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The Leader.

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

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1854.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE day after Parliament was prorogued, the Thames, or a sewer—which may be defined as a branch of the Thames—burst into one of the offices of the House of Lords, sliming and destroying innumerable documents, and impregnating the vacated Parliamentary atmosphere with even a more fearful stench than was supposed to have been detected during the terrible session of the election inquiries into corruption. Great neglect is indicated in such a fact; but the neglect is constitutional. When Parliament is quite ended, and before the Recess is quite begun, public works and operations of every description are nearly everywhere suspended. Therefore the invasion by the sewer has its moral.

The cholera, however, occupies this period of suspense. In the metropolis it is raging as a plague—killing off in all the bad neighbourhoods, and they are everywhere, the diseased and the feeble; the dissipated, the exhausted, and the diseased; the very old and the very young. And actually nothing is being done: that is if we measure action by the danger. With the habit, which may now be described as a purely English habit, so thoroughly have we lost our old national characteristics, the community is looking to the Government:—the Government is represented by the Board of Health; and the new Board of Health limits its young and fresh energies to issuing a circular. In un-routine language, since the commencement of the cholera era, we have ventured to express an opinion that a national insurrection is required against "the great internal enemy," and it would seem, though, perhaps, the discovery may be made somewhat too late, that the boldness of some such course may arise in the end out of the panic. Our acute and accurate contemporary the *Builder* has suggested an association for the preservation of life—to kill the cholera as a matter of commerce.

The batch of new elections intervenes also to provide some occupation for the relaxed public mind; very slight occupation, however: for those elections have proceeded upon the same principles of political anarchy on which Parliament triumphantly closed. In none of the corrupt boroughs have we observed any signs of organisation on any side. That personal—in which we may include perhaps pecuniary—and not political, reasons, have suggested contests and produced

choice, may be inferred from the circumstance that in almost every case there are four, five, or six candidates. At Barnstaple, where the registered electors do not exceed 700, a great brewer is contending with a great architect, the one calling himself a Tory, the other denominating himself a Liberal—merely as a matter of form—and the electors denouncing both because, accustomed from time immemorial to receive 6l. a piece for their votes, both candidates, giving themselves the benefit of doubts about the new Bribery Bill, decline compliance with any of the ancient formalities. At Cambridge, where an electoral body of about 2000 is equally divided between Liberals and Tories, the two men who were rejected at the last election, Messrs. Adair and Mowatt, have now come in triumphant over very attractive Tories—Lord Maidstone and Mr. Slade, Q.C. In such a borough we might be entitled to regard this fact as some indication of general political feeling; but with the statistics which meet us at Maldon (an Essex borough with a traditional tendency to give the Liberals their chance on the condition of liberality with money), where two Conservatives, who are not at all attractive, have triumphed over a Liberal and a Tory,—and another candidate, who unreservedly declared for the ballot, universal suffrage, and anything else that was particularly requested, only polling about 200 votes. The peculiarity in this instance is that the palpably pure candidate was the one who has been most decidedly defeated—Mr. Quintin Dick, who in three successive Parliaments represented the borough, and who now does not represent it only because he most absolutely refused to do out of principle what the unreserved Radical gentleman did out of "circumstances over which he had no control"—in fact not having any money. At Canterbury the confusion is still more perceptible. Mr. G. Smythe—the only man of talent produced by the English aristocracy for thirty years, who has rendered his commanding abilities more brilliant by his philosophical acceptance of popular principles, and who was the pride and glory of Canterbury for ten years—had so slight a chance of success that he appears to have crept out of the town without a canvass—being repudiated this time not on account of his duel with Colonel Romilly. The candidates who obtained the show of hands are the candidates who declare in favour of the Coalition Government—one of these being an old and exploded Whig hack; but

it is taken for granted that these gentlemen have little real chance, and that Radical Canterbury—the more Radical from its familiarity with the blessings of a cathedral establishment—will return two Tories, whose chief principles—like those of Lord Maidstone and Mr. Slade—are confined to being in favour of Lord Derby. Hull, the last and principal of the corrupt boroughs, appears to be preferring a Roman Catholic barrister, and cheers a Mr. W. D. Seymour, who, of all the candidates at any of the elections, alone speaks with statesmanlike clearness of the political principles applicable to the period. But these cheers may not correspond with the result.

There are two other new elections to be separated from this batch of the corrupt. Marylebone has re-elected Sir Benjamin Hall *non. dis.*, with the exception of an unpotential Mr. Dickey. But even here we can draw no political inference. In his singularly self-complacent speeches in the borough, Sir Benjamin Hall failed to favour his countrymen with a single idea beyond his first principle—that he prefers local self-government to that centralisation of which the very office he has accepted is the necessary exponent. Mr. Dickey, among much that was incoherent, seemed to divulge one distinct truth at the nomination—which was attended merely by butchers' boys and costermongers, and the right hon. baronet's family—that the great borough of Marylebone knew nothing whatever of the election, and was paying not the slightest attention to it:—Marylebone in so far accurately representing a national sensation. The election for King's-Lynn, rendered necessary by the lamented death of the gallant Lord Jocelyn, will not take place till next week; and it also will be unindicative, for necessarily a nominee member will be returned, either by the influence of the Duke of Portland or that of the Earl of Orford. Lord Stanley, the second and remaining member, appears to be establishing an influence of his own in the borough. His gift of 1000l. has enabled the town to establish an Athenæum, which is to be connected with the education of the working classes; and King's-Lynn is very grateful to the splendid young noble, whose munificence is relieved from the character of a vulgar bid for popularity by the fact that his sympathy with the people is honest and hearty and active. It is another question whether such a gift might not technically be tortured within the category of "undue influence."

The greatest puzzle of all, in connexion with

these new elections, is as to whether the new Bribery Bill has been a failure or a success. Outwardly there is a result. The elections are "dry" and they are "slow"—there is no music, there are no banners, and there is less row. But it remains to be proved whether the more quiet and more serious appliances of corruption have not in each case been brought into play. Mr. Coppock, the greatest of all authorities on British political villainy—a man who weeps over the sins of his country while making a comfortable fortune out of the sinners—has emphatically declared, through the *Times*, that the Bribery Bill need not, necessarily, in any degree, repress the old system. Mr. Coppock's letter, in fact, is as it were an advertisement to all his clients, that he continues to undertake to return his men. Mr. Coppock is probably right, and if Mr. Coppock has been the Liberal agent in any of the elections, we may safely infer that the purity has not been painful, and that if there has been any over-anxious avoidance of corruption upon the Tories' side it has been merely from bewilderment with respect to the actual meaning and bearing of the new measure. In regard to all these elections, however, there is this improvement: that the public tone about bribery is greatly raised, and that on the hustings the homage which vice pays to virtue has been remarkably exuberant. We must have taken a great step in political purification when we observe a man like Mr. Coppock finding himself sufficiently backed by public opinion to allow him to venture on so striking a sneer at the pretensions of the House of Commons as that with which he closes his remarkable letter—a sneer which implies quite as much as "The Stranger" has ever suggested. Mr. Coppock only reflects a now general tendency—which for several years we have done our utmost to intensify—to face the facts of our civilisation. We take from the same number of the *Times* which contained "J. C.'s" letter, a sentence which suggests that a nation frequently glorying in reflections upon the blessings of its reformed religion has not yet quite perfected its arrangements. "If the clergy," says the *Times*, "are worth anything, why don't they try their hand with this scandal to their religion and their country? (meaning the corruption of their picked electoral body). Should they succeed, the people will begin to put a little more faith in them and their mission!"

Great war events were due this week; but the war, like everything else, is now in suspense. There is no news whatever of what Omer Pasha is doing, or of what Admiral Dundas is doing, or what Lord Raglan is doing; from the whole East we only get a rumour that the Russians have gained a great victory over the Turks in Asia, and that a great French force, which was to have sailed on Napoleon's day is about to advance into "the territory (possibly the Crimea) of the enemy." From the Baltic we only have news that a small force has been landed in the Aland Islands, and that Bomarsund is to fall—this, after all, constituting but a slight operation, though a very necessary one in the course of a naval blockade, with which to close a season so elaborately arranged and so conspicuously misused. But we have, at least, some prospective satisfaction. The circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys (which we take for granted expresses the feelings of the English Government) at last announces to England (it is thus we get news of the movements of our own Government) what England is at war for. The French Minister for Foreign Affairs stipulates in advance with great clearness what are the indispensable terms of a peace with Russia. These do not include all that English Liberals have hoped for; they may probably be greatly extended and enlarged by events more influential than diplomacy; but, assuming that the French Government is leading ours, they suffice to ease the English mind during the daily increasing pressure of the war.

France has this week been one vast fête, this year's Napoleon's day being celebrated under auspices which indicate the firm establishment of the empire. The Emperor himself, as we see in his answer to the Bishop of Bayonne, has assumed the language of the representative of an enduring dynasty: and the manner in which he is passing his "recess,"—in all the careless security of serene and fearless royalty, and in those picturesque and domestic circumstances from which we take a new and pleasant view of his character—is perhaps not altogether unstudied for effect on Europe. Spain also submits even in revolution to the exigencies

of the period: taking a political siesta. All the circumstances of that country suggest a speedy recurrence to disturbance. At this moment we consider Espartero to have utterly failed, and we believe Espartero will drag down with him not only Isabella but O'Donnell. In Germany there is visible no political action whatever. From Italy we hear no more of the insurrectionary movements, which a fortnight ago seemed to signify so much. Garibaldi has repudiated any complicity in these premature "ebullitions," and we are in hopes that events will prove that the name of Mazzini has been used with as little authority.

From America comes information assuring us of the rapid accumulation of difficulties towards the Cuba crisis. The English people are helplessly withheld by the hands of secret diplomacy from taking their part in insisting that the crisis be left to the uninterrupted arrangement of Spain and the States alone; but knowledge of the very positive and clear views of the English public on this matter will, let us trust, deter our Government from the madness of attempting in any manner to save Spain from losing a territory to which she has only the right of a proprietor whose lands are to be traversed by a railway—the right of sale at a valuation. There has been a ready ratification of Lord Elgin's reciprocity treaty—a great and happy act which should constitute a precedent for all future difficulties between the two Governments—and the successful Governor-General of Canada is about to return home triumphant. The story in Montreal is, that he is to be the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. May he be as successful there as in Canada.

NOTES ON THE WAR.

ENGLAND has obtained an important document in the letter of M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the French Minister at Vienna: this, prospectively, informs us what the war is for. M. Drouyn de Lhuys specifies the indispensable conditions of peace:—

"It may be said, I think, that the common interest of Europe demands this.

"1. That the protectorate exercised up to that moment by the Imperial Court of Russia over the principalities of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Servia cease for the future, and that the privileges granted by the Sultans to those provinces, as dependent on their empire, by virtue of an agreement concluded with the Sublime Porte, be placed under the collective guardianship of the Powers.

"2. That the navigation of the Danube, to its mouth, be freed from all restraint, and subjected to the application of the principles established by the acts of the Congress of Vienna.

"3. That the treaty of July 13, 1844, be revised in concert with the high contracting powers, with a view to establishing an European equilibrium, and of limiting the power of Russia in the Black Sea.

"4. That no Power claim a right to exercise an official protectorate over the subjects of the Sublime Porte to whatever sect they may belong, but that France, Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, shall lend their mutual aid to obtain in the initiative from the Ottoman Government a respect for and observance of the religious privileges of the different Christian communities; and to turn to advantage in the reciprocal interests of their co-religionists, the generous intentions manifested by his Majesty the Sultan, without there resulting any attempt to control the dignity and independence of the crown."

The present fact of the war is, that there has been an attack on Bomarsund, and a landing of troops in its neighbourhood.

"The landing of the expeditionary corps was effected on the morning of the 8th, at 3 o'clock, without resistance, at two points of the Isle of Lumpar, situated to the north of the Archipelago of Aland. A battery of five guns was quickly destroyed by the French steam corvette *Philégéon* and *H.M.S. Amphion*. The guns, which had been covered with the debris of the carriages, and with the earth torn up by the balls, were afterwards spiked by the men of the two ships. The troops marched on the heights which crown the fortifications. Admiral Parseval was about to establish communications with the General-in-Chief in order to be able to forward him the material necessary for carrying on operations. Three thousand French infantry and English marines had landed at the north of the island. Two or three ships were attacking the forts which cover Bomarsund with guns of very large calibre."

"It has been announced from the pulpits of all the churches in the Isles of Aland that the Russian sway is at an end. The Russian authorities are flying from the Aland Isles; the peasants threaten them and place them in fear. Some of them are at this place. No cannonading was heard last night."

"The position of the islands is valuable to a force engaged, as the combined fleets are, in the prosecution of a system of naval blockade; and, further, it affords a point d'appui, in the event of more active operations, for the troops who now form so considerable an element in the Baltic expedition."

From the East the news is less decisive, but hopeful. No news yet what has become of the great

force which left Varna; but the Crimea is looked to, and the address of Marshal St. Arnaud promises a great undertaking.

This is Marshal St. Arnaud's address to the allied armies:—

"Soldiers of the allied armies! We shall soon advance into the territory of our enemy. I rely on your obedience, on your bravery, and steadiness in the fight. The task we have to complete is no light one. The enemy we have to encounter is strong and numerous. The 40 years of peace passed by us in promoting commerce, industry, and the arts, have been spent by him in the study of the art of war and in military preparations. From your bravery and energy France and England await a victory. The eyes of all Europe are on you. Show yourselves the worthy sons of your brave fathers. We march into the land of the enemy, resolved on victory. As conquerors must we see our fatherland, or never more return."

The Russians are reported to have gained a great battle over the Turks in Asia.

"Advices, dated St. Petersburg, 14th inst., announce that the Russians, under Gen. Wrangel, were victorious at Bayazid on the 1st of August. The Russian version says that 3000 Turks were slain, four guns, seventeen colours, and two camps captured. The Russians, says the same story, subsequently occupied Bayazid. The expected battle thus appears to have been fought, but beyond this the Russian despatch is hardly to be relied on. We were lately told, on the same authority, that Kars was invested, and then that it had fallen."

A contemporary is thus informed, under date of Vienna, Wednesday:—"Yesterday evening Prince Gortschakoff received despatches from St. Petersburg, and there is reason to believe that he this morning informed Count Buol that, as long as the Turks were in Wallachia, the Russian troops would retain certain strategic points in the Principalities."

Schamyl is said to offer the Porte 50,000 men, if it will recognise the independence of the Caucasus.

There has been a slight "affair" at Sebastopol. A letter in the *Times* describes it in a naval way:—

Early on the 26th we arrived off Sebastopol. As we had never appeared in so small a line of battle—13—many of the ardent indulged in visions of glory, and thought that at length the Russian would come out of his den and fight it out; but our four screws were quite enough to shut him up there. The *Fury*, *Terrible*, and a French steamer were purposely sent in somewhat ahead, so as to arrive at early dawn. The moment they showed themselves there were commotion and preparation in the harbour; steamers sent up tall columns of smoke, to help out the large ships, which unfurled sails, &c. But before they had sailed out to chase away these impertinent foes with an overwhelming force, to be recorded in a magnificent despatch as a grand victory, the signalman on the hills above descried the fleet coming in; so the steamers moved up into the dockyard creek and put their fires out, the ships furled their sails, and we were tranquilly allowed to make a narrow examination of them and their prison from sunrise to sunset of a beautiful clear summer's day. Before we came up the *Fury*, *Terrible*, and Frenchman had ventured in rather near to the north side of the harbour, and several shots were fired at them. The distance might have been about a mile and a half, and the Russian fire was so good that the rigging of the *Terrible* was cut immediately, and the little *Fury* was hulled just below the water, the ill-conditioned shot destroying two jars of the midshipmen's butter in their berth. Luckily nobody was touched. The fire was returned, and the steamers moved on. The works on the northern shore have been much strengthened since my last look at the place, and the strength of the sea batteries is undeniable. Inside the Russians have, of course, a complete sense of security at present. No sea force could damage them without exposing itself to destruction. With telescopes we could see the men bathing from the two or three liners behind the booms at the harbour's mouth. The sailors were in ecstasy at the beauty of some of these ships—after English models, but longer and handsomer, and preserving quaint old fashions of rigging, &c., in use with us thirty years ago. In the evening we stood out to sea, and at night the *Fury* was sent back to rouse them up in the middle of the night by firing a gun. Captain Tatham describes the effect as very beautiful. In an instant all the huge triple stone batteries were lighted up, and all hands under arms.

ELECTIONS.

The elections for the "corrupt boroughs" are great incidents this week.

The re-election of Sir B. Hall for Marylebone, which does not come under that category, claims precedence in narration. It took place on Wednesday, and was easily managed.

"Twelve o'clock was the hour appointed for the legal proceedings connected with the nomination, and shortly before that time Lord Dudley Stuart, accompanied by Lady Hall of Llanover, the Raja of Coorg, attired in his splendid full dress Eastern costume, and accompanied by attendants, together with a large number of other ladies and gentlemen arrived, and took up their stations on the balcony at the mansion of Mrs. Sturges, whose family are connected with the house of Baring and Co., at the north-eastern corner of Portland-place and Park-crescent. The ladies were attired in white with splendid pink ribbons, the colours of the hon. baronet, whilst all the gentlemen wore on their breasts very neatly made artificial roses of the same hue. About a quarter before twelve o'clock the cheers of the people announced the arrival of Sir Benjamin Hall. The

hon. baronet rode in an open landau, drawn by four greys, with outriders, each wearing a crimson jacket and favours to correspond. Mr. Hume, M.P., his proposer, sat on his right, and he was accompanied by Sir John Shelley, M.P. for Westminster, Mr. S. R. Stockton, a member of the vestry of St. Pancras, his seconder, Mr. Arthur Berrington, Sir B. Hall's private Secretary, &c. &c. Amongst the gentlemen on the hustings, and by whom the hon. baronet was received and congratulated, were observed Sir James Duke, M.P.; Colonel M. E. Bagnold; Clement George, Esq., churchwarden of Marylebone; John Flatler, and Henry Farrer, Esqrs., churchwardens of St. Pancras; Dr. Sayer, William Billett, Esq. (late churchwarden of St. Pancras); W. D. Cooper, Esq.; Messrs. Peter Graham, Nicholas, Furniss, N. Deffies, Dr. Joseph, Baker, Dyke, and other leading and influential members of the Representative Vestries of Marylebone, and St. Pancras. There were also a few of the well-known reformers of the parish of Paddington on the hustings.

Immediately in front of the hustings were affixed large placards, issued by the Council of the Society for Removing the Taxes on Knowledge, to the following effect:—"Electors of Marylebone,—Sir Benjamin Hall has always voted for the total repeal of all the taxes on knowledge—pledge him to continue to do so while in office."

Mr. Hume, M.P., proposed Sir B. Hall to the score or two dirty unfortunates who represented Marylebone in the open road of Langham-place on this occasion.

"He had the honour of knowing Sir Benjamin Hall as a member of the House of Commons for upwards of a quarter of a century, and he had always found him a liberal, progressive Reformer. It was only six weeks since he had told the Government, in the presence of a House when there were 200 members present, that they had never done justice to the Liberal cause by placing in office those whose predilections were in favour of the people, and not alone confined to the interests of the aristocracy. He was now proud and happy to find that the Government had made a step in the right direction, by the selection of the hon. baronet, Sir B. Hall, to fill the important office of Minister of Public Health. He looked upon this appointment of the hon. baronet as a compliment and a justice to liberal principles. The office which the hon. baronet had assumed was one of the very greatest importance, as it affected the health of the public at large; and he was delighted, notwithstanding his friendship for Mr. Chadwick, to find such a man as Sir B. Hall at the head of the Board of Health, as he was determined to base his operations on the principle of local government, as opposed to centralisation, and to introduce various reforms in that department. He hoped, therefore, that selecting the hon. baronet again that day, as the representative of Marylebone, would be by an unanimous vote. (Cheers.)"

Somebody seconded, and then the score or two dirty unfortunates held up their hands; and, no opponent appearing—nobody but a Mr. Dickey, who protested, and no more, that the election was hurried, and that Marylebone knew nothing of it—Sir Benjamin was declared duly elected, and proceeded to make a speech, which did not contain a single idea, and was loudly applauded. Lord Dudley Stuart closed the proceedings by congratulating his hon. colleague—publicly.

The elections for the "corrupt boroughs" have been more noisy and less manageable.

MALDON.

Here they have had five candidates. Mr. Lennard, an old acquaintance; Mr. Quintin Dick, ditto, and famous for electioneering battles under the "old system"; Mr. G. M. Peacocke, the Q.C., and Mr. Bramley Moore, the Liverpool merchant, who stood at the general election for Hull, and at the late election for Liverpool, both times being beaten; and, lastly, a Mr. Thomas MacEnteer, who seems to be a Radical, and in whom we recognise the same stray personage who, in the Sadleir re-election, made an appearance at the Sligo hustings. The nomination took place on Wednesday, and there being no flags, drums, or music, the affair was rather dull. The show of hands was in favour of Lennard and the Radical gentleman, who had made an exuberant Irish speech in favour of the ballot, universal suffrage, and, generally speaking, the rights of man. The others demanded a poll. Lennard is in favour of the Coalition; Quintin Dick of Conservatism, as usual; Peacocke, ditto; Bramley Moore, ditto.

Maldon, Thursday Evening.

The Mayor, shortly after five o'clock this evening, declared the result of the poll which had taken place during the day. It was as follows:

Mr. G. M. W. Peacocke (Conservative) 406; Mr. J. Bramley Moore (Conservative) 399; Mr. T. B. Lennard (Liberal) 335; Mr. T. MacEnteer (Liberal) 215; Mr. Quintin Dick (Conservative) 34.

Mr. Peacocke, Q.C., and Mr. J. Bramley Moore were declared duly elected.

The two successful candidates thanked the electors for the honour conferred upon them. Mr. Lennard and Mr. MacEnteer declared their intention of contesting the borough at every election, being convinced that they would in time drive the Tories out of the field. Mr. MacEnteer expressed his determination to visit the borough every month for the purpose of establishing a liberal political club.

BARNSTABLE.

The contest for this borough, besides the general interest attached to it on account of the respite which it has received, excites an unusual degree of local interest on account of the personal feeling embarked in it. The candidates are Mr. Tite, the ar-

chitect of the Royal Exchange, who comes forward on the liberal interest; Mr. Guinness, who is connected with the brewery business in Dublin; and Mr. Laurie. The two latter come forward on a joint interest, and are supported by the Conservative party and the old freemen with great zeal and earnestness. Meetings have been held, and the candidates have addressed their partisans. It will be remembered, at the last general election, Lord Ebrington presented himself as a candidate on the Liberal interest, pledging himself that he would not spend any money unlawfully. The other candidates on that occasion were Mr. R. Bremridge, an attorney in the borough, and Sir W. Fraser. Mr. Bremridge had been the Conservative agent for a great many years, and had managed the election matters for that interest. At the election for 1847 the Hon. W. J. Fortescue, a Liberal, and Mr. F. Hodgson, a Conservative, were the candidates, and entered into a compact to spend no money unlawfully. This compact was deemed by the old freemen a misdemeanour against the liberties of the borough, and as an encroachment on their "rotten privilege and custom,"—and they consequently brought forward Mr. Bremridge, who had been the election agent for Mr. Hodgson, and, voting against that gentleman, they placed Mr. Bremridge at the head of the poll, and turned out the unfortunate Conservative candidate.

This was, in fact, a cheap and virtuous election for Mr. Bremridge, as the freemen in a spirit of revenge voted for him gratuitously, and he represented the borough in conjunction with Mr. Fortescue. At the election of 1851 Mr. Bremridge and Sir W. Fraser presented themselves for election on the Conservative and freemen interest, Lord Ebrington came forward on the Liberal interest, unfurling the unwelcome "purity" banner. Lord Ebrington was defeated, a Parliamentary investigation took place, a commission was subsequently issued, and it was proved that 270 electors, chiefly freemen, had received bribes, and the writ for the borough was suspended until Friday last. Mr. Tite's claims on the present occasion are based on local rather than on general interests and principles. He is chairman of the North Devon line, and was mainly instrumental in bringing the line to Barnstaple. At the election of 1851 a requisition was addressed by the electors to Mr. Tite, but being then in Italy he did not receive it in time to come forward. Lord Ebrington, however, referred to him as a gentleman worthy of being a candidate for their suffrages. Mr. Tite is personally popular, as the railway bids fair to do a good deal for the town and neighbourhood, and there is no doubt that, had it not been for the nominee "imputation," he would have been returned; but such is the present feeling of the Conservatives, and such the virtuous indignation of the freemen, that it seems to be a point of honour among them that no Liberal candidate shall succeed.

At the nomination the show of hands was in favour of Messrs. Tite and Laurie.

CAMBRIDGE.

At Cambridge, on the day of nomination, there were four candidates: Mr. Adair and Mr. Mowatt, on one side; Lord Maidstone and Mr. Slade, Q.C., on the other; the latter two being in favour of Lord Derby. The show of hands was equal for the two sets. Mr. Campbell (Lord Campbell's son) had canvassed the electors; but being generally regarded, after his Parliamentary displays, as rather imbecile, he received intimations that he had no chance.

The result of the poll was:

Adair, 758; Mowatt, 733; Maidstone, 708; Slade, 696.

"The whole of the proceedings were conducted in the most quiet and irreproachable manner on both sides; and there was a total absence of the excitement that has distinguished previous polling days in Cambridge. So soon as the poll was closed, the Whig candidates returned to Parker's Piece, and each briefly thanked their supporters, who raised a literal forest of laurel; and, after promising a more extended address on the morrow, at the official declaration of the poll, were accompanied to their inns. The Conservatives did not show."

HULL.

The nomination took place on Thursday. "Unusual order" prevailed. Mr. B. M. Falland proposed William Henry Watson, Esq., as a fit and proper person to represent Hull in Parliament, which was seconded by Mr. B. J. Thompson. Mr. Thomas Ward proposed, and Mr. A. Bannister seconded, S. A. Dickson, Esq., as a candidate. Mr. Henry Blundell then came forward and proposed William Digby Seymour, Esq., which was seconded by Mr. Gresham.

There being no other candidate to propose, Mr. Watson presented himself to the electors, who received him with vociferous cheering. He stated that he was a thorough Reformer.

Mr. S. A. Dickson, in addressing the electors, declared himself a Conservative.

Mr. W. D. Seymour then addressed the electors. He stated that he was an advocate of free-trade, of an extension of the suffrage, and of the ballot. He was also a friend of religious freedom and toleration, an opponent of church-rates, and he was likewise desirous that the war in which we are now engaged should be carried on with the utmost vigour so that the peace of Europe may be soon restored.

A show of hands was then taken, and a very large majority was held up in favour of Mr. Watson and Mr. Seymour.

The Sheriff declared the show of hands to be in favour of

those gentlemen, and a poll being demanded for Mr. Dickson, it was fixed for to-day (Friday).

CANTERBURY.

There were six candidates at Canterbury; but Mr. George Smythe retired at the last moment, leaving only five. A letter from the borough says:—

"Great interest is displayed by all classes of electors as to the result of the contest, and many speculations are afloat as to the course that will be adopted by those electors who have always received payment for their votes, it being the general impression among those best able to form an opinion on the subject that they will hold back until the last moment, in order, if possible, when the conflict is running high, of inducing some friend of either party to keep up 'the old charter' by giving them a 'retaining fee,' notwithstanding the stringent provisions of the Bribery Prevention Bill."

"The nomination for this ancient and important archiepiscopal city took place on Thursday, in conformity with the requirements of the writ, which arrived at the Sheriff's on Saturday last. The hustings were erected at the northern end of the cattle-market, and, as if the people of this city were going to be economical as well as pure in election matters, the hustings were built up in the rudest manner imaginable, without the slightest covering overhead against the weather—the neglect of which sadly marred the day's proceedings."

"The usual election squibs ornamented the walls of the place, but this year the staple of their composition was the threatened Reform Bill in connexion with the ancient privileges of the freemen, and fierce and terrible were the denunciations against those who were accused of endeavouring to extinguish the 'sweet voices' of the independent and unbought freemen of the time-honoured city of Canterbury."

"The proceedings commenced exactly at ten o'clock, at which time there was a very numerous muster of the electors, and the assemblage was also plentifully supplied with 'roughs,' who complained ruefully and bitterly of the spiritless tectotalism to which the new bribery act had mercilessly condemned them, and to which they had hitherto been such perfect strangers."

Of the five candidates, the first, Mr. Butler and Mr. Lushington, avow themselves thorough Conservatives, the latter approving of Free-trade. Mr. Glover is a Whig Radical, and Mr. Cooper professed to be only a simple moderate Whig, as also Sir W. Somerville.

The speeches of these candidates expressed nothing: Mr. Lushington's was the most positive, and the only non-negative principle he enunciated amounted to a declaration that he would not vote against church-rates. Mr. Glover denounced the Tories, but did not announce any clear liberalism.

"Mr. Cooper boasted that he relied upon them because he was one of themselves. His father had been a tradesman, and his grandfather had been a small farmer, and his great grandfather had been a labourer. (Cheers.) So he thought he was one of the people, and he would rather be that than have all the blood of all the Howards and Percys running in his veins. (Cheers.) He thought that it was the duty of the legislature of this country to place it in the poor man's power to earn something beyond the starvation diet that rewarded his labour now. He was the root and foundation of society; no class could do without the produce of the working man, and he ought to be well housed, well fed, and lightly taxed. ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.) As it was he had not sufficient for his family, and such a state of things must be altered very shortly. His children were not educated; and if he (Mr. Cooper) went to the House of Commons, he would vote for a system of education that should embrace Jew, Hindoo, Mahometan, and every one, for education was the blessing of society."

ABSURDITIES OF THE BRIBERY BILL.

"J. C." (Mr. Coppock, we fancy), has written, in the *Times*, an admirable analysis of the Bribery Bill. Here are the points:—

"Now, what will be the effect of this new bill? Direct bribery, and the direct use of undue influence, will be more difficult and dangerous, but will not be suppressed; greater circumspection and care with whom done will be required; but indirect and circuitous bribery, by payment for fancied services and by feigned ways and means, notices to tenants to quit without reason assigned, and secret influence, will not be in the slightest degree affected thereby."

"A penalty is imposed upon a candidate who shall give, be necessary to giving, or shall pay for, any treating; but the penalty attaches only to a candidate. A stranger, a friend, or a body of people, may give meat, drink, and entertainment to any extent; the voter corruptly receiving it will lose his vote. But by the insertion of that word 'corruptly,' the intention is referred to the committee, who will have to decide in each case whether a voter accepted it corruptly or not. By the section prohibiting the giving, or causing to be given, to any voter on the days of nomination, or polling, of any refreshment, or refreshment ticket, the giving is limited to those two days, and the voter is made the only person to whom it is not lawful to give refreshment; so that on any other day such tickets may be given to a voter, and to any but a voter on those days."

"The payment of any money for chairing, bands

of music, flags, or banners, is declared illegal, but no penalty is attached; and this enactment will be inoperative. The providing of cockades and ribands being made illegal, will probably put a stop to that practice, as the riband or cockade seller, who provides them, will be liable to the penalty.

"By the standing orders of the House of Commons, no election can be questioned later than fourteen days after the assembling of Parliament, or during the session, than fourteen days after the return is in the Crown-office. Yet the election auditor is not to have the bills of expenditure until three months after the day the return is declared, so that the effect of this will be effectually to prevent any charge being made against the member, which, if the bills were sooner sent in, might have been the case, and the publication of an abstract of the bills becomes a mere gratification of idle curiosity, without benefit to any one but the proprietor of the newspaper in which it is advertised.

