same as ours, and that in the prosecution of those objects and views we shall always find her with us. Nor can I believe that, after the knowledge which Austria has acquired of Russian diplomacy—after the experience she has had of the utter disregard of Austrian interests—after the vast expense she has now incurred, and the great risks to which she may be exposed—I cannot believe, as the noble lord would almost seem to infer, that Austria would be so wanting to her interests and dignity as to conclude a peace such as that to which he has referred. Such a peace would be nothing but a short and hollow truce, to which England and France could be no parties. (Cheers.)—A peace which would afford no guarantee for the future, which would be indeed a triumph to Russia, and would leave Austria hereafter more than ever exposed to the pernicious influence and aggressive policy of Russia. (Cheers.) There was another point, in reference to the terms in which the peace should be made. I cannot say, nor do I think any of your lordships would undertake to say, on what terms peace can be made, because those terms must depend on the chances and contingencies of the war; and indeed, I find know on what terms we should be prepared to make peace, I am sure your lordships would agree with me that it would be imprudent at this moment to divulge them. We may have our own opinions as to what may be desirable in that respect, but none of us can tell what may be possible. This we know, however, that the policy and the power of Russia are dangerous to the peace and well-being of Europe, and that they are dangerous to the cause of progress and of civilisation. (Cheers.) We must all of us know that the object and interests of Europe must be to curtail that power and to check that policy; and if this opportunity be neglected of doing that, it would be vain to hope that such a one would ever occur again. (Cheers.) My lords, all Europe is not to be disturbed—great interests are not to be disclosed—great commercial and social risks are not to be run, and the greatest powers of Europe are not to be united in arms for an insignificant result. (Renewed cheers.) We must all be agreed that repression will only postpone the danger, and that safety can alone be sought in curtailing a power which menaces the peace of Europe and the cause of progress and civilisation." (Cheers.)

The Earl of DERBY said the concluding part of Lord Clarendon's speech justified the alleged irregularity of Lord Lyndhurst in introducing the subject;

but he contended that the noble earl had passed too lightly over the pinching part of the case. The question was, not the sincerity of Austria in what she professed, but what was the meaning of her profession in the event of Russia complying with the demand for the evacuation of the Principalities.

"He rejoiced to hear that declaration repeated by the noble earl, because sure he was that the people of this country—greatly as they might be concerned at entering upon the war—much as they felt the pressure upon their industry and all the inconveniences, dangers, and horrors which war must necessarily produce—whatever disinclination there might be to enter into a war—the people of this country would feel an infinitely greater disinclination to sign a dishonourable peace—(Cheers.)—and a dishonourable peace they would declare that to be which would not effectually bridle the growing ambition of Russia, restrain her within proper limits, recover from her a portion of those conquests which she wrested from her neighbours, and take from her material guarantees by which renewals of this disturbance of the peace of Europe might be effectually and permanently prevented." (Cheers.) He agreed with his noble friend that it was difficult at this moment to say precisely what should be the terms on which peace should be made; but he was satisfied that the people of this country—having expended a very large sum of money—having made incredible exertions, and being prepared to make still greater exertions for carrying on the war—would not be satisfied unless they knew from henceforth that security was to be taken, not for the independence of Turkey alone, but also of the neighbouring states against Russian aggression; and that, above all, as his noble and learned friend had said, it was not an object to us only of policy, but a matter of bounden duty not to desert those gallant mountaineers whom we had encouraged, and with respect to whom, if we eventually made such terms as to leave them to the vengeance of Russia, we should betray our duty, and be guilty of the most disgraceful ingratitude. He (the Earl of Derby) would say that, for the future, it was impossible that the Black Sea could be closed against the ships of any nation in the world, or that the Danube should remain a mere receptacle for Russian filth. They must also have material guarantees for the peace of Europe; and therefore it was that he rejoiced at the language held by the noble earl opposite (the Earl of Clarendon), which, more especially if it was also the language of all his colleagues in the Government, and if it should be followed up by measures and acts as firm and decisive, he was sure would give satisfaction to the whole country." (Cheers.)

The Earl of ARDERN made a speech that took the House by surprise. He thought that Lord Lyndhurst's speech would have been more appropriate three months ago, to stimulate the indignation and martial feeling of this country against Russia, but that it was not necessary to indulge in that eloquent and protracted philippic now that we are engaged in war.

"My noble and learned friend reminds me of old times, when I recollect, five-and-twenty years ago, having had the pleasure of making known to him the French ambassador of that day—a man of lively imagination and much wit—his observation to me afterwards was, speaking of my noble and learned friend then on the woolsack—'Chancellor, did you call him? Surely he is a colonel of dragoons.'" (Great laughter.)

Turning to the question under debate, Lord ARDERN described the war as, at its commencement, so strictly of a defensive character that he could fully understand the cause of that apparent ambiguity of expression which had been referred to. The exclusive objects of the war were declared to be the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire, and therefore it never occurred to provide against the Turkish conquests on the Russian territory.

"No doubt there might appear ambiguity in confining the objects of the war to those points to which I have adverted, and in not taking into view the possibility of any encroachment on the Russian territory; but that does not follow the least in the world from any engagements to which we are a party."

Austria is an independent power; "but should she refuse to go further than these engagements, to which all four have been a party, what power have we to compel her to do so? Austria is acting now with a view to consult her own interests and the general interests of Europe. Austria is now listening to the advice of that veteran and able statesman, whom my noble and learned friend has eulogised, and I cannot doubt will be guided by him, both in regard to her own interests and to the interests of Europe."

With regard to the conclusion of peace, Lord ARDERN expressed himself as follows:—

"The conditions, I say, are those which can only be described by a just and honourable peace. Now that must depend in a great measure upon the progress of the war. If it should so happen that you find the Russians at Constantinople, it is perfectly clear that the conditions of the peace may be very different if the allies should find themselves at St. Petersburg. Therefore the whole course of the negotiations must depend upon the varying progress of events. But I will say, at all times, although bent upon obtaining the great objects which we have in view—the securing the integrity and the independence of the Porte, and, as far as is reasonable, what is called the security of Europe hereafter—I cannot say I feel so very apprehensive of the chance of Russian aggression, for let me remind my noble friend, as to that disastrous treaty of Adrianople to which he refers, that when Russian troops were within fifty miles of Constantinople, a treaty, most onerous, I admit, was concluded, and most disastrous. Still there was no acquisition of Turkish territory made by the Russians. There

were three small posts in Asia taken, but not an inch of the Principalities. (Lord Lyndhurst: *The Danube*.) The Danube? I have already said that I believe nobody has described the treaty of Adrianople as more disastrous than I have done myself; but I say, considering the position of the Russian army at that time, almost at the gates of Constantinople, that is a treaty which did not show any great exercise of territorial aggrandisement. That treaty was made twenty-five years ago; and since that period, has Russia got a single inch of Turkish territory? The only interference of Russia has been to protect Constantinople against the Egyptians. That was no act of aggression; it was only a signal service which was rendered; and I think if we can secure tranquillity for twenty-five years to come we shall not do amiss. I think that ought to be the object which we should keep in view. I quite agree with those who, notwithstanding they may be led away by the excitement of the moment and the commencement of hostilities, think that we ought never to close our ears against the voice of reason; and for one, so long or so soon as I see a prospect of a just and honourable peace in view, most decidedly shall I advocate the endeavour to obtain it. This may not suit the spirits who are more bent upon hostile measures; but this does not imply that I am indifferent. On the contrary, I venture to say that those who most desire peace may be most prepared to carry on war with the utmost vigour. (Cheers.) But why? Not to wreak vengeance on an enemy for whom, personally, we can feel no hatred, but to secure with more certainty and more celerity such a peace as we ought to desire. That is the reason and the motive that induce me to carry on the war with the utmost possible vigour; and I do trust, so carrying on the war, and having these feelings, which ought to inspire all Christian nations, we may look for the attainment of that great object in a shorter time than many noble lords appear to think probable." (Cheers.)

After some brief observations on the part of Lord BEAUMONT, the subject was dropped.

MR. STRUTT.

Mr. STRUTT entered, on Monday, into an explanation of the circumstances under which he had resigned the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; observing that erroneous and injurious reports upon the subject had been circulated. He had been originally asked to take office by Lord John Russell, on the part of Lord Aberdeen. The offer had been unexpected by him. He had known nothing of the duties of the office, but supposing that, though comparatively unimportant, they could be combined with others, he had accepted the offer, stating that he placed his whole time at the disposal of the Government. He found that the duties of the office were not more laborious than he had expected, and also that he had no Parliamentary duties connected with the Government. Such a state of things was not satisfactory to one who wished to give his whole time and services to the country, but, having accepted the office, he had not intended to resign it. But upon his return to town after the Whitsun holidays, he received a letter from Lord John Russell, on the part of Lord Aberdeen, the result of which, and of an interview with the former, was his learning that the Government were in a difficulty as to arrangements which they thought important, and that the disposal of his office would relieve them. He found, on inquiry, that all other necessary arrangements had been made, that the acquiescence of other parties had been obtained, and that nothing was wanted but his concurrence. There was no other course for him but to give this instantly. He denied that there had been any previous engagement as to his resignation, that he had been previously consulted as to the proposed arrangements, had had any opportunity of forming an independent judgment, or that any condition for his own benefit had been attached to his resignation. He had known no more of those arrangements than any other member of the House, and could in no respect be considered a party to them. He added that he had studiously abstained, in making these remarks, from a single observation as to the conduct of any other person; and that he had made this statement with some pain and much embarrassment.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The University Reform Bill has now passed through committee. On the last sitting Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated that the additional commissioners were to be, the Earl of Harrowby and Mr. George Cornwall Lewis. The secretaries would be, the assistant-secretary employed in the late commission, Mr. Goldwin Smith, and the Reverend Mr. Wayte.

Mr. PHINN moved the addition of a clause designed to prevent credit from being given to students, and by which he proposed to prohibit actions against students for any debts contracted when they were under age. Mr. HENLEY opposed the clause, believing that the true remedy for university extravagance would be the imparting sounder views to the young men themselves. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER also opposed it, admitting that the evil complained of was serious, but not considering that a sufficient case could be made out for exceptional legislation. After further discussion, Mr. PHINN postponed his motion.

Mr. BLACKETT moved a clause prohibiting the administering any oath on admission to any office or emolument in the university or the colleges. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the clause,

and argued that the authorities of the university should have the decision of the question. On division the motion was rejected by 109 to 71.

Mr. JOHN PHILLIMORE moved a clause to the effect that, after the 1st December next, no person should, on account of his rank, be permitted to pass his examination or take a degree sooner than any other undergraduate. On division this motion was rejected by 67 to 66.

Mr. BOWYER moved a clause, the object of which was to restore the study of civil law and jurisprudence in the university by making it imperative upon the candidate for the degree of doctor of civil law to undergo a legal examination. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER urged that the committee was not engaged in framing a system of studies for the university. This amendment was withdrawn, and the bill passed through committee.

On Thursday the bill was read, as amended, and a debate ensued which led to the defeat of the Government. Mr. HEYWOOD proposed to add two clauses, one releasing all persons entering the University from taking the matriculation oath, involving the signature of the Thirty-nine Articles; the other releasing from similar oaths those who take degrees in arts, law, or medicine. This practically amounts to the admission of Dissenters; and Mr. Heywood based his motion on the justice of abolishing these tests of religion. Mr. COLLIER seconded the motion. On the part of the Government, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT explained the course they would take. Admitting that the exclusion of the Dissenters is a grievance, he argued that it should be left to the Universities under the new constitution to effect the proposed change. The exclusion of Dissenters is neither good for the Church of England, nor politic, nor justifiable. But if they were forced upon the University, it would cool many practical reformers, whose support they had had hitherto. Not only that, but the introduction of these clauses would imperil the measure in another place. Even if the House agreed to the first clause, and permitted students to enter without taking the matriculation oath, still the end would not be gained; for the University would be able to impose more severe and distasteful restrictions; students would have to attend chapel, and might be made to undergo theological examinations which would exclude them from the University. The clauses would not advance the object in view. Mr. MILNER GIBSON advised the House to vote for the motion without regard to what would be done in the House of Lords. He hoped Lord John Russell, by speech and vote, would make some reparation for his speech and vote on Sir William Clay's bill. These tests were imposed for political purposes; they formed no part of the original constitution of the University; it is a mockery to ask the consent of boys to theological propositions, which even bishops do not understand, and about which they differ. He appealed to the Government to make it an open question, and permit subordinates to vote without incurring the displeasure of their chiefs. Sir WILLIAM HEATCOTE directed his efforts to show that the effect of the amendment would be, not merely to admit Dissenters tacitly, and subject to the arrangements made at the will of the University, but to force the University to accept them avowedly as Dissenters, and provide for their religious instruction in that character. But it would be impossible to make such provision for all the various sects, as had been shown in the case of the London University. The proposed experiment seemed to him most dangerous. Sir JOHN RAMSDEN supported the motion; Mr. HENLEY opposed it as tending to degrade the University into a mere place for secular education.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he should consider that, as the representative of Oxford, he was betraying a solemn trust if he assented to the principle which the promoters of these clauses seemed to entertain, that the interests and position of the Church of England had no place in this discussion. It was all very well to say the Universities were national institutions, and that therefore you must on that account admit all persons to enjoy them irrespective of religious persuasion; but every parochial benefice in the country was a part of the great national institution, and yet it was obviously no immediate consequence, from this proposition, that you were to place the enjoyment of those benefices at the command of all persons, irrespective of religious persuasion. On the part of the Church he entertained no apprehension from the admission of Dissenters; but it was impossible in honesty to separate their case from that of the Roman Catholics. He concurred with Mr. Sidney Herbert in thinking that if due provision could be made for the teaching of religion according to the Church of England, it would be a great advantage if the admission of Dissenters could also be provided for. But he could not consent to make such a measure a part of the bill, with the scheme of which it was wholly discrepant. He believed it was not politic to coerce the University upon this head; nor would the clause secure the admission of Dissenters, which could in reality only depend upon the free will of the University, for persons can be effectually ex-

cluded whenever it is desired, without reference to the matriculation test at all. It would, moreover, be most unworthy of the House to pass a clause by which the Dissenter might creep in, but which would exclude the Roman Catholic. He also protested against any menace being held out to the University as to future Parliamentary interference, the more so as it would be quite nugatory.

Lord STANLEY remarked that the course taken by the Government on this question was just that in which, they had dealt with every question of principle, especially religious principle. It afforded another and a most superfluous instance of that policy of indefinite delay, which seemed their only definite policy. They had said that the bill would be thrown out by the House of Lords if this measure were incorporated in it; but for his part he was by no means so certain that the bill would not pass both Houses of Parliament. He by no means contended that it was wise and expedient for Parliament to take upon itself the details of academical offices; but the present question was not one of detail; it was one of those questions of national interest and importance which could not in fairness and common sense be avoided whilst the principle was admitted that Parliament possessed any power at all over the University. Though technically it would be possible for the University to raise such obstacles as would render the resolution inoperative, yet he thought it would not consider it wise or safe to disregard the indication of national opinion given by a resolution of that House. He entertained no unfriendly spirit towards Oxford; but in his opinion the admission of Nonconformists was just one of those questions with which there would be the greatest difficulty in dealing, if it were left barely to the will and discretion of the University, which was the head-quarters of that ecclesiastical party which had invariably looked with the greatest disfavour upon the Protestant Dissenting interests. With respect to tests, if any time for them was more objectionable than another, it was when they were imposed on persons whose opinions were necessarily unformed. He was glad this subject had been brought before the House, and hoped the question would be settled now, and not indefinitely deferred.

The motion was opposed by Mr. WIGRAM and supported by Mr. LUCAS, who, renouncing any claim on the part of Roman Catholics, insisted upon the right of Protestant Dissenters to participate in national funds appropriated to national education.

Mr. W. J. FOX noticed a remarkable omission in the debate; no speaker, he observed, had assigned a reason why, morally or intellectually, it was necessary to require from young men, as an educational matter, subscription to a body of divinity containing some 400 distinct propositions relating to the most abstruse subjects, about which pious men were ranged on different sides. He demanded, he said, the admission not only of Dissenters into the University, but of the spirit of nationality, and that great and distinctive principle of Protestantism, the right of private judgment in matters of religion.

Mr. ROUNDDEL PALMER denied that this was a question of any right withheld from, or civil disability imposed upon, Dissenters. The Universities were great public schools of religious education in connexion with the Church of England for the time being. If they were opened to the Dissenters they would be made unfit for all, or at least unfit for the Established Church. He looked upon this motion as the first step to a revolution, which he called upon all who adhered to the principles of the Established Church to resist.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, two distinct questions were involved in the debate,—first, the admission of Dissenters to the University of Oxford; secondly, whether, there being a bill before the House for the better government of that University, it was desirable and expedient that such admission should be enacted by the bill. With respect to the first, he did not think that any argument of conclusive weight had been urged against the admission of Dissenters, and he entered at some length into the reasons which had convinced him of the justice and expediency of the concession, explaining the extent to which he thought it should be carried. Upon the second question, the bill, he observed, tended greatly to the improvement of the University, opening a door to further reforms, and he considered it better to retain it in its present shape. The consequence of inserting this clause, it was admitted, must involve other clauses containing the machinery indispensable to the carrying out its object, which would delay the measure, and it was very probable it would be lost in the other House of Parliament. The University would have the power under the bill to make this change, and would be likely to do it with the more willingness if not under compulsion. If it was not made, the grievance should not be suffered to continue, and it would be then right, he considered, to bring in a bill for the admission of Dissenters to the University.

Upon a division on Mr. Heywood's first clause the motion was carried by 252 to 161—a majority of 91 against the Government.

Mr. HEYWOOD then moved the other clause for abolishing tests on taking degrees, upon which Lord J. RUSSELL said he should not take a division, as the House had declared its opinion so unequivocally upon the former clause. But being appealed to by Mr. WALPOLE to persevere in opposition to the clause, Lord J. RUSSELL said, if there was a division, he should certainly vote against it.

Another division then took place with a different result, this clause being negatived by 205 to 196.

Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. HEYWOOD announced their intention to take the opinion of the House again upon this second clause at the third reading of the bill.

FATE OF THE CHURCH-RATE BILL.

Sir William Clay's bill stood for the second reading on Wednesday, when there was a set debate and a division. The bill was rejected; but the discussion served to advance the question nearer to a solution, and elicited from Lord John Russell, incidentally, a promise to introduce a bill next session.

The debate commenced, as usual, with the lighter and less effective speakers. There appeared to support the second reading Mr. PELATT, Mr. MURROUGH, Mr. EDWARD BALL, and Mr. VERNON SMITH; the opposition being headed by Mr. GOULBURN, who moved the second reading of the bill that day six months, and sustained by Mr. LIDDELL and Mr. R. PHILLIMORE alone.

Mr. GLADSTONE opposed the bill. The practical question was whether the House would allow a great wrong to continue without a remedy. Admitting the evil, the abolition of church-rates is not the only alternative. The argument in favour of a change is irresistible, and Government will endeavour to make an equitable arrangement, but it does not follow that church-rates should be abolished. In his opinion, the law with respect to church-rates ought to be altered, because it tended to weaken all law in the country. A state of things ought not to be allowed to continue in which there was a law without the adequate means of enforcing the legal obligation. The law ought, then, to be altered in such a manner as would bring the means of enforcement up to the standard of the legal obligation, or else the character of the obligation ought to be altered. He maintained that the law is not only a grievance to the Dissenters, but to the members of the Established Church.

"He did not think the law of church-rates ought to be abolished, and for this reason—that in the great bulk of country parishes the law of church-rates, in its substance, still worked well and peaceably, and in accordance with the object of its original institution. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he alluded to rural parishes, and not to any of the great populous parishes of the metropolis or the large towns. There was not, unfortunately, any means of knowing in what number of parishes church-rates had been either refused or condemned. There were, however, it was well known, 11,000 parishes in the country, and the number in which church-rates had been refused or contested did not exceed a few hundreds. If he allowed the number to be 500, he thought the estimate was a liberal one. If this were true, it would not be an adequate reason for abolishing the law with respect to the remaining 10,500 parishes. In the rural parishes church-rates were looked upon as a permanent burden upon the fixed property of the country—a charge upon land like tithes, or the rate for the relief of the poor, but this was not the case in populous parishes. He was, therefore, of opinion that church-rates should not be abolished in the rural parishes, for there the churches were not wholly inadequate to accommodate the people applying for admission. The persons who dissented from the Established Church did so from conscientious feelings, and not from any desire to escape the payment of church-rates. He held that in populous towns the bulk of the population who belonged to the Church had cause of complaint, because the floors of the churches, which were their property, were monopolised, or, he might go to the length of saying, were robbed from them by the disgraceful system of exclusive pews. (*Loud cries of 'Hear, hear.'*) He thought, without committing himself to anything definite for the future, that much was to be said in favour of a plan which would divide the class of parishes, so as to make a distinction between those in which the system worked well, and those in which it worked badly. (*General cries of 'No,' and murmurs of dissatisfaction.*) He did not pretend to say whether such a distinction could be brought into operation, but he would venture to make a suggestion as to how it might be effected. He would not proceed by making an absolute distinction with regard to the limit of population, but he would rather deal with the state of facts as they existed, in order to ascertain what proportion of parishes were for or against church-rates. His hope was, that a plan would work by which the rural parishes would be left very much as they were at present—(*laughter*)—and by which, in other cases where the rate was refused, the parishes should have a legal title to that which they now enjoyed *de facto*, but with a very questionable legality."

Mr. BRIGHT did not know for which side of the House Mr. Gladstone's speech was intended. Upon the whole, however, he thought the speech was in favour of the abolition of church-rates. He was inclined to think there was a difference in the Cabinet upon this question not less remarkable than that which was supposed to exist on all other subjects. (*Laughter.*) But he would rather take the speech delivered by Lord John Russell, when the bill was

introduced, as an indication of the intentions of Government, because Lord John might soon be the leader in both Houses. Lord John said that it was hopeless to attempt to satisfy Dissenters, because every concession brought forth new demands. That was the argument of Sir Robert Inglis and Mr. Croker. Another argument was that if the Church abandoned its rights, Parliament must provide compensation. That, surely, must have been said without much consideration; for if the Church were a national Church, and the tax one imposed by law, surely, if Parliament chose to abolish the tax, it was not necessary to provide compensation? The State could not demand compensation from itself—from the people it was about to relieve. It was said they were to have a measure next session. What was that measure? He supposed it would depend upon the condition of the Sublime Porte at that time. (*A laugh.*) They had already six bills thrown over on account of the war, which, including the Reform Bill, would be re-introduced next session, and to them this new measure was to be added. The Chancellor of the Exchequer advised Sir William Clay to withdraw this bill; but surely because the Government could not pass any of its half-dozen bills, that was no reason why a private member should not proceed with his own measure.

"He would warn honourable gentlemen opposite that established churches came not from the beginning and would not last to the end. Without arguing whether, under some circumstances, they might not be useful, he was certain they were not necessary for a State. In the United States no difficulties of the kind presented themselves. Those who went to the United States from this country were enabled to do under the voluntary system all that they could do here by the voluntary and established systems combined. In that country there were, in proportion to the population, as many churches, as elegant and as costly, as amongst us. They had as many ministers, as well educated and as influential, as we had. They had a more extended system of education—he meant, of course, the free States—and they possessed as many, if not more, asylums, hospitals, penitentiaries, and other refuges, for the unhappy, the suffering, or the guilty. Canada was adopting the same course; and last year we had given that colony a power—which no doubt it would soon use—to place all churches on the same footing. There was at present a difference of opinion in the Australian colonies; but no one acquainted with these colonies could doubt that the time was not far distant when the same principle would be carried out. He mentioned those things to show what feeling was abroad, and that the Established Church, in order to be useful and enduring, must abolish all abuses, and make itself as acceptable as it could to the people, offering as little insult to others as it could to those who differed from it. The Dissenters did not come to the House as supplicants upon this question. They had been a growing body since the Reformation. All the Charleses, the Jameses, and the Georges, had not been able to resist the deepening, the widening, the fertilising, and purifying stream of non-conformity which had enriched and blessed this country. If in the reign of Charles II. 15,000 families consented to accept their ruin, and hundreds perished in prison because they adhered to their religious convictions, how could it be possible now by any law, except by the law of kindness, to bring back to the Church, or to prevent dissent from constantly swelling, while the members of the Church in proportion were constantly decreasing."

Dwelling on the great evils of the present state of things, and forcibly commenting on the advantages of the voluntary system, Mr. Bright declared he would support the bill.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that this proposal for unqualified abolition of church-rates was intended to forward the views of those who were opposed to all establishments, and as he deprecated the destruction of the Established Church, he could not be expected to support the measure. He referred to the admirable character of Dissenters in past days, and said that, considering the services they had rendered to the cause of education and religion, he should be glad to make any reasonable concession, and the whole dispute in the present day arose, not upon the social evils arising from these rates, but in reference to the remedy to which recourse should be had. It would be inconsistent with the principle of a Church establishment, and would be also a hardship upon Churchmen, were no funds provided for the maintenance of fabrics which had not been erected, like Dissenting chapels, merely for those who required them, but for all. He discussed various plans which had been suggested as substitutes for these rates, explained and vindicated Mr. Gladstone's suggestion, and declared his belief that the churches of the country ought to be considered, not as belonging to a sect, but to the nation, and ought to be supported by the land. America had been referred to, and he admitted that her institutions had worked admirably; but ours, he added, were of a different character. We had a national Church, an hereditary aristocracy, and an hereditary monarchy, and these must all stand or fall together. As this bill was subversive of one of these great institutions, he should oppose it.

Sir W. CLAY briefly replied, and the House divided.

The numbers were,—for the second reading, 182; for Mr. Goulburn's amendment, 209; majority against the bill, 27.

The bill is therefore lost.

GAIL CHAMBERS.

In committee on the Civil Estimates the subject of chaplains provided and paid by the State was raised. On the vote for the sum of £64,165l. for the maintenance of prisoners in county gaols and lunatic asylums, Mr. SCHOLEFIELD moved the reduction of the vote by 100l. that being the salary for chaplains on the ground that the same rule laid down by the committee ought to be extended to all creeds. Colonel GAZDAR complained of the insults that were offered in that House to the Roman Catholic creed, and urged the committee to take a wider view of the question. Mr. CHAMBERS contended that the State could make for prisoners only the same religious provision that it made for those who had not forfeited their liberty. Sir GEORGE GEAR said that the sum in question was given between the Roman Catholic and the Protestant chaplains, and that if this vote were refused the unhappy individuals in the asylums would be deprived of all religious consolation. Mr. GEAR justified his own course, especially with reference to the vote of last week. Lord PANDELFORD said that the vote proposed the other night was not a new one, and that no decision of the House had ever occasioned more painful feelings in his mind than that which was then given. He could not have believed that, in the present age of enlightenment and liberality, such a vote could have been arrived at. It reminded him of the days of the decay of the Eastern Empire, when Constantinople being besieged by the Turks, the foolish Greeks, instead of uniting against the common enemy, were fighting among themselves upon the most trivial matters. Here we had vice, profligacy, and infidelity against us, and instead of grappling with these enemies, we were squabbling about petty differences, and refusing to miserable wretches the instruction which might convert them into useful members of society. But the proposed amendment exceeded that of the other night in peculiarity. He dwelt emphatically upon the cruelty of making the unhappy people in gaols the victims of our religious dissensions. Mr. LEWIS complained that both Church of England and Dissenting teachers were paid, while Roman Catholics were not, and he characterised the decision of the other night as a shabby one. Justice was not done in our prisons to the Roman Catholic prisoners. The present system was one of torture.

