

Spredemann Galloway, 18th Strand.

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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VOL. VI. No. 273.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE journals of the week authenticate and elucidate the intelligence already received, rather than carry it forward. The *Gazette* gives us fuller accounts of the military operations in the Peninsula of Kertch and the Sea of Azof, and the official papers laid before Parliament give us the Protocol of the last Vienna Conference.

The march of success for the Allies has been uninterrupted and decisive. The expedition to Kertch, which was partially revoked by General CANROBERT, fully justifies the design in which it originated, and the energy of the officers, from the highest to the lowest, who have carried it out. According to the last accounts, the Allies are in possession of the Sea of Azof, and of the Peninsula of Kertch, and the Circassians are placed in possession of the opposite peninsula, which forms the Straits of Yeni-Kaleh. The Russians had retained possession of Anapa, but as the English fleet was scouring the Sea of Azof, and was probably supposed to be aiming at an occupation of the south-eastern peninsula, the Russians suddenly evacuated Anapa, abandoning possession of that part of the coast, and the vacant ground was immediately taken up by the Circassians. The south-eastern line of communication for the Russians, by which provisions were at that very day constantly *en route* for Sebastopol, is now entirely in the hold of the Allies. They have also established a firm grasp of the Sebastopol defences. The seizure of the Mamelon, and of the Quarries in front of the Redan Battery, has not only driven the Russians back upon their old works, but has given to the French and British a position to push their attacks upon the town and harbour. Stores of provisions, numbers of Russian ships, and a great line of communication, have thus been seized, almost without loss to the Allies; but the inroads upon the Sebastopol defences were not gained without a very severe payment in blood.

Substantially the last protocol from Vienna does not differ from the account given of it already. Austria proposed a limitation of the Russian and Turkish forces in the Black Sea, by a direct understanding between the two powers concerned; the other powers having the liberty of introducing not more than two frigates into the Black Sea, and the SULTAN being ad-

mitted to the equilibrium of Europe, with power to open or close the Straits at pleasure. The Russian Plenipotentiary, as has been already reported, offered to transmit this proposal to St. Petersburg, in the meanwhile endeavouring to separate Austria from the Allies by insidious compliments, and trying to improve the opportunity of dilatory negotiation; but at the same time distinctly betraying the purpose of the Emperor ALEXANDER, never to submit to a limitation of his forces. The intent to deceive was openly confessed, with a frankness as barbaric as the impudence of the tone now assumed by the Russian ministers. The futility of further conference must have been evident, even to the conciliatory Count BUOL; at whose request this last meeting was held. It served one purpose: it must perfectly have convinced every man who is not besotted, that Russia never intended the slightest concession, but only desired to lead the Western Powers into further embarrassments, by pretending to concede, while reserving the right of revocation.

Aldershot camp is now formed. The site does not appear to be the most suited to the comfort of the soldiers. Water is said to be insufficient, the dust abundant, but at all events the men are placed in a position to learn camp life and combined movements; and the militia will have their share in experience of that kind.

Another important step for the improved discipline of the army consists in the general order disposing of the EVANS-BAUMGARTEN case. It will be remembered that Cornet EVANS was the most active leader in certain vulgar frolics for inflicting injuries upon Cornet BAUMGARTEN, whose door was broken open, whose horse was tailed and cropped, with other playfulnesses of the kind. After submitting to much persecution, BAUMGARTEN challenged EVANS; EVANS's seconds were to have been Lieutenant HARTOP and Lieutenant WEBSTER; and Sergeant BRODIE, who seems to have been a species of humble friend of BAUMGARTEN, strove to prevent the duel, as being contrary to Christian principles and the orders of the Horse Guards. BRODIE was afterwards brought to a court-martial for alleged irregularities; but the tables are now turned: BRODIE is commended by the Commander-in-chief, although cautioned that it would have been better to refer the case to a superior officer; BAUMGARTEN also receives an admonition to be more cautious; HARTOP is ordered to report himself regularly,

and his place is lowered in the list of officers. WEBSTER is ordered to sell out, and EVANS is ignominiously dismissed from the service. The general order is of a kind to exclude from the army, the NORTHERTON class of officers, who "damn homo," and play rough tom-fooleries; while the marked consideration shown for BRODIE is a great practical innovation upon social distinctions as they have hitherto been maintained between the commissioned and non-commissioned class.

Reverting to civil and home matters: the Administrative Reformers have taken up a decided ground, by a monster meeting in Drury-Lane Theatre. It was a muster roll rather than a deliberative meeting. The members of the Association displaying their allies in Parliament and in the press, represented by several Members of Parliament, with Mr. THACKERAY on the platform, and CHARLES DICKENS in the shape of a sympathetic letter. Mr. LINDSAY, a "regular Scotch BRUTUS," as a voice in the gallery described him, told some pungent tales of administrative bungling, such as the summons for a ship to come round from one port to another to be surveyed, instead of sending the surveyor to look at the ship. Upon the whole, however, the most striking fact of the meeting was the number and hearty spirit of an immense audience. About that there could be no mistake. Administrative Reform is the immediate work of the day; but if the movement is to become national, Administrative Reform can only be a preface to a Reform of Parliament.

Before these outer demonstrations the common proceedings in Parliament sink to comparative insignificance. Mr. WILLIAM BROWN has had a new debate on the decimal coinage, which he patronises, and Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS could only echo difficulties like those discovered by Mr. LOWE in finding change for an old coin out of the new, and then he suffered Mr. BROWN's resolution, slightly modified, to be carried. Sir JOHN PARKINGTON's Bill for the education of the people, by a measure permitting districts to establish schools, or existing schools to enrol themselves as local schools, with provisions for general instruction, has been debated for another night, and adjourned again, ultimately to go before a Select Committee, which has the RUSSELL and Secular Bills before it. Lord SHAFTESBURY has also carried, in the House of Lords, a motion for introducing a Bill to repeal the 52nd George III. prohibiting the assemblage of persons beyond the

number of twenty, over and above the inmates of a private dwelling-house, for religious worship. The act belongs to a series for putting down Nonconformists and other proscribed sects. It is now useless except to prevent the members of the Church of England, who must be the most guarded in infringing state discipline, from engaging with each other, or with members of other persuasions, to promote evangelical movements among the heathen. Lord SHAFTESBURY found no resistance to his plan for encouraging missionary enterprise among the 5,000,000 heathens in England, except from the Bishops, who held a meeting in the morning on purpose to declare war against the pious Earl. However, he carried the day against the bishops, and a contest between mitred obstructives and Lord SHAFTESBURY is likely to revive the question as to the real power and influence of the prelates in the House of Lords.

The position of Mr. LOWE perplexes people more than the peculiar treatment of the Australian Constitution Bills. The story of the bills is a romance of Parliamentary life. In 1850 the Crown gave assent to a bill permitting the Australian colonies to frame constitutions for themselves, under certain limitations. Lord GREY had been for some time trying to tinker the colonies, and the bill of 1850 was the enactment of a grand "peccavi." The gracious colonies received it in very various modes; but every one of them has treated its restrictions as sportsmen treat fences: the higher the merrier. The Colonial Bills are enacted on the steeple-chase principle, and are sent home, where they are duly subjected to a great shaking of the head, for their audacity; and then they are incorporated in schedules of bills laid before Parliament, in order to sanction the greater part of the colonial enactments, with some reserve to save the Imperial dignity. Here Mr. LOWE steps in, objecting to the whole transaction. He cannot bear to see the colonies placing the Imperial authority in contempt; he cannot bear to see the Imperial Government interfering with local business. So, he proposes that the bills be sent back, and that the governor be empowered to give the assent to any bills that the local Legislatures may pass. There would be two very obvious results from this course; imperial dignity would not be saved and colonial business would be hindered. No one ought to know that better than Mr. LOWE. It would be to get a colonial triumph at the expense of an immense colonial inconvenience. Yet Mr. LOWE, who lately tried his hand as Secretary to the Board of Control and then retired, is held to be an independent statesman, walking the hospitals of the public departments, as the study for a future professional career in high politics. He is supposed to have had some deep design in view—something that will make him appear to the British Empire wiser than all other statesmen whatsoever. His present course, however, is so wise, that ordinary folks cannot understand it; and they assume him to have been, like Mr. GLADSTONE, engaged in some wonderful Oxonian mystery, intelligible only to the initiated.

The Professorship of Civil Law at Oxford, vacated some time ago by the death of Dr. PHILLIMORE, has been conferred on Dr. TRAVERS TWISS. We owe Dr. TWISS a grudge for bringing his PUFFENDORFS to the aid of despotism and injustice in his pamphlets on Hungary and Schleswig Holstein. But he is a learned and eminent civilian, and the appointment is a just one, if the Professorship is to be, as it has hitherto been, a sinecure and a mere decoration. We had hoped, however, that the study of Civil Law having been revived at Oxford in connexion with the History School, the Professorship would be a sinecure no longer, and that the Professor would be required to reside and superintend the working of his school.

Parliament is rather at a discount just now. Ministers have succeeded in damping the Adminis-

trative Reform movement, and the censorious motions on the war; by adopting a highly warlike tone, and carrying out some show of departmental reforms. Of these, the most conspicuous is the new organisation of the War Department, with a plan of examination for admitting young men to commissions and high studentships in artillery and engineering at Woolwich, by public examination. If members have been active in attacking Ministers through Parliament, they have received a severe rebuke from Prince ALBERT, who was chairman at the dinner of the Trinity Elder-Brothers on Saturday, and who read to such obtrusive members a lecture on the inconvenience of representative Government in warfare against an autocrat that can keep his own secrets and issue his own orders. The country, said Prince ALBERT, ought to have confidence in Lord PALMERSTON, whose health he was drinking. So they have, said Lord PALMERSTON, in returning thanks; for he did not admit the premise—the want of support. Three questions are suggested by Prince ALBERT's admonition: Are the members more prying than politic, when they drag out replies that convey information to the enemy? Are Ministers justified in yielding to parliamentary pressure disclosures that really damage the country with the enemy? Is the Prince Consort of the QUEEN exactly the person to make this appeal on behalf of Ministers from the Houses of Parliament to the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House? Prince ALBERT talks exceedingly good sense; but we have yet to learn that exalted personages with royal privileges have a right to talk sense when and where they please. Decidedly it is a subversive innovation which adds dangerously to the privileges of the order.

On the other hand, of course, the same objections cannot be entertained to Prince ALBERT's appearance in Copenhagen-fields, as the Augar opening the new cattle-market. He is himself an authority in stock, and the example of GEORGE THE THIRD has almost compelled the British Sovereign, by self or proxy, to combine the calling of CINCINNATUS with other constitutional duties. The occasion, indeed, was the more striking, since the Corporation had sedulously resisted every attempt to remove the market from Smithfield. They had pertinaciously resolved to take their pigs to another market; and now they invited the Prince to commemorate the occasion of their bringing their pigs to Copenhagen-fields. He praised them heartily for what they had endeavoured not to do; and they departed exulting in the duty that had been forced upon them.

Crops and commerce are upon the whole in fine condition. The rain would look ugly, if it were ripening time; but, as the short old gentleman in the omnibus says, with a beaming forgetfulness of self, "these warm rains make *everything* grow." And the Bank has just reduced its discount from four to three-and-a-half per cent.; which places that laggard establishment *only* in the rear of every other firm in the metropolis; so that it is still safe, with something of discount yet to spare. The manufacturing districts are improving rather than otherwise. The only check to the generally fair report is the astounding appearance of Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL in the Bankruptcy Court, as one of the firm of STRAHAN and Co. But a firm that is in fashionable society, and speaks Italian, is therefore, in courtesy, bound to speculate in Italian Railways, and is very likely to find its West-end liabilities compromise it with its commercial liabilities. Such incidents are but commonplace. In London the fall of one house drags others with it; people talk a good deal; the fewness of the shillings in the pound constitutes the wonderment of the day; and then commerce goes on as before. If PAUL and Co. have failed, the bank discount is lowered half per cent., and the Allies are getting on famously in the Crimea.

THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION is indefatigable in following up the events of the war, which, almost as soon as they occur, are here brought pictorially before the eye of the public. Among the recent additions we notice—"English Mortar Battery; the Redan and Rifle-pits; General Pelissier's Night Attack; and Mr. Fergusson's New System of Fortification." The lecture by Mr. Stoqueler on the Events of the War still continues; and those who have once heard that gentleman's clear, straightforward, and unaffected mode of instructing his audience, will need no further guarantee that every requisite element in such a discourse is forthcoming.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FERMOY PEERAGE.

THE EARL OF DERBY, on Monday, called attention to the circumstances under which Mr. Roche had lately been elevated to the Peerage of Ireland as Barc Fermoy. According to the Act of Union, the Crown has the power of creating a new peer in Ireland whenever three of the existing peerages become extinct. But, in the present case, two of the three titles which have lapsed have been held by or person. Lord Dêrby therefore contended that the creation is illegal; and he also objected to Mr. Roche as having been a very violent opponent of the Established Church of Ireland, and an energetic partisan of the repeal agitation of 1843. He concluded by moving that the subject be referred to the consideration of a Committee of Privilege.—Lord GRANVILLE, in reply, stated that the Government had referred the question to the law officers of the Crown in Ireland, to one of the law officers in England, and also to the Attorney-General of Lord Derby's administration; and they all concurred in the opinion that the creation could be legally made. He defended the character of Mr. Roche.—A legal arguer followed, in which Lord ST. LEONARDS, LORD BROUGHAM, the LORD CHANCELLOR, the EARL OF WICKLOW, LORD CAMPBELL, and the EARL OF HAREWICKE, took part; and finally the motion was agreed to.

ABSENCE OF THE SPEAKER.

In the Commons, at the forenoon sitting, the SPEAKER thanked the House for the arrangements by which his absence had been provided for during his recent illness. He adverted to the circumstance of doubts having arisen as to whether Lord Haddo and Mr. Tite had taken the oaths and their seats according to law in his absence; and, after quoting the words of the act, declined to offer any opinion of his own, but suggested to the House to consider what course should be adopted lest actions might be brought against those members for assuming their seats without having taken the oaths in the presence of the Speaker.—Sir GEORGE GREY mentioned that he had consulted several legal authorities; and, their opinion being that the point is doubtful, he thought a bill should be immediately brought in to prevent any legal proceedings taking place.—This course met with general approval; and, in the evening sitting, leave was given to bring in a bill in accordance with the suggestion. It was then brought in and read a first time.

ADMIRAL DUNDAS'S DESPATCHES.

In reply to Mr. ELLICE, Sir CHARLES WOOD said that the Government despatches to Admiral Dundas quoted by Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, in the debate on the war, would be laid on the table of the House. Extracts from the answers of Admiral Dundas would also be produced.

EDUCATION (NO. 2) BILL.

The debate on the second reading of this bill adjourned from the 2nd of May, was resumed by Mr. ADDERLEY, who objected to reading the bill together with Lord John Russell's and Mr. Milner Gibson's bills, *pro forma*, and then referring them to a select committee. The principle of a measure should always be discussed at the second reading, a committee not affording a proper opportunity for such discussion. He approved on the whole of the measure introduced by Sir John Pakington; but he dissented from the new school clauses, because the existing religious bodies, if they are provided with sufficient means, will maintain schools enough, without it being necessary to create new ones by means of these clauses. He disagreed with Mr. Henley that the proposals of Sir John Pakington and Lord John Russell would supersede the existing system. They would do no more than supply its deficiencies. The effect of the bill would be to stimulate, assist, and direct, private charity, as the Poor-law has done. The present system of education is deficient, and never can be made complete. But from the two bills of Sir John Pakington and Lord John Russell a measure might be struck out which would be satisfactory to the country. The proposal of Mr. Milner Gibson, that the teaching at national schools should be entirely exclusive of religion, Mr. Adderley conceived to be so utterly mistaken that he declined to argue it.—Mr. EVELYN DENISON pointed out what he conceived to be a material omission—namely, that there was no provision to enforce attendance upon schools.—Lord JOHN MANNERS opposed the bill before the House (that of Sir John Pakington), saying that he felt great pain in doing so, but that he was convinced of the mischievous nature of the measure, which would introduce religious contention and disorder. An educational rate would be considered burdensome; and it is known that free schools are sometimes worse attended than any others, because the people do not set any great value upon that which they do not earn or purchase for themselves. The present system, if let alone, would supply all the defects imputed to it. Two millions of children are now being educated by private charity; and the

ing state of education has obtained the concurrence of all religious denominations. He gave his opposition to Sir John Pakington's measure; he hoped that the House would deal a death-blow to all the three companion measures which he proposed before it.—Mr. W. J. Fox insisted upon the need which exists for some national scheme of universal education. The present system is most unequal. The great bulk of those who are committed to prison for crimes are such as have been sent to the schools which now exist. The utterly ignorant are the small number; the number of those who can read and write is not so small. He trusted the three bills would be sent to the same committee, where they might be amalgamated into one measure.

JOHN PAKINGTON entered into a minute reply to arguments against his bill advanced by Mr. Henley in the last debate. The main proposition of Henley and of Lord John Manners was, that the present system has not failed. But this is not a mere position; while, on the other hand, it is impossible to controvert the facts upon which the present state of things is impugned. The continental states, with a few exceptions, and the United States in America, with the exception of the slave states, are in advance of England. Sir John then quoted a variety of statistics, showing the lamentable state of ignorance to be found among the poor, of whom large portions have no knowledge of the existence of a Saviour, the name of Jesus, while many are unable to read the names of the months, and have no conception of the distinction of vice and virtue. The present system had been found insufficient for the wants of the schools; and thirty-two clergymen have testified that they have been obliged on the average to attend to the education of 261 of their own parishes. Mr. Henley had said that the effect of the bill would be to pauperise the people. Were the people of New York, Pennsylvania, Holland, and Scotland, pauperised by having no free schools? He (Sir John Pakington) was merely contending that England should have the same advantages similar to those which have existed in other countries for two centuries. Extraneous aid being refused, there was no other resource than a rate. In respect to Mr. Denison's objection, that there is no provision in the bill for compulsory attendance, it must be borne in mind that, before such a law could pass, more schools must be provided, and the effect of the bill in improving schools would be to stimulate attendance. The motion of Mr. EWART, the debate was adjourned till Monday next.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.
The remarks made by Mr. DISRAELI, upon the present period at which morning sittings had commenced, and a suggestion by him that they should be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, led to a rather long conversation respecting the business before the House in the course of which Mr. BOUVIER moved the report that it was intended to withdraw the Partnership Amendment Bill and the Limited Liability Bill.

WAYS AND MEANS.
The committee of Ways and Means, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. WILSON, that, towards the good the Supply granted to her Majesty, the sum of 10,000,000*l.* be granted out of the Consolidated Fund.

GOLD FINGER-RINGS BILL was read a third time and passed.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.
The Earl of SHAFTESBURY on Tuesday moved the motion of the report on the Religious Worship Bill, the effect of which is to repeal so much of the act of 1833, as prohibits the assembling of more than twenty persons in a house, besides the family, for the purpose of religious worship. The Earl remarked that it is permitted to persons to open their houses to the public for other diversions; it is lawful to have a public-house with a pack of hounds for the purpose of hunting; and it ought to be equally legitimate to permit persons to gather in one spot for devotion. Now a penny stamp is taken off newspapers, there is a danger of the country being overwhelmed with seditious and infidel publications; and every means should be sought of counteracting this with the antidote of religion. Lord Shaftesbury went at length into several details exhibiting the spiritual ignorance which overspreads a large part of the population of this country, of whom millions in England and Wales never attend any religious service whatever, while in one parish not a single person out of ten thousand attend any place of worship, and only one hundred attend occasionally. One of the chief means of counteracting this ignorance, and of instructing it, is to make it illegal. Different religious societies are in the habit of calling meetings in their schoolrooms for the purpose of religious devotion; but the very prayer constituting such meetings illegal, and those who are engaged in conducting them are liable to a fine of from 20*s.* to 20*l.* The Church has taken to holding open-air meetings, at one of

which; held the other day in Greenwich Park, as many as twelve hundred persons attended. If these efforts are to be extinguished, there would be an end to the best system devised in these times for reaching large classes of the poor and ignorant. Ragged schools, also, and many other institutions for enlightening and evangelising the lower classes, would be destroyed by an enforcement of the present law; since the meetings of all such bodies as these are commonly opened with prayer. There is no hindrance to attending a lecture at which the evidences of Christianity and the truth of the Bible may be disputed; but a meeting for the maintenance of these, which should be opened with prayer, would be illegal. Indeed, he believed that the inauguration of the Crystal Palace, when the Archbishop of Canterbury offered up a prayer, was a monstrous violation of the law. But he was told the law is obsolete. Yes; yet it has a power of revival. Lord Barham, now the Earl of Gainsborough, used to have religious services at his own house, at which the village school attended; but Lord Romney laid an information against him, and he was fined 40*l.* for two meetings. A county magistrate in the north of England had recently endeavoured to civilise the poor on his estate by religious exercises in the largest of their cottages: the meetings were largely attended, and the thing went on well for a few months; but it was then intimated that the proceedings were illegal, and they ceased. The reason for the present law has passed away. The acts of George II. and George III. are wholly unsuited to the present times; and his Lordship maintained that it is most unjust to put an interdict upon any man receiving any number of persons in his house for religious worship.

The BISHOP OF LONDON had great doubt whether the practice is illegal when clergymen act under the sanction and with the license of their bishops. He doubted also whether it would be any advantage for unqualified persons to be at liberty to hold small congregations in private houses, and thus draw them away from the parish church. He should like to have a clause embodying that view added to the bill.—The BISHOP OF OXFORD had no doubt that the bill was brought forward with the best intentions; but, since he believed it would interfere materially with the action of the Established Church, he must oppose it. It would confuse the line of demarcation between the Church and Dissent, and would do serious injury to the cause of religious peace. The existing prohibition does not extend to open-air meetings, as Lord Shaftesbury, no doubt inadvertently, had said; and, as for house-meetings, the small payment of half-a-crown will procure a license. He therefore held that no alteration of the law is requisite, and concluded by moving that the bill be recommitted that day six months.—The EARL OF HARROWBY, the EARL OF CHICHESTER, the DUKE OF ARGYLL, the EARL OF RODEN, and the LORD CHANCELLOR, spoke in favour of the bill, and the EARL OF CARNARVON against it.—Their lordships then divided, when the numbers were—For the bill, 31; against it, 30. The bill was then reported with amendments.—The EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, on Thursday, in answer to a request from Lord DERBY, refused to refer the bill to a select committee. THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES BILL was read a third time and passed.

MORNING SITTING.
In the House of Commons, at the morning sitting, the Validity of Proceedings (House of Commons) Bill was read a second time. The remainder of the sitting was expended in discussing, in committee, the details of the Metropolis Local Management Bill.

DECIMAL COINAGE.
In the evening, Mr. WILLIAM BROWN moved a series of resolutions, "That the initiation of the decimal system of coinage, by the issue of the florin, has been eminently successful and satisfactory; that a further extension of such system will be of great public advantage; and that an address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be pleased to complete the decimal scale with the pound and the florin, as suggested by two commissions and a Committee of the House of Commons, by authorising the issue of silver coins to represent the value of the one-hundredth part of a pound, and copper coins to represent the one-thousandth part of a pound, to be called 'cents' and 'mils' respectively, or to bear such other names as to her Majesty may seem advisable." In support of the motion, he cited several authorities.—Lord STANLEY seconded the motion, considering that the plan embodied in the report of the Committee, and now proposed in the resolutions before the House, is the best of any of the plans that have yet been proposed, and that it would be attended with very few practical inconveniences.

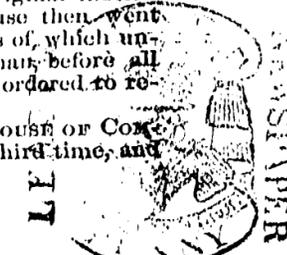
Mr. J. B. SMITH moved, as an amendment, to leave out from the words "pleased to" to the end of the question, in order to add the words "invite a congress of representatives of all nations, at some convenient place, with the view of considering the practicability of adopting a common standard of moneys, weights, and measures," instead thereof.

The small coins contemplated in the plan of Mr. Brown would be utterly useless; inconveniences and losses would be caused by fractions; a decimal system of weights and measures would be a necessary complement of the change; and this would render an extensive alteration of our laws indispensable. It would be but wise to invite the co-operation of other nations.—Mr. LOWE, while admitting the advantages of the decimal system, thought that the unit or integer proposed was too high, and that perplexities would be thus occasioned, the chief burden of which would fall upon the poor. A cent is twopence and two-fifths of a penny. Such a coin could never get into circulation; for it is a mere arithmetical quantity. The only recommendation of the mil is that it is the thousandth part of a pound. It appeared to him that we should be unwise in adopting a system which would involve such a complication of divisors. In a scientific decimal coinage, the unit must be something which would divide the pound without a remainder. The proposed new coinage would be incommensurable with foreign money. In selling small quantities of goods by the pound or yard, we should be obliged to resort to the decimal of a pound, which might require the use of nine figures. In short, the project would be most puzzling, and would multiply, instead of economising labour.—The motion was supported by Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR and Mr. HANKEY.—Mr. RICARDO acknowledged that the change would be attended with inconveniences, but thought that we should submit to them for the sake of the advantage.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER believed that the scheme was open to many serious objections; but he assured Mr. Brown the subject should receive the most careful consideration of the Government, and he recommended him to withdraw his motion.—Mr. CARDWELL was of opinion that, although the difficulties attending the proposed change are not so great as to be insuperable, the time has not arrived at which the scheme could properly be carried into execution. The House should prepare the country for the adoption of the plan, which is of high scientific value.—Ultimately the first of Mr. Brown's resolutions (that which asserts the success of the florin) was carried by 135 to 56; the second resolution affirming the advantage to be derived from an extension of the decimal system, was agreed to without a division; and the third resolution, praying for an address to the Crown, was withdrawn.

NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.
Mr. KENNEDY moved an address for a commission to inquire into the arrangements most desirable for rendering national education in Ireland more comprehensive and complete—firstly, by means of industrial instruction; secondly, by securing the most efficient teachers. He was proceeding with his speech, when the House was counted out, at half-past eleven o'clock.

SUNDAY TRADING (METROPOLIS) BILL.
In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR moved the committal of this bill, which was opposed by Mr. MASSEY, who moved to defer the committee for three months. He denounced the principle as being in the last degree mischievous. It would interfere with the interests of the working classes, and merely proposed to do by an Act of Parliament what might be done by any one who chooses to act for himself. Sunday trading is confined to a few dealers who minister to the wants of the very poor: these men are always at liberty, whenever they please, to shut their shops if their conscience should require it. Compulsory legislation has never been known to control social evils. The only remedy for such is to be found in moral correctives.—Lord STANLEY supported the bill; and Mr. W. J. Fox resisted it, observing that it picked out trading exclusively, disregarding work and amusement altogether. A measure of such a kind ought to strike boldly at Sunday work; in which case it would interfere with bishops and archbishops, their cooks and carriages.—Mr. KER SYMMER, in supporting the bill, described a visit which he had recently paid to Houndsditch Fair on Sunday morning during the hours of divine service. He admitted, however, that he saw no drunken men, nor anything disorderly, and that, in the words of a policeman with whom he conversed, "there was nothing particularly wrong going on, with the exception of thieving."—Sir JOHN SHELLEY also spoke in favour of the bill; while Mr. DUNCOMBE, Mr. DRUMMOND (who would vote for an honest bill which would include clubs), Mr. BENTINCK, Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. MAGUIRE, Sir JOSEPH WALMSLEY, and Mr. HEYWORTH resisted it.—After a few words from Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR and Mr. BARROW, in defence, the House divided, when the original motion was carried by 158 to 51.—The House then went into committee on the bill, the details of which underwent much discussion, the Chairman before all the clauses were gone through, being ordered to report progress.

THE VALIDITY OF PROCEEDINGS (HOUSE OF COMMONS) BILL was committed, read a third time, and



passed. This act had reference to the taking of oaths during the absence of the Speaker.

LIMITATION OF THE WORKING HOURS OF NEEDLE-WOMEN.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY, in moving, on Thursday, that the bill for securing this object be referred to a select committee, explained the machinery by which he sought to curtail the excessive toil now imposed upon needlewomen. By the measure before the House, it would be enacted that the hours during which labour would be prohibited were, between the 1st of March and the 1st of August, from ten o'clock at night to eight next morning; and during the rest of the year, from eight o'clock at night till eight next morning. In the course of the day there should be one hour and a half for meals. In all cases in which penalties were to be enforced, the parties were required to go before a magistrate, to whom otherwise the working of the measure was referred.—Lord GRANVILLE, though he would not oppose the motion, pointed out the extreme difficulty of legislating on such a subject; while, on the other hand, Lord MALMESBURY thought the plan perfectly feasible.—After some further discussion, in which Lord CAMPBELL, Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY, Lord OVERSTONE, and the Duke of ARGYLL took part, the motion was agreed to, and the bill was referred to a select committee.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL, and the ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS BILL, were read a third time by their lordships, and passed.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

In the morning sitting of the House of Commons, the House resolved itself into a committee on this bill, when Lord ELCHO inquired how the Government intended, in the event of the bill passing, to administer and distribute the Privy Council grants, with reference to Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, and Presbyterians?—Lord PALMERSTON replied that there are certain schools for which the bill makes no provision, namely, Episcopalian and Roman Catholic; and, as the object of the Government is to diffuse education, they have no wish to withhold assistance from schools which would not receive benefit from the bill. With regard to Episcopalian and Roman Catholic schools, the Government and the Privy Council are disposed to give their most favourable consideration to cases of schools belonging to such communities, which, in counties or towns, are not in a flourishing condition. So far from diminishing, Government would rather increase their aid.—The committee then proceeded to discuss the details of the bill, which occupied the entire sitting.