"The notification by the candidate, to the election auditor in writing, of his agent or agents, who alone shall have authority to expend money, or incur expenses on behalf of the candidate, is the most cunning device to shield the candidate and cover corruption ever propounded. A. B. and C. D. are appointed agents, their acts alone bind or affect the candidate, but the whole fry of corruption agents in every borough will work for the benefit of the candidate, who has secured himself from the penalty attaching to their acts by artful disclaimer, and the immunity afforded by this enactment. The candidate is legally answerable only for the acts of A. B. and C. D.; they sanction nothing, but they know what will be done, and their ignorance is an ignorance which candidates and agents alike know well how to assume and to preserve.

"Such are the provisions, and such will be the effect of the new bill, for consolidation and amendment of the laws relating to bribery, treating, and undue influence. The consolidation is perfect, the amendment imperfect; but how could it be otherwise? After the bill came from the select committee, every attempt in the House of Commons was made to damage it, and to neutralise its enactments. When members of Parliament decline to make a declaration, 'that they have not knowingly made any illegal payments, and that they will not knowingly hereafter make any illegal payments on account of being elected to Parliament,' and strike such declaration out of the act, they may call the act by any name they please; but all the world knows what they intend it to prove."

THE WINDSOR BARRACKS AFFAIR.

LIEUTENANT PERRY opened his defence on Monday:—

Captain and Paymaster Alexis Corcoran was called.

Prisoner: Are you paymaster of the 46th Regiment?

Witness: I am.

Prisoner: How long have you been paymaster of the 46th Regiment?

Witness: About thirteen years.

Prisoner: Within the last three years have you ever heard of any practical jokes in the 46th Regiment?

Witness: Young officers have come to me for advice under the pressure of circumstances. I may mention, in addition to that, the names of Mr. Perry, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Dunscombe, and also Mr. Lennard. I recollect Mr. Perry coming to me frequently in the Linen-hall Barracks, Dublin, and telling me of certain annoyances he was subjected to. I advised him the first four times to bear it with patience and take it in good part. He did so. I reminded him also that when officers younger than himself joined, they would have the same pranks played on them. He came again, and told me that he had been compelled to go through the sword exercise, naked, in his room; and the last time that he told me he had suffered the indignity it was before certain officers of the 24th Regiment as well as the officers of the 46th. I then pointed out to him his mode of redress. I showed him page 115 of the Queen's regulations—the first six paragraphs; that he ought to report the circumstance to one of the field-officers of the regiment, in the first place, and if he did not get satisfaction from him he should report it officially to Colonel Garrett. The annoyance was still persisted in, and he threatened to report to the general of the district. I think he did as I told him, and he came to me the following day after having written to his commanding officer. Mr. Perry replied that, at the solicitation of the other officers, he had withdrawn the letter to the general of the district, and that if the persecution and annoyance ceased he would say nothing about it. I at the same time cautioned him, as he seemed to feel the last attack upon him so acutely, never to join in any practical joke on any young officer. I endeavoured to impress that upon the mind of every young officer that I have spoken to.

Prisoner: Do you know, or is it within your knowledge, or have you reason to believe, that I did report to Colonel Garrett, and that Colonel Garrett said I was a fool for my

pains, and like a child just escaped from my mother's apron strings?

Witness: The following morning, Lieutenant Perry told me that Colonel Garrett had made use of those expressions, and I was induced to believe what he said.

Prisoner: Was I not greatly distressed at the time?

Witness: He was very much excited, and in tears.

Prisoner: Did you advise me to apply to the general of the district, through Colonel Garrett, and have you reason to believe I did so?

Witness: I think I did, and I have reason to believe you did so.

Prisoner: After I had caused another officer to be reprimanded, was not my society shunned by the other officers of my regiment?

Witness: I was told by the young officers that Mr. Perry's society was avoided. As a married officer, I lived a long way from barracks, and had not so good an opportunity of seeing as others of the officers, but I can only say that Lieut. Perry's society was shunned, and that was in consequence of his making the official report.

Captain John H. Chambers, late of the 46th, and now of the 4th West York Militia, was then called and sworn, the charges having been previously read over to him by Colonel Fordyce.

Prisoner: Were you in the 46th Regiment when I was quartered at the Linen-hall Barracks, Dublin, and when did you leave?

Witness: I was in the 46th Regiment during the time Mr. Perry was in the Linen-hall Barracks; and I left the regiment on the 28th April last.

Prisoner: Do you recollect practical jokes being committed in the regiment, and do you recollect that I was often subjected to them?

Witness: I recollect practical jokes being common, and I know that Mr. Perry has been subjected to them.

Prisoner: Do you recollect Lieutenant Curtis saying that he had such fun in drawing that d—d fellow Perry, and making him go through the sword exercise with an umbrella?

Witness: Yes, sir.

Prisoner: Do you recollect that you were told by any officer that Colonel Garrett called me a fool for my pains for reporting?

Witness: Yes.

Prisoner: Who was that officer?

Witness: Lieutenant Curtis.

Prisoner: Was it not openly spoken of at the mess-table that the colonel had blackguarded Lieutenant Perry for reporting?

Witness: Not at the mess-table; after the mess.

Prisoner: Was it not also a common subject of conversation in the regiment that I had reported to the general of the district?

Witness: I never heard that Mr. Perry had reported to the general of the district. I recollect hearing a threat that he would report to the general of the district.

Prisoner: Do you recollect Waldy and Knapp's affairs, and the attack on their rooms? and, if so, will you state, to the best of your recollection, who was present?

Witness: I recollect in the Linen-hall Barracks, Dublin, about eleven o'clock in the morning, to the best of my recollection—

President: Answer the question as it was given to you.

Witness: Myself and several other officers of the 46th went for the purpose of drawing Mr. Knapp and Mr. Waldy, jun.; I mean the junior Mr. Waldy. We found Mr. Waldy's door open; we immediately pulled down his bed and threw the bedding and bedclothes into the barrack-square, out of the window. I went down when the officers were gone and brought up the bedclothes. I was very sorry. Mr. Waldy came in shortly afterwards, and I assisted him to put his room in order. He said he would report to the colonel of the regiment, and I recommended him not to do so, but to take things quietly. He asked me to tell him who the officers were that upset his room, and I declined doing so. I said, "It is quite sufficient for you that I have brought your bed up; that is all that I can recollect."

By the Prisoner: Who were the officers present?

Witness: The officers present were myself, to begin with, Mr. Greer, Captain Garrett, Mr. Lennard, and there were some others, but I do not know who they were.

Prisoner: How was I treated during the time you were in the regiment?

Witness: Many of the officers were cool to Mr. Perry.

Prisoner: How, in your opinion, have I conducted myself since I have been in the regiment?

Witness: In my opinion, Mr. Perry has conducted himself very well, to me always like a gentleman.

The following letter from Lieutenant W. Waldy was read in the course of the proceedings:—

"Windsor, June 12.
"My dear Perry,—If you are really going to exchange, I wish you would mention to your servant, Lawler, that I should wish to take him after you leave. These are very jolly quarters; lots of women, and we have a drag for Ascot, and are going in grand style. You owe me 3l.—that is, I owe it to you. I hope you may live till you get it. I have a good mind to exchange myself, being pretty well tired of the 'South Devon.' The drill is worse than ever, beginning at seven a.m. and very often till six p.m. We are obliged to ask leave to go to London; although there may be no parade on that day, it is all the same. How does Knapp bear his lieutenantancy? I think he will be taken down a peg or two; but you need not tell him so, popular feeling being very much against him here. Coote has had several takings down here already; the other day Nicholas told him he was 'a d—d son of a bitch of an Ensign.' This was at mess, he having given Nicholas the lie direct.

"Believe me, yours truly,

"W. T. WALDY."

This Lieut. Waldy gave general evidence favourable to the character of Lieutenant Perry—what he considered "gentlemanly."

A letter from Mr. McGregor the Army Agent was also read, favourable to Perry.

"My dear Sir,—Last night a company here, who took a lively interest in your case, suggested that I ought to give evidence; but my reply was, that I did not perceive that the evidence would be serviceable on any particular point. I can only assure you, however, that I would willingly give evidence if it were desirable. I can truly testify in favour of your honourable conduct in several pecuniary transactions with myself; they have been somewhat numerous, and yet they have been uniformly most scrupulous.

"If you do not feel authorised to give more than the regulated sum, let my name be withdrawn from the purchase return; for, although I should be sorry to lose the opportunity of getting my lieutenantancy, yet I do not wish to stop the promotion of the regiment."

"You wrote this to me. If this was your conduct in a late pecuniary transaction, it was like the conduct of a poor and honourable gentleman."

"With every good wish, I remain yours sincerely,

CHAS. R. M'GREGOR.

"2, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, London, Aug. 14."

[This letter was produced to show that Captain Sandwith's evidence with regard to the money transaction was capable of explanation.]

Major Stuart who had been in the regiment, was examined.

Prisoner: Is it within your knowledge, or have you reason to believe, that Major Maxwell sent officers from the anteroom to bring young officers into the room for their beds?

Witness: I have reason to believe it.

Prisoner: In your opinion, would an officer reporting another officer to the commanding officer of the regiment meet with reproach and contempt for so reporting that officer?

Witness: I very much doubt whether he would meet with redress. I cannot say whether he would meet with reproach or contempt.

Prisoner: Did you ever in any instance, mention the case of a young officer reporting a brother officer to the commanding officer of the regiment; and if so, how was it received?

Witness: I have. It was received with apparent indifference, and was quite ineffectual.

Prisoner: While you had the opportunity of knowing me in the regiment, did you ever observe my manner to be overbearing and swaggering?

Witness: Never.

Prisoner: What opinion did you form of me and what was my general conduct?

Witness: I had no reason for forming anything but a favourable opinion of Mr. Perry, and I believe his conduct to have been regular and correct.

Prisoner: Will you inform the Court what state my room used to be in the morning? Was or was not my shirt torn and my umbrella broken in the Linen-hall Barracks, Dublin?

Witness: In the Linen-hall Barracks, Dublin, I have known Mr. Perry's room to be broken, the lower panel of it, the latch-lock burst and broken off, his broken candles thrown on the floor and smeared on the boards; the collar of his night shirt was torn, and his room was very irregular; his things all knocked about in it; the catch of his umbrella was broken. He could not open it. That is all I know about its being broken.

On Thursday Lieutenant Perry, having examined all the witnesses who were available to him, his best being with the army in Turkey, delivered his defence, which was lengthy and acute, and was closed amid cheers from the persons present in court. Portions of his defence open new matter: and yesterday (Friday) this new matter was to have been gone into.

OUR CIVILISATION.

The Mrs. Jane Moore, who has been before the public in connexion with a charge that she keeps "an improper house," appeared before the magistrates on Monday to answer the summons for assaulting the servant, Jesse Ross, whose offence was in refusing to serve in a brothel. The fine has been paid, and there the matter ends. Lord Ward's name was mentioned in the course of the investigation as having taken the house in St. John's-wood off Mrs. Moore's hands.

Considerable consternation has been caused amongst the inhabitants of the Lower Marsh, Lambeth, Cranby-street, and the surrounding districts, in consequence of the following appalling discovery, which, had it not been made when it was, might have been the means of spreading cholera, or some other frightful disease, amongst a number of poor families. From what can be gleaned, it appears that a female, named Sophia Payne, had for some time past resided at 53, Cranby-place, New-cat, and was supposed to get her living at shoe-binding. She was of such eccentric manners, that she scarcely ever spoke to any of her neighbours. During the last few days she was suddenly missed from passing to or from her habitation, and the room remaining fastened, various rumours were soon in circulation in the neighbourhood, so that it was deemed advisable to call in the assistance of the police. No. 55 of the L division was, therefore, sent for, and upon his knocking at the door and demanding admission, it was at first refused; but, on his threatening to break the door in, it was at length opened, when the officer was nearly prostrated by a fearful stench that arose from the room. The woman appeared then just breathing her last. Dr. Dodd was promptly sent for, and he requested the officer to open the window and sprinkle chloride of lime over the floor, as the stench was prejudicial to any one entering the place. These preliminaries having been done, the room was found in such a horrible state that it would be difficult to describe; and the woman, who had apparently been trying to starve herself to death, was completely covered with ver-

I could scarcely breathe. Not fewer than sixteen live three live dogs were in the place, whilst the skins letons of a great number of other cats and dogs were either sticking to the floor or piled up in different the wretched hovel. Dr. Dodd having temporarily l to the woman, she was removed to Lambeth Work-but she is in such a reduced condition, that but little re entertained of her recovery.—*Morning Advertiser.*

an named Henry Shocklady lived with his brother-Henry Mercer, a farmer, of Kirby Hill. They were on the best terms, unless when Mercer drank, when me violent and quarrelled with Shocklady. On the question, and just after his wife's confinement, Mercer excessively, and under the influence of drunkenness out of the house, armed with a heavy fork, towards upon which Shocklady was sitting, the latter's sister g Mercer, and begging of him to return. Martha r, the sister, seeing that Mercer was making for her, called out to him to make off, and asked Mercer if going to kill her brother. Without giving an answer sued her brother, who ran off, and, coming up with alt him such a blow on the head with the dung fork felled him to the earth, when he twice again struck the poor fellow never spoke, and after a few heavy xpired. Mr. Woods, surgeon, opened the body, and clean cut two and a half inches long at the left side ead, and another wound an inch long below the left ides a severe wound on the shoulder. The skull was d to the length of two and a half inches, which pro-ongestion and infusion into the brain that caused 'The coroner's jury returned a verdict of 'Wilful ' against Henry Mercer, who was accordingly com-to gaol for trial.

tter from Nenagh (Tipperary) says:—

young man, Denis Muldowney, from Aughavaha, who yaid in the middle of the noonday in Silver-street, oing home from the fair of this town on the 1st of, died this morning, in great agony, of the wounds he n the hands of his cowardly and brutal assailants. It l that no fewer than seven persons were engaged in rage. They were drinking, it appears, at a public i Silver-street, where they lay in wait for their un-ung victim till he rode by on his horse, when they out and attacked him. They knocked him off the inflicted a number of wounds on his neck, back, and Then they made off, but one of the ruffians, more than the rest, came back and with a large stone i the poor fellow's skull while he lay prostrate on the l Poor Muldowney, who was a fine dashing young and a noble specimen of his class, was only in the ear of his age. He was the son of a respectable farmer, and in good circumstances. Two men, Timothy Ryan and Michael Hogan, he fully identified laptain Plunket, R.M., a few days ago, as the princi-the attack, and four others, named Michael Malone, Hayes, Thomas Bunbery, and John Slatery, have rested by the police on suspicion of being concerned urther. A dispute about land, the prolific source of i this country, is supposed to have incited this fear- l."

ragic romance of the kitchen has been deve-it Chiseldon.

appears that a young man, named Richard Hughes, a in the service of W. M. Crowdey, Esq., had for some st been enamoured of the cook of the same house. entions, however, did not appear to have been recid- by the young woman, and on Sunday last he received ictory order not to think of keeping her company any This appears to have had a great weight upon his ind, stinging under the failure of his suit, he went into oining town on Tuesday last, when he was told by a that his supposed intended had been walking out in npany of another young man, with whom she was to be shortly married. This aroused his jealousy to is, and he hastened back to Chiseldon, rushed into the l, where he found the unfortunate cook in front of the paring the dinner. Just as she was reaching over the e to lift something from a saucepan, he rushed behind lled her head back, and then drew a razor across her inflicting a frightful wound, from which the blood most copiously. Previous to his committing the deed, or girl had just time to scream out for help, which t her master to the spot just as she was falling to the l the moment Hughes saw him he started off, followed . Crowdey, but, before he could overtake him, the ed man drew the razor across his own throat, and severed his head from his body. When his master got he was found in the path of the garden belonging to ise, in his last gasp. So completely had he succeeded ttempt on his own life, that death was almost instan- s. Medical aid was procured for his unfortunate but little, if any, hopes can be entertained of her y."

week a case, involving great hardship to a respect-ung woman named Hannah Steel, came before the gton Petty Sessions in the shape of an application for r of affiliation upon Thomas Cokeley, a young Irish- whom, as it appeared, Steel had been illegally married Rev. Mr. Ferguson, Catholic priest of St. Thomas's in Fulham. The complainant had given notice of the go to the registrar some time in September last, giving d-street Catholic Chapel as the place of worship where to be performed. She was then told by the registrar i him a second notice a day or two before that fixed ceremony, as the marriage would be illegal without e registrar's presence. Subsequently she applied at gistrar's office to know if they could be married at in Fields Chapel, and was told they could not, on ac-of the notice having been given for Holland-street. this, Mr. Ferguson sent for her, and told her it would

not make any difference whether the registrar was present or not, and she and Cokeley were thereupon married in Fulham Fields Chapel, the registrar being absent, so that the mar-riage was thus doubly illegal. A certificate of marriage, signed by Mr. Ferguson, was put in, and ordered to be de-tained. The certificate ran thus:—"These are to certify that Thomas Cokeley and Hannah Sarah Steel were married on the 18th September, 1853. St. Thomas's, Fulham. Thomas Henry Ferguson, D.D."—Mr. Ferguson was formerly one of the (Protestant) curates of Holy Trinity, Brompton, and, as the registrar stated, must have known well that it was indispensable to a legal marriage that the latter should be present. The magistrates said it was a very cruel case, and expressed much commiseration for the poor woman, who had been besides shamefully treated by Cokeley, he having, a few nights after their marriage, absconded with his father to America, taking with him all her money, and her friends have since discarded her under the erroneous idea that she had been guilty of immoral conduct. The bench ordered the defendant to pay 2s. 6d. a week, but, as he is out of the country, it will have to remain inoperative.

A woman, Sarah Newton, has been committed for trial by the magistrates of Chipping Barnet on a charge of poisoning her son, eight years old, with arsenic.

"The husband of the accused was a jobbing agricultural labourer. They had two children (the deceased and a younger boy), and resided in a small cottage on Rowley-green, in the parish of Shenley, two miles distant from Barnet. About two months since the husband, who was often ailing, died, and being entered in a friendly burial so-ciety, 10l. was allowed for his interment. The deceased was generally considered a healthy boy, free from sickness. However, he was suddenly seized with illness, his symptoms became worse, and on the following day he expired. Sus-picious circumstances then came to light as to the cause of his death. An appeal was made to the Secretary of State, and his lordship at once desired Dr. Taylor, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at Guy's Hospital, to make the neces-sary analysis."

The mother's story, in explanation, was that the boy had picked up a paper containing a blue powder in a lane on his way to school, and that he had eaten the powder. But there is evidence that she had purchased arsenic immediately before; and the chemi-cal evidence is complete. The utter ostrich-like stupidity of the murderess, in her clumsy attempts to prevent detection, is marvellous in this case.

A tailor, slight and "seedy," has been a prisoner at the Mansion-House Police Court on a charge of beating his wife, an enormous virago:—

"Mrs. McLaughlin seemed to be unwilling to state the particulars of the assault, and said that she and her husband would go on well together if the Lord Mayor could prevail upon Mr. McLaughlin to keep good hours, and to contribute something towards the support of the house. Upon being told that she must give a full description of the transaction of which she had complained at the station-house, and on account of which she had raised the neighbourhood with cries of murder, she declared that between twelve and one o'clock on Saturday night, the defendant had returned to his home without bringing anything to support it, and upon being reminded of his duty, which he frequently neglected, showed fight, which she returned. She believed he got as good as he gave, and as he had been confined from the time of the row up to the present moment, she wished him to be handed over to her again, in the hope that he would be pre-vailed upon to act better in future. (A laugh.)—The Lord Mayor: How long have you been married?—The Defendant (with a deep sigh): Since October last, your lordship.—The Lord Mayor: And how long were you acquainted before mar-riage?—The Defendant: Three months.—The Lord Mayor: And what answer have you to make to this charge?—The Defendant: I only tried to defend myself from her, for if she once gets hold of a man I defy him to get loose without the help of another, so that I was thankful to the policeman for coming when she cried murder, to save me from being mur-dered.—The Lord Mayor: Then you are in the habit of dis-agreeing?—The Defendant: She chastised me twice imme-diately after our marriage. (Laughter.)—The Lord Mayor: Chastised you! Then you mean that she is the better man of the two?—The Defendant: The Lord bless your lordship, I'd stand no chance at all with her. Her own daughter, who is a married woman, has cried shame upon her when she's been walloping me. She used to throw cups and saucers and crockery at me, and I only stopped that by tell-ing her to use powder pots, as they would not be apt to break against my head. I never struck her but once, and that was when she took up a knife to open my windpipe. Then I did give her a buster, that probably saved us both from a violent death.—Mrs. McLaughlin: I don't complain of him, your lordship, about anything but his not bringing home any money; for as to fighting, I believe he won't get the better of me there; but you see how ill he has been, and I have been supporting him all the time he has been laid up. Still, he expects that I am to support the house.—The Lord Mayor: How long is it since your first husband died, Mrs. McLaughlin?—Mrs. McLaughlin: Five years, my lord. I never had a word with him in my life, and I'll take very good care to make inquiries before I run the chance a third time (Laughter).—The Defendant: It isn't possible for any one to live with her without being laid up. I have been in the station house without a bed since Saturday night, and I'll be on my oath it's the only happy time I've spent since I married her.—The Lord Mayor: Had you not seen something of each other's tempers before you became man and wife?—The Defendant: I did observe that she had a spirit, but I thought it was nothing but pluck. She has told me often since that she didn't care for me as I hadn't pluck enough to knock her about when she deserved it.—Mrs. McLaughlin laughed at the last assertion of her husband, but did not

contradict it. She requested that the Lord Mayor would allow her to take him home once more, and try how he would conduct himself after the day's lesson.—The Lord Mayor: I shall discharge him, but I assure you both that if you dis-turb the neighbourhood any more with your quarrels I shall punish you both, and the police shall keep a particular eye upon your house.—The Defendant: She told me many a time that she would put me out of the way some way or other; but I wasn't worth being hanged for.—Mrs. McLaugh-lin: Yes, yes, you are. Come along you poor devil. (Laughter.)

NAPOLEON-DAY.

The 15th of August was celebrated with the usual celebrities of the Empire. On that day 40,000 French soldiers "were to have" sailed for the Crimea. What did happen in Paris on that day is thus de-scribed in the *Daily News*:

"With the exception of a variation of the entertainments in the Champs de Mars, the fête of yesterday may be de-scribed in a word as a repetition of that of last year, but not so well done. The Parisians who, taught by many suc-cessive precedents, expected to see the Place de la Concorde and the Champs Elysées transformed into something dif-ferent from what they had ever seen before, were disappointed at finding the old properties brought out again and put up in precisely the old form. This disappointment was the greater, because the plan of last year's fête, invented by the late lamented M. Visconti, although it produced the most splendid illumination ever beheld, included none of those im-provised cities, temples, grottoes, monuments, historical statues, and allegorical groups which have excited curiosity on former occasions. The decorations à la mauresque appeared tame and monotonous in the extreme to those who saw them for the second time, and remembered that a year ago they had been voted ineffective by daylight. The theatres (open gratis) were exceedingly attractive. As early as four in the morning many people took their stations before the doors with the deliberate purpose of standing in a crowd for ten hours to insure a place. By eleven o'clock the Opera was besieged by a crowd, sufficient to fill the theatre at least four times over. The queue extended from the principal door all along the Rue Lepelletier to the Boulevard, and then (arranged by the police on one side of the broad footway) stretched eastward nearly as far as the Jockey Club. There was another 'tail' of almost equal length, which took the course of the Rues Rossini and Grange Batelière. Occasionally some of the late comers, more calculating than the rest, became alive to the fact that there would be no room for them, and sheered off to take their chance at the Opera Comique or the Variétés. The candidates for these two theatres formed a nearly continuous string along the Boulevard from the Cafe Anglais as far as the Rue Montmartre. Among the people thus prepared to pay so dearly for gratuitous pleasure were many very well dressed. I am told by a person who was at the Opera Comique that the places were open to all comers with perfect fairness. There were blouses in the dress circle, and smart toilettes in the pit. All the theatres were quite full, and the police very properly took care that they should not be more than full. The weather was fortunately cool, and those who got places enjoyed the performances as fully as on any ordinary occa-sion. In the Champs de Mars the principal entertainment consisted of the Siege of Silistria, the gallant defence and glorious death of Mussa Pacha, and the ultimate retreat of the Russians. Silistria was represented by a pictorial paste-board erection, such as we have often seen at the Surrey Zoological Gardens. The siege operations conducted in due form were somewhat dull to behold. The cannon seemed to make no impression upon the walls—at least I saw no visible breaches beyond those which the artist had painted from the first. There was a portcullis and a drawbridge, and the principal part of the fun was to see Turkish cavalry sally out to charge the Russian cannon—a manoeuvre highly necessary for scenic effect, although not, I believe, quite historically accurate. Owing, however, to the weakness of the drawbridge, these charges, instead of being executed in the dashing way we have seen them done at Astley's, were performed at a walk, and the effect was tame. Mussa Pacha died drawing his martial (Ottoman) cloak around him, and surrounded by his wife and children. It is said that the 200,000 spectators in the Champs de Mars were deeply moved by this spectacle, but judging from the little I saw myself—and I was very near the walls—I think a great many of them must have failed to catch the points of the scene. Instead of the three balloons promised there was only one. This ascended at five o'clock, as I am told, and bore in gigantic letters of gold the motto 'Turkey, England, France.' Austria, you observe, although our very good friend, is not yet far enough advanced in the alliance to be associated in these aerial honours. There were boat races on the Seine between the Pont des Invalides and the Pont de Jona. Two four-oared matches were pulled between French and English crews, and the English lost them both. The illuminations were not so good as last year, in this respect, that a great many of the lamps were not lighted. The fire-works in front of the Corps Legislatif were not very good. The principal novelty was an illumination of the Louvre as it will appear when finished, but, owing to some accident, only a part of the building was disclosed. When the bouquet fell a queer statue of Napoleon I. was brought to light, which looked like a ghastly daguerrotype of Julius Cesar on horseback."

At Bayonne, which is not many leagues distance from Biarritz, where the Imperial couple are spend-ing the hot months, Louis Napoleon attended on the 15th at a ball given by the Municipality of that once Royalist but now Imperial place; and in answer to an address he delivered this strong-minded speech:—

"Monseigneur,—Custom has decided that there shall be one day in the year when the whole nation can celebrate the

Sovereign's birthday. In presence of this general manifestation, and of the prayers addressed to Heaven throughout France, it becomes the duty of the Sovereign in his turn to meditate within himself, in order to ascertain whether he has done all that was in his power to deserve such a concert of homages and wishes. It is especially his duty to come to the foot of the altar, to beseech Heaven, through the intercession of its sacred ministers, to bless his efforts, enlighten his conscience, and unceasingly give him the strength necessary for doing good and opposing evil.

"My presence in Bayonne, on this day, is a fact to which I advert with gratification. It proves that France, calm and prosperous, no longer entertains those fears which compel the Chief of the State to be constantly armed and on the alert in the capital. It proves that France can sustain a war in distant lands without her life at home ceasing to remain free and regular.

"I thank you, Monseigneur, for the wishes which you address to Heaven in my behalf; but be pleased to call likewise for its protection upon our armies; for to pray for those who fight, as well as for those who suffer, is also to pray for me."

The Emperor marked the day by two generous acts. He granted an immense number of pardons to political and other offenders: 805 to those sentenced to deportation; 774 to those detained in the Bagnes, or penal establishments of Guiana and other colonies; and 1003 to soldiers and sailors undergoing imprisonment. He has also carried out that portion of the will of Napoleon I. which relates to the relief of French sufferers by the imperial campaigns. The *Moniteur* announces that a credit of 8,000,000 francs. has been opened, to be thus apportioned:—

To the officers and soldiers of the battalion of the Isle of Elba, or to their widows and children, 300,000*fr.*; to the wounded at Ligny or Waterloo, 200,000*fr.*; to the officers and soldiers who fought from 1792 to 1815, for the glory and independence of the nation, 1,500,000*fr.*; to the town of Brienne, 400,000*fr.*; to the town of Thierry, 300,000*fr.*; to the provinces which suffered most under the two invasions, 1,300,000*fr.*; to the special legatees of the Emperor, or to their widows and direct heirs, 4,000,000*fr.*; total 8,000,000*fr.*

The French Embassy in London celebrated the fête at Albert Gate House. The Ambassador (Walewski) being absent, the *Chargé d'Affaires*, M. Charles Baudin, did the honours with magnificence to (we quote the *Morning Post*)

"The ministers of her Majesty the Queen, the chief officers of the royal household, and the members of the foreign-corps diplomatique.

"The residence of the Embassy had been suitably prepared for the reception. The hall and the principal apartments were brilliantly illuminated and decorated with flowers, and the band of the Coldstream Guards was in attendance, and performed a selection of favourite music during the banquet and in the evening.

"The guests assembled in the grand saloon, containing the magnificent portraits of the Emperor and the Empress, and at half-past eight o'clock entered the banquetting-room.

"At the dessert, the Earl of Aberdeen proposed the health of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor. The toast was received by the company with the most lively enthusiasm.

"M. Charles Baudin then rose and proposed the health of her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, which was responded to by the guests with the same warm marks of feeling.

"The company afterwards returned to the reception saloon, and did not quit the Embassy until after 11 o'clock."

THE E. O'FLAHERTY SCANDAL.

Two Dublin Jew money-lenders have got Mr. E. O'Flaherty's forged bills, and are in the most abject state of rage! The case came before a Dublin magistrate this week; an application being made to issue a warrant against Mr. O'Flaherty, who is, no doubt, in the backest backwoods of America.

"The facts deposed to by Mr. Maurice Saloman, of 7, Upper Gloucester-street, jeweller, were, that about the 2nd of May last Edmund O'Flaherty passed to him a bill of exchange for 40*£*., dated the 1st of May, 1854, purporting to be drawn by Lord Dunkellin upon, and accepted by Lord Bolingbroke, and payable to the order of Lord Dunkellin three months after date, purporting to be endorsed by Lord Dunkellin to William Keogh, the Solicitor-General for Ireland, and by Edmund O'Flaherty endorsed to Mr. Saloman, and which endorsement Edmund O'Flaherty stated at the time he passed the bill to be the endorsement of William Keogh; that on the 11th of August the informant showed the bill of exchange in question to William Keogh, the supposed endorser thereof, who declared that the endorsement was a forgery on him.

"Mr. H. Lazarus, of 86, Marlborough-street, jeweller, deposed that about the 22nd of March last Edmund O'Flaherty passed to him the bill of exchange produced for 450*£*., dated March 22, 1854, drawn by Edmund O'Flaherty on John R. Godley, purporting to be accepted by him, payable to the order of Mr. O'Flaherty three months after date, and endorsed by Mr. O'Flaherty to Mr. Lazarus; that on the 19th or 20th of April Edmund O'Flaherty passed to the prosecutor another bill of exchange for 70*£*., dated the 19th of April, 1854, drawn by Edmund O'Flaherty, purporting to be accepted by John R. Godley, and payable to Edmund O'Flaherty, who endorsed it; and that at the time it was passed to the prosecutor it purported to be endorsed by William Keogh, the Solicitor-General for Ireland; that on the 11th of August he showed the two bills of exchange to Mr. Godley, who declared that the acceptances were forgeries on him; and that Mr. Keogh also declared that the endorsement of his name was a forgery.

"As was previously stated, Mr. Godley deposed in his information made on Monday, that the bills for 450*£*. and for 70*£*., purporting to be the draughts of Edmund O'Flaherty on him, were forgeries; that the name of John R. Godley on the bills was not in his handwriting, and that he never accepted the bills, nor ever directly or indirectly authorised Edmund O'Flaherty or any other person to put his name on them.