Mr. SPOONER admitted that the present proposal was the logical sequence of the vote of the other night. After a tribute to the voluntary principle, to which he said the Church was indebted for much of her present strength and energy, he urged that this was a question between Christianity and Heathendom. In further reference to the preceding vote, he demanded why Mr. Spooner and those who supported him had not pushed the question further? Why they had not refused the grant for Roman Catholic instruction for the army, for which there was not so good a case as for those whose interests were now in question? The reason was, that they dared not. He hoped that this amendment would be rejected, because the having done injustice to one portion of the population, was no reason for doing injustice to another, and for refusing the religious instruction necessary for the salvation of all, but especially of those whom we had shut up, as was alleged, for reformation.

The committee divided, and the numbers were:—For the original vote, 246; for Mr. Scholefield's amendment, 23; majority for the vote, 223.

THE BARON DE BODE.

The well-known case of the Baron de Bode was brought before the House, on Tuesday, by Mr. MONTAGUE CHAMBERS, who called attention to certain treaties and conventions between the Governments of France and England in the years 1814, 1815, and 1818, for making compensation to British subjects whose property was confiscated by the French Revolutionary tribunals, and moved—"That the national good faith requires that the just claims of Baron de Bode, established after protracted investigation, should be satisfied." Mr. Chambers gave a narrative of the well-known circumstances, historical and legal, and maintained that the treatment the Baron had received was regarded by foreign nations as an act of glaring repudiation on the part of England. Upon a point involving the honour of their country, Mr. Chambers hoped he would not appeal to the Commons of England in vain.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in seconding the motion, would not argue the question on legal grounds. Every legal point had been fully established. The Baron had had to contend with every obstruction and every quibble which legal ingenuity could devise. Mr. Drummond would appeal from lawyers and law, from Chancellors of the Exchequer and from Attorney-Generals, to honest men, to English gentlemen, and to common honesty.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL declared emphatically that if he believed the claims of the Baron de Bode were just and well-founded he would not stand up and disgrace himself by adopting the unworthy course assumed so recklessly by Mr. Drummond. He had

every disposition to sympathise with the case of the Baron, but he was fully satisfied that the case did not come within the treaty. The question was not whether the Baron de Bode was a British subject, the question was whether he was so within the meaning of the treaty. The Attorney-General believed he was not a British subject in that sense; and proceeded to maintain his views by reference to the terms of the treaty, and to the special claims of the Baron. The property was not confiscated because the Baron was a British subject, but because he was a French subject and had emigrated.

Mr. BOWEN supported the resolution, but Sir FREDERICK THESIGER, following the Attorney-General, declared his belief that the Baron de Bode had no claim whatever. The property was not confiscated as English property; and the Baron was not a British subject in the meaning of the treaties.

Mr. THOMAS CHAMBERS supported the resolution, and he was followed by Mr. WALPOLE, who contended that the Attorney-General was wrong in resting his case upon the treaty of 1786. The Baron's claim rested upon the convention of 1814, every condition of which he had fulfilled—namely, that he was a British subject; next, that he held property in France; and further, that that property had been unduly confiscated. The honour of the country, of Parliament, and of the Crown, demanded that justice should be done. As regarded the funds, it ought never to be forgotten that the money was available till it was thought proper to apply it to another purpose.

Mr. GLADSTONE deemed it altogether irregular to ask the House of Commons to settle peremptorily a most intricate and complex question. The matter of money was no consideration whatever. Had the sum at issue, instead of being 400,000l., been only 5s., the same resistance would have been offered to the claim. In opposition to the views of Mr. Walpole, the Chancellor of the Exchequer maintained that the convention of 1814 was incorporated in the convention of 1815. The Baron de Bode and his son, the present claimant, were guilty of an offence against the French laws—they had emigrated. That was an offence, and, in consequence of it, their property was forfeited. The question was one of law, and the law had spoken out clearly and decidedly. The appeal now made was founded upon equity and consideration, on the ground that the forfeiture was undue; but of that there was no proof. He would admit that the Baron was an English subject, but he was also a French subject, and amenable to French law.

Mr. MURZ would just ask this—What has become of the money? He had gone over the case of the Baron de Bode with the Baron himself, and his conviction was that his claim was a good one, and that the honour of the country was involved in making it good. Mr. WILSON begged to say that the money received from France had been exhausted in accomplishing the purposes for which it was received. If the House sanctioned the claim, the money must be raised by taxation.

Mr. SPOONER confessed that his opinion had been changed by the discussion, and that he was no longer of opinion that the claim of the Baron de Bode came within the treaties. Mr. DUNLOP made the same avowal; but Mr. MALINS could not arrive at the conclusion that there was no foundation for the claim.

On a division, the numbers were—for the resolution, 67; against it, 82; majority against, 15.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES (WEST INDIES) BILL.—On moving the second reading of this bill on Thursday, the Duke of NEWCASTLE stated that it was intended to relieve the embarrassed state of property in the West Indies, upon principles which had proved so successful in Ireland under a similar act. Its main objects were to wind up estates as under a bankruptcy, to effect judicial sales, and to distribute the proceeds among the parties entitled in the cheapest form, and to confer an absolute title upon purchasers. A commission would be appointed to carry the bill into execution, consisting of one chief commissioner, who would, under all circumstances, be resident in England, and two assistant commissioners, who would either act with the chief commissioner in England, where they would form a court, or under him in the colonies, either solely or in conjunction with local commissioners, to be appointed in cases where such assistance was necessary. An order in Council would be necessary before the bill could be put into operation in any colony; but such order in Council could not be passed unless upon an address from the local legislature, and provision made for the expenses of locally carrying it into effect. In all cases, an appeal would lie from the decision of the commissioners to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

After some discussion the bill was read a second time.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Marquis of CLANRICARDE complained of a breach of privilege committed, as he alleged, by some subordinate functionaries of the commissariat, who had introduced, among certain papers relating to the War Department, moved for by Earl Grey, on April 8, a document of later date, in the shape of a letter from Sir C. Trevelyan, containing various strictures upon the speech delivered by Earl Grey when moving for the return. The complaint led to a somewhat prolonged discussion, in the course of which the Duke of NEWCASTLE assumed all the responsibility for the return in question, but consented to withdraw it and substitute an amended edition.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE siege of Silistria is suspended, if not raised. Disaster and disgrace have continually attended the operations of the besiegers. On the 5th, 9th, and 18th of this month they made fresh attempts to storm. On the last occasion three mines were sprung before the fortress without doing any damage to the walls. The Russian storming columns were prepared to mount the expected breach, but were attacked on three sides by the Turks. A fearful slaughter took place, and the Russians fled in terrible disorder.

On the 15th, the garrison of Silistria made a sortie, attacked the Russians on all points, and drove them across the Danube. Pursuing their advantage, the Turks crossed an arm of the river, seized the opposite island, where the enemy had constructed siege works, and from which Silistria had been bombarded. The Russians fled to the Wallachian bank of the Danube, and were compelled to witness the destruction of their batteries. The Turks then brought fort their guns and erected batteries on the Bulgarian bank of the river, before the north face of the fortress. The Russian battalions east and west of Silistria immediately began to recross the river, destroying their bridges as they withdrew.

The garrison on this occasion was assisted by the corps sent from Shumla to its relief by Omar Pasha. Some of the troops of the latter took part in the battle of the 13th, and the junction of the entire corps was effected on the evening of that day.

There was nothing voluntary or strategic in the flight of the Russians. The defeats which preceded the rout of the 15th had been followed by extensive movements, with the object of reinforcing the besieging corps. On the 12th and 13th it was said at Kalarasch, "Silistria must be taken speedily, and at any cost." The expulsion of the Russians is entirely the work of the Turks.

The Russian army is in a most wretched plight. The men are downcast, and utterly dispirited. All the chief commanders—Prince Paskiewitch, commander of the entire army of the Danube; Prince Gortschakoff, commander of the investing corps; and General Schilders, director of the siege works—are wounded and disabled. Five generals were either killed or wounded on the 13th, and on the same day the siege works on the right bank were destroyed by the Turks, with immense loss to the enemy.

Flight to Wallachia was thus the only course left to the Russians. They are now in the neighbourhood of Kalarasch, awaiting reinforcements and orders. At Vienna it is thought that the Russians will find it impossible again to employ the same troops before Silistria, demoralised as they are by repeated and constant failure, and that being unable to replace them in sufficient time, Marshal Paskiewitch will then give orders to fall back on Jassy.

The garrison of Rustchuk is said, in advice received from Widdin, to have crossed the river and attacked Giurgevo. The Russians on this occasion lost 400 men and nine guns. This intelligence is less authentic than the accounts from Silistria and Kalarasch, which have reached Vienna through several channels, and are of a piece with previous intelligence.

The Russian division under General Liprandi is marching in great haste from Slatina for Silistria.

General Schilders, who has lost a leg, lies in a dangerous state. He is advanced in years, and of nervous temperament. Prince Gortschakoff's wound is severe. General Lidiers, who is also wounded, is said to be doing well. Marshal Paskiewitch suffers considerably from his contusion. Count Orloff, jun., lingers without hope of recovery.

On the other hand, with the glad tidings from Silistria comes the sad intelligence, now confirmed, of the death of its brave and able commander, Mussa Pasha. He is succeeded by Mehemed Pasha.

A private despatch from Bucharest, dated June 18, published in the *Austrian Correspondence*, states that the Russians have evacuated Mogurelli and Simnitsa. Large bodies of troops are retiring from Wallachia to Moldavia. Five thousand Turks have re-occupied Tartakal.

The convention between Austria and the Porte, relative to the Danubian Principalities, was signed at Constantinople on the 14th instant. Its principal conditions are said to be, that if Russia voluntarily retires, the Austrian troops will enter the Principalities, and form a defence between Russia and Turkey. If Russia refuses to retire, Austria will take such measures as may appear necessary to insure her doing so.

Letters from Varna describe the arrival, already announced by telegraph, of the British and French troops at Varna. The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, writing on June 4th, says:—"The British camp commences at the further end of the glacia, and the tents are pitched on either side of the Shumla road. On the left are the Horse Artillery, the 8th Hussars, and the 17th Lancers; the Rifles, the light division, and some of the heavy regiments of foot are on the right. The camp is in a charming position on the banks of the river Devna, on a broken meadow-land—a situation, I am informed, by far more picturesque than wholesome, for the tract of land on the banks of the Devna is notorious for its fatal fevers. Up to the present, however, the health of the troops has been excellent. This circumstance, and the near chance of facing the enemy, make the men good-tempered and prone to mirth and mischief. The women—croakers and grumblers everywhere—are out of all patience with the place and its ways; and loud are their complaints that they must go no end of a long road to get a drink of water, and that their 'nasty victuals' are so awfully dear, that a shilling here does not go near so far as twopenny in dear Old England."

The French troops that had arrived were the 7th and 20th Foot, several fresh battalions of Zouaves, one battalion of Chasseurs de Vincennes, and one squadron of Dragons. Two French troops are encamped to the right of the English camp. The Zouaves, who marched in with their band playing, attracted general attention, and made the impression of a dashing corps of darddevils, who are up to everything and anything. Subsequently, as our readers are aware, large bodies of the troops of both armies arrived at Varna; and there is reason to believe that the light division, and a por-

tion of the French troops, have made a good stride towards the Danube.

In Asia considerable progress appears to have been already made—chiefly through the indefatigable exertions of General Guyon—towards the reorganisation of the army of the Porte, which had been reduced, by the ignorance and misconduct of successive generals, to a state of deplorable inefficiency. The present commander, Zarrif Pacha, seems to be a leader who possesses some at least of those qualifications in which the Abdias and Ahmeds who preceded him were most eminently deficient; and it appears that he has succeeded in effecting important reforms in the commissariat department, which had previously been grossly neglected. Some time, indeed, must elapse before the Turkish forces can be in a position to come in the field with the vast army of Russia, which is estimated to amount to at least one hundred thousand men, after allowing for exaggeration as well as for casualties; but, in the meanwhile, the struggle is vigorously sustained by their Circassian allies, who are displaying their wonted energy on behalf of the common cause. For some days past rumours have been current of a victory gained by the followers of the gallant and indefatigable Schamyl; but it now appears that the affair was of far greater importance than was at first supposed. The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* relates that a Russian detachment, 15,000 strong—consisting principally of troops withdrawn from the maritime fortresses—was attacked by the mountaineers in its transit through the pass of Dargel, which is situated in the Caucasian range, to the north of Tiflis; and after an obstinate conflict, the enemy were forced to retreat, with a loss of 3000 men, besides three pieces of cannon and a large quantity of ammunition. It also appears that Urzghetti, a fortress in the neighbourhood of Batoum—the importance of which is shown by the fact that it has hitherto been garrisoned by a force of 8000 men—has been evacuated by the Russians, and has fallen into the possession of the Turks. This acquisition may probably have a material influence on the fortunes of the campaign; for Selim Pacha—who, with about 12,000 troops, occupies the adjacent fortress of Chekvetli, or St. Nicholas, so often unsuccessfully assailed by the enemy during the last few months—will doubtless now be able to aid the operations of the main body at Kars far more effectually than was practicable while a strong hostile force remained in such dangerous proximity to his position. It is true that Russia possesses no general so well qualified to meet the emergency as Prince Woronzoff, whose leave of absence has been withdrawn; but it is, to say the least, exceedingly doubtful whether the Czar can afford, under present circumstances, to place at his disposal the half million of troops, with six months' provisions, which he is understood to have specified as the force required for the thorough subjugation of the country.

The news of Admiral Plumridge's destructive operations in the Gulf of Bothnia, at Uleaborg and Brahestad is confirmed. He subsequently visited other ports, inflicting loss upon the enemy at Ljo and Kami, and it is said capturing Torneo with the intention of making it a military station. But at Karleby his operations seem to have been frustrated. The statement is that the Odin and Vulture landed 150 men. These were attacked by sharpshooters in ambuscade, and by a masked battery of five guns. Lieut. Carrington, a midshipman, a mate, and three men fell; 2 officers and 14 men were wounded. One boat was lost. 28 men and 1 mate were taken by the Russians, whose commander was killed.

The commander of Bomarsund has been dismissed. All pilots have been sent into the interior.

A private despatch, brought to Dantzic by the steamer Basilisk, states that 29 English ships, and 18 French, had formed a junction on the 18th, at Bornsund, 20 miles from Swenaborg, and were to proceed to the Isle of Gogland. It was presumed that the combined fleets would move directly towards Cronstadt.

Rear-Admiral Price, Commander-in-Chief on the Pacific station, has addressed a general memorandum to the officers and seamen of his squadron, notifying to them the declaration of war, and conveying the Queen's command that they should forthwith execute all the hostile measures in their power against Russia. He records his opinion that there will be much to do on the Pacific station, and that Great Britain has a right to expect from the squadron a proper account of the Russian frigates that are known to be now upon the station, as well as of the numerous privateers that it is known soon will be. He recommended them to take such steps as are necessary, by daily practice and other means, which, added to their characteristic bravery, will be calculated to render them not only superior to their enemy, but inferior to none in the world.

Some important intelligence is reported, per telegraph from Russia, showing that the Imperial Government is all at ease. Advices from St. Petersburg of the 13th state that the Emperor Nicholas had ordered Prince Dolgoruki, Minister of War, to set out for the Danubian Principalities, and to draw up an accurate report of the position of affairs in a military point of view. The operations before Silistria were especially recommended to his notice. This measure has produced a profound sensation at St. Petersburg, as the Emperor never entrusts his Minister of War with such a mission except on occasions of serious importance.

Further information, confidently declared to be authentic, is described as giving an account of the extreme irritation produced in the mind of the Czar by the reception of the Austrian summons, and especially by the imminent armed action of Austria. "The public mind was full of anxiety, and some coup de tête on the part of the Emperor was feared." No answer has as yet been sent to Austria. Orders have been forwarded to Prince Paskiewitch, urging him to spare no effort to carry Silistria, "which must be taken." "The evacuation of the Principalities was not looked upon as a probable event."

The Russian army is still being massed upon the frontier of Austria, extending from the Sereth to Warsaw. This was to be expected. An engineer officer has also been marking the fords of the Sereth, and inspecting the mountain passes that lead into Austrian territory. "According to his directions," says a letter, "strong detachments of Cossacks have been posted at Mamornitz, Passat, Buda, Mihoreny, Mihaileny, and at many other points besides. Reconnoissances have also been effected at Nians and Patra. The têtes de pont at Turizany, on the Sereth, have been strongly fortified by the Russians. Accounts from Watra Derna also confirm the whole of the above in every particular. A rumour was lately current at Brody of a levy of from 100,000 to 150,000 peasants, who were to be armed with scythes, in the provinces of Volhynia and Podolia. This rumour, however, has been contradicted by the Russian Consul-General at Brody. This much, however, is certain, that 20,000 peasants, with their scythes, have been ordered to the prairies of Bessarabia by Count Wassilozikoff, the governor of that province, in order to assist there in making hay, as the inhabitants of those districts are at present fully occupied with the conveying of troops, whilst there is still plenty of work of a similar kind in store for them. The uninterrupted movement of the Russian troops proceeds from the interior of the empire, and is chiefly directed to Moldavia and the Bukovina, *via* Kiev and Kamieniec Podolsky." Still it is considered doubtful whether the Emperor can muster sufficient forces to cover his enormous line of frontier.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes from St. Petersburg, dated June 9: "It has been officially announced to the Czar that the Eastern European provinces of the empire can yield no more levies upon the customary principles of recruiting. The War Minister is preparing a new scheme for further levies, in which large classes of the population hitherto exempt will be made liable to military duty. Owing to the immense numbers lost in harassing marches through the interior, the present war is causing a consumption of men far larger than Europe would be prepared to believe in."

The Russian Minister has been recalled from Athens; and the Emperor Nicholas has notified to King Otho, that he accredits envoys to "independent courts" only! The insurrection is now stifled in Epirus; the brigand Tachas having been driven from Triplao; and only the chief Hadji Petros holds out in Thessaly. The Piræus is still occupied by an Anglo-French force.

According to advices from Madrid of the 15th, Generals Orlando and Messina had been arrested on a charge of harbouring General O'Donnell. General Messina had managed to escape the vigilance of his guards after the arrest, but General Orlando had been sent off to Galicia.

There has been an election in Belgium adverse to the Ministry. The number who had to go out, according to the constitutional rotation, was 64, of whom 44 have been re-elected. A Council of Ministers was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to take into consideration the result of the elections; and at the end of the sitting the Minister of Foreign Affairs applied for an interview with the King. The result was that the Ministry determined to retain office, notwithstanding the unfavourable result of the elections.

Speculation notwithstanding, and curiosity to boot, have discovered nothing either of the topics or the results of the Teschen conference. The kings have kept their own counsel, and even Frederick William has not whispered the secret to his beloved champagne bottles. But it is asserted that one of the subjects of discussion was the abdication of the Emperor Nicholas!

The Austrian Cabinet despatched, on Sunday, an answer to the Bamberg propositions, simply renewing the invitation to join the treaty of the 20th April. In case of refusal, it is intimated that Austria and Prussia will follow their own course independently. This, we are assured, is authentic. From Berlin we receive the same news.

Austrian troops are still being rapidly forwarded to their posts on the frontiers. One account says that 80,000 Austrian troops are on their march from Bohemia and Moravia towards the eastern frontier, "which proves that Prussia undertakes to watch the movements of the Russians in Poland." All the Austrian garrisons are being reinforced, and all the disposable troops are to be concentrated at Vienna.

The news from Belgrade is satisfactory. The Russian party in the Senate, hitherto peculiarly accessible to the influence of the Czar, is diminishing in number.

There is little news from Italy; but that little indicates troubles. According to advices from Turin of the 15th, it is stated that the Judge Gabri, who had been charged with the preliminary inquiry into the guilt of the persons charged with the assassination of the late Duke of Parma, was mortally wounded with three strokes of a poniard in the streets of Parma on the 12th instant, at five o'clock in the evening.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 13th publishes a royal decree, calling 12,000 men under arms, in pursuance of the law of April 14th last.

The *Corriere Mercuriale* mentions a rumour current at Milan, according to which a camp of 40,000 Austrians is to be formed at Volta, on the Mincio, ostensibly for military evolutions.

There would appear to have been a small skirmish in Sicily; but it is not made out who the insurgents were. "Some men," we are told, "landed on the 21st of May at the small bridge of Fiume de Nisi, in Sicily, but the police, having received timely information by telegraph, sent a party of soldiers to the spot on the night of the 28th. They invested the house of Don Paul Interdonato, where some of the persons in question had sought a refuge; the place was, however, so vigorously defended by a well-sustained fire from the windows, that the troops, after having two men killed and several wounded, were obliged to retire to wait for reinforcements. These having arrived, the attack was

resumed, and Interdonato and all his family taken prisoners. A thousand ducats have since been offered for the heads of Interdonato, Joseph Scarperia, and Francis Savona, who are supposed to form part of the expedition; but it is believed that they have succeeded in making their escape to Malta." Such is the story told by a Turin journal.

King Bomba took it into his head to forbid the exportation of sulphur of Sicily, because it is contraband of war. The French Minister at once looked into the matter and demanded an explanation. In reply, the Minister Carafa says, it is not correct to state that "the exportation of that produce is forbidden, but that it cannot be exported by vessels under a foreign flag, excepting to the destination of other ports also neuter, and that in order not to be exposed to the measures which might be taken by the same belligerent powers against the exportation of contraband of war."

A telegraphic despatch, dated Naples, June 14, states that "a French agent had arrived in Naples, and proceeded to the provinces for the purpose of purchasing cattle to supply the army in the East. The Government having learnt this fact, has published a decree, which forbids the exportation of cattle from the Two Sicilies. This is an offensive act towards France and England."

"The King has provisioned Gaeta, and retired there for the summer. The fortifications are increased daily."

More than half the *Moniteur*, of Wednesday, is filled with a report from M. de Persigny, Minister of the Interior, upon the state of the nation. It is a very carefully prepared document, and will, perhaps, hereafter be found to possess historic value. At present, so all-absorbing are foreign affairs, that the matter of M. de Persigny's report is regarded with indifference; and the only interest which its publication excites arises from the fact that it is generally regarded as a valedictory apology for the Minister's career, put forth by him on the eve of his retirement from office. He has left Paris for his country seat, on temporary leave of absence according to some; but the more general opinion is that he quits office definitively. M. Barache is still spoken of as his successor.

THE NEAREST WAY TO WARSAW IS THROUGH GERMANY.

[We have received the subjoined article from a political friend who has a right to be heard upon the subject. It has already appeared elsewhere; but that does not diminish the interest that attaches to it, as few of our readers will have perused it.]

We are at war with Russia; how can we attack it? "By sea." Well, but what next? "By landing an army in Finland and in the Crimea." But Finland and the Crimea are not Russia. It is a long way round. It is difficult to take them, and more difficult still to keep them. "Oh, then we come up from Turkey and march." Where to? to Pultawa? I should not think such a place the best point of attack. And Austria will prevent every attempt at raising the Cossacks and the Poles before the Austrians are up themselves. "Oh, I see, sir, you are a Pole, or a Hungarian, or an Italian." No, sir, but the question is not who I am, but what you are doing, and what you ought to do. "Well, say it if you know better than all the rest; the press is free; and should you be able to convince me, you have done everything." You have seen the Austro-Prussian treaty; they guarantee each other Italy, Cracow, Galicia, and Posen; they are determined to defend the *status quo ante bellum*; they are prepared to uphold the partition of Poland and the interest of Germany, consisting, of course, in the interests of despotic Austria and Prussia, which are common interests with Russia, that is to say—the *status quo ante bellum*. "Therefore, you mean to say, the Germans will oppose us as soon as we really get at them, at the Russians I mean?" Just so, and no doubt of that. They have declared their firm conviction, "that the results of this war must be disastrous to them, and that it is, consequently, their duty to prevent the calamity." They will even not allow you to take the inverted course of Charles XII. to Pultawa.

"And you, which way do you propose?" I see, you agree with me, that the way by Pultawa is rather a doubtful and a long way round. "So I do." Now, do you consider the way by Finland and Petersburg, or Ingermanland, Esthland, Livland, and Kurland, a nearer one? "Nearer to what?" Nearer to victory! "Certainly I do." Suppose you conquer all those provinces of Russia—which are not Russia Proper, but only Russian dependencies, made certainly very important by placing the capital of the empire in one of them. Suppose you conquer them, who is to defend them? Do you mean to restore the Sweden of *ante bellum* of 1700, or of *ante* Charles XII. who, by the way, was foolish enough to neglect Russia Proper after Narva, and to be beaten at Pultawa before he had even contemplated how to defeat the enemy himself, whom he despised because such an enemy could not withstand him. Or do you intend an occupation of the Baltic provinces of Russia by a combined English, French, and Swedish force? "I really do not know, sir." And would the war be at an end then? "Certainly not." Suppose you beat all the Russian armies thrown in your way, must you then not go either to Moscow or to Warsaw? "I should not like to go to Moscow, I should rather prefer to set up Poland again."

But you remember the treaty the German Powers have made in order to prevent the restoration of Poland? "I begin to see they are everywhere in our way, and instead of helping us they will prevent us from making an end of this intricate war!" That is just what I wished you should see; and at the same time you are aware of the fact that both ways to Russia, through the Black Sea and through the Baltic, do not lead properly to the heart of Russia, and of course that they are not the nearest way to Russia. "I fully admit that." Now, then, which way shall we go? "I really do not know, sir." The nearest way to Warsaw is straight through Germany, which is the only way to a complete and safe peace, as well as to a final reduction of Russia.

"But such a thing is impossible." It is the easiest way, it costs no battles, no blood, not much money, not a very long time, and makes all the exploits in the Black Sea and in the Baltic *fruitful*. "Why is it easy? the Germans would fight us to the knife!" Would they, indeed? Have you never heard that there is no Russian party in Germany besides the few individuals whom you know by name? Do you ignore that every German is English; that even such men as Chevalier Bunsen's friends, as the Bonins, as the Vinckes, as the Bethman, Holwigs, as the Graf Schwerins, are English? Do you not know that those three-quarters of the male population of Prussia who voted against M. Manteuffel's *coup d'état*, and who since then are in "passive resistance," and in the — army of the king, will not fight against the English party?