VICTORIA GOVERNMENT BILL.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in moving the second reading of this bill, stated that the Government had omitted those clauses which, by taking away certain powers belonging to the Crown, had rendered it impossible for her Majesty's Ministers to assent to them.—Mr. BELL moved, and Mr. MIALL seconded, that the second reading be taken that day six months. They objected to the bill upon the grounds of its being unpopular among the masses in Australia, of its not having passed the Legislative Council, and of its sanctioning religious endowments.—Mr. LOWE opposed the measure; observing that the Imperial Legislature is bound not to interfere with matters within the cognizance of the Colonial Legislature, and *vice versa*, and that both principles were violated by the bill, which encroached upon the Colonial Legislature, while that, in its turn, was invited to encroach upon the jurisdiction of that House. The preamble was drawn up upon an erroneous interpretation of the law; and, if passed, the measure would be a nullity. He also objected to the Civil List (112,000*l.*), which he considered extravagant and oppressive. Altogether, the measure was anomalous; and he conceived it to be the duty of the House to place a negative upon it.—The bill was also opposed by Mr. ADDERLEY (who regarded it in a similar light to that of Mr. LOWE), and by Mr. PELLATT; and was supported by Sir JOHN PAKINGTON and Mr. DUFFY.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL made some remarks in reply to Mr. LOWE, the chief import of which were to the effect that the bill had been sanctioned by the Colony itself, and ought therefore to pass.—Ultimately, Mr. BELL withdrew his amendment, and the bill was read a second time.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT BILL.

Mr. LOWE moved that the second reading of this bill be deferred for six months. He observed that almost all the objections which he had urged against the preceding bill applied with equal force to this. The Legislative Council from which the bill proceeded did not represent the interests of the colony; their real object being to obtain for certain parties in the colony enormous tracts of the public land. The representation of the colonies is most unequal; and the result is an enormous preponderance in favour of the pastoral interest. The Legislative Council appointed in 1853 a committee to consider the question of the constitution; and one of the recommendations of that com-

mittee was the institution of titles in the Upper House, which they thought desirable because, among other reasons, it would induce emigration from the upper classes of the United Kingdom. Now, he (Mr. LOWE) thought the colonists had as much to lose as to gain by going back to pedigree. Mr. LOWE concluded by giving some instances of the misappropriation of the waste lands by the Legislative Council, and of the utter indifference of that body to the demands of public opinion.—The amendment was seconded by Mr. BAXTER; and the bill was also opposed by Mr. MAGUIRE, while Mr. JOHN BALL supported it.—Upon a division, the second reading was affirmed by 142 to 33.

THIRD READINGS.

The following bills were read a third time, and passed:—The Public Libraries and Museums (Ireland) Bill; the Places of Religious Worship Registration Bill; the Cinque Ports Bill; the Bill for the Repeal of Stamp Duties on Oxford Matriculations and Degrees; and the Woolmer Forest Bill.

THE WAR.

WHETHER it be a coincidence or a consequence, it is certainly a fact, that ever since the appointment of General Pelissier to the command of the French army the Allies have had nothing but a series of brilliant successes. Town after town on the Sea of Azof has yielded to our sudden onslaughts; that important water is dominated by our fleets; the line of the Tchernaya is occupied by the troops of France, England, Turkey, and Sardinia; and within the last week we have had news of the seizure of one of the most important outworks of Sebastopol itself—the Mamelon. With that in our hands, it is not too much to say that the tremendous fortress before which we have languished for so long is beginning to crumble beneath the fiery energy of our newly-aroused might. Still, the worst part of the business is yet to come; and we must not blow our loudest trumpets until after the final triumph.

It was about six o'clock on the evening of Thursday, June 7th, that the French attacked and carried the White Work and the Mamelon. They took several guns, including eight cohorts; and a large number of prisoners fell into their hands. At the same time, the English took possession of the Quarries. The success was complete. "We have lost," says a despatch received by Lord Panmure, "about four hundred men in killed and wounded;" but whether the "we" refers to the Allies altogether, or merely to the English, is not stated. It is tolerably clear, however, that the latter only are intended.

The following are General Pelissier's despatches, giving, in the first instance, his confident anticipation of success, and afterwards the record of the accomplished feat:—

Crimea, June 6, 10 P.M.

"To-day, in concert with our allies, we opened our fire against the outworks, and to-morrow night, *Deo volente*, they will be taken."

June 7, 11 P.M.

"At half-past six, our signals for the attack were given, and one hour after our eagles floated over the Green Mamelon and the two redoubts of the Careening Bay. The enemy's artillery has fallen into our hands. Four hundred have been taken prisoners. We occupy the conquered works. Our allies, with their habitual resolution, have carried the work of the Quarries and established themselves in it. All the troops have been admirable for their devotion and high spirit."

The "Quarries" here mentioned are situated between Frenchman's Hill and the Redan. They were constructed about the end of last April, and were intended as an indemnification for the loss of the rifle-pits in front of our right attack which we had just then taken. Several large rifle-pits were connected by means of trenches with the quarries; and the whole communicated with the Redan by a covered way.

Further despatches of General Pelissier are as follows:—

June 9, 1855, 11 P.M.

"All the demonstrations of the enemy against the conquered works have been fruitless. They have abandoned the so-called battery of the 2nd of May; they have also completely abandoned to us the right shore of Careening Bay. The vessels in port have sought refuge in Artillery Bay, where our large mortars can reach them. We are watching them attentively."

June 10, 1855, Half-past 11 P.M.

"The combat of June 7 was more advantageous for us than I first announced to you. It has put into our hands 502 prisoners, 20 of whom are officers, and 73 pieces of ordnance."

June 11, 1855, 11 P.M.

"We are strengthening ourselves in the new works. We have been able to fire, with the Russian mortars, at the ships, which have retired still further off than Artillery Bay. We are preparing new batteries."

The "Ouvrages Blancs," or White Works, are to the right of the Mamelon; and the Mamelon is a

steep rocky eminence with a height of about a hundred feet. "The approach to it," says the *Daily News*, "was swept by about forty guns in the Malakoff works; its own guns made it truly formidable; and when it is added that its steep sides are covered with masses of rock and loose stone the difficulty of the enterprise of June 7th becomes apparent, and its success more striking. Alas! the besiegers must have gained considerably in the freedom of their movements, as the guns of the Mamelon completely commanded the ravine Otchakov just before it expands into the irregular-shaped valley lying at the foot of Frenchman's Hill." The Mamelon also commands the Malakoff which lies in a hollow beneath it. We shall, therefore, be enabled to fire straight down upon works which have always been esteemed the most perplexing and formidable with which we have had to do. The importance of the newly-acquired position may be judged from the words of General Pelissier on a former occasion:—"The Mamelon must be taken if it cost ten men, we must have it; if it cost a hundred, still we must have it."

We have also gained still further successes in the Sea of Azof. On the 3d, 5th, and 6th of June, naval operations took place against Taganrog, Marioupol, and Gheisk. They were perfectly successful. "The public buildings," says a despatch from Admiral Lyons, "and numerous government magazines, provisions, were burnt; and thus an immense loss of supplies has been inflicted upon the enemy. The operations were conducted with great vigour and rapidity. The allied forces had only one man wounded, although opposed by about 3500 soldiers at Taganrog." Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*, a Captain Sedaiges, were respectively the commanders of the English and French on these occasions.

Over and above the advantageous results thus accruing, we are also informed of the evacuation of the Russians of Anapa, which has been occupied by the Circassians. The Russians are supposed to have crossed the Kuban. We read in the *Daily News*:—

"Anapa, the last, is also in every sense the most important, of the towns and fortresses on the littoral of the Black Sea, abandoned by Russia since the commencement of this war. The town, situated on the north-east coast of the Euxine, at the northern termination of the Caucasian range, forty-seven miles south-east of Yerkaleh, is inhabited by a miscellaneous population of Circassians, Tartars, Greeks, Jews, Armenians, Russians, and others, to the number of about five thousand. The adverse relations of its masters with the tribes inhabiting the mountain country in its rear have almost neutralised the great advantages offered by its situation and prevented its growth. Its exports are at present grain, tallow, butter, hides, peltries, wax, &c. It is, however, as a military post that it has been most prized by Russia, and most deplored by Turkey."

After changing hands two or three times, Anapa was ceded to the Russians at the peace of Adrianople in 1828.

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, dated June the 11th, says:—"Two works close to the Malakoff Tower were taken on the 8th. The slaughter was fearful." Despatches from Marseilles of the same date speak to the following effect:—

"By intelligence from the Crimea to the 2nd, it appears that the Allies were fortifying the Tête de Po on the right bank of the Tchernaya. General Bosquet's corps was to invest Sebastopol on the north. General Morris, after a cavalry reconnaissance of the Russian camp on the Tchernaya, estimates the force at from 80,000, to 100,000 men."

To this may be added the ensuing communication from the Vienna correspondent of the *Times*:—

Vienna, Thursday, June 14, 2 P.M.

"A despatch from Varna, dated yesterday, Wednesday, June 13, says that the French troops have been recalled from Kertch, probably to assist in some great blow against Sebastopol."

Abd-el-Kader is expected at Constantinople. It is to be hoped that the old desert-warrior will be employed, as we believe he desires to be, against the Russians. He would be "the right man in the right place" if put at the head of the Tartars, to infuse into them his indomitable will, his subtle strategy and his romantic courage.

REPORT FROM SIR GEORGE BROWN.

The following report addressed to Lord Raglan and having reference to the expedition to the Sea of Azof, has been transmitted to Lord Panmure:—

Yeni-Kalch, May 25.

My dear Lord Raglan,—The expedition to this place so far, has proved entirely successful, and we have got possession of all we proposed without striking a blow and almost without firing a shot.

On leaving the anchorage off Sebastopol, on the 22nd the night became so foggy that the fleet made but little progress towards its destination, but the whole of the ships and steamers reached the rendezvous, four leagues off Cape Takli, soon after daylight on the morning of the 24th, when it was speedily determined to run at once for the spot at which, as your Lordship is aware, it was

originally proposed to disembark, and which is a fine smooth bay, round a low point running out immediately under the village of Kazatch-Bournou.

The water in the straits is so shallow that large ships cannot ascend higher than about three miles from this spot, but the steamers and vessels in which the whole of the British infantry and artillery were embarked could get at least a mile nearer to it.

All the vessels got as high up as the depth of water would permit, and came to an anchor about eleven, when the English and French troops began to get into the boats, and small steamers, which were assigned to them, towed them to the shore, and the gunboats and smaller war-steamers were stationed to scour the beach and protect the disembarkation.

Although we had observed some six or eight pieces of light artillery following us along the shore, no opposition was made to the disembarkation, and the first of the troops reached the shore at ten o'clock, which, as soon as they were formed, were pushed on to occupy the village on the rising ground bordering the marshy plain on which they landed, for the purpose of covering the remainder of the disembarkation. As they were the most numerous, and as your Lordship had done so on a former occasion, I placed the French on the right and the British troops on the left, intending to hold the Turkish Contingent in reserve.

Soon after the disembarkation had commenced several loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that the enemy had blown up the magazines of all his batteries on Cape St. Paul, and was retiring by the road leading to Theodosia or Kaffa. It therefore became exceedingly desirable that I should advance to occupy the ridge of which the cape is the continuation; but, as only a few of the Turkish troops had got landed, and but little of the artillery, I contented myself by requesting General D'Autemarre to patrol to the cape and towards Kertch, and took up the best position I could find for the security of the troops and the protection of the disembarkation of all the necessary material and horses during the night, just before dark—which, in an open steppe, where we were exposed to the attacks of cavalry, was an operation of some difficulty.

In the course of the evening several more loud explosions were heard, and it was soon discovered that he had also blown up and abandoned the whole of his works here and along the coast between this and Kertch, and spiked all the guns. He had also set fire to and destroyed some large corn magazines in Kertch, as well as two steamers in the harbour; and the Cossacks, as usual, burnt all the forage and farm-houses in their way.

As soon as the batteries on Cape St. Paul were abandoned, or soon before, some of the smaller war-steamers were enabled to round Cape Ackbournou, and enter the Bay of Kertch, when they engaged and endeavoured to cut off some of the enemy's steamers attempting to escape into the Sea of Azof. They succeeded, I believe, in capturing a small one; but the other two managed to get through.

The disembarkation of horses, guns, and matériel went on during the whole night, under the zealous and active superintendence of Rear-Admiral Houston Stewart and Captain Sir Thomas Pasley; but, with all this, there was a good deal to be done at daylight this morning, and I was ultimately compelled to proceed with only three of the guns of the Turkish Contingent, and without any of their officers' horses.

Under the circumstances, however, I considered it imperative to proceed, and the whole force marched off their ground at six this morning,—the French in contiguous columns, followed by their artillery; the British in echelons of columns, covering their flank, and their own artillery and baggage; and the Turkish troops in contiguous columns of battalions, covering the rear of the whole, until they approached the precincts of Kertch, when the whole of the troops broke into an ordinary column of route. The town of Kertch is clean, and remarkably well built, and the troops passed through it with the greatest regularity, and without the slightest disorder; subsequently the day became excessively hot, and the march being a long one, the men suffered greatly from fatigue and want of water, which was only to be found at occasional wells. We managed to get in here, however, by one o'clock, where we were soon after visited by the three Admirals, and found a large squadron of small steamers and gunboats, ready to proceed into the Sea of Azof, under the command of Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*.

The result of these operations, besides the opening of the passage into that sea and the destruction of the enemy's works, has been the capture of fifty of his guns, many of them of the largest calibre and the best construction; and, if the enterprise has from circumstances not added greatly to the glory of her Majesty's arms, it has, as already stated, so far been attended by complete success.

That success, however, is mainly to be attributed to the judicious arrangements of Admirals Brouat and Sir E. Lyons, and to their indefatigable attention in carrying them out, as well as to the able and willing assistance they have received from the captains and other officers of the French and British navy under their respective commands; nor must I omit to mention the invariable and willing assistance I have on all occasions

received in the course of this service from General D'Autemarre, commanding the French Division, and from Redschid Pasha, commanding the Sultan's troops.

I omitted to state that in passing through Kertch this morning, observing that an iron foundry there had been employed in the manufacture of shot and shells, as well as in casting Minié bullets, I caused it to be destroyed, with all its new and expensive machinery.

Yours, &c.

G. BROWN.

Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

REPORT FROM LIEUTENANT M'KILLOP.

Her Majesty's Ship *Snake*, off Yeni-Kaleh, May 24.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, in obedience to your signal granting me permission to intercept a Russian war steamer, I proceeded into Kertch Bay, exchanging shots with the batteries at Ackbournou in passing.

I succeeded in cutting off the steamer and engaging her, but not until she had placed herself under the protection of the forts of Yeni-Kaleh. After a sharp fire on both sides for three-quarters of an hour, I was fortunate in succeeding in setting her on fire with Lancaster shells, from which she blew up, the crew with difficulty getting away. She had apparently soldiers on board. During this engagement the forts of Yeni-Kaleh hulled the ship, and kept up a well-directed and continuous fire the whole time, which was returned with apparent good effect with our heavy shell.

Three steamers also came down from the entrance (to the Sea of Azof) and opened fire on us with very long range guns, their shot frequently passing over us at about 4000 yards. I continued to engage the batteries and steamers after the arrival of the ships sent up to my assistance, until recalled by signal from the *Miranda*.

The whole of the sailing vessels standing towards the Sea of Azof were intercepted and afterwards captured; two steamers, also intercepted in Kertch Bay, were blown up by their own crews, and a gunboat sunk.

The batteries along the coast, which fired upon us while chasing the steamer, also were blown up.

I should feel I was neglecting my duty unless I mentioned the zealous and creditable manner in which the officers and crew performed their duties; being very short-handed rendered working the guns for so many hours a work of great labour.

I beg to recommend for your favourable consideration Mr. N. B. Herbert (second-master in charge), who with much skill conducted the ship through the intricate and comparatively unknown passage, under the guns of Ackbournou, and inside the shoal of Yeni-Kaleh, without any accident.

I am equally indebted to Mr. Sydney E. Wright, assistant-paymaster (an officer of long and meritorious service), for his assistance as a volunteer executive, who, with Dr. Roche and Mr. George Wilson (senior engineer), manned and worked the 12-pounder howitzer, sinking a gunboat.

I am happy that no casualties occurred, and the *Snake* received but little damage,—one shot through the mizen rigging, carrying it away, and one through the hull at the water-line.

I am, &c.,

H. F. M'KILLOP, Lieutenant and Commander.
Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B.,
Commander-in-Chief.

REPORTS FROM CAPTAIN E. M. LYONS.

Her Majesty's ship *Miranda*, off Arabat, Sea of Azof, May 28, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, on hauling down your flag on the afternoon of the 25th, I proceeded with the steam-vessels under my orders, named in the margin,* and the French steamer *Lucifer* towards Berdiansk; at dark we stopped for the French steamers *Mégère*, *Brandon*, and *Fulton*. These having joined, at 3 a.m. on the 26th we all went on in company; at 3.30 p.m. on that day we anchored off the lighthouse on the spit at Berdiansk, in such a position as to command the harbour and beach and a large number of merchant vessels. I then sent the boats of the squadrons, under Commander Sherard Osborn, accompanied by the boats of the French ships, to destroy these vessels, as well as some lying about four miles off, and a storehouse. All this was completed by dark. During this time steamers of the two squadrons were chasing and destroying vessels in other directions.

At daylight of the 27th I weighed with the ships under my orders, accompanied by the four French steamers, and anchored off the town of Berdiansk, the *Miranda* in fifteen feet, and the gunboats in proportionally less water, in a position which effectually commanded the town and beach. Here we found run on shore and burnt to the water's edge and abandoned, the four steamers of war which had escaped from Kertch, under the command of Rear-Admiral Wolff, whose flag was flying in the *Moloditz*. I now landed the small-arm men and marines of the squadron under Commander Lambert, of the *Curlew*, accompanied by those of the French ships, with orders to destroy all shipping and Go-

* *Vesuvius*, *Curlew*, *Swallow*, *Stromboli*, *Medina*, *Wrangler*, *Viper*, *Lynx*, *Recruit*, *Arrow*, *Snake*, *Beagle*.

vernment stores, but to respect private property. This was done without molestation, although we had information that 800 Cossacks with guns were at Petroskoi, five miles off. Many vessels were destroyed, and corn stores to the estimated value of 50,000*l*. An 8-inch 62-cwt. gun was also recovered from the wreck of one of the Russian steamers, and is now on board the *Miranda*.

Immediately the boats returned, the squadrons weighed for Arabat; I at the same time detached the *Swallow* and *Wrangler* to Genitschi, to command the entrance to the Putrid Sea, and the *Curlew* to cruise between Krivaia Spit and Sand Island, and thus prevent vessels escaping us by getting up the Don.

On the morning of the 28th we arrived off Arabat, and engaged the fort (mounting thirty guns) for an hour and a half, at the end of which time a shell blew up the enemy's magazine; the ships having been ordered to keep at shell range, and being well handled, had only one casualty, the chief engineer of the *Medina* being slightly wounded by a splinter. The French senior officer's ship received two shots in the hull, but fortunately no one was hurt. The enemy must have lost many men, from the precision with which the shells burst in his works, independently of that caused by the explosion.

The commanders of the vessels employed deserve every credit for the skilful manner in which they manœuvred their vessels in a very strong breeze and shoal water without a single accident, and I may be permitted to say none were more distinguished than our gallant allies. The large garrison at Arabat rendering any attempt at landing out of the question, I now proceeded for Genitschi, parting, with regret, from Captain de Sédaiges and his squadron, who left at the same time for Kertch. I take this opportunity of mentioning the efficient, cordial, and hearty co-operation I received on every occasion from M. de Sédaiges and the ships under his orders, and my hope that it may again be my good fortune to have him for my colleague.

The allied squadrons have destroyed upwards of 100 vessels during the three days they have been in this sea, principally laden with provisions for the Russian army in the Crimea. Had we sent these vessels in as prizes, we should have lost much valuable time, and not been able to effect so many captures. The active and zealous way in which the officers and ships' companies perform their duties, and the cheerful manner in which they suffer this pecuniary loss for the benefit of the service, will, I trust, meet with your approbation.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS, Captain.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, &c.

Her Majesty's ship *Miranda*, off the town of Genitschi, May 29, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, that I arrived here shortly after dark last night, with her Majesty's ships under my orders, and joined the *Swallow* and *Wrangler*, which ships had already destroyed or captured all the vessels in this neighbourhood outside the Straits of Genitschi; but a very great number had passed the straits, which are only fifty yards wide, and are commanded by the low cliffs on which the town is built, and were moored inside under the cliff.

At six o'clock this morning I sent Commander Craufurd with a flag of truce, to demand the immediate surrender of all these vessels, and of the immense corn stores for the supply of the army in the Crimea, and of all Government property of every description; stating that, if these terms were complied with, I would spare the town and respect private property; but, if not, the inhabitants were immediately to leave the town.

Commander Craufurd was met by an officer, of apparently high rank, who refused to accede to these terms, saying that any attempt to land or destroy the vessels would be resisted.

The enemy at this time had six field-pieces in position, and with about 200 men with them, and, visible from the mast-head, drawn up from behind the town, a battalion of infantry, besides Cossacks.

Having allowed till 9 a.m. for the reconsideration of the refusal to deliver up the vessels and stores, and receiving no answer, I at that time hauled down the flag of truce, and placed the steamers as near to the town and the passage into the Putrid Sea as the depth of the water would allow, but they were only able to approach within long range. Seeing that if the enemy, who had removed his guns from their former position, could place them in the town, so as to command the passage, and that, if he could place his infantry in a similar manner, it would be impossible for the boats to pass the channel and destroy the vessels and stores, I directed the ships to shell the town, which they did so effectually, that the boats, as per enclosure, under the command of Lieutenant J. F. C. Mackenzie, got safely through the passage, and set fire to the shipping (73 in number) and the corn stores. This service was ably performed by Lieutenant Mackenzie, and the boats returned without accident.

The wind having shifted about two hours after the boats came off, some of the corn stores did not catch fire; conceiving the destruction of this corn, as well as of some more distant vessels in so favourable a position for supplying the Russian armies in the Crimea, to be of the

utmost importance, I sent the boats again, commanded and officered as before, although I was aware that, from the enemy having had time to make preparations, it would be a hazardous enterprise. The ships accordingly resumed their fire upon the town, and the boats proceeded. Lieutenant Cecil W. Buckley, of this ship; Lieutenant Hugh T. Burgoyne, of the Swallow; and Mr. John Roberts, gunner, of the Ardent, volunteered to land alone and fire the stores; this offer I accepted, knowing the imminent risk there would be in landing a party in presence of such a superior force, and out of gun-shot of the ships. This very dangerous service they most gallantly performed, narrowly escaping the Cossacks, who all but cut them off from their boat; at the same time Lieutenant Mackenzie pushed on and burned the remaining vessels, the enemy opening a fire from four field-guns and musketry, placed almost within point-blank range of the boats. Everything being now effectually accomplished, the boats returned. Although several of them were struck by grape and case shot, most fortunately only one man was slightly wounded. Lieut. Mackenzie speaks in high terms of the coolness and excellent behaviour of all employed under his orders; and I trust I may be allowed to bring to your notice the conspicuous merit of Lieut. Mackenzie himself on this occasion, when more than ninety vessels, and also corn for the Russian army of the value of 100,000*l.*, were destroyed, owing to his gallantry and ability, with so trifling a loss as one man slightly wounded.

Since the squadron entered the Sea of Azof, four days ago, the enemy has lost four steamers of war, 246 merchant vessels, also corn and flour magazines, to the value of at least 150,000*l.*—I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS, Captain.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, &c.

Her Majesty's ship, Miranda, at anchor above Yeni-Kaleh, May 25, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that having, yesterday afternoon, taken under my orders the ships named in the margin,* I, in pursuance of your orders, passed the Straits of Kertch, and anchored for the night just out of gun-shot of the batteries of Yeni-Kaleh. At 7 p.m. the enemy blew up the magazines and these batteries with a tremendous explosion.

At four o'clock this morning I sent Mr. George Williams, master of this ship, to find and buoy a channel through the straits on the Yeni-Kaleh side; and I desired Lieutenant Armytage, in the Viper, to follow as near as possible, and endeavour to pass the straits and get into a position to threaten the retreat of the Russian garrison of the forts on the Chesura Spit side of the strait, by commanding the neck of the spit; at the same time I sent Lieutenant Aynsley, in the Lynx, to pass round by the Taman Lake, and take up a position to command the rear of the Russian forts. This service was ably performed by these officers; and, on their obtaining the assigned positions, the enemy, as I had anticipated, exploded his magazines, abandoned his works, and made a precipitate retreat under the fire of the Viper's guns. Mr. Williams now returned, having found and buoyed a sixteen feet channel, and I immediately weighed, and, with the vessels under my orders, proceeded through the Straits of Yeni-Kaleh; thus we became complete masters of the Sea of Azof.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS, Captain.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, &c.

OPERATIONS IN THE STRAITS OF KERTCH.—DESPATCH FROM SIR EDMUND LYONS.

Royal Albert, Straits, June 2, 1855.

Sir,—In my letter, No. 398, of the 26th ult., I stated that we had captured fifty of the enemy's guns. It now appears that more than a hundred guns have fallen into our hands in the different sea defences, many of them of heavy calibre, and remarkably well cast. Those which may not be required for the land defences which the Allied armies are now constructing, will be shipped and sent to England and France.

It has been ascertained from the Custom-house returns, that the enemy, on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th ultimo, destroyed 4,166,000 lbs. of corn, and 508,000 lbs. of flour. This quantity, taken together with what has been destroyed by the Allied squadrons in the Sea of Azof, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of 100,000 men; and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about 1500 waggons, each containing half a ton weight of grain or flour.

Sir George Brown confidently expects that by the 7th inst. Yeni-Kaleh will be in such a state of defence as fully to justify his leaving it in charge of the Ottoman troops now here, under the command of Hadji Reschid Pacha, and that the British and French forces will be at liberty to proceed to the attack of Anapa and Soujak-Kaleh, in order to drive the enemy out of his last holds on the coast of Circassia.—I am, &c.,

E. LYONS, Rear-Admiral.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

* Vesuvius, Curlew, Swallow, Stromboli, Ardent, Medina, Wrangler, Lynx, Recruit, Arrow, Viper, Snake, Beagle.

ENGLISH OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED ON THE 7TH AND 8TH OF JUNE.

KILLED.—Capt. Muller, 2nd Battalion Royals; Lieut. Lawrence, 84th Regiment; Lieut. Stone, 55th; Lieut. Col. Shearman, 62nd; Major Dickson, 62nd; Lieut. Machell, 62nd; Capt. Forster, 62nd; Major Bayley, 88th; Capt. Corbett, 88th; Capt. Wray, 88th; Lieut. Lowrey, Royal Engineers.

WOUNDED.—Capt. M. Adye, R.A.; Lieut. Evans, 19th Regiment; Lieut. and Adj. Padfield, 20th; Capt. Pennefather, 30th; Capt. John Peel, 34th; Capt. Westhead, 34th; Lieut. Saunders, 34th; Major Villiers, 47th; Capt. Lowndes, 47th; Major Armstrong, 49th; Capt. Le Marchant, 49th; Lieut. Young, 49th; Lieut. Eustace, 49th; Lieut. Dickson, 77th; Capt. Maynard, 88th; Lieut. Kenny, 88th; Lieut. Mackesy, 97th; Lieut. Bellew, 2nd Batt. 1st Royals; Lieut. Stewart, 2nd Batt. 1st Royals; Lieut. Irby, 47th Regiment; Capt. Ambrose, 3rd; Lieut. Col. Campbell, 90th; Capt. Hunter, 47th; Lieut. Boyd, 17th; Lieut. Trent, 48th; Lieut. Brendon, 3rd; Capt. A. Gordon; Lieut. Legg, 2nd Batt. 1st Royals; Major Mills, 7th Regiment; Capt. Turner, 7th; Lieut. Jones, 7th; Lieut. J. F. Jones, 7th; Lieut. Waller, 7th; Capt. Dixon, 41st; Lieut. Scott, 55th; Capt. Ingall, 62nd; Capt. Gilby, 77th; Lieut. Grier, 88th; Lieut. Anderson, 96th; Assist.-Engr. E. J. R. Keen.

Mr. Rawlinson is going on very favourably.

The loss of the English on the 7th and 8th amounted to—non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, killed, 122; wounded, 510; missing, 15.

WAR MISCELLANEA.

THE CHOLERA IN THE ARMY.—By the latest Report from Dr. Hall, dated June 2nd, it would seem that the cholera is decreasing. The complaint, however, has attacked the Sardinian Contingent, the English and native drivers of the Land Transport Corps, and the brigade of Guards encamped on the heights near Balaklava. The cavalry division up to June 2nd was free.

REFORM YOUR ARMY CLOTHING.—A letter in the *United Service Gazette* contains the following, with regard to the late expedition to the Sea of Azof:—"The army advanced, and, though unopposed by the Russians, they had to contend with a power not to be trifled with. The sun was pouring its rays down upon them with an intensity which soon made itself felt. The British soldiers, having rigid stocks about their necks, with close-buttoned coats and heavily-laden knapsacks, were completely overpowered, and large numbers fell out of the ranks, overcome by heat and exhaustion. The Royal Marine battalion, eight hundred strong on landing, was reduced on reaching Kertch to thirty. The Highlanders were not much better. The French were in tolerable order, but the Turks in first-rate condition, hardly a man of them being left behind. The French and English, having no tents, were exposed to the heat by day and heavy dews at night, and it is feared that much sickness will ensue."