"One o'clock yesterday (Tuesday) having been fixed for the further hearing of the case, the prosecutors were in attendance at that hour, together with their solicitor, Mr. Charles Fitzgerald. Shortly afterwards Mr. Keogh, the Solicitor-General, entered the board-room. Some other cases having been disposed of,

"The Solicitor-General, addressing Dr. Kelly, said: Your worship, there is a case in which I am summoned as a witness.

"Dr. Kelly: Mr. Fitzgerald, some of your witnesses have come.

"Mr. Fitzgerald: Mr. Pemberton has the informations and the bills.

"Dr. Kelly: Here is Mr. Keogh.

"Mr. Fitzgerald: I will go up for the bills.

"Dr. Kelly: Suppose you were to bring the Solicitor-General upstairs with you, and let him see if his name be on the bills, and let Mr. Pemberton take his informations, then bring them to me, and that will save some trouble.

"Dr. Kelly (addressing the Solicitor-General): Will you have your informations taken?

"The Solicitor-General: Oh, certainly.

"Mr. Fitzgerald: Will your worship allow me to ask the Solicitor-General a question or two on the subject?

"Dr. Kelly: Certainly.

"The Solicitor-General then went into the witness-box and, having been sworn, was examined by Mr. Fitzgerald as follows:—

"Mr. Fitzgerald: Did you ever authorise Mr. Edmund O'Flaherty to put your name on any bills?

"The Solicitor-General: Certainly not.

"Mr. Fitzgerald: Had you ever any bill dealings with him?

"The Solicitor-General: Certainly not; when I say that I should state that I received payment from him once of money he owed me, for which he passed a bill, and for which I obtained payment, but I never otherwise had a bill transaction with him in my life.

"Dr. Kelly: Do you wish to ask Mr. Keogh any more questions?

"Mr. Fitzgerald: No, your worship; and I will now go up with him to the office.

"Mr. Keogh then proceeded to the chief clerk's office, where he examined the bills on which his name appeared, and made an information to the effect that they were forgeries, that he never endorsed them, nor ever, directly or indirectly, authorised Mr. O'Flaherty or any other person to put his name on them.

"Mr. Fitzgerald asked Dr. Kelly if he would grant a warrant against the person charged with the forgeries?

"Dr. Kelly: When you are in a condition to apply for the warrant, let me have all the informations before me.

"Mr. Fitzgerald: Very well, your worship, I shall do so.

"The warrant was not again applied for or issued up to the hour when the office closed in the evening."

THE NEW BEER BILL.—MONDAY'S DRUNKENNESS.

SUNDAY was the first day on which the new Beer Bill came into operation, and after 10 o'clock at night there was some excitement in the vicinity of the railways. Half-past two o'clock on Sunday afternoon, the time appointed for closing the different houses, passed off, generally speaking, without any disorder; but, as the hour of 10 drew near, most of the licensed victuallers, who had put the hands of their clocks forward some few minutes, so as to clear their houses in sufficient time to avoid the pains and penalties of the new law, had the greatest difficulty in getting their customers to leave. Many refused, unless they were turned out by the police, and owing to the arrangements made by the respective superintendents of each division, in having constables placed round each house, the various taverns were soon cleared. It was remarked by the police that they never found the trade so anxious to conform to any act of Parliament as on the present occasion. In the immediate neighbourhood of the South-Western Railway terminus, in the Waterloo-road, upon the arrival of the various excursion trains from Hampton-court, Richmond, Windsor, and Southampton, it appeared that some of the passengers were ignorant of the new bill having come into operation, and having been refused any refreshment in the towns they had visited, they expected that they would meet with every accommodation on reaching the metropolis. A crowd of nearly 200 surrounded the Hero of Waterloo, and claimed the right of being supplied with refreshments, on the ground of being travellers, but Mrs. Okey refused to serve them. A similar scene took place at the York, the corner of the York-road. Mr. Potter refused to supply any as travellers, unless a *bona fide* case were made out. Several of the metropolitan houses having tea gardens attached to their premises were exposed to greater danger of being proceeded against than others, owing to the visitors calling for more drink than could be consumed in the time allowed by the new bill; the orders given were disregarded by the several guests, but the houses were, after some trouble, closed at the appointed time. In the neighbourhood of the Eastern Counties Railway at Shoreditch a similar scene of disappointment took place, the various passengers being refused refreshment upon their arrival by the different trains from Yarmouth, Norwich, Colchester, Cambridge, and other places. In several places, more especially in the neighbourhood of Lambeth, persons who had travelled by the trains from the country, after demanding admission on the ground of being travellers, on being refused pretended that they were seized with the cholera, but, without the interference of the police, none of

those were served. On Monday the teetotallers walked in a grand procession from Russell-square to the Surrey Gardens, where they *feted*; and—no doubt in consequence of the Monday's reaction among the drinking population, exasperated by being driven home sober on Sunday night, combined with the usual alacrity displayed by the metropolitan *mauvais sujets* to "assist" in all teetotal demonstrations—it is a remarkable fact, as the Tuesday's statistics of all the police-offices testified, that Monday was on the whole the most drunken day in the memory of the oldest magistrate. Some of the licensed victuallers are moving to obtain a repeal of this ridiculous legislation. A great meeting of members of the London trade was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, when Mr. Simpson, of Cremorne, who was in the chair, denounced the conduct of the Licensed Victuallers Protection Society, and of the *Morning Advertiser*, in becoming parties to the bill. Mr. Simpson's own grievance, which is a public one, is that for the greater part of Sunday afternoon he is unable to supply refreshment to the crowds who flock to his gardens for innocent amusement. Mr. Luce, of Hampton Court, said that the views and position of the suburban hotel-keepers were not quite identical with those of the metropolitan members of the trade. Those residing in his own district had lately held a meeting in reference to the question, at which they resolved to keep their houses open during the prohibited hours, and to serve their Sunday customers, whom they regarded as "bona fide travellers." On that resolution they had acted, and would continue to act until the Court of Queen's Bench would decide who was a traveller. He knew that they had been reported for having done so, but was uncertain whether they would be summoned for it immediately, or whether they would be cautioned by the police that they were infringing the law, and be summoned for a repetition of the practice. The licensed victuallers of Manchester have also held a meeting on the subject. Delegates were present from kindred bodies at Rochdale, Liverpool, Oldham, Bolton, Stockport, and Ashton. Mr. Councillor Newton presided. Instances were mentioned during the proceedings, of the hardships the new law inflicted upon the trade, and inconvenience to the public; and resolutions were passed to the effect that the measure was an unjust interference with the rights of the labouring classes, that the licensed victuallers (numbering 60,000 persons, and having a capital invested of 22,000,000*£*.) would be materially injured by it, and pledging all present to use their best exertions to prevent interference by new enactments, whilst using their influence with members of the legislature to repeal the obnoxious act now in force. The meeting were unanimous in their condemnation of the measure, as also of the London Association in having withdrawn their opposition to the measure whilst before parliament.

FETE BY CAPITALISTS TO MINERS AND COLLIERS.

MR. PETO, M.P., Mr. William Jackson, M.P., and Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., own the great Clay Cross Collieries (Derbyshire), which are now producing vast wealth to these great capitalists: and this week these gentlemen have been doing some graceful work down there—laying the foundation stone of a school and giving a good dinner, with hearty speeches, to the miners and colliers. A correspondent describes the locality and the occasion:—

"The pits at Clay Cross are not so numerous as they are remarkable for their size, and the quantity they yield. This will be better understood when we state that there are now about a thousand miners employed, and of these, in one pit there are three hundred engaged. The colliers of these pits have an air of comfort that is seldom witnessed in any of the districts where the same mining operations are being carried on. They seem cleanly and respectable in appearance, and their houses are orderly and decent to a degree that would delight Lord Shaftesbury, and might afford valuable suggestions to the new Minister of Health, Sir B. Hall, in his experiments of similar regulations elsewhere. This comfortable state of things is, perhaps, in some measure owing to the steadiness and sobriety of the workmen, as exemplified by the fact that in this large mining population there is not one policeman, and no likelihood of any speedy necessity for such civil manifestation. The wages average from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per week, with constant employment, and a continual demand for labour. Hence the cause of the festivities of Tuesday; for the population having so greatly increased, the school became quite inadequate to the educational requirements of the children, and the Clay Cross Company, comprised by Messrs. Peto and Betts, Mr. Jackson, M.P., and Sir Joshua Walsley, M.P., undertook to build a new school, the laying of the foundation stone of which occasioned the celebration.

"The company assembled at 10 o'clock, on the grounds of Mr. Charles Binns, the manager of the works, and to whose supervision the excellent arrangements and the gratification that resulted from them were in a great degree due. Here a capacious tent had been erected for the visitors to lunch in, after the ceremony had been performed, and near the tent about 600 children—six bands of music, several lodges of Foresters and Odd Fellows, amounting altogether to about a thousand people, formed a line of procession, and proceeded to the site of the intended schools. The weather throughout the day was beautiful in the extreme, until just before the departure of the procession, when the whole ceremony was performed in a shower of rain. A hymn having been sung, Mr. Wm. Evans, late M.P. for North Derbyshire, presented Mr. Peto with a silver towel, and expressed a hope that the structure contemplated might be the cause of disseminating that love of industry, energy, and education which it was so earnestly to be wished should be the result of their proceedings. The stone then having been adjusted, and Mr. Peto having placed in a bottle underneath a document, the import of which was the date and funding of the stone, together with some coins of the present reign, the stone was gently lowered into its place amid loud cheers."

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince returned to Osborne on Saturday immediately after the prorogation of Parliament; and there they still remain, occasionally taking cruises in their yacht. No day seems yet fixed for the autumn journey to Balmoral.

The *Morning Post* says:—

"The celebrated pianist, Charles Hallé, had the honour of being commanded to attend at Osborne yesterday (Tuesday) for the purpose of performing before the Queen and Prince Albert some of the most remarkable productions from the music of Beethoven, of which M. Hallé is so well known to be a faithful and brilliant interpreter. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness condescended to receive M. Hallé privately during an interview of nearly three hours; and, after having appreciated with exquisite taste and remarkable delicacy of artistic sentiment all the beauties of the principal sonatas of the grand master, they were pleased to express to the artist their approval of the excellence of his playing, and to treat him with the most flattering distinction."

Most of the Ministers have left town. Lord Aberdeen remains at the Ranger's Lodge, Greenwich, to be near business; and the Duke of Newcastle is constant at Downing-street as Minister of War. Sir B. Hall, also, will probably remain at his new post while the cholera lasts.

THE TURKISH LOAN.

At last the Turkish Loan is out: the *Times* City article says:—

"The following notification regarding the proposed Turkish loan was issued to-day (Wednesday) by the agents, Sir I. L. Goldsmid and Mr. Horsley Palmer, and is in precise conformity with the particulars already published. An accompanying memorandum states the views with which it is regarded by the Governments of France and England. The total amount is to be 5,000,000*l.*, and the first issue will represent 2,000,000*l.* of 6 per cent. stock at 80 (or a cash payment of 1,600,000*l.*), with a privilege to the subscribers of taking a further sum of 1,000,000*l.* on the same terms within a month. The remaining 2,000,000*l.* of stock is not to be issued for five months below 85. Subscriptions are to be received both in London and Paris, and, as the total cash payment involved, even supposing the entire amount of the loan to be eventually subscribed, will not much exceed 4,000,000*l.*, there is no reason to apprehend that the instalments spread over many months, and, divided between the two countries, will produce any very objectionable effect on the money-market. The time allowed for the sending in of subscriptions is limited to to-morrow, and the applications already far exceed the sum required."

EGYPT.

We read in the *Débats*:—

"The letters which we have just received from Alexandria come down to the 5th inst., and are again full of descriptions of the *fêtes* given in honour of Said Pasha's accession to the throne. He derives benefit from the hatred borne to his predecessor, and it is only just to add that the measures by which he has signalled the commencement of his reign justify the joy and hopes of the population. The removal of the prohibitions imposed by Abbas Pasha on the corn trade is an absolute boon to foreign commerce, and more particularly to the population, whom that deplorable system caused to perish of starvation in the midst of the most fertile country in the world. As if by enchantment, wheat fell at once in price, as all that was necessary to place bread within every one's reach, even of the very poorest, was to throw open the Government stores, which were full to overflowing. The first acts of clemency of the new Government are known, and no ulterior act has come to impair their effect. Not only has Elfy Bey been pardoned, but he still retains the title of Khayy; and Said Pasha has confirmed the donation of land which had been made him by Abbas Pasha. The moderation and prudence of the new Viceroy are such, that up to the present time very few changes are cited in the administrative staff. It is not that solicitors and flatterers have been wanting, but they have been thrust aside without ceremony. Ilhami Pasha, son of Abbas, being absent, the post of Minister of War, of which he bore the title, has been given to Ahmed Pasha Eltopdji; the prefect of police of Cairo has been replaced by the former prefect of police of Alexandria, Tahir Bey, and some prefects of provinces whose incapacity or negligence was notorious have been dismissed; but the highest personages are maintained in the places which they occupied before the death of Abbas Pasha. For the present moment the principal anxiety of the Government is to bear up against the financial crisis which Abbas Pasha has bequeathed to it. The finances exhausted, the State borne down by heavy arrears of debt to the civil and military functionaries, and a deficit of nearly 50,000,000*l.* in the Treasury—such is the situation. Abbas Pasha, however, died exceedingly rich, as his personal fortune is estimated at the huge amount of 200,000,000 in specie (no doubt an exaggerated figure), without reckoning a large amount of real property. No one, besides, is ignorant that that prince, whose distrust was proverbial, concealed his treasures in mysterious hiding-places, and it will be exceedingly difficult to get in the sums to which the State is certainly entitled from the property left, but which right Said Pasha has declared that he will only exercise in the strict limits of the law. To ward off the peril which menaces them from that quarter, his brother, nephews, and all the princes of the family, now closely united for the first time to the head of the Government, as well as the principal personages, have placed themselves at his disposal, and have not hesitated to pay into the Treasury very important sums. It is hoped that these extraordinary resources, joined to those which may have been created by other means, and to the personal reserves of Said Pasha, will suffice to stop the crisis."

"We had not thought it right to mention the rumours which were afloat after the death of Abbas Pasha; as the present information obtained from a good source did not allow any doubt to be entertained that his death was one of violence. Two of his Mamelukes, who had recently witnessed the execution of several of their comrades, the victims of the cruel caprice of their master, and who had been menaced themselves with a similar fate, strangled him in the midst of his debauches, and then immediately fled, carrying with them all the jewels that they could lay hands on. It was said that one of them had been discovered in his hiding-place and arrested. On the 5th, the Egyptian steam frigate Nil arrived at Alexandria from Constantinople, having on board Ferid Effendi, first secretary of the Sultan, bearer of the firman of investiture."

NAPLES.

The King secludes himself in the Island of Ischia from the attacks of cholera. The reports of bad feeling between the foreign and Neapolitan troops had been revived. The King of Naples, it is known, has 15,000 mercenaries in his pay, chiefly Swiss, to whom he shows much more favour than to his 100,000 Neapolitan soldiers, giving them higher pay, better food and clothing, and better quarters than to his own countrymen. Of course, this gives rise to much jealousy, so that, if there were any one to head a military insurrection now, there is every probability that it would be successful, as even the mercenaries have shown themselves not free from the taint of liberalism, and those who are now loyal to the man who disposes irresponsibly of the Neapolitan revenues would soon give their adherence to the party which seemed likely to command the treasury. Luckily for the King, no such leader presents himself, and so the Government has another respite.

SPAIN.

In the elections for the constituent Cortes, the law of 1837 will be carried out with some modifications. There will be a representative for every 25,000 souls.

Everything is in suspense, meanwhile; Espartero and O'Donnell continue on outward good terms: Queen Christina is a prisoner in her daughter's palace.

The accounts from Catalonia indicate serious disturbances. At Patosa the mob abolished all taxes, and murdered the principal tax-collector!

The Dowager Duchess of Alba has been appointed *camarera mayor* to the Queen. Her Majesty, it appears, expressed some little chagrin at the complete change of all the Palace officials. This, for various reasons, was not unnatural. They had been long about her, and some of them must have been complaisant to a fault. In Spain it is not the custom for the Queen's household to be changed when the Ministry changes, but certainly it was high time to make the innovation. This may have struck the Queen as strange, and she may have regretted parting with some of her old familiars, but, upon the whole, the thing passed over very well. I need hardly say that of so promising a molehill as this mountains have been made.

AMERICA.

GENERAL CAMPBELL has been appointed Minister to London.

The *New York Herald* announces the arrival at New York of Dr. Cottman, an American gentleman, who has lived for several years at St. Petersburg, and who has been intrusted by the Czar with a mission of the highest importance—viz., to propose a commercial treaty, and to dispose of Sitka, the latter on very advantageous terms, to the United States Government. According to the *Herald*, the Czar, "in speaking of our relations with Spain, says he considers that Cuba is ours by right of her geographical position, and that, as she commands the entrance to the Gulf, we should take her, whether the Spanish Government is willing or not!" The *Herald* is most fulsome in its praise of the Emperor and abusive of England. This Dr. Cottman, the Czar's agent, while in London, en route to New York, addressed a letter to the United States' Consul in London, speaking in the harshest terms of the proceedings of the British squadron in the Baltic, and even accusing the crews of violation of Finnish women!

CANADA.

Up to the 1st inst. the returns showed the election of 64 Reformers and 22 Conservatives. Mr. Hincks, the Premier, has been returned by two constituencies by large majorities.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

A PRIVATE letter from an influential person at Bordeaux says:—"What do you think of affairs in the East? Are we to have any decisive action before the end of the season? If we do not make a little haste the Czar will have us through the winter behind his impenetrable barrier of ice."

"Our grain harvest is magnificent this year. It was sadly wanted in France, for the poor have suffered severely. There will be some little amends, perhaps, so far as bread is concerned; but there are serious prospects in other directions. All articles of subsistence are rising in price quite unusually."

"The question of 'subsistence' is becoming a capital question for our rulers. In opposition to the corn-harvest, the vintage will be absolutely null: to such a degree that there have been even applications from the south to the Government to admit the wines of Spain and Portugal at a reduced duty, if not free. But this demand can scarcely be acceded to. The commerce of Bordeaux will be grievously affected by this

total failure of the vintage. The proprietors are already in alarm; and if the vine disease continues its ravages much longer, there will be an enormous depreciation in all the property of the Médoc district, and many proprietors will be obliged to sell at ruinous prices, in order to meet their engagements."

The Madrid press now consists of the following journals:—*la Espana, las Novedades, la Nacion, la Epoca, el Clamor Publico, el Diario espanol, el Tribuno, la Esperanza, la Iberia, el Catolico, el Miliciano, la Independencia, el Guardia nacional, el Esparterista, la Union, la Europa.* The *Heraldo*, official organ of the late Government, has ceased to appear.

LAYARD AND THE HUNGARIANS.

It has been more than indicated in these pages that Mr. Layard is a parliamentary failure, and his late passage of arms with M. Kossuth ought, when the facts are rightly understood, to finish him in the House of Commons sense. The correspondence between Kossuth and himself shows that he was understood to accuse the Hungarians, &c., of ingratitude to the Sultan for the part they seem to be taking with regard to the war. This Mr. Layard, in writing, has denied, and declares that he put the matter as a supposition, 'that if they did so and so, then they would be guilty of ingratitude,' &c. This declaration, though it got the reporter of the *Times* dismissed, is anything but founded on fact. Mr. Layard is a blundering, lumbering speaker, evidently always labouring with an overplus of confused matter in his head, which he blurs out without arrangement or any clearness either of voice or language. So that the mistake of a single stenographer in the gallery might be excusable. But what will Mr. Layard say when a comparison of the notes of at least two other reporters of his speech, and the testimony of two of the writers of the summaries of newspapers, besides that of certainly one, if not more, attentive listener to his speech, prove that, whatever he may have meant to say, the form, the meaning, and the substance of what he did actually say was correctly stated in the *Times*. As has been said before, Mr. Layard was listened to during his first two or three speeches, not from any intrinsic merit they possessed, but on account of the "prestige" of his personal position, literary and antiquarian; but as his two last efforts had the effect of clearing the House, he may safely be left to the tender mercies of that parliamentary Nemesis, which ever dogs the pretentious member who is unequal to the daring flight of trying to storm the House of Commons into listening to him, or, worse still, who endeavours to take advantage of exoteric circumstances to inflict upon that keenly critical assembly that which it most abhors under every form—a sham!—*Glasgow Commonwealth.*

THE CHOLERA.

THE Registrar General's Report thus speaks this week of the "Health in London":—

Last week the total number of deaths registered in London was 1,832, while the births numbered 1,662, the return exhibiting the unusual result of an excess in the former over the latter. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1844-53 the average number of deaths was 1,110, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1,221. Hence it appears that the actual number of deaths in last week exceeds the estimated amount by 611.

This excess corresponds nearly with the number of fatal cases of cholera recorded last week, which was 644, while those of diarrhoea numbered 195. In the 32nd week of 1849, which ended August 11, 823 deaths occurred from cholera, and 173 from diarrhoea. The progress of the present epidemic, which slightly manifested itself in the second week of July, is shown by the following weekly numbers:—deaths from cholera, 5, 26, 133, 309, and 644; deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery (also in the last five weeks), 51, 63, 87, 146, and 200. Of last week's deaths from cholera 446 occurred on the south side of the river, a proportion to the total number of 69 per cent.

The 644 deaths from cholera in the week now reported on were distributed according to districts thus:—West districts, 68; north districts, 89; central districts, 31; east districts, 60; south districts, 416.

Lord Jocelyn's death from cholera last Saturday excited consternation in town; and the circumstances have called forth great sympathy for his family. He is to be lamented by the public because he was an admirable soldier, and because it is a fair conclusion from the facts that his death was occasioned by his rigid performance of his duties as the head of a regiment. This regiment was stationed at the Tower, and deaths from cholera having been very numerous there Lord Jocelyn thought that he would revive the confidence of the men by remaining among them. Accordingly he slept nightly at the Tower and as he was for several days suffering from diarrhoea, rendered a serious malady in his constitution by his having, by means of the Water Cure, recently very greatly reduced his weight, he became, by his persistence in remaining with his regiment, a victim. He left the Tower on Saturday morning to walk to the West End; but suddenly becoming alarmingly weak while passing along the Strand, he called a cab

and was driven to Lord Palmerston's (his mother's) house in Carlton Gardens. There fatal symptoms made their appearance; and notwithstanding the resources of a host of the great doctors the young nobleman died in a few hours. He died, however, surrounded by his relatives.

The cholera is prevalent more or less in all the large towns of England and Ireland; but there is no getting any statistics. It is worse in Belfast than in any other town, London excepted.

On the Continent it is everywhere. In Paris it is decreasing. At Naples it killed 3317 in six days. "The merchants have all absented themselves from the exchange."

The following circular has been issued from the new Board of Health:—

"General Board of Health, Whitehall,
August 12, 1854.

"Sir,—I am directed by the General Board of Health to inform you that it is the anxious desire of the Board to co-operate with the metropolitan boards of guardians in preventing and mitigating, as far as possible, the visitation of epidemic cholera, which has already made its appearance in many districts of the metropolis; and while the Board would deprecate any diminution of local responsibility or interference with local efforts, it is possible that their assistance and advice may be acceptable to boards of guardians, and they are prepared, therefore, to direct one of the Board's medical officers, in company with an inspector from the Poor-law Board, to attend and confer with the guardians as to the preventive measures already taken or to be taken, and the arrangements for dispensary accommodation and the treatment of the sick, in accordance with the recommendation in the minute on preventive measures already sent. I am therefore to request that you will convene a special meeting of the guardians, for the purpose of ascertaining whether they are desirous of receiving the assistance and advice of this board in the manner above indicated, and that you will communicate to me the wishes of the guardians in this respect.

(Signed) "T. TAYLOR, Sec."

MR. EDWIN CHADWICK.

(From the Glasgow Commonwealth.)

As long ago as 1823, when yet a very young man, studying for the English bar, he revealed his constitutional bent towards statistical speculation, and the business of administrative reform by various papers of an important and suggestive character. In a paper on *Benefit Societies* he was one of the first to point out the injustice to the public done by the insurance offices at that time, in consequence of their adherence to the antiquated Northampton Tables; and in a paper on *Preventive Police*, published almost simultaneously with the passing of Sir Robert Peel's new Police Act, he exposed in a thorough manner the defects of the old police system, and expounded, perhaps better than had ever been done before, the great principle of prevention as applicable to crime—the principle, namely, of dealing with crime, not simply by checking it in the act, but by going back to its preventable antecedents. These and other papers had the effect of making Mr. Chadwick known to some men of public eminence at that time, among whom were the famous Jeremy Bentham and the distinguished political economist, Mr. N. Senior. His acquaintance with Bentham ripened into a friendship. It was not as a mere expounder of Benthamism, however, that Mr. Chadwick came before the public. On the appointment, in 1832, of the Commission of Inquiry into the operation of the existing Poor Laws in England and Wales, he was appointed one of the assistant-commissioners. The district assigned to him as the field of his inquiries was London and Berkshire; and so valuable was his report—so large a proportion did this one report contain of the whole mass of information acquired by the commission, as well as of the practical suggestions offered along with that information—that the honours of the inquiry were felt to belong to Mr. Chadwick. While the inquiry was still going on, he was made a chief commissioner; and the famous Poor-law Amendment Act, which resulted from the inquiry in 1834, was little else than an embodiment of Mr. Chadwick's recommendations. Whether one approves of that act or not, one must acknowledge the public importance of a man whose prodigious activity enabled him thus, at the age of little more than thirty, to stamp his individuality on one of the most extensive legislative enactments of his time and country. While the act was still pending, Mr. Chadwick, as one of the royal commissioners for inquiring into the treatment of children in factories, had carried his energies with similar effect into another department of investigation. From 1834 to 1847, Mr. Chadwick was attached to the first New Poor-law Commission in the capacity of paid secretary. It was while in this situation that, led by his genius for excursive enquiry to impose upon himself other duties than those required by the mere routine of office, he opened up many of those tracks of important practical investigation in which both he and the public have since gone forward with such interest. * * * * * Of all the preventable causes of pauperism, the most

gigantic, as Mr. Chadwick found, was disease preventable by sanitary regulation. Grappling with this subject with all his strength—starting with the notion that disease was preventable to a much larger extent than had been supposed, and pushing this notion out into its details—he published, in 1842, his "Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great Britain," a work which may be said to have initiated the great sanitary movement which for some ten years has been increasingly occupying the attention of this country. This was followed by a "Report on the practice of interment in towns," and by fresh reports on the sanitary question. Having thus made the sanitary question his own, it was natural that, on the appointment of the Board of Health in 1848, Mr. Chadwick should be placed at the head of it. His connexion with the Poor Law Board had ceased in the previous year, when, in consequence of a crisis in the management of that Board, occasioned, it was believed, chiefly by differences between Mr. Chadwick, as secretary, and some of the commissioners, as to the mode of administering the law—the Board was broken up and reconstituted under a new form. Since 1848, accordingly, Mr. Chadwick has virtually been minister of public health for England and Wales.

From this brief survey of Mr. Chadwick's public life, it will be evident that his withdrawal from the public service is really an important event. Altogether, it seems to us that we must be in a bad way when we cannot contrive to place a man of such singular, such almost unique powers and aims as Mr. Chadwick, in a position where, even were his faults as great as his worst enemies represent them, they would be sufficiently counterpoised by the checks and circumstantialities of the position itself, and at the same time all his splendid positive qualifications utilised for the public.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. HUME!!!

BY AN OLD REFORMER.

(From the Leicestershire Mercury, August 12th, 1854.) WHAT a strange, queer, fanciful, comical, eccentric jade is dame Fortune! And what an odd people we are, and in what odd times we live! Well, so it is. But amidst all our perils, trials, and taxes, we have still plenty of food for amusement left to us, and have not only lots of the ridiculous to laugh at, but, thank heaven! have still strength and health to enjoy the laugh with a most hearty gusto. But to our point. Our readers have probably heard of Mr. Joseph Hume. He is now seventy-seven years of age, and has been in the House of Commons, with very short intervals, for the space of forty-three years, and, from first to last, he has been an honest, upright, consistent, and unflinching Reformer. He took up the cause to which he has ever adhered at a time when a Parliamentary Reformer had no bed of roses to rest upon in the House of Commons. For many a long and weary year he had to encounter obloquy and scorn, to face the frowns of a powerful ministry and an overwhelming party. But still, "like the thunder-cloud streaming against the wind," he struggled on, and would neither be terrified nor silenced by the audacity and insolence of faction. At times it might be said of him,

"Faithful found,
Among the faithless, faithful only he."

But still he persevered in spite of every storm and hurricane, and fought on for a cause which seemed hopeless, only that the seeds of hope were preserved by his perseverance. At length "a change comes o'er the spirit of our dream." The "stranded" whale of Toryism went ashore, and was broken up. Reform triumphed. Then Mr. Hume had his reward! To be sure he had, as far as virtue is its own reward. The Whigs used him as the fox in the fable used the goat when, climbing on its shoulders, it leaped out of the well, leaving its friend still at the bottom. No Mr. Hume was in the first Liberal Ministry of which he had been so long the pioneer and forlorn hope. No Mr. Hume has been in any Liberal Ministry since. We never heard that place was offered to him in any form or shape. But at last a sudden thought comes on the long oblivious party and its leaders. Mr. Hume is thought of, and is to be presented with his picture. And by the ghost of Joe Miller and Tom Hood and everybody facetious and funny since the deluge and before it, Lord John Russell had face enough to play the part of High Priest in the revelries of Momus and Comus held on this occasion. And what did he say in his address to Mrs. Hume? O! many flattering and pleasant things. We were excessively tickled with the grand finale of his oration. It took the breath out of us, and almost threw us into an apoplexy of laughter. Lord John, be it recollected, has been for many years enjoying the sweets of office won for him by Mr. Hume's exertions. He has been Premier and we know not what besides, and presently, when past work, will have a comfortable pension to retire upon. And yet, with the knowledge of all this, he could, with the calm courage or effrontery ascribed to him by the Whig Sidney Smith, thus speak on Monday—

"Mr. Hume has laboured long, with perseverance, with courage, with energy, to change this state of our laws and of our Legislature. More especially in the cause of economy and retrenchment his untiring efforts have been conspicuous and successful. The voice of the people has encouraged his efforts, and a spotless reputation is a part of his reward. The consciousness that he has served his country as an honest and disinterested patriot will, we all trust, brighten his remaining course, and after the heat of the day give calmness and serenity to the evening of his honourable life."