Indeed? and are they prepared to join us? It is my firm conviction they are. The same burden which presses upon our chest—the burden of a misled, impossible policy—presses upon theirs. It would be like the sun of a new spring, if the English flag appeared on the shore of the old Anglo-Saxons, of Hanover, Bremen, and Hamburg. We, English, must demand to *pass through Germany, in order to fight Russia*. We will obtain that, as a draught paid on demand, and then they will join us. They do not fear us, like the French; they know we do not intend any conquest. They like us; they admire us, from the democrats up to the Bunsens. They worship England; they acknowledge our common-sense liberty, after the failure of 1848. "But the King." The King of Prussia, you mean? He never will draw sword against Russia; while the whole nation never will draw sword against England. Have you not heard what that honest man, M. Bonin, said? "It would be parricide to go against England." And so it would.

Oh, if you would understand the overwhelming enthusiasm which is at your disposition, that enormous force of truth, of necessity, of a long-fostered desire, you would not hesitate a moment to speak the grand *quos Ego*! which is becoming our all-mighty trident. By this word to Germany, you put an end to the intrigues of the Russian courts, and combine an immense army, eager to make short work with Russia. The combined English and German forces have only to march to Warsaw, and there they find a second army of equal spirit. Austria is of no consequence as soon as Germany has determined what to do.

This way is the nearest to Russia—it is the way straight through Germany, with Germany and with Poland; we English have nothing to do but to do it *alone*. "Alone?" Yes, *alone*; because we are not suspected, but trusted in Germany. We have no revolution to create, we have only to put in motion our own party, our own resources, and I suppose you will not be afraid to see the Germans act like ourselves, speak like ourselves, and fight our battles, which indeed are theirs even more. "No, certainly I am not the least afraid of that; but you may be mistaken about public opinion in Germany." The Germans are a slow people; they waste a great deal of time in considering a plan over and over again, but they never lose sight of what they once have put into their heads. At this very moment they are all faithful to their Anti-Russian creed; you find scarcely a single individual besides those acknowledged fools of the King's and the *Kreuz-zeitung's* party, who is not heart and soul with our just cause. The whole is like an avalanche resting still upon the top of its mountain, but wanting a very slight push in order to go off. Push it, and make yourselves immortal for ever, and the real saviours of all honest men in Europe. The centre of the Russian position, Germany, is now turned against us; it will remain so even if Austria should fight Russia in the Principalities. Germany must be turned against the very heart of Russia—against Poland.

AMERICAN NOTES.

LORD ELGIN has signed a treaty with the Government of the United States, settling the inveterate disputes respecting the fisheries. The chief points of the treaty are, that the citizens of the United States are to enjoy the same privileges in regard to fishing as are possessed by the colonists on all the coasts of the British North American provinces—that is, they will obtain the right of fishing within three miles of all bays, inlets, coves, &c. They will be allowed to erect and carry on fishing establishments on British North American territory. The naval force hitherto kept up by Great Britain to protect the provincial fishermen will be removed. In exchange for these great privileges there is to be complete reciprocity and free trade between the United States and the provinces in all articles the produce of each, with the exception of sugar and tobacco, coming from the United States, which are to pay the same duties as are levied upon these articles when arriving from British colonies or other parts of the world. Manufactured articles, although manufactured from products of either country, are not to be admitted under the terms of the treaty. As Canada—especially Western Canada—is daily becoming a more wheat producing country, the operation of the treaty cannot fail to be at once of great importance to the province, and its already immense lumbering trade will also receive a fresh impetus from the treaty. An effort was made by Lord Elgin to obtain American registers for vessels built at Quebec, St. John's, and the other ship building ports of the province; but the American Government declined to entertain that proposal.

In New York a body of Irish, in an Irish quarter, recently attacked a procession of Primitive Methodists, who had been engaged in street preaching. Stones flew, and pistol-shots were fired, of course not without inflicting wounds; but the Methodists kept good military order, and made their way out of the mass in unbroken array. The rioters had to be put down by force.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL IN THE CITY.

THE young King of Portugal has attracted the flattering hospitalities of the Mansion-house; and he has endured with a good grace the literary attentions of the Common Council. Last week Mr. Anderton and Mr. Deputy Holt moved and seconded an address to the young King; and Monday was fixed upon for its presentation. Accordingly his Majesty went into the City, accompanied by his brother the Duke of Oporto, and at the Mansion-house they were received by Lord Mayor Sidney, in full costume, and the rest of the Corporation, wearing their official integuments. There they presented the King with an address of welcome; hoping that a permanent friendship would exist between Portugal and England. To this the King made a modest but appropriate reply, which we are studiously informed he composed himself:—

"My Lord Mayor, I thank you and the Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in my own name, and in that of my brother the Duke of Oporto, for the kind expressions with which you have welcomed us upon the occasion of this our first visit to the City. The premature death of my dear and for ever lamented mother, the Queen Dona Maria II., having obliged me to ascend a throne, which however glorious I would rather have ascended much later, I have undertaken this voyage not for my amusement, but for my own instruction, and for the purpose of better fitting myself hereafter to guide the destinies of the noble people over whom I am called to rule, and in doing so, I do but execute the late Queen's will.

"Painful as are for me the circumstances which obliged me to quit my own country sooner than I would perhaps otherwise have done, it is a satisfaction to me that the first soil upon which I tread should be that of our most ancient and faithful ally, and that the first court I visit should be that of your gracious sovereign, to whom as well as to the royal consort, being already connected by ties of relationship, I am now attached by the deepest feelings of friendship and gratitude for the cordial and affectionate reception they have given me.

"I cannot but acknowledge, with the utmost satisfaction, that the City of London, whose worthy representatives you are, has been united by the most intimate relations with the city in which I was born, not only at a time in which European commerce was conducted by municipal corporations, by small republics, who in the midst of monarchies acted with almost sovereign independence, but also in modern times. These relations I confidently hope will be maintained for ever.

"The friendship between England and Portugal has existed for centuries and increased more and more.

"England has always fought for Portugal whenever her independence has been threatened. Our liberal institutions powerfully contribute to identify the feelings and interests of both countries. Throughout the course of my reign, my constant and firm purpose will be, under the blessing of Divine Providence, both to maintain the institutions of my country and to render more and more close the relations which have united and continue to unite the two nations." (*Loud Cheers*)

This being over, the royal party visited the Bank, the Royal Exchange, and the Stock Exchange, and returning to the Mansion-house partook of a *déjeuner à la fourchette*, duly followed, of course, by a drinking of toasts in the good old city fashion.

ELECTING A BISHOP.

THE Dean and Chapter of Wells elected the new Bishop of Bath and Wells, on Thursday week. An unusual degree of interest was excited on this occasion, from the circumstance of this being the first instance, during more than two hundred years, on which the non-residentary prebendaries and canons had exercised their statutable right of voting at the election of a bishop. The bishop recommended by the Crown was, as our readers know, Lord Auckland, Bishop of Sodor and Man.

Determined to make the most of their position, the High Church party took every opportunity of vindicating their right to elect, short of absolute rebellion. The Archdeacon of Taunton, Mr. George Denison, took occasion, before entering on business, to read a lecture to whomsoever it might apply, because he had not been served with a specific personal notice to attend. It was an important occasion—a solemn occasion; and the ordinary mode of giving notice by offering a citation on the door of the choir was not sufficient, considering that members of the Chapter live at a distance. His object was to vindicate the importance of the non-residentary canons and prebendaries. The Reverend Prebendary Downes Willis backed these remonstrances with his concurrence; but they elicited no remark from anybody.

Further instances occurred of the rising spirit of the younger race of Churchmen. When Archdeacon Law proceeded to read her Majesty's letter recommending, he was interrupted by several of the members requesting to know what authority the chapter had to propound that letter to the general body. The Dean said, that the authority was grounded upon the *congé d'élire* received by the chapter, and lying on the table.

Archdeacon Gunning asked whether that document ought not to be read? Archdeacon Law thought that it was not necessary. Prebendary Downes Willis: "Why are we here? You offer to

read us a letter from her Majesty, recommending us to elect a person named as our bishop, but you do not make it appear what is your authority for proposing such an election to us." The Dean: "It is contained in that document." Prebendary Scarth: "Then the document should be read." The Dean said, "the members were at liberty to inspect the document, but he found no precedent for reading it." The *congé d'élire* was then unfolded, and afforded some amusement from the number of small vignettes and ornamental borders with which the parchment was illustrated.

Archdeacon Law then said, that he held in his hand a letter from her most gracious Majesty, addressed to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, recommending the Right Hon. and Right Rev. John Baron Auckland, D.D., Bishop of Sodor and Man, to be by them elected bishop of that see. Prebendary Ommanney asked whether that document was not to be read. After some demur the document was read by the clerk.

The Dean: "In consequence of this recommendation, and by virtue of the *congé d'élire* issued to this chapter, I propose the Right Rev. and Right Hon. John Baron Auckland, now Bishop of Sodor and Man, to be elected bishop of this see."

Nor was this all. Mr. Downes Willis opposed the nomination in a speech, alleging that it had been determined to stop translations, those opprobria of the church.

"And now when the members of this chapter, whose undoubted right to a voice in the election of a bishop of this diocese is acknowledged, are assembled for the first time for these two or three hundred years to exercise that right, could they satisfy their own minds in the execution of that solemn duty by giving their resuscitated votes for the revival of a system which had been so righteously condemned, and, as was thought, so entirely abolished? He for one, at least, would not use his recovered privilege, for the first time, to sanction a practice which had been so solemnly and unanimously condemned. But while he protested against the renewal of a practice so injurious to the character and best interests of the Church, as that of translating bishops from one see to another for the sake of larger revenues or more convenience, he must not for a moment be understood as saying a word in disparagement of the honourable person who was now proposed for election."

Mr. Willis carried his opposition further than words—he voted against the Bishop of Sodor and Man; and in the certificate of election his name was inserted as a dissident! [Why did not Mr. George Anthony Denison do the same?]

DECIMAL COINAGE.

LAST week certain gentlemen formed themselves into a Decimal Coinage Association; and this week a deputation of that body, headed by Sir William Brown, M.P., and including Lord Monteagle, Lord Stanley, Sir Joshua Walmsley, Sir Charles Paisley, Mr. Wilson Patten, and a great number of members of Parliament of all shades of politics. Mr. Brown stated the case of the association; what had been done; and what it is proposed to do; showing how desirable it is that a decimal system of currency should be established, taking the pound as the unit. In all the following countries the decimal system of coinage was either in existence or was in course of adoption:—Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Lombardy, the Zollverein, Poland, Switzerland, France, Rome, Sardinia, Greece, Madeira, Spain, Portugal, South America, the United States of America, Canada, Bermuda, China, Japan, and Russia. Mr. Gladstone remarked that Mr. Brown had not mentioned the Two Sicilies, where they had a decimal system of account, but a system which was not decimal in the actual transactions of life. Mr. Brown was understood to say that he was not aware of this fact. Mr. Gladstone said they would find it most difficult to point to a clear case of a country which had a uniformity of coinage having altered that coinage in order to adopt a decimal system. Mr. Brown said that, considering that the countries he had mentioned adopted a decimal system, it did appear to him extraordinary that this, the most commercial country in the world, should be almost the last to follow that system.

In reply to the deputation, Mr. Gladstone summed up the position of the question in its relation to the Government and the country. He said that with reference to the proposal to issue new coins, it was necessary that the Government should previously have made up its mind not only as to the propriety of introducing a decimal system, but also that a pound should be the unit of account. With regard to a question of this kind he might observe that the main use of such a deputation was not to be a vehicle of opinions addressed to him, but to be a sort of public demonstration, by which the attention of the country was to be awakened to the subject. Although they had had various commissions and committees upon the subject of a decimal coinage, it had not yet gone through anything near that process of sifting amongst all classes of the community interested in the question that would make it safe for the Government to take any decisive steps. There could not be a doubt

that the decimal system of account would be of immense advantage; even if there were a doubt, the high authority in favour of it would be irresistible; but with regard to a decimal system of coinage, they had not yet received sufficient evidence. It certainly was very plain that that class who had really paid great attention to the subject, the commercial population, were certainly favourable to the general principle of a decimal coinage with a pound as the unit; but there were numerous masses of people who knew nothing of decimals, and who carried out their business on a different system of account, with different divisions, offering some peculiar facilities, which would be lost if they adopted a decimal system. It was remarkable how the mixed decimal and duodecimal system had lived. It was impossible not to be struck with this, and also with the fact that it was bound up with the habits of the people, the system being one of dividing decimally into 20, and duodecimally into 12. But in his opinion this was a question on which the mere judgment of the Government was of no importance. There were some questions which were carried on the recommendation of Government, and others by the convictions of the country, and some by a mixture of both. Now, this was one on which the feeling of the people must decide the whole question. He frankly owned that he was by no means convinced that they could get rid of the penny; but he made this admission to them, that nothing could be more unimportant than the opinion of himself, or any man in office, upon a subject of this nature. The question was—what did the country think? Were they prepared for this measure? It was a matter on which they could not take any decisive steps until it had undergone that sifting and scrutiny which were necessary to enable the masses to well understand it. Patience was a bad text for a sermon at any time, and was not a very popular one; but they must have patience until the matter was further discussed. There were great differences of opinion upon the subject; and the views propounded by the various portions of the press were by no means unanimous in favour of any particular system, so far as the discussion had yet gone. He hoped, therefore, that those gentlemen who were engaged in this interesting question—for it was an interesting and important question—would persevere in their laudable efforts to sift this matter, and he had no doubt that future discussion, with the means happily afforded for such a purpose, would bring them before long to some practical result; but the feeling of the Government was that they were not ripe for decisive measures, and the opinion of Parliament ought not to be invoked until they were ripe. Sir John Herschel, a favourable witness, had said that it would take twenty years to carry out an object of this nature. He was far from committing himself to such an opinion as this, but he quite agreed in the statement of Mr. Brown, that the system proposed would be a labour-saving machine, and it was by labour-saving machines that the power and greatness of this country had been achieved.

After a few words from Mr. Moore, the deputation withdrew.

MAURICE'S LECTURES.

We were unfortunately prevented from hearing the second lecture of the course on "Learning and Working," now in process of delivery at Willis's Room. The third was given on Thursday last. The lecturer began by stating that manual labour was not necessarily a hindrance to mental education; but that, on the contrary, it was one of the great instruments of education. He showed that the real worker could never be a mere "bustler upon compulsion;" that steadiness of purpose and continuity of action in a specific direction were essential to all good work, as well of hand as of brain; that the order, regularity, and discipline, which prevail in all factories and large establishments, as well as the fact of working with a large number of his fellows, had an excellent effect on the intellectual nature of the working-man. He showed the different influences of agricultural and manufacturing labour upon those engaged in them. He spoke strongly upon a point which deserves to be insisted on by all who treat of work and its effects on the worker, viz., that a man who works for bread will, *ceteris paribus*, do his work better and be more elevated by working than one who is not impelled to work by any such stern necessity. Mr. Maurice endeavoured to make his hearers feel that there is a dignity given to the life, an intensification to each day's work, by the mere fact that a man works to maintain himself, and not to turn his leisure to account. This is so contrary to the common view of the matter, is so much more elevated a view than the common one—and as it is also that which we ourselves believe to be the truest view of labour which man in his present stage of existence can obtain, that we were heartily glad to hear it supported on this occasion by the lecturer. The prime condition of human life (to be read in the great open Bible as well as in the canonical one)—viz., that "man shall earn his bread," i. e., grow and develop his manlike powers, "in the sweat of his brow," cannot be a condition the main element of

which is evil—accursed. The lecturer spoke of the additional moral good to the worker of having to work for a wife and children as well as for himself. Yet it is not to be denied that the working for daily bread occupies too many hours of the day; and that this excess of a good thing is the great evil of the present state of things among us.

The foundation of the Mechanics' Institute by the late Dr. Birkbeck was spoken of as the first movement towards imparting regular instruction to the working classes in towns; and the lecturer showed how those institutes had been insensibly appropriated to another class of young men, and had been used for a lighter and more superficial sort of entertainment. The more recently established evening classes for young men (clerks and shopmen), he spoke of with approval. In them the students were not superficially taught; they did not merely listen to lectures, they received lessons on important subjects. The want of sympathy between the employers and the employed he instanced as a great cause of the want of education among the labouring classes, and spoke in high praise of Mr. Wilson's educational establishments and projects at the Belmont Factory—especially of his attempt to educate adults.

The conclusion of the lecture assumed the form of an imaginary conversation between a friend of the lecturer, and a mysterious, unknown companion in a railway journey. The subject of the conversation was the boasted freedom, civilisation, and commerce of England. These three blessings—the basis of our nationality and prosperity—the stranger declared could not exist fifty years longer as they now exist. That was not a truly free state in which the vast majority of the population could be defined as "wages-receiving animals;" that was not a true civilisation in which the civility, the citizenship of the *cives*, was based not on civil union and brotherhood in labour, but on competition and mutual destruction; that was not a lasting commercial prosperity in which every effort was made (at the risk of starving labourers at home) to keep up our superiority abroad over every other nation in the cheapness of all our manufactures.

A right understanding of the value of money, and the speedy destruction of its false estimation in the minds of the young, were urged on the serious consideration of its auditors. It is those who give the tone to society, who make society, that can best bring about reform in our universities and public schools. It is they also who will be the means of raising the labourer to his proper intellectual level—by showing that no man is, or ought to be, valued by the amount of the money property he holds, but by the amount of his virtue and usefulness.

THE LOSS OF THE EUROPA.

THE magistrates of Gibraltar have taken affidavits from five of the survivors of the troop ship *Europa*, burned on the night of the 31st May, some ninety miles from Brest. Our readers are already in possession of the general facts of the case. The affidavit of the master, William Gardiner, contains an account of the disaster:—

"At about ten o'clock on the evening of the 31st he was sitting in the cabin with Colonel Moore. The alarm of fire was given; he ran forward, and found the storeroom in the fore peak in flames. The chief mate at this moment was by the master's side, and they did what they could, by throwing water on the flames, to extinguish them, but all was in vain. The master then made up his mind that the ship was lost, and took what measures he could for the preservation of life. The gunpowder must be thrown overboard, the forcepump be kept playing down below, the boats be cleared, but not lowered. A bark and a brig were in sight, and the endeavour was to bring the burning ship as nearly as might be within reach of help from these. For a few minutes all went on well, and orders were obeyed; but then the crew and too many of the soldiers lost all presence of mind, and made a rush at the boats. For a moment they were driven back or dissuaded from their purpose; but as soon as the master and Colonel Moore had turned away they lowered away the quarter-boats. The Admiralty agent's boat, at or about the same time, was let go by the run, and disappeared so quickly that the master had no opportunity of calling her back. The wheel was deserted. When the master, at this point of the proceedings, called out for the chief mate and the ship's company, the second mate and two of the crew were all who answered to his call. It was then the spare quarter-boat was got out and was lowered down, Lieutenant Black and a land officer being in her. The master refused to go in her, as he was employed in steering the ship; and Colonel Moore refused also, notwithstanding the earnest solicitations of his men. This was the last boat that left the ship, at about half-past 11 o'clock at night. Between twenty and thirty persons were left on board—one woman among them,—and still the flames increased, and still help did not arrive. Attempts were made to get out the horseboat, but this was fixed hard and fast to its place, and the tackles could not be got at. The flames now came up the main hatchway. All on board took refuge on the poop. For a few minutes there was a gleam of hope, as a light was seen, which was, in point of fact, a light on board of the *Kennet Kingsford*. Now the mainmast fell, and then the foremast; the flames were lapping round the mizen chains. The persons remaining on board at this awful moment took refuge in the mizen channels, but presently the mizenmast went too, and the flames were reaching this

place of refuge also. Two chances still remained. The wreck of the mainmast was floating near, and some of the men had succeeded in reaching this, and were sitting upon the rim of the top. The master endeavoured to persuade Colonel Moore to try for this, but the colonel replied, the attempt was useless. The next and last chance was to make for the fore part of the ship, where the fire was not raging with so much intensity. Even this was above Colonel Moore's powers, and the master, in company with one or two others, succeeded in reaching the fore channels, from which he was picked off about 3 o'clock by the boat of the brig *Clemanthe*."

The other deponents corroborate the story. It is evident from their accounts that great confusion ensued, that troops and sailors were under no control, and that the boats were lowered without orders by the crew. Lieutenant Weir says he was pushed into a boat; Joseph Gurder, the chief mate, avers that a jerk of a boat the men were lowering astern pitched him over; that he tried to regain the ship but fell back, and that then the tackles were let go; Lieut. Black, Admiralty agent, went off in a boat without oars. In that boat the second mate went, by permission of the captain. He hailed the master to send him some oars, as there were none in the boat; but this the master refused to do, and said, "But if we send you oars, you will leave us." They were picked up by the chief mate, and towed to the *Kennet Kingsford*. When the chief mate had reached the *Kennet Kingsford* he did not return to the burning vessel, because the boats had been cut away by some person on board the schooner. Altogether it would appear that the crew behaved badly, or every life might have been saved.

IMPRISONMENT FOR CHURCH-RATES.

THE petition presented by Mr. Bright the other day has been printed with the votes. The two petitioners, parishioners of Ringwood, Hants, labourers, earning less than 9s. 6d. a week each, and each having a wife and two children entirely dependent on him for support, were arrested on the 24th of April, handcuffed together, though offering no resistance, and, after being kept in hold till next day, conveyed to Winchester gaol. There they were treated as felons—stripped, washed, clothed in the prison dress, allowed no communication with their friends even by letter, and kept in continual confinement in a cell measuring about nine feet by five, with the exception of about an hour daily for exercise, during which they were compelled to wear a mask. They state that they were subjected to this degradation because they were utterly unable to pay the church-rates demanded of them—1s. 9d. and 1s. 10d. They are now at liberty in consequence of a public subscription having been set on foot to procure their release.

REGINALD VERSUS MARMAYSEE.

THIS case is one of those which rarely come before a court of justice; but which never fail to shock the thoughtless and respectable public when they do come before them. Is the public horrified at the sin or the scandal?

The trial to which we refer came before the Court of Common Pleas on Tuesday. The plaintiff in the case was a French girl, named Reginald, the defendant, one Germain Marmaysee. Reginald sued him for 70l. money due, and sought to recover her riding habit and linen. The galleries of the court were full of Frenchwomen, who took a deep interest in the proceedings.

In opening the case, Mr. Sergeant Byles said that the plaintiff was a French girl, who formerly lived at Havre-de-Grace, and she was something above twenty-one years of age, and the defendant, like the plaintiff, was a native of France. The name of the defendant was Marmaysee, but sometimes he was called Germain, and sometimes Le Brun, under which latter name he now resided at 84, Newman-street. He was one of those persons in this country whom he might describe as importing young ladies from France, who were to live in a house kept by him for a purpose which need not be further mentioned. He had a great number of French girls living there with him, whom he had collected in the course of his business, for the importing of these girls was as much a trade as the purchase of cattle in Holland was—the fact being that these poor girls, having lost their only possession at an early age, were bought and sold in France, and imported into this country like any other commodity, and they were, when immured within the walls of the defendant, entirely and absolutely under his control; they were not even allowed to stir out without being attended by a person called a *femme de confiance*, a near relative of his, or by some other *duenna*. The arrangement was this. The defendant said: "I expect you to exert yourself to make yourself agreeable, and to get as much as you can; one half of the compliments are to be paid to you, out of which you must keep yourself, and one half you will give to me." The expenses of each girl were to be about 27s. a week, but sometimes considerably more than this was charged. The defendant kept a carriage, and the ladies rode out in the carriage, for their own benefit, and for his, and each lady was charged 5s. for every ride in the carriage, and this sum was set down in the expenses. Sometimes also the ladies

took baths, and for each bath he charged 2s. 6d. and 2d. for the towel, and it was part of the practice that they were not to be allowed to keep any money themselves, but all their little savings were to be entrusted to him as their banker. Every morning at breakfast they had to state to him what they had earned on the preceding day, but as this money had been paid to the *femme de confiance*, he took care to interrogate both her and the ladies, and so made one a check against the other. And he regretted to say that on every Sunday morning the establishment met, and then there was a regular statement by them of the sums they had received in the preceding week, and of the expenses with which those sums were chargeable in the meantime. The girls, however, were not entrusted with any money, nor to see any friend, and he would not allow them to receive any letter from any person in England, although they were allowed to receive letters from France. He was their banker, and they were not allowed to go shopping, for he sold them the articles they wanted, and when there was any money coming to them, he had some articles of finery to show them, and to induce them to buy. Most of those girls were very ignorant; but it happened that his client was able to write, and had kept a regular book for herself, and she would be able to tell them exactly what amount she had received during every week, and what had been charged her for expenses, and that would leave a balance due to her of about 70l., which sum she sought to recover by the verdict of the jury.

Mr. Sergeant Miller, who appeared for Le Brun, tried to stop the case for the "benefit of the public," but the Chief Baron said time would not be thrown away in disclosing such a dreadful state of things. So the case went on. Witnesses proved that Marmyse admitted he owed 36l., and that notice to deliver up the riding habit claimed had been served. Then came the plaintiff, Margaret Reginbal. She deposed that she had been sent to England by a M. le Comte, not knowing what sort of place she was coming to; that she landed on the 27th of December last; that knowing no one in London, she remained with Le Brun. He told her that one half the money she made was to be hers and one half his; but from her half her expenses were to be paid. She remained there some time; never allowed to go out without a *femme de confiance*, never allowed any money, never allowed to receive letters. What she wanted Le Brun supplied her with. Sometimes the gentlemen paid money to witness, and sometimes to the *femme de confiance*, in witness's presence. When witness received money she gave it to the *femme de confiance*; and every morning she wrote down what she had done the night before, and that book she now produced. Germain, the defendant, inquired of Hermandine, his sister, every morning what had been earned, and she told him, and gave him the money before witness. Every Sunday morning they made their accounts up for the whole week with Hermandine, and then it was settled how much was for the defendant, how much for the girls, and how much was for expenses. Witness while there was called Blanche. She received various sums from gentlemen—sometimes 1l., sometimes 2l., sometimes 3l. From the 27th of December, when she arrived at the defendant's, until the end of the month, she earned 7l. The first week in the new year, from the 1st of January to the 7th inclusive, she earned as follows:—The first day, 3l.; second day, 3l.; third day, 3l.; fourth day, 4l.; fifth day, 4l.; sixth day, 3l.; and the seventh day, 3l.; making for the week, 23l. Occasionally she had been called up several times in the night. The defendant never explained the expenses, but said they were so much. The first week in the year the expenses were 4l. 5s., and the expenses were always kept back. The defendant had never given her any money at all, and, deducting the expenses, he now owed her, according to her account, 70l. She left him on the 3rd or 4th of April, and asked for some money and her clothes before she left. He said he had none to give her. She asked for her riding-habit, and he said he had none to give her. She wanted the riding habit, but he refused to let her have it, and she never had had it. She left him because one day she asked him for money, and he would not give her any. She was only allowed to take her clothes and a few things away. The defendant told her if she wanted to go away from him he would put her in prison. He had not shown her her accounts entered into a book every week. She saw him write, and he said to her, "You have so much; there is so much for expenses, and then there is so much for you and so much for me."