RUSSIAN LEVIES IN POLAND.—Orders have been secretly given, says a correspondent of the *Daily News*, for a general levy of every Pole capable of bearing arms. Poland has already contributed more than a hundred thousand men since the breaking out of the war; but this is not considered sufficient.

A SCRUPULOUS DUTCH GOVERNOR.—The French war frigate, La Sybille, recently entered the roads of Amboyna, in the Moluccas, to revictual and obtain further medical assistance for some of her crew attacked with cholera. The Governor, however, refused to admit the crew into the hospital, on the ground that, should they recover, they would be able to act against the enemy, in which case he would have been instrumental in breaking the neutrality. The commander of the Sybille has complained to the Governor-General of Batavia.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.—From two Government despatches to the Governor-General of Canada, which have been published in the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, we learn that it is the desire of Lord Panmure to confer upon the officers and men of the Foreign Legion certain grants from the waste lands in the neighbourhood of Lakes Huron and Ontario. One million acres, it is calculated, would suffice to give "fifty acres to each private; one hundred acres to each non-commissioned officer; two hundred to each officer; five hundred to a few superior officers." So far, so good; but how about the English soldiers?

RECONNOITRING CRONSTADT.—"On Saturday week (says the *Times* correspondent) Admiral Dundas, accompanied by Admiral Seymour, embarked at noon on board the Merlin surveying steamer, Captain Sullivan, and proceeded to reconnoitre Cronstadt. To guard against a surprise, they were attended on the expedition by the Dragon, Captain H. Stewart, and the Bulldog, Commander Gordon. Although they went in quite close to the batteries, and remained there for nearly three hours, the Russians looked quietly on during the whole time, apparently with the most perfect indifference; and, as all the ships in the harbour were dressed in colours, it is possible they were engaged in celebrating some high festival, or even perhaps doing honour to an Imperial visitor." There is no other news of importance from the Baltic. We still continue to take prizes; and it

becomes every day more evident that the mistaken policy on which we acted last year, of respecting private property, is abandoned.

ADMIRAL BOXER has died at Balaklava of cholera and Rear-Admiral of the Blue, Charles Howe Fremantle has been appointed to succeed him as Superintendent of the Transport Service. He has just completed fifty-fifth year.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—In a despatch from General D'Autemarre, dated Kertch, May 25, we read as follows:—"We may compute at 6000 the strength of the troops charged with the defence of the peninsula of Yeni-Kaleh. General Wrangel, who commanded them, had repeatedly demanded reinforcements. A letter from Prince Gortschakoff, which has fallen into our hands, informs this general that not only will he receive the reinforcements demanded, but that he has to send on all his cavalry to Sebastopol."

THE LAST OF THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.—THE AUSTRIAN PROPOSALS.

A FURTHER paper, containing the final protocol of the Vienna Conference, has been laid before Parliament. Count Buol having requested the Plenipotentiaries of other Courts to assemble at his office on the 4th of June proceeded to state that, as a last resource, Austria prepared to make another proposition intended to satisfy by way of compromise the disputed point of the limitation of the naval forces of Russia in the Black Sea. The eleventh Conference, held on the 19th of April, Drouyn de Lhuys had suggested that, as Russia perforce objected to treat with the other great Powers the limitation of her own naval forces, an expedient might be found to meet this difficulty bringing about a direct arrangement between Russia and the Porte to adjust the balance of their respective forces, which arrangement should have the same validity and effect as the general acts of the Conference. Upon this hint, which certainly does no credit to sagacity or firmness of the negotiator, the Austrian Cabinet set to work to construct its final scheme, to the following effect:—"It proposed, in the first place, that the great Powers should bind themselves to respect the independence and territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire, and should bind themselves to consider every act or event of a nature to infringe upon it as a *question of European interest*. Secondly, that the Plenipotentiaries of Russia and Turkey should propose, by common agreement to the Conference, the equal amount of effective naval forces to be kept up by them in the Black Sea, such amount not to exceed the number of Russian ships now afloat in the sea, and this agreement should form an integral part of the General Treaty; the Straits to remain closed, but each of the other Powers to be authorised by firman to station two frigates in the Black Sea, and in case of attack the Sultan to open the passage to all the naval forces of his allies.—*Times*."

PRINCE ALBERT ON RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

THE annual dinner of the Trinity Corporation took place on Saturday evening last, at the Trinity House, when Prince Albert, in proposing the health of Ministers, made the following rather significant remarks:—

"Gentlemen,—The toast which I have now to propose to you is that of her Majesty's Ministers. (*Cheers*.) There was ever a time at which her Majesty's Government by whomsoever conducted, required the support, and not the support alone, but the confidence, good-will, and sympathy of their fellow countrymen, it is surely the prerogative of a free people. It is not the way to success in war, to support it, however ardently and enthusiastically, and at the same time to tie down and weaken the hands of those who have to conduct it. (*Cheering*.) We are engaged with a mighty enemy, who is using against us all the wonderful powers which have sprung up under the generating influence of our liberty and our civilisation. You find him with all that force which unity of purpose and action, impenetrable secrecy, and uncontrolled despotic power, have given, while we have to meet him under a state of things intended for peace, and for the promotion of that very civilisation the offspring of public discussion, of the friction of parties, and of the popular control on the government and the state. The Queen has no power to levy troops, nor has she any at her command but such as offer themselves voluntarily. Her government can take no measure for the prosecution of the war which it has not beforehand to explain in Parliament. Her arm and fleet can make no movements, nor even prepare for any, without their being publicly announced in the papers. No mistake, however trifling, can occur no want or weakness exist, which is not at once denounced and even sometimes exaggerated with a kind of morbid satisfaction. (*Loud and continued cheering*.) The Queen's ambassador can enter into no negotiations without the Government having to defend him by entering into all the arguments which that negotiator, in order to be successful, ought to be allowed to shut up in the innermost recesses of his heart. (*Loud cheers*.) Nay, at the most critical position, when

war and diplomatic relations may be at their height, an adverse vote in Parliament may at a moment deprive the Queen of the whole of her confidential servants. Gentlemen, our constitutional government is undergoing a heavy trial, and we shall not get successfully through it unless the country will grant its confidence—patriotic, intelligent, and self-denying confidence—to her Majesty's government. (*Loud cheers.*) Gentlemen, I propose to you to drink the health of Viscount Palmerston and her Majesty's Ministers."

Lord Palmerston, in acknowledging this toast, made a very commonplace speech, full of stale quotations and metaphors about "the battle and the breeze," "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull, altogether," "the vessel of the state," "weathering the storm," "a noble crew," &c. Of course he was loudly cheered.

PRESENTATION OF BURMESE MEDALS.

[We were compelled by the extreme pressure of other matter to omit the following from our last week's paper.]

The presentation, by the Queen, of the Crimean medals has been followed by a ceremony of a similar kind, less imposing, indeed, less touching, and less brilliant, yet of interest in these war times, when the profession of the soldier has a gravity and importance very different from the idle, sauntering, holiday character of military men during the days of peace. On Monday week, Sir Harry Smith presented at Manchester the medals granted by the East India Company to the 51st (King's Own) Light Infantry, which was engaged in the late Burmese war. The fact of the regiment being under orders for the Crimea added a deep, and we might almost say pathetic, interest to the occasion. The medals distributed were upwards of four hundred.

Sir Harry Smith, having addressed each soldier separately during the presentation, made some remarks to the regiment collectively at the conclusion. In the course of these, he said:—

"You are about, my men, to proceed on another arduous service. I say arduous, because many of you know what it is to be a soldier. The life of a soldier is not that of a feather-bed. We don't expect a comfortable bed, but enough to eat and drink; and fighting is all we look forward to, and an endeavour to keep out of hospital. And now, you old soldiers, try to teach the young ones what they have to do in camp, and not to expose themselves unnecessarily to the sun, or to drink when they had better be asleep; teach them that our duty is to preserve ourselves for the purpose of destroying our enemy. Then, my men, we may obtain that glorious result of war—peace. And now, 51st Light Infantry, go where you may, well do I know you will uphold that character which the regiment has earned, and which is written on its colours. Do your duty, my men, fear no one, and look forward to promotion. There is no reason why many of you now in the ranks should not attain to elevated stations in her Majesty's army; and it is the desire of the Queen and the country to promote those who have shown examples of gallantry, by the side of those who have stood in the ranks like yourselves, and are now wearing medals, and are officers in her Majesty's service. Let us therefore hope that, by your assistance, this war will soon be terminated, and that, when you come to your native land once more, you will strut about the streets like gentlemen with the medals which have been this day distributed to you, and with others that your gallantry will earn."

There are certain points of comparison between the two ceremonies—that in the park at London, and that at Manchester—which involuntarily present themselves to the mind. The Queen distributed her rewards to men who had already gathered their fume in the fields of the far-off Chersonese, and who had returned, pale and faint and shattered, from that Titanic contest which now holds the world breathless: Sir Harry Smith bestowed the medals of a private company upon men distinguished in a more distant but less arduous scene, and who are now about to depart for that blood-stained peninsula from which their comrades have come back with honourable scars. In the one case there was the sickness of long suffering, the premature lameness and helpless dependency of men hacked and rent in the pride of their youthful manhood: in the other, confident and healthy strength, as yet untouched, but going hopefully forth to confront at any rate a chance of the same fate. Let us trust, however, that at least a majority of those now on their route will return, to receive (as they will assuredly deserve to receive) the added laurels of still higher deeds than those which they have even now performed, and to take their station with the recognised bands of Crimean heroes.

AMERICA.

The examinations of the persons charged with enlisting recruits for the Crimea continue; and the cases have been adjourned. Three individuals have also been examined on a charge of fitting out a brig

at the port of New York for the African slave trade; and have been remanded.—Captain Kinney's "fillibustering" vessel has been blockaded by three Government steamers and a revenue cutter in East River, New York. An attempt to sail was frustrated.—Accounts from California mention that the crops are in admirable condition. The mistake or imposition about new diggings at Kern river was thoroughly exploded; but fresh reports of still further gold discoveries were in existence. Business was dull. The Legislature had adopted an act to levy a capitation tax of fifty dollars on every Chinaman arriving in the State.—Santa Anna, at the latest accounts, was advancing on Zamora; and report spoke of the Government troops having gained a victory at Guanajuato. The army of Santa Anna had been separated by the skilful manœuvring of his opponents.—The news of the combination of the Sioux Indians against the whites is confirmed: their attitude is extremely menacing.—The Canadian Legislature has been prorogued, after throwing out a bill for applying the principle of popular elections to the House. The *Toronto Globe* intimates that the removal of the seat of the Canadian Government to Toronto is pretty certain. A Government agent has been at Toronto making arrangements for the necessary buildings.—The house of Page, Bacon, and Co., of San Francisco, has again failed.

M. SOULÉ AND MR. PERRY: SERIOUS CHARGES.—The New York papers contain a letter addressed to the President by Mr. Perry, United States charge d'affaires at Madrid, in reply to the charges recently brought against him by M. Soulé, who had denounced him as "a spy and a traitor." Mr. Perry, in reply, taxes the Americo-Frenchman with having transmitted erroneous information to the Washington Government with respect to the real views of the Spanish Cabinet and people in reference to the sale of Cuba. He also accuses him of having purposely mismanaged the affair of the Black Warrior, so as to impede the success of the reclamations of the American ministry; and of suppressing for five months an important despatch from the Secretary of State to the Spanish Government, relating to that affair. Mr. Perry asserts that, after the departure of M. Soulé, the case was properly adjusted; a settlement was obtained of certain claims which had been standing over since 1834; and an overture was made for the negotiation of a great treaty conferring immense mutual advantages upon Americans and Spaniards.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM DEMONSTRATION.

A MEETING of the Administrative Reform Association was held on Wednesday evening, in Drury-lane Theatre, which was crowded in every part. Mr. Morley was in the chair, and read letters, apologising for absence, and approving of the objects of the movement, from the Rev. S. G. Osborne, Mr. Heywood, M.P., Sir William Clay, M.P., and Mr. Charles Dickens. He spoke at some length; but his arguments were similar to those which have already been advanced on several occasions, and do not call for analysis.

Mr. Layard then came forward, and was received with repeated bursts of applause. He said:—

"If he were called upon to divide England into two parties as connected with this movement, he should say that on one side were all the men of common sense, of respectability, and wealth, who by their perseverance and industry hoped to raise a name for themselves and to do good to the public service; while on the other there was a small party who claimed to themselves the monopoly of Government, and who lived, grew fat, and vegetated upon those corruptions and evils which the Association were determined, if possible, to remove. (*Cheers.*) . . . What had been the manner in which the war hitherto had been conducted? Generally the blame was thrown upon the system, and an endeavour was made to exculpate persons. In the evidence given before the Sebastopol Committee, no single fault had been pointed out which was not either thrown upon the system or upon Mr. Ward, who died several months ago. (*Laughter.*) If anything was found wanting which ought to have been supplied for the comfort of the troops, it was always said to have gone down in the Prince. (*Laughter.*) Now, he believed that all the misfortunes that had arisen were to be attributed to that system of misgovernment of which the society complained, and which the public had for many years permitted to exist. . . . Need they feel surprised at this when they knew, from the testimony of Lord Aberdeen (*murmurs of disapprobation*) and Sidney Herbert (*murmurs*), that during two months, while the greatest events were in progress, and while the dignity and honour of this country were pledged as they had never before been pledged, there was no Cabinet Council held? (*Cries of 'Shame!'*) All the Cabinet, with three exceptions—and they were Peelites—were away amusing themselves. They found at the commencement of the

Crimean expedition, on the testimony of Lord Aberdeen, all the information which the Government received was almost entirely derived from the reports in the public papers."

Mr. Layard commented on the corrupt mode of distributing situations in public offices, and denounced our system of secret diplomacy, as well as the spirit of aristocratical cliquism which rules in the formation of our Governments.

Mr. Lindsay, M.P., gave some singular instances of Government apathy and mismanagement with respect to shipping.

"About six weeks ago he was asked by Sir De Lacy Evans if the scarcity of shipping was still as great as it had been. His reply was, that shipping might be found to any amount; when Sir De Lacy Evans said his statement was very strange, because for more than a month he had been desirous of sending out 3000 horses to his division in the Crimea, and he had been told that it was impossible to find ships to carry them out. He (Mr. Lindsay) made inquiries into the matter, and subsequently addressed a letter to Sir De Lacy Evans, stating that some time ago a friend of his had written to Lord Panmure, offering to supply, in twenty-four hours, a magnificent fleet of the finest ships in the world, capable of carrying out 2200 horses, at the low rate of 16s. or 17s. per ton registered tonnage. The answer received was the usual one—that the offer would be considered. Some time afterwards, another offer was made to the Government to find a fleet capable of taking out 2660 horses, and yet he (Mr. Lindsay) understood that to this day the larger portion of the horses referred to by Sir De Lacy Evans had not gone out." (*"Hear, hear," and cries of "Shame."*)

Mr. Lindsay then adduced further cases, in which the vexatious and inconsiderate conduct of Government with respect to shipowners had led to the loss of several valuable vessels, which had been taken by the French Government. In conclusion, he observed:—

"He had moved for returns to be made with respect to the transport service; and, although the Government had taken five months to make them, yet there were so many errors in them—even wilful errors he was afraid—that if a clerk of his had made one-tenth part of them he would have dismissed him, and he would not rest until the men who had made the errors in these returns were dismissed."

Mr. Tite, M.P., Mr. Otway, M.P., and Sir Charles Napier, briefly addressed the meeting, which then terminated.

MURDER BY AN ENGLISHMAN IN FRANCE.

JOHN EDWARD PIERS, a native of the Isle of Man, has been tried in France for a murder committed under very singular circumstances. He had resided for five-and-twenty years at St. Omer, and in the course of last April occupied the first floor of a house belonging to a coal-dealer named Barbion. On the 17th of that month, Barbion was in his yard, talking with a workman; and Piers was at his window, listening to their conversation. Shortly afterwards, Piers invited Barbion up into his room, and instantly shot him. On being taken into custody, he stated that his motive for committing the deed was the fact of Barbion having made abominable imputations against him; that these imputations were of a nature to dishonour him in England; and that therefore he considered himself justified in taking Barbion's life. His answers to the interrogatories of the President of the Court of Assizes exhibited singular determination, and the existence of a most deadly feeling of revenge. Being asked if he admitted having killed the man, he at once said "Yes." He had been found after the murder armed with pistols and other weapons; and he now acknowledged that this was to protect himself from violence. He said that, on inviting Barbion up into his room, he was firmly resolved to kill him. "The act you have committed," observed the President, "is the greatest of crimes." "The imputation cast on me," retorted Piers, "was infinitely more serious than what I have done. It was the most dreadful outrage that can be made on a man; and, without being dishonoured, a man cannot allow the person who made it to live." He added, that he did not fire at Barbion while he was in the yard because he was afraid of missing him. The President desired to know why, if he believed himself insulted, he had not challenged Barbion to fight a duel. "A duel," replied Piers, "was impossible between us, because it was necessary to put him to death, and it would not have been possible to have found seconds who would have consented to that. Besides, I wanted to take his life and not expose my own; for, if he had killed me, I should have died dishonoured." Upon the public prosecutor demanding whether, under the same circumstances, he would again act in the same way, Piers replied, "Yes, Sir."

In defence, it was asserted that the man was demented; that he lay under continual suspicion of persons talking ill of him; that he would frequently rise at night to listen whether people were speaking against him in the street; and that on one occasion he fired a pistol at three individuals who were talking beneath his window. Two medical men stated that they believed him to be

labouring under monomania; and the jury found him guilty, with extenuating circumstances. He was sentenced to twenty years' hard labour. Being now forty-six years of age, it is probable that he will never reach the end of his term.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

(Extracts from Private Correspondence.)

... The only diplomatic news is the probable appointment of M. Thouvenel to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. M. Thouvenel is a man of forty; he began his diplomatic career at Brussels, in Louis Philippe's time; he won the friendship of King Leopold, wrote in the *Revue des deux Mondes*, and rapidly established a reputation. The House of Orleans was very fond of him; he was almost "one of the family." He is brother-in-law to M. Cuvillier Fleury, sometime tutor to the Duc d'Aumale. The Revolution of '48 found him in Greece, and left him there. It was by him that the little kingdom was saved in the Pacifico affair. He left Greece to become "director" in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and it was M. Thouvenel who won a state-paper reputation for M. Drouyn de Lhuys. During the Vienna Conferences he supported alone the whole burden of affairs, received the diplomatic corps, corresponded with our agents abroad, all "on her own hook." The absent Minister meanwhile corresponded directly with the Emperor, in cipher. On this M. Thouvenel founded his resignation; but the Emperor, who highly esteems him, is determined to make him Minister. Since, however, it is unprecedented that a simple "director" should become Minister without having passed through an ambassadorship, this routine, which has almost the force of law, will be observed, by nominating M. Thouvenel ambassador to Constantinople, whither he may possibly not go. I don't know what England will think of our new Foreign Minister being the old protector of the Greeks, the old ally of the Russians at Athens, the old adversary of Admiral Parker in the Mediterranean.

A naval friend of mine, who returned last week from the Crimea, and who has been through the whole campaign since the Alma, assures me that after our first victory Sebastopol might have been easily taken in a day, and the forts in a very short time. The enemy was demoralised; St. Arnaud wanted to push on, leaving to the navies to take care of the wounded and the dead; but the English would not abandon their wounded. So the Russians had time to fortify. Since St. Arnaud's death there has been, properly speaking, no unity of command. Canrobert had under his orders generals of his own rank, of longer service than his: every man wanted to carry on the siege for himself. Pelissier won't divide his authority with any one, not even with the Minister of War: he strikes like a deaf man, and hears nothing. Last week the Ministry of War sent him some "counsels:" he replied, "I can quite understand people in Paris being anxious to know what is going on at Sebastopol; but at Sebastopol we care very little about what you are thinking at Paris." You see you were not far from right in describing Pelissier as a *mauvaise tête*. He is in favour now, and he does what he likes: to-morrow he may be in disgrace, and everything he does will be disapproved. Our Government is *un enfant terrible* that breaks all its toys.

The Academy will not be crushed because it will bend. You know the result of the protest. Our Academicians will be content with that. The most resolute say that, "after all, there are precedents." They recollect the proceedings of the first Empire, and, what is more serious, the members expelled, and their seats filled up under the Restoration. If you ask them why they don't resign, which would be the only serious protest, they reply that it would be repugnant to usage; that a resigned Academician would be a monstrosity in literature; that you resign a situation, but not a seat in the Academy. These *révolutionnaires de bonne compagnie* are good for nothing but to mutter behind doors, and to whisper *bons mots* against the powers that be.

You mentioned a *mot* of Grassot's à propos of Sebastopol; he is the author of another about Pianori. Grassot said that Pianori had not fired at the Emperor, but at an aide-de-camp who owed him for a pair of boots.

There is plenty of joking in Paris, but little else. No one likes the Government, no one takes any interest in the war; but there is too much luxury, too much pleasure, too much mere desire of enjoyment to allow the middle classes to contemplate the possibility of a revolution without trembling. The working classes make no sign of life; they are lulled as much as possible by work: when the hands are busy the head reposes. For the Ateliers Nationaux of the Champ de Mars is substituted the completion of the Louvre, and the

Neronian works in the Bois de Boulogne. But when all these works are finished, or when money runs short, what will be done then?

Literature and publishers are doing indifferently well. The Academy, living on its laurels, has just given a prize of 3000 francs to an able treatise on the works of Livy. The author is a young man of twenty-seven, a resigned professor, M. Taine, a man of large and liberal intelligence. The *Société des Gens de Lettres* has divided into four prizes a sum of 10,000 francs offered by an "Anon." This "Anon." is M. Louis Véron, who pays his welcome to the Society in this form. It is to be feared, however, that the eminent apothecary's 10,000 francs will scarcely provide bread for all the men of letters who are starving!

The artists have remarked that the Emperor, after having opened in person the Industrial Exposition, had not honoured with his presence the opening of the Exposition of Fine Arts: it was opened like a shop, without any ceremony.

We are overwhelmed by an inundation of police. M. Laurens, a painter, went lately to Jersey to visit Victor Hugo. Since his return the police have been incessantly inquiring about him among his acquaintances. By-the-by, have you heard the following anecdote? A lady of the Faubourg St. Germain, well known for her anti-Bonapartist opinions, was about to give a ball. The Commissaire de Police of the district presented himself at her house, and asked her permission to send to the ball three Messieurs well dressed, who would pass muster very well among her guests, who would even dance if necessary, and play a rubber without cheating. The lady was aghast at the proposal, and exclaimed with some vehemence that she would rather put off her ball *sine die* than to be exposed to such an intrusion. The police commissaire endeavoured to appease her. "I should be sorry, indeed, *Madame*, to be the cause of such a disappointment. Would you allow me to glance over your list of invitations?"—"Certainly, I am not in the habit of receiving people who will not bear inspection." The commissaire read the list, and returned it, smiling. "Now, *madame*, I will not press my request to be allowed to send three of my employés; you have invited six!"

(From another Letter.)

Your article on our Opposition was excellent in principle, but it seemed to me to be deficient in practical application. *Beware of Socialist chimeras*—that is the pith of your counsels, *n'est-ce pas?* Perhaps you were thinking a little of your troublesome Chartists at home when you gave us that excellent advice. But that is not the whole question with us. The republican party—I mean the temperate, enlightened, statesmanlike leaders of the party—know perfectly well that they will have to resist the exaggerations of impossible reformers. But at the same time they foresee other immense difficulties (which I have discussed in previous letters). We shall have to encounter royalists of every colour, and financial embarrassments of which it is difficult to form an idea. Consider the ignorant mass of the population, astonished to find themselves poor after having allowed their affairs to be conducted by a spendthrift and a gambler, will accuse not him, but the Government, whatever it may be, which will have to demand extraordinary sacrifices. Consider the working classes, accustomed to the application of the *droit au travail* by dint of loans continually renewed, but in a sudden crisis impossible, to a man they will join the Socialists, who will promise to continue, in some form or other, that system of disguised spoliation. If you have any formula to help us with, pray hasten to state it.* But a mere *Beware of the Socialists* will not carry us far. We shall have to contend with misery, with hunger, with bankruptcy, with the ruin of all credit, and with all the ordinary consequences of such a complication.

(From another Letter.)

I have only been once to the Exposition. To my shame be it spoken, I have never seen any pictures of Millais, except those now in Paris. In truth, however, I have scarcely been in London since he began to exhibit. I am adverse to the Pre-Raphaelite doctrine; but I am told that Millais is no longer a fanatical adherent to it. It has been wonderfully beneficial to him. I never saw more solid, obstinate, and effective painting (once the peculiar *donnée* admitted), and I suppose his example will have a wonderful effect in putting an end to the slur-

* We have assured our esteemed correspondent that we purposely abstained from even appearing to dictate a programme. We respectfully enforced certain general principles, essential to the vitality of a nation, but we never pretended to emulate M. de Girardin, and to be ready with a series of *Décrets de l'Avenir*. The excessive indulgence in formulas we humbly conceive to be one of the most serious elements of the disease which has reduced France to her present feverish atony.—Ed. LEADER.

ring conventional hypocrisies of art. I have not heard many valuable opinions on the English school expressed here. There are two conflicting tendencies in the public; one towards admiration without bounds, another towards contempt. The public seems waiting for the *mot d'ordre*. Among the few casual observations I have caught flying are these: "There are great qualities in the English school, but it does not know how to paint!" and—"The handiwork is excellent, but the English can't think!" The cry is, "The Exposition is a failure." The Opposition attribute this to the Prince; Bonapartists to the Company: about the fact all agree. I passed through on my way to the Beaux Arts, on the 4th (second franc day). At three there were not more than three hundred people in the building; most of them seemed to have something to do with the stalls. I suppose you have noticed that the shares have fallen thirty francs within a month.

(From another Letter.)

I have heard that the recent attack by General Pelissier was in defiance of a formal order to undertake nothing against the place—an order emanating from an *august personage*, but that Pelissier replied that the order arrived too late, that the attack was commanded, and that he could not be responsible for a second edition of the Kertch expedition disappointment, at the risk of losing the confidence of the whole army. It seems certain that in the recent engagements the lives of the troops have been lavished. At the Tuileries the loss caused consternation; hence the order to desist. Such is the rumour I have heard. Perhaps it is but a rumour, circulated with the design of throwing the whole responsibility of the sacrifice of life upon the hero of the Dahra.

We have a grand picture by M. Winterhalter, painter of all the dynasties, at the Exposition (representing the Empress and eight ladies of her suite sitting on the grass), which would make a fine signboard for a *marchand de modes*. This Decameron, however, is so richly framed, that on Sunday last it was completely mobbed. The good people fancied it represented the Favourites of the Emperor. Such was the universal suspicion in the Faubourg St. Antoine.

I hear on good authority that the so-called Pianori was a man of family. When the Procureur-Général came to question him for the last time, the prisoner answered him in good, and even elegant French.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

LETTERS from the Caucasus complain of the high prices of articles of consumption, which have risen enormously since the conveyance of them by sea has been terminated. A small wheat loaf, which used to cost no more than three copecks, cannot be had now under ten copecks.

The Spanish Cortes have decided, by ninety-five votes to sixty, to take into consideration a proposition declaring that municipal elections shall henceforth take place by universal suffrage. The Madrid *Gazette* of June 8 publishes a circular suspending the execution of the decree relative to the National Guard.

A Prussian circular, dated May 23, has been forwarded to the diplomatic agents of Prussia throughout Germany. This despatch, which is signed by Baron Manteuffel, is an answer to the two Austrian circulars of the 17th ultimo, of which we gave an analysis last week, and which had reference to the Russian intimation of the Czar's intention to abide by the first two Points, on the understanding that Germany shall remain neutral. Prussia states her agreement with Austria that the Russian despatch did not call for any discussion in the Diet; but she altogether dissents from the assertion of the Vienna Cabinet, that Russia is only striving after the disunion of Germany. While not denying Austria's claim to merit in acquiring the Russian concessions with regard to these two Points, Baron Manteuffel thinks "it would be matter of easy proof to show that Prussia's incessant exertions at St. Petersburg have also at least shared in bringing about" the result in question. He is inclined to doubt that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg desired to assure itself in advance of the determination of the German courts, since no responsive declaration was asked for by Russia. The Prussian Cabinet, in short, claims for all the powers concerned a fair and impartial interpretation of their acts and motives. But Baron Manteuffel "will not stop to inquire if the degree of (at least intended) secrecy and reserve with which Austria shrouds her negotiations from the Western Powers—from us still more than from other German Governments—exactly corresponds to the degree of confidence that she claims from us." Prussia, out of "consideration" for Austria, and the "difficult position" in which she is placed, does not wish to "drive" that power into further communications. "We shall, as I hardly need repeat, whilst examining into the state of the case, strive, by wish, by feeling, and by resolution, to prove that Prussia, both as a European and as a German Power, is wont to look upon herself as Austria's ally. But we claim for ourselves and for Germany the incontestable

right to enter upon this examination, and, if Austria reserves to herself to settle what, according to her views, Europe's and Germany's interests require, so shall we decide, at the right time, what our own, Germany's, and Europe's interest seem to us to require." Any arrangements which Austria may have made without consulting Prussia must be considered at some future period. Baron Manteuffel concludes by observing, "We confidently hope that Count Buol will find our frank language only commensurate with the gravity of the moment, and will recognise in it a fresh proof of our lively wish for a genuine and sincere understanding, and for a *solidarité* based upon it."