—This was either a bad joke or worse seriousness. We have seen many things opposed to the fitness of things in our day and time, and this is not the least of them. We have seen Lord Aberdeen Prime Minister, one Lord Auckland Governor-General of India, and another made Bishop of Bath and Wells; we have seen that eminent trifler and fiddler, Lord Westmoreland, Ambassador at Vienna, and Mr. Lawley pitched upon to work out the destinies of Australia, and a variety of other escapades as startling and extraordinary. Horace Powys, the Tractarian brother of Lord Lilford, has just been made Bishop of Sodor and Mann, and Gerald Wellesley placed at the head of the apostolical dandy Chapter of Windsor. What had the Whigs then left to testify their gratitude for the veteran champion and parliamentary father of Reform? They had kept the substance for themselves, but they could give him the shadow. They had divided the fuel and the fire and all its warmth among their own families and friends, but they could honour him with the smoke. And so they did. THEY PRESENTED HIM WITH HIS PICTURE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SCARCITY OF TROOPS FOR HOME SERVICE.—Yesterday morning, in obedience to orders issued from the Horse Guards, the East Essex Rifle Regiment of Militia, which corps has done garrison duty in the Tower, since the departure of the 19th Regiment of Foot for the East, marched from that fortress, under the command of Major Skippey, and preceded by the excellent brass band of the regiment, to the terminus of the South-eastern Railway, from whence they were conveyed by special train to Canterbury, to relieve the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot, which has been ordered to Windsor, to replace the 46th Foot, ordered to join the expeditionary army in Turkey. On Monday evening, detachments of the depot companies of the 28th, 38th, 77th, 93rd (Highlanders), and 95th Regiments of Foot, numbering 50 rank and file, marched into the Tower from the Magazine Barracks, Hyde Park, and relieved the several guards furnished by the Essex Rifles, and yesterday afternoon, the depot companies of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, mustering 60 rank and file, arrived from Winchester to augment the garrison, thus making only a total of 110 bayonets where at least 400 are required, the main guard alone taking 42 men, besides non-commissioned officers. To remedy this paucity in the numerical strength of the military, a number of sentries on the Royal Mint guard and the main guard had to be dispensed with, and 100 extra constables of the Metropolitan Police are doing duty in the interior of the Tower, at the ordnance stores, jewel-room, armoury, &c. The guard for the British Museum, which has hitherto been found by the fine regiment quartered in the Tower, will, until further orders, be supplied by the Household Troops, but it is expected that the military guard over that public building is to be discontinued, and that the duties will be performed by police constables.—*Morning Advertiser.*

The annual general meeting of the "Eagle Insurance Company," was held at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, this week. It appeared that the premiums on Assurances effected during the year amounted to 9,595l. 11s. 6d. The gross receipts for the year were 130,005l., and the whole payments 111,718l. The total surplus, after making allowance for every claim, is 18,287l. The annual average of these several items since the valuation and division of surplus in 1852 is—new premiums, 8,950l.; claims, 70,800l.; expenses, 5,951l.; surplus, 81,730l. At the last meeting the balance of the surplus fund was stated to be 198,211l. 18s. 3d. This is now increased to 216,498l. 19s. 6d., which amount is subject, of course, to such changes as may be found to arise when a re-valuation of the company's assets and liabilities shall be made. The chairman (R. A. Gray), in moving the adoption of the report, expressed a belief that there would be an additional income next year of 10,000l. The proprietors were aware that recently those persons who were connected with the Post-office establishment had had inducements held out to them to effect insurances on their lives; and it was gratifying to state that the "Eagle" was one of the companies which had been selected by the Postmaster-General and the Lords of the Treasury,—a good proof of the estimation in which the society was held.

THE SPITALFIELD'S DIFFICULTY.—The hand-loom velvet-weavers—demanding an increase of individual wages from 12s. to 13s. 6d. per week—are still "out;"—the employers still declining to come into their terms.

MEETING OF LACE-MAKERS.—Last evening a second meeting of the lace-makers was held at the Club-house, in New-street, Covent garden, Mr. Montgomery in the chair. It will be recollected that, at the last meeting, resolutions were unanimously adopted condemning the proposed change in military uniform, on the ground that it would deprive of employment a vast number of persons, including many females, and that it would almost entirely annihilate the lace trade. From statements made by Mr. D'Eloho, Mr. Biss, and others, it appeared that since the last meeting a reply had been received to a petition addressed to the Prince Consort. The letter was dated from the Royal yacht, and was written by Col. Phipps. It merely referred the peti-

tioners to the Commander-in-Chief as the proper party to address on the subject. The committee had addressed the Horse Guards, but no reply had up to last evening been received. A petition had also been forwarded to her Majesty. Strong hopes were entertained that some alteration would be made in the pattern, and that, at least, the change would be gradually worked out, in order that the lacemakers might seek some other means of obtaining support for themselves and their families. Some formal resolutions having been agreed to, the meeting broke up.—*Morning Advertiser.*

GREAT FIRE AT CUBITT'S.—A fire broke out at Cubitt's works, Pimlico, on Tuesday night, and, in a few hours, it had become a tremendous conflagration—illuminating half London. A vast property has been destroyed; and from 500 to 600 men have been thrown out of employment—their tools annihilated. The insurance does not exceed 10,000%, and the actual loss will therefore be enormous.

A PROPOSAL TO WASH THE QUEEN'S FACE.—A correspondent of the *Daily News* points out the dirty state of the face of the Queen's statue in the Royal Exchange, and says if expense be the difficulty, allow me to point out that a few inches less of the gold lace on the three-cornered hat of the beadles, or Lord Mayor's coachman, would create a fund amply sufficient.

LONDON AND SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY PROPRIETORS.—A ballot among this proprietary has taken place this week for the election of a director; there being two candidates—Mr. Wilcox, M.P., and Mr. Snell. On a scrutiny, it is found that for one of those candidates there are nearly fifty false proxies, representing about a thousand votes. "Highly respectable people" (who deplore the state of education among the lower orders) must have put in the false proxies.

THE NORTH WESTERN ENGINE-DRIVERS.—The difficulty between the engine-drivers and the Board of Directors has been happily set at rest by a compromise.

AUSTRALIAN EMIGRANTS.—Some documents just published in connexion with the recent course of emigration to Australia convey information on three subjects of interest—namely, the light in which the Chinese labourers lately introduced into New South Wales are regarded; the experience obtained as to the value of the labourers from the Isle of Skye, sent out by the Highland Emigration Society; and, lastly, the prospect of any fulfilment of the obligations entered into by Government emigrants for repayment of a portion of their passage money if they should leave the colony within four years. On each point the statements are unfavourable. As respects the Chinese immigrants, the Government Resident at Brisbane, New South Wales, reports that they are held in great disfavour, chiefly from their weakly constitution, and their filthy habits and dissatisfied dispositions. In the case of the Skye labourers disappointment has also been experienced, and, although there is no difficulty in the present state of things in their finding employment, the colonists would greatly prefer the ordinary agricultural people from England and Ireland. The experience of their capacity thus far obtained was limited, but the impression was that they were slothful, dirty, and discontented. In relation to the repayment of passage money the report from the immigration agent in the colony of Victoria is that the engagements to that effect are just so much waste paper.

ONE OF THE HIGHLY EDUCATED CLASSES.—A Bristol paper gives this story of Mr. Slade, Q.C., a highly-educated man, who (*vide* his speech at the Cambridge hustings this week) is in favour of Lord Derby, and would not trust the people with power until they are educated. In the course of the trial of the case "*Cox v. Carrington*," at the Somerset Assizes last week, Mr. F. W. Slade, Q.C., the leading advocate of the plaintiff, made the following curious display of his profound acquaintance with the works of the bard of Avon. In one of the articles in the *Bath Chronicle*, complained of as libellous, the editor quoted the words of *Bottom* in the *Midsummer Night's Dream*—"I'll roar you as gently as any sucking dove." Having first of all read "*Boston*" for *Bottom*, and created some laughter by the mistake, which the learned counsel ingeniously apologised for by saying that it appeared to be so written in his brief, Mr. Slade went on to ridicule the language employed, and which appeared to be that of the editor. "I'll roar you as gently as any sucking dove," exclaimed Mr. Slade, triumphantly; "why, gentlemen, did you ever hear of a 'sucking dove' roaring? I always thought that 'sucking doves' cooed." Here Mr. Serjeant Kinglake came to the relief of Mr. Slade, and quietly informed him that the words in question were not the words of the editor, but of Shakespeare, and by some persons were thought not to be so ridiculous as his learned friend seemed to imagine. Mr. Slade then escaped from this difficulty by saying that he was not so learned as his friend, the serjeant, who knew everything, and proceeded with his speech. It is said that Mr. Slade is to be a candidate for Cambridge, in conjunction with Lord Viscount Maidstone; the noble lord is himself a poet, and will probably be astonished to find that his learned colleague had so little acquaintance with the works of the greatest of English bards.

FATHER THAMES ELEVATED TO THE PEERAGE.—The Lords having prorogued, the Thames entered their House! This is the story—one the peers will read with horror; for they will write and ask Sir C. Barry—was this the atmosphere we were allowed to sit seven months in? "But a few days prior to the inquiry, the manuscript papers and records of the House of Lords, which were deposited in the lowest story of the 'Palace at Westminster,' were found to be saturated with sewage filth. In consequence, it appears, of some mistake having been made somewhere, the sewers overflowed, and covered the floors of these rooms to the depth of six inches. The presses escaped, but the papers on the floor, in course of being arranged ready for being placed in proper receptacles, were covered with the filthy contents of the sewer. Stench of a most noisome character have for some time existed in this House, which the officers, at a recent examination before a committee of the Lords, could not account for, but this occurrence may furnish a clue to the cause of this disgusting abomination. It is fortunate that Parliament was prorogued on Saturday last, or the noble Lords, with the cholera around them, might have suffered severely."

Postscript.

SATURDAY, August 19.

THE ELECTIONS.

CANTERBURY.

(By Electric Telegraph.)

THE Sheriff declared the final state of the poll as follows:—

Lushington	...	...	...	...	729
Somerville	...	...	...	...	699
Butler	...	...	...	...	671
Cooper	...	...	...	...	403
Glover	...	...	...	...	41

Messrs. Somerville and Lushington have addressed the electors. All quiet.

WINDSOR COURT MARTIAL.

Yesterday (16th day) Major-General Wetherall, the prosecutor, replied to Lieutenant Perry's defence, and the Court adjourned.

THE ALAND ISLANDS.

A telegraphic despatch, dated Copenhagen, Wednesday, August 16th, says:—

"We have news from Bomarsund to the 15th inst. The most considerable of the towers was taken on Monday by the French, after four hours' resistance. The scaling-ladders were ready for the assault ordered for to-day.

THE CRIMEA.

We read in a letter, dated Constantinople, 3rd instant:—

"The great number of shells which have been lately received by the fleet proves that the expedition about to be undertaken is serious. Marshal St. Arnaud, who arrived here on Monday in the *Derhollet*, and left yesterday for Varna, told his wife on parting that probably they would not meet for some time."

Intelligence has been received from Constantinople to the 5th. Admiral Bouer Willaumez was for some days exercising the troops in effecting the landing of cannon of long range. In addition, new vessels were sent from the Bosphorus for Varna.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"HILARIOUS"—Yes: the joke is complete: the Secretary to the new Board of Health is taken from the *Punch* office.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

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

The Leader.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 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.

WORK FOR THE RECESS.

ANARCHY was the great feature of last session: can we take any measures in this recess to obtain order for next session?

We ourselves have endeavoured to show that the Government went wrong because the Hume-ite Radicals became abject Ministerialists; and it is now beginning to be generally perceived that dependence upon the Whig aristocracy forbids the organisation of the Radical party generally. The out-of-door

Radical leaders—of whom we may number one at least in every large town—members of the middle class, but possessing the confidence of the working class—able men, energetic men, and disinterested men—their disinterestedness proved by their not themselves attempting to go into Parliament—have been disgusted and disappointed at the results of the session—not only as regards the condition of all those popular movements which Whig dilittanti have shirked or suppressed as inconsistent with the proper prosecution of a war, but as regards the war itself. The Whigs—a party of exhausted old nobles, and producing no young talent whatever—elaborately demonstrated their incapacity for power during the easy period 1846 to 1853. They thought to save themselves in a coalition; and their vanity and their imbecility have damaged the coalition. Radical leaders, who are not inveterate Hume-ites, are therefore forced to the conclusion that the cause of the people cannot be trusted to such men. The Tory party has not looked dangerous this last session because it has been so weak. But that its old inhuman and infamous spirit still lives in inveterate virulence we may detect in the speeches of such persons as Lord Maidstone and Mr. Slade at the Cambridge hustings,—politicians who at a great political crisis can think of no grander dogma than to declare themselves "in favour of Lord Derby" and of "out-and-out Conservatism." This spirit is also observable in the analysis of the session made by Mr. Disraeli (which we quoted from his journal last week). In this he boasts as the great triumph of his confederation, that it succeeded this year in preventing the House of Commons adopting the principle of "secular education!" Thus, it is clear, whatever hopes may have been entertained from the dreamy vagueness of expression used during the last few years by the great "medicine man" of the Tories, that we have still to face in the Tory party the traditional enemies of English civilisation and of European progress. The Peelite party,—which includes men of the middle class, like Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Cardwell,—distinguished by a strong sympathy with the spirit of the age and a Peel-like instinct of "the impending"—has not yet bid for the lead of the Liberal party. Those Liberals who are in the Coalition Government,—men of consummate ability, entitled to lead and certain to officer, any Liberal party that can be formed,—we refer to Sir W. Molesworth, a man of aristocratic advantages and statesman-like capacity—to Mr. Lowe, who has a genius for courage and an ambition for which his countrymen will respect him—to Mr. Osborne, whose *mots* would suffice to maintain a party, and of distinct democratic tastes,—have not yet found it necessary, at least not publicly, to express their disgust with and despair of their lordly, lofty, and incapable colleagues. Radical leaders, therefore, see that it is necessary, if the people of England are to have anything to do with the Government of England, that the mass of intellect and earnestness which distinguishes the Liberal party should be so organised as to enable the Radical party in Parliament to take a distinct position among and against all other parties, and to bid by itself and for itself for Place and Power. Our respectful appeals in this matter have met with a singularly satisfactory response. On the one side, we find the Parliamentary leader of the Independent Irish party accepting our suggestions and expressing a conviction that but flimsy barriers prevent a junction between his friends and English popular members for common action; and we have observed with pleasure that from the very opposite side a thoughtful politician has been indoctrinating

the *Daily News* with a purpose, and calling attention to the circumstances which render it at this period indispensable to re-form a Liberal party. The writer we refer to recommends a meeting of Liberal members in the course of the recess.

We do not overlook and we do not under-rate any of the difficulties in the way of such a project. Mr. Bright—otherwise, the master of the position—and Lord Dudley Stuart disorganise the Liberal party with respect to the War—Mr. Bright by his isolated view that a war against Russia can not be rendered a war for human liberty—Lord Dudley Stuart by his confident crotchet that European nationality cannot get on without Lord Palmerston. Mr. Miall and Mr. T. Chambers disorganise the Liberal party with respect to religion—Mr. Miall by a temperate, but not successful, obtrusion of the Church of England question; Mr. T. Chambers by a religious persistence, on the Church of Rome question, in deterring from the English Radicals, who are compelled somewhat to consult English fanaticism, the sympathies of Ireland—a country which has been mismanaged by both sections of the aristocracy, and might now be won by a new Liberal party. But there remains a certain number of distinct subjects upon which there is a practical average agreement, and for which party organisation could with facility be devised. About one hundred members are always ready to vote for the ballot. If these hundred members were organised into a party, pledged to refuse assistance to any Government which refused to adopt the ballot as the only means of purifying our electoral constitution—these hundred men would soon become two hundred, and the ballot would be carried. We place the ballot first in the Liberal programme, because it is the Radical point which at the moment stands the best chance. There are at least one hundred members who would vote for the Hume extension of the suffrage; and if a party were organised, pledged to vote against any Reform Bill which did not go that far at least, we should have no more sham bills. Mr. Hume would say, as he said last session, when a sham bill was proposed, that it would be insanity not to take all we could get; but we apprehend that this species of rueful political philosophy is somewhat dying out. Democrats would say that we should stick to principle, and refuse any reform bill which was not based on universal suffrage. To which we answer that the Hume extension (or something very similar) is the only proposition upon which a party could be organised. The same party which could maintain these two questions in Parliament could also act together on reform in India; and on the question of the Irish Church—on which English Radical members would be expected to reciprocate the assistance they require from Irish members. Precisely the same party could carry the abolition of the Church rates; precisely the same party could carry limited liability in partnership; precisely the same party could obtain County Financial Boards; precisely the same party could secure secular education, if not generally, locally—as in the Salford Bill; precisely the same party could remove the stamp from newspapers. Finally, such a party could purify our whole public life and our whole administrative machinery.

We believe that if anything is to be done in this direction, the initiative is not to be taken by any member of Parliament, but by a movement of those out-of-door Radicals of whom we have spoken. Old Parliamentary habits are great obstacles to the creation of a people's party pledged to stand aloof from the Government—to give it no votes, and, therefore, to ask from it no places—an inde-

pendence which at the outset would utterly destroy all the orthodox arrangements.

A retrospect of the last session will no doubt have a tendency to drive the "popular members" melancholy mad; but as yet there is scarcely sufficient political earnestness to allow of a hope of the revolutionary idea being entertained that a people's representative is entitled to withhold the people's money—that is to say, to refuse supply—until he is satisfied that what he knows to be the popular demand will be complied with; in other words, to insist on the Constitution. And we believe the party to which we point would altogether fail of obtaining any strong position in England, unless it were to set out on a full understanding with the Sovereign that this possible "factionousness" would be exercised not towards the Crown, but towards the impure, imbecile, and all-engrossing aristocracy which usurps the national Government, and stands between the monarch and the people, degrading the Crown and deluding the country.

THE UNION, ITS NEIGHBOURS, AND THEIR ANNEXABILITY.

ACCORDING to the latest intelligence, the Emperor of Russia is about to sell to the United States that north-west territory which is his, and freely to give the island of Cuba which is not his; and so far as his intent goes, both stories are equally probable. The citizens may answer him in O'Connell's phrase, "Thank ye for nothing." If the Yankees please, on nominally annexing the north-western territory which abuts on Behring's Straits, they may present a sum of money to the Emperor, who wants it badly enough; but it could be on no other ground save goodnature. And as to Cuba, the Americans know well enough that with due consideration for existing interests, it is annexed. Cuba essentially belongs to the state which possesses the mouth of the Mississippi; if there is any state to question that abstract but self-evident proposition, it is Spain, and Spain alone; and it does not need the Czar to make or unmake. He has plenty to do elsewhere, without having any duties to perform in surrendering either Cuba or Canada to the Republic.

The fact is that the tenure of all the territories conterminous with the Union depends upon the condition of the state to which each belongs. The little state of "Mosquitia"—that made-up nuisance which President Pierce has committed the mistake of magnifying into an enemy—will be trodden down in the march of one or other of the states near it. Mexico possesses about as good a title to its territory as any people, yet it cannot keep the land—its neighbours acquire it in the good old legitimate way: they come very near, border quarrels arise, the two sides fight, and at the end the weaker has to pay the costs of the action—in land. Much similar litigation is in prospect, and thus the Union proceeds with the gradual annexation of Mexico. The process will stop, if at all before the Mexican territory be entirely annexed, when the land shall be reduced to such proportions as do not exceed the strength of the Mexicans to keep it. As to Canada, that part of America is essentially self-governing; it chooses its own sovereignty, and at present it prefers to remain under the same sovereignty with Great Britain, by which it secures a greater degree of independence than if it were annexed to the Union. This sentiment has been formally expressed on many occasions; Mr. Howe, the chief Minister of the Government of Nova Scotia, and leader of the local Parliament, has specifically cited the reasons for

remaining annexed to the monarchy rather than joining the republic, in the greater local independence thus secured, and the incompatibility of temper between the Republicans and the descendants of the old U. E. Royalists; and among other moral effects of the war has been the calling out of attachment to the mother country, distinctly declared by the legislatures of the colonies.

The two other states which remain conterminous with the Union are Russia and Spain; the Russian tenure being at least as bad as the Mexican, if not the Cuban. It is a principle which Americans are not likely to surrender, that monarchical possessions in America shall not be extended: the Russian territory, therefore, cannot be extended. But if not extended, it is geographically as untenable as it is politically. It is a mere corner and strip—a barrier keeping back any power possessing the territory within from the coast and the strait—it is the Constantinople of that icy and desert region, unbacked by any Ottoman territory behind; and the power possessing the northern part of the Continent will be compelled to take the strip, just as Cuba must be taken, and as the Czar wished to take Constantinople. Politically, the Czar has no hold upon any of his territory. In this country we must agree in the American principle, that no Government is legitimate save that appointed by the inhabitants of the country: such is the case with our own monarchical republic as much as with the United States: such is not the case with any Russian territory, except perhaps old Muscovy, whose ancestors chose their Czar. Russian power falls as soon as the inhabitants of any Russian land know themselves.

The flaw in the Spanish tenure of Cuba is likewise identical with flaws in the Government. Spain can neither perform her duty to herself, nor to her neighbour. She is not strong enough to defend her own territory nor to make her own people obey, nor to guarantee her own independence during war. She cannot, therefore, exhibit one essential element in the title of sovereign power—the conquering sword to make that title respected by foreigners. She cannot compel her own subjects in the island to behave properly. She cannot perform the duties of an ally, in preserving the portal of the Mississippi against occupation by a foreign enemy of the Republic which holds the river. She is, therefore, not fit to take Cuba.

The American Republic has shown its desire to give Spain every trial, every opportunity for acquiring the title to Cuba, if she had it not already; but in vain. America has also evinced her desire to let Spain make the cession peaceably and honourably, receiving even payment; and the example of France, and of Spain herself, in the southern part of the Union, may be advanced to soothe the dignity of Queen Isabella's Government in effecting the sale. Espartero, we guess, has the last chance of getting something for Cuba.

FIRST ATTEMPTS AT MORALITY.

THE great British Public is totally incompetent to deal with the morals of its own life. A more clumsy-listed fool than the same Public it would be impossible to discover in the round of the civilised world. The terms may look disrespectful, but we abide by them on the score of their unmitigated truth. Let us take two recent instances.

A distinguished member of one of those clubs which exist on pretext of being regiments of soldiers, "cuts" another—send another member of the same club to Coventry, because he associates with women

low character. Now it is impossible that the moralist in question can be ignorant that to associate with women of such character is a habit not unknown to officers in the army. Let a thousand such officers be assembled on the parade in the Horse Guards—let every man who is without sin step out from the ranks, and see how many would remain at their posts. We ask the stern moralist. But that is not the point; it is impossible that he cannot know as much of this matter as we do, or as any man of the world must know; and we ask him further, What can be the moral state of that man's mind who can announce a rule of conduct as if it were an admitted truth, a matter of course, knowing that it is totally the reverse of fact? The officer in question pretends that the peculiar association is sufficient to disqualify a man for the company of gentlemen, and he must know, as a matter of plain fact, that it is no disqualification at all, that it is not considered so by gentlemen, and that really to enforce such rule would cause a man to be treated like an obtrusive evangelical missionary or a blackguard. Yet this treatment of morals on the part of Captain Campbell does but represent the general method of handling moral subjects. Men pretend that facts are exactly the reverse of what they are, and they pretend that their own rules of conduct conform to the fiction. The imaginative moralist escapes a shout of derision or contempt only because society is itself in the habit of acting in the same manner—affecting to obey pretended rules based upon imaginary facts.

The great daily journal has hit upon the other anomaly, but has missed the point of the moral. Richard Carden attempts to run away with Miss Eleanor Arbuthnot; John Atkinson runs away with Miss Annie Ward. Both are convicted, and both are sentenced to imprisonment—Carden to twenty-four, Ward to nine months; but the circumstances of the cases wholly differ. It is true that Annie Ward was very young—only twelve years of age says her mother's almanac; but much older, at least in mind and constitution, says the internal evidence of her letters. For they prove not only a precocity of that "utterance" which a philosopher has declared love to be, but a clearness of understanding, a strength of purpose, and a presence of mind which typify maturity, if it be the maturity of youth. Annie evidently knew her own mind when she had "at last got John's heart a little her way." She evidently knew "what it was o'clock," for she had set her watch to the right time. And in short she arranged the evasion as much as John did. Very different was the other case. So little did Carden count upon the willingness of the young lady, that he had prepared a carriage and four horses, two horse-pistols, a revolver, skull-crackers, cord, and drugs. He would have committed murder; he wrestled with women; he attempted to tear the young lady away from her protectors, and he narrowly escaped conviction upon a capital charge of the grossest cruelty that man can commit upon woman. The two cases, the *Times* observes, are totally disproportioned in atrocity; and yet the judges inflict punishment so greatly similar.

But the critic himself appears to miss the true point of the moral. *Volenti non fit injuria*. The real distinction in the two cases lay, not in the pistols, skull-crackers, ropes, and drugs, on the one side, and the absence of them on the other, but in the simple circumstance that in the one case the lady was a consenting party, and in the other not. The cord, ropes, weapons, and drugs, are but the gross and material expression of the true wrong, which is in the compulsion. That compulsion is oftener exerted without any

such grossly evident instruments, yet it is as foul, as wicked, and as criminal. If the Law be avoided rather than outraged in the case of a quiet compulsion, if justice be not openly defied, the wrong is as great, perhaps worse to the sufferer; because there is not, as there was in the case of Eleanor Arbuthnot, a rescue.

But the first step towards improvement is a knowledge of the evil. Society, we believe, has consented to tyrannise over itself to long, because it has consented to hush up these crimes. The exposures that scandalise quiet people, that render the papers "unfit for perusal," are a rescue for the sufferers. It shocks people to read how Mr. Perry is accused of keeping improper company; how Mr. Greer openly indulges in it; how officers are more than suspected; how certain houses exist at Grove End Road, Denbigh Street, or Newman Street. All this was very tolerable, so long as no Jessie Ross made a noise about her wages, no Reginbal attempted to introduce an element of justice into the treatment of outcasts, no Alice Leroy made her escape. So long as such cases could keep quiet—so long as officers could be what they are and not talk about it before a court martial—so long was society content, and England passed herself off as a moral country, strict in her conjugal relations, precise in her treatment of the innocent and defenceless. There is, however, not one of those establishments that cannot boast, at least, of its single "nobleman," not one which "carriage company" does not frequent. Officers in their quarrels accuse each other of the company they keep; and at last Society stands confessed.

Even yet, however, so far gone is England, that the public does not understand where is the moral: not knowing how much has been confessed, Captain Campbell affects to think that gentlemen cannot keep disreputable female society; and the great daily censor imagines that Carden's offence lay in the instruments, and not in the purpose of compulsion.

THE BLACK-GUARDS.

"I NEVER heard of such practices in other regiments," was the reply of an officer of official rank and experience, in allusion to the disclosures of the Forty-sixth. Now we have heard of such practices in other regiments. The fact is, that the civil world is not more varied than its opposite—the military. There are, no doubt, regiments in which practices like those of the Forty-sixth are totally unknown; where such conduct would be at once put down; and where a report to any senior officer would, in nearly every instance, meet with the attention it deserves. In many regiments, no doubt, "drawing" is practised on young men who newly join; but not in the manner which has been encouraged in the Forty-sixth. If the youngster bears being roused out of his bed with good temper, and is not a disagreeable man, the joke is seldom repeated. Such irregularities may be harmless; but of course their harmlessness depends entirely upon the manner of their execution; and it is evident that they ought at once to be put down by a commanding officer to whose knowledge they may come. It is no business of the colonel's to encourage or discourage tell-tales: there are proper checks for every species of meanness in society of every kind, military as well as civil; officers must of course have an unlimited right of inflicting nearly the worst punishment that can be inflicted upon a man bound to remain in a certain society—that of sending him to Coventry. It is for the companions of a man to put a check upon his disposition of telling tales; but for a commanding officer, the knowledge of an irregu-

larity ought to suffice. Those who indulge such licences at the same time make themselves responsible for keeping that licence from the knowledge of the colonel.

It is not only the extension of the practice throughout a given number of regiments upon which we insist, but also we insist that coarse and objectionable practices are pushed to an extremity of which the ruling authorities of the army have no conception. We will take the particular instance of a regiment, speaking from actual knowledge, but not holding ourselves bound to specify the regiment. We give this instance, not as a proof of the extension of the practices, but of the extremity to which they are driven. In the regiment it so happened that some of the men came from the same parts of the country; others, who were higher, in rank, had that pipeclay spirit which gives a show of discipline on parade, while it leaves responsible officers able to wink at irregularities in barracks. In this regiment instances have occurred not only of drawing young officers, but of knocking about the room to such an extent as to render the employment of men necessary to re-arrange it. Now there is no great calamity in having tables and chairs, and heavier furniture displaced; but when the furniture is displaced in a riotous and blackguardly intrusion, the fact indicates the extent of the violence.

In this regiment it was systematically the custom to bully the younger officers; but something worse than bullying or drawing was resorted to. Officers would conspire with women, in order to get money out of other officers upon false pretences. On one occasion the officers contrived to dress two women, whose characters may be presumed, in the regimentals of a subaltern, and in that guise the women were taken into the mess-room! Another officer was forced into a shower-bath. One object of these rough jokes appears to have been to compel the younger officers, who were rich, to furnish the means of enjoyment for the rest. To stick to a man for champagne was a common dodge. We have already seen that the joking partook of the character of swindling; we now find it verging upon extortion.

There was, however, a sense of honour in this regiment. The corps appears to have had some ambition to be thought hospitable; at all events the Colonel was a jolly old fellow, who, although he could compel a strict parade with all the vigour of popular imprecations, could give a capital dinner, could keep the bottle going, and on guest nights could sing a song more suited to military than female ears. Report to that veteran that a young officer had been "drawn," bullied, or ill-treated, and he would be indignant at the "telling tales." Nay, an officer who ventured to describe the treatment which he had received as "blackguard treatment," was put under arrest. The men of that regiment may be blackguards; but to call them so is a military offence.

We now begin to understand how in the recent affairs of the Forty-sixth Mr. Perry was brought to a court-martial for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," while the conduct of his persecutors was not thought to require judicial investigation on those grounds.

No doubt this condition of things must be traced in a great degree to the system of purchase, which operates in many ways to degrade an officer. It induces men to come into the service as a pastime, not a profession. Indolent, heedless of their duty, they look out for new zests, suiting their idle ways. They are, by the manner in which the system picks its officers amongst the purchasing class, for the most part rich, they

have money to squander on their freaks; either purchasing proxies, if the mischief is too unsafe for them to meddle with; or else expecting to purchase immunity. By the system, the commanding officer is a club-fellow, who has been *particeps criminis*, and thinks it fitter to wink at such practices than to expose them. Since money, interest, and chance, rule promotion, the fitness of the commanding officer has comparatively little to do with his appointment; though evidently it requires no ordinary ability to rule 1000 men with our small proportion of officers.

But there is another effect of the system of purchase which has been too little noticed. It brings into the service men of more or less wealth, but belonging by birth, education, and habits, to different circles. These different circles all get into the army through the Horse Guards; but, being once there, they strive to re-arrange themselves according to social sympathy. Exquisites try to purchase or exchange into an exquisite regiment; and we have military corps distinguished like "the Tenth," for expensive entertainment, for never dancing, or other fopperies. We have also quiet regiments, in which the officers "never hear" of such practices: the rough fellows who fall into them, finding the society too "slow," gladly exchange with some real gentlemen, in order to go into a "fast" regiment. A fast regiment thus becomes a corps of picked blackguards,—a free and easy club,—a military Order of the Coal Hole. Were it not for this system of self-selection, the gentlemanly feeling of some men would tend to correct the blackguardly feeling of others; but in practice that advantage is lost; and while one part of the army gets over-refined into an effeminate fastidiousness, there is too much reason to fear that other parts become corps of concentrated blackguardism.

We have spoken only of what we know; we have no opportunity of measuring the extent of such practices, or the proportion of regiments that must confess to them more or less. But we say that the very existence of such degraded conduct in the army calls for a searching anatomy of the whole system, in order to a correct knowledge of the disease, and a vigorous cutting out of the diseased parts.

HOW TO BRIBE UNDER THE NEW ACT.

By an act of last session, the laws relating to bribery at elections are consolidated and amended. By the consolidation the member or agent is saved much trouble, since he finds compressed in one view all that he must avoid; and by the amendment, the process of bribery, rendered a little more difficult for uninventive minds, is facilitated for those of a higher order. The bill "defines" bribery, treating, and undue influence; leaving a wide extent outside the bounds of the definition, a margin now marked out as safe. The incidence of punishment is made to fall with entire weight on the briber or the provider, not on the bribed elector: it is an offence to bribe, but not to be bribed; to promise, but not to ask. The penalty, however, falls only upon the candidate; disinterested parties may bribe and welcome. All expenses are to be paid through the election auditor and his accredited agents; but conforming to the rule in that respect, the candidate is absolved from all responsibility. Cockades, ribands, music, flags, and banners, are illegal; it is doubted whether even the vendor of cockades may not be liable to a penalty for providing them; though why a haberdasher should be prohibited from providing a commodity required by his customers in accordance with the reign of fashion for a brief season we do not understand. The law indeed does not prohibit

good cheer and hospitality, nor a genial largesse, nor fashions of costume; it only prohibits the attaining of those luxuries by particular modes, and of course those modes will be avoided. Meanwhile the statute forces upon agents who desire to exercise influence, and electors who wish to be influenced, the task of discovering other modes.