Mr. Sergeant Miller, in cross-examination, tried to "throw dirt," as the judge expressed it, upon Mr. Levine, the attorney of the plaintiff; but was rebuked by the Chief Justice. He, however, elicited the facts that Reginbal had lived at Paris, Lyons, Havre, and Marseilles, under the surveillance of the police, as is the custom in France. At length the case was brought to a close by the counsel for Reginbal agreeing to accept a verdict for 30l.

The Chief Justice said he thought that the evidence entirely justified the statement of his brother Byles. He did not say that the defendant kept a

house where young women were seduced; but he did say that he carried on the disgusting practice of having young women in his house, and cheating them out of all they got, by keeping their money, and not allowing them to purchase anything but of him. It had been proved that these statements were justified; and if the case had gone on, and it had been proved that the defendant kept a house of this kind, he should have ordered him to be indicted for keeping such a house, and to be kept in prison in the meantime.

This announcement of his lordship was followed by a burst of applause from the audience, which was, however, at once suppressed by the officers of the court. A verdict was then entered for the plaintiff for 30l., and the case was brought to an end.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINGLING business and pleasure, the Court goes on its dignified way. At a Court held at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday, Mr. Strutt resigned, and Earl Granville received the seals of the Duchy of Lancaster. On Wednesday the Queen gave a grand state ball. During the week she has visited the St. James's Theatre twice, and the Italian Opera once; and once the Botanic Gardens in Regent's-park. The royal gentlemen from Portugal seem determined to see all things. They have visited Oxford, the City Lions, Woolwich, the Crystal Palace, and Portsmouth.

The Duchess of Gloucester again appears in public. She drove out on Tuesday.

The long expected brevet made its appearance on Thursday. From its great length it seems likely to diffuse satisfaction very widely through the higher grades of the army. A large number also of officers in the East India Company's forces obtain brevet rank in her Majesty's army.

Prince Albert presided at the usual annual Trinity House banquet on Wednesday. Several Ministers were present.

We believe that the Colonels of the 19th and 84th Regiments, vacant by the deaths of General Turner and Sir Loftus Otway, will be conferred on Major-General Rowan, C.B., commanding the troops in Canada, and Major-General James Shaw Kennedy, C.B., both distinguished Waterloo officers.—*Globe*.

The Reverend Gerald Wellesley, domestic chaplain of the Queen, has been appointed by her Majesty to the vacant deanery of Windsor.

Sir George Grey names Lord Hobart and Mr. Whitbread, M.P., as his private secretaries.

Sir George Grey went through the form of re-election by the "free and independent" ten-pounders of Morpeth, on Saturday. He made a long speech to them, containing a great deal about his connexion with the Government, and about the war, but nothing new and interesting. Above all, notwithstanding the fact that Sir George is Colonial Minister, he made not a single remark about the colonies.

The directors of the Crystal Palace celebrated the *entente cordiale*, on Saturday, by giving a sort of dinner, called a breakfast, to the French Commissioners in the basement story of the Palace. Among the guests were the Bishop of Oxford, Sir John and Lady Fakington, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, the Duchess of Sutherland, Lord Harrowby, Lord Stanley, and the Earl of Carlisle. This is the first appearance of the last-named peer since his return from the East.

MM. Jerome Bonaparte, father and son, the son and grandson of Marshal Prince Jerome by his first wife, Miss Patterson, have just arrived at Paris on board the Franklin from the United States. The grandson is said to be a striking likeness of Napoleon I.

King Bomba, it will be remembered, denounced the Exhibition of 1851. Will it be believed that he has now sanctioned the formation of a company proposing to build a Crystal Palace and Winter Garden at Naples!

Yielding to the objections expressed by a deputation of municipal authorities, at an interview with him, on Wednesday, Lord Palmerston has consented to withdraw his Police Bill. The deputation included the Mayors of Manchester, Salford, Liverpool, Birmingham, Nottingham, and Blackburn.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts held its 168th anniversary meeting at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided, and a great array of bishops were present. More funds are asked for.

The annual meeting of the Law Amendment Society was held on Wednesday, and was unusually well attended. Lord Brougham presided, and amongst those present were Lord Beaumont, Mr. Adderley, M.P., Mr. Baring, M.P., Mr. Commissioner Fane, and Mr. Commissioner Hill. The report of the committee, after congratulating the society on the progress made by the question of law reform during a year of great public excitement, proceeded to enumerate the subjects which had chiefly occupied their attention since the last annual meeting, viz., the changes in the ecclesiastical courts, the reformation of juvenile offenders, the assimilation of commercial laws, the commission on the inns of court, and the appointment of a public prosecutor. The report was unanimously adopted, as were also two resolutions founded thereon, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the president.

A meeting of literary men of the metropolis was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, to consider the best means of advancing their social position and their general interests. Mr. Scholefield, M.P., occupied the chair. A motion having been agreed to affirming that it was desirable to form the literary body into a corporate institution to pro-

tect their rights and interests, Mr. Tomlins dilated at considerable length upon the disadvantages experienced by men of letters, from the circumstance of their profession having no recognised position in society. He concluded by moving a resolution in favour of the Athenaeum Institute, but the proposal not meeting with unanimous approval, the meeting, after a very prolix discussion, agreed to appoint a committee to consider and report upon the best course to pursue in order to carry out the principle affirmed in the first resolution.

Government has promised to support the movement, initiated by the Institute of British Architects, for keeping vacant the open-space south-east of St. Paul's.

The relics of the "olden time," Shrewsbury Show, and the Godiva Procession at Coventry, have been celebrated this week. The former consists of a procession of trades to a place called Kingsland. Having formed, it proceeded to the Market-square, where it was joined by the mayor and corporation, and at half-past two it started for Kingsland. Henry I., who granted the first charter to Shrewsbury, was represented; Edward VI. (the founder of Shrewsbury school); an Indian chief, followed by several of the trades; Vulcan (in iron armour) followed by the smiths; Queen Elizabeth, followed by the hairdressers; Crispin, followed by the shoemakers; Rubens, followed by the painters; a steam-engine, followed by the engineers; Jenny Jones and Edward Morgan, Cupid and the stag, followed by the tailors and skimmers; a knight of the cleaver, followed by the butchers; and there were representations of the seasons, and a group characteristic of the battle of Shrewsbury, including Hotspur in chain armour. About 30,000 people were present. The festivities continued the next day.

The triennial procession at Coventry was remarkable for an innovation. There were two Godivas. One wore the robes of a countess of the olden time; the other more nearly approached the mode. The latter, who was rapturously cheered, was preceded by a splendid banner, bearing the words—"With the pure all things are pure." Both ladies sustained the character admirably; but the one who adopted the original costume was most unmistakably the belle of the day.

Six steamboats are building in the Thames for Baltic service. The first was launched last week. It had only been eight weeks on the stocks. These boats are to carry two large pivot guns, and six broadside guns. They will be the fleetest and strongest vessels in the fleet.

The Board of Ordnance have purchased, on the part of the Government, a large number, amounting to upwards of 2000, of revolving pistols, from Colonel Colt, for the use of the public service.

The proposals for the Russian loan in Holland have just been put forth. The amount is 50,000,000 of silver roubles, or nearly 8,000,000l. sterling, in a 5 per cent. stock, with dividend from the 1st of April, at a price equal to about 92½. The houses by whom it is introduced are Messrs. Sieglitz, at St. Petersburg, and Messrs. Hope, at Amsterdam; and it is said that in the latter city a good amount has been subscribed.

A child, three years and a half old, named Richardson, was, some time since, operated upon for the stone, at the Free Hospital, by Mr. Cooke and Mr. Wakley, junior. It is said the child was under the operation one hour and forty minutes. It died. The parents, dissatisfied, proceeded to obtain an inquest; and an order for one was made. When the mother called on Mr. Wakley, she says he asked her if she had been bribed to take that course, and she replied no. Before the inquest could take place, the attorney employed by the parents induced them to forego the inquest, offering 20l., which they refused to accept. It is alleged that 100l. were given to him to stop the proceedings. At all events they were stopped. The father declaring himself deceived, obtained an order from Lord Palmerston for an investigation. That is now pending before Mr. Baker, Coroner, sitting on behalf of Mr. Wakley. As yet no evidence has been heard for the defence. [Mr. Wakley, junior, writing to the morning journals, denies that he operated at all; and that he neither used knife or forceps.]

A tremendous boiler explosion took place, on Friday week, at Smethwick, near Birmingham. The boilers were in the centre of a pile of buildings; being out of repair, the machinery was stopped, and repairs were made; but as the engineman was about to set it in motion again, one of the boilers exploded, blowing the building to pieces, and injuring, it is feared fatally, six persons. Fortunately, the great number of workers were absent at the time.

On Sunday there was a fire at Chatham Dockyard; and the saw-mill was totally destroyed. Visited half an hour before the fire broke out, no sign of combustion was discovered, yet in half an hour the fire was so intense that the whole middle portion of the building was in flames. The chief efforts were directed to saving the neighbouring buildings; and this was effected.

There was a great fire, on Wednesday, in the New-road, St. George's-in-the-East, by which the greater part of the premises of Paichin and Johnston, oil-merchants, was destroyed. The oil on fire trickled down the gutters. Three arches under the Blackwall Railway were cleaned out by the flames. A large quantity of Government stores were burned. The firm was insured.

M. Latour ascended in a parachute, attached to a balloon, on Monday evening, and descended in safety at Shooter's-hill.

By the upsetting of a boat in a gust of wind which swept over the Frith of Forth, three Newhaven pilots have been drowned.

Another illustration of the folly of not carrying arms of some kind is furnished this week. Samuel Adcock, a young farmer, six feet high, was shot dead on Saturday, on his return from market, when within two miles of his houses. The place was lonely. His money was gone. The body had been carried from the road and flung into a ditch. He was shot from behind.

As the emigration agent was clearing the *Fidella*, an American ship, the crew mutinied, and one tried to stab the

mate. The other men joined in the attack, when the captain, acting with decision, sprang forward, and discharged two pistols among the mutineers, both shots taking effect. One man (Nylar) was shot through the back of the neck, and is said to be in a dangerous condition. The other man was only slightly wounded.

Mrs. Gladstone had a pensioner, an old man named White, to whom she gave a daily ration of soup. When White went for the soup, it was remarked that he always visited the coal-cellar. He was watched, and it was found that he stole the coal. At the Middlesex Sessions he has been sentenced to imprisonment for six months.

John Lyons, an Irish coal-whipper, has invented a new mode of wife torture—he put his wife's legs on a coke fire. But it was in enforcing the *lex talionis*. Mrs. Lyons burnt the cordons of Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Lyons tried to roast his wife's legs as a punishment. A policeman witnessed the transaction through a crevice in the shutter. When arrested, Lyons said he would sooner be hanged or transported than live with such a drunken woman. The wife did not appear in court against him; but on the evidence of the policeman, the Thames Police magistrate committed him for trial.

Mr. Wickham, a dweller in Long Island, in New York

Postscript.

SATURDAY, June 24th.

WITH regard to the un-English speech of Lord Aberdeen, there were proceedings of interest in both Houses last night. In the House of Commons Mr. LAYARD gave notice that on Monday next he should move a resolution calling on the House to say that the language held by Lord Aberdeen in the House of Lords was calculated to raise grave doubts in the public mind as to the objects and ends of the war, and to lessen the prospects of an honourable and durable peace.

It is probable that Lord ABERDEEN had heard of Mr. Layard's intention, for during the evening he gave notice that he should on Monday next move for the production of a paper containing his opinion of the treaty of Adrianople, and take that opportunity of endeavouring to remove some apprehensions which appeared to exist with regard to his recent speech on the Russian question.

In the Lower House, Captain SCOBELL, with reference to the loss of the Europa, having suggested that no transport with troops on board should ever sail without a consort, Sir J. GRAHAM said that the loss of the Europa had caused the Admiralty to order additional precautions to be taken against fire on board these ships; but thought it not advisable to hint to seamen that it was necessary to have consorts to enable them to face the dangers of the sea.

Mr. O'NEILL asked a very singular question of Lord J. Russell. Referring to a report of a case in the Sheriff's Court, he asked whether Lord Drumlanrig, the Comptroller of the Household, who appeared to have been the backer of a prizefighter in a pugilistic affair, was a proper person to be about the person of her Majesty, and whether any inquiry would be made into the matter.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL did not think any inquiry necessary.

The report on the Oxford University Reform Bill was brought up, when Mr. MANGLES proposed to strike out Mr. Justice Coleridge from the Commission, on account of his Tractarian tendencies. An earnest debate followed. Mr. GLADSTONE, Mr. WALPOLE, Lord J. RUSSELL, and Mr. DRUMMOND defended Mr. Justice Coleridge, whom Mr. HORSMAN vigorously assailed. The motion was, however, negatived without a division. The names of the Earl of Harrowby and Mr. Cornwall Lewis were added to the Commission. The report was then received, and the third reading fixed for Monday.

The House then went into committee on the Towns' Improvement (Ireland) Bill.

In the House of Lords, Lord TORRINGTON took the opportunity of presenting a petition from the coffee planters of Ceylon, to press on the Government the advisability of rescinding the permission of the Treasury to mix chicory with coffee, which, however, Lord Aberdeen asserted had not led to any increase of deleterious adulteration.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE presented a petition from the merchants of Hull, praying for a strict blockade of all Russian ports, and in doing so urged the necessity of blockading the ports in the White Sea, on the ground that in those ports, by means of neutrals, and especially by Dutch traders, the trade of Russia found an outlet which it was desirable for the future conduct of the war that we should not permit.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE defended the suspension for the present of the blockade of the White Sea, on the ground that trading engagements had been entered into with those ports, both by persons in this country and by neutrals; but laid it down very strongly that nothing which could cripple the resources of Russia would be left undone in due season.

A telegraphic despatch, received at Paris, states that, according to a letter from Bucharest, the

Russian General Luters had his jaw shot off by a cannon-ball at Silistria.

By a decree published in yesterday's *Moniteur* the duty of 5f. on cotton and wool in the French colonies is abolished.

A friendly correspondent sends us an account of a lecture on Tennyson, delivered by Lord Goderich, on Wednesday, to the members of the Mechanics' Institution.

"The majority of the meeting," says our correspondent, who does a credit to his class, "were ladies, which is a convincing proof of what good might be effected among our female population, if earnest, influential men, like the lecturer, would put their shoulders to the wheel. Some work is wanted; and, as the chairman said, Lord Goderich had proved himself something more than an 'abstraction,' by coming to instruct them. The lecturer commenced his modest, chaste, and unassuming essay on Tennyson's works, by explaining the uses of poetry in connexion with the moral, social, and intellectual advancement of humanity. Some potent influence was required to check avarice, ambition, and that recklessness which characterises this era of gain. That influence was to be found in poetry. Some impulse must be given to men to practice goodness. That impulse could the poetry of Tennyson give. A voice was wanted to minister consolation to the 'weary and heavy laden,' and to cheer the bleeding wounds of forlorn-visaged poetry. That voice was Tennyson's. This done, he then enumerated England's human song-birds, commencing with him of Avon, and following up with the pure and profound Wordsworth, the mystical Coleridge, and 'poor Shelley.' The last of these was feelingly mentioned as the persecuted genius, whose works were the perfection of sympathy and love for suffering humanity. He then reviewed Tennyson's poetry, and pointed out in a plain and simple manner what he considered their beauties. The numerous extracts he made were read in a novel, though by no means disagreeable, manner. He did not assume that his audience were ignorant. The line of demarcation between speaker and auditor was scarcely perceptible. They both were supposed to occupy the same standpoint; and on that principle the lecturer said what he had to say in a style that reminds one of him who likened himself unto a 'child gathering pebbles on the sea-shore.' There were no flashy stage attempts to impress the audience with the beauty of the poetry—that was left to the intelligence of the hearer. Extracts were given from 'Locksley Hall,' and 'The Princess.' The former breathed a brave spirit of manliness, and showed Tennyson to be a great national teacher; the latter the noblest vindication of woman's rights that has emanated from the pen. 'In Memoriam,' said the lecturer, though containing some of the grandest utterances in our language, is not suited, in tone, to an audience like this. However, he gave some specimens of its deep, holy spirit, and concluded by reading 'The Old Year and the New,' in such a sympathetic tone, that we forgot our prejudices for great hereditary titles, and applauded the man."

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1854.

Public Affairs.

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

ABERDEEN ST. GEORGE.

ONE office is vacant in the British House of Commons, and it is one which may be very suitably fulfilled by the Opposition, or by the independent members, or by both in concert. It is that of seeing that the honour of the British flag be not sacrificed to some new-fangled, effeminate, and coxcombical notions about the necessity of making "peace" the object of the war. The declarations of Ministers within the last week have been sufficient to create the greatest doubt as to the sincerity with which they undertook the conduct of hostilities against the enemy of the country. And the anxiety ought to be the greater, since some of the most popular of our members are themselves victims to the same delusion. One, who might be expected by his nature to ally himself with more national feelings, appears to be unable to break through the fetters of a square collar and a broad brim; and others are so far under the nightmare of the dogmatic philosophy of Manchester, that they are effectually placed out of the discussion for the present. Ministers themselves are

more popular and more national than the members for one or two leading boroughs; but when those Ministers speak as if they were prepared to capitulate after victory, we must confess that the office of sustaining the national glory in Parliament is indeed vacant. Perhaps when once the nature of the danger is really understood, it may arouse effective champions. We believe even, that amongst the Opposition, amongst the friends of Ministers, amongst the Manchester men themselves, there will be some who will come forward to prevent the consummation of that fatal peace, which seems to be already contemplated by Ministers and their immediate friends.

We are far from desiring to take too strict an account of words uttered to public meetings; they are often confused by the disordered atmosphere in which they are spoken, and sometimes by the habitual want of distinct or clear conceptions in the speaker.

Lord John Russell is a statesman who shares the feelings of his countrymen very deeply, whose heart is placed upon the success and glory of his country; but he seldom appears to present to himself with perfect distinctness any object towards which he is to work with firmness and decision. He steers like a sailor in a fog, without a course positively laid down before him, and trimming by the soundings of the shoal, not by the compass or the landmarks ahead. At present he is surrounded by confused voices, which call on one side for war, and on the other side for peace. The public with whom he sympathises is anxious for achievements like those of Nelson and St. Vincent, of Wellington and Marlborough; but close beside him, at his ear, sits one who is for ever reiterating the word "peace." Between the two, Lord John wishes to achieve glorious victories in the name of peace, and sets forth to war with a flag of truce. With this double purpose in his mind, the public can feel no confidence that he will really aim at that which the public desires.

At present we have made up our minds that peace with Russia is impossible. Some day no doubt we may attain it, when that barbarian and dangerous Power shall have been made to know that Englishmen are still stronger than Russians; that the Czar cannot dictate to the civilised world, and that Russia must accept terms which are made for her by other Powers. Then we may think of peace. We have as yet nothing to think of but war, and while thus engaged our object must be, without sacrificing that wealth and that commerce which we have constructed during peace, to wring from war the advantages that belong to it. We have been too long without that exercise for national energies. So long that we have become enervated—even timid. Yes, the countrymen of Henry V., of Talbot, of Edward the Black Prince, of Marlborough, of Blake, of Wellington, Nelson, and Cromwell, are afraid. We do not use the word in any metaphorical sense. Although we believe the quality of courage is that which is most widely spread, and exists in full amongst men who have no opportunities whatsoever for cultivating it; we also believe that an artificial timidity has been cultivated, and that men positively tremble at the idea of the personal peril which may be entailed on them by war,—at the confusion, the bloodshed, and the expense.

To say we believe so, is equivalent to expressing our gratification that a time has come when the necessity for exercise may recal the country to a healthier spirit, and enable it to revive that strength of spirit as well as limb which has been somewhat enervated. Let us have a few years' struggle, and we shall be as warlike as ever we have

of our national life. But the spirit begins to revive, the desire for victory for the sake of conquest; and will be added to the list of exploits achieved by our countrymen for the sake of the glory.

What matters it, that we do not intend, as Lord John says, to despoil other states of their provinces for our own profit? It is our clear duty, although waiving profit, still to despoil other states of their provinces, and, notably, to despoil Russia. We may give the profit to others whom it may benefit more than ourselves. We want neither Bessarabia, nor Finland, Warsaw nor Cracow; but other states want those provinces, and it will, we say,—although Lord John, yielding to the dogma of the day in which we verily believe that he does not sympathise, disclaims conquests—it will, we say, be a glorious moment when English armies shall wring from mortified and reluctant Russia those provinces which are trophies of her own wrongous invasions, and shall give them away to grateful but independent nations. If England cannot relish glories like that, we may tell Queen Victoria that the lease of her throne has a fatal flaw in it,—that she is about to become the tenant at will of Russia; and then we had better hand over the English flag to our American sons, and ask them to take care of it for us, since we have lost the capacity of doing it for ourselves.

But we have not yet got to that pitch of national degradation, and therefore is it, that Englishmen should protest against statesmen professing to be their Ministers, who speak not only as Lord John speaks, but as his new colleague, Sir George Grey. He expresses "his regret" at the recurrence of war; his deep regret at the re-opening of a period in which Englishmen may add to the list of glories achieved by their countrymen. "War," he says, "is one of the greatest evils by which the human race can be afflicted;" but granting that it is attended by evils, it is at least not so frightful a disease as national timidity, national indifference, or the loss of national spirit. "There are but two main objects," he said, "which a Government must have,—one is the effectual prosecution of the war; the other, the speediest termination consistent with the attainment of a just and honourable peace." Now, for our own part, we disclaim that as an object. The soldier that carries on war with the impatience to have done with it will let his desire appear in his manner, and will accept a peace too soon to be completely honourable. The war must be carried on with the determination to get out of it all that it can be made to yield, for the interests of this country, for the welfare of Europe at large, and for the glory of those to whom Providence shall give the victory. That last part is essential. The *ultima ratio regum*, the last appeal of states, is an appeal to Divine Providence to decide between those whose human reason is insufficient for the decision; and according as a nation is wise, virtuous, and strong, the victory will be awarded to it in that wager of battle. Therefore, half the value of the verdict lies in the national glory attained from it.

But it is the Prime Minister who utters the language which Englishmen, having the past of the country in their memory, and the spirit of Englishmen in their hearts, will be most eager to disclaim. The purpose of the war, he declares, is solely to prevent an unjust aggression. He declares that he is not indifferent to the conduct of the war, and yet he disclaims "vengeance." There is a great debt of wrong which Russia has been heaping up, and unless the sovereign whom her enslaved people support shall come forward and

declare before the world, that he repents him of the sins of his empire, then justice will be unsatisfied if vengeance be not dealt upon that bad sovereign and that servile empire. It is the duty of England, we say, to inflict vengeance. The glory of England will be the abasement of Russia, and Englishmen can as little waive one half of that result as they can attain to the glories of war without bloodshed. But, says Lord Aberdeen, "we ought never to close our ears to the voice of peace." The country will not think so; the country will say that we must not listen to a word from Russia until Russia shall have laid down her arms before our conquering soldiers. Then we may listen to peace, but not before. The Minister who now talks of peace behaves like the traitor in a stormed town who makes signs of capitulation to the enemy. He is traitor even to the dictates of humanity; for nothing can more certainly conduce to the calamities of Europe than to make Russia believe that she still has allies, even in England.

If Lord Lyndhurst were only ten years younger the English people would answer his speech on Monday night last, with one voice declaring he is the man to be our Minister. Has he no political son? Is the country of Cromwell dead?

A MIDDLE-CLASS MINISTER.

Those journals which are most interested in party movements, and are, at the same time, not most hostile to the present Ministers, admit—nay, earnestly declare—that the late redistribution of offices has seriously weakened the present Government. The reasons appear to be, not only that the present changes are made without sufficient reason—in itself a cause of suspicion—but that some conduct, arbitrary and personally offensive, has been used in procuring a couple of vacancies for two leaders of the Whig party,—Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey. We pay comparatively little attention to these statements, because to a certain extent they are incompatible. For instance, one writer ranges Lord John Russell, Sir George Grey, and Lord Palmerston together, yet Sir George Grey evidently belongs to the Aberdeen section, so far as it is pledged to peace. But the true exposure, infinitely more serious than personal wrongs or slights, is made in the simple narrative of Mr. Strutt.

Office was proposed to him without solicitation; like an honest man, he was desirous of giving his whole time and energies to the public service. He was placed in the post of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and on entering office he found that its duties, although not unimportant, were far from sufficient to occupy a man's time. It might have occurred to another man, that if the routine duties of his office were not enough to fill up his time, he might occupy the remainder by the political duties of a Cabinet Minister; but if Mr. Strutt had any ambition of that kind, it is quite evident that he had no opportunity. This is apparent from the sequel. On returning to town, after the Whitsuntide holidays, he received a communication from Lord Aberdeen, telling him that Government found themselves in a position of considerable difficulty with respect to arrangements which they considered to be most important for the public service; that they had finally concluded all those arrangements, which depended, however, upon their having at their disposal the office, that he then held; and that their final conclusion only awaited the expression of his concurrence. All this had been done without consulting him at all, and this statement was the first he heard of it! In other words, Lord Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, and others of the

Cabinet Ministers had arranged for the expulsion of Mr. Strutt, and politely told him that they only awaited his resignation.

He must have felt exactly like a man who has permitted himself to accept an invitation to a great house, who enters amongst the distinguished company, and finds himself superciliously unrecognised by everybody present—isolated amidst the number, and ashamed of the false pride which prompted him to accept the invitation. Such a man wanders about, endeavouring to feel at ease, and anxious only for the period of release. "I shall be happy," exclaims the host, "to see you again;" and the obedient visitor, accepting the hint to withdraw, gratefully shakes the proffered hand and retires.

With ordinary men the matter might have ended there. Mr. Strutt had been made to know his place, had been duly mortified; and it was to be expected that, like a man saying his prayers in church, he would have decorously hidden his agitated face in his hat and said no more about it. Instead of that, he goes and tells the Commons; and the House, which at first laughs at his absurd position, ultimately recognises in his plain language the true dignity of a real gentleman, and by its cheers signifies its sympathy with his just and proud indignation. Mr. Strutt is treated with a personal slight, which plainly tells him that he is not worth a more considerate treatment. Why? Because he belongs to a class that is inferior to the class which has the privilege of furnishing Ministers of the Crown. It is true that sometimes individuals of comparatively low birth,—a Canning or a Peel,—may in the second generation, or the third, or sometimes even in the first, work themselves up into the grade that supplies official men; but then they must labour to establish their position socially as well as officially. They must, by hook or by crook, obtain the requisite income, they must be drilled in the requisite etiquette, they must know how to place their morning calls and their evening parties. In short, whether by blood, by wealth, or still more, by *savoir faire*, they must become "one of us," and then they will be consulted when they are admitted to office as well as when they are turned out.