Rossini has arrived in Paris. We are glad to see it stated that he is not so ill as former accounts set forth. He complains of weakness and want of sleep; but his malady is thought by some to be chiefly nervous.

The Englishman, Rolfe, who was arrested at Hamburg, under suspicion of being a recruiting agent for the German Legion, has been released, with a warning to quit the city.

Five young men, accused of taking part in political "assassinations" in 1849, have been executed at Fimo (Roman States), after undergoing an imprisonment of six years. A letter in the *Indépendance Belge* says that no convincing proofs of their guilt were forthcoming, and that the execution caused a general horror amongst the population. Numerous persons retired into the country for the day.

The cholera is at Venice, Pesth, and Prague, but has not yet assumed an epidemic character.

A despatch from Turin, dated the 13th instant, announces that on the evening of the 12th an attempt was made at Rome to assassinate Cardinal Antonelli. The attempt failed, and the assassin was arrested.

The Carlist rebellion in Spain is not yet suppressed. A despatch from the Spanish frontier announces that a band of seventy unarmed men was formed on the 11th near Pampeluna, and took the direction of the French frontier to procure arms there. Hotly pursued, the greater number sought refuge in France. A movement in Catalonia is said to be feared. The French mail which left Paris on the 9th, and the mail which left Madrid on the 10th, were burnt by some insurgents in Castile.

A despatch from Madrid, dated the 13th instant, says:—"Yesterday, the Cortes rejected a proposition tending to censure the Ministry. The Minister of Finance declared to-day to the Cortes that he would only have recourse to a forced loan as a last resource."

Amiens has just given a deplorable example of opposition to a paternal government. At the recent election of a member of the Council-General there were two candidates, and the one emphatically recommended by the Government was a M. Vulfran Mollet, who had manifested his enthusiasm for the Empire so long back as 1852. The rival candidate was a M. Porion, formerly Mayor of Amiens, and who, as a member of the Legislative Assembly, had displayed hostility to the intrigues and suspicion of the conspiracies of the then President of the Republic. Will it be believed, that in spite of the adjurations of the official journals, M. Porion has been returned to the Council-General by a majority over the imperialist candidate of 416 votes.

At Auxerre, the Government mayor has been re-elected, but by so small a majority, that, with an honourable susceptibility he has resigned.

M. Jules Cloquet, the eminent surgeon, has been elected a Member of the Académie des Sciences.

MORE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN AUSTRIA.—The case of Borzinsky, which we noticed last week, is not the only case of the kind now casting disgrace upon the Austrian Government and Church. A correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Prague, mentions the persecution of one Joachim Jezule, "also formerly a [Roman] Catholic priest, who was converted to the Protestant religion, and who has now been confined for twenty years, and is treated as a lunatic because he will not recant." This is in the same convent as that to which Borzinsky belonged, and where he is now confined solitarily in a dark cell adjacent to those occupied by two raving lunatics.

A decree of the King of Sardinia has indicated the religious orders of men and women which are to be suppressed. The number is considerable; 334 monasteries will disappear; they contain a population of 5598 persons. Among these monasteries, 289 were inhabited by 4125 monks, and 45 by 1473 nuns. In the orders still preserved there remain 863 monks and 1699 nuns. According to the economy of the law, monks and nuns who belonged to the orders suppressed will continue to live each in common, and each of them during life will receive a pension net of 500*l*.

Free Trade has got as far as Rome. An announcement has been made of a reduction in the import and consumptive duties of the principal articles of foreign produce introduced into the Roman states.

We have noted with special interest in the Melbourne papers of late, the name of a former *collaborateur*, who appears to be rising to rapid and conspicuous distinction at the Australian bar—we mean Mr. Butler Cole Aspinall. This gentleman was for some time engaged as a parliamentary reporter on the *Morning Chronicle*, and was in the habit of contributing occasionally to our own journal. He was distinguished among his friends and con-

frères as a young man of singular promise and power, and extraordinary aptitude for public life. As a speaker, he was remarkable not only for his command of language, and for the easy vigour with which he would grasp a subject, but for a faculty of sarcasm which almost exceeded his control. In a recent number of a Melbourne journal, we find Mr. Aspinall, who has been retained to defend the Ballarat diggers, addressing a large open-air meeting with great effect. Alluding, we suppose, to the surveillance of the Government police, he commenced his address in these words: "Gentlemen — *and spies*." Those who remember the speaker will have no difficulty in recognising Mr. Aspinall.

ALLEGED PERJURY: EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

In the Central Criminal Court, on Monday, Louisa Harrison, a well-dressed young woman, with an infant in her arms, surrendered to take her trial on a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury. The counsel for the prosecution opened the case by a narrative of the facts, which were published at the time of their occurrence, and which may be thus briefly recapitulated.—A man of the name of Mallett had in a previous session been tried at that court for an assault and robbery committed upon the woman Harrison, who swore that he entered her house in Bull-yard, Aldgate, one evening last December, robbed her, tied her hands together, and inflicted several serious wounds on her head. A verdict of guilty was returned by the jury; and Mallett was condemned to death, the sentence being subsequently commuted to transportation for fifteen years. A very few days after this conviction, Mrs. Harrison was again found in her house with her hands tied and her head wounded, precisely as before. She represented that a second attack had been made on her, and that she should be able to identify the offender. This created suspicion; the police made inquiries; it was ascertained that there was no foundation for the charge against Mallett, and the Government consequently granted to him a free pardon. Mrs. Harrison was now placed on her trial for perjury; but the evidence produced certainly did not tend to establish the inference which had been formed against her—namely, that she had bound her own hands, and inflicted the wounds upon herself. When found on the evening of the alleged robbery and assault, she was nearly insensible, bleeding profusely, and with her hands tied so tightly that one of the witnesses who went to her assistance was obliged to use his teeth to loosen the knots. There was not, said this witness, the slightest appearance of "shamming" in her conduct. The eldest child, who seemed very much frightened, was the first to give an alarm, by saying that a man was murdering her mother. Another witness said he certainly could not have tied such a knot round his own hands. In the course of the evening, Mrs. Harrison fainted twice, and was seized with violent convulsions. A woman who attended on her had great difficulty in preventing her from injuring herself. Nevertheless, the medical man who was called in was of opinion, according to his evidence on the trial, that the woman might have inflicted the wounds upon herself; but he admitted that she had a convulsive fit which was "undoubtedly real." He added, that she was then three months advanced in pregnancy. She was insensible and almost pulseless when he first saw her. He did not consider that it would be a very easy thing for a woman to cause such injuries to herself; but she might have done so. A stick was found in the house, with blood upon it; and, if she had used this stick, she must have inflicted the wounds first, and tied her hands afterwards.

The man Mallett was then examined, and accounted for the whole of the evening of the alleged robbery. He admitted that he passed under a false name, but that was because he had formerly been a bad character, by which he meant a fighting man. He had been arrested at a penny theatre, where he was an "officer," appointed to "keep order." The *alibi* which he now proved was advanced by him on his trial; but it was not heeded by the jury.

The Recorder, in summing up, directed the jury that Mallett was innocent, and that the woman Harrison was simply mistaken as to the identity of the person who assaulted her, and had no corrupt intention in accusing Mallett. He did not think it could be doubted that an assault and robbery had really been committed.

Mr. Ryland, Mallett's counsel, consented to withdraw from the prosecution; and a verdict of Not Guilty was accordingly taken.—A second charge of a similar kind against Mrs. Harrison it was arranged should not be taken until Friday morning.

OUR CIVILISATION.

A ROMANCE OF REAL LIFE.—A very singular history of alleged successful fraud, and unlawful withholding of large landed property from the real owner, has been heard before Vice-Chancellor Wood. The plaintiff is a common day-labourer residing at Louth in Lincolnshire, and seeks to establish his title to certain property in Northumberland producing a rental of nearly 50,000*l*. a year, of which he alleges his grandfather to have been fraudulently deprived. Stote Manby, the grandfather, had become of unsound mind owing to the kick of a horse. He also was a labourer, was unable to read and

write, and lived during his latter years in a wretched hovel, supported by the exertions of his wife and by casual charity. Upon the death of Dorothy Windsor, from whom the property descended, the estate should have passed to Stote Manby; but Sir Robert Bewicke and John Craster, two of her tenants, colluded together, according to the allegations of the plaintiff, and unlawfully obtained possession of the property. After their deaths, some time prior to 1780, it descended to their heirs, who took possession of it, though well knowing that they had no right or title. In 1781, a lawyer of Newcastle, named Harvey, who had sought out Stote Manby, and informed him of his rights, brought two writs of "cosenage" on behalf of Manby against Bewicke and Craster; but subsequently, as the plaintiff averred, he colluded with them, accepted a bribe to betray the interest of Manby, and agreed that a compromise should be made, by which Bewicke and Craster were to pay 1,500*l*. to Harvey, and to charge the estates with a perpetual rent-charge of 300*l*. a year in favour of Stote Manby and his heirs. The action was consequently withdrawn, and an order, which was afterwards made a rule of court, was drawn up, in which it was stated that William Manby, the son of Stote Manby, was present in court, and consented to the arrangement. This, it was now alleged, was false. William Manby was not in court, and being, like his father, of weak intellect, he was not capable of giving any valid assent to the proposed terms. Subsequently, certain legal documents were signed, or alleged to have been signed, by Stote Manby; but, owing to his imbecility, it was contended that the instruments, if executed at all, were inoperative. By a further fraudulent scheme, Stote Manby, according to the plaintiff's averments, was deprived of the 300*l*. a year rent-charge. The plaintiff in the present suit first became informed of his alleged rights by a very old man at Louth in the year 1846. This man recollected the action of 1781; and, in consequence of what he said, and of inquiries afterwards made, the plaintiff filed the bill now before the Vice-Chancellor's Court. To this bill, the defendants demurred; and the Vice-Chancellor, thinking the allegations were not capable of legal proof, and were extremely doubtful, stated that the demurrers must be allowed, with costs. As, however, some documents might possibly exist, which would throw light on the transactions, he granted leave to amend.

ROBERT M'LAREN, the youth charged with having robbed the young lady to whom he was engaged, was brought up on remand on Monday, when the counsel for the prosecution said that M'Laren had reiterated his intention to marry Miss Hill; in which case his client was not desirous to press the charge. The prisoner was therefore set at liberty.

A BUSINESS-LIKE THIEF.—Henry Palmer, an escaped convict, has been arrested after a desperate struggle with the police. Upon his person was found a memorandum-book, containing the following entries with respect to his "profession":—"Sunday, at 11 o'clock, St. James's Church, Paddington; half-past six, Eccleston Chapel; Monday, the 27th, Willis's-rooms; 24th, public meeting, Upper-street, Islington, at 7 o'clock; 16th, Lecture-hall, Greenwich, note 'Sims Reeves'; 17th, a sale at Churton-street, Pimlico; 21st, a sale in Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square; 21st, 11 o'clock, Haddington-villas, Romford-road." He was brought up at Worship-street on Monday, and remanded for a week.

HOMELESS.—A boy, twelve years of age, named Edwin Williams, was charged at Clerkenwell with being found destitute near the Caledonian-road. A policeman discovered him, together with another boy, lurking in some brick-fields; and here, in the furnace-holes of the heaps of new bricks, they were in the habit of sleeping every night. The constable took the lad to the station-house, and thence he was conveyed to the workhouse; but, as it was the middle of the night, the porter refused to take him in. On the following morning, added the policeman, the second boy was not to be found in the brick-field. Upon this, the lad Williams immediately rejoined, "But he will be there to-night." He then stated, in reply to the magistrate, that he had no relatives or friends. His father, who was a shipwright in a man-of-war, was killed in the Black Sea. The news came to his mother by letter, and she died in five days after the "worry." He did not know where they lived, nor where she was buried. When his mother died, the landlord said to him, "You must go away;" and he was turned out before she was buried, and did not see her again.—The magistrate made an order for the immediate admission of the boy into the workhouse.

THE ALLEGED GOLD ROBBERY.—Samuel Seal was on Friday week again remanded at the Mansion House, bail being this time accepted—himself in 1000*l*., and two sureties of 500*l*. each. Mr. Chaplin, of the Spread Eagle, Gracechurch-street, carrier, gave evidence as to two consignments of gold which he had recently received for transmission by rail, and which were stolen. The clerk of one of the consignors, however, stated that the gold sent by his employer was totally different from that which the prisoner had possessed.

MURDER.—At the Thames Police-office, on Tuesday, Jeremiah Foley was charged with the wilful murder of Hannah Robertson, of Five Bell-alley, Limehouse. It appeared from the evidence that the prisoner, who had frequently been in custody for assaults and disorderly conduct, had been in the habit of visiting the deceased,

who was herself of very bad character. On Monday night deceased was in her house, and with her two men and two women (street-walkers). The prisoner, who appeared to be mad drunk, rushed in, in a violent passion, and attacked one of the men, whom he threw from the top of a flight of stairs to the bottom. He then furiously assaulted the two women, and, on the deceased interfering, he struck her violently on the bosom with his fist, and also kicked her. She fell to the ground groaning heavily. The prisoner afterwards continued his ill-usage, kicking the woman until she was nearly insensible. The result was that she died a few hours afterwards.—The prisoner was remanded until today.

WILLIAM WINCHELSEA BEVAN, lately a clerk in the Deposit and General Life Assurance Company, has been acquitted at the Central Criminal Court on a charge of stealing certain orders for the payment of money. It appeared probable that an implied authority had been given to the prisoner to deal with the moneys of the company as his own, and that he had paid the accounts in question, although not at the time expected. Several other indictments were brought forward, to all of which the prisoner pleaded Not Guilty; and he was retained in custody, in order to give the prosecutors time to consider whether or not they would proceed with the charges.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK. (From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.)

The mortality of London is still higher than it should be in the beginning of June, a month which is usually the healthiest in the year; but the returns of the last two weeks prove that the public health is approaching a more satisfactory state. Last week, 1087 persons, of whom 565 were males, and 522 females, died. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 931, and, if this be raised in a certain proportion as allowance for increase of population, it becomes 1024. There was an excess in the deaths of last week of 63 above the estimated amount.

Of the 1087 deaths, 515, or nearly half, occurred under 20 years of age; only 25 occurred at 80 years and upwards. Of 235 deaths, which are ascribed to diseases of the zymotic class, 186 were amongst young persons not more than 20 years old, 25 occurred at the ages 20-40, 12 at 40-60, 11 at 60-80, and one at a more advanced age. Of diseases in that class, scarlatina, which was fatal in 53 cases, is at present the most prevalent. Next in the number of cases referred to them are typhus and hooping-cough; from each of these, 43 deaths have been registered. Small-pox numbers 22, diarrhoea 16, and measles 10. Three deaths from scarlatina occurred in the sub-district of Gray's Inn-lane, and 3 in that of Poplar. The deaths of 2 persons are returned as caused by intemperance.

Last week, the births of 870 boys and 840 girls, in all 1710 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1414.

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

THE CAMP ON THE CURRAGH OF KILDARE progresses rapidly. There is now accommodation for more than 3500 men. Two streets, each forty feet wide, extend a distance of about three-quarters of an English mile; and there are also two cross-streets, about fifteen or eighteen feet in width, with a square in the centre. The huts are plainly but neatly furnished; those of the officers being divided into small apartments, the size and number of which are determined by the rank of the occupants. The streets are to be macadamised, and some, as well as a portion of the huts, will be supplied with gas. Altogether, the encampment will have quite the aspect of a little town; and its appearance will no doubt be, as a writer in a daily contemporary observes, "magnificent." The buildings will extend over about two miles in length.

SERGEANT-MAJOR THOMAS LAWRENCE, of the 51st King's Own Light Infantry, has been presented with a sword by the non-commissioned officers of that regiment as a mark of their esteem. The ceremony took place at Salford Barracks, where the regiment is now quartered. On presenting the sword, an appropriate address was made by Quartermaster-Sergeant John B. Hyde. Sergeant Lawrence, in returning thanks, said that, although he had been twenty-two years in the service, and might claim a pension, yet, as his regiment was ordered to the Crimea, he should go out with it. The declaration was much cheered.

REINFORCEMENTS continue to be sent off to the Crimea.

THE CASE OF CORNET BAUMGARTEN.—The Commander-in-Chief has communicated to the regimental authorities his decision in this well-known case. Cornet Eyans, of the 6th Inniskillings, is to be cashiered. Lieutenant Webster, of the 1st Royals, is to retire from the service by the sale of his commission. Lieut. Hartop is most severely reprimanded, and his conduct is to be reported every three months by his commanding officer, for the information of the Commander-in-Chief. Lord Hardinge considers Sergeant Brodie's conduct in preventing the duel most praiseworthy; but it would

have been better if he had reported his apprehensions to his commanding officer the previous night. Cornet Baumgarten is directed to be more on his guard for the future, and his attention is called to certain sections in the Articles of War. Captain Fitzwygram's name is not mentioned.—A letter from General Yorke to Lord Seaton, commanding the forces in Ireland, has been published. It has reference to the analogous case of Ensigns Sanders and Neville of the 30th Regiment, and states that Lord Hardinge could not think of recommending those officers to her Majesty for promotion on the occasion of two lieutenantcies of the 30th Regiment being about to be filled up. The two "frolicking ensigns" are likewise informed that, "until their conduct may have been favourably reported upon for at least two successive quarters, they need not look for any promotion; but as it is not just that the other ensigns junior to them should suffer for their misconduct, these will successively pass over them whenever vacant lieutenantcies may be filled up in the regiment till the period of probation as above laid down shall have expired. I am further to add, that it is his Lordship's determination to take this course in every similar case that may not appear to require a still more severe proceeding."

WRECK OF A LONDONDERRY STEAMER.—The Londonderry steamer, Maiden City, on her passage from Liverpool, struck on the rocks inside of Maughold Head, Isle of Man, during a thick fog, on the night of Wednesday week, about eleven o'clock, and speedily filled. No lives were lost. The steamer had a full cargo of guano, Indian corn, and other merchandise.

A REVEREND OLD COLLIER.—The Conference, of North Shields, captured and burnt by the Riff pirates, was one of the oldest collier brigs belonging to the Tyne. She was employed as a transport at the siege of Quebec, and has been in use ever since.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MORE than two hundred members of the House of Commons have signed a memorial, recommending a public monument at the national expense to be erected to Hume.

STOPPAGE OF MESSRS. STRAHAN, PAUL, AND CO.'S BANK.—The *Morning Chronicle* announces the stoppage of this old-established firm. On Monday morning, checks drawn upon them were returned, marked "Cannot be paid." Later in the day, a commission in bankruptcy was opened by Mr. Commissioner Fane against "William Strahan, Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., and Robert Makin Bates, of 217, Strand, bankers; and navy agents, of 41, Norfolk-street, Strand, trading under the style of Halford and Co." The cause of the failure is thus set forth by the *Morning Chronicle*:—"The firm of Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Co. have unfortunately become involved in railway speculations. The house some time back became connected with a firm which undertook contracts for the construction of railways in Italy. The latter firm had previously failed in the provinces, but soon afterwards recommenced business with scarcely any capital. Their place of business being at the west-end of London, they kept a banking account at Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Co.'s. Their operations in time involved a loss to the latter of 1500*l*. In order to recover this small sum the house very unwisely, and unfortunately, as it has turned out, themselves 'went in' very extensively into the Italian railway contract business. Various heavy bills were drawn upon them from abroad, and finally in London, until the 'acceptances' of Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Co. were very freely current in the City." The firm was one of the oldest in London, having been established nearly two hundred years.

AN ELECTION AGENT.—POLITICAL MORALITY.—In the Court of Common Pleas, on Wednesday week, an action was brought by Mr. Grant, a parliamentary agent, to recover 140*l*. 15*s*. 3*d*. for work done and money paid for Mr. Guinness, one of the members for Barnstaple, as his agent during his election. The defendant pleaded never indebted, and that the plaintiff had not sent off his account within a month, according to the terms of the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act. Mr. Grant having stated his own case, the upshot of which is contained in the above allegation, Mr. John Laurie, who was elected for Barnstaple at the same time as Mr. Guinness, and afterwards unseated, gave the following unblushing evidence, at which (of course) there was "much laughter":—"He had paid 1500*l*. to Mr. Carnsew (a lawyer and election agent) without being aware that there was anything wrong in doing so. Witness understood it was the amount of the expenses of the commission, and the solicitor's bill. Witness was introduced to Grant three or four weeks before the election. Witness employed Mr. Carnsew, but could not say whether he employed Grant. Grant made himself very effective, and witness was returned at the head of the poll. He was so warmly received that he must go there again. (A laugh.) It was true he had paid 1,500*l*.; but nothing is done without paying in this world. (A laugh.) Mr. Guinness kept his seat, and witness lost his—most unexpectedly. (A laugh.) He did not spend any money himself at Barnstaple, except that he made some purchases; one must patronise one's constituents." (A laugh.) Mr. Guinness denied Mr. Grant's statements, and the validity of his claim; but

the jury, after deliberating for an hour and three-quarters, gave a verdict for the plaintiff for 69*l*. 3*s*. 9*d*.

THE POSTAGE OF NEWSPAPERS AND BOOKS.—A recent *Gazette* contains a Treasury warrant, altering the rates of postal transmission for books and other works of literature and art, as they were fixed by the warrant of the 3d of last January. The following are the new arrangements:—"On every such packet, if not exceeding 4oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 1*d*. And on every such packet, if exceeding 4oz. and not exceeding 8oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 2*d*. And on every such packet, if exceeding 8oz., and not exceeding 1*lb*. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 4*d*. And on every such packet, if exceeding 1*lb*. and not exceeding 1*lb*. and one-half of another pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 6*d*. And on every such packet, if exceeding 1*lb*. and one-half of another pound, and not exceeding 2*lb*. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 8*d*. And for every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ *lb*. in weight of any such packet above the weight of 2*lb*. there shall be charged and taken an additional rate of 2*d*. And every fractional part of every such additional $\frac{1}{2}$ *lb*. in weight shall be charged as $\frac{1}{2}$ *lb*. in weight. And we do further order and direct that no such packet which in length or width or depth shall exceed the dimensions of 2 feet shall be forwarded by the post under the provisions aforesaid." The packets are to be sent open at the ends or sides. This warrant came into operation last Monday.

AUSTRALIA.—An open-air meeting was held at Melbourne on the 12th of March, for the purpose of considering the extraordinary conduct of Government in postponing the trials of the Ballarat rioters. Resolutions condemnatory of the course pursued by Government were passed, and a subscription was entered into for the defence of the remaining prisoners. The insult offered to the jury by the Attorney-General was also censured; one of the speakers, Mr. Aspinall, stating that it was understood the Attorney-General intended to resign as soon as he was able to pass a measure prohibiting trial by jury.—The Legislative Council of Melbourne are turning their attention to railways. Mr. Deas Thompson, says the *Melbourne Morning Herald*, has expressed the hope that he shall live to travel by railway from Melbourne to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The spring trade in the Sydney markets has been very dull.

TRUE PROTESTANTISM.—The Archbishop of Dublin, in a charge delivered on Thursday week, during his annual visitation in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, made the following admirable and conclusive remarks on the subject of the papal "aggression" which threw all England into a fever some four years and a half ago. Their logic is as irresistible as their spirit is large and honest. If Protestantism were always the exponent of similar views, it would be the real and legitimate antithesis to Papacy—the representative of tolerance and inclusiveness, of genuine "Catholicism," as the Roman church is the embodiment of bigotry and proscription; whereas Protestantism is in fact often nothing more than another kind of Papacy, equally denunciatory, secular, and uncandid. The Archbishop observed:—"On a late occasion, I came forward, as you will remember, in opposition to the prevailing feeling at that time among my countrymen, to point out of how small consequence are empty ecclesiastical titles, when applying claims not already admitted by the persons concerned. The title for instance, of 'King of France,' retained for ages by our sovereigns, gave no uneasiness to the French people, and only exposed ourselves to ridicule, till it was, within our own memory, wisely dropped. And the last Stuart Prince who, to the last, called himself 'King of England,' excited so little of either fear or resentment, that he was actually in the enjoyment of a pension from our own royal family. In like manner, if the people are not Romanists, or inclined to be such, in a certain English or Irish city, the assumption by a Romish Bishop of a title from that city will not make them so. And if they are, from other causes, Romanists, the prohibition by law of that title will never convert them to the Protestant faith. In the present case also, as there is not, as I can see, any ground for special indignation at the arrogance of a claim which has been made for many ages by the Romish Church, to dictate articles of faith to all the world, so neither is there any ground for alarm at the recent exercise of that claim, nor any reason for our making a special protest against it."

THE SUNDAY BEER BILL.—A meeting was recently held at Halifax, with the design of passing resolutions in favour of the Sunday Beer Bill. After a very stormy scene in the Market-place, where about five or six thousands persons assembled, an amendment denunciatory of the Act was carried by an immense majority.

DR. LOCOCK has proceeded to Paris, having been telegraphed for by the Emperor. It seems that the Empress again gives her husband some prospect of the chance of an heir.

THREE CHILDREN WERE BURNED TO DEATH last Saturday, in a house at Hackney. They had been locked into the room by their mother, who had left the house for a short time; and it is supposed that one of them must have played with the lucifer matches, and set fire to the bed, under the remains of which their bodies were discovered. The loud shrieks of the children had

been heard for some time before the fire was discovered, but it was only then that assistance was given.

LORD MAYOR MOON has been entertained at a banquet at the Hôtel de Ville, when Baron Haussmann, Prefect of the Seine, made a eulogistic speech, suited to the occasion, and our gentle Moon cast the beams of his full orb upon M. le Baron, upon the Hôtel, and upon the "marvels of art" by which he was surrounded.

CLOSING OF OLD SMITHFIELD MARKET.—On Monday afternoon, immediately after the termination of the day's business at Smithfield, notices were posted on all parts of the market, signed by Sir George Grey, and informing the public that, the Corporation of London having complied with the whole of the provisions of the Markets Act, in the formation of the New Market at Copenhagen-fields, Islington, he had fixed the New Market and slaughter-houses to be opened on Friday, the 15th inst.; and that henceforth Smithfield would entirely cease to be a market for the sale of horses and cattle. The sale of hay and straw will be continued as usual.

THE ARCTIC SEARCH VESSELS.—Everything at present (says the *New York Enquirer*) indicates an early departure of the expedition in search of Dr. Kane and his companions in the Arctic regions.

THE CROPS IN THE MIDLAND COUNTIES, aided by the late fine weather, begin to look very promising and healthy.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 16.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

On the motion for the recommitment of the Religious Worship Bill,

The Earl of DERBY moved as an amendment that a select committee should be appointed to inquire into the actual state of the law on the subject, and into the expediency of relaxing or abrogating the existing enactments. He believed that no practical inconvenience was now felt, and he recommended the House to pause before it tampered with the present system.

Earl GRANVILLE and the Earl of SHAFESBURY defended the bill, which was opposed by the Bishop of OXFORD.

On a division, Lord Derby's amendment was carried by a majority of 47 to 30—17.

The Education of Poor Children Bill was read a third time and passed.

Their lordships adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE EX-MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

On the motion that the House on rising adjourn till Monday,

Mr. OTWAY urged an inquiry touching the stipulations which it was said that certain members of the last Government had exacted from the present Premier, respecting the terms to be demanded from Russia, at the time they consented to take the offices which they held for a few days under his administration. In the course of his remarks the hon. member used expressions, which the Speaker pronounced to be unparliamentary.

Lord PALMERSTON declined to disclose the precise tenor of the stipulations alluded to, but declared that at the present time the Government entertained no idea of making any special terms the *sine qua non* of peace.

Mr. DISRAELI remarked that the Prime Minister had provoked the query, having himself been the first to speak about the existence of the stipulation in question.

Mr. GLADSTONE regretted that official reasons had prevented Lord Palmerston from explaining the whole transaction.

The subject then dropped, and the motion was agreed to.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

Mr. LAYARD then moved the resolution of which he had given notice. After referring to the marked feeling prevalent throughout the country on the subject of Administrative Reform, he observed that the subject fell almost inevitably into the hands of a non-professional member; military men, from very intelligible reasons, feeling reluctant to put themselves forward in the cause. He then proceeded to glance in turn at the condition and faults of the three chief governmental departments as connected with the military, the diplomatic, and the civil services. With respect to the first-mentioned department, the honourable member cited high professional authorities to prove the necessity of reform, and supported his argument by citing a great number of instances, dwelling especially upon the constant neglect of merit and the prevalence of a system of gross favouritism in the army and navy. Adverting to the diplomatic service, Mr. Layard declared that it had become a mere vehicle for aristocratic favouritism, men of high talent being left in subordinate situations. He insisted that some proof

of ability should be required from the candidates for diplomatic appointments, that every attaché should be paid; and that advancement should be given to merit alone. With the consular branch of the service he expressed extreme dissatisfaction. Lastly, he analysed the civil service, which was characterised by much the same fault as the military and diplomatic departments, the employés being selected and promoted chiefly under political influences, and without regard to their individual capacity or conduct. The examination to which candidates were subject was utterly delusive, and could only be rendered satisfactory by being carried on in public. If efficient functionaries were secured the number of the working staff of the public offices might be reduced, and better pay afforded to the remaining employés. In conclusion, Mr. Layard insisted that most of our recent disasters and disgraces had arisen solely from the incapacity of the persons employed in different departments, and that the only remedy that could give us confidence for the future must consist of a thorough reform in every branch of administration.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE, acknowledging the existence of the evils complained of, denied that Mr. Layard had suggested any feasible remedies. He reviewed in minute detail the practical machinery of the government offices, and excited much amusement by tracing, link after link, the chain of political dependency which reached from the electors to the ministers of state and influenced the exercise of ministerial patronage in every department.