And the task is not impossible, as the cleverest of election agents announces. The cleverest, we say, on the presumption that we recognise the initials of "J. C." to a letter dated from the Reform Club. The members need not so conscientiously have struck out of the bill the declaration "That they have not unknowingly made any illegal payments, and that they will not knowingly hereafter make any illegal payments on account of being elected to Parliament;" since it might have been made with safety to conscience, person, and purse. Of course "illegal expenses" are expenses prohibited by the act, all others remaining legal; and as the most conservative candidate will not need to make payments precisely in any of the modes prohibited, why scruple to declare so? It is easy to pay in modes that the declaration would leave untouched.

Why, for example, neglect the round robin or triangular plan of election. A desires to get elected for the borough of X, B for Y, and C for Z; but why should A bribe the X electors, or either candidate bribe his own borough? Clearly the way will be to bribe the electors of one borough, and to get elected for another. A can bribe B's borough, B bribe C's, and C bribe A's—bribe and proclaim the restoration of the good old times. And that after all is but a childish plan compared to others that must lurk in the brain of a "W. B."

Yes, you may as well try to extinguish love, as bribery; for what is bribery but one form of love—love of good cheer and precious coin in the elector, love of the forbidden seat in the candidate? Every fine upon one form of "undue influence" is only a protection duty upon another form. The most that this bill will do, will be to increase the value of a "J. C." or a Brown, a "W. B." or a Flewker. You must destroy bribeability—extinguish temptation to sin—depose the sovereignty of the thirty pieces of silver, before you can pass an effectual bribery act; and then it won't be wanted.

If any hope lies in legislation, it would be by the very opposite course—by adopting free trade in bribery—in bands, treating, cockades, and every other "influence." That might be effectual, especially with an extended suffrage, and therefore at once a wider market and an enhanced price. Yes, if men will bribe, let them open their purses wide, turn them upside down, inside out, exhaust the fund. Bankrupt the bribery class; and then see if honest voters could not carry the day.

N. CARDINAL WISEMAN DEFENDANT.

THOSE Roman Catholics who belong to the true Catholic order in religion will hail that action at Guildford Assizes which will create such consternation in Rome. Romans of the high Roman party, of the ultramontane order, will be astounded to find that there exists a country in which a plain priest can call a Cardinal to account.

It is indeed conceivable within the regions of romance, that the humblest priest, fortified by truth and a pure conscience, might advance to the feet of the infallible father, expose the crime of some erring Cardinal (for the Cardinal is not yet promoted to absolute infallibility), and secure justice from the living fountain of all truth upon earth, the Triple Mitre.

But short of some sublime appeal like that, the poor priest must, in the Roman view, be considered incapable of challenging the rectitude and wisdom of a Prince of the Church. Is not a Cardinal promoted to be next to infallibility, and therefore so many ranks above a priest in piety, knowledge, authority, and organised truth? Of course he is. So much so, that according to a correct view, the statement of Mr. Boyle must be *ipso facto* false. It is impossible that a Cardinal and a priest can stand in such relations to each other.

The story is this. There are in Paris two journals, the *Univers*, organ of the ultramontane party, and the *Ami de la Religion*, organ of the Moderate party. In the latter paper, there appeared in May last, articles censuring the conduct of the Cardinal in 1850, as unwise and impolitic, because calculated to alarm the prejudices and provoke the resistance of the English people. These papers were formally signed by the Abbé Cognat, the Editor; but in them the Cardinal supposed that he detected the true authorship: he pounced upon Mr. Boyle, and then insinuated reasons why Mr. Boyle should attack him. There was "an isolated priest in England," anxious to secure undue profit for himself. He had represented himself as "the victim of episcopal tyranny and oppression;" he had been "expelled from a religious society;" a superb church had been built by the bishop at an immense cost, and this priest, serving its offices coldly, occasioned the attendance to fall off, and left the church bare and in debt; wherefore he was removed, and had resisted his removal with contumacious proceedings at law, and advertised the prebendal house, which he said was his own, as a lodging. That priest Cardinal Wiseman inferred was the author of the letters which M. Cognat had adopted as articles, and was Mr. Boyle.

Now there was a reason why the Cardinal fastened upon this priest. Mr. Boyle's case had been mentioned in the articles, but he was not the author of them: they were written, astounding as it may appear, by another Roman Catholic priest in this country—Mr. Ivors of Kentish Town; and that gentleman had alluded to the case of Mr. Boyle, which is indeed remarkable. In 1847 Mr. Boyle was appointed to a "mission" at Islington. Supposing himself permanently lodged there, he laid out between three and four hundred pounds upon his house, and served his ministry faithfully. In 1850, however, great events took place; the Romanists were making large accessions, or appeared to be so. Converts joined them—some of the converts distinguished persons already in orders; and places had to be found for those converts. Such was the state of things when the Cardinal cast his eyes upon the house occupied by Mr. Boyle: he found Boyle tame in his ministrations, but there was a neophyte, hot of course with zeal, distinguished, likely to constitute a spectacle which would attract numbers to the ecclesiastical theatre—that man was Mr. Oakley, and that man the Cardinal destined for the church at Islington. Mr. Boyle was told to go. He submitted, but asked to be repaid the money he had laid out; he somewhat insisted upon this repayment; but he afterwards apologised to the Cardinal on his knees; and was forgiven by that dignitary with a Christian blessing. Ruined in circumstances, Mr. Boyle has subsequently been permitted to perform mass by Dr. Grant, the Bishop of Southwark, for which he received a small stipend, and so he lives in obscurity, restored to Christianity, if not to good fortune, by the Cardinal's forgiveness and benediction.

Two years later Mr. Ivors, touching upon the arbitrary conduct of Nicholas Cardinal Wiseman in this country, advances this tale

as an illustration of the mischief done to genuine Catholics and Catholicism. The sting goes home to the heart of the Cardinal, raises the anger that was there before the benediction; the conscience-stricken dignitary thinks, by his feelings, that he knows the author of the charge as he knew the author of the wrong; and straightway, smarting under a censure upon himself, he publishes, through the Roman Catholic journals of France and England, a studied libel upon the humbled and obscure Mr. Boyle.

Of course the Ultramontane party would consider that Mr. Boyle, being under censure of a Cardinal, is *ipso facto* in sin, and should be tabooed; should, at all events, not be allowed to appear contumaciously before his superior in a court of law. Is it not like bringing an action against St. Peter; putting as it were St. Michael at the bar? Nevertheless, the occurrence is a fact. The particular trial failed for want of technical proof that the Cardinal was the author. He was brought into court, but by favour of a judicial scruple, he was let off. The plea was curious: the form of the action was civil, but the judge considered that in spirit it was a criminal proceeding, and he permitted the Cardinal, who was present, to resist the summons as a witness, since the evidence would manifestly "criminate himself." The Cardinal took advantage of that extra-judicial permission, and thus virtually, by sheltering himself under the plea that his evidence would manifestly criminate himself, he confessed the authorship. The case broke down for want of evidence on the point of authorship, although the testimony advanced in court left no moral doubt about it. It is not only on legal grounds that we may be surprised at the extraordinary indulgence granted by the Chief Baron—the special licence of a criminal plea in a civil action. We have before had great defendants in actions for libel; and everybody can remember the case in which the *Times* figured by its late publisher, Mr. Lawson. In such a case, however, a defendant conscious of his own dignity does not deny the statement which he has made, but manfully avows it, and places the defence on some other ground. It was evidently open to the Cardinal to do so. We are far from supposing that the other side was free from all blame. A priest who resists any new arrangements for the benefit of the Church, on the score that his own pecuniary emoluments are injured can claim comparatively small sympathy, still less a priest who appeals from the injustice of his superior officer to Protestant sympathisers hostile to his Church. Cardinal Wiseman might have come forward in court, and have declared manfully that the letter was his, but that the court had no jurisdiction. He might have said: "I have uttered no libel against Boyle which is within the purview of the court; I have not libelled him as a citizen and a man; I have censured him only as my subordinate, for offences within our own Church, and in matters entirely within my own jurisdiction." We are not sure that that plea would have been less valid; we are sure that it would have been infinitely more dignified. The Cardinal, however, places his defence on such a ground that by his plea of evasion he confesses himself to have infringed the criminal law of this country. He escapes punishment only because he sneaks off out of sight of the eye of the law; for Cardinals can be punished in Great Britain if they are unjust, and there is not a priest in the whole Church that cannot secure to himself all the civil right of a citizen.

This must be news to many countries. It does, however, only point out that state of civil rights towards which one territory in Italy is rapidly advancing, and to attain

which a large party in the Roman Church is gradually but steadily exerting itself. As Cardinals are in England, so they will be at no distant date throughout the Piedmontese territories; so they will, some day, throughout Italy. The essential tenets of the Church are not here in question; there is as much truth in it—there is the same fundamental truth, that there is in the Protestant Church, whose members specially arrogate to themselves that which they deny to everybody else—the "right of private judgment." And the true Catholic party, whether in the Roman or in the English Church, knows that the broad truth of religion is not incompatible with any other truth; certainly not with the growth of knowledge and of liberty.

THE PATERNAL GOVERNMENT.

THE Coalition Government is getting a principle at last—its principle is kindness.

It is out of pure consideration for the feelings of the Emperor of Russia that the war is such a dilatory and delicate war; and the same sort of amiability is creeping into every operation of our Government.

Lord Palmerston liberated Mr. Jeremiah Smith, not because he was found to have been wrongfully imprisoned—which is a question—but because his health was suffering from confinement. Mr. Gladstone was less humiliated for the public service by the Lawley affair than he was pained lest Mr. Lawley's career should be cut short; and this benevolent sentiment, expressed in the House, he has hastened to carry out in the recess, by re-appointing that reckless and maimed young gentleman as private secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer—private secretaries, be it remarked, being paid out of the public money.

Our Government is a paternal Government: and its assumption of that character is the consequence of the people having abnegated their pretensions to self-government. A paternal Government considers no matter too petty for its attention—just as a father is anxious, from the curriculum to the tooth-brush. Our Government in its Bribery Bill shakes its head in deprecation of banners, music, and wands—our Government in the Beer Bill requests its good public never to be out later than 11 o'clock at night—our Government acts for the unprotected female, breaking the hearts of cab-drivers.—our Government takes the investigation as to the best sorts of printing machinery off the hands of capitalists in the trade; and it is understood the Government is appointing a commission to inquire into the excellence of various anonymous cures for cholera, as they are propounded from day to day through the newspapers.

All the recent scandals may be traced to the kindness of disposition in this and that Ministry:—the Duke of Newcastle having got unpopular out of sheer good nature to *mauvais sujets*. The Cabinet allowed the Reform Bill to be introduced merely because they didn't like to give pain to Lord J. Russell. And, in withdrawing his bill, Lord John did not feel ludicrous in crying, because he knew his colleagues were so "keyind." Mr. Strutt was so much influenced by the general suavity around him that he only smiled when he was kicked out; and a caress brought back Mr. Baines, though Mr. Baines had been insulted. Sir B. Hall, taking Marylebone into his confidence respecting *his* arrangements, only thought it necessary to express his sense of the "kindness" of Lord Aberdeen in giving him so good an appointment. It was out of pure *bonhomie* and affectionateness of nature that the whole Cabinet went on Monday to the *fête* at Albert Gate House, Sir J. Graham, exuberantly good-natured there, drinking to

the health and long life of the man whom some time ago he pointed out to the English people as a bloodthirsty ruffian and a brutal despot.

In fact, it was out of a general feeling of kindness that the Coalition was got together. Parliament catches the spirit of good fellowship towards one another, and of paternal feeling towards the people; and the result is that meddlesome political wisdom now being eliminated in over legislation. Thus, with war raging and rottenness and anarchy in our political and social system, our great principles of Government continue to be—peace and charity.

THE ANTI-MOLOCH MOVEMENT.

THE recent "exceptional cases" have produced their result an anti-Moloch movement. We find the following report of a characteristically imbecile debate at the Marylebone Vestry:—

THE DISGRACEFUL HOUSES IN NEWMAN-STREET AND ST. JOHN'S-WOOD.—On Saturday, at the meeting of the Marylebone vestry, the chairman said he hoped the gentlemen who represented the St. John's-wood district would have an eye on an establishment in the Grove-end-road, which had been exposed during the week in the public press. Mr. Soden said he wished to put a question, which would perhaps equally apply to the St. John's-wood den as to another place. The public attention had been called through the medium of the press to a disgraceful establishment in Newman-street, and he was happy to find that the proprietor had been committed to gaol, but what he wanted to know was, what steps had been taken by the parish solicitor in reference to the indictment of the parties for keeping the vile establishment in question? Mr. Greenwell, the vestry clerk, said that since the original proceedings had been taken, the infamous house in Newman-street had changed hands, and the constable at Maidstone, where the original proprietor had been committed to prison by the judge on his own confession, that the house was a brothel, had been bound over to prosecute; but he, as they had discovered, only intended to prefer a bill of indictment, and then leave the matter. The solicitor for the parish of Marylebone, Mr. Randall, having made inquiries, was prepared to indict the parties, and to produce evidence and witnesses, so as to secure their conviction; and he believed that the case would be pressed to trial next Monday week. Mr. Broughton, the magistrate, and other gentlemen, expressed their gratification at such proceedings being taken, and the subject dropped.

Why did they express their gratification at such proceedings being taken? Chief Baron Pollock mentioned his disgust, the other day, when the case of the French girl, who sued her landlord for the balance of wages, was forced on his delicate attention; and the Chief Baron, a happy representative of the English "family man," merely expressed a general public feeling among the respectable classes, in reference to such matters. "Society" has made up its mind that the crime is not in public prostitution but in talking about it—in not keeping it out of sight; and the Chief Baron, a responsible judge, fully believed that the interests of society would best be consulted by allowing French girls to be cheated, and excluding them from a public court. Now, do the Marylebone vestry differ from the Chief Baron? Do they intend to force the evil on public attention for the public's good?

The Marylebone vestry mean nothing of the kind. They mean fassily to take advantage of the cry of a moment, to make a few victims within their jurisdiction—and they will then leave the crime to go on as usual. Will the "public disgust" be satisfied with this? Will not the public instinct be, that the Marylebone Vestry should be a little more, or a little less, Virtuous? Anti-Moloch legislation has always been regarded, more particularly by the law makers, as an absurdity; but there is one thing more absurd—and that is the partial application of that legislation. If the vestry, who are so active about sewers, and are patriotically and frantically happy that their member is to be Minister of Health, will undertake the moral

purification of all Marylebone, rents would rise in that borough-parish. But we decline to believe in the chastity of the body if they confine their christianity to the safe indictment of one or two houses—whose addresses, the vestry confess, are only ascertained through the newspapers.

THE EMPLOYERS' REPORT UPON THE PRESTON LABOUR-BATTLE.

THE privilege of "fighting their battles o'er again" is one which all old soldiers are very fond of asserting; and certainly, if it be enjoyed temperately, the practise is, to make the most of it, a harmless amusement. But while to boast after a real victory, is the intemperance of a little mind, to boast after no victory at all, is the lie of a distempered one; and whether it be the Emperor Nicholas singing *Te Deum* after the Victory of Odessa, or the Lancashire manufacturers boasting of the Victory of Preston, the fact is equally absurd and criminal.

Before us lies the "Report of the Committee appointed for the Receipt and Apportionment of the Defence Fund, to the Central Association of Master Spinners and Manufacturers," a document which has been lately issued, and very widely circulated, not only among the subscribers to that fund, but also very generally throughout the country.

However we may have been inclined to approach this document with suspicion, so far as accepting its deductions are concerned, we certainly expected to have found in it some accurate statistics as to effects of the strike itself. In this, however, we have been grievously disappointed; for (oddly enough) the effects of the strike, instead of being exaggerated, as might have been expected, are considerably under-rated;—an error which could not, in this case, have been intentional, but from a want of due carefulness been some unwillingness to make disclosures which might lead to awkward conclusions as to the wealth in making the calculations. And this opens a door to the charitable supposition that some other errors of these gentlemen have arisen from deficient arithmetic rather than from intention. In computing the wages of their operatives, for instance, might they not readily make a slight error of ten per cent.?

The committee begins its estimate by valuing the "capital sunk in the establishments of the Associated Manufacturers of Preston" at 1,000,000. Now, in "An Enquiry into the Origin, Progress, and Results of the Strike of the Operative Cotton-spinners of Preston, from October, 1836, to February, 1837," published by Henry Ashworth, Esq. (a document which is indirectly referred to in the present report as "a moderate estimate"), the capital invested in buildings, machinery, &c., and the working capital in Preston, was estimated at 800,000. and the same document informs us that the mills in which that capital was invested gave employment to 8500 hands, and required a motive power of 1200 horses power. Now the lock-out threw nearly 20,000 operatives out of employ (16,000 were relieved by the Union, besides those who became chargeable upon the parish, and those who subsisted upon chance relief); the horse-power stopped was close upon 3000, and when we consider the ratio in which the proportion of machinery over labour has increased since 1836, the rise and progress of the four-loom system, and the effect of self-acting mules, and other mechanical improvements, it is obvious that the amount of capital invested in Preston must have at least doubled since that year.

The next item in the computation is "Estimated trading loss to employers: 50,000.," so that the annual aggregate profit of the Preston manufacturers is to be computed at something under 70,000. If this be true, we can only say that one of these gentlemen is grossly misused by the income-tax commissioners; for they are believed to assess his gains at 60,000. per annum.

The report then estimates the "Loss to the contributors to the strike fund, whose contributions have become abortive by its failure," 97,000. This is an unpardonable piece of carelessness; for the balance-sheets of the operatives were attainable, and the framers of the report appear to have made some sort of use of them, for they divide the estimate among the principal contributing towns; nevertheless, the estimate is erroneous by more than 8500. The actual amount spent by the committee, as disclosed by the balance-sheets, was 105,523. 14s. 6d.,* of which 93,545. 13s. 3d. was spent in relief, and 11,978. 1s. 3d. in the expenses of the agitation. This is the only item of the account in which an exact computation is possible, and here a flagrant error is plainly demonstrable.

The following estimate of the pecuniary effects of

the Preston labour-battle approaches accuracy much nearer than that given in the report:—

Trading loss to the employers	£100,000
Loss by depreciation, interest, and other contingencies	100,000
Wages, fuel, and other items, during the strike (same as report)	28,000
Loss in working machinery with less hands and of inferior description	20,000
	248,000
Loss of wages to the operatives during the strike	300,000
Contributions to the strike fund (whether abortive or otherwise none can certainly tell)	105,500
	405,500
Loss of profit to shopkeepers and innkeepers (10 per cent. upon the wages subtracted from circulation, besides the decreased expenditure of the manufacturers' families)	30,000
Loss of rent to owners of cottage houses	10,000
Loss to carriers and railway companies, mechanics and trades engaged in the building, fitting, gearing, and repairing of mills	20,000
	60,000
	£713,500

A calculation exceeding that of the report by about 33½ per cent.

Having thus shown how little this report is to be relied on, so far as facts are concerned, let us take a survey of the numerous deductions of which it makes so liberal a display.

The report declares that "the material facts connected with the recent Preston Strike may be dismissed in a very brief narrative;" and at once proceeds to prove the assertion by dismissing all facts most completely. After adverting to the general demand for ten per cent. on the part of the operatives, and its concession on the part of a large proportion of the employers (who are here stated to have been "willing to purchase exemption from agitation by some sacrifice of their commercial rights"), the report states that:—

"Finding that the concessions made by the employers did practically meet their own demands, the Preston operatives generally accepted the terms which were offered; but having withdrawn their acceptance on being commanded to do so by the delegates, it became evident that conciliation only stimulated exaction; that no alternative was left to the employers but to protect themselves from this dictation—to meet conspiracy by combination—and to show, that so long as they maintained their establishments, they were determined to be the masters of their own property."

Now this is worth an examination.

In the month of August, 1853, every employer in Preston, with the exception of five or six, had granted the ten per cent. required by the operatives. In the five or six cases alluded to, disputes arose between the operatives and their employers, in one particular case the operatives being clearly in the wrong, inasmuch as the advance offered was as nearly ten per cent. as common arithmetic could bring it; in the other instance no advance was conceded. These disputes then resulted in isolated strikes, and the operatives on strike were supported by the funds of their union. The masters then put forward a very remarkable document, in which they declared that they had agreed to give an advance upon the then rate of wages; that, notwithstanding this concession, they regretted to find (we quote from the document) that the operatives had put themselves under the guidance of a designing and irresponsible body, and that the masters had therefore resolved to close their mills until those on strike were prepared to resume their work, and a better understanding was established between the employer and the employed. In other words, the thirty-five firms who signed that document, and the others who acted with them, having already conceded the ten per cent., and having no sort of quarrel with their operatives, threw those operatives out of employment, and exposed them to the horrors of starvation, and the demoralising effects of beggary, until other operatives, whose employers had not conceded the advance, and who had matter of dispute with their employers, and over whose actions they could exercise no direct control, except by withdrawing the slender pittance of assistance which was to keep body and soul together, had submitted to the terms dictated to them; and lastly, until a state of feeling had been engendered, which it was their own duty to bring about, and which they were then doing all in their power to obviate and destroy. Can anything be imagined more illogical and absurd? And yet the committee has the face to declare in its report that "the Preston employers utterly refuse to share in the responsibility of these consequences." Consequences! Why what a triumphant proof of our civilisation it is that the consequences were no heavier than they were! What other populace but that of England could have suffered that the activity of a single town should be paralysed for nine months, and no pillage, no burning of houses, no bloodshed, not even serious riot, be the consequences? And if any of these had been the consequences, who would have hesitated to fix the entire of the responsibility

of them upon the Preston manufacturers, in spite even of their utter refusal?

It is impossible to read the above-quoted passage in the Report without noticing the delicately drawn distinction between *Conspiracy* and *Combination*;—the Operatives' Union is conspiracy, the Masters' Association is only a combination. An attempt is made to substantiate, by positive date, the oft-repeated assertion that the combination of Masters was in consequence of the Operatives' Union—an assertion which alone gives a colour to any distinction between the two. But, grave as the charge may be, we are prepared to prove that this assertion and this date is altogether untrue, and in support of this charge we adduce a document which (despite its private nature) came to us in such a manner that we are guilty of no breach of confidence in giving it publicity. This document is neither more nor less than a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the masters held at the Bull Hotel, in Preston, not in the month of August, 1853, not after the ten per cent. had been demanded and partly conceded, not after disputes had arisen concerning the partial refusal of that advance, nor even after the agitation at Stockport had given pre-sage of what might be expected at Preston, but long anterior to those events—on the 18th of March, 1853:—

At this meeting, over which Thomas Miller, Esq. presided, it was resolved that the Master Spinners' Association be organised upon the following basis:

1. That every Member shall support, and receive the support of the Association.
2. That funds for carrying out the objects of the Association be provided by a levy upon the nominal horse-power employed by each member, at such times and in such amounts as may be agreed upon at a general meeting.
3. That a Committee of five (three to form a quorum) be appointed, to whom all matters affecting the interests of the Association shall be referred, and whose decisions shall be binding upon the Members.

[There are here two resolutions omitted in our copy.]

6. That each firm shall on admission pay five shillings per nominal horse-power to the funds of the Association.

At a subsequent meeting, held at the same hotel, on the 31st of March, 1853, Paul Catterall, Esq. in the chair, the following resolutions were agreed to:—

1. That the Master Cotton-spinners' Association be reorganised in conformity with a resolution passed at a meeting held on the 18th instant, with such additions and modifications as the meeting may approve of.
2. That Messrs. T. Miller, Paul Catterall, W. Birley, J. Paley, junr., W. Ainsworth, J. Humber, and James Naylor, be a committee, with power to fill up vacancies that may occur.
3. That a call of 5s. per nominal horse-power be made, and that the Secretary make the requisite applications to each member.
4. That it be imperative upon all members of the Association not to employ any self-actor minder, or hand-mule spinner, without a written discharge from his previous employer.

After giving their estimate of the pecuniary loss caused by the strike, the framers of the report ingeniously beg the following question:—"Surely there is enough here of loss and ruin to the masters (165,000. in their estimate, 248,000. in ours) to render the inference irresistible, that had concession been in any degree compatible with the profitable pursuit of their calling, the employers would not, from mere desire of conquest, have adopted so costly an alternative." If the employers could have foreseen the cost of their alternative (*i. e.* the Lock-out) this argument might at least have been plausible; as they could not, it is altogether untenable. When the Lock-out began there was not a man in the Preston Masters' Association who did not confidently expect that the operatives would be reduced to surrender within six weeks, and it is quite possible that they may have been content to stand the cost of six weeks' inactivity to achieve a victory over the Operatives' Union. Thirty-six weeks was, however, a very different matter. Already are the effects of the experiment beginning to be manifested among the masters. Neither 165,000. nor our larger estimate, can be any approximation to the money they have lost.

Upon the delegates the report is particularly hard. By their tyranny and machinery of secret combination, they forced the operatives to place themselves in ungrateful antagonism to the very establishments on whose prosperity they solely depend for subsistence, &c. &c. Really one would imagine that the employers were not as dependent upon the operatives as the operatives are upon the employers, from the way these gentlemen talk!

The question of whether the employers could or could not afford the ten per cent. which was (*vide* their own resolutions and their replies to the Mediation Committee) the vital point in dispute, is entirely blinked in the report; unless, indeed, this may be taken as a conclusive argument:—"that the wages of Preston were, *eat ris paribus*, quite equal to the average of the neighbouring districts is demonstrable, because they had been accepted as such by a large miscellaneous population, who, if they could have improved their condition by a removal to the region of higher prices, were quite free and able to do so." As this fallacy has been before exploded in these columns, we shall do no more than refer to the

* In estimating the total cost of the strike, we have dropped the odd pounds, shillings, and pence, and contented ourselves with the round numbers:—"The halfpenny be demd," said Mr. Mantalini, impatiently. "By all means, if you wish it," retorted Mr. Sealey,—"and the ninepence too."

heads of the argument which destroys it. In the first place, the rate of wages was *not* accepted by the large miscellaneous population; but had caused great murmuring and discontent for months before the dispute culminated to a point. In the second place, the better-paid towns were amply stocked with labour (the report itself says that "no actual scarcity of factory operatives had yet been felt"), and to inundate them with the discontented Prestonians would have brought down their wages to a level with those of the latter. In the third place, locomotion from market to market is rendered well-nigh impossible to the factory operatives, partly on account of the expense, and partly from the restrictive measures of the combined employers. One sentence, in which the framers of the report attempt to prove Mr. Bounderby's position, that the factory operatives are the *best paid* people in the world, would have been better suited to the pages of "Hard Times" than to a business-like report.

"The average earnings of the men, women, and children employed have been 10s. 10d. per week, or for a family of four working (a low average), equal to an income of 112l. 13s. 4d., being about twice that of many clerks and shopmen—quite equal to that of a small tradesman—more than that of the average of our curates and Dissenting preachers—approaching to some of those who embark in the lottery of the learned professions—and quite equal to the pay of a lieutenant of infantry."

After hearing which well-attested string of facts, it is to be expected that crowds of clerks and shopmen, not to speak of curates and Dissenting preachers, with a sprinkling of learned gentlemen who pine in utter briefness in the Temple, and perhaps a stray lieutenant of infantry, will at once repair to Preston, and seek the more profitable occupations of the loom and the spindle. Seriously speaking, however, this passage is as fallacious as those which we have before quoted. There has been no such average as 10s. 10d. for men, women, and children, in Preston. Weavers are among the best paid of the factory operatives, and the average for all the pair-loom weavers in the largest establishment in Preston, previous to the month of August, was 8s. 8d.

But the question of whether the employers could or could not afford the advance which they resisted, has been practically answered within the last fortnight; for it appears that Mr. Miller, the largest employer of labour in Preston, indeed in Lancashire, the Chairman of the Masters' Association, the gentleman without whose *puissant* aid the experiment of the Lock-out must have been a miserable failure, has raised his rate of wages from five to seven-and-a-half per cent., and that in the face of a market which is infinitely worse than ever last winter saw.

L.

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.

THE DOMESTIC MOLOCH.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sir,—After thanking you, in common with many other women, for your exposure week by week of the most crying sin of the day, we wish to make a few remarks in answer to the letter by J. H., published in Saturday's *Leader*.

We do not think that any permanent good could be effected by the means J. H. suggests. Legislation must not be trusted to cure this evil; Magdalen hospitals and refuges must not be trusted. We must go deeper, and find out what causes place women under the sore temptation of adopting such a life, and what causes produce men so degraded as to take advantage of such misfortune.

Women are generally driven to degradation from ignorance and the difficulty of getting respectable employment, compared with the great demand and temporary high wages of this accursed trade. Also by that public opinion which condemns them as lost characters after the birth of one child out of wedlock, and forces them down to a lower and lower depth.

Men are debased by bad training in youth, and by the wretchedly low theory and hypocritical bearing of society on the subject of prostitution. Most women will forgive vice in men before marriage, and the best do not dream of bringing public opinion to bear openly and efficiently on sinners.

The absurd difficulties placed in the way of marriage from the number of superfluities deemed necessary in life, and the inaccessibility of respectable young women who are needlessly shut out from intercourse with young men, joined to the impossibility of divorce for the middle classes, are some of the evils that lie at the root of the matter.

Lieutenant Blackmore is doing indirect good by calling public attention to the subject; and we do not like to dishearten such good men by saying that, while the demand remains the same, for every miserable girl rescued another victim is ensnared; yet it is true.

Some explicit teaching of right and wrong upon the subject, some distinct warning of the penalties of transgression on both sexes, ought to be given to all boys and youths.

We must apply more energetically to the education of women of the lower classes, to open out the avenues to employments in every possible direction both to them and to that portion of the middle class, who, from want of subsistence, are constantly dragged into this most miserable and suicidal life.

It can never be inherently necessary that one class of women be sacrificed for the protection of another; an assertion constantly repeated. If it be so, then happy are the victims compared to those for whom this curse is perpetuated!

We wish that all workers and well-wishers would think before they act; it is not sufficient that we do something—we ought to do the best. B. B.

INDIA.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sir,—Although a sincere admirer of your opinions on most subjects, I cannot agree with the spirit of your remarks on Indian affairs. You speak of the shameful extortions under which the natives still groan, and you apparently allude to the collection of the revenue. Here you are certainly mistaken, for nothing can be more equitable than the manner in which the assessment is made; and in very bad years the Government invariably makes a liberal allowance to the tax-payers. For instance, not only was temporary assistance bountifully tendered during the terrible famine of 1838, but the revenue-demand was lowered in all the districts that suffered most severely. In Bengal Proper there is, unfortunately, a perpetual settlement with which we cannot interfere without a breach of faith. If any change, however, could be made, it would be to double the assessment.