If they do not belong to this confraternity, office is thrown at them as crumbs are to a dog, and they are kicked out when they are thought to have had enough. In such cases it is presumed, in the first place, that pride and the hope of advancement, or of restoration, will bind the man to those who give him distinction as an alms. In the second place, that when kicked out, shame will keep him silent. Strutt had his "right honourable" and a kick, and therefore, it was thought, he had two inducements to conceal the indignity put upon him. As to his colleagues it mattered little—Strutt out of office, or Strutt in office, it was all one to them; and indeed we are not aware that Mr. Strutt has done half so much in the Chancery of Lancaster, as he has done at Belper or Derby, without any official distinction.

That which the English people will gather from these acts is something more than the truth about Mr. Strutt. It is clear that the possession of office is, if not arranged between particular families, at all events between people in particular circles of society. Plebeians like Mr. Strutt are excluded from any authority in such matter, as much as the bulk of the people. Such was an intelligible arrangement when real power accompanied the possession of land, and the furnishing a given armed force to the state was suit and service for feudal tenure. It now only subsists by force of cliquery. Certain gentlemen, with no particular hold upon the land or institutions of the country, are enabled to pass

office from one to another and back again, simply because the great mass of the people of England permit it. The middle class, who stand between the people of England and those few self-elected managers, assist in keeping up the cliquery, because they hope occasionally to have a stray crumb or two. When they are mortified, they are silenced by shame; and hence we seldom have explanations so perfectly direct and explicit as that which Mr. Strutt has given to us. If the English people had any sufficient spirit, Mr. Strutt's statement would have roused it. But the House laughs at first, is just enough roused to cheer a little towards the end, and—"the subject dropped."

CHURCH RATES.

THE CHURCH MUST BELONG TO THOSE WHO PAY FOR IT.

"THE Church"—that is the fabric—is the abode of a "national, and established religion,"—such is Mr. Gladstone's phrase. Different sections may object to payments for national objects, argues Mr. Goulburn; the peace party may object to pay for the expenses of "carrying military baggage;" but the Church must be maintained in order to give "gratuitous religious instruction" to the poor.

Mr. Vernon Smith declares that he never in his life saw a working man, in his working clothes, in a parish church; and, with some few exceptions, he is right. The very few working people that go to church disguise themselves in the clothes of the middle class, and, in fact, belong more to the middle class than to the poor. The idea of maintaining the present church for the poor is therefore a farce.

When it is a question of rights this plea of national character is put forward for the Church. Speak of its obligations, claim for the nation the right to dispose of its machinery, and then we are told that the property of the Church is Church property, private property. In short, the Church is national in its rights; but private in its obligations.

The Church ought to be compelled to make its choice—either to be a private corporation or a national establishment. If it were to choose the private character, it cannot claim to levy rates upon the nation. It must then retire upon its estate, make the best it can of its property, compete with other sects for official appointments, and, in short, be nothing more than a rich corporation.

There is, indeed, a very different course open to the Church, if there were in it men at once possessing a sufficiently catholic spirit, genius of intellect, and strong physical energy, to grasp the core of religious truth, to show that it resides in the Church called "of England," and to adapt the institutions of that Church to the actual state of the country and of our knowledge psychological and scientific. The impulse to effect that great work does exist within the Church, and many enthusiastic churchmen are under its throes; but the strength is wanting.

The third course, less elevated than the second, more generous than the first, would be to adopt the national character, and to declare that the fabric belongs to those that pay for it—namely, to the church-rate payers. But then would arise the question, Why should the minority of a parish which pays its way in church matters, have exclusive appointment of the parish churchman? Admit that payment is proof of property, and a Wesleyan parish would claim to appoint for its parish church a Wesleyan minister. And why not?

MARGARET REGINAL.

"THE case is exceptional"—such is the exclamation constantly made when any trait of society, as it actually exists, is described in plain terms. Husbands who are poisoned by wives have learned to hate them, and to wish them on the other side of Lethe; parents speculate on the burial-fees for their children; wives are slaughtered by the brutality and cruelty of husbands; police courts and criminal courts drag out these cases, and we are told that they belong to the uneducated classes; or that, as social traits, they are exceptional. Call them extreme, and the qualification would be true. It is not every brute of a husband, every Madame Laffarge, or every speculative parent that gets into police courts, nor is it every criminal of this class which proceeds to such lengths as to render himself liable to prosecution. Still these are representative cases, the specimens of whole classes; for if the classes did not exist there could not be these extremes. *Nemo repente fuit turpissimus*, and as there must be something to lead up to actual crime, so criminals are not wholly and widely isolated from the classes to which they belong.

Again, notwithstanding the obstructive machinery of the Ecclesiastical Courts, they are constantly occupied with cases of separations and divorce on grounds which render marriage intolerable. It has been proposed to improve these courts, and to facilitate such procedure. One class of objections is based upon the belief, that if facilities be extended the applications for separation will be multiplied indefinitely. It has been proposed to give the business to the Court of Chancery instead of the Ecclesiastical Courts. The court, cry the Conservatives, will be overwhelmed with business—unable to go on.

It has been proposed to grant to the wife divorce upon the same grounds as those upon which it is granted to the husband. Grant that, cries the Lord Chancellor, supported by many of his confrères, and you open the door to indiscriminate divorce. Husbands can and will provoke actions for divorce, against themselves, without departing from their ordinary habits.

Alice Leroy escapes from a house occupied at a high rent in a respectable street, the house itself known for being well conducted after its fashion. She escapes to the police, discloses the circumstance that a distinguished Marquis, a Greek Prince, and others of the same stamp, habitually resort to the mansion; and the answer is, that it is an exceptional case. *Nemo repente!* we reply; such cases do not occur without there are others to lead up to them. Establishments of the same kind teem in the metropolis and increase in number. At the time of the great fire, there were, said Pepys, as many taverns destroyed as there were churches left standing, "which it is pretty to observe."

But at the present time the churches, we suspect, are outnumbered, not by the taverns, but by other establishments such as those in which Alice Leroy was lodged. And if the churches are empty, those establishments are not. Look diligently enough and you shall find; and accordingly this week comes another case; that of Reginald versus Marmaysee. It is evident from the orthography of these names that the traffic is in the hands of very ignorant persons; but it does not appear that the customers belong to an equally low class of society.

The traffic is reduced to a kind of system, and the heroine of this drama exposes it. She is brought over from France; is only one of a class sufficiently numerous to repay a systematic importation of such

girls. She is lodged in a house where she finds everything very comfortable; she keeps a regular day-book, which fulfils in some degree also the function of a ledger; at all events her accounts are squared every Sunday,—so much for herself, so much for the speculative master, so much for the expenses. Twenty-three pounds in one week are put down as her earnings, and they may be instructively contrasted with the earnings of virtuous women at the business of washing, sewing, or tailoring. Note also, that, as in this country, social esteem goes mainly with wealth, there is every chance that a Margaret Reginald, or an Alice Leroy who does not revolt, will be able to secure infinitely more social recognition than a poor sempstress or waistcoat-maker. Follow either one of them to an inn, and see how the dingy woman will be turned out, while the Margaret Reginald, except in very starched establishments, will be admitted with delight, and waited upon with distinction.

The case confirms what had been stated at the time of Alice Leroy, and what has been discovered subsequently in Holland and Belgium: there is a regular exportation of such merchandise from Belgium, Holland, and France, for the consumption of the English market. There is a similar export, it is said, for the American market; but, as far as we can understand, there is some difference here. We speak, indeed, under correction; because, as even "the Vagabond" whom we have dismissed does not profess to belong to the established order of society, we cannot suppose that even he is experienced in those systematic arrangements; and for ourselves, we know them only through French literature and the reports of certain charitable institutions. There is a certain routine, whether it is in going to the clergyman before noon, attended by the usual allowance of bridesmaids, carriages with blinds, servants with rosettes, breakfast, and so forth, or in calling upon Monsieur Marmaysee and Madame Caroline, and tendering the usual fee, from one to three pounds. Statistics show that there is as much regularity in the one as in the other class of alliances. The difference between the American and the English consumption, however, is this: it is avowed, not without some evidence, that in New York, the principal American emporium, the traffic depends principally for its patronage upon foreigners resident there.

We suspect, indeed, that, however the traffic may originate, it does, since it exists, find custom even amongst the Native Americans. Still there is evidence to show that originally and to its chief extent this traffic in New York is foreign: with us it is naturalised, and the foreign element is imported chiefly as the variety. It is conducted upon commercial principles; it is recognised in the after-dinner conversations of society, though it is disclaimed by those for whom it is carried on. It has become the subject of investigation in our law courts, but "the veil of propriety" is, to some extent, thrown over it; and even when it comes into court, Mr. Sergeant Miller endeavours to hush it up, by suggesting that "the court should be spared these disgusting details." Disgusting as they are, the details can be performed by, or on behalf of, respectable men—for none but respectable men can spend one, two, or three pounds at once. Undoubtedly, however, it is a well understood custom of society not to talk of them, or, when they are found out, to declare with emphasis that "the case is exceptional." And thus does English society preserve in its heart, sacred against profane invasion, the demon idol of Reginaldism.

A "STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

In a political suspense like the present we only care for incidents to individuals;—the whole point of this Parliamentary week is that Lord John Russell is not going up in the world. A considerable section of the Liberal party seems at present exclusively engaged, there being a complete cessation of correspondence with "active" constituents, in the psychological pursuit of finding out Lord John Russell. After his oration on church-rates—old members said it reminded them of the style of the pious Mr. Perceval—I don't see how even Mr. Hume can jog on any further in the conviction that Lord John is a "Reformer." After his blundering on Mr. Heywood's two clauses, I don't see how any one can ever again venture to repeat the *minstrel* that Lord John is an adroit tactician. After Mr. Strutt's "explanation," I don't see how there can be any farther indulgence in the pleasant creed that Lord John is faithful to his friends. And it is a character for these three qualities which he never possessed that Lord John's supporters always set up for Lord John; so the discoveries of the week may have a sinister influence on his career. "The speech of the noble Lord on church-rates," said Mr. Milner Gibson on Thursday, "has exploded like a rocket, in the ranks of his liberal followers," a remark at which Lord John shifted his legs and arms into greater impassability, and at which the subordinate corps of champions of Whig principles held down their heads. Mr. Gibson has the merits of the flower which dwelt near the rose,—his fraternity with Mr. Bright has taught him a painful trick of being precise in his reference to spades; and on Thursday his bluntness excited many awkward sensations. The under-Ministers, who suppress Radical principles in deference to Lord John, who is always for waiting a little longer,—it being a very good thing to get a following as a Reformer yet never to carry a Reform—winceed agonisingly under Mr. Gibson's advice. For, said Mr. Gibson, who is very proud of his celebrated ratiocating, "I have been a subordinate member of a Government, and I know what it is to have to vote, to please your chief, against your conviction and your conscience, and I do appeal to the noble lord on behalf of his inferior colleagues, to let them, this once, vote for Mr. Heywood, to whose clauses they must necessarily and naturally wish success." The House laughed; but it must have been tragedy to these subordinates to sit thus degraded. Twelve hundred a year, and the consolations of a fussy ambition, induce politicians to endure a good deal of meanness; and, in the ordinary case of a customary Government arrangement, one would feel no sympathy with a crew thus assailed by Mr. Gibson. But, in the case of this Government, they are a splendid set of men, the subordinates, and it is to be ardently hoped that they are getting disgusted. They may see in the treatment of Mr. Strutt at what these old lords and grand courtiers rate the honour and the capacity of the untitled intellects that condescend to play the game of a brainless aristocracy; and the falsification of the conditions on which the minor Liberal Ministers entered the service of Lord John Russell should suggest that it would be better worth the while of men like Mr. Robert Lowe, Mr. Bernal Osborne, Mr. James Wilson, and Mr. Baines, to remain true to the people, and to create their own party. The cleverest men in the Government are subordinates; and why? No doubt, because such a state of things, like Lord John's church-rate, is in harmony with an Established Church, an hereditary peerage, and a packed House of Commons—all of which Lord John prefers to the clearer contrivances of the United States. But is it not a pity that a good Government, like the present, should go to pieces, as people say it is going, because of the follies and fatuities of one or two old lords in it,—the clever subordinates having no control over these dull old gentlemen? Not a subordinate sitting on the Treasury benches on Thursday but felt that Lord John was going wrong; and yet the subordinates didn't say a word to pull him right. When Lord John made the speech, last year—it was a very odd speech for a Liberal—which drove Mr. Monsell and Mr. Keogh into resigning, and Lord Aberdeen into apologising, Mr. Hayter ventured to tell Lord John

with frankness, that he (Lord John) was making it impossible for him (Mr. Hayter) to manage the Irish members; and upon that occasion Mr. Hayter had to repent of his daring in advising an old Lord who has the Bedford following. When Lord John made his celebrated botch (it was about equal to his tactique on Thursday last) on the Militia Bill—a botch which drove him out—the subordinates would have cut him whether he resigned or not—he was past all further endurance. But they could merely have resigned: it would not be constitutional in the House for the capable first lieutenant to show the imbecile aristocratic captain how to sail the ship; they must throw themselves overboard. Parliamentary history does not present a greater instance of bungle than Lord John's lead of the Government on Thursday; Mr. Walpole's speech gave an excellent opportunity to any high-spirited man to renounce such a chieftainship. But none stirred: the House rushed to the second division in utter confusion and incoherence. Mr. Bright's, failing Mr. Heywood's, return to the charge with the second clause will renew the opportunity.

It is fortunate that there are only a limited number of offices for possible subordinates. What would have become of us if the Coalition could have contained all the aspirants. There's Mr. Layard: he was left out, and, in consequence, we have been kept tolerably straight and authentic in our view of Turkish politics. Lord Aberdeen's speech, on Monday—whether he was right or wrong in his point of view and in his inferences is quite another question—was virulently antagonistic to popular opinion, and, accordingly, excited the universal disgust of a people enlightenedly convinced that they have a right to lead in a war for human freedom:—yet the speech passed away. Mr. Disraeli is waiting for his summary of the session, or Lord Dudley Stuart's question about Ministerial explanations; and it was only last night that it occurred to Mr. Layard—who, after all, prematurely surprised the House—that when a First Minister and a great people are directly opposed, there ought to be some explanation, and, if possible, some adjustment. "Lord Aberdeen ought to go out,"—that is the cry; and no one better comprehended the meaning of Mr. Layard's notice than Lord Aberdeen, when, reaching his seat about five in the afternoon, the assiduous Argyle informed him of the menacing debate of the Commons. Now, if the Earl of Aberdeen has an intention left, it is an intention to remain First Minister, the self-governed country notwithstanding; and he has indicated his customary acuteness in promptly anticipating Mr. Layard, and arranging for his own explanations on Monday. Next week will determine the fate of the Ministry and the object of the war.

Saturday Morning.

"A STRANGER."

Open Council.

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

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

KOSSUTH'S EDITION OF HIS OWN SPEECHES.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

147, Fleet-street, June 20, 1854.

SIR,—A writer in Douglas Jerrold's paper of last Saturday made a demand that Kossuth's great Sheffield speech should be reproduced in a "cheap form." As that notice may lead to the attempt by some publishers to issue it, we beg your insertion of the substance of a letter we have addressed to the editor of the journal above named. The additional publicity of the facts in the *Leader* will probably cause it to be usefully quoted in provincial quarters—and especially in America. There needs, we know, no other appeal to you than the assurance that your insertion of the letter will be an act of justice to Kossuth, and serve the interests of literature.

The publication of Kossuth's Sheffield evening speech "in a cheap form" has been done and undone, and is about to be done again, and done better.

Regretting that so important a speech should pass away with the newspapers of the day, we sought to give it a more permanent form, and wider publicity, and issued the Sheffield evening speech, reprinted from the pages of the *Leader*, at 2d. It was soon in demand. But we took an early opportunity of communicating to Kossuth, through a mutual friend, a copy of our edition, when we learned that it was

the wish of Kossuth to issue an edition of his speeches himself. In deference to his wish we at once stopped our presses, threw aside our placards, and cancelled all the advertisements we were able. We would on no account (and we believe no English publisher would) attempt to issue a copy which should deprive an exile, especially, of any advantage that could accrue from the publication of his own speeches, which are as much his property as the book of the author or the handwork of the mechanic. Besides, no report of the newspaper can do entire justice to Kossuth's wonderful mastery of our language; and he is now a good English scholar enough to be vexed at seeing in print the English he would not write.

The public have hitherto looked on Kossuth's speeches as king's speeches—as political public property, which it was an act of loyalty to diffuse. But from the day on which Kossuth publishes a speech himself the public will buy only his Editions, and no English publisher will, for one moment, think of invading his rights.

Will you permit me to add, for the advantage of Kossuth's Edition, that it will include his Sheffield and Nottingham speeches together. He stereotypes them. Trübner will be the publisher, and the price will be almost nominal.

Some objection has been raised that Kossuth's previous speeches are charged 5s. It ought, however, to be known that the volume is handsomely printed, and contains nearly 60 speeches—which is scarcely a penny each—and that the whole are edited by Professor Newman, who has collated all that is enduring from 500 speeches, delivered in America, as well as preserved the most artistic expression of his English speeches, reproduced on the other side of the Atlantic. It comes within our knowledge that Professor Newman paid upwards of 100*l.* out of his own pocket for the publication of those speeches, and that not 50*l.* has yet returned. If any one considers such a volume too dear for mechanics (though we cannot believe that English mechanics are not too independent to wish important books given them), let the Free Libraries, the Athenæums and Mechanics' Institutions, buy such a work, and thus put it within the reach of those who are unable to buy it for themselves. This is a far better course than attempting to circulate "cheap," unauthorised, or inaccurate editions. For the poor man, having but little opportunity of culture, should never, if he could help it, see any but the best books.

Yours ever faithfully,

GEORGE JACOB HOLYOAKE,
(For Holyoake and Co.)

INCORPORATION OF LITERARY MEN.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

London, June 22, 1854.

SIR,—The writers who advanced the literature and journalism of the last century have fairly been eclipsed by those of our own time; and we may conclude that such men as Congreve, Addison, Swift, and Johnson could scarcely have lived as gentlemen by the mere sale of their writings, had not the deficiency of the natural demand for literature been made up by artificial encouragement in the shape of bounties and premiums; and Jeffery, in his "Progress of English Literature," tells us Rowe was not only Poet Laureate, but also land surveyor to the Customs; Gay secretary of legation; and Swift, but for the unconquerable aversion of Queen Anne, would have been a bishop. We all know Addison was Secretary of State, and Johnson was only placed beyond poverty when he was more than fifty years old. But, sir, this is an age for newspapers, magazines, and pamphlets (as was stated last night at the meeting of literary men, held at the Freemasons' Tavern); the demand for literary talent is on the increase. I believe, sir, from a pretty long acquaintance with journalism, that hardly any one with an educated mind, well stored with history, literature, and politics, need, like poor Goldsmith, vegetate upon oatmeal rather than dine with a party of eight at Richmond.

Journalism, however fascinating to ambitious men, and men of a certain independence, such as the Bar, which was so ably dilated upon by Mr. Johnson Neale, or by the no less high-minded body of working *litterateurs*, so vividly depicted by Mr. Thornton Hunt, and others, demands our best endeavours for the deserving and less fortunate, in adversity or want of employment, and it was thought the Athenæum Institute hardly met the case, and the meeting, after a very interesting discussion, agreed to appoint a committee to consider and report upon the best course to pursue in order to carry out such arrangements as would form literary men into a more extended corporate institution.

Now, sir, why not let us all try to make this Athenæum Institute a minor athenæum, combining with it the advantages of life insurance, so as to make it a rendezvous for literary men and journalists, in fact, a Press Club, where we may all meet and discuss literature without that extreme secrecy, jealousy, and rivalry which we know is the bane to all sociality, and which we all deplore.—I am, sir, yours, obediently,

E. B. A.

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*.

WE have to correct a mistake into which we were led last week respecting the authorship of the article on the *Essay on the Plurality of Worlds*, in the *North British Review*. It is not by Professor NICHOL, but by Sir DAVID BREWSTER, who, as he himself informs us, has copied sentences, and even paragraphs from the Review into his own book; and this would make him appear a plagiarist were the article attributed to another. Sir DAVID's work is much talked of, and espousing the more popular side of the argument to which it gives scientific sanction, it is likely to be read with eagerness. Men are so happy to seem to know anything about the other worlds.

It is acutely remarked by LEOPARDI, in one of his detached aphorisms, that the best way to conceal the limits of your knowledge is not to overstep them. *Il più certo modo di celare agli altri i confini del proprio sapere, è di non trapassarli*. But the difficulty is to ascertain those limits, to know what you know, and to recognise the limits of the knowable. The ambition of human intellect is insatiable, illimitable, and it always flies at the unattainable, like VIRGIL's archer shooting at the stars by way of trying its strength. Thus, before we have in any way arrived at clear conceptions of Life on this planet, we are busy framing theories of the Life which is developing itself on Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury, and the rest,

"In caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea."

WHEWELL (if he be the author of the *Essay on the Plurality of Worlds*) is quite sure that Mercury, for instance, boasts no Cambridge Don with intellect magnificent and a Scheme of Salvation especially arranged for him, is sure that Jupiter is deficient in the race of JONES, and that Saturn knows not SMITH! On the other hand, Sir DAVID BREWSTER is quite sure that JONES and SMITH, under mightier avatars, flourish there as here, and that an infinite futurity awaits astronomers for the carrying on of their speculations among an infinity of worlds. Meanwhile, neither has any knowledge on the subject; yet both are hampered by that *rein menschliche standpunkt*—that purely human standard we spoke of last week, unable to conceive any Life but the human. Not only they, but all men are so hampered. Sometimes this is seen in quite ludicrous aspects, as where men put into words their conception of heaven. Thus, in the Oxford Collection of Hymns, the devout mind is promised an abode of bliss,

"Where Congregations ne'er break up
And Sabbaths have no end!"

(We are quoting literally.) Remembering what the Sabbath is, in most English and Scotch families, and remembering also the general constitution of "congregations," this does not accurately represent our idea of Heaven!

Yet if infinity be desired as the Hunting Grounds of the Intellect, the microscope affords it. There need be no fear of exhausting that source. To confine our attention for one moment to one small branch of natural investigation, what a gigantic study is that of *Entozoa*. It is only of late years that the intestinal worms have been investigated; GOETZE in 1793, and RUDOLPHI in 1808, may be considered the originators. Since then BREMSER, BOJANUS, NORDMANN, OWEN, DUJARDIN, VAN BENEDEN, and BLANCHARD, have by their labours raised it to the dignity of a special section of inquiry. How laborious these preliminary steps have been may be estimated by the fact that RUDOLPHI, who devoted a life to the subject, only had the opportunity of observing 350 species of the 1000 mentioned by him. To make the Vienna collection of intestinal worms, which numbers 368 species, fifteen years, and the dissection of 45,000 vertebrate animals, have been requisite! For his *Histoire Naturelle des Helminthes*, DUJARDIN has in the course of twenty years opened 300 invertebrate and 2400 vertebrate animals. Nor is this all. To understand these worms you must understand their embryogeny. They pass through metamorphoses as numerous and as important as those of insects; and the investigator, after noting the development of these worms in one organ of one animal, has to find the second stage of development in worms inhabiting some other animal or some other organ; thus the infancy of the "individual alluded to" may be passed in the stomach of a rat; but if you wish to know him as a boy, you must seek him in his playground; elsewhere, say in the cat's liver; to recover him in matured respectability, in the brain of an ox! There is a subject for an ingenious writer: *The Wanderings of a Tœnia: a Romance of Natural History*!

The reader who is at all interested in this subject of *Helminthology* (science of intestinal worms) will find a very valuable report to the *Académie des Sciences*, made by M. QUATREFAGES, on the *Mémoires* of VAN BENEDEN and KUCHINMEISTER, in the last number of the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*. We take this opportunity of informing our scientific readers that a new series is commenced of the *Annales* with the number just cited, affording them a good occasion for subscribing.

Does Vice wear an attractive Mask? WILKIE COLLINS answers that

question in an extract to be found elsewhere in these columns; but while he says, and truly says, that Vice has no need of any extrinsic allurements, he will also admit that the cause of poor Virtue will not be greatly advanced by her rival being supposed to be more attractive. Now moralists of the sermonising tendency are somewhat too unctuous in their descriptions of what to avoid. They paint the devil with such gusto that one thinks he can't be so very diabolical after all. Thus we read lately in a story, meant to be very moral, how an unhappy father on his death-bed informs his children that their mother had shamelessly deserted him eighteen years before. By way of heightening the horror of her conduct he adds, "Yet she still lives, my children. Would that I could even tell you she has repented her crime, and acknowledged her sin before God and Man! But alas! no. She riots in luxury with her paramour in Paris to this hour." This is very common language; yet it would seem as if eighteen years of luxury in Paris, "rioting with her paramour," were not a very awful consequence, but rather a temptation. It is all very well for moralists to declaim against "rioting in luxury," but men and women of less stoical material are not terrified at luxury, do not shudder at Paris, and on the whole would be apt to prefer that kind of life to one where the congregations never thought of breaking up. If hymns and stories really did shape our lives, judge what the result would be from two such specimens as those we have given?

HIDE AND SEEK.

Hide and Seek. By W. Wilkie Collins, Author of "Antonina," "Basil," &c. 3 vols. Bentley.

WE had many and serious objections to raise against Wilkie Collins's former novel, "Basil," in balance of our praise; *en revanche*, we have very hearty plaudits to bestow on this one, with only just enough criticism to serve as ballast and to "trim the boat." In the first place, there is praise loud enough and rare enough in the fact that we read the three volumes through page by page, hurried on by the story, yet never "skipping," reading the book, and not running as we read. There are few novels which can hope for such a compliment. "Hide and Seek" deserves it, because the author has done his work in a workmanlike manner, carefully, considerably, without "scumbling." There are no lofty conversations swelling out the volumes while the author takes breath and thinks of how to prepare the next incident. There are no redundant platitudes sprawling over the fatigued pages. There are no "How often do we find," no "So true it is that man," &c. No sermons. The dialogue is dramatic—put there either to carry on the story or fetch out the traits of character. The writing is bright, clear, nervous, often felicitous, occasionally extravagant, but never slip-slop.

Then the story, without being new either in itself or in the leading incidents, has a certain complicated clearness, with enough of mystery and expectation to keep attention alive, although it wants climax, and leaves an indefinite, unsatisfied feeling remaining in the reader's mind. In fact, there seems to have been another volume requisite to work out all the drama suggested here. In his preface, the author says that he has endeavoured to combine interest of story and development of characters in nearly equal proportions—a good endeavour, but one in which he has not quite succeeded; and the reason of that non-success we take to be his substituting portrait-painting for development. The characters in this book are well conceived, well drawn, but they are described; they do not move through the story, revealing themselves in it. Mr. Thorpe is a most finished portrait; here it is:—

"His one worldly ambition was to preserve intact the character of a respectable man. His one moral weakness was the constant dread of accidentally compromising this character, if he deviated in the smallest degree from the established routine of his chosen opinions, employments, society, and daily habits. His standard of respectability was unlimited and uncompromising. That widely-worshipped axiom of our commercial morality which asserts that any man (or rascal) is respectable who can 'pay his way,' was an axiom at which Mr. Thorpe shuddered. His vigorous respectability—both in theory and practice—ascended incomparably higher and descended ineffably lower than the weakly respectabilities of most of his neighbours. It rose to the climax of the most Puritanical virtue and the most impossible moral perfection: it sank to the most humble and familiar of the manners and customs of everyday life. It embraced at once the strictest watchfulness in preserving the proprieties of temper and the proprieties of dress. It was equally vigilant in regulating the flow of his language and the length of his nails. It began with his behaviour at church: it ended with his behaviour at tea.