Mr. L. GADSTONE and Mr. PEACOCKE having spoken,

Mr. GLADSTONE would not accept the motion proposed by Mr. Layard, though agreeing with him on the abstract principle. The evils of nepotism and favouritism no doubt infected the public service, but it was a mere delusion to represent those faults as essentially aristocratic in their origin. For all the existing evils he accounted the House of Commons primarily responsible, observing that it governed the Government, and appointed those by whom the minor appointments were made. The present resolution, moreover, laid down a vague and general conclusion, binding the House to no definite pledge and leading up to no practical measure. From the existing movement in favour of Administrative Reform, he anticipated much good, provided always it could be found possible to give it a practical direction. The Government to which he had belonged had indeed planned a general system of open and competitive examinations, involving a total surrender of patronage as regarded first appointments in all branches of the civil service. He anticipated also great and various benefits from throwing open the public offices to general competition. The executive would be relieved from the burthen of patronage, education would be stimulated, the moral tone of the community raised, and better service secured in all the departments of the administration.

Sir E. B. LYTTON complained of the attacks that had been made against the aristocracy, as a class, by the Administrative Reformers. These attacks, he urged, had commenced with the Aberdeen Government, had been encouraged by the conduct of Lord J. Russell towards the Duke of Newcastle, and inflamed by the undecided and trifling administration of Lord Palmerston. Stimulated by disasters and disappointment, the public had resolved to take the matter into their own hands, and a movement was begun, which being directed ostensibly against the principle of party appointments, in reality threatened a heavy blow upon constitutional government.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER rejoiced that an opportunity had been at last afforded to the House formally to discuss a question which had lately assumed formidable dimensions. But besides embodying the question of Administrative Reform, the resolution proposed by Mr. Layard involved a motion of want of confidence, and its adoption, he declared, would be followed by an immediate resignation of the Government. The amendment proposed by Sir E. B. Lytton was not free from objection, but he intimated that the Government would consent to adopt it by way of negative to the original motion, although Ministers did not require the stimulus of a vote of the House to urge on their efforts for the practical accomplishment of Administrative Reforms.

Lord GODERICH moved the adjournment of the debate, which being opposed, a division took place, when there appeared—For the adjournment, 240; against it 29; majority 211.

The debate was then adjourned to Monday next, and the other business having been disposed of, the House adjourned at half-past one.

THE CRIMEA.

General Prince Gortschakoff writes from the Crimea that the cannonade against the Korniloff Bastion still continued on the 9th.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

We (*Times*) have received the following telegraphic despatch from our Berlin correspondent:—

"Berlin, Thursday, June 14.

"The squadron under the command of Rear-

Admiral Baynes, numbering fifteen sail, anchored in the Great Belt on the 13th inst."

A letter, dated Elsinore, May 24, says—"On the day before yesterday, twelve new prizes, taken by Admiral Dundas's squadron, cast anchor at Elsinore, accompanied by the Geyser corvette, taking them to England. Among these prizes, seven were sailing under Mecklenburg colours, four under the Danish flag, and one under that of Holstein."

SPAIN.

A telegraphic despatch from Saragossa of the 8th announces that the rest of the insurgent cavalry of that city had been routed, and that the chief and nine of the band had been arrested.

INDIA.

By the last mail from India, we have dates up to as late as May 12, but no news of great importance. The disputes between Gholab Singh and his nephew appear to have been amicably settled. In connexion with the Meeranaie expedition against the rebellious hill-men at Peshawur, a telegraphic despatch states that two thousand of the rebels have been driven back in an attack which they made on the camp. The Burmese chief Moungh Bo is in open revolt. The murderer of Lieutenant Glasgow has been hanged.

ARREST OF AN ENGLISH OFFICIAL AT COLOGNE.—The *New Cologne Gazette* confirms the fact of the arrest of the secretary, Mr. Curtis, of the English consul in that city, for recruiting men for the English foreign legion, as mentioned in a London paper. The above-named journal adds that the consul immediately sent a report on the matter to the English minister at Berlin, who at once put himself in communication with M. de Manteuffel on the subject.

A Paris letter says that on Tuesday, after a consultation held at the Tuileries between Dr. Locock and Drs. Dubois and Conneau, it was formally announced that the Empress was *enceinte*.

MR. FONBLANQUE.

In the course of the discussion in the House of Commons last night on Administrative Reform, Sir Stafford Northcote illustrated his argument against irregular and unroutine appointments in the Civil Service by this instance—rather an ancient one now, it must be admitted,—of the selection of Mr. Albany Fonblanque for the statistical secretaryship of the Board of Trade. Sir Stafford was understood to condemn this appointment as an improper one, on the grounds of personal unfitness; and though the honourable baronet to some extent retracted the illustration, and insisted that he had merely used it for an abstract and rather Northcote purpose, apart from the question of Mr. Fonblanque's capacity, yet Mr. Gladstone, who appears to have waited with great patience for avenging the sarcasm on the "Pony Peel," fastened upon the occasion to endorse the opinion that the appointment of Mr. Fonblanque was personally an improper appointment. Mr. Labouchere, ex-President of the Board of Trade, and responsible, explained to the House, and vindicated Mr. Fonblanque: the incident constituted a scenic episode in the dull debate. Every one was amused. But Mr. Fonblanque suffers: and obviously this treatment of a man so distinguished and so esteemed is grossly unjust. On general grounds his appointment may be easily defended. It was exactly of that class of appointments which administrative reformers are now demanding to have made. A post was vacated by Mr. Porter (*Progress of the Nation* Porter) which required in its occupant not the faculties of an arithmetical-minded clerk, but the philosophical faculty of statesmanlike generalisation, and Mr. Labouchere, in looking out for Mr. Porter's successor, selected a gentleman who had become eminent and honoured in journalism, not alone for wit, which has rendered his *Examiner* historical in our literature, but for the profoundest, as well as the pleasantest popularisation of questions of political economy. Again the appointment may be justified even on the lower ground—that party ground which all the speakers last night acknowledged must always be considered. The politics of M. Fonblanque were Whig politics; he had served the Whigs as their most popular journalist; and in calling him into the service of the country the Whigs did one of the few graceful things of the kind which they had ever done. And, since the appointment, we have never heard a syllable to suggest that in the career of M. Fonblanque at the Board of Trade, there had not been as clear an example as in the career of Mr. John Stuart Mill at the India House—that a philosopher may make a first-rate head of a department. We rather suspect that the pettiest personal malice is at the bottom of the insinuation started by Sir Stafford and assisted by Mr. Gladstone, and the circumstance of such a case, amid thousands of actual, staring, and recognised jobs, being selected as an illustration in an unadmittedly sham debate on Administrative Reform, does not much enhance our idea of the nobleness of the House of Commons.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest. 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. 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. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855.

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.

SURVEY OF THE WAR.

SINCE the second of June, the date of our last survey, much has happened at the seat of war, and the Allies have made decisive strides towards final success. Pressed on by the energetic impetuosity of PELLISSIER, the French operations have been at once steady and brilliant; while Captain LYONS has swept over the sea of Azof like a tongue of flame, and General BROWN has solidly entrenched his troops at Kertch and Yeni-Kaleh. Following the course we have hitherto adopted, let us consider each in succession.

The Siege.—The solid and brilliant operations to which we referred above are the capture of the Mamelon and of the Quarries, the reduction of the redoubts on Mount Sapoune, and the shelling of the Russian fleet with captured Russian mortars! These operations were triumphantly and successively effected between the 6th and the 11th of June, at which date the enemy had not molested our troops in their new positions.

To estimate the value of those positions, the reader must understand their relation to the works of the enemy. Although the attack on the east side of Sebastopol was the latest commenced, it has received the greatest development, and has become the most important. The ground on which it is conducted is formed of alternate ridge and ravine. These ravines, in fact, intersect the plateau, and form the beds of streamlets that flow into the waters of the harbour. Each ravine, therefore, and each ridge runs in parallel lines down to the water, and consequently the conformation of the small angle of the eastern plateau defended by the Russians is of the same character as the larger portion occupied by the Allies; that is to say, the Russian batteries are on the same ridges as the corresponding attacks of the Allies, with one exception to be presently explained. These attacks are the Inkorman attack directed against the redoubts on Sapoune; the Victoria attack, next on its left, directed against the Mamelon and Malakoff, two elevations on the same ridge; Gordon's attack, which slowly but steadily creeps down towards the Redan, meeting with the quarries on its way; and lastly, Chapman's attack, on the extreme left. The position of this attack is peculiar. It advances on a ridge, bounded on one side by the Woronzoff ravine, on the other by the South ravine, and is quite separated from the

Russian defences by a turn of the Woronzoff ravine into the inner harbour. Consequently Chapman's attack cannot proceed beyond the brow of the hill on whose top it is established; and its gallant director will have to be content with giving a powerful support to the French at work against the Flagstaff, and the British engaged with the Redan. The progress made on the 7th and 8th of June consists in this, that the Allies have seized the three most commanding positions in advance of their direct attacks—Mount Sapoune that overlooks the roadstead; the Mamelon, that stands higher than the Malakoff and far above the Redan, indeed, that commands the town and a great part of the harbour; and the Quarries, a strong post immediately in front of the Redan. So that the foremost parallel on this side includes all these forward posts, and materially reduces the superiority of the Russian position. The gallant way in which the affair was accomplished—a short and sharp bombardment, a sudden onset, and sustained advance of storming columns in broad daylight, winning victory in an hour—this *modus operandi* must have chilled the hearts of the enemy. The new spirit that animates the French army is strikingly expressed in a laconic despatch from General PELLISSIER, dated the 6th of June. "To-day," he says, "we have bombarded the enemy's external works, and to-morrow, please God, we will take them." The General kept his word—taking also seventy-three guns and five hundred prisoners.

Sea of Azof.—The steam flotilla have made a complete circuit of this inland sea. The operations have included the bombardment of Arabat, the burning of stores at Berdiansk, at Genitchi, at Marioupol, at Taganrog, at Gheisk. What the whole amount of damage done to the enemy by the destruction of his stores may have been up to the 6th of June—the date of the attack on Gheisk—we cannot say, but in the first four days of their operations, including those at Kertch and Yeni-Kaleh, no fewer than six millions of rations had been destroyed—in other words, the provisions for an army of 100,000 men for four months. It is now placed beyond a doubt that vast supplies were drawn by the Russian army in the Crimea from Kertch and Genitchi. Anticipating a descent of the Allies, and unable to prevent it, for several days previously to the arrival of the expedition, the enemy had been saving his stores at the rate of 1500 waggon loads a day, and forwarding them from Kertch to Sebastopol. The Allies also found both cattle and forage in the vicinity of their quarters sufficient for their subsistence for some time.

At the latest dates the Allies occupied strongly entrenched positions at Kertch and Yeni-Kaleh, the earthworks on the land side being defended by the guns captured from the enemy. The Russian troops, under General WRANGEL, had retreated to Arghin, a place not far from the neck of the peninsula, whence they could readily act either in defence of Arabat or Kaffa. The paucity of their numbers, the facility with which they yielded the batteries commanding the straits, although the position was of such vital consequence to them, shows either that Prince GORTSCHAKOFF has no troops to spare, or that he has determined to concentrate his forces around Sebastopol. The Allies fully understand the value of their new position, and will, no doubt, make the most of it; but whether Sir GEORGE BROWN will be reinforced for an advance upon the left rear of the Russians around Sebastopol, or not, it is impossible to say. Although attended with lasting results, all the work in the Sea of Azof

has not yet been accomplished. It seems there is a second military road across the Putrid Sea, west of Genitchi, and it is understood that boats for an expedition to destroy it, and probably also to penetrate the Don, are now being sent out from this country.

But the most striking result of the Kertch expedition, and the operations in the Sea of Azof, is the abandonment of Soujak-Kaleh and Anapa. That the enemy should give up the former fortress and concentrate the whole of his troops in the latter, was not surprising. It was a sound proceeding. But that he should suddenly quit Anapa, and give place to the Circassians, shows that the pressure exercised upon him must have been very great. The reason for that precipitate flight is this: Anapa, and nearly all the Circassian forts, were provisioned from the Sea of Azof. The appearance, therefore, of the Allies at Taganrog and Gheisk, and the gathering of Circassians on his line of communications with the Kuban country, must have convinced the Russian commander that the best thing for him to do would be to fly. The fall of Anapa alone would be a great result of the expedition to Kertch; for Anapa was the last of the Circassian fortresses—the last hold of Russia on the eastern shores of the Black Sea.

To these successes no doubt in our next impression we shall be able to add others equally important. The Russian army in the Crimea is reduced entirely to the defensive. The initiative, so long held by our foes, is theirs no longer. We have posts on both their flanks; we have cut off one material line of communication; we are in great strength on their front. The next step, whether it be against the fortress or in the field, cannot fail to bring us close to the crisis of the campaign.

THE PRINCE CONSORT ON FREE GOVERNMENT.

THE Radicals who called upon the Crown to interfere and help us out of our diplomatic and military crisis, have got what they might have expected, but what, to judge from their past expressions of opinion, they did not desire—an intervention of the Prince Consort, who in a speech, distinguished as all his speeches are by real intellect, lectures us on our factions and our undiplomatic debates, and tells us significantly that constitutional government is on its trial. The Prince's speech will tell, and deserves to tell: we only hope it will not tell in a wrong way.

Free institutions are on their trial: but they are not being tried at their proper work. They are not made to carry on diplomacy or diplomatic wars. They will do very well, and always have done very well, to carry on a war of self-defence or a war of principle. In either case all is plain, unmistakable, and felt by every heart. There is no secret object that any diplomatist need keep "locked in his inmost bosom." There is no danger of ambiguous language as to the terms to be demanded of the enemy. There is no chance of success for any faction which may endeavour to persuade the nation that its sacrifices are unnecessary. The right men are borne irresistibly to the head of affairs, and the contest is enthusiastically carried on till the end, which all alike seek has been attained. What contests in history are comparable to those which free nations have gone through for freedom? What councils have been more wise and steadfast than those of free nations in such contests? If you want to overreach for a small object, you must have secret diplomacy to do it. If you want to raise war taxes for an unworthy or uncertain object, you must have despotic

power to do it. Freedom and free institutions give you mighty and irresistible ardour in a great cause; they do not give you silent credulity and blind following in a petty one.

The people of this country are carrying on this struggle, they are pouring out their money and their blood under the belief that they are crusading against despotism. But in this belief they are miserably deceived. They are crusading with, and indirectly for, despotism. The object that their statesmen have in view is purely a diplomatic one, to diminish the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. Hence the country and the Government are all at cross-purposes. The country, in sublime oblivion of our magnanimous ally, wonders that the Government does not openly declare itself to be crusading against despotism, as embodied in the CZAR, and heartily take the nation into partnership in the crusade. The Government, on the other hand, is disconcerted and scandalised at the uproarious interference of the nation with its deep designs for cutting down the Russian fleet. The Government, of course, when they want to raise the wind, appeal to our hatred as freemen of Russian influence in Europe. But how will that influence be diminished if all the points demanded at the Vienna Conferences are gained? Suppose Russia is bound by a paper treaty not to meddle with her friends and accomplices, the Greek Christians in the Turkish empire, will she be bound, even by a paper treaty, not to league with German despots, and lend them the aid of her piratical arms to put down in blood the rising liberty of their peoples? When the Principalities are made neutral, or independent, or Turkish, or whatever it is to be, how will that diplomatic transaction guarantee Hungary against having the same fearful odds cast against her again in any future struggle for freedom? Compel Russia to accept a clause binding her never again to interfere by force or diplomacy for the maintenance or extension of despotism in Europe, and you will at least have asserted a principle, and made the House of ROMANOFF feel that what they now suffer is the punishment of their crimes.

Our polity is republican, but our diplomacy is monarchical; it is the only thing really monarchical which we have remaining. This little shred of the old system dragged us, in spite of real and essential character, into the Revolutionary war. We fought to avenge the dethronement of a dynasty and the murder of a King, being ourselves in the full enjoyment of those liberties which were the fruits of an exactly similar operation. We have allowed the Foreign Office to fix the objects of this war, and of course they are the objects of a Monarchical diplomacy, not of an essentially Republican nation. They are strictly limited by regard for the sensibilities of that group of despots from whom, in virtue of a name, we continue to receive "the most satisfactory assurances." Free institutions are on their trial. They are trying to be at once what they are and what they are not—a hard trial for any institutions. Oh for one frank, unmistakable European Commonwealth! It would blow secret diplomacy to the winds, and make war, if it did make war, for those objects which can alone justify the shedding of blood.

THE NEWEST NEW WORLD.

THE House of Commons did notable work on Thursday last, in profound unconsciousness, we believe, of its real scope and value. They gave a constitution which upon the whole we may pronounce admirable, to a country which is the heir-apparent of the coming time—one day destined to be the mistress of India, the protector of China, the rival of

America. In a thin House, after a debate of no great force or insight, the foundations and landmarks of a nation were laid down in the new constitution for Victoria, the chief of the Australian States.

The colonists were represented by a rather incongruous opposition, composed of ex-official Whigs, semi-official Tories, and Irish Radicals. But on the whole their views seem to us just and reasonable. Let us endeavour to winnow them from out the bushel of parliamentary chaff in the morning papers.

The bill confers upon the Colony an absolute control over its own affairs, its lands, its revenue, its public offices. It creates a Government responsible to, and removable by, the popular branch of the local Legislature; it places in their hands the appointment of every public office, with a single exception—that of the Governor. This is a large and liberal constitution under which a new people may healthily grow and develop. But the Opposition have pointed out two or three serious impediments to its successful working which, if we had more trust in parliamentary wisdom, we should count on seeing removed.

The qualification of a member of the Legislative Assembly is a freehold estate of the value of 2000*l.*, situated in the colony. No other property but freehold will suffice, and no other locality but Victoria. The result of this absurd restriction is to throw the representation into the hands of a very small, and not a particularly eligible, class. And to make their monopoly secure, it is provided that each member shall make a solemn declaration that "he has not collusively or colourably obtained a title" to this property for the purpose of a qualification. Note the result of these provisions.

"Freehold property alone creates a qualification."—This was once the law in England, but it became so odious and oppressive to shut out wealthy manufacturers, merchants, fundholders, and shareholders, that in the first year of the present reign it was repealed, and landed property of any tenure, and chattel property of any kind, may now create a qualification. Mr. BRIGHT qualifies out of his mills, Mr. COBDEN out of his Consols.

"Every Member shall make a declaration," &c.—It is computed that more than half the Members of the House of Commons might be shut out by a scrutiny which it is proposed to apply to every Member of a provincial Parliament. There are fifty-three Scotch Members, for example, who are exempt from the necessity of any property qualification, on the specific ground that estates are small in Scotland. Six representatives of universities are exempt, in order that men competent to represent the seats of learning may not be shut out for want of land or money. Fifty or sixty heirs-apparent of Peers, or of persons qualified to be Knights of the Shire, are admitted without any question as to property in possession. Perhaps there are as many manufacturers and fundholders who qualify from chattels. And lastly, there are undoubtedly a large number of persons to whom property has been legally conveyed for the purpose of creating a qualification. None of these classes, or any corresponding classes, are admissible in the colony. This is rather strong. Provisions sufficient to protect the authority and dignity of a Parliament which has lasted for seven hundred years might be adequate, we should think, for one which has not lasted quite fifty months.

Perhaps there is something in the nature of a colony which makes extra precautions necessary. Hardly; for no other colony has adopted them. There is no pro-

perty qualification for the Lower Chamber in Canada; none in the Cape; none in the neighbouring colonies to Victoria—South Australia and New South Wales; none across the straits in Van Diemen's Land; none in the British Isles in the Southern Pacific—New Zealand. Almost the last news from the Antipodes was an insurrection in Victoria, in which nearly sixty men were killed. The insurgents caught with arms in their hands have since been tried by Melbourne juries and acquitted: acquitted on the ground that they had been subject to taxation without representation. One may predict the consequences of sending to such a people a constitution which carefully shuts them out from any place in the Legislature. These diggers create the wealth, bear the burdens, and pay the taxes of the state; if they are excluded from all share in its management we may predict a thunderclap.

Another point urged by the Opposition was the reduction of an enormous Civil List granted to the Crown; as this, however, is not a permanent burden, but reversible at any time by a vote of the Local Parliament, there is no serious danger here.

They also propose to restore certain provisions, which Lord JOHN RUSSELL struck out of the original measure, limiting the class of bills which the Governor will be authorised to hold over for the consideration of the home Government. There is no greater hinderance to prosperity than uncertainty in a people of the laws under which they live. That just and necessary measures, which have been duly considered and deliberately adopted in the country to which they apply, should need to travel thirty thousand miles round the globe, and be subject to an official in Downing-street before they come into operation, is a grievance which no people will endure a moment longer than they must. If this be not cured, it will cure itself in a very peremptory and effective manner on the spot.

But with all its drawbacks the Victoria Constitution is a great and generous measure, under which that singular colony may grow into its destined prosperity and power. When London was raging for the Reform Bill the foot of civilised man had not been planted on the shores where now sits the city of Melbourne with its eighty thousand inhabitants; before London has achieved true administrative reform, a new state, holding in a strong grasp the rod of empire, will have set its stamp upon the scroll of nations.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

THE world, no doubt, is right in betaking itself at once to the use of that which answers its present purpose, without waiting for that which, out of all abstract possibilities, is demonstrably to be preferred: or else it might not be difficult to show that when men began to count, they ought to have left out their thumbs, and contented themselves with their eight fingers. Probably, however, they could not then spare the extra digits from their limited arithmetic, and they certainly did not see what complexities of calculation they incurred for their descendants by thus indulging themselves with the present convenience of the thumbs. Ten has been made the period of recurrence with a universality which prevents our remembering that it has no natural title whatever to the honour; for, as far as principle is concerned, we might just as well stop at 7 or 11, instead of 9, and begin again at 8 or 12, instead of 10, and so on for all succeeding periods. The question is one of convenience.

The chief advantage of the period of 8 over that of 10, for general use, lies, perhaps, in its capability of perpetual bisection down

to unity, and in the identity of its series of bisections, when started from the different recurring points. Beginning at 8, we have 4, 2, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, &c.; but 10 soon brings in fractions—10, 5, $2\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{5}{8}$, and the series passes over unity altogether, though it is the base of all systems. The fourth of a shilling of eightpence would be twopence, and not twopence halfpenny, as in a decimal coinage; and the eighth would be a penny, and not a penny farthing. The same advantage attends all higher numbers.

Again: 64, which in form and importance would stand in the place of 100 in our present notation, divides into 32, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, without a fraction—the same series as before—only beginning from a higher point; but 100 gives 50, 25, $12\frac{1}{2}$, $6\frac{1}{4}$, $3\frac{1}{8}$, $1\frac{9}{16}$, $\frac{23}{32}$, &c., a series everywhere encumbered with fractions, different from that which starts from 10, and passing over unity again, but at a new distance from it. So also 512, which would take the place and figures of our present 1000, bisects to the same effect again—256, 128, 64, 32, 16, &c.—while 1000 gives 500, 250, 125, $62\frac{1}{2}$, $31\frac{1}{4}$, $15\frac{5}{8}$, $7\frac{5}{16}$, $3\frac{5}{32}$, $1\frac{5}{64}$, $1\frac{5}{128}$, &c.—still a different series—and so on.

Any preference, however, for the octenary system on this ground, must depend on the comparative frequency with which we use halves, quarters, eighths, &c. rather than other subdivisions. If we divided by 3 oftener than by 2, it would be more convenient to use 9 for the recurring number than either 8 or 10. There are however but few advantages in 10, since it divides without fractions only by 2 and 5.

There is another advantage in 8, which is not so obvious, nor indeed would it so often come into play. Sixty-four is both a square, that of 8, and a cube, that of 4; from which it follows that all numbers of the moderate extent most frequently occurring in practice would have their cube and square roots extracted approximately with a facility the existing system does not afford. Divide the number by 64: the square root of the quotient (known almost on inspection), multiplied by 8 gives the square root of the original number; and the cube root of the same quotient multiplied by 4 gives the cube root of that original number. Thus 273 divided by 64 gives 4.26, say $4\frac{1}{4}$, whose square root is roughly $2\frac{1}{8}$, which, multiplied by 8, gives $16\frac{1}{2}$ for the square root of 273, true in the first decimal; and for the cube root, 1.6 multiplied by 4 gives 6.4, true in the same degree. The operation would really be much more simple than it here appears; for in the notation of the octenary system the division by 64 would be done by merely pointing off the two last figures, and all the requisite numbers for use on inspection would not be nearly so many as those of our present multiplication table. By these means approximate results could always be obtained for common purposes with very little trouble—an advantage the decenary system does not afford to nearly the same degree—for while no doubt 10 is the square root of 100, the cube root is 4 with a tail of decimals.

We presume, however, that it is useless to say anything of these or other advantages of the octenary scale: for it would seem that men of all races have counted on their thumbs: Hindoos, Arabs, Romans, Celts, Saxons, Barbarian, Scythian, Greek, and Jew, all have the decimal or semi-decimal system. CHARLES XII. of Sweden, indeed, is said to have intended a reform in this universal mistake, and it was a project worthy of his iron will. But will, however iron, is not everything in influencing mankind; and CHARLES'S success would hardly have been equal to that to be won by the amenities of cheerful persuasion, and the example of successful use.

Taking it for granted that we have not the courage or the perseverance requisite for changing the practice of the whole world in this apparently simple matter, we sit down with the belief that the decenary system will hold its ground amongst us until a period of time far beyond our present provisions. But then, let us at least be reasonable in using it. We are going to reform the system of our money to suit that of our arithmetic: but if we go so far we ought to go farther, or our money will halt and stumble with our weights and measures. The work is only half done if, while we make one factor decimal, we leave the other in the state of 16ths, 8ths, 3rds, &c. &c. Try 7lb. 11oz. by $6\frac{1}{4}$, and the result, a little over 4 shillings, is come at only by five or six lines of figures, and even then with tolerable accuracy only by the help of decimals. The same quantity very nearly would have been expressed by 7.7ths, and the money by 6.25; the result, 48.1 pence, is obtained in two or at most three lines. The same contrast in favour of decimals, *throughout if at all*, occurs perpetually in the detail of daily transactions.

The contemplated reform then, we trust, will be completed by making the foot, the pound avoirdupois, and the gallon, the units of our weights and measures, to be used decimally both upwards and downwards.

One hundredth of a foot, or 0.01, would give a little less than an eighth of an inch; 10,000 feet, something less than 2 miles.

The ten-thousandth of a pound avoirdupois, or 0.0001, expresses $\frac{1}{4}$ of a grain; and 2000 pounds—nearly a ton.

The gallon requires no illustration.

These figures show that our most common, popular, and best-ascertained measures, supply units which admit of convenient-expression for all quantities, both small and great, with very little aid from other terms.

It is true that with this system we have not a complete and scientific connexion amongst our weights and measures like that of the French, in which the unit-basis of the weights is derived from that of the unit-basis measure of water: but we should have that identity of *division* which affords by far the greater part of the advantage. In deducing the weight of substances from their bulks, through their specific gravities, the French system affords that facility by design which we get only by the accident of a cubic foot of water weighing about 1000 ounces. We shall lose this accidental coincidence if we part with the ounce; but we shall gain much more in other ways; and a second column to our tables will at once repair even this small loss.

The value of the proposed change will much depend on its completeness. If our money only is made to conform to our arithmetic we shall scarcely gain enough to compensate us for the disturbance of our habits: if we carry the reform into every kind of quantity we use, we shall soon forget the inconvenience of the change in the magnitude and frequency of its advantages. If we had courage and patience enough to adopt the octenary system in arithmetic, money, weights, and measures, we should probably be followed in time by all other civilised nations. But in such a course there is this as well as other difficulties: a government may decree weights and measures, but the people will make an arithmetic for themselves;—the government in this as in everything else has to take for granted in fundamental matters what the people spontaneously do for themselves.

Whether then by defect of courage, or by the circumstances of the case, we are bound to the decenary system, which men have everywhere adopted; and being bound to it, let us have it complete.

THE CHURCH AND FREE WORSHIP.

As an Englishman you would certainly say, that in this free, religious, Protestant, right-of-private-judgment country, no kind of obstacles would be placed in the way of public religious worship. You would say, we pride ourselves on the number of our churches, on the number of our chapels, on our gregarious religion. We think it a good thing—and a thing to be encouraged—public worship; and our Exeter-Hall JEREMIAHS leading the way, we all weep when some sturdily-statistical HORACE MANN shouts aloud "Give ear, O Protestant England! there are five millions who attend no place of worship at all." When this is the case, and we turn up our eyes and mourn over it, like hypocrites as we are some of us, it never could be supposed that there is actually an Act of Parliament prohibiting unlicensed public worship!