Perhaps your objection lies against the nature of a land tax? But it must be remembered that this and the salt tax are the only imposts that fall upon the natives. To our English ideas the latter duty does appear an oppressive one for the working classes—but it is not so in reality. If the salt tax were repealed to-morrow, the labourers who form the vast majority of the population would not benefit in the slightest degree. Their employers, also natives, would alone reap the fruits of the measure, by reducing the rate of wages. The European system of political economy will not yet apply to Asiatic peoples and countries. In those climates a man has such very few wants, and Nature is so bountiful, that he is satisfied with the merest pittance in the shape of money. His dress consists of a linen cloth bound round his waist, and of another one wound round his head. More than this you could not persuade him to wear. His only extravagance is in the article of jewelry. Every piece he can accumulate is laid by with the hope of purchasing a bracelet, an anklet, or a ring. Beyond this and his daily food he has no thought. I once saw in an English publication a heartrending description of the poor ryots, who might be seen working in the fields under a vertical sun, without so much as a shirt to their backs. On mentioning this to an intelligent native, he smiled, and said, "Yes, sahib; give ryot shirt, make much good turban." Unless you can teach the natives to have artificial wants you will never get them to strike for wages. The masters know exactly upon how little a man can subsist, and also the amount of disposable labour in the district, and they consequently give the labourers just so much as will keep them in fair working condition—and no more.

Whatever oppression does exist is exercised by natives over natives. And I really believe that a Hindoo loves to be oppressed. If you treat him with marked kindness he directly suspects some sinister motives on your part, or fancies that you are afraid of him. This may possibly be owing to long ages of misrule; but it certainly is the case. They acknowledge that the Feringhees are more just and gentle than their own countrymen ever were or would be; but they do not value us the more on that account—rather the contrary. The only class who really love our rule are the traders and money-changers—bankers if you will. These men are able to pursue their usurious speculations in safety and without fear; and many of them recognise this much of merit in the hated Feringhee.

With respect to admitting natives more largely into the executive and administrative departments, the principle is undoubtedly right. But the time has not yet arrived for reducing it to practice. The English public form erroneous notions of the degree of enlightenment that prevails among the better educated natives. They found their judgment on the well worded petitions that are, ever and anon,

sent home. But these petitions are usually drawn up by some pettifogging English attorney, who failing of success among his own countrymen, adopts the apparently liberal course of throwing himself into the arms of the natives, and of identifying their interests with his own. I can assure you positively that most of those men who, in India, talk most loudly of the rights of man, are those who respect them the least. The natives themselves do not understand the nature of a constitutional or representative Government. English history is quite unintelligible to them. They will in time master a certain number of dates, and names of persons and events. But you cannot get them to connect cause with effect. They are the most inconsequential reasoners it is possible to imagine. They will talk glibly about "Macaulay's Essays," "Russelas," "Shakespeare," and the "Spectator"; but in vain shall you attempt to fix upon any one idea. They delight in a flowing style—it is as music to them—a pleasant sound, "only this and nothing more." At times you imagine that they understand your explanations of a high state of social civilisation, when in a moment your hopes are crushed by an unmeaning rhapsody of high sounding words, which only proves to you that you have wasted your time and breath to no purpose.

The system of education is partly in fault. We have begun with colleges, where elementary schools were really required. We give the natives books to read, such as we should place in the hands of lads going up to our Universities. But we omit the common place foundation; and, above all, neglect to inculcate the habit of application, which is the most valuable acquisition made at ordinary schools in our own country. The consequence is, that the native is "top-heavy." He is like a man intoxicated with the fumes of champagne. There is but one half-penny worth of bread to an intolerable quantity of sack. There is no ballast on board, and yet all sails are set aloft.

This evil is undoubtedly susceptible of a remedy, but time is required for its application. The Hindoo, and especially the Bengalee, is naturally astute—too much so, indeed. He is deficient however in common sense and in practical knowledge. His moral and social ideas are also miserably weak. In short, he wants stability and "soundness." Having much more to say, I must break off for the present; but, with your permission, will return to the charge next week. J. H.

DO SURGEONS MAKE EXPERIMENTS IN CORPORE VILI?

A CORRESPONDENT has called our attention to the following passage in the *Association Medical Journal*:—and we insert his comments:—

"During the late painful investigation into the circumstances connected with the death of the child Alfred Richardson, at the Royal Free Hospital, we more than once heard it broadly stated by sensible laymen that, whatever might be said for or against the humanity and operative skill of the surgeons of the Royal Free Hospital, it was well known that hospital surgeons were unfeeling as a class, and learned all they knew by wantonly carving the bodies of the poor! Reckless experiments upon living men and women were in fact represented as the frequent and congenial occupation of hospital aspirants to surgical eminence. It was not only in casual conversations that we met with this monstrous calumny; for in the newspapers, especially in those of weekly issue, we found articles breathing the same absurd and slanderous spirit. For example, the *Leader*, in its impression of the 22nd of July, spoke as follows:—

"Very likely the verdict of the jury is quite just: but do we not know that surgeons are always experimenting in the hospitals, very frequently to the ruin of the poor—most likely pauper—patient?"—*Leader*, July 22nd, 1854, p. 679.

"The question arises—How is it that such an extraordinary delusion exists in the public mind regarding the skill and the morality of our hospital surgeons?"

"It is a fortunate thing for the members of the medical profession that their morality is not to be estimated by the tone of their own peculiar journals; and we doubt very much, if any question of *morale* were put to the vote, whether as a body the whole profession would not at once cry out, 'Save us from our brethren!' Such is the clash of knives and the clamour of infallible cures,—what with this slashing operator and that fashionable physician,—that the ancient science is as full of its diplomatists and charlatans as any other profession that lives by bleeding the public.

"That there is a science of medicine, albeit as yet somewhat of the obscure—that it has benefited immensely by the later advances of physiology, we firmly believe. There can be no reserve, too, in admitting at once the high position for integrity and honest application of their best skill on an emergency that belongs to the profession generally; but there is no blinking the fact that medicine and surgery are amongst the uncertain sciences—they have to deal with things that are always more or less matters of uncertainty—contingencies that are to be guessed at; and those men are successful who have the knack to observe well and truly the thousand different phases of the ill that flesh is heir to. We should be the first to allow every amount of latitude to the devo-

tees of the science (if we may venture so to call that which seems to consist of experiments). We can afford to overlook a mistake now and then, and even to pardon an experimental, a speculative incision, occasionally, where death was certain anyhow, and future sufferers might reap some benefit by the lesson in experience,—but there are cases, as that lately pronounced upon by a non-medical jury, of the most unmitigated blundering—an experiment of ignorance, conducted without skill or even humanity, and of which we are quite prepared to maintain the opinion that has so aggravated our respectable professional contemporary—viz., that such fumbling experiments are reserved for the *corpora pauperum*; just as the friends of the dead pauper are compelled to pocket their prejudices against dissection, because they can't pay the burial fees.

"It will not do for our provincial friends to be over-sensitive about the morality of the profession—not the personal, but the professional, honesty for the daily practice of which the fees are paid; we can have nothing to gain by uttering slanders and vulgar calumnies, however useful such weapons may be to the professional litterateurs of the body; but we may remind the profession of the many avenues of fraud, under the guise of skill, that are followed so profitably by so many of its members; deliberate experiments upon the credulity of the trusting patients, when the man of skill succeeds in persuading his victim, who is only too willing to find he has some terrible malady, that the ailment exists, while he knows it to be all a sham:—as an instance, we might call to mind the example of the late practitioner at Bath, who found the same horrible disease in every one who consulted him; and that it only required his extraordinary skill to find it out. The sick public believed him, and he made a fortune! We leave our provincial journalist to moralise on this, and the many similar schemes going on now, which will reward an exposure, even at the hands of a medical brother. We shall claim his thanks for having ventilated the question in our own way."

THE DUTIES OF THE CLERGY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—You are publishing a series of not uninteresting papers, headed "A Clergyman's Experience of Society," the moral of which would seem to be that a priest or minister of the English Church must either be a sham, a pretender, an utter unreality, or find himself brought into the most direct antagonism to all the dogmas of "the faith" and all the interests of society. Far be it from me to deny that great social evils do exist in our age and land; and, in particular, that there is a wide and yawning cleft betwixt the artisan class and their appointed teachers. The self-educated, who are often men of keen understanding—aye, and of singular intellectual ability—are, perhaps not unnaturally, prejudiced as a body against what may be called, what is generally acknowledged as, "Orthodox Christianity," and as much or more so against the Church of England, which to them presents, for the most part at least, the aspect of a moral police, paid by their antagonists to keep the lower classes in a state of subserviency and quietude. It is quite true, accordingly, that men of this class rarely frequent a place of worship, and still more rarely the parish church. It is further most indubitable that the clergy have an especial call to seek out such men as these, as your contributor alleges; but then it is further their bounden duty, as he does not allege, to seek to win them to the faith which their ordination vows have bound on their own souls. But if, sir, as this monitor suggests, their only duty be to deliver stirring "social discourses," then in what respect would their teaching surpass—would it be likely to equal even—that of Mr. Emerson and Mr. Holyoake—the teaching which these artisans possess already, whose benighted state your contributor so inconsistently deplores? Of course I am placing myself at his point of view when I say this. I believe Mr. Holyoake to be a clear but somewhat shallow thinker; sound up to a certain point, however, and decidedly sensible. Mr. Emerson I can only regard, despite his command of language and sometimes happy audacity of thought, as a full-blown specimen of maniacal transcendentalism. I suppose there is no man living who looks on him as a sound teacher or thinker. But now, sir, allow me to say, in the name of at least a large portion of my brethren, as well as my own, that while we trust we are not shams and pretenders, we are assuredly not blind to the cravings of the intellectual members of the working classes. But, sir, instead of going amongst them to repeat the transcendental commonplaces and inflated platitudes of Emersonianism, by which we greatly doubt if ever human heart was trained to duty—we go amongst them as brothers and as Churchmen, as well as fellow-citizens, to defend and explain those fundamental verities which they have been led unfortunately too commonly to associate with wrong and oppression; to solve, as far as in us lies, their honest doubts; in fine, while we sympathise with their cares, and seek to relieve their pressing wants, to teach the one creed

of the Universal Church of Christ. The clergy do not think, however, for the most part, nor do I, that they can do men real service, however they may tickle their vanity and flatter their baser passions, by fiercely assailing all the weaker points of those around them and about them—those who are more fortunate than themselves; though this is obviously enough your contributor's main specific. I trust, sir, that I am no bigot; that is, I can understand honest dissent from, and rejection of, revealed religion. Having sojourned many years in Germany, during which German literature was almost necessarily my daily fare, it has fallen to my lot to encounter the arguments of Neology and Pantheism, Hegelian and Schellingian, not in books alone, but also in constant private converse with my friends: and thus I have seen that a Pantheist, a Deist, or an Atheist, might be an honest man. But, sir, I cannot understand (let the frankness of this confession be forgiven) the honour of one, who can openly proclaim and boast that he does not hold the fundamental creed of a church of which he is an officer, sworn and paid. And, sir, to go further, I cannot admit of any possible excuse, or shadow of excuse, for the taking orders on the part of such a man; of one who had not only no faith in his own vocation, but no faith in that of Christ's own Church. No family or other circumstances could justify or even palliate such a sacrifice of right and truth. How should we yield sympathy to the man who employs his powers (whatever they may be) for the exposition of what he conceives the essential rottenness of the very system to which he has sworn allegiance, and by which he lives? But, you may answer, Does he tell the truth? Doubtless, what he believes to be the truth; but, as he started with delusion, how should he apprehend reality? His notions of duty as a parish priest appear to be, that he should denounce, roughly and uncompromisingly, unlovingly too, whatever practical errors he happens to discern around him. Thus his lot is cast in a seafaring town, which exists by favour of its trade. Forthwith money-getting by trade becomes the chosen topic of reprobation. The teacher does not essay—(*lachez moi le mot*) as a broader intellect might do—to master the genius of that which he impugns. He does not commend, for instance, honest industry, valorous endeavour, hearty, earnest, resolution ("Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might"), and then proceed to insist on the necessity of leavening this spirit of earnest work with the love of God and man; for making it conducive to man's happiness and God's glory. He does not insist, and affectionately insist, as a Christian teacher ought to do, on the duty of doing to others as we would be done by, of dealing kindly with those whom we employ, of wisely spending our hours of innocent recreation, having, in toil and pleasure, the fear of God before our eyes. No: but what does he? Sweepingly, unhesitatingly, violently, he denounces the very source of existence to all his hearers. He makes fierce and repeated onslaughts, he says, on their very livelihood, and then he is surprised that these good people, for he dubs them thus himself, are not altogether gratified. Does he happen to be acquainted with the "Ciappino" of Mr. Browning's "Soul's Tragedy"? But again he commences a series of social sermons by informing his congregation that he does not believe in the inspiration of the Old Testament, thereby keenly and cruelly distressing them, cutting away all ground from under their feet, openly setting at naught one of the articles to which he has sworn a true allegiance; and then he makes "a somewhat fierce onslaught on vices" which he knows to prevail amongst the lower classes ("Ciappino" again), which everybody finds "indelicate," not to say disgusting. Now, Sir, could anything be more irrational than this, on your contributor's own showing? From what do the vices proceed which were thus fiercely denounced? From ignorance, from neglect on the part of Church and State, from social misery. And how then should they be dealt with? Will the stirring up of a pestiferous mire have any tendency to sweep that mire away? Remove the social misery, build better dwellings for the sufferers, teach them, above all, the practical duty of self-denial, self-conquest—without which no man can be other than a full-grown child—and will these fearful vices still retain existence? Sir, the purpose of my present letter is to protest against the English Church being judged on the testimony of one who seems incapable of estimating the needs of the age, or of taking a comprehensive view of society as it exists; who professes to be the teacher of a creed which he rejects, and the priest of a Church which he execrates. His obvious duty is to resign the office which he so unfortunately holds; and to this act of common honesty I do most earnestly exhort him. And so, sir, I will plainly subscribe myself, not wishing to conceal my name and character, as your obedient servant,

ARCHER GURNEY, Curate of Buckingham.

[The author of a "Clergyman's Experience of Society," has ceased to hold any clerical office.—ED. LEADER.]

SIR B. HALL.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

August 15th.

SIR,—If ever there was an injudicious and unfit appointment in a sanitary or in any other point of view—it is that of Sir Benjamin Hall as President of the Board of Health. I have long considered Sir Benjamin (commonly called "Bishop Hall") as a charlatan in politics, and an ignorant pretender. To illustrate my meaning I will relate one circumstance connected with the Free Library movement in Marylebone. Sir B. Hall is President of this so-called "Free Library," and on my writing to him to request his support of the second reading of Mr. Ewart's bill, &c., fixed for April the 5th, he replied that his time was "too much occupied to attend to such questions." Observe, a petition was sent up from Marylebone and presented by Lord Dudley Stuart, signed by upwards of 1600 persons, praying the Libraries Act of 1850 might be so amended as to be capable of adoption for their borough. Will it be credited that Sir Benjamin did not even condescend to record his vote on the occasion of the second reading of the bill, and that Mr. Ewart's amended Act was rejected by a LIBERAL Government—the numbers being 88 against, and 85 for this most enlightened and humanising measure.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MATTHEW HENRY FEILDE.

THE NAVAL SERVICE.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Your insertion of my previous letter emboldens me to address you again. At the present time, when such attention is called to the bullying in the Army, when recently such a tumult was excited about bullying in public schools, it is as well that the ill-treatment of youths in the Navy should not be passed over; for not only are they subject to such evils as those I recorded in my former letter, though such might seem amply sufficient for any one to bear—those are only evils to be met with on shore—on board such measures cannot be adopted—but in the gun-rooms of most vessels, a regular systematic course of bullying and tyranny is introduced, a knowledge of which beforehand would dissuade many youths from going to sea. For why do boys go into the Navy? Many are sent by their fathers, many go to escape school, and some few are enthusiastic about glory, &c. Those who are sent against their will, do not expect to meet with any pleasure in the service, and are, in consequence, prepared to "rough it out," and come home to their parents after their first cruise to swear, drink, and corrupt half the village in which they reside. Those who go to escape school, and the disagreeable system of intercourse, the fag-gings and the "lickings" that generally exist there, find that in the Navy there is school as well as watch, and far more thrashing and tyranny in every shape, than there existed in the school they have escaped from. Those who go from enthusiasm are very soon wearied, and find that the only means of attaining glory in the Navy is by being rich and titled. The consequence is that Naval men, generally, detest their profession, and say they would sooner place their sons in a pigsty than in a man-of-war.

At this stage I shall hear a great outcry raised, and I shall be told that Captain Cavendish has always thought the Navy one of the best professions that could be chosen. Captain Cavendish, being of a certain family, has always served with certain captains, and has always met with the speediest promotion. His messmates knew better than to bully him, and the Admiralty knew better than to send him to disagreeable stations, or to make him serve under obnoxious captains. If he did anything that required notice, his conduct was extenuated; if he was to be tried by a court-martial, a picked selection of captains was sent out to try him. He has walked through the service on velvet, and if he likes it, no one can wonder at his taste. Other officers too have expressed their sentiments about the service in a favourable manner. Certainly they have, it is the custom to praise the Navy when you are on shore. But let any one divide the wardroom officers of any ship, or the midshipmen of any ship, on the subject, and scarce two out of forty will decide in favour of their profession. While in the Navy myself, I have frequently asked messmates for their impressions of the Navy, and I have often heard the opinions of superior officers, but I do not recollect hearing one Naval man, from a captain down to a cadet or clerk's assistant, give a favourable verdict. I have heard admirals declare their utter unwillingness to send their sons to sea; and distasteful indeed must that profession be, that is condemned by those who have earned its highest posts. Why it should be so universally detested, is perhaps a question that cannot be easily answered; some reasons I will endeavour to suggest in a future letter.

Yours, &c.,

LATE A MIDDY.

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*.

If the direction of our speculative inquiries were always determined by the facts and exigencies of the passing hour, there can be no doubt that at present a considerable proportion of the scientific intellect of Europe would be engaged in perfecting a theory of cholera. It requires but a glance at the shoals of dissimilar receipts for the treatment of the disease brought forward in the newspapers, to see how far short Practical Medicine is of any certain knowledge of the mode of dealing with the disease, in its developed stage. But this uncertainty of medical practice in the disease is only an indication of the deeper ignorance which exists as to the nature and conditions of epidemic diseases in general. HECKER's celebrated book on the Epidemics of the Middle Ages, is little more than a compendium of historical information respecting notable epidemics; it contains nothing of any speculative value as to the theory of epidemics. This field of inquiry is still open for men of science. Occasionally, we see a hint or suggestion on the subject; but no man seems to have devoted himself perseveringly and exclusively to the investigation. With regard to Cholera, there seem to be two favourite tracks of hypothesis. One set of speculators evidently suppose a specific atmospheric virus, a cholera-poison generated in spots and propagated; and some go so far as to affirm that this virus consists of floating organic matter, a fungus, which the microscope could render visible. On the other hand, many take refuge in phrases about "electricity having something to do with it"—electricity, as is well known, being, in our present state of science, a convenient limbo for all unknown causes. We remember seeing in a medical journal an electrical theory of disease in general, the purport of which was, that all the diseases to which flesh is liable might be divided into two classes—one class, consisting of diseases of the fever kind up to *rabies* and madness, forming a scale of positive electrical derangements, in which the human electricity of the subject was unduly raised or augmented in relation to surrounding objects; the other, consisting of diseases of the prostration order, terminating in cholera, plague, and such like, forming a corresponding negative scale. This is hopeless-looking enough; but we see the electrical theory appearing vaguely in various other forms—as in the talk of those who maintain that the cholera influence, whatever it is, is as much telluric as atmospheric.

On the whole, all that can be safely said, is that there are times when, over great tracts of the earth, or even round the entire planet, there creep such alterations of the conditions, chemical, electric, and other, necessary to human life, that a per centage of the human beings then alive sink before the stroke. Sometimes, as in those great epidemics of which we read, that destroyed entire communities, and more than decimated the human race, it seemed as if the earth, as a whole, were relapsing, so to speak, into the pre-Adamite state. After such shocks, however, the rebound was always remarkable. Human energy and activity of every kind seemed increased. On such hints, indeed, one might generalise farther. If there are alterations for the worse—apparent relapses towards the pre-Adamite condition of the planet, may there not be alterations for the better—tentatives of the earth, so to speak, after an *ensemble* of conditions, chemical and electrical, favourable for the efflorescence and outburst of Humanity into something higher? May not the *ensemble* of the planetary conditions amid which we live be changing from day to day and from generation to generation? And, as it is axiomatic that from the inmost mineral core of the earth outwards to the last thoughts and poesies and philosophies of its human inhabitants, there must be a correspondence and connexion, why may not the moral alternations we see in history—from ages of revolution to ages of calm, from ages of intellectual fecundity and originality to ages of intellectual sterility and commonplace, from a seventeenth to an eighteenth century—rest ultimately on an unseen basis of cosmic undulations and vicissitudes? There may be a scientific meaning, after all, in the stringing together by ancient writers of such phenomena as wars and pestilences, and famines, and great comets, and flights of locusts, and murrains among cattle, and violent earthquakes.

The sting of Mr. RUSKIN's eloquent pamphlet on the Crystal Palace, is contained in the following passage:—

"It is indeed impossible to limit, in imagination, the beneficent results which may follow from the undertaking thus happily begun. For the first time in the history of the world, a national museum is formed in which a whole nation is interested; formed on a scale which permits the exhibition of monuments of art in unbroken symmetry, and of the productions of nature in unwhitened growth,—formed under the auspices of science which can hardly err, and of wealth which can hardly be exhausted; and placed in the close neighbourhood of a metropolis overflowing with a population weary of labour, yet thirsting for knowledge, where contemplation may be consistent with rest, and instruction with enjoyment. It is impossible, I repeat, to estimate the influence of such an institution on the minds of the working-classes. How many hours once wasted may now be profitably dedicated to pursuits in which interest was first awakened by some accidental display in the Norwood palace; how many constitutions, almost broken, may be restored by the healthy temptation into the country air,—how many intellects, once dormant, may be roused into activity within the crystal walls, and how these noble results may go on multiplying and increasing and bearing fruit seventy times seven fold, as the nation pursues its career,—are questions as full of hope as incapable of calculation. But with all these grounds for hope there are others

for despondency, giving rise to a group of melancholy thoughts, of which I can neither repress the importunity nor forbear the expression.

"For three hundred years, the art of architecture has been the subject of the most curious investigation; its principles have been discussed with all earnestness and acuteness; its models in all countries and of all ages have been examined with scrupulous care, and imitated with unsparing expenditure. And of all this refinement of inquiry,—this lofty search after the ideal,—this subtlety of investigation and sumptuousness of practice,—the great result, the admirable and long-expected conclusion is, that in the centre of the nineteenth century, we suppose ourselves to have invented a new style of architecture, when we have magnified a conservatory."

We think this a wholesome and much-needed protest. Not so most people, however. The last sentence is calculated to give great offence; and there are many who, after it, will relish the onslaught made on Mr. RUSKIN by Mr. PERCY JONES, in his "Spasmodic Tragedy" of *Firmilian*. Two victims of the Spanish inquisition are led to the stake in the "Tragedy"—the one an Anabaptist of the Low Countries, named Teufelsdröckh (our readers will recognise who that is), the other a heretical "Graduate," accused of having blown up a church. The "Graduate" is, of course, Mr. RUSKIN. His behaviour at the stake is thus described:—

"SECOND GENTLEMAN.

"Yet was he quite calm:

A little pale, perhaps, but noway moved
By all their hooting. When he reached the pile,
He craved permission of the Inquisitor,
To say a word or two. That being granted,
He turned him straightway to the raging crowd,
Which, at his gesture, stilled itself awhile,
And spoke in parables.

"FIRST GENTLEMAN.

"How mean you, sir?

Did he confess his guilt?

"SECOND GENTLEMAN.

"In faith, not he!

His speech was worse than any condemnation.
He curs'd the city, and he curs'd the church;
He curs'd the houses, and he curs'd their stones.
He curs'd, in short, in such miraculous wise,
That nothing was exempted from his ban.
Then, sir, indeed the people's wrath was roused,
And a whole storm of cats came tumbling in,
Combined with baser missiles. I was fain,
Not wishing to be wholly singular,
To add my contribution to the rest.
Yet he curs'd on, till the Familiars gagged him—
Bound him unto the stake, and so he died."

Will it be believed that some newspapers have fallen into the trap prepared for them by Professor AYTON, in his clever preface, and actually reviewed the Tragedy as a serious poem by Mr. T. P. JONES, a new candidate for poetic honours, living at Streatham! No doubt, this *auto da fé* of Mr. RUSKIN is in grateful remembrance of his Edinburgh Lectures.

The subscriptions raised for Professor WILSON's monument, to be erected in Edinburgh, amount to 900*l.*: the sum required is 1500*l.*; and it is supposed the difference will soon be made up.

The late decision in the House of Lords has again unsettled the whole question of the rights of foreign authors over their works in this country. By that decision no foreigner can have copyright in this country. Accordingly, our republishers are again let loose upon American works, and may print Mrs. STOWE, or BANCROFT, or PRESCOTT, or EMERSON, without let or hindrance. For some time past British publishers have been purchasing the works of American authors; and Messrs. BORN and others have had to make atonement and apology for attempts in certain cases to issue other editions of the works thus purchased. Now the tables are turned. No British publisher need now pay an American anything for his book—it is common property. Naturally enough, our booksellers will revel in the opportunity of retaliation thus afforded on the Americans for their free and easy appropriations of the fruits of British authorship. But it is disgraceful that such a state of things should exist. That it may the sooner be put a stop to, it is perhaps well that the pirating should now go on at a brisk rate—till all parties become roused.

A RUSSIAN PAMPHLET.*

THE Russian Question is already rich in curiosities of literature. The bulletins of the *Invalide Russe*, and of the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, in which the discomfiture and 'disappearance' of the sacrilegious forces of the allies are duly reported with a fertility of invention worthy of a happier theme, reply almost antistrophically to the business-like despatches of our own commanders. It must be confessed, that from the declaration of war to the end of July, the exploits of our Bulgarian Chobham, and the promenades of our blockading squadrons, have left so much undone as to justify the imaginative poems of the unpunished aggressors. On the other hand, there has been no slackness in the operations of the anti-Russian press. The Eastern Question has been ransacked, and sifted, and turned inside out, with so dexterous an adaptation of facts to theories and feelings, that it has become a question with many, where did the Eastern Question begin? No doubt there are many ingenious politicians who fancy that it began with the mission of Prince Menschikoff, in the spring of last year. Many, too, will be surprised to hear that while the Western press has poured forth vials of indignation on the disturber of European peace, and the reckless violator of treaties, Russia has employed the leisure of her diplomatists and the

* La Guerre d'Orient. Ses Causes et ses Conséquences. Par Un Habitant de l'Europe Continentale. Bruxelles, 1854.

retirement of neutral cities to appeal, with studied calmness of tone and an affectation of injured magnanimity, from the diatribes of political passion to "minds unswayed by the tumult of the crowd." Brussels has become the classic and chosen spot wherefrom we may obtain Russian views of the war and of the Eastern Question generally. Let us take advantage of a visit to that pleasant and lively capital, to correct our prejudices and to disabuse our minds of erroneous and unjust impressions.

We enter the library at the Place Royale (where we are living surrounded by polished Muscovites *en congé*, and where even at the *table d'hôte* our national animosities have been temperately rebuked in perfect French by a disguised Tartar), and ask for the "last pamphlet on the Russian question." We are presented with an imposing semi-official looking publication in a light blue cover, consisting of some 170 pages, and entitled "*La Guerre d'Orient, ses Causes et ses Conséquences, par un Habitant de l'Europe Continentale*." We are struck at once with the nobly vague and severely cosmopolitan designation under which the author of these pages shrouds his name from the vulgar. "An Inhabitant of Continental Europe on the Causes and Consequences of the War" surely promises all that we can conceive of most unbiassed and judicial. We therefore propose to our readers to accompany the Inhabitant of Continental Europe through his agreeable and truthful survey, hoping to convince them how vilely Russian policy has been maligned and misinterpreted by the angry passions of the hour, and how penitently all who love mankind should pray for the success of the righteous cause of Nicholas.

In a few introductory sentences our Inhabitant commends his book to Continental Europe and principally to France.* He would even have dedicated it to Napoleon III., if it were permitted to dedicate an anonymous work to a Sovereign. He is not opening a political discussion, but a simple analysis based on the inflexible logic of history. He places his work under the auspices of superior minds, and refuses to deliver up his name with his opinions to the outrages and caprices of polemical journalism. At the same time, having sincere convictions, and a conscience free from all past engagements, in his present position silence would be an ignoble tribute to the authority of the dominant opinion, the most tyrannical of all authorities. He will not expose himself to search after the truth, buried just now under an avalanche of falsehood and idle talk of the hour. He offers no solution of the great problem in which he sees the expiation of that crime of the nations of Western Europe in the fifteenth century, when they suffered the last bulwark of Eastern Christendom, that ancient capital of the regeneration of all Europe, to be thrown down. Time alone, whose eternal light is sometimes lost for a moment in the darkness of human destinies, can solve this momentous problem.

In the first chapter, "An Inhabitant of Continental Europe" considers the respective policy of the belligerent powers since the Congress of Vienna. He will not allow the origin of the war to be attributed to the quarrels of a few fanatical monks: to assign this trumpety cause to a sacrilegious war is but a new profanation of those sanctuaries. The Holy Places are, like the doctrine of the integrity and independence of the Turkish Empire, a mere pretext and occasion: the real source of the crisis is to be found in an attentive study of the respective attitudes of the great European Powers since the Congress of Vienna."

This overture is worthy of the *batôn* of Mr. David Urquhart. The performance now begins. The key note is struck in the second chapter: the dominant theme that runs through the whole performance is the selfish and devouring mercantilism of England. Ever since the fall of Napoleon, we are told, the chief barrier to the commercial supremacy of Great Britain has been—Russia. As soon as Russia entered into the family of European states, the salutary effects of her influence were experienced at Paris and Vienna. England is too practical, to dream of the conquest of Europe: she is content with India. Her ambition is limited to the reduction of all Europe to the condition of Portugal, politically, industrially, and commercially. And here we have a striking picture of the consequences of Free Trade, which An Inhabitant of Continental Europe might almost have borrowed from the enlightened columns of a Protectionist journal. The new economical system inaugurated by Sir Robert Peel, the decay of agriculture, and the infinite industrial development; in a word, all the tendencies of the new domestic policy of the United Kingdom, make the monopoly of manufacturing industry at the expense of the Continent a condition of life and of progress.

This doctrine of Free Trade is a new political religion, invented for the exclusive profit of a country which, with one hand imposes commercial treaties, while with the other it reduces its tariff, and draws up—flourishing revenue-tables. This religion has its adherents and imitators, who forget the fate of Portugal, of Turkey, of India, and of all the countries where a system so favourable to English commerce is already producing its infallible results—the paralysis of all industry, of all financial resources, the reduction of local trade and navigation to the rôle of purveyor of the industrial metropolis, imposing permanent tributes in the form of periodical loans to cover continuous deficits, and sapping the very foundations of national independence. Such are the consequences of Free Trade to all nations not strong enough to bear it—to all but England. Such is the universal domination of that unrighteous Power who trusts to her floating citadels at every station, to its bristling rocks at Gibraltar, at Malta, at Corfu, at Aden, at the Cape, at Hong Kong; to her private dominions in North America, in India, in Polynesia, in the Antilles; to make the world her market, and all the nations of the earth her producers of raw material and consumers of her manufactured industry.

There are some men, exclaims the Inhabitant of Continental Europe, with just surprise, who accept this theory as a benefit to mankind. We see in it a real calamity, a material and moral obstacle to the development of universal progress; since every monopoly, even were it a benefit, is as contrary to the divine law as it is to human nature. The reader will not fail to follow the inflexible logic which, after denouncing the system of Free Trade and the reciprocity of exchanges, condemns every monopoly in these forcible and even solemn terms.