"If he worshipped respectability devoutly, he also worshipped it sincerely. If he anxiously washed the outside of the cup and platter, he did not forget to wash the inside clean too. He was not more virtuous in the broad glare of noonday than he was under cover of the darkest night. He was no such time-server, money-server, or rank-server with high moral principles, as may be seen among us every day. He was no hypocrite who secretly petted the sins that allured him and openly castigated the sins that were not to his taste. In grim, uncompromising, very truth, he was what he assumed to be; what he gloried in being; what he dreaded as the direst of degradations not to be—a respectable man. All the secret pulses of his moral and mental life hung together on the same thread (it is never more than a thread, in this world), which elevated his character above the reach of calumnies of every kind, great and small. As credit is prized by a merchant; as circulation is prized by an author; as reputation is prized by a woman—so was respectability prized by Mr. Thorpe.

"If he had not had any children, or, having them, if they had been daughters—or, to take the case as it really stood—if his son had happened to be of a quiet, passive, and cold-blooded nature, the various peculiarities which altogether composed Mr. Thorpe's character would never have reached that disastrous prominence, as domestic agents, into which circumstances had forced them, now and for some time past. Having, however, a son who was neither quiet, passive, nor cool-blooded; who seemed incomprehensibly to have inherited a disposition from his mother's family instead of his father's loins; whose exuberant energies, wild flow of spirits, and restless craving after excitement, dissipation, and change, would have tried the endurance of the most indulgent parental rule—having, in short, such a son as Zack, every one of Mr. Thorpe's favourite prejudices, principles, and opinions acquired a fatal importance, merely from the direct influence which they involuntarily exercised, not only in aggravating the filial irregularities, but also even in producing those very offences which he was most vigilantly anxious to restrain."

This is an original portrait. "Respectable" men are always rascals in novels. Mr. Thorpe is of the kind we may meet any week. But all we know of Mr. Thorpe we know through that extract—the story does no

develop the character; it is consistent with the portrait, but it adds nothing. So also Valentine Blyth—not by any means so well done—who runs through the book always a pleasant figure, but not more nearly known to us at the close than he was at the beginning. The idea of the character is excellent, and there was fine material in that conception of an artist without genius, happy in his belief of genius, and rendered worthier by that belief:—

"It is not all misfortune and disappointment to the man who is mentally unworthy of a great intellectual vocation, so long as he is morally worthy of it; so long as he can pursue it honestly, patiently, and affectionately, for its own dear sake. Let him work, though ever so obscurely, in this spirit towards his labour; and he shall find the labour itself its own exceeding great reward. In that reward lives the divine consolation, ever gentle and ever true, which, though fame turn her back on him contemptuously, and affluence pass over unpitying to the other side of the way, shall still pour oil upon all his wounds, and take him quietly and tenderly to the hard journey's end. To this one exhaustless solace, which the work, no matter of what degree, can yield always to earnest workers, the man who has succeeded, and the man who has failed, can turn alike, as to a common mother; the one, for refuge from envy, from hatred, from misrepresentation, from all the sorest evils which even the thriving child of fame is heir to; the other, from neglect, from disappointment, from ridicule, from all the petty tyrannies which the pining bondman of obscurity is fated to undergo."

The story of this painter's ambition, his marriage, and the charming episode of the sick wife, are what a dramatist would call capital "motives"; but they should have been more fully worked out—developed into a story, instead of being simply narrated.

The same remark applies to Madonna, an original creation and one full of interest, but of whom more might have been made. Mat is the best specimen in the book of the other mode of character-drawing. No description is given of him. But he makes himself known to us vividly enough. Let the author, in future, throw his efforts into that direction, and he will find the combination of incident with character far more effective for both.

"Hide and Seek" teaches many lessons, all of them lessons of kindly, healthy ethics. The injudicious severity of Thorpe (admirably mitigated while imitated by Mrs. Thorpe) towards the harum-scarum boy, whose scapegrace doings do not prevent our being very fond of him—the kindness and devotion of Blyth—the rough pathos of Mat—we shall not rob of their relish by hinting at the story in which they appear; but content ourselves with a random extract or two of easily-extractable matter.

CLASSIC ART.

"The chief aim of the muses who preside over classic art—whether it be ancient or modern, whether it take the form of poetry, painting, or music—seems to be to preserve their artificial dignity as goddesses, by banishing their natural charms as women; to live even with their professed admirers on the most stately and formal terms; and to keep the world at large thoroughly well away from them by improving, informing, and attracting as few people as possible by any recognisably useful, truthful, or graceful means. When, for example, the muse who presides over the classic drama condescends to appeal icily to us from afar off, and writes a play, she selects a suicide—say Cato—for hero. She keeps him incessantly engaged in talking patriotism and philosophy; represents him as always moving about uncomfortably in halls, porticoes, senate-houses, and squares; and never lets us hear a word from his lips of any of the universal human subjects which the poor wretch must have talked about, when he ate his bit of classical dinner, when he dawdled out into the forum on idle days to hear the news, or when he started off constitutionally for a brisk Roman walk.

"And, again, when the classic muse resolves to paint a picture of the pastoral hilarity of primeval times, is it not always her principle to make men and women as unlike human nature as possible? Her happy female revellers must always exhibit an incredibly ugly straight profile line from the top of the forehead to the tip of the nose; and must generally be made to express ecstasy by hopping on one leg—apparently in a hurricane, judging by the frightful manner in which their petticoats and hair are blown about them on these occasions. And as for the jovial male companions of the ladies, are they not always monsters with tawny red skins, mottled outrageously with lumps of knotty muscle? Are they not continually more or less drunk?—continually more or less beastly and ridiculous in their antics? Must we believe such representations to be poetically suggestive of life among the simple inhabitants of a young world. Of course we must; for it is the classic muse who has done them!

"Or, lastly, when this same classic muse appeals to our ears, and writes a symphony, what immense pains she takes in that, as in other things, to avoid being popularly and immediately pleasing! She combines all her instruments in a general conspiracy against one weakly little atom of a tune (frequently not her own property), which is always trying to make itself heard, and always being bellowed down sternly for its pains; until, at last, assailed by screeching fiddles, shouting horns, grunting double basses, and treacherously-mellifluous flutes, it expires, faintly piping, in a storm of furious fugue, after a gallant but vain struggle for existence, which has lasted for more than half an hour."

Is not that description of the symphony wonderful?

THE GARDEN SCENE.

"It was a quarter to twelve by the hall clock at the rectory, and one of the finest autumn mornings of the whole season. Vance, Doctor Joyce's middle-aged man servant, or 'Bishop' Vance, as the small wits of Rubbleford call him, in allusion to his sleek and solemn appearance, his respectable manner, his clerical cravat, and his speckless black garments, is placing the cake and cowslip wine on the dining-table, with as much stately formality and pompous precision as if his master expected an archbishop to lunch, instead of a clown's wife and a little girl of ten years old. It is quite a sight to see Vance retiring, and looking at the general effect of each knife and fork as he lays it down; or solemnly strutting about the room, with a spotless napkin waving gently in his hand; or patronisingly confronting the pretty housemaid at the door, and taking plates and dishes from her with the air of a kitchen sultan who can never afford to lose his dignity for a moment in the presence of the female slaves.

"The dining-room window opens into the rectory garden. The morning shadows cast by the noble old elm-trees that grow all around, are fading from the bright lawn. The rich flower-beds gleam like beds of jewels in the radiant sunshine. The rookery is almost deserted, a solitary sleepy *caw* being only heard now and then at long intervals. The singing of birds, and the buzzing of busy insects sound faint, distant, and musical. On a shady seat, among the trees, Mrs. Joyce is just visible, working in the open air. One of her daughters sits reading on the turf at her feet. The other is giving the younger children a ride by turns on the back of a large Newfoundland dog, who walks along slowly with his tongue hanging out, and his great bushy tail wagging gently. A prettier scene of garden beauty and family repose could not be found in all England than the scene which the view through the rectory window now presents."

THE COUNTENANCE OF VICE.

"The Roman Poet who, writing of Vice, ascribed its influence entirely to the allurements of the fair disguises that it wore, and asserted it to be a monster so hideous by nature that it only needed to be seen to excite the hatred of all mankind, uttered a very plausible moral sentiment, which wants nothing to recommend it to the unqualified admiration of posterity but a slight seasoning of practical truth. Even in the most luxurious days of old Rome, it may very safely be questioned whether Vice could ever afford to disguise itself to win recruits, except from the wealthier classes of the population. But in these modern times, it may be decidedly asserted as a fact, that Vice, in accomplishing the vast majority of its seductions, uses no disguise at all; appears impudently in its naked deformity; and, instead of horrifying all beholders, in accordance with the predictions of the Classical satirist,

absolutely attracts a much more numerous congregation of worshippers than has ever yet been brought together by the divinest beauties that Virtue can display for the allurements of mankind.

"That famous place of public amusement, known to the loose-living and late-roaming youth of London by the name of the Temple of Harmony, affords, among hosts of other instances which might be cited, a notable example to refute the assertion of the ancient poet by establishing the fact, that Vice is in no danger of being loathed, even when it presents itself to the beholder uncovered by the bare rags and tatters of the flimsiest disguise.

"The Temple of Harmony, as its name denotes, was principally devoted to the exhibition of musical talent, and opened at a period of the night when the performances at the Theatres were over. The standing orchestral arrangements of the place were all comprised in one bad piano; to which were occasionally added, by way of increasing the attractions, performances on the banjo and guitar. The singers were called 'Ladies and Gentlemen.' The Temple itself consisted of one long room, with a double row of benches, bearing troughs at their backs for the reception of glasses of liquor. It had a slightly raised stage at the end for the performers; and its drab-coloured walls pretended to be panelled, but made so bad a pretence of it as to merit no notice, and even to get none.

"Innocence itself must have seen at a glance that the Temple of Harmony was an utterly vicious place. Vice never so much as thought of wearing any disguise here. No glimmer of wit played over the foul substance of the songs that were sung, and hid it in dazzle from too close observation. No relic of youth and freshness, no artfully-assumed innocence and vivacity, concealed the squalid, physical deterioration of the worn-out human counterfeits which stood up to sing, and were coarsely painted and padded to look like fine women. Their fellow performers among the men were such sodden-faced blackguards as no shop-boy who applauded them at night would dare to walk out with in the morning. The place itself had as little of the allurements of elegance and beauty about it, as the people. Here was no bright gilding on the ceiling—no charm of ornament, no comfort of construction even, in the furniture. Here were no viciously-attractive pictures on the walls—no enervating sweet odours in the atmosphere—no contrivances of ventilation to cleanse away the stench of bad tobacco-smoke and brandy-flavoured human breath with which the room reeked all night long. Here, in short, was Vice wholly undisguised; recklessly showing itself to every eye, without the varnish of beauty, without the tinsel of wit, without even so much as the flavour of cleanliness to recommend it. Were all beholders instinctively overcome by horror at the sight? Far from it. The Temple of Harmony was crammed to its last benches every night; and the proprietor filled his pockets from the purses of applauding audiences. For, let Classical moralists say what they may, Vice gathers followers as easily, in modern times, with the mask off, as ever it gathered them in ancient times with the mask on."

To understand the following extract, it should be stated that Zack, the son of the respectable Thorpe, is in the habit of "letting himself in" at late hours, while his parent sleeps secure; this night he has been "indulging" too freely:—

"There are some men whose minds get drunk, and some men whose bodies get drunk, under the influence of intoxicating liquor. Zack belonged to the second class. He was perfectly capable of understanding what was said to him, and of knowing what he said himself long after his utterance had grown thick, and his gait had become perilously uncertain. He was now quite conscious that his visit to the public-house had by no means tended to sober him; and quite awake to the importance of noiselessly stealing up to bed—but he was, at the same time, totally unable to put the key into the door at the first attempt, or to look comfortably for the key-hole without previously leaning against the area railings at his side.

"'Steady,' muttered Zack, 'I'm done for if I make any row.' Here he felt for the key-hole, and guided the key elaborately, with his left hand, into its proper place. He next opened the door, so quietly that he was astonished at himself—entered the passage with marvellous stealthiness—then closed the door again, and cried 'Hush!' when he found that he had let the lock go a little too noisily.

"He listened before he attempted to light his candle. The air of the house felt strangely close and hot, after the air out of doors. The dark stillness above and around him was instinct with an awful and virtuous repose; and was deepened ominously by the solemn tick-tick of the kitchen clock—never audible from the passage in the day time: terribly and incomprehensibly distinct at this moment.

"'I won't bolt the door,' he whispered to himself, 'till I have struck a—' Here the unreliability of brandy as a curative agent in cases of fermentation in the stomach, was palpably demonstrated by the return of the hiccupping fit. 'Hush!' cried Zack for the second time; terrified at the violence and suddenness of the relapse, and clapping his hand to his mouth when it was too late.

"After groping, on his knees, with extraordinary perseverance all round the rim of his bedroom candlestick, which stood on one of the hall chairs, he succeeded—not in finding the box of matches—but in knocking it inexplicably off the chair, and sending it rolling over the stone floor, until it was stopped by the opposite wall. With some difficulty he captured it, and struck a light. Never in all Zack's experience, had any former matches caught flame with such a shrill report, as was produced from the one disastrous and diabolical match which he happened to select to light his candle with.

"The next thing to be done was to bolt the door. He succeeded very well with the bolt at the top; but failed signally with the bolt at the bottom, which appeared particularly difficult to deal with that night; for it first of all creaked fiercely on being moved—then stuck spitefully just at the entrance of the staple—then slipped all of a sudden, under moderate pressure, and ran like lightning into its appointed place, with a bang of malicious triumph. If that don't bring the governor down—thought Zack, listening with all his ears, and stifling the hiccups with all his might—he's a harder sleeper than I take him for.

"But no door opened, no voice called, no sound of any kind broke the mysterious stillness of the bedroom regions. Zack sat down on the stairs, and took his boots off—got up again with some little difficulty, listened, took his candlestick, listened once more, whispered to himself, 'Now for it!' and began the perilous ascent to his own room.

"He held tight by the bannisters, only falling against them, and making them crack from top to bottom, once, before he reached the drawing-room landing. He ascended the second flight of stairs without casualties of any kind, until he got to the top step, close by his father's bedroom door. Here, by a dire fatality, the stifled hiccups burst beyond all control; and distinctly asserted themselves by one convulsive yelp, which betrayed Zack into a start of horror. The start shook his candlestick: the extinguisher, which lay loose in it, dropped out, hopped playfully down the stone stairs, and rolled over the landing with a loud and lively ring—a devilish and brazen flourish of exultation in honour of its own activity.

"'Oh Lord!' faintly ejaculated Zack, as he heard somebody's voice speaking, and somebody's body moving, in the bedroom; and remembered that he had to mount another flight of stairs—wooden stairs this time—before he got to his own quarters on the garret-floor.

"He went up, however, directly, with the recklessness of despair; every separate stair creaking and cracking under him, as if a young elephant had been retiring to bed instead of a young man. He blew out his light, tore off his clothes, and, slipping between the sheets, began to breathe elaborately, as if he was fast asleep—in the desperate hope of being still able to deceive his father, if Mr. Thorpe came up stairs to look after him.

"But another and a last accident, the direst of all, baffled his plans and ruthlessly betrayed him. No sooner had he assumed a recumbent position than a lusty and ceaseless singing began in his ears, which bewildered and half deafened him. His bed, the room, the house, the whole world tore round and round, and heaved up and down frantically with him. He ceased to be a human being; he became a giddy atom, spinning drunkenly in illimitable space. He started up in bed, and was recalled to a sense of his humanity by a cold perspiration and a deathly qualm. Hiccups burst from him no longer; but they were succeeded by another and a louder series of sounds—sounds familiar to everybody who has ever been at sea—sounds nautically and lamentably associated with white basins, whirling waves, and misery of mortal stomachs wallowing in emetic despair.

"In the momentary pauses between the rapidly successive attacks of the malady which now overwhelmed him, and which he attributed in after life entirely to the dyspeptic influences of toasted cheese, Zack was faintly conscious of the sound of slipped feet ascending the stairs. His back was to the door. He had no strength to move, no courage to look

round, no voice to raise in supplication. He knew that his door opened—that a light came into the room—that a voice cried ‘Degraded beast!’—that the door was suddenly shut again with a bang—and that he was left once more in total darkness. He did not care for the light, or the voice, or the banging of the door: he did not think of them afterwards, he did not mourn over the past, or speculate on the future. He just sank back on his pillow with a gasp, drew the clothes over him with a groan, and fell asleep, blissfully reckless of the retribution that was to come with the coming daylight.”

We have outrun our limits, and still, like *King John*, “had a thing to say.” Enough, if we have given the reader’s appetite an edge.

ULTIMA THULE.

Ultima Thule; or, Thoughts suggested by a Residence in New Zealand. By Thomas John Chapman.

THIS is one of the best books that have appeared on New Zealand. And not only on New Zealand; for though it has been pronounced by those whose knowledge and practical experience on the subject render them capable of judging it, to be exceedingly correct as regards information, and fair in its views and statements of disputed matters, yet, were its value confined to mere local interests of this nature, we should have contented ourselves with simply attesting its accuracy and pointing it out to the attention of those to whom such a work is especially valuable. But Mr. Cholmondeley’s little volume contains so much that is applicable to the whole large question of colonization, it evidences a spirit so tolerant of mistakes and difficulties, and at the same time so unmerciful to abuses and false principles, that we are led to notice it more particularly.

Our first extract shall be upon the “why” of colonization. There are very true things in it.

When a common peasant hears of a new country, a vast uninhabited region over the sea, what is the first remark he makes? ‘Land,’ he says, ‘must be easy to obtain there. Here it is impossible for me to get any;’ and the thought uppermost in his mind is, ‘a farm of my own, if it is but small; a plot of ground, a garden.’ The feeling is universal among the English common labourers, and very general among the mechanics. It is their ambition, and it is an honourable ambition. If things could be so managed in England, so that a poor man, by the sweat of his brow in youth, could conquer land enough to maintain his age, and make himself a sure home, it would do more to make the old country young again than all the fine books of advice to our poor neighbours that have ever been written. Your tracts and your prizes, compared with that, are as milk and water to strong wine: for the desire of land has been planted by Heaven in the human breast. Indeed, in old times, less than a life-tenancy was not held worth the acceptance of a freeman.

“Our countrymen will pass through fire and water for a freehold. They will cross the great deep under decks, where they are packed as close as sheep at Smithfield. It is a natural and holy feeling which leads them to endure such martyrdom. Now, what is such a country as New Zealand meant to be? It is one of the remedies for the miserable inequalities of English life: there men go to right themselves. Again, we all know that the possession of land gives a man a moral, as well as a social lift. It clears his brow: it makes him stand higher in his shoes, though they be but the same old pair as before: it is Nature’s own saving-bank: it will hold up a man in hard times, when other savings are exhausted: then the land will support him, and still remain his own.”

And again, upon this same question of “righting the inequalities:”—

“The question then is, what can be done in a state by all means to bring such men into their proper place, and so to benefit both ourselves and them; to benefit them by enabling them to fulfil their work under favourable conditions, and ourselves, by the advantages we are sure to draw from their labours among us. How melancholy a thought it is, that there are men in England following the plough or making bricks—in short, engaged in some kind of mechanical drudgery or otherwise—who possess the souls of statesmen, artists, and poets; and might have been such, to our infinite benefit, had they found a helping hand, or even received the ordinary rudiments of education. What waste, and what injustice there is here! for meanwhile, observe, that in default of these our true men, we are obliged to put up with every description of mediocrity, and may think ourselves only too lucky if we can escape from counterfeits and hypocrites of the worst description. The remedy for this disease—this wasting disorder—is to put the education of the people upon a proper footing.”

“It is often objected that, in our state of society in England, men who have risen from the ranks are the most unhappy of any, for they feel the disproportion of fortune more keenly, and they acquire tastes and affections which it is impossible to gratify. They become, therefore, miserable, and a distress rather than a glory to their friends and helpers. Suppose this were universally true, which it certainly is not, what does it prove? That the country is in an unhealthy state. It proves that there exists a barrier between certain classes of society (to speak roughly) which cannot be surmounted, except in very extraordinary cases indeed. That such exists, the more is the shame and the pity: to say nothing of the incalculable loss and waste to society—it is a distinct source of disaffection which may any day lead to a catastrophe, such as those who are most concerned in maintaining the present system may well shudder to contemplate. It is, however, a happy exception in new countries, and in new societies, that a practical freedom exists, whereas the old, for the most part, only retain the forms of liberty. Our common people look to America with longing, very chiefly on this account;—because society there is not hampered with so tight a uniform.”

The “how” of colonization falls next under consideration.

Mr. Cholmondeley draws a very just distinction between the mere *emigrant*, who leaves his own country and severs the social ties which bound him to her, with an indefinite purpose,—and the *colonist*, whose aim is always the formation of a new society, and the establishment of new ties. The former may be compared to a severed branch, whose individual existence is preserved for a time by being supplied with earth or water;—the latter to a tree carefully transplanted, ready to take root in the new soil, and become perhaps the parent of a forest. The mother country is the gardener. We all know, in the case of the young plantation, that if he left them entirely to their unassisted resources at first, they would be in danger of perishing; he must water them in the drought, and fence them from being down-trodden by invaders, while young and weakly. We know also that undue interference, superabundant nourishment, and unnecessary protection would produce another class of evils;—hasty or excessive development, and corresponding weakness and decay. All this applies also to the human plantation; though Governments have been sometimes slow in finding it out. Probably no political problems are so difficult of solution as the relations of a mother-country with her colonies. Such a variety of elements are at work,—differences of race, titles of possession, circumstances of settlement. But the truth is daily becoming a more acknowledged one, that while you treat a colony as a conquered country, it will ever be a source of weakness,—rather than strength and advantage,—to the parent state. Mr. Cholmondeley’s remarks upon the rationale of self-government for colonies are very true and sterling. Here is a sample:—

“Without attempting to define the actual position of some of our foreign possessions which are occasionally dignified by being called ‘colonies’—however these may be governed—it may safely be said, that to attempt to govern a *real colony* as a mere dependency is

ridiculous. The more you treat the colony as a child, the more childish it gets. Every society is old enough to govern itself, however young in point of years. Again, all colonial government, as at present practised, is foreign government, whereas all beneficial governments of freemen must proceed from within. Every colony and every society exists by the living principle of growth within itself. You cannot substitute the outward rule for the inward instinct of order and development. And if you, by your interference, check the natural growth of a society, and substitute deformities of your own creation, you have done your best to kill that society. Better, I think, take away the life of countless ‘singular persons,’ than that common life by the inspiration of which they become citizens. You merely talk of forming a colony or society, but you can no more make a colony, in the true sense, than Frankenstein could make a man. It is not inherent in one society to make another in this way.

“Where genuine life, natural, vigorous, and true is not allowed, there some hideous counterfeit is sure, sooner or later, to disclose itself. *The true way to guide men is to put them in the way of guiding themselves.* Nor ought we to calumniate liberty by attaching to it anarchic licence as an inseparable accident. There will always be some amount of struggling and contention, and perhaps even violence, about the beginning of liberty, or self-government, call it which you will. But this will wear off as men get used to it; and I boldly assert that a strong leaven of the spirit of political agitation and collision is advantageous to any people, but indispensable to the Anglo-Saxon race, as it is the only way of making them inquire, investigate, and think at all.

“A great political contest is an education for a whole generation. The histories of Rome and England are scarcely anything else. We must have an antidote against stagnation, and here it is. God forbid that the common people in our countries should ever be struck with the paralysis of carelessness or inattention about their Government. They will next forget the meaning of the institutions of their fathers—they will lose the spirit of our sacred constitution, and, having forgotten and lost that, what will they begin to do, when any public storm descends, but clamour for some absurd change, by which most likely they themselves are deluded and robbed? Blessings unused cease to be blessings. The strong arm, unexercised, becomes weak.”

And again:—

“Any institution, in order to act successfully, must be, so to speak, the natural growth of the soil whereon it maintains and spreads itself. Foreign institutions are like exotics; foreign constitutions are like ordinary articles of import and export—they are only matters of present occasion, they express no life, and are only intended to last till those who buy them either break them, or can get a better thing.

“No persons have ever been so much misunderstood as the great lawgivers of the world. Their laws stood, and became the representatives of national life, not because they were in themselves extraordinarily excellent. Strictly speaking, they were not inventions, they were *begotten on the nation*, not given to it. Those men had searched for, and at length penetrated, the very essence of all that their fellow-countrymen felt to be truest, and dearest, and best. Hence the law, when it came forth, was living, and at once recognised as the true child of the people, so that they might figuratively say of it, ‘Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders.’

“Such masterpieces of legislation were, in each instance, veritable gospels; they explained a want, and they supplied a remedy.”

Nothing can be better than the *practical* advice to colonists contained in these pages. Of course for such we must refer the reader to the book itself. Mr. Cholmondeley speaks strongly and wisely against the false impression which we constantly find existing, that very inferior talent may rise to distinction in the colonies. How often we hear of the indolent, the imperfectly educated, the fourth or fifth rate professional, bent on “making a fortune in the colonies.” No hope can be more delusive. Ability finds its level there as at home, and in a flourishing colony (where alone a fortune can be made), there will soon be no want of competition. Every true friend to the colonist should reiterate perpetually this truth, that no one is fit for that most arduous undertaking who does not bring to it a plentiful store of energy, long-suffering, self-forgetfulness, and steadiness of purpose. It is true the colonies hold out to the aspiring settler prizes that would never fall within his reach at home; but they must be won, like most things worth having, with labour and struggle, the difference being, that there they may be won at last.

A BATCH OF NEW BOOKS.

WE propose to collect below, within the limits of one article, several short reviews of works recently published. In these times, when the bad influence of war on the peaceful arts is beginning to be felt already in the direction of Literature, it is of more advantage to authors to secure the immediate notoriety of a brief notice, than to wait for the prospective chance of a lengthy review. By assembling many writers together, we can pay such prompt attention to all new works as could not possibly be bestowed on them if they were set apart to be criticised in separate articles. Let us see, to begin with, what we have got that is noticeable in the shape of

BOOKS ON INDIA AND THE EAST.—The enterprising Mr. Bohn has published a *History of India*, in one volume, with many illustrations on wood. The book is well arranged, and the voluminous information connected with the subject seems very fairly and clearly condensed within the compass of about 450 pages. People who only want to be generally informed about our Indian empire will find these *Outlines of Indian History* likely to answer their purpose satisfactorily. We must not omit to mention that the book is provided with an Index.