But it is so. People in England pray publicly by permission, confess their sins by permission; they are authorised to do it, and must not do it unauthorised. Taverns, pawn-shops, and churches all alike exist by virtue of tickets of leave from the State. Such is the law. By an act of GEORGE III., any person assembling above twenty persons over and above his servants in any house not registered, for purposes of public worship—an elastic phrase that applies to the singing of a hymn as well as to the celebration of the whole service—is liable to a fine of 20*l.* for every offence. What is the consequence? Thousands of persons, from the peer, nay, from the minister of State to the labourer and the City missionary, break the law every week, almost every day. While some consent, while to some it is convenient, to register their place of worship, in thousands of cases it is neither agreeable nor convenient. For instance: there is Sir GEORGE GREY—he does not like to register his residence as a place of public worship, yet he violates the law every Sunday we are told on high authority. There is Lord PANMURE; he does the same. Nay, when the QUEEN was present at the opening of the Exhibition by prayer in 1851, her Majesty assisted at the infraction of this law, so natural to a free religious people. Seeing this, feeling for his ragged schools, and city missions, and "mother meetings," and complicated benevolent apparatus for saving the souls of the poor and benighted wayfarers of life, my Lord SHAFESBURY comes down to Parliament and asks the House of Lords, and especially the bench of Bishops, to repeal the prohibitive and penal clauses of the Conventicle Act; in other words, to establish for the British people what it has not got—the liberty of praying in concert. He did not contemplate opposition—short-sighted man! He expected, no doubt, that every true Protestant and sincere Christian would eagerly embrace, if not him, at least his proposal. Vain expectation; how can, how dare, a divinely-instituted Church, with divinely-appointed Bishops, claiming to be the National Church, permit other worship than that ordained in its divinely-constituted rubrics, without confessing a weakness incompatible with its pretensions, and displaying a greater love for the purple and fine linen than the gospel of salvation which it assumes to monopolise? How dares, we say, a State Church consent to the liberty of praying? It dare not.

Every now and then comes up a question which is as a test applied to this singular mechanism of property and religion, called the Church of England: tests which it cannot bear with safety. Liberty of worship is one of these. Grant liberty of worship, O Bishops and Laymen of the Church of England! and you pass a decree which shakes your authority

to its foundations, and makes your claim to be a divine church appear what it is—an arrogant delusion; refuse to grant liberty of worship, your conscientious course, not as Peers of Parliament, but as pillars of the Church, and you declare war against one of the most sacred rights of man. Not only this; you place yourself in the most inconsistent position, lamenting the heathen darkness of the land, unable, yourselves, to raise up a spark of light, and making believe that you hold, and to some extent holding down, an extinguisher over the lamps of those who would, to the best of their ability, light their fellow-creatures out of the crooked paths of wickedness.

Let us have liberation. On every side there seems to be a breaking-down of the prestige of olden institutions. If the land were really Church of England—if Church of Englandism were any real, intelligible, heart-seizing thing—it would not need this system of registered public-worship tenements for its protection. It is because the Church is a political establishment, with a "territorial constitution," that it needs protective laws. But, it would seem, there is no one doctrine in the sacred books and articles upon which the Church founds herself, then why pretend there is but one, harmonious, and divinely derived? One sect has as much right to be heard as another; one sect has as much right to official protection as another; surely one man or men have as much right to pray when they please and how they please as another; surely this is a matter in which all have equal rights, in which, to use the words of Lord SHAFTESBURY, a man shall be at liberty to do as he pleases, providing he does nothing subversive of morality. It is not always that we can concur with Lord SHAFTESBURY; we think his position, as a member of the Established Church, at least anomalous; but in this principle we heartily concur; and if there be one maxim more sacred, more fruitful of greatness and goodness in states than another, it is that no Government, no earthly power whatsoever, has the least right to dictate to any man or set of men where, when, and how he or they shall worship. Least of all when, as is admitted, the metropolis, nay the nation, has gone far beyond the grasp of a Church falsely calling itself national, has that Church, because, by an accident, it possesses the remnants of an autocratic power bequeathed by the elder institution, of which it is only a contumacious offshoot, the right to dictate to those who are neither of the elder Church, nor of the younger prevailing schism?

Lord SHAFTESBURY'S Bill escaped condemnation by a majority of one. Its great opponents were the Bishops and stout high-church and political-church Lords. Clear-sighted enough in such cases, these gentlemen see that if the law be relaxed, it will really be a great blow at the theory of the Church, for it will permit an almost endless diversity of so-called church services, starting from the Prayer-book as a basis, and diverging in all directions. In the fanciful words of Lord CARNARVON, "the line of demarcation between Churchmen and Dissenters would be obliterated, and there would only be a tangled wilderness of vague and shadowy Christianity, professed by persons who, in reality, belong to no church or sect." But, in fact, is not this a tolerably accurate description of the actual state of things hidden under that veil of lip-conformity which Lord CARNARVON desires to perpetuate by penalties?

We have cried out ere this for the utmost freedom of speech, writing, and worship; we have, while doing battle for the honest portion of the Church, and contending for her emancipation from the fetters of the State, remained

ever true to the cry for the full freedom of the whole people in matters spiritual, and, therefore, we are glad to see a movement made in the House of Lords for the repeal of that disgraceful prohibition which would prevent Englishmen from assembling for public worship, unless, like the landlord of a gin palace, they first obtained a license. Think of one worm begging of another worm for leave to pray to the Supreme Ruler, the Father of all!

BRITISH BANKRUPTCY.

THE stoppage of a bank of high character is the text for a moral preached by the Money article of the *Morning Chronicle*. It is pointed out as an instance how dangerous it is for a house, let it be in what business it may, to step beyond the strict letter of its functions; and how much more prudent it is to put up with the first ascertained loss than to seek to cover it by increased liability. The moral is narrow, but it is sound so far as it goes. A Banker's business differs from that of every other mercantile firm whatever; but it appears to us that the distinctive peculiarity of banking in reference to its control and its guiding moral principle, is never kept in view with sufficient clearness. It is generally thought that bankers are traders in money; but a consideration of the function that they perform in trade will show this to be an erroneous description. In all commercial business, properly so called, some commodity passes from a seller who produces it at less cost, to a purchaser who can give in exchange something not so valuable to him; and hence a double profit in the increased value which each commodity acquires for the person receiving it. A merchant, for example, buys a quantity of print goods in Manchester at one price, which he can well afford to give, and sells it to a foreign house at a higher price, which that house can afford to give; the difference being the merchant's profit. In some trades, as in that of Commission Agent, a service is performed with a percentage on the amount of money passed; but here the service may be said to be the thing sold on speculation; and the chances of the market in the long run will justify the calculation of the dealers on both sides.

With regard to money, the case is wholly different. A Banker's business is to take care of cash, and so far to save the attention, the trouble, the time, and the costly machinery which the same care would entail upon every private possessor. This is a service that can always be performed, but it differs from the Commission Agency in this respect. The money itself is an ascertained value; the payment for the service is to be got out of that very money; and there is no necessity for depending upon the speculative value of the market. *Safety* is the first consideration for all, whether it be safety of custody or safety of transport; and the very commodity sold is abstracted or adulterated when the banker neglects any precaution necessary for securing the absolute safety of the money. As the money always comes to him an ascertained value, so he has no excuse for mistaking the charge in his keeping. There is nothing speculative about it; and as soon as the element of speculation is introduced, the business of the banker is invaded by a foreign and an incompatible business—the banker is traitor to his customers. The only chance for a legitimate mistake in trade is where the banker is custodian for a given amount of property of ascertained, but not immediately convertible value; while the claim for money of immediately convertible value exceeds the proportion that he may happen to have on hand. In such cases, his bank may stop payment,

but it will be solvent, and will pay 20s. in the pound. No bank can pay less without being guilty of a breach of trust. The moral of the *Morning Chronicle*, therefore, strictly applies to banking:

A similar moral may be extended to most kinds of business, if we give it a broader interpretation. If every man in trade abstained from transgressing his professed function, we should have fewer speculative losses. The purchase and sale of cotton requires experience, and when the agent devotes that experience to the purchase and sale of cotton, he can make a very handsome profit on the transaction. But he is not content with this; he endeavours to get up in the United States a false estimate of the stock on hand in England, that he may buy cheap; he endeavours to get up a false estimate in England of the crop, that he may sell dear. His transactions are like those of others, based upon credit; and before the whole round of deception can be completed, the trick is found out; the capital that he has invested in his business is not sufficient to meet the demands upon him, and he is bankrupt, because he tried to add to the business of cotton dealer that of swindler. Yet there are cotton merchants who run these risks without going into the *Gazette* at once, and the highest in the land are glad to invite them to their tables and pay them honour.

It is the same in ship dealing. A person owning a number of ships is making a fair profit by the employment of those vessels; he thinks that with the prospect of war there will be great demand for shipping; he has command of a large sum of money, and while he is supposed to be in possession of 50,000*l.*, he can obtain credit for half that amount from, we might almost say, fifty different people, because they believe he can fulfil what he promises to do. He purchases, therefore, scores of ships, to be paid for, not immediately, but at a date not very long distant. The anticipated dearth of shipping is neither so sudden nor so vast as he calculates. He has not been carrying on a trade in shipping according to demand and supply, but a trade not his own, and he has been accumulating ships that nobody wants, and distributing bills that he has not the means of paying. The mistake explodes, and he goes into the *Gazette*, because he has drawn a number of people into his blunder without telling them what he was doing. Here was a gentleman trading in ships and dreams, but he called himself only a trader in ships, or nobody would have traded with him if he had told his real business.

So again it is even when we descend to the most respectable of the retail traders. There is hardly a grocer's preparation, a drug, an article of composite food, or even simple food, which is not mingled up with something that adulterates it, and the tradesman over his counter sells real goods mingled with counterfeits, making the purchaser pay for the whole as if it were genuine. The thing is done all around, and thus the community spends in the aggregate an immense amount of money for the carriage and consumption of things that it does not want; to say nothing of the amount spent in doctors' bills, because we consume poisons where we would purchase food.

Now, falsehoods have no substance in them; there must be a point in the whole transaction where the sham breaks down; and at that point bankruptcy sets in. What is the amount of bankruptcy transacted in London every year? We are aware that nobody can answer the question. The amount is by no means expressed in the accounts of the cases gazetted. Besides those flagrant acts of bankruptcy, there are many cases of bank-

ruptly compromised; and besides the compromised, there is a vast amount of what we may call suspended bankruptcy—of floating accounts which are not pressed, because it is known that if one house is brought down others will come too. A few houses overtrading in Liverpool or New York will drag down others in Lancashire and the Empire State. How many people would have conspired to avoid that last pressure upon either house which brought it down? The forbearance of the business world is beyond computation. Nevertheless all this amount of bankrupt account will never really balance. It represents the gross of the mistakes or delusions in trade which cannot be realised. It is at once a shadow and an incubus upon the true commerce of the country—upon that which consists in advantageous exchanges to increase the gross amount of substantial property. It would be an interesting inquiry—far more worth a Committee of the House of Commons than many subjects—to ascertain the probable amount of bankruptcy, overt or concealed, in the British metropolis alone during a given number of years. People perhaps would be shocked to confront the truth which they can conspire to hush up. But the spendthrift negligence of the commercial world is not less mischievous than that of the foolish heir or the sporting class, whom moralists treat so severely. There is no real difference between an Honourable FRANCIS VILLIERS, who tries to snatch a profit out of the anticipated feats of a horse, and the speculative attempts of a Liverpool merchant on a shipping business that will never come into existence; or the illegitimate tampering with Italian railways by a firm whose sole business was to take care of other people's money in London.

COURT VISITORS.

THERE is something evidently of inspiration in royalty. You may test the fact by the commonest application of the rule of subtraction. Take any royal person; subtract from him the royalty, and see what remains. The families have in some cases, but not in all, arrived at their station by the peculiar ability of an individual; but since able men seldom recur in families above once in four or five generations, in ordinary cases of succession there must be about four fools to one man of sense. Since, however, the practice of breeding in and in is known to deteriorate the kind, we must adopt a lower estimate for the established royal families; and if we allow a tithe as being possibly men of sense, the allowance would be too liberal for the truth. Nevertheless, the possession of royal power and station, with something that is conferred by divine sanction or popular superstition, imparts to the average fool qualities that render the possessor distinguished. Let any royal person be exhibited, and he is surrounded by a host to worship and admire. The consequences are sometimes amusing. It is said that when her late Catholic Majesty of Portugal visited this country in her youth, and when the Duke of WELLINGTON went to pay those respects which he never omitted in such cases, her Majesty, with an unaffected playfulness that distinguished her, fastened upon that characteristic of the Duke which was the most obvious to the eye of youth, and seized manually upon his nose. The accomplished young man who owns the same crown recently visited this country, and Sir EDWIN LANDSEER was presented as a person whose works the King had been industriously collecting. "Ah! Sir EDWIN," exclaimed his Majesty, most affably, "I am delighted to

make your acquaintance; for I am very fond of beasts." And thus our men of genius and influence will constitute themselves the menagerie for the amusement of infants, so that the infants be royal. As a simple "F.R.S.," LOUIS NAPOLEON excited no particular remark; as a pretender to power, people thought something of him, though they pitied his triviality; as an actual Emperor, he is admirable. Strip him of the purple, and the "F.R.S." would be considerably the inferior of any of the royal gentlemen residing at Claremont; and yet even the "F.R.S." might deserve to be ranked higher in the scale of creation than princes who own a congenial affection for beasts, or sport with the conk of victory.

You may test the sense of dignity in the vulgar by another process. Let the chosen leaders of a great republic visit this country, and they will be comparatively free from any obtrusion on their valuable time. We have two distinguished Americans who have passed the Presidential chair now in London—Mr. MARTIN VAN BUREN, and Mr. MILLARD FILLMORE. Mr. FILLMORE was the last President before the one now in office; but what then? Mr. FILLMORE is only "the Honourable," and Honourable only in a republic. It would be quite safe to visit either one. Sir EDWIN LANDSEER would not be received with the affection bestowed upon beasts, and even if the Duke of WELLINGTON were as famous as his father, his nose would be safe. Nay, if any English statesman desires to be enlightened upon the subject of the most important Commonwealth of modern times, he could learn much from the mouth either of FILLMORE or of VAN BUREN; but it is a matter of taste. There is hardly an independent Englishman who would not rather have his nose pulled by an anointed Prince, than shake hands with a gentleman who has been chosen to govern the Great Republic, who has been the guide of its state business and the depository of its councils.

Yet Mr. FILLMORE has been invited to Court,—had an audience on Tuesday, and dined with the QUEEN on Wednesday; but then Queen VICTORIA is something more than a pageant monarch: her MAJESTY is compelled to be a man of business; and in courting Mr. FILLMORE, the Sovereign of England is really paying her compliment to the great and powerful republic.

THE PEOPLE'S DAY AT SYDENHAM.

As the summer advances, and the beauties and glories of the Crystal Palace are completed, we must enter one more protest, however hopelessly, against the cruel and iniquitous superstition which closes the enjoyments of the Palace to the multitudes of the lower classes on the only day in the week which they have for recreation. The Palace seems made to redress in some degree the inequalities of fortune, to place beauty and grandeur within the reach of the poor, to open their hearts to kindly feelings towards society, and to wean them from the brutal indulgences to which, as an almost inevitable alternative, they are reduced. But they are absolutely and hopelessly shut out to flatter the religious self-approbation of people who can enjoy the Palace all the week, and who make no scruple of keeping their Sunday in all the enjoyments of luxurious houses and gardens, and with capital dinners cooked for them as "a work of charity and necessity" by their unrelenting servants. Surely if the clergy were really ministers of truth and justice they would protest against this hypocritical tyranny, and forbid an offering not unworthy of Moloch to be made to the Christian's God.

"THE STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

[The responsibility of the Editor in regard to these contributions is limited to the act of giving them publicity. The opinions expressed are those of the writer: both the *Leader* and "The Stranger" benefit by the freedom which is left to his pen and discretion.]

MR. LAYARD came into Parliament at the very moment when his specialty, the East, was the question of the day; and that would seem to be an astonishing piece of good fortune to a public man; but, in reality, it has been Mr. Layard's great misfortune. He was suddenly successful: what other able men gain after ten years' work, he gained by a spring; and the result has been that he has not attempted that labour which is necessary in those who want to keep a position. The circumstances of his success were adventitious, and he did not understand it: he thought he was being admired as an orator, when he was only being listened to as a witness. He lost his head and went wild, and was spoiled, and the consequence was—several scrapes. Had Mr. Layard, with his intellect and his energy, trained for public life and public speaking, he would have attained, legitimately, to a very respectable position; but not having laboured, his attempt to insist on House of Commons position, his evidence being exhausted by force of the clamour of an "Association" out of doors, is preposterous.

His speech last night was like his speech on Wednesday at Drury-lane—indicating an insolent want of preparation for the public occasion. The impression was that he had thrown some remarks together, which remarks he pitched out pell-mell. Mr. Layard's manner as a speaker is ludicrous. He does not condescend to study the art of speaking, the management of the voice, of the body. He at once screams and mumbles, roars and whispers; and as to his gesticulation, remember Madame Celeste as a *mime* in a passion, and you have a perfect notion of Mr. Layard. But not to speak of this, his style is deplorable. There is no construction: no management of points: no art: no elaboration: no contrasts: no illustrations:—it is the style of an unpolished man, who having too many facts in his head, pulls and pitches them out—"any how, no how." There was a fine occasion for him last night: a splendid case: but they were greatly misused. There was no real research, no adroit application—in short, nothing new. His material was as old and as familiar as his argument. Well, he did more than displease by his unregulated manner—his jumble of a speech disappointed; and you could judge of the effect by the circumstance that, though he commenced in a full House, he finished in a nearly empty House. This ought not to discourage Mr. Layard; it ought to induce him to study his oratorical business.

The character of the speaking for the couple of hours after Mr. Layard indicated inattention and a sense of unimportance; not only was the Administrative Reform Association a failure at Drury-lane, but it had solemnised the failure in the House, and the aristocratic mind was relieved. Mr. Gladstone gave some weight to the debate by contributing a statesman's opinion as to the chances of carrying on affairs, without selling the administration of public affairs to M.P.'s. Sir Edward Lytton talks so absurdly like Sir C. Wood—particularly in the *w's*,—that one is not quite clear what he was driving at; no one would have known but for the fact that his name was connected with an amendment, that he rose from the side of his brother novelist and Tory leader, and that the Conservative press is assiduously discovering that the Tories are the administrative reformers. Sir Edward made himself understood in a heavy attack on Whig oligarchy, which he went so far as to call an oligarchy, a caste, a governing class, but that sort of thing has been very often done before, and rather better than ponderous and pompous Sir Edward can well manage. I say pompous: for he speaks as you can fancy he writes,—he puts his notes of exclamation with great regularity at the end of each of his sentences, and he commences every second word with a capital letter. He takes to all the resources of the forcible feeble, but he rather wearies. When he rose a crowd of members (all the dinners were over) rushed from the side gallery behind him, where they could

not make out a word of his bow-wow, to the other gallery opposite him. But, whether there they could hear, or did not enjoy what they did hear, it is certain that gradually, one by one, they fell into reclining attitudes, studied easy postures, and—went to sleep. Sir Edward seemed to urge the Government to be Richard the Second in earnest, and to take the question of Administrative Reform out of the hands of the agitators. Which the Government begs the country to believe that it will. So said Sir Cornwall Lewis, but the House refused to listen to Sir Cornwall Lewis. However Sir Cornwall was quite good enough orator to answer Lytton and Layard: and the three had made matters so heavy that the House, bored beyond all precedent for such a pretentious wight, would hear no more,—but adjourned, thoroughly sick of Administrative Reform and Reformers.

Considered from the proper point of view, the airs which the House of Commons gives itself in lecturing the Government about *laches* in administration, are amusing. Hume's (David's, not Joe's) discovery of the inherent anomaly in the British Constitution, that our Parliament is representative, while our Government is not representative, accounts for many things that seem to puzzle the worthy but thick Samuel Morley class of mind. But nothing can be clearer than that our Government is so vicious because our House of Commons is destitute of any sense of public virtue. We might get over the fact that half that people's House is made up of old squires and young nobles; that is not the principal reason why our Government is a job. The worst of the matter is, that the Liberals, even violent Liberals from Radical constituencies, are even more hungry than the old squires and young nobles for patronage and place, for their friends, their agents, their voters, and themselves. The floor of that House is strewed with prizes, and it's a scramble for them, all round. Why did Mr. Layard go into the House? To get a place; and, without any malignant suggestions of a man who obviously means well, it is certain that he would not be making reform motions if Lord Palmerston had given him the place he wanted. Look back on the career of Mr. Phinn: he came in as a people's man, and he lands himself in a good office, after two sessions' work. These are two excellent gentlemen: nobody blames them: it occurs to no one that they are selling their cause and being bribed into agreement in a villanous political system. But all the Liberal members are not looking for office? No. There are rich men, and who have not capacity for office, in the party; who, moreover, under the pressure of large constituencies, have a tendency to conduct themselves with honour and independence. But when the Whigs are in their business is to keep the Tories out; and for keeping the Whigs in they become entitled to have favours conceded—their wives are brought on in society, their daughters get to the right house, and papa invariably succeeds with that little place for young M'Cad in the Customs. Papa knows that young M'Cad is a startling young idiot, utterly unfit for the paternal cornchandlery occupation: but when papa has got the thing from Hayter, into the House he goes, and votes for administrative reform. But then there are other Liberals who have no relation of this sort with the Government? Why, not half a dozen in the House; and even these are in such clubby relations with Ministers, and in such social snares, that you only here and there get an eccentricity to stand out from the club as the popular member, and represent the country against the system. The Liberals that existing constituencies return, are middle-class men of wealth, who see no wrong in maintaining social and political life as it is, or middle-class men of adventure, who cannot afford to wait for a revolution, and meantime, while voting as honestly as they can, are disposed to make as much as they can for themselves out of the villainies around them. This may be all right; and while this is the condition of the House of Commons, it is sheer cant to be talking about administrative reform. All things considered, the Government is wonderfully honest; if it were not to take a more national view, and to

act on a higher conscientiousness than actuate the average members of the House of Commons, we should see some things even more singular than the appointments of Howells and Ramsays. Lord Palmerston seems to be a man thoroughly proud of England, and England should understand that if he deals contemptuously with the House of Commons, it is because, after considerable experience of it, he finds the House of Commons contemptible. It is out of the question that Jones, the 10*l.* householder who has refused a bribe, can take the same view of the House of Commons which the Palmerstons, Russells, and Derbys take.

Even Jones would be disabused of some of his imbecile theories about that popular assembly, and about Parliament generally, if he would only use his common sense and face facts. Take the Sunday Trading Bill, Jones. The House insists that it is a desecration of the Sabbath-day to let you have milk after nine or newspapers after ten (Sabbath-day does not begin until nine and ten, mind). Do you think that honourable members have any passionate respect for the Sabbath-day? My own impression of the House of Commons is, that there are not fifty Christians in it: and I know that hon. members themselves are not ferociously against morning amusements and three courses—(the cook's, not Peel's)—on the seventh day. But honourable members can't help cant; the House of Commons is returned by the middle-class church-and-chapel-going and partial-to-be-shut-up-on-the-Sunday-in-a-pious-and-penitential-atmosphere-of-perspiring-Christians public; and the House of Commons, not having a vast mass of Joneses to fall back upon, dare not offend the white neckcloth interest,—the white neckcloth, in fact, chokes us in England. It's hypocrisy, inconsistency; it's the atheistical rich imposing Mosaic laws upon the poor:—that is what you say, Jones. But honourable members know that quite as well as you; they'll admit it over Burgundy at eight to-morrow evening; and they'll congratulate one another that they are practical men. And when they get a chance they will turn white-choker theories against the middle class. The House of Commons will gloat over the appointment of a select committee (which Mr. Scholefield is to demand) to inquire into the best means of checking the universal custom of English tradesmen in regard to adulterations of goods. The House of Commons, by that, means to say—"Gentlemen, you go to chapel, and allow the white chokers to choke us, but you see we know very well that you sand the sugar before you go to prayers: we are all scoundrels, gentlemen, so, if you please, we had better not, any of us, give ourselves any remarkable airs."

Nationally, Parliament should not be presumptuous. Lord Shaftesbury has been at his old work this week,—most *mal à propos* to the suggestion of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners that the crying want of the age is twelve more bishops—exposing the heart-rending shams of British social organisation. Trying to induce a law to force capitalist milliners of a church-going calibre not to work their poor stitchers to death. Trying to induce a law which shall offer facilities for the religious instruction of the 5,000,000 persons (his own ghastly statistics) who live in England and Wales without ever having heard the Word of God, that there was a God, or why the tastes of Moses and Co. should prevent them getting milk after nine and beer between eleven and one on certain mysterious days, called Sundays, because they are usually days of rain. Of course Lord Shaftesbury, distressingly earnest man, was pooh-poohed. To the first suggestion it is replied—law of supply and demand: dresses wanted in a hurry by Lady de Trop: must have the dresses: death of the stitcher in producing the dress not within the province of political economy. To the other suggestion the answer is—the Peers and Bishops know the blessing of a knowledge of God, and that it is necessary to be honest and good in order to go to heaven,—great pity that there are 5,000,000 heathens in our own land: but, then, the parochial system, and amateur saving of souls would be badly done:—accordingly there being only a majority of 1 in favour of trying to preserve the 5,000,000 British heathens from eternal darkness and damnation. We all know that the majority is far greater against Lord Grey when he remarks that it is scarcely worth our while to be defending civilisation in the Crimea.

The only sensible work of Parliament this week has been in the House of Commons declining to interfere with the Australian Constitution bills, that is to say, in no work at all in that direction. Our amusing popular assembly is too conscious of its imperfections to dictate to Australians the sort of governing bodies wanted there. Thus it was of no use in Mr. Lowe, Mr. Duffy, and Mr. Adderley talking liberalism and Abbé-Sieyès-isms: Lord John reversed the idea of Barnave and, oddly for a Whig, enunciated—*perissent les principes plutôt que les Colonies.*

Saturday Morning.

"A STRANGER."

Open Council.

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

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

THE MIDDLE AND LOWER CLASSES. (To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—While I perfectly agree with the tenor of your remarks on the unhappy feeling of jealousy which the lower classes are evincing towards the middle, I regret that you did not enforce and illustrate your position by reference to French history. You might have pointed out how inefficient the lower classes have always proved when left to themselves, and, as an instance in point, you might have quoted the horrors of the *Jacquerie*. The presumptuous self-confidence of the nobles having caused the defeat of Poitiers and the capture of their king, the humbler inhabitants of the towns and villages treated the fugitives with scorn, often accompanied by acts of violence. For a time a man of the middle classes, Etienne Marcel, restrained the popular fury within due bounds, and laboured successfully to ameliorate the condition of the people. But the torrent burst its banks, and hordes of savages broke loose upon society. "The cry of the French populace, 'The nobles dishonour and betray the kingdom,' became a signal for the extermination of those of gentle birth in the cottages of Beauvoisis. Peasants, armed with clubs and knives, rose and marched in bands, increasing as they advanced, attacking the castles with sword and flame, murdering all they found in them—men, women, and children; and, like the barbarians of the great invasion, unable to give an account of the objects which they sought, or the motive which instigated them." The consequence was, not only the miserable destruction of these ruffians, but the entire failure of the rational and practical revolution then in course of accomplishment by the Parisian bourgeoisie. Again, at a later period—in 1413—when the middle classes had well-nigh succeeded in introducing reforms which would have rendered the Revolution of 1789 uncalled for and impossible, the lower classes lost everything by their precipitation and violence. "Persons of mature wisdom and versed in public matters had at that time neither will nor political energy. They held themselves aloof, and the work remained in the hands of the visionary and the turbulent—of the butchers and their allies (the *écorceurs*). By intolerable excesses these persons hastened on a reaction which led to their fall, their banishment, and the abandonment of the reforms which had been obtained with so much labour." Other instances might be easily adduced, but the easier course is to refer your readers to M. Augustin Thierry's "History of the Formation and Progress of the Tiers-Etat in France," very fairly rendered into English by the Rev. F. B. Wells. In that admirable work they will observe the gradual advancement of the nation through the patient, persevering, and constitutional measures of the middle classes. The Parliaments, drawn almost entirely from this order of society, were continually at issue with the Crown and the nobles. Though frequently coerced by superior power, they steadily gained ground, and prepared the nation for the enjoyment of true liberty. Unhappily, their final triumph was thwarted by the despotism of Louis XIV., and the frightful corruption of the court under his successor; but, nevertheless, their exertions ever produced an immediate benefit, while the impatience of the lower classes as invariably caused a reaction which destroyed even the semblance of freedom.

I am, &c.,
J. H.

MR. CHARLES COCHRANE, whose name has been repeatedly before the public in connexion with projects for aiding and employing the poor (soup kitchens, the street-orderly system, &c.), and who a few years since contested the representation of Westminster, died on Wednesday last at his residence in Nelson-square, Blackfriars-road.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE have had several meetings during the past week, for the purpose of considering their Report. There has been very great difference of opinion, and the debates, it is said, have been exceedingly stormy. The next meeting will take place on Monday.

OPENING OF THE NEW METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.—This new market, which is situated in Copenhagen Fields, close to the North London Railway, was opened on Wednesday by Prince Albert, accompanied by the Lord Mayor and the Corporation. A luncheon followed, at which the Prince was present, as well as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and several members of Parliament and persons of high standing.

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*.

A VERY common and unjust remark is made by Englishmen who read *La Revue de Deux Mondes*, namely, "we have nothing in England to compare with it." True, we have no single Review which is at once so important and entertaining; but if we consider how many Reviews we have, the injustice of the comparison becomes obvious. France has but one good Review; has never yet been able to support more than one. The *Revue de Paris*, *Revue Indépendante*, *Revue Nouvelle* formerly, and now the *Revue Contemporaine*, have tried in vain to rival the *Deux Mondes*: each work has boasted of eminent contributors, and many excellent articles, but steady uniform excellence has not been attainable. Limiting France, therefore, to one, or two Reviews, and comparing the produce with our *Quarterly*, *Edinburgh*, *Westminster*, *British Quarterly*, *North British*, *London Quarterly*, *Dublin Review*, *Irish Quarterly*, *Blackwood*, and *Fraser*, the result must be pronounced insignificant. If we imagine ourselves limited to two reviews, which would thus have the pick of the contributions now bestowed on ten, it is easy to see that these two works would be of a kind to throw the *Revue des Deux Mondes* into insignificance. Indeed, such a suggestion leads to curious comparisons. France a literary nation, and Paris a university capital, France the "brain of the world," as she repeatedly tells us, with charming modesty, Paris where alone the laurel wreath of fame can be conferred on Genius, is as indubitably as far behind England in the market she opens to Literature, as she is in manufactures. Waiving all question of quality, it may be safely asserted that in the quantity and gravity of publications England exceeds France tenfold. In periodicals, and in cheap literature, our superiority is enormous. This implies a far greater spread of intelligence among the people; which again implies a higher degree of civilisation. We draw no odious comparison between the *élite* of France and the *élite* of England: in many respects they have decided superiority over us; in some respects inferiority as decided.