The writer now strikes another note: the importance of a Russian alliance to France. The Emperor Alexander was always anxious, in 1814 and

1815, to preserve the integrity and influence of France, while England has always endeavoured to convert France into the instrument of her own purposes. It was England that conspired, in 1814, with Austria and Talleyrand, for the dethronement of Murat; England practised unsuccessfully every cajolery upon the prudence of Louis XVIII. and the chivalrous pride of Charles X. It was the providential accord of France and Russia that produced the noblest result of which contemporary politics can boast—the Hellenic kingdom—while England repudiated Navarino.

Our writer sets us an example of unselfishness. Cordially as he detests us, he points out the hidden dangers of our path. The following passage is almost worthy of the most prophetic moments of Protectionism:—

"We believe that this tendency to commercial domination is fatal to old England herself: it creates a factitious existence under the imposing apparatus of her metallic and territorial wealth, of a fabulous credit, of an industrial prosperity infinitely developed by the most powerful inventions of modern science. We believe that England is expiating her outrages on the liberty of the world by the progressive demoralisation of her own people, and by the inevitable decay of the very institutions which have borne her to so great a height of prosperity."

A new Reform Bill is the inevitable consequence of Free Trade: and some fine day England will find herself in the hands of a Democratic Parliament, elected by a population of manufacturing operatives. This accounts for the desperate but instinctive and farsighted opposition of the English aristocracy to a Reform of Parliament.

The writer is not a pessimist in respect of England; he accords a long respite to us yet: but he sees the signs of our moral, preceding our material, decadence. England will long weigh on the destinies of the world; and never has she better understood her interests than now. Unfortunately those interests are in direct opposition to the interests of Continental Europe. The peace, the prosperity, and the union of the nations composing the great European family would evidently be the ruin of England. This is another singular conception of the effects of reciprocity of exchanges—in other words of that Free Trade of which England sets the example. The conduct of England in the last great war was purely selfish: she combated the Revolution without earnestness, rather for the sake of prolonging a struggle than for preserving the monarchy; but when Napoleon threatened her commercial supremacy, she threw her whole strength into the struggle, and sought to seduce Charles X. into a war against Russia in 1828, when Russia fought, as now, upon the Danube, to avenge her honour and her Church bathed in the blood of two patriarchs, of thirty bishops, and many hundreds and thousands of her fellow Christians." The taking of Algiers was the proximate cause of the rupture between England and Charles X. The British Government rejoiced in the fall of a Government which had been able to restore to France the continental influence won for her by Louis XIV. and Napoleon. Louis Philippe was obliged to cling to the English alliance; the first effect of which was the quadruple alliance, resulting in the vassalage of Portugal and the revolutionising of Spain, while in the East a new era was inaugurated by the Treaty of Adrianople and the generous conduct of Russia to vanquished Turkey.

In 1833 the revolt of Mehemet Ali was encouraged by England and, in pursuance of the servile policy of Louis Philippe, by France. It was then that Russia found herself compelled to put an end to the insurrection by sending a fleet and an army into the Bosphorus. No doubt the Treaty of Unkiar Skelessi was less disinterested as a moral result than the material result of the occupation of the Bosphorus; but nevertheless it was foreign to any thought of invasion or to any menace to the security of the Porte. No enlightened person ever credited the designs attributed to Russia, and the Inhabitant only writes for the enlightened.

England tried to get up a coalition against Russia; but all she could obtain from France was a protest considering the treaty null, as Russia considered the protest null. England was repulsed, and compelled to yield to the just rights of Russia in the affair of the *Vixen*, which was a simple seizure of contraband of war on a blockaded coast. This repulse, however, England has never forgotten, and she now calls Europe to arms to avenge it.

Thus, continues the Inhabitant of Continental Europe, was the peace of the world preserved from 1833 to 1840. In the meanwhile the policy of the English Government completely wore round. That policy had been to separate Egypt from Turkey and to acquire complete control of the Paclialie, preparatory to future possession. The writer here proceeds to expose the designs of England upon Egypt, studiously concealed, while the importance of Constantinople is exaggerated. England would, perhaps, even give Constantinople to France for the foundation of a Latin Empire which Russia would spend her last rouble to resist, on condition of taking Egypt for herself. Of Egypt she would make a military and commercial station, which she could keep, with from 10,000 to 12,000 men, against all contingencies so long as she retains her maritime supremacy and her Indian Empire: it would be only a new proof of her mercantile perspicacity to seize a possession which would bring her a revenue equivalent to the cost of Constantinople to France. Independently of the national, commercial, and political advantages of Egypt to England, it would fortify her system of Free Trade.

The chief productions of Egypt are wheat and cotton. England is gradually renouncing the cultivation of wheat, which was committed to the race of Adam as a divine law. In 1853 England was at the mercy of the Emperor of Russia for food. As to cotton, that other daily bread of millions, she is dependent on the United States of America. Imagine, then, the importance of Egypt to England!

In 1851 another Eastern Question was on the point of arising in Egypt. England had invested enormous capital in the construction of a railway, after dissuading Abbas Pasha from the project of dyking the Nile, which had already absorbed immense sums. The Porte protested against the pecuniary engagements contracted by her vassal in defiance of the fundamental law of the empire. The French Government warmly seconded the protest of the Porte, while England was disposed to take the part of Abbas Pasha. At that moment the cordiality now existing between the French and English Governments did not exist. English diplomacy, however, through the medium of Ferid Effendi, solved this question amicably, and

the new organic law of the *Tanzimat*, with certain modifications, was introduced into Egypt.

The writer now returns from his digression to the period 1833—1840, which inaugurated the present policy of England in the East, and from which arose all the present complications. Mehemet Ali, aware of the designs of England, had devoted all his sympathies to France. England never pardoned his attempts to consolidate the material and moral development of Egypt, and pursued the Pasha with that concentrated, and implacable political hatred, which is the distinctive trait of the nation. It was thus that England changed her policy in the East, and inflamed the dominant passion of the Sultan Mahmoud—the hatred of Mehemet Ali.

On the death of the Sultan Mahmoud, circumstances favoured the designs of England, to punish the French predilections of Mehemet Ali, to humiliate France in expiation of her political ascendancy in Egypt and in Syria, to supplant Russia in her predominant influence at Constantinople, and to lay down the law on the Nile and on the Bosphorus. After the famous note in six lines, of July 27, 1840, that first act of collective intervention, which was a decree of deposition for Turkey, the English Ministry rushed into negotiations at Vienna, Paris, Berlin, and St. Petersburg, resulting in the treaty of July 15, 1840, and in the expulsion of France from the European concert. Thus, after having been the ally of the monarchy of July for ten years, after dragging France into her policy in Spain, Belgium, Greece, and the East, England abandoned her to isolation, and betrayed the King to the passions of a jealous people. The crisis of 1840 cost France useless millions, while with eight half-manned ships-of-the-line and 1500 marines, England expelled the Egyptians from Syria, and flaunted her flag at the head of the European alliance. Russia had only one motive in all these proceedings—the pacification of the East. She had even dissuaded the Sultan from attempting to coerce Mehemet Ali, at the risk of being accused of seeking to divide Turkey: it was England alone that excited the furious obstinacy of the Porte. If Russia had subordinated the rights of Turkey to her own interests, would she not have espoused the quarrel of Mehemet Ali? But she trusted to the good faith of England and to the *gratitude* of Turkey, which had owed to her again and again the preservation of the empire and the dynasty. It was by this abnegation, in the hope of restoring the repose of the East, that Russia threw open to her rival that career of political activity, the first-fruits of which have so little justified the generosity of the Emperor of Russia.

(To be concluded in our next.)

FASHION AND FAMINE.

Fashion and Famine; or, Contrasts in Society. A Novel. By Mrs. Ann S. Stephens.*

We do not know whether we are committing a moral offence in recommending our public to purchase this novel—a book by an American authoress, who, under the new version of the copyright law, is perhaps being hereby deprived by energetic Mr. Bentley of profit out of British readers. But we do venture to express a very high opinion of the novel; and it is not our fault if Mr. Bentley's happens to be the only attainable edition of it.

It has great defects. In the first place, an American novel should be something out of the old beaten track of the common-place contrasts of conventional society; and though the scene of this romance is laid in or about the "Upper Ten Thousand" and the "Fifth Avenue" of the Empire-city, still the characters are all French, and the treatment is very English. In the next place, the plot is grotesquely impossible, the leading motives of the action are grandly incredible; and the novel, from first to last, is spoiled by an obtrusion of the flimsy philosophy in which some "females" indulge when, having got pen in hand, they begin to point out how much better it is to be good than bad. These are startling faults; and yet the novel is far above the average, and is read with engrossing interest. This, we believe, is because Mrs. Stephens has got a decided genius for telling and developing a story. There is power—dramatic power—here; and as it is, as she states in her preface, her first novel, we are inclined to anticipate a series of successes for her.

The hero is a wholesale villain; a polished Yankee gentleman, who does all the men and undoes all the women; who commits forgeries, connives at embezzlement, occasionally crosses his mind with murder, deserts his wife in order to leave room for a friendly debauchee, who has bought his right in her, leaves his child to starve, commits bigamy, and dresses singularly well. He is a mixture of Don Juan and Iago, with Dumas' view of life; and he looks to us remarkably out of place denned in the Aston House and immersed in dollars. The heroine is the deserted wife of this bold gentleman, who is incurably attached to him, but who allows the friendly debauchee to complete the bargain; who goes with the debauchee to Europe, where he dies, she obtaining all his wealth, which is "boundless," and accomplishes Monte-Christo results; and who, returning to New York when her husband is arranging his bigamy, appeals to him for a redintegratio without disclosing her affluence, and, being rejected, punishes him, after he has bigamised, by blazing on him in all her splendour at a dramatic ball, which she throws open to the whole Upper Ten Thousand. Result—suicide on his part, and eternal misery on hers; but a delightful ending in the secured happy future of her restored child, who is an angel—in a French way—a flower-girl who calls "f-r-r-ish r-r-oses" in the streets.

This is the plot, which, as we have said, is rendered endurable by the vivid and vigorous way in which the story is told and the characters are arranged. And, of course, apart from the unreality of the broad sketch, there are, in details, what we conceive to be true and interesting delineations of actual New York life. The extracts we make will suggest that, perhaps, there is nothing unfairly imitative in the novel, if in New York, as in European capitals, "fashion and famine" are so closely connected and so hideously contrasted; if, likewise, "fashion" is in the Republic as vulgar and tuff-hunting an affair as it is among ourselves. Here is a scene, strongly painted, which is represented to occur in the city from whose port goes out half the corn we, in England, live on; and the actors, observe, are not the "poor Irish," whom a New Englander curses as the disfigurement of his prosperity, but "rile American born."

* Richard Bentley, New Burlington-street. Price 1s. 6d.

"In the basement of a rear building in one of those cross streets that grow more and more squalid as they stretch down to the water's edge, sat an aged couple, at nightfall, on the day when our humble heroine was presented to the reader. The room was damp, low, and dark: a couple of rude chairs, a deal table, and a long wooden chest, were all the furniture it contained. A rough shelf ran over the mantelpiece, on which were arranged a half-dozen unmatched cups and saucers, and a broken plate or two, and a teapot minus half its spout, all scrupulously washed, and piled together with some appearance of ostentation.

"A brown platter, which stood on the table, contained the only approach to food that the humble dwelling afforded. A bone of bacon thrice picked, and preserved probably from a wretched desire to possess something in the shape of food, though that something was but a mockery,—this, and a fragment of bread lay upon a platter, covered with a neat crash towel.

"A straw bed made up on one corner of the floor partook of the general neatness everywhere visible in the wretched dwelling; the sheets were of homespun linen, such as our down East housewives loved to manufacture years ago; and the covering a patch-work quilt, formed of rich, old-fashioned chintz, was neatly turned under the edges. One might have known how more than precious was that fine old quilt, by the great care taken to preserve it. The whole apartment bespoke extreme poverty in its most respectable form. Perfect destitution and scrupulous neatness were so blended, that it made the heart ache with compassion.

"The old couple drew their seats closer together on the hearthstone, and looked wistfully in each other's faces as the darkness of coming night gathered around them. The bright morning had been succeeded by a chill, uncomfortable rain, and this increased tenfold the gloomy and dark atmosphere of the basement. Thus they sat gazing at each other, and listening moodily to the rain as it beat heavier and heavier upon the sidewalks.

"Come, come!" said the old woman with a smile that she intended to be cheerful, but which was only a wan reflection of what she wished. "This is all very wrong; once to-day the Lord has sent us food, and here we are desponding again. Julia will be cold and wet, poor thing; don't let her find us looking so hungry when she comes in."

"I was thinking of her," muttered the old man, in a sad voice. "Yes, the poor thing will be cold and wet and wretched enough, but that is nothing to the disappointment; she had built up such hopes this morning."

"Well, who knows after all; something may have happened!" said the old woman, with an effort at hopefulness.

"No, no," replied the man, in a voice of touching despondency, "if she had done anything, the child would have been home long ago. She has no heart to come back."

"The old man passed his hand over his eyes, and then flung a handful of chips and shavings on the fire from a scant pile that lay in a corner. The blaze flamed up, revealing the desolate room for a moment, and then died away, flashing across the pale and haggard faces that bent over it, with a wan brilliancy that made them look absolutely corpse-like.

"Those two wrinkled faces were meagre and wrinkled from lack of sustenance; still, in the faded lineaments there was nothing to revolt the heart. Patience, sweet and troubled affection, were blended with every grief-written line. But the wants of the body had stamped themselves sharply there. The thin lips were pale and fixed in an expression of habitual endurance. Their eyes were sharp and eager, dark arches lay around them, and these were broken by wrinkles that were not all of age.

"As the flame blazed up, the old man turned and looked earnestly on his wife; a look of keen want, of newly whetted hunger broke from her eyes, naturally so meek and tranquil, and the poor old man turned his glance another way with a faint groan. It was a picture of terrible famine. Yet patience and affection flung a thrilling beauty over it.

"One more furtive glance that old man cast on his wife, as the flame went down, and then he clasped his withered fingers, wringing them together.

"You are starving—you are more hungry than ever," he said, "and I have nothing to give you."

"The poor woman lifted up her head and tried to smile, but the effort was heart-rending.

"It is strange," she said, "but the food we had this morning only seems to make me more hungry. Is it so with you, Benjamin? I keep thinking of it all the time. The rain as it plashes on the pavement seems like that warm coffee boiling over on the hearth; those shavings as they lie in the corner are constantly shifting before my eyes, and seem like rolls and twists of bread, which I have only to stoop forward and take."

"The old man smiled wanly, and a tear started to his eyes, gliding down his cheek in the dim light.

"Let us try the bone once more," he said, after a brief silence, "there may be a morsel left yet."

"Yes, the bone! there may be something on the bone yet! In our good fortune this morning we must have forgotten to scrape it quite clean!" cried the old woman, starting up with eager haste, and bringing the platter from the table.

"The husband took it from her hands, and setting it down before the fire knelt on one knee, and began to scrape the bone eagerly with a knife. 'See, see!' he said, with a painful effort at cheerfulness, as some strips and fragments fell on the platter, leaving the bone white and glistening like ivory. 'This is better than I expected! With a crust and a cup of clear cold water, it will go a good way.'

"No, no," said the woman, turning her eyes resolutely away, "we had forgotten Julia. She scarcely ate a mouthful this morning!"

"I know," said the old man, dropping his knife with a sigh.

"Put it aside, and let us try and look as if we had been eating all day. She would not touch it if—!" Here the good old woman's eyes fell upon the little heap of food—those precious fragments which her husband had scraped together with his knife. The animal grew strong within her at the sight; she drew a long breath, and reaching forth her bony hand, clutched them like a bird of prey; her thin lips quivered and worked with a sort of ferocious joy, as she devoured the little morsel; then, as if ashamed of her voracity, she lifted her glowing eyes to her husband, and cast the fragment of food still between her fingers back upon the platter.

"I could not help it! Oh, Benjamin I could not help it!" Big tears started in her eyes, and rolled penitently down her cheek. "Take it away! take it away!" she said, covering her face with both hands. "You see how ravenous the taste of food makes me!"

"Take it!" said the old man, thrusting the platter into her lap.

"No! no! You haven't had a taste: you—you—I am better now, much better!"

"For one instant the old man's fingers quivered over the morsel still left upon the platter, for he was famished and craving more food, even as his wife had been; but his better nature prevailed, and dashing his hand away, he thrust the plate more decidedly into her lap.

"Eat!" he said. "Eat! I can wait, and God will take care of the child!"

"But the poor woman waved the food away, still keeping one hand resolutely over her eyes. 'No—no!' she said faintly, 'no—no!'

"Her husband lifted the plate softly from her lap: she started, looked eagerly around, and sunk back in her chair with a hysterical laugh.

"The strawberries! the strawberries, Benjamin! Only think, if Julia could not sell the strawberries, she will eat them, you know, all—all. Only think what a feast the child will have when she has all those strawberries! Bring back the meat; what will she care for that?"

"The old man brought back the plate, but with a sorrowful look. He remembered that the strawberries entrusted to his grandchild were the property of another; but he could not find the heart to suggest this to the poor famished creature before him, and he rejoiced at the brief delusion that would induce her to eat the little that was left. With martyr-like stoicism he stifled his own craving hunger, and sat by while his wife devoured the remainder of the precious store.

"And you have had none," she said, with a piteous look of self-reproach, when her own sharp want was somewhat appeased.

"Oh, I can wait for Julia and the strawberries."

"And if that should fail," answered the poor wife."

Here is the contrast: it will be noticed that this American lady does not appear in the least ashamed to narrate, as a familiar circumstance, that the leaders of American fashion debase themselves in worshipping a stray English boy-Earl, who is wandering across the democratic orbit:—

"It had been a brilliant season in the fashionable world that year. Saratoga and Newport were perfect hotbeds of gaudy, splendour, and trivial ambition. A thorough-bred

nobleman or two from England—a German countess—the greatest and most popular statesmen of our own land, had flung a dazzling splendour over these places.

"During the whole of that season the United States Hotel had been kept in a state of delightful commotion by the rivalry of two leaders in the fashionable world, who had taken up their head-quarters in that noble establishment.

"Never was a warfare carried on with such amiable bitterness, such caressing home-thrusts. Everything was done regally, and with that sublime politeness which duellists practise when most determined to exterminate each other. Of course, each lady had her position and her followers, and no military chieftains ever managed their respective forces more adroitly.

"Mrs. Nash was certainly the oldest incumbent, and had a sort of preëminence right as a fashionable leader. She had won her place exactly as her husband had obtained his wealth, first plodding his way from the workshop to the counting-room, thence into the stock-market, where, by two or three dashes speculations worthy of the gambling-table, and entered upon in the same spirit, he became a millionaire.

"Exactly by the same method Mrs. Nash worked her way upward as a leader of ton. Originally uneducated and assuming, she had exercised unbounded sway over her husband's work-people, patronising their wives, and practising diligently the airs that were to be transferred with her husband's advancement into higher circles.

"Through the rapid gradations of her husband's fortune, she held her own in the race, and grew important, dressy, and presuming, but not a whit better informed or more refined. When her husband became a millionaire, she made one audacious leap into the midst of the upper ten thousand, hustled her way upward, and facing suddenly about, proclaimed herself a leader in the fashionable world.

"People looked on complacently. Some smiled in derision; some sneered with scorn; others, too indolent or gentle for dispute, quietly admitted her charms; while to that portion of society worth knowing, she retained her original character—that of a vulgar, fussy, ignorant woman, from whom persons of refinement shrunk instinctively. Thus, through the forbearance of some, the sneers of others, and the carelessness of all, she fought her way to a position which soon became legitimate and acknowledged.

"But this year Mrs. Nash met with a very formidable rival, who disputed the ground she had usurped inch by inch. If Mrs. Nash was insolent, Mrs. Sykes was sly and fascinating. With tact that was more than a match for any amount of arrogant presumption, and education which gave keenness to art, founded upon the same hard purpose and coarse-grained character that distinguished Mrs. Nash, she was well calculated to make a contest for fashionable superiority exciting and piquant.

"Women of true refinement never enter into these miserable rivalries for notoriety, but they sometimes look on amused. In this case the ladies were beautifully matched. The audacity of one was met with the artful sweetness of the other. If Mrs. Nash had power and the prestige of established authority, Mrs. Sykes opposed novelty, unmatched art, and a species of serpent-like fascination difficult to cope with; and much to her astonishment, the former lady found her laurels dropping away leaf by leaf before she began to feel them wither.

"But a few days before the fancy ball, a new fly was cast into the fashionable current, that quite eclipsed anything that had appeared before. An English earl, fresh from the Continent, came up to Saratoga one day, in a train from New York, and would be present at the fancy ball.

"Here was new cause for strife between the Nashes and the Sykeses. Which of these ladies should secure the nobleman for the fancy ball? True, the earl was very young, awkward as the school-boy he was, and really looked more like a juvenile horse-jockey than a civilised gentleman. But he was an earl; would assuredly have a seat in the House of Lords, if ever he became old enough; besides, he had already lost thirty thousand dollars at the gambling-table, and bore it like a prince.

"Here was an object worth contending for. What American lady would be immortalised by leaning upon the arm of an earl as she entered the assembly room? No minor claims could be put in here. The earl undoubtedly belonged to Mrs. Nash or Mrs. Sykes—which should it be? This was the question that agitated all fashionable life at the Springs to its centre. Partisans were brought into active operation. Private ambassadors went and came from the gambling saloons to the drawing-rooms, looking more portentous than any messenger ever sent from the allied powers to the Czar.

"The innocent young lord, who had escaped from his tutor for a lark at the Springs, was terribly embarrassed by so many attentions. Too young for any knowledge of society in his own land, he made desperate efforts to appear a man of the world, and feel himself at home in a country where men are set aside, while society is converted into a paradise for boys. It is rumoured that some professional gentlemen took advantage of this confusion in the young lordling's ideas, and his losses at the gambling-table grew more and more princely.

"But the important night arrived. The mysterious operations of many a private dressing-room became visible. A hundred bright and fantastic forms trod their way to music along the open colonnade of the hotel toward the assembly-room. The brilliant procession entered the folding-doors, and swept down the room—two rivers of human life, flowing on, whirling and retiring, beneath a shower of radiance cast from the wall, and the chandeliers that seemed literally raining light. In her toilet, the American lady is not a shade behind our neighbours of Paris; and no saloon in the world ever surpassed this in picturesque effect and richness of costume. Diamonds were plentiful as dew-drops on a rose thicket. Pearls, embedded in lace that Queen Elizabeth would have monopolised for her own toilet, gleamed and fluttered around those republican fairies, a decided contrast to the checked handkerchief that Ben. Franklin used at the European court, or the bare feet with which our revolutionary fathers trod the way to our freedom through the winter snows. After the gay crowd had circulated around the room awhile, there was a pause in the music, a breaking up of the characters into groups; then glances were cast toward the door, and murmurs ran from lip to lip. Neither Mrs. Nash nor her rival had yet appeared; as usual, their entrance was arranged to make a sensation. How Dodsworth's leader knew the exact time of this fashionable advent, I do not pretend to say. Certain it is, just as the band struck up an exhilarating march, Mrs. Z. Nash entered the room with erect front and pompous triumph, holding the English earl resolutely by the arm. Mrs. Theodore Sykes came in a good deal subdued and crestfallen, after the dancing commenced. She was escorted by one of the most illustrious of our American statesmen, which somewhat diminished the bitterness of her defeat. Her fancy dress was one blaze of diamonds, and when Mrs. Nash sailed by, holding the young earl triumphantly by the arm, she seemed oblivious of the noble presence, but was smiling up into the eyes of her august companion as if an American statesman really were some small consolation for the loss of a schoolboy nobleman, who looked as if he would give his right arm, which, however, belonged to Mrs. Nash just then, to be safe at home, even with his tutor."

FAITH AND NEGATION.

Miracles and Science. By Edward Strachey.
What is Truth?

Longmans.
John Chapman.

We believe the vulgar lamentation over the spread of unbelief to be one of the many orthodox deceptions. Whatever may be the atrophy of churches, or the decay of dogmatic systems, the religious spirit is not waning, but increasing in strength, purity, and intensity. The race of believers is not yet extinct, nor will be so long as man gives hostages of his affection to death, and sweeps the horizon of his earthly hopes with an unrelenting aspiration after the *beyond*. But this religious spirit is the offspring, not the enemy, of inquiry: the child of anguish and of doubt. In France an awakening of this religious spirit (which has nothing in common with a State-revival of ecclesiasticism) has been observed of late: perhaps as a refuge from political discontent: perhaps the herald of a simpler and severer age of liberty to come—who knows?

In England the same phenomenon is to be noted. Within the pale of

orthodoxy a broader doctrine has sprung up, while infidelity itself has abjured scoffing, and discusses reverently the faith it combats and the doctrine it repudiates. Here are two remarkable examples of this double tendency; two little books, distinguished equally for the unflinching thoroughness of their sincerity, for their bold grappling with the most momentous doubts, for the deeply religious and reverent spirit that lends dignity and a certain sadness to the impetuous antagonism of the one, confidence and calmness to the fearless investigations of the other. In both we recognise the true genius of Protestant inquiry, the true exercise of liberty of conscience; and in both we discern the gleams of a dawning faith, more expansive and more humane than church or sect has yet conceived. There is a wide difference, however, between the two books; and we can suppose the clearheaded and brave-souled thinker who seeks to conciliate faith with science a little startled at his association with the uncompromising and unconciliating avenger of "natural religion against conventional usurpation." The intellectual position of the two combatants is in fact essentially different: the one has built up stronger bulwarks for the ancient faith to which he clings with generous and trustful devotedness, by the very aid of the most destructive engines of modern heterodoxy; the clear keen air of free inquiry has braced up his thought, and strengthened the vitality of his belief; while the other, like a prisoner escaped, spurns every sign and vestige of his thralldom, and, in his impatience of authoritative religions, seems almost to confound the dogma and the instinct, the system and the spirit, the doctrine and the corruption, in one sweeping denunciation. But the courage and the energy of the truth-seeker are in themselves virtues too rare and too emphatic to be passed over without a hearty greeting. It is only the cowardly, the insincere, and the indifferent, who will resent the outspokening of a mind that has fought its way out of an indolent and dishonest acquiescence into the lonely freedom of true belief approved by the conscience and ratified by the life. The writer of these letters in reply to the everlasting Enigma leaves not one stone upon another of the Christian temple; he rests not until he has created for himself a new heaven and a new earth; until he can kneel down a solitary worshipper at the shrine of *Justice*, which is his highest conception of the duty of man and of the perfect providence of God. His letters are addressed to certain orthodox friends—to a lady whose religion is a sentiment; to a Doctor of Divinity whose religion is an "establishment;" and to a sympathetic though perhaps deprecating fellow-doubter. The writer thinks decisively and writes vigorously; and if he is provoked into an occasional wildness of manner and intemperance of expletives, courtesy and good feeling never quite desert him, and in such discussions even rudeness is better than reticence.

We would especially recommend these letters to the more calm and not less convinced author of "Miracles and Science," as they contain the strongest and most searching objections to which the orthodox scheme is exposed, and which have not yet been dealt with even by so powerful and intrepid a pen as his. Our readers will at once appreciate the exceptional position occupied by Mr. Strachey among believers, when we tell them that his treatise on Miracles is prefaced by an introductory dialogue in which he insists that "Christianity and the Bible ought to be investigated, and their truth tested by the same methods of positive science as we employ in astronomy or chemistry." And in another place he professes unfeigned respect for the genius of AUGUSTE COMTE. There are many noble sayings in these few pages for which we should be glad to find space. Here is one: "God's name is Truth. If truth bids you follow to the bottomless pit, go: you will find God there. If the most orthodox tradition offers to lead you to heaven, refuse; for you will not find him by that path." There is one passage, however, on "Scepticism" to which we entirely demur, and which appears to us singularly inconsistent with the whole tone of the writer's mind, and the whole force of his position. After insisting on the necessity of testing the truth of religion by positive scientific methods, after admirably reproving the intellectual cowardice of false belief, and vindicating the right and the duty of free inquiry, Mr. Strachey suggests in the following passage that scepticism is itself a disease:—

"Though I grant, nay protest, that the more honest course for the man who has doubts is to face them, I would beg the reader to consider what is honest for him or for me is therefore of necessity good in itself? Is not scepticism, curable or incurable, a curable or incurable disease of the mind, and to be treated accordingly? It may have been no merit to our fathers that they did not feel our doubts,—nay, it may be true that our doubts are but the inheritance of their over-confidence, as the hard-drinking fox-hunter may transmit to his son the consumption which never touched himself: it may be that the 'practical man' of our own day is not only grossly credulous, but the cause, through reaction, of scepticism in others: but let us look at the facts, not at the moral merits, and then say whether scepticism is in itself a more manly and healthy state of mind than credulity. Scepticism enables us to see several sides of a matter where 'practical men' see only one, to be eclectics where they are partisans, and to look down on their attacks and defences of what we discern to be one object, with the calmness of Epicurean gods; but it gives us this knowledge only in paralysing at least our practical powers of duty, and often our moral sense too."

Now, using words in their strict sense, as we are persuaded so exact and scientific a thinker as Mr. Strachey would demand, we may be permitted to remind him that *scepticism* means nothing more than *inquiry*; the sceptic is simply the "inquirer." How "sceptic" in the course of time and the corruption of language came to signify unbelief in a particular set of dogmas we do not stop to examine: nor do we understand in what sense Protestantism, which is nothing more nor less than the right of free inquiry can stigmatise scepticism (*i. e.* inquiry) as a disease. If it be a disease, Popery is the cure—an alternative which we are certain so masterly a vindicator of private judgment as Mr. Strachey will be as little disposed to accept as we can be. Desiring to take leave of Mr. Strachey with a sense of unimpaired admiration, we conclude with this eloquent and piercing condemnation of

OUR RETICENT ORTHODOXY.

"Our faith is indeed weak and tottering enough; no thoughtful man can look into his own heart, or into what may be plainly discerned of the hearts of his neighbours, and not be aware that under the thin crust of our reticent orthodoxy volcanic fires are slumbering. The men who have gone out from among us openly declaring that honest investigation of received opinions about Christianity has compelled them to abandon it for pure theism, or else that a still severer logic has shown them that not theism but atheism must be their end if they do not take refuge in the infallible authority of Rome—these are but the representatives of an ever-increasing number who are silently yielding themselves to the prospect of

a like fate, because they see no help. And so they fall: so any one of us may fall at any moment, because we will not trust God to strengthen our weak faith in His own way; because we will maintain it by the pride of an unsympathising formal orthodoxy, instead of by that frank and free discussion of our doubts and perplexities which would itself be a truer symbol and earnest of Church communion, and of the presence of Him whose presence makes the Church, than either rituals and dogmas, or traditional interpretations of Scripture. There is a schismatic temper which leads us to deny Church fellowship to men who believe in Christ, because they will not deny Him by the admission that the faith which is His gift is worthless if not supplemented with our rituals and articles: and it is only another manifestation of the same spirit which excludes those who will not, because the God of truth forbids them, worship at the shrines of a traditional bibliolatry. And so we excommunicate each other because we will not admit on either side that the light should be set in the candlestick of plain speaking, and not under the bushel of orthodox formulas.