The Thistle and the Cedar of Lebanon is the autobiography of Risk Allah, whom some of our readers may remember as a Syrian student of surgery at King’s College. The book is modestly and sensibly written, and contains, in connexion with the author’s life and travels, some interesting particulars of domestic life in Syria, with, here and there, some curious revelations on the subject of religious belief in that country. Risk Allah’s account of his first impressions of English life, on arriving in this country, is, as might be expected, the most diverting part of the book. The style, where serious matters are treated of, has the disadvantage of being decidedly prosy. We should like to have seen Risk Allah’s proof sheets before they were revised for him by an English friend. At present, while the matter of his autobiography is fresh and characteristic, the manner is heavy and commonplace.

Just the reverse may be said of the next work on our list, *Constantinople of to-day*, by Theophile Gautier, translated by Mr. Gould. Here we have old subjects made interesting by being treated in a new way. Theophile Gautier has the fault of most modern French writers of his class: he has no idea of repose. His style is all glitter and gaiety from the first page to the last. If you sat down to read him through, he would weary you by dint of sheer vivacity—but if you take him up from time to time, and devote a leisure half-hour to him whenever you can, he is one of the most amusing literary companions that any reader can wish to meet with. Some of his descriptions are quite delightful in their picturesque gaiety; and he has the great merit,

as a traveller, of never dwelling too long on anything that he sees. Mr. Gould has performed his difficult part as translator in all places creditably, — in some, happily. The book is illustrated by excellent engravings from photographic pictures; any one of which, in its honest and striking reality, is worth whole albums of the fancy Views which are looked at one moment, and forgotten the next.

Our list of Books on the East closes with a *Life of the Sultan*, by the Rev. Henry Christmas. This is one of those "Shilling Books," by which publishers are ruining themselves with the most incomprehensible pertinacity. Mr. Christmas has the gift of compiling. He has a pleasant, easy way of stringing his facts together; varies them cleverly with anecdotes; and makes exactly what his publisher wants—a readable book on a topic of general interest. We ourselves have had rather more than enough of "The Literature of the War," and are, to confess the truth, beginning to get heartily tired of reading about Russia and Turkey. The public, however, may not yet be in our astounded condition, and may still be athirst for information about our enemies and allies. In that case, we beg to report that Mr. Christmas has plenty of information for inquisitive patriots on the subject of our friends in the East.

Let us now leave historians, travellers, and compilers, and ascertain what the novelists can do to amuse us, by looking into some recent

Books or Fiction.—The best of these, on our present list, is *Katharine Aston*, by the authoress of "Amy Herbert." The story is written in a kindly and modestly religious spirit, and is designed to help in promoting friendly and useful relations between the women of the wealthier classes, and the families of the poor who surround them. The book shows nice observation and delicate character-painting—especially in the female personages. Its principal defect is that it is too long. The authoress has the fault of most lady writers, who delineate life as it really is—she never knows when to have done. From beginning to end all phases of the story are treated with the same unrelenting minuteness, and the same persistent flow of smooth dialogue. The characters would gain in force and variety by having, as a general rule, half their conversations left unreported. Excepting this fault of occasional tediousness, *Katharine Aston* is a very pleasant story, truthfully, unaffectedly, and delicately told. It would afford us sincere pleasure if we could say as much of the next fiction we take up from our table.

Ambrose the Sculptor, by Mrs. Robert Cartwright. Here we never once drop down to the realities of life. Here the characters are ideal, the incidents romantic, the language flowery, the reflections densely metaphysical. We have every respect for the authoress's enthusiasm for the Fine Arts—we see, in her book, that she is an accomplished and cultivated woman—but the dire necessities of rigid criticism compel us conscientiously to add, that she has put nothing into her story which we have not previously read about in books written by other people. By some readers, however, this may not be felt as a drawback; and, in that case, we have nothing further to say against *Ambrose the Sculptor*.

Two English versions of the *Hero of our own Times*, from the Russian of Lemnostoff, have been sent to us for review. One is published by Bogue—the other forms the new volume of the "Parlour Library," and is translated by Madame Palazky. Our objection to these stories, which are printed to inform the English public about Russian manners and characters, is that they have no special nationality about them. The scenery is Russian certainly; but the characters are all ladies and gentlemen whom we have met with at the minor theatres, and many of the incidents "thrilled" us in holiday-time, at Astley's and the Coburg. The *Hero of our own Times* is the sort of fascinating scoundrel who has existed, time out of mind, in plays and romances all over Europe. In one of his adventures he unscrupulously possesses himself of a beautiful slave; wins her love, and gets tired of her—after which she is carried off on horseback, and stabbed, by a brigand whom the "Hero" has wronged. What is there that is Russian in this? If there be any nationality at all in these stories, it is French nationality. They are written in the French style: they are full of French power and French dramatic effect—wild, vigorous, gloomy romances, written with great melo-dramatic skill; well worthy of being read by all people who like a little strong excitement; but, as it seems to us, not at all instructive or characteristic, as pictures of Russian life.

Before reaching the limits of this article we must find room to say a last word or two about

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS AND REPRINTS.—*Devey's Logic*, in Bohn's Philological Library, and the *Collected Works of Sir James Mackintosh*, must be deferred for the present, for want of time to do them full justice. Mr. John Bruce Norton will, we hope, excuse us for failing, just now, to do more than announce the publication of his Letter to Mr. Robert Lowe, on the Condition and Requirements of the Presidency of Madras. From Mr. Nichol, of Edinburgh, we have to acknowledge the receipt of the second volume of a very handsome reprint of Cowper's Works; and to Mr. Bohn we desire to offer our heartiest wishes for the success of his new edition of Defoe. The first volume starts with "Captain Singleton" and "Colonel Jack"—the latter, the best of Defoe's admirable fictions, after Robinson Crusoe. Mr. Routledge has sent us his *Guide to the Crystal Palace*. We have not yet had an opportunity of testing it practically. Looked at it critically, however, it seems a useful and sensible book; clear and systematic as to the arrangement of information, and beginning, very properly, with a narrative of all the circumstances connected with the building of the first Crystal Palace in Hyde-park.

Here, for this week, we must pause; reserving the books that remain on our table for a second notice.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

The Iliad of Homer: with Notes. By W. G. T. Barter.

Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

Miracles and Science. By Edward Strachey. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

Newest Chart of the Baltic, compiled from the Admiralty Charts, showing the places of rendezvous of the Allied Fleets, the fortifications, lighthouses, and all the places, even those of minor importance, to which the attention of the public has recently been attracted. A. and C. Black.

Newest Chart of the Gulf of Finland, compiled from Admiralty and Russian Surveys, and Mariners' Charts; containing also separate enlarged plans of Riga, Revel, Port Baltic, Helsingfors and Svecaborg, Cronstadt and St. Petersburg. A. and C. Black.

The Principles and Practice of the Water Cure and Household Medical Science, in Conversations on Physiology, on Pathology, or the Nature of Disease: and on Digestion, Nutrition, Regimen, and Diet. By James Wilson, M.D. John Churchill.

A Practical Dictionary of English Synonyms, alphabetically arranged. By Dr. L. MacKenzie. G. Willis.

The Microscope: its History, Construction, and Applications; being a Familiar Introduction to the Use of the Instrument, and the Study of Microscopical Science. By Jabez Hogg, M.R.C.S., &c. (Illustrated London Library.)

Miscellanies: Chiefly Narrative. By Thomas De Quincey. James Hogg.

Constantinople of To-Day. By Théophile Gautier. Translated from the French by Robert Howe Gould, Esq., M.A. Dayid Bogue.

A Yacht Voyage to Ireland in 1853. (Railway Reading.) Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

The Arts.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE GREEK COURT.

[We reprint from the Appendix to the Hand-book of the Greek Court in the Sydenham Palace the following *resumé* by Mr. G. H. Lewes, of historical evidence in favour of the colouring of Greek Sculpture.]

The idea of the Greeks having painted their statues is so repugnant to all our pre-judgment, that the mind is slow in familiarising itself with the fact, even when indisputable evidence is brought forward. The Greeks were artists of such exquisite taste, and of principles so severe, that to accuse them of having painted statues, is to accuse them of committing what in our day is regarded as pure "barbarism." The Greeks did not aim at reality, but at idealism; and the painting of statues is thought to be only an attempt to imitate reality.

Nevertheless, however startling, the fact remains: the Greeks did paint their statues. Living eyes have seen the paint. Living testimony supports the testimony of ancient writers, and all that will be necessary in these pages is to furnish some of the principal points of evidence.

In the first place, the reader must get out of all sculpture galleries, erase from his mind all preconceptions derived from antique remains and modern practices. Having done so, let him reflect on the historical development of sculpture, and he will see the idea of painted figures falling in its true place.

Sculpture of course began in Greece, as elsewhere, with idols. It is the custom of all barbarous nations to colour their idols. The Egyptians, as we know beyond all doubt, not only coloured, but dressed theirs. So did the Greeks. It may be a question, whether the Greeks borrowed their art from the Egyptians, improving it, as they did everything else. Let scholars decide that question. This, however, is certain, that in either case the Egyptian practice would obtain:—

1st. If the Greeks borrowed from the Egyptians, they would borrow the painting and dressing.

2nd. If they did not borrow—if their art was indigenous—then it would come under the universal law of barbarian art; and painting would at any rate, in the earlier epochs, have been employed. (We know that both painting and dressing were employed in all epochs.)

This being so, and the custom being universal, unless the change from painted to unpainted statues had been very gradual—insensibly so, the man who first produced a marble statue without any addition would have been celebrated as an innovator. No such celebrity is known.

Ancient literature abounds with references and allusions to the practices of painting and dressing statues. Space prevents their being copiously cited here. Moreover, many of them are too vague for direct evidence. Of those which are unequivocal a few will be given.

Dressing Statues.—Pausanias describes a nymphetum, where the women assembled to worship, containing figures of Bacchus, Ceres, and Proserpine, the heads of which alone were visible, the rest of the body being hidden by draperies. And this explains a passage in "Tertullian" ("De Jejun," 16), where he compares the goddesses to rich ladies having their attendants specially devoted to dress them—*suas habebant ornatrices*. For it must be borne in mind that the Greek idols, like the saints in Catholic cathedrals, were kept dressed and ornamented with religious care. Hence Homer frequently alludes to the offerings of garments made to propitiate a goddess: thus, to cite but one, Hector tells Hecuba to choose the most splendid *peplos* to offer to Minerva for her aid and favour. Dionysius, the Tyrant of Syracuse, according to a well-known anecdote, stripped the Jupiter of his golden cloak, mockingly declaring that it was too heavy for summer, and too cold for winter.

These dressed statues were for the most part dolls, however large. The reader must remember that the dolls of his nursery are the lineal descendants of ancient idols. Each house had its lares or household gods: each house had its dressed idols. Statues in our sense of the word, were, it may be supposed, not dressed; but that they were painted and ornamented there seems to be ample evidence.

Coloured Statues.—If we had no other evidence than is afforded in the great variety of materials employed—ivory, gold, ebony, silver, brass, bronze, amber, lead, iron, cedar, pear-tree, &c., it would suffice to indicate that the prejudice about "purity of marble" is a prejudice. This critic may declare that a severe taste repudiates all colour, all mingling of materials; but the Greek sculptors addressed the senses and tastes of the Greek nation, and did so with a view to religious effect, just as in Catholic cathedrals painted windows, pictures, and jewelled Madonnas appeal to the senses of the populace.

The Greeks made statues of ivory and gold combined. They also combined various metals with a view of producing the effect of colour. One example will suffice here. Pliny tells us (lib. xxxiv. cap. 14) that the sculptor of the statue of Athmas, wishing to represent the blush of shame succeeding his murder of his son, made the head of a metal composed of copper and iron, the dissolution of the ferruginous material giving the surface a red glow—*ut rubigine ejus per nitorem æris relucens, exprimeretur verecundia rubor*. Twenty analogous examples of various metals employed for colouring purposes might be cited. Quatremère de Quincey, in his great work, "Le Jupiter Olympien," has collected many.

The reader, may, however, admit that statues were made of various materials, and that the bronze statues—which were incomparably more numerous than the marble—may have been tinted, but still feel disinclined to believe that the marble statues were ever painted. A few decisive passages shall be adduced.

Let it be remembered that Socrates was the son of a sculptor, and that Plato lived in Athens, acquainted with the great sculptors and their works; then read this passage, wherein Socrates employs, by way of simile, the practice of painting statues: "Just as if, when painting statues, a person should blame us for not

placing the most beautiful colours on the most beautiful parts of the figure—inasmuch as the eyes, the most beautiful parts, were not painted purple, but black—we should answer him by saying, Clever fellow! do not suppose we are to paint eyes so beautifully that they should not appear to be eyes." (Plato, "De Repub." lib. iv. near the beginning.)

This passage would long ago have settled the question, had not the moderns been pre-occupied with the belief that the Greeks did not paint their statues. They, therefore, read the passage in another sense: many translators read "pictures" for "statues;" but the Greek word *anaglypsis* signifies "statue," and is never used to signify "picture." It means statue, and a statuary is called the maker of such statues, *anaglyptorikos*. (Mr. Davis, in Bohn's English edition of "Plato," avoids the difficulty by translating it "human figures.")

Here is a passage which not only establishes the sense of the one in "Plato," but while unequivocally declaring that the ancients painted their statues, gives the reason why the paint is so seldom discoverable in the antique remains. It is from Plutarch ("Quest. Roman." xvi. at the end): "It is necessary to be very careful of statues, otherwise the vermilion with which the ancient statues were coloured will quickly disappear."

Virgil, in an epigram, not only offers Venus a marble statue of Amor, the wings of which shall be many-coloured, and the quiver painted, but he intimates that this shall be so, because it is customary—

"Marmoreusque tibi, Dea, variegoloribus alas
In morem picta stabit Amor pharetra."

And in the seventh Eclogue, Virgil, speaking of the statue of Diana, describes it as of marble, with scarlet sandals bound round the leg as high as the calf.

"Si proprium hoc fuerit, levi de marmore tota
Puniceo stabis suras evincta cothurno."

And there is a passage in Pliny, which is decisive as soon as we understand the allusion. Speaking of Nicias (lib. xxxv. cap. 11), he says, that Praxiteles, when asked which of his marble works best satisfied him, replied, "Those which Nicias has had under his hands." "So much," adds Pliny, "did he prize the finishing of Nicias"—*tantum circumstanti ejus tribuatur*.

The meaning of this passage hangs on the word *circumstanti*. Winckelmann follows the mass of commentators in understanding this as referring to some mode of polishing the statues; but Quatremère de Quincy, in his magnificent work, "Le Jupiter Olympien," satisfactorily shows this to be untenable, not only because no sculptor could think of preferring such of his statues as had been better polished, but also because Nicias being a painter, not a sculptor, his services must have been those of a painter.

What were they? Nicias was an *excellent painter*, and hence it seems clear that his *circumstanti*—his mode of finishing the statues, so highly prized by Praxiteles—must have been the application of encaustic painting to those parts which the sculptor wished to have ornamented. For it is quite idle to suppose a sculptor like Praxiteles would allow another sculptor to finish his works. The rough work may be done by other hands, but the finishing is always left to the artist. The statue completed, there still remained the painter's art to be employed, and for that Nicias was renowned.

Even Winckelmann ("Geschichte der Kunst," buch. i. kap. 2), after noting how the ancients were accustomed to dress their statues, adds, "This gave rise to the painting of those parts of the marble statues which represented the clothes, as may be seen in the Diana found at Herculaneum, in 1760. The hair is blonde; the draperies white, with a triple border, one of gold, the other of purple, with festoons of flowers; the third plain purple."

There are still traces visible of gilding in the hair of statues. Even the Venus de Medici has such. And the bored ears speak plainly of earrings.

While the testimony of antiquity is thus explicit, there is still more convincing testimony of living eyes, which have seen this painting on statues. The celebrated Swedish traveller, Akerblad, says, "I am convinced that the practice of colouring marble statues and buildings was much more frequent than is supposed. The second time I visited Athens, I had opportunity of narrowly inspecting the frieze of the Temple of Theseus, and I came away convinced it had been painted." Quatremère de Quincy mentions statues he has seen, and refers especially to the Apollo in the Louvre, made of Pentelic marble, almost all over the naked surfaces of which a trace of red was faintly perceptible: the same with a Diana at Versailles; but he adds, "these traces grow daily fainter." The eyes and mouth of the colossal Pallas de Velletri still retain the violet colour.

Such are a few of the evidences. On examining them we find them not only unequivocal in themselves, but complementary of each other. Living testimony, supposing it to be accepted without demur, would not suffice to settle the question of what was the ancient practice; for it might not unreasonably be argued that these traces of painting on the statues are only evidences of a degenerate taste like our whitewashing of cathedrals—and no evidence of Greek artists having perpetrated such offences against taste. But when it is seen, by the testimony of ancient writers, such as Plato, Pliny, Plutarch, and Virgil, that the Greek artists did colour their statues, the fact of the statues being discovered with traces of colour is explained, while on the other hand this fact helps to clear away all trace of doubt which might linger in a supposed equivocality in the passages from ancient writers.

G. H. LEWES.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

FOURTH NOTICE.—PORTRAITS.

It is nothing is the power of design more requisite than in portrait-painting. The majority of our portraits are so constructed that it may be said, the photograph has more of the qualities of design than the painted picture; and for this reason. Fixed as the sitter is, before the photographic machine; mechanical as the process is, the muscular action in the moveable parts of the face and of the figure has less time to become exhausted and die away, than under the tedious process of being enthroned while the portrait-painter "copies" the lineaments. It is this preservation of action in the moveable portions of the face which so often gives the appearance of actual life to the photograph. As we have often said, the medium of art signifies much less than consistency to the medium. Size and colour are often forgotten when the spectator has become thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the picture. There is many a tinted photograph which comes in the letter nearer to the complexion of the original, but has all the aspect of the painted doll, and does not for a moment produce illusion. On the other hand, although reduced to a thousandth part of the cubic size of the original, and left with such colour as no men or women ever had, yet the plain photograph,—especially if the image be correctly taken by a reversing process, and still more, if it be seen through some obscurity which the glass itself may lend,—will for the moment seem like the real presence of the original, ready to speak. It may seem actually moving. The reason is that the traits of life

being actually caught, and being essentially associated, to the senses as well as to "the mind,"—with speech and action, they make an impression infinitely more powerful and more positive than the mere size,—in itself vague and often fallacious,—or the quality of colour easily modified under strange lights at a distance, or seen through a false medium. The figure might look gray and small; but a certain opening action of the eyelids, a lifting of the cheek just round the mouth, a peculiar play of the lips, have perhaps never been seen in the original, except in connection with some particular emotion, some familiar expression of face; and hence, having before you the evidence of life in its most familiar and living condition, you have, in truth, so far as eyesight is concerned, an actual presence. The painted portrait, with its heavily lined eyelids, its mechanically fixed mouth, or vague lineaments, is, after all, nothing but a compiled doll; and notwithstanding the literal accordance with the original, in size, mathematical form, or colour, it falls so far short in the evidence of organic life, that the illusion is not realised,—the picture does not "speak or breathe."

There are few portraits that in these respects can compare with the designs in some few of the pictures. We will put altogether out of the account Holman Hunt's powerful, but unequal designs, and take as the standard the matter-of-fact production of Mr. E. M. Ward's "Last Sleep of Agassiz." This we hold to be a fair model of a portrait as an English painter could and should execute it. It is an endeavour by all conceivable traits of organic action, in the forms of face and hands, in the disposal of costume and the bed drapery, to create the particular expression and condition of the moment, with all the collateral consequences which stand as evidence to the spectator of what the life is at. It is by an English painter, and that English painter, if he were to design a portrait as he has designed this figure, would be able to produce such a speaking reality as we find in the works of the highest masters. Some approach to this again is seen, although we are able to test it much more slightly from the height of the picture, in Francis's portrait of "Lord Gough." The action is free; the military pose is well caught, the set of the countenance well conveys the idea of issuing the word of command. In short, the figure is designed, and therefore the portrait is animated and expressive.

In what we have said, we have spoken independently of the "likeness," an essential point, but not the highest part of a portrait. Now the likeness depends upon many things, and the most essential traits by which it may be conveyed are those which pertain to the character of the original. It is said that when Cromwell took his seat before Sir Peter Lely, the Lord Protector commanded that complaisant artist, to paint him exactly as he appeared, with all his roughnesses and defects. Lely obeyed. His artistic lassitude was perhaps strung up by the ambition of the moment; he endeavoured to paint the Puritan leader as he actually was, and the consequence is, that instead of a painted inanity, like so many of Lely's pictures, you have before you the rough soldier-statesman, whose countenance is ugly, stern, and yet full of generous emotion. It is a portrait admirably designed, and the likeness is understood to be complete.

The photograph would tell a different tale of "Lord John Russell" from that which Francis Grant has told; and so it would of "Thomas Babington Macaulay." Grant has "improved" upon nature; but his patent process appears to us to be inferior to "the old original." We confess that Lord John's symmetry conforms more to rule in the picture than in fact; the head is not so large, the legs are longer, the shoulders are somewhat more important. The "points" would be better in the eyes of a recruiting officer, and in the Essex Rifle Brigade this Lord John might pass among the tall men. But then here is the mistake—Lord John is not a man whose repute, still less whose character, rests upon his passing muster for the Essex Rifle Brigade, or any other brigade whatsoever. He is a man with a large head on a small body; an intellect active rather than clear; a strong sympathy for his kind; but a powerful diffidence checks his expression; and while his ambition and his faculties have placed him as leader of the Commons, that sympathetic diffidence marks his delivery with a cramped, hesitating manner, and forces him magnetically to flutter between the table to which his trembling fingers cling and the Treasury bench upon which he seems each moment about to retire. While the want of a cool mastery over his language plays havoc with his syntax, a deficient *physique* deprives his voice of volume and his attitude of majesty. But in spite of these obvious defects, the powers of the man, his sympathy with the feelings of those around him, his faculties, his genuine devotion to English principles, have made him really, as well as in the honorary sense, leader of the popular representative body of the English people. He is so by virtue of his active understanding and his strong feelings, seen in a powerfully moulded head, surmounting a frail body, and in a face more earnest, brave, and anxious, than smiling or reposeful. We have been describing what ought to be the portrait of the man, but Mr. Francis Grant has thought fitter to consult the preconceived idea of the recruiting sergeant. He has "flattered" Lord John, and the consequence is, that the future historian will be able to compile from Hansard and the history of the House of Commons a better portrait of the statesman than has been supplied by Mr. Francis Grant—who had the man before him!

It is the same with Macaulay, only in a minor degree. Mr. Grant has refined the coarse featured Scotchman, and has enabled the spectator to see something of the refinement which marks the essayist, but has deprived him of any means of conjecturing the power of the historian or the orator.

Middleton's portrait of the "Emperor Napoleon III." appears to us, from recollection of the original, to partake the defects of the usual "flattery" and of the copyist style, though perhaps in a minor degree. We suspect that the Imperial tailor would give a different measurement for the Imperial legs from that which we see before us. It is the most obvious defect of the inscrutable Napoleon to wear a heavy appearance, and it is the defect of Middleton's manner to be heavy. Here, the fault of the artist brings forth one of the most remarkable historical aspects of the original, or, at all events, does not exaggerate it, on the contrary, there is perhaps too much of an official smile; but then the Emperor must sometimes smile officially. "His face," said one who had seen him at meetings of the Royal Society, "is like a corpse." "Yes sir," said another, "but it was a corpse with a fixed idea." Middleton has caught, but softened the first half of this expression: for the "fixed idea" we must still refer to history.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE value of the collection of pictures, by modern French artists, now exhibiting in Pall-mall, has been a little overrated. The most famous painters seem not to have contributed their best works. In more than one instance, we have "repetitions" instead of originals. Scheffer, for example, sends a repetition of his "Francesca di Rimini," which has been purchased, like the rest of the pictures in the exhibition, at an enormous price, but which can hardly be accepted as offering more than a moderate proof of what it is in the painter's genius to achieve. "The Entombment," by the same artist, strikes us as being the least successful work he has produced—it is meagre in colour, and conventional in expression and treatment. Horace Vernet, again, is unequal to his deservedly illustrious reputation. His "Hunting the Mouflon," though a good specimen of his energy in composition, and his masterly powers of drawing, is by no means fitted to show him to the best advantage as a colourist: while his second work, "the Parting"—a piece of sentimental allegory, with a very clumsy angel, and a very incomprehensible blue back-ground—is so unworthy of this admirable painter, in every respect, that, even with the evidence of the catalogue before our eyes, we could hardly believe it to be really his own production. Delaroche and Biard are the only famous masters of the French school who seem to have done themselves justice at the Pall-mall Gallery. The first painter has sent a picture of the "Death of the Duc de Guise," which, though hard in execution and poor in colour, is wonderful for expression and dramatic energy. A small copy of the noble "Hemicycle" in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts—a fine repetition of the head in the magnificent "whole length" of "Napoleon at Fontainebleau," and a very original sepia drawing of a "Burgomaster's Family," are the remaining contributions sent by Delaroche. Biard is admirably represented. We have all his extraordinary richness and literalness of detail in "Madame du Barry consulting Cagliostro;" and all his unrivalled fidelity as a student of nature, combined with his quaintest and most striking fancy, in his "Gulliver in the Isle of Giants." This latter picture exhibits the various wild flowers in the forest of Fontainebleau, enlarged to a Brobdingnag scale—the tiny Gulliver is flying bewildered among them—and the huge face and hands of one of the giants of the fabulous country, loom out close behind him. A more extraordinary combination of the strictest reality and the wildest fancy never was put on canvas. It is beyond all question the most remarkable picture, on a large scale, in the exhibition.

Biard has some other excellent pictures—an irresistibly humorous "Interior of a Custom-house," and a powerfully-painted figure of "A Lady lying in a Hammock." But we must refrain from noticing these at any length, in order to find room for a word or two in praise of some of the smallest, but also some of the most strikingly original pictures in the gallery. These are contributed by two artists, Plassau and Fichel, each of whom is equally entitled to claim the merit of having formed a style of his own. Plassau paints the most *piquante* ladies, in the most *piquante* positions, with a delicacy of handling entirely unprecedented as far as our experience goes. His faces are wonderful for their tenderness of colour and their exquisite roundness and softness of outline; extremities, draperies, and other accessories he touches, rather than paints, with the most graceful and felicitous incompleteness. The expression may seem paradoxical, but the pictures will, we think, be found to justify it. Fichel works on the same small scale, with less delicacy, but with equal elegance, and more neatness and certainty of finish. His subjects are principally domestic interiors of the last century, and present the life and costume of that period with the most easy and delightful grace. The pictures by both these artists will be found quite new in their kind by all English visitors to the gallery. They are among the pleasantest and most striking features of the exhibition.