The last numbers of *La Revue Contemporaine* and *La Revue des Deux Mondes*, which led us into these reflections, are certainly not calculated to impugn our verdict. Agreeable, they are in no respect striking. In the *Contemporaine*, M. ALFRED NETTEMENT replies to an insolent article by that most insolent of critics, GUSTAVE PLANCHE (a writer who seems to us to have gained his reputation more of means of magisterial dogmatism than by any other quality), and the Parisian public may feel some interest in the debate, which to our readers would have no attraction; M. LOUIS RATISBONNE furnishes a mediocre article on HEINE, who demands a first-rate writer if he is to be treated properly; ADOLPHE ADAM, the musical composer, gives an agreeable sketch of one of his predecessors, MONSIGNY; and EDMOND ABOUT tells the story of the composition of *Tolla*—as we intimated last week.

The *Deux Mondes* has an able paper on Young Ireland in Exile, by EMILE MONTEGUT; an historical study of MAZARIN, by LOUIS DE CARNÉ; a most inadequate paper on ACHIM D'ARNIM, the husband of BETTINA, by BLAZE DE BUBY; and an elaborate paper on Longevity, by JULES HARME, in which he discusses the statistics of M. DE CHATEAUNEUF, and the theories of FLOURENS. We touch on this subject, as regards M. FLOURENS, in another part of our Journal, and simply refer those curious on the point to M. JULES HARME. The programme of this number (which includes several articles not named here) is as various as one need desire; but the treatment of the subjects is certainly below what would be found in any average number of one of our Reviews.

TENNYSON'S new volume, so long expected, will soon appear. It contains, as we learn, three poems of some length: *Maud*, an *Idyl*, and a poem on *Italy*; and although in general we have large distrust in the verdicts of friends on works unpublished, we have in this case too great a belief in TENNYSON'S genius not to put faith in all that friends say of it. TENNYSON is a good example to poets, in the fastidious reticence and anxious care with which he treats the Muse. If this lead him sometimes into the fault, which he confesses,

To add and alter many times
Till all be ripe and rotten,

it also saves him from the perilous haste of snatching unprepared at laurels. He gives us the essence of his work, and not the hasty sketches. Equally slow, laborious, and solid is another of our great writers, CARLYLE, who pays little attention to the impatient demands of an eager public—a public only too ready to cry out about "falling off" if the work presented be not superior to what has gone before—who does not care one jot how much we desire to have his *Frederick the Great*, but cares a great deal how he is to make that work worth having. The public should be grateful when men of reputation forego the temptation of discounting their names; and should remember that

Le Temps n'épargne pas ce que l'on fait sans lui.

While we gossip thus, let us not omit to notice ALEXANDER BAIN'S work, just published under the (to many) attractive title *The Senses and the Intellect*, a work which, to our knowledge, has been many years in preparation, and of which we hope to give a more specific account by-and-by. Nor should the *History of the Spanish Conquest*, by ARTHUR HELPS, be omitted in any mention of laborious works: the thousands who have smiled at the humour, cherished the wisdom, and tasted the fine flavour of style in *Friends in Council* and the *Companions of my Solitude*, will welcome any new appearance of so rare a mind; and if "Gossip Report" may be trusted, this appearance in the new character of Historian will be as striking as it is new.

We recently called attention to the dispute agitating the Paris Academy of Sciences respecting the sugar-forming function of the Liver, which after six years of glory bestowed on its discoverer, CLAUDE BERNARD, is assailed by a formidable antagonist, who undertakes to show that the Liver forms no sugar at all, but only acts as a filter and condenser. Nothing new has reached us; at least no new step in the debate; but some readers may be glad to learn that the last number of the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* is devoted entirely to this question; it contains M. FIGUIER'S memoir, M. BERNARD'S reply, and two other papers bearing on the dispute. As far as these documents go, we incline to the opinion of M. FIGUIER; but the Commission of Inquiry will, it is hoped, express a decisive verdict.

JULES JANIN, in his feuilleton this week, after a very characteristic rhapsody about Paris as the sole arbiter and dispenser of glory, recalls the success of Miss SMITHSON, whom the Parisians discovered to be a great actress. "In vain the English critics, much disconcerted at this refutation of their opinions given by French criticism, tried to disavow her genius, her triumph was proclaimed for ever." It is perhaps pedantic to argue with J. J., but we would venture to ask what he would say if the case were reversed—if English critics were suddenly to be smitten with enthusiasm for an actor whom the French rejected? Would he think English verdicts of any force? Would he not attribute them to want of nicety in the perception of *nuances*, if not to want of knowledge of the language? Respecting Miss SMITHSON'S genius we are unable to form an opinion; but there are two reasons which make us prefer the English verdict to the French: first, the fact that she was not accepted on the English stage—a stage never very critical—is significant, and points to some prominent defect in the actress; secondly, the fact that she was an Irishwoman, not free from Irish accent, and this defect (not appreciable by foreigners) would of itself have constituted a bar to her success in tragedy. Some such reflections must have occurred to J. J., had he not been nurtured in the faith that Paris, and Paris alone, is competent to form an opinion in matters of Art.

It is a species of literary, and at any rate very interesting news, that the abolition of the newspaper stamp is being followed by considerable newspaper enterprise in the provinces. Glasgow, Manchester, and Liverpool have now announced their penny daily papers. The *Liverpool Daily Post*, projected by the Messrs. Whitty, is already published daily at a penny, and indicates that in respect to newspapers, England is approaching the condition of Germany and the United States, when the student of public opinion must refer to the organs of each of the large political and commercial communities.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

- The Louvre; or, Biography of a Museum.* With Two Plans. By Bayle St. John. Chapman and Hall.
- Cranford.* By the Author of "Mary Barton," &c. (Cheap Edition.) Chapman and Hall.
- Lecture on the Method of Teaching Grammar, delivered before the United Association of Schoolmasters at the First Annual Meeting.* By James Telleard, F.R.G.S. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.
- Monastic Institutions: their Origin, Progress, Nature, and Tendency.* By Samuel Phillips Day. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.
- Land, Labour, and Gold; or, Two Years in Victoria: with Visits to Sydney and Van Diemen's Land.* By William Howitt. Two Vols. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.
- The Hippolytus Stephanephorus of Euripides, with short English Notes, for the Use of Schools.* J. H. and J. Parker.
- A Plea for Painted Glass: being an Inquiry into its Nature, Character, and Objects, and its Claims as an Art.* By Francis H. Oliphant. J. H. Parker.
- Jonas Clint: a Tale.* J. H. Parker.
- A Brief History of Sherburn Hospital, in the County of Durham, with Observations on the "Scheme" proposed by the "Charity Commissioners" for the Application and Management of that Charity, and the Estates and Possessions thereof.* J. H. and J. Parker.
- May Flowers: being Notes and Notions on a few Created Things.* By "Acheta." Lovell Reeve.
- The Philosophy of the Cross; or, Christ as Man.* By Henry G. Cooper. Groombridge and Sons.
- Every Boy's Book: a complete Encyclopædia of Sports and Amusements, intended to afford Recreation and Instruction to Boys in their Leisure Hours.* By George Forrest, Esq., M.A. G. Routledge and Co.
- Administrative Reform: The Reorganisation of the Civil Service, by a Subordinate therein.* Smith, Elder, and Co.
- Notes on some of the principal Pictures exhibited in the Rooms of the Royal Academy, 1855.* By the Author of "Modern Painters." Smith, Elder, and Co.
- The Private Life of an Eastern King.* By a Member of the Household of his late Majesty Nussir-u-Deon, King of Oude. Hope and Co.

Portfolia.

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

THE GRAND EXPOSITION.

GENERAL CLASSIFICATION—TEXTILE FABRICS—COTTON.

The scheme of classification adopted by the Imperial Commission is derived in all its important features from that propounded in 1851. All the objects exhibited are divided into two great divisions; one consisting of the Fine Arts, and the other subdivided into seven groups.

- I. Articles used for the extraction or production of raw materials.
- II. Articles used for the employment of mechanical forces.
- III. Articles founded upon the employment of physical and chemical agencies, or connected with the sciences and the art of instruction.
- IV. Articles specially connected with the learned professions.
- V. Manufactures of mineral products.
- VI. Textile fabrics.
- VII. Furniture and decoration, fashions, designs, printing, music.

These seven groups are again subdivided into twenty-seven classes, and these again into an immense number of sections.

It will be at once perceived that this scheme is very artificial, and perhaps it would not be possible to devise any mode of classifying objects of such infinite variety according to natural law. Take, for example, the very obvious mode of divisions suggested by the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, and such a simple article as one of Erard's harps baffles you at once by distributing its component parts among all the three. But any system of classification is after all only useful in the arrangement of the catalogue; national divisions and the necessity for picturesque effect, absolutely forbid its adoption in the actual distribution of the objects, and it is only when we come to compare results and balance the relative strength and merits of competing countries in particular divisions of industry, that the value of classification becomes apparent. How far the system here adopted is open to criticism, or whether it be the best possible plan, are questions which it would be useless to discuss here; it may, however, be fairly observed that the division into such a small number of groups, by attempting to be comprehensive, has in some cases produced a very confusing incongruity. The third group, for example, is divided into four classes, and these again into thirty-one sections, and among these we find:—

- Weights and measures, instruments of admeasurement and calculation.
- Economical Combustibles (Combustibles spécialement destinés au chauffage économique.)
- Lighthouses.
- Raoutchouc.
- Wines and Tobacco.

Of the sections composing this third group it has been curiously remarked that stoves may be classed under any one of three sections.

Class VII. is likewise a singular *olla podrida* of the most dissimilar objects.

In the official Catalogue now circulated, the Imperial Commission offer some explanation of the extremely imperfect form in which it comes before the public. They urge that, whereas all the bulletins for the Catalogue ought to have been sent in before the 30th of November last, on the 1st of January, 1855, they had only received 350 French, and on the 1st of March they had not one-third of the matter necessary for the construction of the Catalogue. Sweden and Norway did not send in before the 10th of May, whilst Turkey, Egypt, Tunis, Portugal, the duchy of Nassau, the Argentine Confederacy, Peru, Guatemala, New Grenada, Hayti, Costa-Rica, and the English Colonies, kept their lists back until two days before the opening of the Exhibition. It appears, therefore, that a portion of the blame so unsparingly awarded to the Imperial Commission is justly due to the exhibitors themselves.

This edition of the Catalogue contains the names of 16,944 exhibitors, of whom 8,968 are French, and 7,976 of other nations. Next in numerical strength to the French comes the Austrian list, and Great Britain and Ireland is third: Austria exceeds the United Kingdom by 281 exhibitors: Prussia stands fourth on the list.

Group VI. (*Textile Fabrics*) is perhaps the only one of the great divisions which is composed of elements strictly homogeneous. It contains five classes:—

- 1. Cottons. (Class 19.)
- 2. Wools. (Class 20.)
- 3. Silks. (Class 21.)
- 4. Linens. (Class 22.)
- 5. Laces. (Class 23.)

The last class is perhaps rather mixed in its character, and is certainly made still more so by the absurd introduction of *Bonnets* into its sub-classification. Laces are, strictly speaking, either silk or cotton, and there is no apparent reason why they should not have been so classed.

Class 19 (Cottons) is subdivided into eleven sections:—

- 1. Materials used in Cotton manufactures.
- 2. Raw Cotton and yarn.
- 3. Plain Cotton fabrics.
- 4. Figured Cotton fabrics.
- 5. Cotton fabrics for special purposes, napped, &c.
- 6. Light Cotton fabrics.
- 7. Cotton fabrics woven with dyed yarn.
- 8. Printed Cottons.
- 9. Cotton velvets.
- 10. Mixed fabrics.
- 11. Cotton ribbons.

In the present edition of the Catalogue the cotton manufactures are illustrated by about 700 exhibitors; of whom France supplies 410, Great Britain and Ireland 87, Austria 63, Switzerland 39, Belgium 35, Prussia 26, Spain 24, and Baden, Denmark, Greece, Mexico, the Nether-

lands, Sardinia, Saxony, Tuscany, and Wurtemberg the remainder. The United States of America do not seem to have sent a single exhibitor to illustrate the branch of industry upon which their national wealth is mainly built. Is it indifference, or what, that has kept the Lowell manufacturers back?

The division of Great Britain and Ireland is credited in the above summary with eighty-seven exhibitors, but this requires some little explanation. The exhibitors represented by the Manchester Committee (comprising nearly the whole contribution of manufacturing Lancashire) mass themselves into one body, and their several names do not appear in the Catalogue. The Catalogue says that this committee represents "about sixty exhibitors." The only Lancashire manufacturers who take an independent position in the Exhibition are Messrs. Slater and Smith, of Preston, and Mr. Edward Hollins, of the same town. It is not easy to understand the spirit which animates the Manchester gentlemen in adopting this course, but it certainly looks very like that false pride and fondness for combination which never appears to desert them. Why should they pretend to despise the advantages of publicity afforded by the plan upon which the Exposition is conducted, when the most respectable Glasgow firms and the best Yorkshire houses have not disdained to give their names at full length, and even to put prices upon their goods, to guide the juries in their verdicts?*

The most important part of the French cotton series is decidedly the contribution of Tarare, in the Department of the Rhône. The muslins sent from hence are celebrated all over the world, and though they may not have attained the extraordinary fineness of the Dacca fabrics, the manufacturers of Tarare have continued to take the lead in muslin manufacture by a combination of fineness of texture, elegance of design, and moderation of price. No less than seventy-four exhibitors come from Tarare, and almost without exception, muslins form the staple of their collection. In the north-west portion of the gallery these beautiful fabrics may be found grouped together, objects of admiration both to the lovers of the beautiful, and those skilled in the lighter branches of the cotton manufacture. The yarn used at Tarare is mostly spun at other places on the Rhône, as Gleizé, Thizy, &c. The weaving is, of course, by hand-loom.

If Tarare be celebrated for its muslins, the Pas-de-Calais is not less so for its cotton tulle and bobbin-nets. Forty exhibitors from that district sustain the honour of its speciality. This fabric is more consumed by the common people of France than of England, and enters largely into the composition of those wonderful caps for which the peasant women of Normandy and Brittany are so celebrated. Condé, in Calvados, sends twenty-seven exhibitors, who give an excellent display of fancy cotton goods—cotton satins, ducks, towellings, and strong yarns. The department of the Upper Rhine, of which the manufacturing capitals are Mulhouse and Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines, but which contains about twenty manufacturing localities of various importance, sends fifty-two exhibitors as its important contribution. Common yarns, dyed yarn, calicoes, jaconets, cotton prints, and coloured cottons, mixed fabrics, madapolams, percales, and a variety of those fabrics known as domestics, form the staple of this excellent collection; and some of those articles are of such excellence that they may possibly be found to shake the boasted superiority of the Manchester manufacturers in this branch of goods. The Department of Lower Seine, where Rouen is the seat of the cotton manufacturers, sends forty-five exhibitors, with a large and creditable collection of fancy and mixed goods, coarse and fine yarn, and calicoes, for exportation. Chollet, in the Maine-and-Loire, has some extremely good prints and fancy goods. The Department of the North, which includes Lille, Roubaix, and Tourcoing exhibits those fine threads and yarns for which it is so justly celebrated. Edward Cox and Co. (an English immigration), of Lalouvière, show fine yarn, ranging up to 600. The fine yarns sent by Mallet, of Lille, range up to 720, and some of the other spinners from the same town send yarn spun of Algerine cotton, numbering 300's. These fine counts are, of course, used in the manufacture of those muslins and laces for which the district is famous. Paris itself sends a varied collection, consisting principally of lighter fabrics, and the light percales and nainsooks of St. Quentin (Aisne) are very well worth examination.

It is obvious that even since 1851 the French manufacturers have made very rapid strides, and that in those light and fancy fabrics which depend for a sale more upon fashion than cheapness, they are fast beating the English manufacturer. When cheapness, however, has to be considered, the Lancashire manufacturers seem far beyond all competition. In domestics, calicoes, longcloths, and jaconets, the difference in price is most remarkable. The causes of this are obvious. Human labour is much cheaper in France than in Lancashire; but then the possession of the great cotton port, vast appliances for internal transit, cheap coal, and home-made machinery, are advantages which the French manufacturer can never hope to enjoy to the same extent as his Lancashire rival. The manufacturer of the Rhine is perhaps in the best condition for carrying on a successful rivalry; but it must be many years (even if Mr. Aspinall Turner carries out his threat of emigration) before the banks of that glorious river can equal those of the muddy Irwell as a land of promise to the cotton-spinner.

The Austrian display of cotton is creditable but not remarkable. Some capital yarn is spun in Lower Austria and in Bohemia. Fustians from Moravia, and light fabrics from Rumbourg in Bohemia, are noticeable; also mixed fabrics of cotton and wool from the same place, and some excellent duck from Warnsdorf in Bohemia.

In the Belgian collection the Ghent manufacturers take the lead, supplying nearly a quarter of the whole display: Brussels, Antwerp, Tournai,

* It must be confessed that in this some of the Lancashire manufacturers are not very consistent. Although the resolutions of the Manchester Combined Committee do not permit Mr. Miller, the manufacturer of Horrockses' longcloth, to advertise his goods to the French public, there may be found in a case exhibited by John Wilson and Sons, of New Bond-street, professing to contain a display of Irish table-linen and sheeting, about a dozen pattern-books, inscribed with the well-known words, "HORROCKSES, MILLER, and Co., MANUFACTURERS." What business have the M. M. M. or H. H. cloths of a Preston manufacturer among the fabrics from Belfast?

Courtrai, follow in their order. The character of the collection is plain, but creditable.

The Prussians are great in such fabrics as beavers, beaverteens, cotton velvet, and the mixed fabrics of cotton and wool. Rhenish Prussia (as might be expected) shows to the best advantage, and some of the Gladbach and Elberfeld factories are evidently in the hands of very skilful manufacturers.

The Swiss collection, as has been before indicated, is one of the most extraordinary features of the Exposition, presenting the most unique series of embroidered muslins probably ever grouped together. The fine-spinning from Saint Gall and Zurich, illustrating the Second Section of the class, and the gingham, percales, and cloths illustrating the Third, are all good in their way, but the Sixth Section is that which is best illustrated, and which forms the star of the collection. Seven exhibitors alone are to be found here, but those are of world-wide reputation. Herisau and Saint Gall are the only two contributing towns, but these insignificant figures can serve to convey not the slightest idea of the nature of the display. Muslins embroidered with silk and metallic threads, patterns thrown up in crochet, embroideries in every variety of stitch, guipure lace and imitation point of every description, curtains, robes, handkerchiefs, collars, and sleeves,—such are the component parts of this collection, which, for infinite variety and beauty of design we have never seen surpassed. The embroideries, however, belong more especially to Class 23, and we must reserve a fuller description of them until we come to that part of the Exposition. The printed cotton stuffs from Glaris are also very noticeable. Although, strictly speaking, the Swiss embroideries are correctly classified as cotton fabrics, they certainly stand in quite a different category from all other descriptions of cotton manufactures. Objects of luxury and art rather than use, and necessarily very costly, they scarcely fall within the scope of a survey exclusively industrial: still they are interesting to the political economist in more respects than one, and not the less so for the illustration which they afford of the patient, wealth-producing industry of the Swiss population, and the native taste which seems to come to them as naturally as their native air. It is a curious and somewhat analogous fact that the rude and uncultivated Irish peasantry are the most successful and tasteful imitators of lace with the crochet-needle, and that their superiority lies chiefly in the imitation of guipure which has no regular pattern, but takes its form from the imagination of the worker.

The Spanish exhibitors are all from Barcelona, and their collection is highly suggestive of the present state of the cotton manufactures in Spain. It is well known that many intelligent capitalists in that country, seeing the advantages which they possessed in a port directly communicating with America, abundant fuel, extremely cheap labour, and a direct communication with England for machinery, have been for some years past cultivating the cotton manufactures to a very extensive extent in Barcelona. English mechanism has been obtained, English managers and overlookers hired, and the condition of the factories with which that city now teems is such, that if Spanish institutions stood upon a sounder basis, and Spanish capital were more plentiful, it would be to the south of Europe and not towards the banks of the Rhine that the English cotton-spinners would look in fear of successful rivalry. The collection here exhibited is an additional proof of the great good sense which guides the Spanish manufacturers. Few fancy stuffs are to be found in it, and its staple consists of those bleached cottons, prints, &c., which indicate an ambition to manufacture for the million.

The necessities of journalism and the relative importance of the collections alike require that the remarks upon the next eight contributing countries should be very brief.

The Netherlands, represented by the towns of Harlem and Goor, send some good and cheap calicoes. The Grand Duchy of Baden sends pocket-handkerchiefs and waistcoatings, not calling for any special remark. Denmark has a few good muslins and cotton shawls, Saxony (great in woollens) sends a small, but creditable collection of furniture stuffs, cotton thread, jaconets, and embroidered muslins: some of the last very beautiful. Tuscany calls for no remark. Sardinia has some very good calicoes, madapolams, lustrines, and prints from a joint-stock company calling itself *Société Anonyme de la Manufacture d'Annecy et Pont*. Wurtemberg displays some good drills, fustians, and velveteens. Greece sends a little of that native cloth of light texture, which it generally imports from Manchester; and Mexico supplies two exhibitors to illustrate the calico and light stuffs so largely worn by its natives.

Last of all comes Great Britain; and here, without any national boasting, we may confidently aver that the land of Arkwright, Crompton, Hargreaves, and Roberts still retains its pristine superiority. Blest by nature with those advantages of position and of material to which we have before referred, England is, *par excellence*, the mother-country of the cotton manufacturers. Without unduly exaggerating the national importance of this fact, as it is very much the custom to do, we see in it great matter for pride and gratification. Far be it from us to diminish the glory of those brave pioneers of the Cotton Trade who made Lancashire what it is, but it seems to us that if the manufacturers of that country only keep the vantage ground which chance has put under their feet, they cannot be dislodged from their superiority over the world. Cheapness of transit, of building, of machinery, and of fuel, added to the abundance of its capital, more than counterbalance the costliness of labour, the sole condition in which it is inferior to its competitors. So long as these happy advantages are at its disposal, Lancashire must remain *the Shirt Maker to the World*, and the French may cease to wonder at the distance by which the English manufacturers surpass them in the quality of cheapness alone, when they remember that from India itself, the birthplace of the cotton manufacture, raw cotton may be brought over to England, spun, woven, bleached, dyed, packed, sent back again, and then sold at a less cost than it could be manufactured for in Calicut itself.

The Manchester Committee, whose display fills a large space of the ground-floor, in the south-east corner of the Palais de l'Industrie, have contrived with great judgment to select from the wealth of material at their disposal a very perfect and comprehensive monograph of the English cotton

manufactures. Perfect series of carded cottons, rovings, and yarns, from the commonest counts up to the finest products of Houldsworth's and of Bazley's mules (we beg pardon for intruding upon the anonymity of these well-known firms); calicoes and longcloths, of every quality and state of finish; sackings, drills, madapolams, beavers, moleskins (humourously translated in the catalogue *peaux de taupes*), swanskins, cords, satins, jeans, and cantons; damasks, vestings, and fustians; jaconets, cambrics, nainsooks, muslins, tarlatans; gingham, nankins, and chambrays; gambroons, welts, and mocks, and every variety of cotton print; cotton velvets and mixed fabrics in great variety. Such is a mere outline of the Manchester series. In sheetings and longcloths it is very rich; but the longcloths exhibited by Mr. Edward Hollins, of the Royal Sovereign Mill, Preston, will probably turn out to be the best in the Exposition.

Glasgow sends some worthy representatives of its celebrated muslins, and Paisley of its fine spinning. That Glasgow, the mother-city of the English muslin trade, should maintain its reputation in that branch of the cotton fabrics, was to be expected. The collection of calico-prints and muslins sent by Messrs. Black is very fine, and some cases of fine-spun thread will repay examination. Dagliesh's display of fine muslins in the nave is splendid, excelling in dyes, though not perhaps in fineness, the fabrics of Tarare. Belfast also sends beautiful muslins, both plain and embroidered.

The readers will do us the justice to bear in mind that the imperfect condition of the Exposition has thrown difficulties nearly insuperable in the way of a satisfactory survey. Anything approaching a thoroughly conclusive comparison of individual merit would be altogether impossible, if not somewhat beyond the scope of our duty as journalists. It is not our province to anticipate the verdicts of the juries, but a few leading remarks may possibly be of service, and will probably not differ in any essential point from the ultimate decision of the jurors.

It appears to us that both in point of excellence of manufacture and cheapness of price England stands far ahead of all competitors. The Rhenish factories (notably of Mulhouse and Sainte Marie-aux-Mines) and the looms of Tarare may rival her in muslins, and for certain purposes of fancy embroidery and for lace the threads of Lille and Paris may take the lead; but where qualities required are substantiality and cheapness, Lancashire will claim an undisputed supremacy. In some of the lighter cotton fabrics, such as fine muslins and bobbin-nets, France will probably rank in the first grade, contesting with Glasgow the first place. In longcloths Lancashire is not to be approached, nor in prints and stuffs woven out of dyed yarn. Spain, Austria, and the Zollverein will contest the second rank.

TO THE AMERICANS.

Sons of England, though ye hate her,
Though ye hate her, still her sons,
Yet her lion stands victorious,
Yet her lease of glory runs.

Still the flag your fathers followed,
From your fathers rocks unfurled,
Waves to mark the home of freedom
In the serfs and tyrants world.

Still it floats; but fast around it
Banded priest and tyrant close.
God is with the hearts that guard it,
Europe is with Freedom's foes.

It may fall. The flame of freedom
Quenched in freemen's blood may die,
And the despot ride triumphant
Where your fathers' ashes lie.

Ye will gaze with joy and laughter,
Brooding o'er an ancient hate,
Thinking of the bales of Boston
Envy England's proud estate.

While the meek-eyed monk of Jesus
Ambling by the soldier comes
To the shame of English maidens,
And the wreck of English homes.

Well! our fall atones our greatness,
And unenvying you may tell,
Thoughtless of the bales of Boston,
How Old England fought and fell.

You may trace each Roman council,
Each high deed by field and flood,
And forget the bales of Boston
In the pride of English blood.

Love or hate—revile or praise us—
Howsoe'er your hearts may be,
When the despot reigns in England,
Think that ye alone are free.

Rail at England's fame and story,
Keep her great tradition true;
And when sets her sun of glory,
Let her freedom live in you.

The Arts.

THE THEATRES.

NEW play—Love's Martyrdom, by a new dramatic author, Mr. JOHN SAUNDERS as been produced with some literary success at the HAYMARKET, where Mr. WILKINSON makes periodical sacrifices at the costly shrine of the legitimate drama. The present piece is of the old five-act, blank-verse class; but it is written by a man who has genuine feeling, and a true heart and ear for poetry. The graceful lines, some eloquent speeches, and some really tender and passionate love-scenes, make this play well worth going to hear. Its faults are (as usual, unhappily, on the English stage) faults of construction. The main idea is not palpably and broadly enough worked out; and, in many cases, the motives which the characters act, instead of being of the plainest and most unambiguously-striking kind, are obscure, and even unintelligible to the general audience. In short, and to put it in the plainest terms, Mr. SAUNDERS has produced a graceful and tender poem in dialogue—but not yet a play. We charge against him only as a misfortune, for which we are quite willing to believe stage-inexperience is mainly accountable. He has so much real feeling, many happy facilities of expression when he is speaking the language of fiction, that we hope yet to see him a dramatist as well as a writer of elegant verse. We would beg to remind him, if he will allow us to offer a suggestion, that the taste of audiences has altered greatly of late years. They are glad to read graceful and cultivated writing, but they will absolutely have with it a story which keeps interest alive and culminating from act to act—a story which strikes us by a new idea, and rivets them by the strongest situations. Good verse and good acting are not enough now to make a play successful on the English stage. People want the excitement of a good story as well; and they will miss anything else rather than miss that. If Mr. SAUNDERS will remember this, he will have all we can wish to see him elevating the drama of his own day when he next appears, and not going back to the worn-out dramatic forms of days that are

gone. The play was, on the whole, well acted, and, as to "scenery and appointments," was neatly put on the stage. Miss HELEN FAUCIT and Miss SWANWICK (a lady new to London, who acts nicely, and has the additional merit of possessing personal attractions), Mr. BARRY SULLIVAN, and Mr. HOWE (a very conscientious and painstaking) played the principal characters.

Mr. ROBSON has made another "part" at the OLYMPIC, in a revived adaptation from the French, called *The Garrick Fever*. He is a poor actor who passes himself off at a country theatre as the great Garrick, and gets drunk by way of helping himself to sustain the character on the stage. Any readers who want a recommendation to see this remarkable performance, have it most cordially. We are on the subject of the OLYMPIC, we may mention that the *School Scandal* is to be produced for Mr. WIGAN's benefit. Mrs. STIRLING reappears, after her long illness, in *Lady Teazle*; Mr. ROBSON is to be *Moses*; Mr. WIGAN, *Sir Peter*; and Mr. WIGAN himself is to play *Joseph Surface*.