"Our religious life in relation to the Bible—and without the Bible there can be no religious life long—is all sickly and flabby and stunted for want of free discussion. We keep our Body Politic in sobriety no less than vigour of health by a discussion as free as the air we breathe, and which we permit one-sided or unwise, or even bad men to use in their way because so only can the wise and good use it effectively for the common weal. We do this and laugh or grieve at the panic-stricken rulers of the Continent, who repress with the eyes and hands of an ever-present police each natural and in itself innocuous expression of thought and feeling. But in religion we liberty-prizing English are very Austrians: in every social meeting, almost in every household, we have some member of a spiritual police which is ever ready to make a man an offender for a word, and to exert an activity in suspecting evil, which is only equalled by its incapacity for apprehending the utterance of truth or reason. And it does its work just in the fashion of its civil counterpart: for if some individual who still retains a more than ordinary loyalty to the orthodox creeds should, therefore, make an effort to defend them by insisting on their applicability to the new wants of men's minds, him it discovers and denounces and casts out of the synagogue; but the greater number of inquirers our police system merely (yet how effectively we all know) represses into a mental and spiritual condition, which too often suggests the question whether a rational reformation is still possible, or whether there only remains for us the alternative of a volcanic torrent of atheism or a Byzantine Christianity, in which faith and scepticism will be but contending forms of death and corruption. *Solitudinem faciunt, pacem appellant.*"

We cannot do better than recommend the writers of these two significant and stirring books to read one another.

FRENCH LITERATURE.

History of French Literature in the Eighteenth Century. By Alexander Vinet. Translated from the French by the Rev. James Bryce. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

This book contains the substance of a course of lectures prepared for delivery during the summer of 1846, at Lausanne. M. Vinet's labours, however, were interrupted by death, and as the lectures were never written, the French editors had to rely partly on the professor's own notes, and partly on the notes of some of his pupils who had attended the course. No less than twenty-seven writers are included in the list, some of them scarcely known by name except to students of French literature. No one, however, must look for either a history or a series of biographies: the book is best described as Notes upon the French Literature of the Eighteenth Century, written, as became the Professor of Theology at Lausanne, from the Christian and orthodox point of view. There is nothing strikingly novel in the way either of fact or criticism, but the book will doubtless be useful as an index or an introduction to the history of French Literature. The truth is, M. Vinet had been long engaged in collecting materials for a more elaborate work, of which this must be regarded as a study. M. Vinet thus sums up his account of Voltaire:

"If we had only here to sum up his moral character, our task would be easy. What renders him terrible, and what exaggerates his wickedness, is his genius; there is in this an optical illusion. But we ought not to take, as the measure of a man's wickedness, the evil which he has produced. If any one were desirous to estimate Voltaire as a man, he must keep out of view his talent and his works; take him merely in his personal relations; in a word, make the distinction between the writer and the individual. It would then be seen that he was not more wicked than many others, but that, in his case, all was prominent and freely developed. His life received no guidance from the law of God, or from his conscience—he had only instincts. Some were decidedly bad, others were not. Had he been reduced to the condition of a citizen or artisan, Voltaire would have been, like so many others, impassioned, unbridled, very vain, very irritable, capable of sympathy, and of many things which the most vulgar morality quickly repels; formidable, hateful, and one to whom there would have been granted some interest and affection. His talent and his age have impressed on his existence something monstrous, without being able to call him a monster.

"The character of Voltaire does not present the dignity of harmonious existence; but he has the power, which is joined to the irregularity of a nature in lively contrast. No man was made up of antitheses more frequently repeated. Extravagancies multiply; this disposition is like a thicket, whose branches, crossing one another, stop your progress in every direction. As a man of art, in the ideal sense of the term, Voltaire would have known internal peace and harmony. In philosophy and literature men of system are encountered. They may be so in two ways: some embrace their circle of ideas with a breadth which allows them to comprehend those of other men; others are exclusively attached to their own ideas, but their exclusiveness is quite consistent with themselves. Unity always prevails. But in all ages men of action have been a series of contrasts, and so far from weakening them, these contrasts were a condition of their strength. The power of a scientific, synthetic, benevolent, and peaceful genius, is much more beneficent and profound; but it acts only at a distance—the force near at hand was exercised by men deficient in internal harmony.

"It is difficult to refuse to Voltaire the epithet great; his destiny pronounced him 'to be of an entire age the thought and the life'; this is to be great, and this is his greatness. *Tu regere imperio populos.* But this greatness is not personal; true greatness cannot be conceived without generosity, and without a certain degree of goodness, otherwise the devil himself would be great. 'We see here,' said Lavater, 'a personage greater and more energetic than we. We feel our weakness in his presence, but without his making us great; instead of each being, who is at once great and good, not merely awakening in us the feeling of our weakness, but, by a secret charm, elevating us above ourselves, and communicating to us something of its greatness. There is nothing sublime in Voltaire—nothing to inspire respect for human nature. He has not one great thought. That of the destruction of Christianity is not great—an abstraction made from our faith to the divinity of our belief. Hatred, according to its object, may make a man great, but that of Voltaire was not high-minded and not honest. Besides, to strip, without any indemnity, the human species of the future state and of God, and consequently of their dignity, is not greatness. Strange and primary antithesis, he has for human nature an ardent love, but it is without respect; he loves her as a mistress, not as a lawful wife.'

"Conservative from disposition and interest, Voltaire, in his hatred of Christianity, spends his long life in destroying it. He aims at improvements in the social government, but he rejects with anger everything which might reach the root of the evils against which he complains. To overturn the positive religion of his age and country, and to maintain almost everything else, was his wish and the end of his efforts, irreverence, violence, and treachery signalled the war which he declared against Christianity, or at least what he took for Christianity. The gross indecency of his attacks became proverbial; there was no want of any trick; if he required authorities, he had no hesitation in referring to books which did not exist. He continually appealed to prejudices, instead of raising the mind to

generalities, at which he himself might have arrived. He brings forward the perpetual sophisms of the evils produced by Christianity. To superficial understandings this argument is irresistible; to persons of cultivated minds it is very weak. The true statement of the question is this: 'Does the Gospel contain any doctrine intended to authorise the horrors, of which the Christian religion has been the occasion?' Let us suppose that Socrates, for example, had been a witness of the life of Jesus Christ, of His miracles, of His doctrine, and of the conduct of His first disciples, he would undoubtedly have said: 'There is a religion about to banish oppression, injustice, and wars; it will render the world happy.' He would have spoken as a wise man of the world. God alone could say: 'I have come to send fire on earth. Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division.' A sublime paradox, which God alone could utter! God alone knew that He was going to create upon the earth two worlds at enmity with each other. He saw all vices and all hypocrisies taking refuge under the robe of Christianity. He knew that the worst of corruptions is that of excellent things, and the worst of persecutions that of false against true Christians. Yes, the Gospel has brought out human nature in all its wickedness. Will it be said, on this account, that Christianity has been hostile to society? One word is sufficient: do we live for time or for eternity? Is the direct object of Christianity better to organise the society of the earth, or to prepare the society of heaven? Do we consider Jesus Christ merely as the author of the principle of social equality and fraternity? Let us reject, then, a religion which becomes to society the occasion of unquestionable evils, or let us accept it as training the soul for heaven; and, in that case, let us hold it as absolved from all the scandals with which men have been pleased to weigh it down."

False shame, according to M. Vinet, was the great moral defect in J. J. Rousseau. He gives instances from the *Confessions*:

"M. de Fontaine, formed a correct judgment of Rousseau, when he said:—'Let a man open the *Confessions* of J. J. Rousseau; all the faults of which he is accused spring from false shame.' I add faults, in appearance the most opposite. When, from timidity, he had violated the truth, then, to balance it, he was guilty of some preposterous brutality. If we wish examples of these consequences of false shame, Rousseau will amply supply them. The facts are not important, but they are characteristic."

"The Abbé, afterwards Chevalier de Boufflers, had painted a portrait of Madame de Luxembourg:—'This portrait was horrible. She maintained, Rousseau tells us, that it did not at all resemble her, which was the truth. The treacherous abbé consulted me, and I, like a fool and a liar, said that the portrait was a resemblance.'

"Will any one say, that almost everybody would have done the same thing? Perhaps; but Jean Jacques was not free to do as every one did; he was bound to be more inflexibly true than everybody else."

"On another occasion, he says:—'I had a dog, which had been given to me quite young, about the time that I came to the Hermitage, and at that time I called him *Duke*. This dog, not beautiful, but of a rare species, that I had made my companion and friend, and certainly he deserved that title better than the most of those who took it to themselves, had become celebrated at the Castle of Montmorency for his affectionate sensible disposition, and for the attachment which we had for one another; but from a pusillanimity, very foolish, I changed his name to Turk, as if there were not multitudes of dogs called *Marquis*, without any Marquis giving himself any trouble about it. The Marquis de Villeroy, who knew this change of name, annoyed me so much about it, that I was obliged to tell before the whole community at table what I had done. In this story, what was offensive in regard to the name of duke did not consist so much in my having given it to him as in having taken it from him. The worst of it was, that several dukes were there—M. de Luxembourg and his son had that title.'

One more extract must suffice. It is a criticism on Fontenelle:

"On the whole, Fontenelle was a being by himself, Voltaire, in his *Temple of Taste*, characterises him by a just epithet; he calls him 'the discreet Fontenelle.' Discreet marks a man who has at once discretion and discernment; now, in both senses, Fontenelle was discreet. He was called the Erasmus of the eighteenth century, but in spite of some relations, the differences are too marked,—let us keep by the epithet of Voltaire. We may add that Fontenelle was less discreet during the most reserved period, and that he became singularly so at the time when society threw off its reserve. Rash in the time of Louis XIV., and bearing then the character of the times which were coming, he became prudent as the eighteenth century proceeded in its development. As to this matter, we must reckon in Fontenelle the effect of age, and the progress of minds beyond himself; what but lately would have passed for boldness, had become reserve; but we must not mistake the mixture of boldness and circumspection for the peculiar character of Fontenelle."

"He has also been called the sage Fontenelle. The philosophers of the eighteenth century regarded him as the model of wise men, because he had dared to think, and had only spoken out the half of his thoughts. It was a tractable wisdom and tolerably egotistic. He said, that 'if he had his hand full of truths, he would take good care not to open it.' He did, however, open this hand a little, but never entirely. Nowhere in his writings is there any very explicit explanation of morality or philosophy; nevertheless, from the whole of his life and writings, we may easily deduce a moral and philosophical system. It is nowhere and everywhere. This philosophy at bottom is mere scepticism. To affirm nothing, and to have no sure belief about anything, only there must be no question about the certainty of physical and mathematical truths, summed up the philosophy of an age, which regarded as wisdom the disbelief of philosophical truth. Fontenelle, a sceptic in history, as in everything else, thought that he possessed this wisdom. Reserved as he was, he said he was unacquainted with any folly. Folly, indeed, as the age viewed it—that is to say, exaggeration and excess—was not in the nature of Fontenelle. His wisdom consisted in living morally and intellectually in a moderate temperature, it is a lukewarm existence, but pleasant, like everything which is lukewarm. It may be said that his character itself was a system; the art of being happy was with him a talent, and in this respect his life deserves to be studied. At sixty years of age, he was placed in circumstances peculiarly favourable, but even then, though his nature prevented him from sharp suffering, he was exposed to a mass of contradiction. At war with the classical writers of the seventeenth century, he was on the point of being persecuted for having indulged in some writings by no means Catholic, and he was attacked in libels, which, however, he made a rule not to read. These struggles were prolonged till the Regency; at that period the prevailing opinion changed, and he had then only admirers. Fontenelle was a bachelor, and was really born for celibacy; he was afraid, above all, of lively impressions, and knew how to avoid them even to the end. In his last moments, when asked what he felt, he answered, 'I feel only the difficulty of existing.' Thus terminated a life singularly happy in a career which is scarcely so—that of men of letters."

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Critical and Historical Essays contributed to the Edinburgh Review, by the Right Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay, M.P. Part 6. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

Census of Great Britain, 1851. Population Tables II. Ages, Civil Condition, Occupations and Birthplace of the People: With the Numbers and Ages of the Blind, the Deaf and Dumb, and the Inmates of Workhouses, Prisons, Lunatic Asylums, and Hospitals. Eyre and Spottiswoode.

What is Truth? John Chapman.

The Smoke Question Simplified. John Weale.

Routledge's American Handbook and Tourists' Guide through the United States.

G. Routledge and Co.

The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire. By Edward Gibbon, Esq., with Notes by Dean Milman and M. Guizot. Edited, with additional Notes, by William Smith, L.L.D. Vol. IV. John Murray.

Clinical Handbook of Auscultation and Percussion: an Exposition, from first Principles of the Method of Investigating Diseases of the Respiratory and Circulating Organs, from the German of Weber. By John Cockle, A.M., M.D., F.R.C.S.

Samuel Highly.

The Great Highway; a Story of the World's Struggles, by T. W. Fuller. (3rd Edition.) G. Routledge and Co.
The Half-Sisters: a Tale, by Geraldine Endors Jewsbury. Chapman and Hall.
Lectures on the Epistle to the Romans, by Thomas Chalmers, D.D., L.L.D. Thomas Constable and Co.
The Earnest Student; being Memorials of John Mackintosh, by the Rev. Norman Macleod. Thomas Constable and Co.
The Shady Side, by a Pastor's Wife. Thomas Constable and Co.

The Arts.

ORIENTAL AND TURKISH MUSEUM.

CONSIDERING the Turko-mania which prevails just now, it is not a bad idea to get up a sort of Oriental "Madame Tussaud."

The Western Powers, adopting their usual mode of civilising, have sent their armies into Turkey, to finish what Turkish Reformers have begun, and in a few years the Ottoman Empire will be Occidentalised. If travellers are not prompt in their movements they will have to fall back on the Turkish and Oriental Museum, which preserves the life of the East—in wax! This exhibition will give the gentlemen who live at home at ease a decided advantage over military men and newspaper correspondents. We, who merely go to Hyde Park, that be able to put down some of the swagger of those gentlemen on their return. They may talk of Turkish baths (according to the authority at St. George's Gallery the place is more of a "wash-house" than what we call a "bath"), of Khaoës, Bazaars, Hamals, Arabas, Kabobs, &c., &c. But will any of them have seen a Janissary in his habit as he lived? Will they have seen Sultan Mahmoud in his ancient imperial robes seated in full Divan, with all his pages, chamberlains, mutes, &c., receiving the homage of Karah-Gehennem, a bowing anachronism, in the blue frock and fez of the present day which throws out in strong relief the flowing robes and turbans of the surrounding groupe?

If they have seen Abdul Medjid, will they have seen Sultan Osman, the founder of the Ottoman Empire? Will they have seen a baker with his ear nailed to his door-post? Above all, will they have penetrated into the interior of a harem—into the very bed and boudoir of a Sultana? At any rate, if they have got there, which is possible, by all the rules of gallantry, they must not say so. Now all these things, and more, we may see any day for half-a-crown; all very life-like, the stillness and silence of the figures seeming mere Orientalism. We feel really an odd sensation as we step into the charmed precincts of the inner chambers of the harem, and find

ourselves in the presence of several almond-eyed beauties ("Kaderns" it seems is their proper title), making their toilettes, taking coffee, and gazing at dancing-girls. There are their real beds, looking very much like elegant "shake-downs," and we are pleased to observe that some of the attendant maids are decidedly prettier than their mistresses. The illusion is completed by your suddenly coming on a huge black gentleman of the neuter gender, whose eyes are made to roll about in a way at once to dissipate any notion you might begin to entertain of making yourself agreeable to the ladies.

The whole affair at this Museum is far above anything in the shape of wax-work ever before exhibited. The execution of the figures is admirable; the costumes are evidently accurate, the more so we think from their not being so overdone with barbaric gold and pearl as readers fresh from the *Arabian Nights* would expect; but as they are chiefly of the unreformed era of Turkey, there is enough of the picturesque to satisfy any sight-hunters. Decidedly the TURKISH AND ORIENTAL MUSEUM is worth seeing.

J. S.

MR. GEORGE GRANT'S CROMO-LITHOGRAPHIC OF COLUMBUS.

ALL who care for the extensive distribution of works of art must watch with interest the progress of printing in colours. Great difficulties attend any process of the kind. The repeated failure in securing a distinctness of the several colours, without at the same time producing harshness in the points where the different tints meet, is only one of the obstacles. To use the colours which blend without vitiating each other; to select pigments which can be imparted with some uniformity of transfer from the block to the paper; to produce the effect of force without opacity or harshness, are difficulties which have been more or less successfully combated, since Messrs. Baxter endeavoured to reduce oil printing to practice; and they have attained considerable success. The stone would, of course, suggest a medium for transferring a certain class of colours with considerable facility and certainty; and the example before us must be regarded as a step in progress. It is not to be denied that there is still much patchiness in the effect. The figure, for example, sitting near Columbus's right hand, and clothed in a brown robe, looks much as if it were clothed in rags, from the want of blending between the lighter and the darker tints, which mark the fall of the stuff; and the same defect is observed in other parts. On the other hand, in some parts, especially in the plain surfaces, as in the sides of the table and of a stool, there are some very successful examples of blending. The general effect of the whole, both in regard to purity of colour and of force in chiaroscuro, is very creditable to the artist. The committee of the Art-Union of Glasgow have purchased the copyright, for the purpose of distributing the specimen as prizes to its members.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, Aug. 15.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—GEORGE CRICKMER, Lowestoft, saddler—ISAAC COOK, Sunderland, painter.
BANKRUPTS.—ALFRED HENRY EDGLEY, Botesdale, Suffolk, innkeeper—PHILIP RIMER, Gravesend, cigar merchant—FRANCIS WILDBORE, Wisbeach, hotel-keeper—WILLIAM IVORY, Norwich, wholesale grocer—JOHN THOMAS JENKINS, Deptford, builder—HENRY JOHN ASHLEY, Newbury, artificial manure merchant—HENRY DAVY, Crediton, Devonshire, linen manufacturer—WILLIAM MUDGE, Paignton, Devonshire, fly proprietor—WILLIAM and HENRY SHAW, Mold-green, near Huddersfield, dyers—THOMAS MELLOR and SAMUEL EASON, Liverpool, merchants—WILLIAM COVENEY, Manchester, silk manufacturer—SIMEON STANSFIELD, Little Hulton, Lancashire, cotton spinner.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—R. McDONALD, Portobello, spirit merchant—T. SCOTT, Edinburgh, grocer.

Friday, Aug. 18.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—CHARLES MEE, Berlin wool and fancy needle work repository, Bristol.
BANKRUPTS.—HENRY KNAPP, builder, New-road—HENRY SCARLETT, brewer, Huddersfield—THOMAS DEANS, draper, Blackburn—ROBERT TRIPP, sharebroker, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill—GEORGE THOMAS CHANTRY, paper-box manufacturer, Birmingham—HENRY BREWER, innkeeper, Ross, Herefordshire—SAMUEL ROUTLEDGE, dyer, Huddersfield—THOMAS MARSON, dealer in horses, Finsbury—SIDNEY MILNES HAWKES, brewer, Chelsea—SAMUEL HERBERT ELLIS, the younger, sharebroker, Stock Exchange—HENRY ALFRED MATTHEWS, victualler, Camberwell, Surrey.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BOWRING.—August 15, at Clapham-park, the wife of Edgar Alfred Bowring, Esq.: a son.
CRAUFURD.—August 12, at Sunninghill, the wife of Col. Craufurd, of the Grenadier Guards: a daughter.
RODNEY.—August 15, at Berrington, Leominster, Lady Rodney: a daughter.
THOMAS.—August 12, at Windmill-hill, Sussex, the wife of Sir Godfrey J. Thomas, Bart.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CLAY—EADY.—August 16, at St. Mary's Church, Hornsey, Charles John Clay, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, printer to the University, and eldest son of Richard Clay, Esq., of Muswell-hill, to Emily Jane, fourth daughter of William Eady, Esq., of Campsbourne, Hornsey.

GREY—MOWATT.—August 10, in the parish church of Trotton, Francis Douglas Grey, Captain in the Sixty-third Regt., and son of the late Hon. Edward Grey, D.D., Bishop of Hereford, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Francis Mowatt, Esq., of Devonshire-place, London, and of Trotton-place, Sussex.

SEYMOUR—LLOYD.—August 15, at St. Mary Magdalen's, Oxford, the Rev. Henry Fortescue Seymour, M.A., Fellow of All Souls, and Vicar of Barkley, Essex, eldest son of the Rev. G. T. Seymour, of Farringford-hill, Isle of Wight, to Eliza, youngest daughter of the late Right Rev. Charles Lloyd, Bishop of Oxford.

SHAKESPEAR—HAMILTON.—June 8, at the Residence, Indore, William Shakespear, Esq., Madras Cavalry, to Fanny Isabella, second daughter of Sir Robert Hamilton, Bart., Governor General's Agent for Central India.

DEATHS.

BARNES.—August 14, at Bohm Lodge, East Barnet, Maria, relict of the late Lieut.-General Sir Edward Barnes, G.O.B., in the fifty-seventh year of her age.
BARROW.—May 5, drowned off Melbourne, Australia, Samuel Barrow, senior official in the Immigration Depart-

ment for the Colony of Victoria, and fifth son of S. Barrow, Esq., of Ryde, Isle of Wight, aged thirty-seven.
BEECROFT.—June 10, at Clarence, after twenty-five years' residence in Africa, John Beecroft, Esq., her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Governor of Fernando Po.
BEAUFORT.—August 12, at Westbrook Hay, Hertfordshire, Charlotte, Dowager Duchess of Beaufort.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, August 18, 1854.

THIS was the pay day and final close of the August Consol account. A further improvement in price has been shown since last week. The following quotations of closing prices for the week will show what the general tendency of the market has been during that time—Saturday, 93½; Monday, 93½; Tuesday, 93½; Wednesday, 93½; Thursday, 93½; and to-day, 94, 94½. The account did not appear to be "Bull" or "Bear," as stock was lent and borrowed even. The steadiness of the market has been shown by the jobbers having only demanded 13-16 per cent. for Put, 13-16 per cent. for Call, and 14 for Put and Call during the September account. There has been some fluctuations in Great Western and other heavy stock. York and Norths have been good. A most warrantable distaste for gold mining shares still prevails, and the little business done has been at ridiculous prices. There has been some correspondence in the *Daily News* concerning the West Mariposa Company, which it is to be hoped will elicit some particulars as to the company's proceedings. Turkish loan has been 7 to 7½ pm., and generally seems well sought for, but we do not think it likely to sustain its present price. The following are the principal closing prices of stock shares sold for to-day.

Consols, 94, 94½; Caledonian, 62½, 63; Chester and Holyhead, 15½, 16½; Eastern Counties, 11½, 11½; Great Northern, 83½, 84½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 93, 95; Great Western, 72½, 73; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 69, 69½; London and Brighton, 104, 106; London and North-Western, 101½, 102½, x. d.; London and South-Western, 82, 83; Midland, 68½, 69½; South Eastern, 65, 65½; Waterford and Kilkenny, 4, 5; Waterford and Limerick, 23, 25; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6, 6½; Eastern of France, 31½, 32; East Indian, 24, 24½; Great Luxembourg (Constituted), 3, 3½; Ditto (Obligations), 1½, 1½ dis.; Northern of France, 33½, 34½; Paris and Lyons, 18½, 19½, pm.; Paris and Orleans, 47, 49; Paris and Rouen, 38, 40 x. d.; Agua Fria, 4, 4½; St. John del Rey, 20, 28; Colonial Gold, 4, 4½; Linares 9, 10; Peninsular, par, 4 pm.; Australasia Bank, 84, 86; Chartered of Asia, 4, 4½ x. d.; Eng. Scot. and Australian, 2, 1½ dis.; Oriental, 40, 48; Union of Australia, 60, 68; Agricultural, 41½, 42½ x. d.; Peel River, 4, 4½; Scottish Australian Investment, 2½, 2½ x. d.; Van Dieman's, 11, 12.

CORN MARKET.

LOCAL TRADE.—The arrivals of Wheat, Oats and Barley during the week have been very short, and the trade has remained unchanged. Barley also is without alteration. Oats are 1s. lower. Some of the Archangel Oats which have arrived are very poor in quality and condition, and have been sold as low as 21s. 0d.

FLOATING TRADE.—There are about fifteen cargoes of Wheat off the coast waiting for orders, the largest number of which are from Galatz. A cargo of this description has been sold at 53s., cost, freight, and insurance; and one of Saidi at 38s. 3d. For Maraspol and Herdinski, 60s. to 65s. are asked, but sellers show a disposition to accept reasonable offers.

In consequence of the advance in the value of Maize at Liverpool, holders here demand higher rates. A cargo of Ordon was sold yesterday at 34s., cost, freight, and insurance; and one of Galatz at 38s. There are several cargoes off the coast from Alexandria, for which 30s. are asked. Two cargoes of African Barley are off the coast, for which the holders ask 21s. and 22s. cost, freight and insurance.

From Stettin we learn that the continuance of fine weather has reduced prices considerably.

By the latest advices from New York we learn that with short supplies which were scarcely sufficient to supply the home demand, prices were firmly maintained. With the exception of Ohio, however, the crops are reported to be abundant, and the extra breadth of land sown is expected to far more than compensate for any deficiency in the yield. The crop in Canada is reported to be very large, and as it is henceforth to be admitted free of duty into the United States, where shipping is more abundant than in Canada, we may anticipate that greater facilities will exist for the export to this country of both Canadian and United States produce.

In France but little new Wheat has found its way to the markets, and prices have exhibited more tendency to advance than decline. Flour was 1l. higher at Paris on Wednesday.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	210	209½	.....	208	208½	210
3 per Cent. Red.	93½	93½	93½	93½	94½	94½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	94
Consols for Account	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	94
3½ per Cent. An.	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
New 3½ per Cents.....	.....	4 11-16	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Anis. 1860.....	4½	4 11-16	4½	4½	4½	4½
India Stock.....	.....	227	.....	.....	228	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 p	.....
Ditto, under £1000 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 p	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	1 p	2 d	1 d	1 d	2 p	1 d
Ditto, £500	par	2 d	.....	1 d	.....	1 d
Ditto, Small	par	3 p	.....	3 p	par	3 p

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

Brazilian Bonds	100½	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents 1822	86½
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	104½	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	86½
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	104½	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def. 182	182
Danish 5 per Cents.....	108	Spanish Committee Cert. of Coup. not fun.	5
Ecuador Bonds.....	24½	Venezuela 3½ per Cents.	95
Mexican 3 per Cents.	24½	Belgian 4½ per Cents.....	95
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. ....	.....	Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	91½
Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	91½
Portuguese 5 p. Cents. ....	.....	

WILLIAM STEVENS, Sole Agent, continues supplying the Public with the METROPOLITAN and PROVINCIAL JOINT-STOCK BREWERY COMPANY'S ALES and STOUT, in Bottles of the Standard Imperial Measure, at the prices below:—

Ale or Stout.....	quarts	6 d	per doz.
Do do	pints	3 0	"
Do do	half pints	2 3	"

All Orders to be sent to the Wholesale and Retail Stores.

13, Upper Wellington-street, Strand.

Terms Cash. WILLIAM STEVENS, Sole Agent.
 The Company's Goods supplied in Casks to Families.

DUTY OFF TEA.—The REDUCTION

of the TEA DUTY, and the easy state of the Tea-market, enables PHILLIPS and Company to SELL—

Strong Congou Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., and 3s.
Rich Souchong Tea, 3s. 2d., 3s. 4d., and 3s. 8d.
The Best Assam Pekoe Souchong Tea, 4s.
Prime Gunpowder Tea, 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 4d.
Best Moyune Gunpowder, 4s. 8d.
The Best Pearl Gunpowder, 5s.
Prime Coffees, 1s., 1s. 2d., and 1s. 3d.
The Best Mocha and the Best West India Coffee 1s. 4d.
Sugars are supplied at market prices.

All goods sent carriage free, by our own vans, if within eight miles. Teas, coffees, and spices sent carriage free to any railway station or market-town in England, if to the value of 40s. or upwards, by

PHILLIPS and COMPANY, Tea Merchants, 8, King William-street, City, London.
A general price-current sent free on application.

ANOTHER REDUCTION OF FOUR-

PENCE THE POUND IN THE DUTY ON TEA.—In accordance with our usual practice of always being FIRST to give the Public the full ADVANTAGE of every REDUCTION in the value of our goods, we have at once lowered the prices of all our Teas to fullest extent of the REDUCTION OF DUTY; and we are determined, so far as we are concerned, that the Public shall reap the full benefit of this act of the Government.

	s.	d.
The Best Pekoe Congou	3	8 the pound.
Strong Breakfast ditto	3	0 "
Good sound ditto	2	8 "
Choice Gunpowder	4	8 "
Finest Young Hyson	4	4 "
Good Plantation Coffee	1	0 "
Cuba, Jamaica or Costa Rica	1	4 "
Choice old Mocha	1	6 "
The Best Homeopathic Cocoa	1	0 "

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

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

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DICE.—Stiff stays destroy natural grace, produce deformity, and implant disease. Curvature of the spine, consumption, and a host of evils arise from their use. MARTIN'S ELASTIC BODICE is without whalebone or lacing, at the same time furnishing a sufficient support, and imparting to the figure that natural elegance, which is quite impossible under the pressure which is the great aim, as mischief is the certain end, of all kinds of stays. The time and patience of the wearer are also spared, by a simple fastening in front, to obviate the trouble of lacing. Can be sent by post.

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Prevented by the destruction of all noxious effluvia. CREW'S DISINFECTING FLUID, recommended by the College of Physicians, the Cheapest and strongest Chloride of Zinc. Quarts, 2s.; pints, 1s.; half-pints, 6d. Sold by all Chemists, Druggists, and Shipping Agents, and at Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

THE MOST CERTAIN PREVENTION

OF CHOLERA YET DISCOVERED.—Further Great Reduction in Price.—CREW'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 Crew'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. Full 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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A OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA. This is, of all known remedies, the most pure, safe, active, and efficacious in the purification of the blood of all morbid matter, of bile, urea, acids, scrofulous substances, humours of all kinds, which produce rashes, eruptions, salt rheum, erysipelas, scald head, sore eyes and ears, sore throat and ulcers, and sores on any part of the body. It is unsurpassed in its action upon the liver, the lungs, and the stomach, removing any cause of disease from those organs, and expelling all humours from the system. By cleansing the blood, it for ever prevents pustules, scabs, pimples and every variety of sores on the face and breast. It is a great tonic, and imparts strength and vigour to the debilitated and weak, gives rest and refreshing sleep to the nervous and restless invalid. It is a great female medicine, and will cure more complaints peculiar to the sex than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 373, Strand, adjoining Exeter-Hall: POMEROY, ANDREWS, and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 1s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mammoth, 11s.

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"THE MEDICAL CIRCULAR," May 10, 1854.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

The Court of Directors grant LETTERS of CREDIT and BILLS at 30 days' sight upon the Company's Bank at Adelaide. The exchange on sums above £10 is now at a premium or charge of two per cent. Approved drafts on South Australia negotiated, and bills collected.

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The business of the Company comprises Assurances on Lives and Survivorships, the Purchase of Life Interests, the sale and purchase of contingent and deferred Annuities, Loans of Money on Mortgage, &c.

This Company was established in 1807, is empowered by the Act of Parliament 53 George III., and regulated by Deed enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

The Company was originally a strictly Proprietary one. The Assured on the participating scale, now participate quinquennially in four-fifths of the amount to be divided.

To the present time (1853) the Assured have received from the Company in satisfaction of their claims, upwards of 1,400,000*l*.

The amount at present assured is 3,000,000*l*. nearly, and the income of the Company is about 125,000*l*.

At the last Division of Surplus, about 120,000*l*. was added to the sums assured under Policies for the whole term of Life.

The lives assured are permitted, in time of peace, and not being engaged in mining or gold digging, to reside in any country—or to pass by sea (not being seafaring persons by profession) between any two parts of the same hemisphere—distant more than 33 degrees from the Equator, without extra charge.

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Established May, 1844.

Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to examine the Plan of this Institution, by which a high rate of Interest may be obtained with perfect Security.

The Interest is payable in JANUARY and JULY, and for the convenience of parties residing at a distance, may be received at the Branch Offices, or paid through Country Bankers, without expense.

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