Of the landscapes in the collection we cannot speak in terms of praise. They are uniformly false in effect, and, for the most part, feeble in treatment—even Gudin's pictures being as artificial and as unlike nature as the rest. We hope on some future occasion to see the French landscape-painters, and some of the French figure-painters, too, do themselves fuller justice. The purpose of familiarising the English public with the works of the artists of France is an admirable one. We cordially wish it all success, and sincerely trust that the painters of the French School may be, in the mass, less imperfectly represented at the next exhibition of their works in this country.

THE GERMAN EXHIBITION.

ONE circumstance, in connexion with the display of paintings by modern German artists at the gallery in Bond-street, struck us with great surprise. We approached the collection in a reverent and dismal frame of mind, expecting to find ourselves surrounded on all sides by devotional art of the most uncompromisingly Teutonic kind. To our utter amazement, not a single picture representing a sacred subject hung in the gallery! A few costume-pictures, and unambitious studies of single figures appeared here and there, surrounded by landscapes and fruit pieces; and this was the German Exhibition!

We must be allowed to mention the landscapes first, for they are the best works in the collection—many of them being, however, less imitations of nature than imitations of English artists. Steinecke's "Landscape in Holland," for instance, recalls Creswick the moment you look at it; and Larson's two night-scenes are quite as closely studied from Danby, as from the moonlight effects which they assume to represent. Baker's "View of the Jungfrau Mountains" is more original in style—he has carefully and successfully studied the snowy outlines of the mountain. Len's "Scene in Norway" is still better. The sky is, perhaps, a little too suggestive of the

palette; but the painting of the rocks is firm and powerful, and the aerial perspective on the left of the scene is really admirable. Burnier's little "Landscape" is very fresh and pretty; and Professor Lessing exhibits a careful study from Nature (No. 39), which is only defective in the inky colours of the sky. Generally, the German landscape-painters seem to understand form much better than effect. The only real bit of sunlight in the exhibition is No. 79, "Torrent in the Valley of Hardanger," by H. Gude.

The figure subjects are, for the most part, miserably commonplace and uninteresting. By far the best picture, as to drawing and dramatic expression, is G. Sell's "Defending a Castle, at the time of the Thirty Years' War." The whole composition is full of freshness and vigour, and tells the story excellently, without exaggeration. Geselschap has a very clever little study, in the Dutch manner, of an old woman sleeping; and Bleibtren exhibits a spirited and original-looking sketch of the Battle of Grossberen. Schlesinger's "Stop Thief," and Nordenberg's "Cabin Toast," are both nicely studied from real life—the runaway dog in the first work being admirably quaint and natural. But, by far the best of the small pictures, is Vautier's "Anxious Mother"—a single figure sitting thoughtfully by the fireside. In sentiment, colour, and execution—as also in the beautiful painting of the accessories—this is the gem of the collection. When we visited the exhibition many of the very worst pictures in it were marked as "Sold"—but this really exquisite little work had not found a purchaser, perhaps, because it was hung in the darkest corner of the gallery. W.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD'S CONCERT.

As might be expected from the high character of Miss Goddard's fame as an *artiste*, her concert on Wednesday was especially good in the instrumental department. The orchestra, composed of the members of the Orchestral Union, was conducted by Benedict and Mr. Mellon, and performed in first-rate style that first-rate composition, the *Jupiter Symphony*. Of all Mozart's works this was, perhaps, the one best suited to the occasion, and to the powers of the performers. The *andante* and the *finale* were played with the grace, delicacy, and precision which they require at the hands of all true interpreters of Mozart, and seemed to be appreciated by the discriminating part of the audience on Wednesday. Even those to whom the composition was new, and others who did not fully appreciate it, were charmed into the conviction that music is something vastly different from the "sound and fury, signifying nothing," which too often shakes the opera *salle* and the concert-room. Miss Goddard herself played Beethoven's pianoforte concerto in G major, and played well; although it is not so well suited to her style of execution as Mendelssohn's *Serenade* and the three shorter solos which she played in the second part. Of these last Chopin's *Nocturne* was, perhaps, the best composition, and the one which demanded most skill and taste from the performer. But Krellah's *Perle d'écume* was, of course, the selected for an encore. It is, indeed, a charming, fantastic little affair, and was played to perfection. Sterndale Bennett's overture (the *Wood Nymphs*) was very well given by the orchestra. It is full of beauty, and we shall be glad to hear it again. Of the vocal performers, Herr Reichardt deserves special thanks for the way in which he compensated the audience for the unexpected absence of Sims Reeves. He sang the *Adelaide* instead of a song set down in the programme with true German pathos. Miss Dolby sang so as to satisfy all Dolbyites; but we heard some German musical *cognoscenti* object to her singing well-known German airs, such as Mozart's *Addio* and Mendelssohn's *Zuleika Song*, in an Anglo-Italian style. The concert was crowded and was completely successful.

CLAUDET'S DAGUERREOTYPE GALLERY.

A VISIT to the daguerreotype rooms of Mr. Claudet is interesting on more than one account. The process of photography is there more liberally shown than at any other establishment we are aware of; and a new embellishment of the rooms, by M. Hervieu, fairly warrants a public notice. The paintings with which this gentleman has decorated the reception-room are of a character for which he has obtained an original repute. He is one of the very few artists of acknowledged ability who have employed their talents in—we may utter the despised word without offence—*house-painting*. The subjects of his pencil are generally emblematic, and in the drawing and foreshortening of infant figures consists his most peculiar merit. In the present instance he has so completely adapted his designs to the architecture and objects of the apartment, that a brief description of these must be given in order to convey an idea of the pictorial effect. The room is some thirty feet long by eighteen wide, and the same in height. It is lighted in the whole length and width by an ornamental skylight. The architecture is Anglo-Italian. On one side a screen, supported on a row of arched pillars, conceals the entrance to the daguerreotype rooms above. The cove beneath the skylight contains a series of portraits, of course appropriate to the uses of the gallery. One head is that of Leonardo da Vinci, the correctness of whose allusions to the phenomena of light and vision is practically confirmed by the latest discoveries of Herschel, Arago, and Wheatstone. These philosophers also find a place in M. Hervieu's portrait-gallery, and by their sides are Fizeau, Niepce de St. Victor, Davy, Wedgewood, Newton, Brewster, and Talbot. Every panel which occurs in the architectural design is occupied by emblematic groups and figures, executed in light and delicate tints, which admirably harmonise with the rich but airy and graceful style of the mouldings.

This style of decoration is not only excellent in itself, but is peculiarly adapted to our present style of domestic architecture. By the use of painting, a confined space is indefinitely extended on all sides, and even upwards. Thus a comparatively small room acquires an air of space and freedom almost incredible. Again, these paintings are executed on paper, of a stout kind; and few substances are in reality more durable or more portable. The whole could be taken down, and replaced; and the tenant of a house taken on lease, or even by the year, can carry away with him the walls, which vie in taste and luxury with those of an hereditary palace. Think of that, ye tenants of ten or twelve-roomed houses, with lordly souls! Q.

HEALTH OF LONDON.

(From the Registrar-General's Return.)

In the week that ended last Saturday, the number of deaths registered in London was 1085. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1844-53 the average number was 892, which if raised in proportion to increase of population becomes 981. The facts indicate a rather high mortality; they show that about a hundred persons died last week above what is usual at this the healthiest period of the year.

Last week the births of 824 boys, and 828 girls, in all 1652 children, were registered in London. In nine corresponding weeks of the years 1845-53 the average number was 1311.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean reading of the barometer in the week was 29.558 in. The reading was 29.81 in. at the beginning of the week, and it was 29.64 in. by 9 h. p.m. on the 15th. The mean temperature of the week was 55.1 degs., which is 3.9 degs. below the average of the same week in 38 years. The mean temperature was below the average on every day of the week; and on Tuesday, when it was lowest, the depression was 6.3 degs. below the average. The highest temperature of the week was 69.2 degs. on Wednesday; the lowest was 42.9 degs. on Sunday. The mean dew-point temperature was 50.5 degs.; and between this and the mean air temperature the difference was 4.6 degs. The wind blew from the south-west, except on Thursday and Friday, when it was in the east. The amount of rain-fall was 0.38 in., most of which occurred on Tuesday and Thursday.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

AIRLIE.—June 19, in Tilney-street, the Countess of Airlie: a daughter.
BRADY.—June 13, at Warwick-terrace, Belgravia, the wife of John Brady, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.
CRAWSHAY.—June 17, at Tynemouth, Northumberland, the wife of G. Crawshaw, Esq.: a son.
CUNNINGHAM.—June 13, at 28, Eivoli-place, Cheltenham, the wife of Lieutenant T. J. M. Cunningham, Second Regiment Madras Native Infantry: a son.
HAMMOND.—June 21, at Dover, the wife of Capt. M. M. Hammond, of the Rifle Brigade: a son.
SIMPSON.—June 15, at Balworth Rectory, Lady Francis Bridgeman Simpson: a son.
WARD.—June 19, at Upton-park, Slough, the wife of Lieutenant John Ward, (A), R.N.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FLEMING—PURCELL.—June 21, at the Holy Trinity, Brompton, the Rev. James B. Fleming, B.A., to Grace, eldest daughter of Captain Purcell, R.N., of Brompton.
MITCHELL—WILMOT.—June 15, at the Parish Church Chaddesden, James William Mitchell, Esq., to Maria, eldest daughter of Sir Henry Sacheverel Wilmot, Bart.
NASH—ALLAN.—June 20, at Deptford, Kent, John Pearson Nash, M.D., Madras Army, only son of the late Capt. Henry Gardner Nash, Sixty-second Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, and grandson of Major-General W. R. Clayton Cootley, of Templeogue, Dublin, to Catharina Harper, youngest daughter of A. Allan Esq., and niece of John Allan, Esq., of Loampit-hill Deptford.
POCOCK—STEVENS.—At Southsea, Lieutenant Charles A. B. Pocock, R.N., of H.M.'s ship Excellent, to Meta, daughter of Capt. J. Agnew Stevens, R.N., of Elm-grove, Southsea.
WANSTALL—ATKINS.—June 17, at St. John's Church, Chatham, Edmund Wanstall, Esq., of Eden-grove House, Cornwall-place, Holloway, to Eleanor Rawlings, younger daughter of Lieutenant James Atkins, R.N., High-street, Chatham, Kent.

DEATHS.

INGILBY.—June 15, at Kensington, Elizabeth, eldest and only unmarried daughter of the late Sir John Ingilby, Baronet, of Ripley-park, Yorkshire, aged seventy.
RUSSELL.—February 7, at Williams-town, Port Philip, of decline, Elizabeth Langley, the beloved wife of T. J. Russell, and third daughter of the late Lieutenant P. White, R.N., of Limehouse, Middlesex, aged twenty-seven.
PETRE.—June 18, at Bury St. Edmund's, the Hon. Charles Berney Petre, second son of the tenth Baron Petre, aged sixty.
POLLINGTON.—June 21, in Eaton-terrace, the Viscountess Pollington.
STUART.—June 10, at Stuart Hall, county Tyrone, Ireland, of bronchitis, Robert, Earl of Castle Stuart.
WEST.—June 20, at 1, Aberdeen-place, Maido-hill, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Augustus West, Lieutenant-Governor of Landguard Fort, and formerly of the Third Guards, aged eighty-eight.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, June 23, 1854.

LAST Saturday passed without any indication of a rise in Consols for the opening July 6th; but on Monday morning the Times endorsed a communication from the *Freemden Blatt*, a Vienna journal of sufficiently doubtful character, to the effect that the Russians had orders to retire beyond the Pruth. The result was all that could be wished, for Consols rose at once 2 per cent. The next day, without any remark or confirmation of this extraordinary report, which was actually denied by other journals, the same print publishes an account of the raising of the siege of Silistria. Even this is questionable now; however, Consols at one time on Thursday nearly touched 95, an unprecedented price in the middle of a war. To-day (Friday), we have the Funds considerably lower, and it is possible to-morrow's Times may send them down a few steps further. All kinds of rumours are afloat; some assert that Nicholas is on the point of abdicating; others that he is as firm and obstinate as ever. But if public opinion would rouse itself and insist upon the dismissal of the "Russian" Premier—men's minds would then be made up to the end of the war, or at least as to the impossibility of a disgraceful and hollow peace being adjusted. We should see the Funds lower; but we should be moving on firm ground, and should not fear the mines of Engineer Gordon.

All railway shares have been in the ascendant, foreign

and home. Crystal Palace shares are still flat, and the opinion of many sage and reverend authorities is, that Sydenham being a long day's journey from most parts of London, it will never pay. People wanted a lounge, and not a fatiguing day's work, with crowding at railway stations, shifting of conveyance, &c., &c. Mining shares, particularly gold mines, are and have been woefully flat. Land Companies and Joint-Stock Banks maintain a firm appearance. Russian Fives are somewhat depressed again. Not many transactions in the English mining market. Imperial Brazil look very weak, while, on the other hand, Maraquitas have improved somewhat.

The closing price of Consols at four o'clock is, for the July opening, 93½.

Consols, 93½; Caledonian, 63, 63½; Eastern Counties, 13½, 13½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 61, 62; Great Northern, 91½, 92½; Great Western, 79½, 80; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 65½, 65½; Brighton, 103½, 103½; London and North-Western, 103½, 103½; London and South-Western, 85½, 86; Midland, 65½, 66; Scottish Central, 90, 92; South Devon, 14, 16; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 71, 72; York and North Midland, 52, 53; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 3½, 3½; East Indian, 2½, 2½; Luxembourg, 8, 7; Ditto Railway, 3½, 3½; Namur and Liege (with interest), 8½, 9; North of France, 34½, 34½; Paris and Lyons, 17½, 17½; Paris and Orleans, 46, 48; Paris and Strasbourg, 31½, 32; Sambre and Meuse, 8½, 9; West of France, 6, 7; Agua Frias, 5, 16½; Brazil Imperial, 3½, 3½; St. John Del Rey, 31, 32; Colonial Gold, 1, 1; Great Nuggett, 1, 1; Linares, 10, 11; New ditto, 1, 1; par; Mariquita, 1, 1; United Mexican, 3½, 3½; Peninsulas, 1, 1; Pontgibauds, 17, 18; San Fernando, 1, 16; Oberhof, 3, 16; 3-16 dis.; Crystal Palace, 1, 1; Australian Agricultural, 44½, 45½; Peel River, 1, 1; par; South Australian Land, 40, 42; North British Australian Loan and Land, 1, 1; Scottish Australian Investment, 2½, 2½; Australasia Bank, 80, 82; Union of Australia, 71, 72; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 21½, 21½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, June 23.

LOCAL TRADE.—Supplies of all Grain short; Wheat meets a very slow sale, in fact prices are merely nominal; the same is the case with Barley, Beans, and Peas. Oats are scarce, and bring 6d. more than on Monday for some descriptions.

FREE ON BOARD.—The dullness in the English markets, caused by the favourable change which has taken place in the weather here, has almost put a stop to free-on-board business for this country. This has not, however, as yet had the effect of lowering prices in the Baltic ports, as the demand for France continued. We are sellers of Rostock Wheat at 78s. per qr., free on board; of 600 to 700 qrs. Wismar Wheat, weighing 62 lbs. per bushel, at 78s., cost, freight, and insurance to London or East Coast; 60 lbs. red Stettin, 72s.; 61 lbs. Uckermark, at 74s.; 59 to 60 lbs. Polish mixed at 68s. 6d. per qr.—all free on board at Stettin.

The value of Wheat and Flour in New York is barely maintained, but prices are still too high, and stocks too small for export.

The weather has undergone a favourable change in France, and Flour is 1 to 2 francs cheaper in Paris. The markets in the Interior continue to rise.

Rye is in much demand, and prices have risen considerably in Amsterdam, where large purchases have been made for the Rhine.

FLOATING TRADE.—No sales reported since Monday; the ideas of holders are considerably above those of buyers. There are a few cargoes of Wheat and Maize off the Coast—688. is asked for Polish Odessa Wheat, 48s. Saidi, 40s. for a cargo of Portuguese Maize, 42s. for a fine libral, 28s. for a cargo of Egyptian Barley on passage. Two cargoes of African Barley on passage have been sold at 26s. 6d.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	206	206	206	206	206	206
3 per Cent. Red.	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Consols for Account	93	93	93	93	94	94
3½ per Cent. An.	93	93	93	93	93	93
New 2½ per Cents.	93	93	93	93	93	93
Long Ans. 1860	4 9-16	4 11-16	4 11-16	4 11-16	4 11-16	4 11-16
India Stock	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Ditto Bonds, £1000	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p
Ditto, under £1000	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p	3 p
Ditto, £500	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p	4 p
Ditto, Small	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	100	Russian Bonds, 5 per	97½
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents. 56		Cents 1822	85½
Chilian 6 per Cents. 103		Russian 4½ per Cents. 104	
Danish 5 per Cents. 99½		Spanish 3½ per Cents. 104	
Equador Bonds	3½	Spanish Committee Cert.	4½
Mexican 3 per Cents. 24½		of Coup. not fun.	4½
Mexican 3 per Ct. for		Venezuela 3½ per Cents.	92
Acc., June 15		Belgian 4½ per Cents.	92
Portuguese 4 per Cents.		Dutch 2½ per Cents.	61½
Portuguese 5 p. Cents.		Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	90

OPERA COMIQUE, ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

On Monday next, June 26, will be produced (for the first time in this country) the popular Opera Comique, en trois actes, LA SIRENE. Paroles de M. Scribe; musique de M. Auber.

DISTRIBUTION:

Zerlina (jeune paysanne, sœur de Scopetto), Made. Mario Cabel; Scopetto (aventurier), M. Sujol; Bolbaya (directeur des spectacles de la cour), M. Grignon; Scipion (jeune marin), M. Legrand; Le duc de Popoli (gouverneur des Abruzzes), M. Leroy; Pecchione (compagnon de Scopetto), M. Quilichez; Mathea (servante), Madame Vade.

La Scène se passe dans les Abruzzes.

Due notice will be given of the next representations of the new and highly successful operas entitled *Le Roi des Halles*, *La Promise*, and *La Fille du Régiment*.

The following attractive operas are in preparation, and will be produced during the short season.—*Les Diamans de la Couronne*, *Le Toréador*, *Galathée*, *La Tante Aurèle*, *La Poupée*, *La Postillon de Lonjumeau*, *Flora et Zéphir*, *Le Panier Fleuri*, *L'Organiste*, *Les Rendezvous Bourgeois*, *Les Deux Voleurs*, *L'Éclair*, *Le Tableau Parlant*, *Les Noces de Jeanette*, and *Le Nouveau Seigneur de Village*.

The nights of performance will be on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Subscriptions will be received for twelve representations.

Private Boxes and Stalls at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and at the Box-office.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, will be performed

HUSH MONEY.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, J. H. White, Vincent, H. Rivers, Moore, Emery, Miss Dormer, Miss Stevens, and Mrs. A. Wigan.

After which A MODEL OF A WIFE.

To conclude with

THE WANDERING MINSTREL.

Jem Baggs, Mr. F. Robson.

On Thursday (never acted) a new comediotta, called

HEADS OR TAILS.

In which Mr. Alfred Wigan, Mr. F. Robson, Mr. Emery, and Mrs. Alfred Wigan will appear.

With HUSH MONEY.

And other Entertainments.

MRS. WILLIAM HALE (late Miss

Stevens), formerly Solo Pianiste at the Town Hall, Birmingham, has the honour to announce that she will give A GRAND EVENING CONCERT at the Philharmonic Rooms, Newman-street, Oxford-street, on Wednesday, June 28th (her first appearance in London), under the immediate and special patronage of the Countess of Stradbroke, Mrs. Milner Gibson, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, the Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton, the Right Hon. Lord Wrottesley, the Right Hon. Lord John Manners, M.P., Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, M.P., the Right Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson, M.P., and William Scholefield, Esq., M.P., when she will perform in Mendelssohn's Grand Trio in D Minor, with select solo pieces. Mrs. Hale will be assisted by Signor Gardoni and other artists of the highest eminence. (For full particulars see bills).

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is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East, from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

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TEAS again REDUCED 4d. per pound.

Strong Congou Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., 3s.; former prices, 3s., 3s. 2d., 3s. 4d.

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COCOA is a NUT, which, besides farina-

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Has almost entirely superseded all other kinds on the Continent, in consequence of its proved superior power and efficacy—effecting a cure much more rapidly.

Contains iodine, phosphorus of chalk, volatile acid, and the elements of the bile—in short, all its most active and essential principles—in larger quantities than the pale oils made in England and Newfoundland, deprived mainly of these by their mode of preparation.

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"I can, however, have no hesitation about the propriety of responding to your application. The oil which you gave me was of the very finest quality, whether considered with reference to its colour, flavour, or chemical properties; and I am satisfied that for medicinal purposes no finer oil can be procured.

"With my best wishes for your success, believe me, my dear Sir, to be very faithfully yours,

(Signed) **JONATHAN PEREIRA.**

"Pinsbury-square, London, April 16, 1851.

"To Dr. de Jongh."

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VOYE'S?—This having been a subject of much inquiry, induces Messrs. **FUTVOYE and Co.** to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry that they have not any establishment in the Crystal Palace; and the reason is, that they supplied so many of the Exhibitors at the Exhibition of 1851, as well as at those of Dublin and New York. It must, therefore, be obvious to all, that were they to become Exhibitors it would be opposing some of their largest consumers. Many of their Patents, Registered Articles, and other manufactures, may be obtained of the retailers at the Crystal Palace, or of Messrs. **Futvoys and Co.'s Manufactory and Wholesale Warehouse**, 154, Regent-street; 8, 11, and 12, Beak-street; 28 and 29, Silver-street; and 34, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

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TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters

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34, Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the **Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever**, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, **Mr. JOHN WHITE**, 238, Piccadilly, London.

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OF CHOLERA YET DISCOVERED.—Further Great Reduction in Price.—**CREWS'S DISINFECTING FLUID** is the Best and Cheapest for the purification of Dwelling Houses, Stables, Dog Kennels, Ships' Holds, Cess-pools, Drains, Water Closets, &c., the Disinfection of Sick Rooms, Clothing, Linen, and for the Prevention of Contagion and Bad Smells.

The extraordinary power of this Disinfecting and purifying Agent is now acknowledged, and its use recommended by the College of Physicians. Unlike the action of many other disinfectants, it destroys all noxious smells, and is itself scentless. The manufacturer, having destroyed a monopoly fostered by the false assumption of the title of a patent, has to warn the public against all spurious imitations. Each Bottle of **Crewe's Disinfecting Fluid** contains a densely concentrated solution of Chloride of Zinc, which may be diluted for use with 200 times its bulk of water. Vide instructions accompanying each bottle. Sold by all Chemists and Shipping Agents in the United Kingdom. Imperial quarts at 2s.; pints at 1s.; half-pints 6d.; larger vessels at 5s. per gallon. Manufactured at **H. G. GRAY'S**, Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

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THIS ASSOCIATION feel it a duty in-

cumbent upon them to return their sincere thanks to those Friends and the Public in general for the very extensive patronage and kind recommendations they have received for the past four years. They would state, for the information of those who may be unacquainted with them that the object of the Association is, by the union and industry of its members, to carry on business for themselves, and thus realise the full benefit of their own labour, besides being enabled to perform their work in clean, wholesome workshops; as their permanent welfare is bound up with the success of the Establishment, they feel the strongest inducement to give every satisfaction to their customers, in quality, workmanship, and price; and they trust that those who feel that the principles of justice and Christian morality should be applied to industry and trade, and who are desirous to aid the legitimate efforts of working men to effect their social elevation, will assist them by their custom and influence. The Association have secured the services of first-rate Cutters, and pledge themselves that no effort on their part shall be wanting to deserve the continuance of those orders with which they may be favoured.

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Good West of England Cloth Frock Coats.....	2	5	0
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Super ditto.....	2	0	0
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Clerical and Professional Robes. Military and Naval Uniforms. Ladies' Riding Habits. Youths' Suits made to Order, and Gentlemen's own materials made up, on the most reasonable terms. All work done on the Premises. No Sunday Labour allowed. Country orders most punctually attended to.

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Invalid lives assured at equitable rates.

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On a Policy for £1000 effected in 1846, Premiums amounting to

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A weekly saving of 14d. (3s. 0. 8d. yearly) will secure to a person 25 years of age the sum of £100 on his attaining the age of 55, or at death, should it occur previously.
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INSTITUTED 1831.

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MANAGER.—ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq.
SECRETARY.—WILLIAM FINLAY, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE.

26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.
The Twenty-Third Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Edinburgh, on 2nd May, 1854; William Stuart Walker, Esq., of Bowland, in the Chair.
The Report read to the Meeting, and which was unanimously approved of, contained the following particulars:—
The number of Policies issued during the year ending 1st March, is 620, the Sums Assured thereby being 232,715*l*, giving an addition to the Income in Annual Premiums of 8895*l*.
The Policies lapsed by death during the year are 84, the Sums Assured by which amount to 49,850*l*, and the Bonus Additions to 8432*l*, making together 58,332*l*.
In comparing these sums with the amounts for the preceding year, they exhibit an increase of 17 in the number of New Policies, and of about 6000*l*. in the Sums Assured. The increase, though of moderate amount, must be considered satisfactory, especially when regard is had to the great competition which now exists in the business of Life Assurance.

The number of Policies lapsed by death is four under that of last year, and the amount payable nearly 7000*l*. less. Keeping in view the additions made to the business, and the increased age of the Members of the Society, these are most gratifying circumstances.
The Sums remaining Assured amount to 4,234,598*l*.
The Annual Revenue amounts to 132,615*l*.
And the Accumulated Fund is increased to 839,354*l*.
Medical Referees paid by the Society.

VIEW OF THE PROGRESS AND SITUATION OF THE SOCIETY.

At 1st March, 1836 642,871 21,916 40,974
Do. 1842 1,684,067 61,851 101,406
Do. 1848 2,984,878 110,700 445,673
Do. 1854 4,234,598 152,615 839,354

Amount Assured. Annual Revenue. Accumulated Fund.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March, 1836	642,871	21,916	40,974
Do. 1842	1,684,067	61,851	101,406
Do. 1848	2,984,878	110,700	445,673
Do. 1854	4,234,598	152,615	839,354

POLICIES RENDERED INDISPUTABLE.

By a Resolution of the Society, Policies may, after being of five years' endurance, be declared indisputable on any ground whatever, and the Assured be entitled to travel or reside beyond the limits of Europe, without payment of Extra Premium for such travelling or residence. Special application must be made to the Directors for such privileges, however, and satisfactory evidence adduced that at the time of his application the Assured has no prospect or intention of going beyond the limits of Europe.
The Amount of Claims paid to the Representatives of deceased Members exceeds

SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS.

Copies of the Report, Proposals, and all other information, may be had on application to the Head Office in Edinburgh, to any of the Country Agents, and to the London Agency, 120, Bishopsgate-street.
London, June, 1854. WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY, 30TH JUNE.

THE EXHIBITION of the WORKS of the Students of the Schools of Art, both local and metropolitan, now open daily at Gore House, Kensington, will close on 30th June. Admission Free.

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London, June, 1854.

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WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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