MONTI'S LECTURES ON SCULPTURE.

At his third lecture on Wednesday last, which attracted a larger audience than the preceding, Signor MONTI approached the consideration of Greek Art in its flourishing period, expatiating on its free spirit and its national character. But the second part of the lecture, in which he brought forward and explained a series of diagrams and casts of some of the masterpieces of Greek sculpture, proved the most attractive and successful. The impassioned affection with which the lecturer dwelt upon the friezes of the Parthenon and the Venus of Milo, seemed to penetrate the audience, and to awaken a mutual sympathy. We are persuaded that Signor MONTI will do well to give more prominence in his remaining lectures to technical demonstrations. It is interesting to hear a master dilate upon the theory and the history of his art as a religious, or national element in successive civilisations; but lectures on the theory, or even on the history, of art have no particular novelty, while the technical process, and the actual workmanship employed by the artist, appeal to the curiosity and awaken the interest of the public who are not in the secrets of the atelier. We are glad to find that Signor MONTI purposes, in his lecture on Wednesday next, to resume the consideration of Greek art, and to illustrate the methods and the resources of its workmanship. The theory of the colouring of Greek sculpture, which has been recently a topic of controversy among artists and scholars, will naturally enter into the *cadre* of the exposition, and we shall be glad to hear what Signor MONTI has to say upon the subject.

THE OPERA.

AWAY with melancholy! should be inscribed, in gas, over the portals of the ITALIAN OPERA as often as the *Barbiere* is performed. What evil spirits can resist the crystal overflow of that fountain of eternal youth? How worn out, how meagre and exhausted do contemporary tune-scrappers appear, compared with the reckless luxuriance, the abundant fancy, the fun, the frolic, the abandonment, the wanton and wilful prodigality of invention in this opera thrown off in a fortnight by a young man of twenty!

Thursday was a happy night. One speaks of "happy" nights at the Opera as sailors talk of "happy" ships. Everybody on the stage and in the orchestra was in the best humour and condition, and the audience heartily disposed to listen and enjoy. The cast could not be easily surpassed. MARIO, who looks *Almaviva* to the life, acted with unwonted spirit, and sang with the ease and comfort, the finished and voluptuous grace of his best days. TAMBURINI (*Figaro*) was as delightful as a *vieux garçon*; LABLACHE (*Bartolo*) colossally comic; FORMES (*Basilio*) sang "La Calomnie," one of the very finest pieces of music-painting ever written, magnificently; and Madame VIARDOT's *Rosina* was like everything that admirable artist plays, *perfection*. She looked a type of Spain, all archness, petulance, and passion, conscious of grace, but of grace spontaneous, in all her movements. Her acting alone would have given life and reality to the scene; but her singing—how consummate the art, how lavish the genius! And there is this to be noted in the most lavish *fioritura* with which Madame VIARDOT sets all vocal difficulties at defiance—she seldom, if ever, sacrifices, as inferior singers do, the structure to the decoration—she always respects what she adorns.

STATE OF TRADE.—The reports of the trade of the manufacturing towns during the week ending last Saturday contain nothing of interest. At Manchester, business is restricted, owing to the uncertainty and caution created by the speculative excitement in the Liverpool market. The Birmingham advices state the prospects of the iron trade continue to show a tendency to improvement, but that the general aspect of the place is still greatly depressed. At Nottingham, there has been little activity, although prices advanced in consequence of the movement in raw wool, and the orders from North and South America likely to increase. In the woollen districts the actions have again been to a satisfactory extent, and in consequence of the prosperous condition of the agricultural classes. The Irish linen markets are slightly better, but their recovery is very slow. In the general aspect of the port of London, there has been continued activity.—*Times*.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, June 5.
NKRUPTS.—THOMAS and EDWARD SCULLY, Curtain-Shorditch, wholesale cheesemongers—WILLIAM HAN, Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL, Barr., and ROBERT IN BATES, Strand, bankers, and Norfolk-street, Strand, agents—THOMAS MORSE, North-terrace, South-street, Tenor-square, wine merchant—JOHN VOWE, Surrey—Old Kent-road, oilman—HERMANN BRIEBACH, Mid-street, Aldgate, and elsewhere, baker—WILLIAM S, Birmingham, boot manufacturer—ANTHONY BIRCH, Ingham, grocer—HENRY PEATY, Bristol, grocer—S WAYMOUTH, Thunton, stationer—SUSAN LYONS, tock, draper—CHARLES RICHARDS, Wrexham, draper—LANDO THOMAS NEWTON, Liverpool, spirit merchant—JOSEPH IN PARKER HALL, jun., Liverpool, drysalter—JOSEPH SON, Liverpool, draper—ALBION PARIS DRESSER, hester, machinist—ALEXANDER PEAT, Manchester, manufacturer—ISAAC MOTTERSEHEAD, Macclesfield, dr.

JOHN SEQUESTRATIONS.—T. KIRK, Glasgow, —J. LOGAN, Hamilton, grain dealer—A. DAVIDSON, of Muirtown-of-Durno, Aberdeenshire, wright—J. G. late of Edinburgh, farmer—R. REID, Ayrshire, innkeeper.

Friday, June 15.
NKRUPTS.—HENRY BEATLEY, High street, Ely, innkeeper—RICHARD WALKER, Wisbech St. Peters, Cambs, stationer—ROBERT KELLAWAY MEADEN, Walbrook, and spirit merchant—JOHN HENRY MOORE, Kings-pool Hall, joiner and builder—THOMAS WILLIAMSON, Cornwall, draper and tea dealer—JOHN FENTON, pool, apothecary—THOMAS PUNSHON, Durham, builder—JAMES FIENBURG, Newport, Monmouthshire, clothier—WILLIAM NEEDHAM, and SAMUEL WHITE, y-street, Cheap-side, silk and velvet manufacturers—AMIN KENT, Norfolk-street, Strand, hotel-keeper—JAM DAVIS, Birmingham, boot and shoe manufacturer in BARTON, GEORGE BARTON, and JOHN PARKS, Manchester, copper roller manufacturers.
JOHN SEQUESTRATIONS.—ALEXANDER CAMERON, Tow, merchant—JOHN STARK, Glasgow, glass and pottery manufacturer—JAMES and CHARLES ALEXANDER, Tow, tea merchants—A. KNOX and Co., Glasgow, wine and spirit merchants—JAMES HLOOD, Newmilns, Ayrshire, dr.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BIRKETT.—June 12, at 48, Russell-square, the wife of Edmund Lloyd Birkett, M.D.: a son.
CONYBEARE.—June 12, at Kew, the wife of John Conybeare, Esq.: a son.
MASTERMAN.—June 12, at Leyton, Essex, the wife of Edward Masterman, Esq.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

GLYN-ELLIOTT-WILLIAMS.—June 5, at Tullyallen Church, Townley Hall, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Ardagh, St. Leger, R. Glyn, Esq., second son of G. C. Glyn, Esq., M.P., to Florence Elizabeth, eldest daughter—and Alex. J. H. Elliott, Esq., Captain 5th Dragoon Guards, A.D.C. to Major-General Scarlett, son of Admiral the Hon. G. Elliott, to Gertrude Mary, second daughter—of the late J. W. Williams, Esq., of Herringstone, Dorset.
OLDHAM-DORNING.—June 13, at St. Mary's, Edge-hill, Joseph Oldham, of Hoole, Chester, Esq., to Julia, fourth daughter of John Dorning, Esq., of Mount Vernon, Liverpool.

WHITAKER-MORLING.—June 13, at Upwell, Norfolk, by the Rev. G. Townley, Mr. Charles Whitaker, of London, to Louisa, third daughter of George Morling, Esq., Wisbech.

DEATHS.

BOXER.—June 4, of cholera, at Balaklava, Edward Boxer, C.B., Rear-Admiral of the White, commanding the Port and Harbour of Balaklava.
DE BODE.—June 9, at Albert-street, Mornington-crescent, Regent's-park, Major-General Baron William Henry Otto de Bode, of bronchitis, aggravated by excitement and distress of mind, consequent upon his misfortunes and severe trials; aged seventy-seven.
KING.—May 28, of cholera, before Sebastopol, Charles Thomas King, Esq., Captain in the 32nd Regiment, Orderly Officer to P.M. the Lord Raglan; and eldest son of the late Colonel Charles King, K. H., formerly of the 16th Lancers, and for many years on the Staff in Ireland.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, June 15, 1855.
 THE Bank has lowered its rate of interest this week to 3½ per cent.; the effect on the Consols market had been anticipated, and therefore there has been no rise since this took place. We continue very firm—not much business doing. In Turkish there has been considerable fluctuation. We believe, if any favourable arrangement is made for a new loan, that the bears in this market will be sorely hit. The accounts from the Crimea, lamentable as they are as regards loss of life, are more encouraging as to ultimate results. The failure of a Banking-house of old standing in the West End has not touched any one here; it had been "suspect" for some time. It will fall severely upon persons who are not traders, upon country gentlemen and naval officers. In railways there is not much life. French lines continue to be in demand. Antwerp and Rotterdam have improved. Great Western of Canada are firm, considering the heavy sales that have been made in this stock in order to realise profits. United Mexicans are very low. Some West India mines have had an improvement. Waller Gold is said to be

on the eve of declaring a dividend; people will be sceptical of its reality. The markets close at four o'clock flat. Consols, 91½; Turkish 6 per cent., 81½; 8.

Caledonians, 63½, 64½; Eastern Counties, 12½, 12½; South Western, 84½, 85½; Great Northern, 93½, 94½; ditto, A Stock, 76, 78; ditto, B Stock, 23, 25; Great Western, 68, 69; Brightons, 102½, 103½; London and North Western, 103½, 104½; London and South Western, 84½, 85½; Midland, 74½, 75½; North Eastern Berwicks, 75½, 76½; ditto, Extension, 6½, 6 dis.; Antwerp, 9, 9½; Eastern of France, 30, 30½; Central of France, 4, 4½ pm.; Great Western of Canada, 23½, 23½; Northern of France, 36½, 37; Paris and Lyons, 29, 29½ pm.; Paris and Orleans, 48, 50; Paris and Rouen, 44½, 44½; Western of France, 8½, 9 pm.; Frias, ½, ½; Brazilian Imperial, 2½, 3½; Coceas, 3, 3½; St. John del Roy, 29, 31 ex div.; Corsons Creek, ½, ½; Colonial Gold, ½, ½; Linares, 7, 7½; Mariquita, ½, ½; United Mexican, 4½, 4½; Australasia, 84½, 85½; London Chartered, 20, 21; Union of Australia, 74½, 75½; Agricultural, 32½, 33½; Canada 6 per Cent., 114½, 115½; Crystal Palace, 3, 3½; South Australian Land, 38½, 39½; General Screw 14½, 15½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, June 15, 1855.

DURING the week there has been a fair supply of English Wheat, but the arrivals of Foreign have fallen off. The demand has been very limited, but holders are not disposed to make further concessions, and the business has been very limited, and at last weeks rates. The supply of Barley has been small; former prices are firmly maintained, and in some instances exceeded. The arrivals of Oats have been moderate; the demand is slow. Two cargoes of Saidi Wheat were sold yesterday at 48s., and Behira at 44s. cost, freight and insurance. A cargo of Saidi Beans has been sold at 34s. 6d. cost, freight and insurance.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	210	210½	210½	211	211	211
3 per Cent. Red.	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut	shut
Consols for Account	92	92½	92½	92	92½	91½
½ per Cent. An.	shut	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cents	shut	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860	4	3 11-16	.....	.....	.....	15-16
India Stock	shut	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	26	26	25	.....	19
Ditto, under £1000	.....	26	.....	26	23	25
Ex. Bills, £1000	198	178	138	148	148	158
Ditto, £500	.....	.....	138	248	148	19
Ditto, Small	.....	.....	148	138	148	158

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.

Brazilian Bonds	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents., 1822	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	59½	Russian 4½ per Cents.	100½
Chilian 3 per Cents.	.....	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def.	18½
Danish 3 per Cents.	.....	Spanish Committee Cert.	.....
Ecuador Bonds	3½	of Coup. not fun.	.....
Mexican 3 per Cents.	21½	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.	27
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. June 15	.....	Belgian 4½ per Cents.	93
Portuguese 4 per Cents.	45	Dutch 2½ per Cents.	64½
Portuguese 3 p. Cents.	.....	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	95½

FRENCH PLAYS, St James's Theatre.—M. LEVASSOR will continue his French Performances, **RECREATIVES et COMIQUES**, assisted by **MADDELEINE TEISSIERE**, during the present Week, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings, and on Saturday Afternoon, June 23rd.

Programme for Monday, June 18, commencing at Eight o'clock.—**L'AMOUR PRIS AUX CHEVEUX**, Vaudeville en Un Acte et en Vers, joué par M. Levassor seul, qui reproduit Sept Physiologies Différentes. Interimède: **JE CHANTERAI!** Romance, chantée par Madlle. Teissiere. **LA MÈRE MICHEL** (au Théâtre Italien — "La Gazza Ladra"), Grande Scène Comique, exécutée par M. Levassor. **MADELEINE ET GROS JEAN**, Duo, Scène Comique, exécutée par M. Levassor et Madlle. Teissiere. To conclude with (for the second time in this country) **DEUX PROFONDS SOUBLERATS**, Vaudeville en Un Acte. Poncastor, Mons. Levassor; Fretillard, M. Véziau. Doors open at half-past 7. Boxes, 4s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 2s.

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

THEATRE ROYAL OLYMPIC.

MR. ALFRED WIGAN begs most respectfully to announce that his **BENEFIT** will take place on **FRIDAY, JUNE 22**, when the Comedy of **THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL** will be performed. Joseph Surface, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN; Charles Surface, Mr. G. VINING; Sir Peter, Mr. Emery; Sir Oliver, Mr. F. VINING; Moses, Mr. F. ROBSON. Mrs. Candour, Mrs. ALFRED WIGAN; and Lady Teazle, Mrs. STELLING (her first appearance this season). With other Entertainments.

Tickets and places to be had of Mr. Alfred Wigan, 68, Shoane-street, Cadogan-place; at the principal Libraries; and at the Box-office.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. WIGAN.

Monday, and during the week, will be performed **PERFECT CONFIDENCE**.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Emery, G. Vining; Misses Marston, E. Ormonde, and Bromley.

After which, the New and Original Comedy, called **STILL WATERS RUN DEEP**.

In which Messrs. A. Wigan, Emery, G. Vining, Miss Maskell, and Mrs. A. Wigan will appear.

To conclude with

THE GARRICK FEVER.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Emery, Danvers, White, Rivers, Mrs. Fitzalan, Miss Stephens, and Miss Tervan.

On Friday, for the Benefit of Mr. A. WIGAN, **THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL**.

Joseph Surface, Mr. A. Wigan; Lady Teazle, Mrs. Stirling; Mrs. Candour, Mrs. A. Wigan.

To conclude with

POOR PILLICODDY.

GORE HOUSE KENSINGTON.

THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION of advanced Works by Students in Metropolitan and Provincial Schools of Art is now open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission free.

MONTI'S LECTURES ON ANCIENT AND MODERN SCULPTURE. The Fourth Lecture will be delivered on Wednesday the 20th inst.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Exhibition of the finest English, French, and Italian Photographs is now open at the Photographic Institution 168, New Bond-street. Open from 10 to 5. Admission, with catalogue, 1s.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. The Fifty-first annual Exhibition is now Open at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East (close to Trafalgar-square). Admittance 1s. Catalogue 6d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

CAUTION.—To Tradesmen, Merchants,

Shippers, Outfitters, &c.—Whereas it has lately come to my knowledge that some unprincipled person or persons have, for some time past, been imposing upon the public by selling to the trade and others a spurious article under the name of **BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK**, this is to give notice, that I am the original and sole proprietor and manufacturer of the said article, and do not employ any traveller, or authorise any persons to represent themselves as coming from my establishment for the purpose of selling the said ink. This caution is published by me to prevent further imposition upon the public, and serious injury to myself. E. R. BOND, sole executrix and widow of the late John Bond, 28, Long-lane, West Smithfield.

To avoid disappointment from the substitution of counterfeits, be careful to ask for the genuine Bond's Permanent Marking Ink, and further to distinguish it, observe that **NO SIXPENNY SIZE** is, or has at any time, been prepared by him, the inventor and proprietor.

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT OF ENGLAND, and secured by the SEALS of the **ECOLE DE PHARMACIE DE PARIS**, and the **IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, VIENNA**. **TRIESEMAR**, No. 1, is a Remedy for Relaxation, Spasmodic, and Exhaustion of the System.

TRIESEMAR, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of Three Days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which Capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population.

TRIESEMAR, No. 3, is the Great Continental Remedy for that class of disorders which, unfortunately, the English physician treats with Mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the Patient's constitution, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove.

TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lie on the toilet-table without their use being suspected.

Sold in tin cases, at 11s. each; free by post, 2s. extra, divided into separate doses, as administered by Welppeu, Hallemond, Roux, &c. To be had wholesale and retail, in London, of Robert Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hannay and Co., 68, Oxford-street; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; E. H. Ingham, Druggist, Market-street, Manchester; Priestley, Chemist, Broad-street, Liverpool; Winnall, Bookseller, High-street, Birmingham; and Powell, Bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

GENUINE COCOA.—Cocoa has been designated by Physicians of eminence as one of the richest productions of the vegetable kingdom, and, when properly prepared, is justly celebrated for its peculiarly invaluable nutritive properties. So keen, however, has been the avidity to render this article a lucrative manufacture, and so strenuous the competitive efforts thereby excited, that the most flagrant adulterations have been resorted to, with the sole aim of lowness of price. The evils with which so baneful a system is fraught are strikingly manifest to the medical profession, who, highly esteeming Cocoa (in its PURE STATE) as an article of diet, frequently prescribe and recommend it to invalids as a remedial agent in promoting health. The results are, however, too often rendered nugatory by the impurity of the article supplied.

The magnitude of our legitimate business as Tea Dealers necessarily precludes our devoting a strict and essential supervision to the manufacture of Cocoa; we have therefore completed arrangements with the highly respectable firm of Messrs. HENRY THORNE and CO., Leeds, whose many years' successful experience in the preparation of this article, and the celebrity they have thereby acquired, together with their uncompromising determination to adhere to the principle they originally adopted, viz., to manufacture only from the choicest Nuts, and to rigidly eschew adulteration in any shape whatever, warrant us in recommending their "GENUINE TRINIDAD COCOA" to our numerous Friends, to the Medical Profession, and to the Public. Price—TENPENCE PER POUND.

SIDNEY, WELLS, and CO., Family Tea-men,
8, LUDGATE-HILL,
SOLE AGENTS FOR LONDON.

FITCH & SON'S CELEBRATED BREAKFAST BACON, AND FIRST-CLASS PROVISIONS.

"The City is the emporium for all good things; and the emporium for rich and delicious bacon is FITCH & SONS, 66, Bishopsgate-street."—Vide *United Service Gazette*, March 31st.

This celebrated Bacon has now been fifteen years before the public, and still retains its deserved pre-eminence. It is sold by the side, half-side, and separate pieces.

The half-side of 30lbs. 9d. per lb.
The Middle-piece, 12lbs. 10d. "

THE FINEST DESCRIPTIONS OF CHEESE,
Stilton, Cheshire, Parmesan, Somerset, North Wiltshire, and others.

HAMS—namely, the far-famed and still unrivalled Yorkshire, together with Somerset, Westphalia, and Brunswick. **OX TONGUES CURED UPON THE PREMISES**, both pickled and smoked.

Wiltshire Chaps and Chines, Anglo-German Sausages.
FITCH & SON'S HOUSEHOLD PROVISIONS.

	s.	d.
Fine rich Cheshire Cheese, by single Cheese... Per lb.	0	8
Good Sound ditto, ditto.....	0	7½
Ditto Serviceable ditto, ditto.....	0	7
Fine New Salt Butter by Half Firkins.....	0	11½
Very good ditto, ditto.....	9	10½
Fine Small and Large Hams.....	8	to 9

A remittance is requested from correspondents unknown to the firm. Deliveries free to all the London Railway Termini, daily, and the suburbs twice a week. A priced List of the parts of a side of their celebrated Bacon free upon application.

FITCH AND SON,
Provision Merchants and Importers,
No. 66, BISHOPSGATE WITHIN, LONDON.
Established 1784.

ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley.

THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.—The important object so desirable to be obtained has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, PATENTEES, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their *Improved Process* in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
February 19, 1855.

I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley-meal and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley. There is no mineral or other impurity present; and, from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed) A. S. TAYLOR.

"Messrs. J. and J. C. ADNAM and Co."

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each Package bears the Signature of the PATENTEES, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Pickets and Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c., in Town and Country.

20,000 NERVOUS MIND AND HEAD

SUFFERERS, from Noblemen to Mechanics, having tried all advertised and other remedies without a cure, have, during eighteen years, been obliged to apply to the Rev. Dr. Willis Mosely, 18, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, London, and 50 are not known to be uncured. Means of cure only to be paid for, and a relapse prevented for life. Novel Observations, a pamphlet on nervousness, franked to any address if one stamp is sent; or, for 36 Twelve Chapters on the Only Means of Curing Nervous or Mind Complaints; "the best book on nervousness in our language."

THE newly-registered "FAMILY FIRE ESCAPE," manufactured by Messrs. D. and E. BAILEY Ironmongers, 272, Holborn, has been already adopted by many of the highest of our English nobility. This novel invention is unflammable, weighs only 21 lbs., and may be fitted up either as a plain or costly piece of furniture for bedrooms; and being always ready for instantaneous use, and so constructed as to rescue life and much valuable property with privacy, and without the slightest possibility of failure, it is worthy the attention of every householder, especially masters of large establishments and hotel-keepers. The price is 8 sovereigns only. Several Fire-Escapes ordered by Peers may now be seen at Messrs. Bailey's, 272, HOLBORN.

THE 16s. Trousers, reduced to 14s.—Trousers and Waistcoat, 22s.—Coat, Waistcoat, and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all wool, and thoroughly shrunken.

THE TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COAT, the Guinea Dress Trousers, and the Half-Guinea Waistcoat, made to order by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street. For quality, style, and workmanship, cannot be equalled by any house in the kingdom.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

SISAL CIGARS.

H. N. GOODRICH, after 25 years' practical acquaintance with the business, will stake his reputation for ability and honour as a Cigar Merchant, upon the truth or falsehood of the assertion, that no Cigars as good as his Sisal Cigars have ever been sold so cheap. Box containing 14 of the finest quality, for 1s. 9d. Post free, six stamps extra. None are genuine unless signed, "H. N. Goodrich." 416, Oxford-street, London, nearly opposite Hanway-street.

THE "APPS" BREWERY, LITTLEHAM, BIDEFORD, NORTH DEVON.

"APPS" ALE—"APPS" PALE ALE.

The peculiar excellence of these Ales (independently of being, as says the *Lancet* in July, 1854, "clear, sparkling, and well brewed") is derived from the presence in the "APPS SPRING" from which they are brewed of the finest Saline and Tonic matter in singular combination.

The well-known Chemist, Herapath, in a letter to the Rev. J. L. Harding (owner of the "Apps" Estate), writes as follows:—

"Bristol, 1853.
"Sir,—I take it for granted you have received my report, in which I have stated your SPRING to be a good brewing water, with Tonic and other properties, &c., &c."
"WILLIAM HERAPATH, F.C.S."

The same great authority bears evidence to the purity and excellence of the Ale:—

"Bristol, 1854.

"To the Proprietor of the 'Apps' Brewery.
"Sir,—I have examined and analysed four specimens of your Beer of various strengths; I find them clear, sound, and well brewed, &c., &c. I have no doubt your Beers will become popular."
"WILLIAM HERAPATH, F.C.S."

The celebrated Dr. Ure expresses great satisfaction, and says:—

"Having submitted to chemical examination a sample of the 'APPS ALE,' I find it to be clear, sound, and well fermented, most grateful to the taste, and supplying a wholesome and invigorating beverage."
"London, 1855." "ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S."

Many other Medical Men in London have strongly recommended these Ales, on account of their purity and freedom from adulteration.

Dr. Bright writes:—
"I have examined a sample of the 'APPS ALE,' and can with great confidence recommend it as a most wholesome and nutritious beverage."
"London, 1855." "JAMES BRIGHT, M.D."

For particulars, apply to W. D. BRAGINTON, Esq., Bideford.

Accounts collected Monthly.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

THIS pure and genuine transparent Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, long known and justly appreciated on the Continent, has now acquired the general confidence of the Medical Profession in this country, by whom it has been extensively and successfully prescribed, and with almost immediate and remarkably beneficial results—in many instances where ordinary Cod Liver Oil had been copiously, though ineffectually, administered.

Being invariably and carefully submitted to chemical analysis—and supplied in sealed bottles, so as to preclude any subsequent admixture or adulteration—the physician and the patient may alike rely upon a genuine medicine, and, so far as is possible, anticipate a uniform, regular, and certain result.

Sold in bottles, capsuled and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAL, HARFORD, and CO., 77, STRAND, London, Dr. de Jongh's sole accredited Consignees and Agents; and IN THE COUNTRY by respectable Chemists.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

A MERICAN SARSAPARILLA.

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 females than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 77, Strand, adjoining Exeter Hall: POMEROY, ANDREWS and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 4s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mammoth, 11s.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.

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

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

BATHS and TOILETTE WARE.—WILLIAM S. BURTON

has ONE LARGE SHOW-ROOM devoted exclusively to the DISPLAY of BATHS and TOILETTE WARE. The Stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices, proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country. Portable Showers, 7s. 6d.; Pillow Showers, 3l. to 5l.; Nursery, 15s. to 32s.; Sponging, 15s. to 32s.; Hip, 14s. to 31s. 6d. A large assortment of Gas Furnace, Hot and Cold Plunge, Vapour, and Camp Shower Baths.—Toilette Ware in great variety from 15s. 6d. to 45s. the Set of Three.

THE BEST SHOW of IRON BED-STEADS in the KINGDOM

is WILLIAM S. BURTON'S. He has TWO VERY LARGE ROOMS, which are devoted to the EXCLUSIVE SHOW of Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Children's Cots, with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses. Common Iron Bedsteads, from 16s.; Portable Folding Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 17s. 6d.; and Cots, from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 2l. 13s. 6d. to 15l. 15s.

PAPIER MACHE AND IRON TEA-TRAYS.

An assortment of Tea Trays and Waiters wholly unprecedented, whether as to extent, variety, or novelty. New Oval Papier Maché Trays, per set of three ... from 20s. 0d. to 10 guineas. Ditto, Iron ditto ... from 13s. 0d. to 4 guineas. Convex shape ditto ... from 7s. 6d. Round and Gothic waiters, cake and bread baskets, equally low.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIXTEEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS devoted to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including cutlery, nickel silver, plated and japan wares, iron and brass bedsteads, and bedding), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

39, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); 1, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE. Established A. D. 1820.

CHILDREN'S BEDSTEADS AND BEDDING.—HEAL and SON'S

Stock of Children's Cots, Cribs, and Bedsteads contains every Design and Size that is manufactured, both in Wood and Iron, which, together with their large assortment of every other description of Bedstead, will be found worthy of inspection. They also beg to call attention to their show of BEDROOM FURNITURE, of which their New Ware-Rooms enable them to keep such an assortment that Customers may select all the articles for the complete furnishing of a Bedroom. An ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of BEDSTEADS, containing upwards of One Hundred different Designs, sent free by post.—HEAL and SON, Bedstead and Bedding, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham Court-road.

READ'S GARDEN ENGINES (SYRINGES, &c.)

When an article of real utility attracts public attention, imitators start into the field to snatch from the inventor the just reward of his labours. It has now become a daily practice to exhibit in the windows of ironmongers and others Syringes of the VERY COMMONEST DESCRIPTION, with the words "READ'S PATENT," as an inducement to purchasers. This, as an eminent writer on Horticulture has recently remarked on the subject, is indeed "living upon another man's fame." READ'S Instruments have the Royal Arms, with the Address—35, REGENT CIRCUS, LONDON. ** Descriptions sent post free.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT DEANE'S Ironmongery and Furnishing Warehouses. Established A.D. 1700. A Priced Furnishing List, free by post. DEANE, DRAY, and CO. (Opening to the Monument), London-bridge.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c., for VARIOUS AFFECTIONS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWEATING OF THE LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. Postage, 6d.

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK.

The Temple-Bar Branch of this Bank was OPENED YESTERDAY at the Temporary Offices, No. 211, Strand. Mr. Ward who was for thirty years in the Bank of Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Co., has been appointed the Manager. J. W. GILBERT, General Manager. Lothbury, June 16, 1855.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847. The Court of Directors grant LETTERS of CREDIT and BILLS upon the Company's Bank at ADELAIDE at PAR. Approved drafts negotiated and sent for collection. Business with the Australian colonies generally conducted through the Bank's Agents. Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street, London. WILLIAM PURDY, Manager. London, June, 1855.

ST. GEORGE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

118, PALL-MALL, LONDON. Capital, 100,000l., in Shares of 5l. each. Deposit, 1l. per Share.

(On which Interest, at the rate of 5l. per cent. per annum, exclusive of Dividend, is guaranteed by the Deed of Settlement.)

Chairman—Viscount RANELAGH, Park-place, St. James's. Deputy-Chairman—HENRY POWNALL, Esq., Ladbrooke-square, Notting-hill.

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