

By Alfred Edmund Falloway, Esq. of London.

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"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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Review of the Week.

ALTHOUGH Ministers transacted the white-bait dinner in the most regular manner on Saturday, the Commons have been impudent enough to prolong their discussions, and the House will not break up this week. The impudence of the Commons in thus hindering the official arrangements will be the more apparent when we show how clearly the duty of members lay before them. They had accomplished the greater part of the sessional business, they had voted all the money, and rejected several of the Ministerial Bills—quite enough to satisfy the natural malignity of man. In fact, they had tired themselves out with work and had gone—that is the majority had gone; leaving the House in possession of those members whose official duties or parliamentary rank is thought to entail the obligation of stopping to the close.

Ministers even went beyond the necessity in order to fulfil their pledges to the House. For instance, Mr. VERNON SMITH had promised that a statement of the Indian Finance should be brought forward; and although he might have well found excuse for delay in advancing the measure until prevented by the close of the session, he honourably fulfilled his promise; giving a very able *résumé* of those works in India and of the state of the revenue—which might have been compiled from the Indian papers, if it had been worth while to do so.

So long as the House of Commons sits, members will bring forward their motions. Sir JOHN FITZGERALD, for example, desired to obtain the interference of Parliament, or of Government, to enforce good faith in payment of Spanish bonds—payment at least of the interest. Spain has a magnificent mode of arranging its money difficulties: it borrows money on terms of exorbitant interest, which is of course deducted from the principal in the usual way. It then finds that it has not had 100% for every 100% of stock nominally sold, discovers that there is something to chaffer about, and delays; the interest is much accumulated, Spain then "capitalizes" the arrears, and begins again with no settled purpose whatever of accomplishing the new bargain literally. Sir JOHN asked Ministers to interfere, but Lord PALMERSTON declined to pay the debts of Spain.

Again Mr. HERWOOD desired to obtain a revision of the Holy Scriptures by competent hands,

the whole of the volume being at present under the discredit entailed by the known fact, that a large number of passages are entirely distorted in sense. But Sir GEORGE GREY objected to the motion, as tending "to unsettle the faith in the Bible." We cannot conceive how a correct translation of the volume could unsettle the public confidence so much as the distinct parliamentary announcement that the text is very erroneous and misleading.

We do not believe that even that announcement will unsettle public reverence for ecclesiastical institutions half so much as the strange debates upon the Bishop of London and Durham Retirement Bill, or the correspondence upon which the bill is based. We now have more of the story. The two bishops are completely superannuated; they offered to resign if they were paid, the one 6000*l.*, the other 4500*l.* a year; Lord PALMERSTON at once perceived the propriety of acceding to that proposal, which permits men burdened with years to retire honourably, creates two vacancies in the episcopal bench, and opens the way for episcopal resignation. Leading members of the House of Commons resisted the measure. They find that there is no law permitting the retirement of bishops; well, here is a law supplied. They object that to stipulate for money in resigning the offices of the Church is simony. Not at all, since the bargain is quite open. They also object to being forced into a decision without having time to deliberate; but, replies Government, there is no necessity for deliberation: two bishops are so old that they cannot wait, our measure is quite reasonable, your own supporters have gone away to rusticate for the summer, we have the majority, and you *must* pass the bill. Bill read a second time.

Even proposals to facilitate may become hindrances. Mr. WILKINSON, for example, brought forward a motion for a new standing order, fixing one hour as the maximum of duration for any one speech. The proposal is specious, but not likely to be successful, even if carried; which is of course out of the question. While telling the longest and almost the best speakers that they must not talk for more than one hour, it would practically proclaim to all members whatsoever that they were perfectly free to talk for that time. Is it not probable that we should have a great increase of speakers, each man talking for exactly sixty minutes? The proposal was rejected by 57 to 30.

There have been not a few Parliamentary scan-

dals this week. Lord CLARENDON has been obliged to confess, in the presence of the Peers, that Russia has dismantled the fortresses of Ismail and Reni, contrary to the treaty: the strongholds were to have been surrendered to Turkey; but such are the independence and good faith of our Government, that no attempt will be made to compel a better observance of the treaty on the part of Russia.

Meanwhile Lord PALMERSTON, having a grudge against Brazil because it resented his dictating in the internal administration of that empire, continues to preserve towards it a position of great hostility. Now Brazil has been conspicuous, first for treating its slaves with humanity, next for facilitating the emancipation of slaves, then for putting every check upon the dealing in slaves—slave trade being prohibited, and being continued only by help of a contraband trade which has been impeded but not entirely suppressed. Brazil is a valuable customer, interchanging commerce with England; it is governed by a constitution, and is strictly an outpost of those ideas in politics and trade which we ought to support. Lord CLARENDON's confession of our present attitude towards Brazil is humiliating.

Lord LUCAN and Mr. VILLIERS have been speaking at each other from their several Houses. Lord LUCAN has accused Mr. VILLIERS, by implication, of having been partial in the exercise of his duty at the Chelsea inquiry. Now the charge is the harder, since the JUDGE-ADVOCATE was generally considered to favour Lord LUCAN by allowing him a most outrageous licence in the time and tone of his speaking; and this is how Mr. VILLIERS is repaid!

It is the more difficult to understand why Lord LUCAN should not be satisfied, since we have the Chelsea report, which ought to be a real triumph for him. The purport of this document, indeed, has a more than poetical justice,—it has a most exact distribution of happy endings. The persons accused in the report of Sir JOHN McNEILL and Colonel TULLOCH of not properly providing for the cavalry horses were Lord LUCAN, Lord CARDIGAN, Sir RICHARD AIRBY, Colonel GORDON, and Mr. Commissary-General FILDER. The Lord is absolutely acquitted, the knightly General shares the perfect approval, the simple Colonel is neither acquitted nor condemned, the Commissary-General is let off with excuses, but the civilian home-keeping head of the Commissariat, Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN, is saddled with the responsibility.

bility of the disasters in the East. There is a degree of moral force in the retribution which has thus come on that home-keeping martinet. The avowed principle of the report is that all these officers had made the "necessary requisition," and if they did not get what they asked for, the fault lay with somebody else. Upon similar showing, any General might plead excuse for a defeat in the field that he had passed the necessary parade orders to his men. Since Colonel TULLOCH broke down under the bullying, Sir JOHN McNEILL declined to attend, and only half the case was before the judicial board of General Officers, they of course found it the more easy to deliver this one-sided judgment; just like the Irish judge, who said that he never found any difficulty in deciding a case till he heard the other side.

Some inquiry continues to be made respecting the two great frauds that have engaged attention for so many months. On Thursday night Mr. ROEBUCK moved to expel JAMES SADLER, the accomplice of JOHN in the vast frauds of the Tipperary Bank; and in the Bankruptcy Court, on the same day, there was a further instalment of JOSEPH WINDLE COLE's disclosures, tending to elucidate that extensive branch of commerce. There is a good deal of sympathy for JOSEPH, who was once so wealthy and is now so candid; but the stern House of Commons extracts from Lord PALMERSTON a promise that JAMES SADLER, Esq., shall not be appointed Steward to Her Majesty's Manor of the Chiltern Hundreds, so as to evade any formalities designed for him by Mr. ROEBUCK on taking leave of the House.

The smaller and more ferocious criminal, DOVE, has been treated by jury and judge provisionally. As to the fact, there was no doubt—he poisoned his wife; the difficulty was, to determine whether he was actually insane, or only a very low type of the brute and fool. The jury pronounced him guilty, but recommended him to mercy on the score of deficient intellect; which is as much as to say that he was sane, but may have been insane. The judge following up this indecisive decision, sentenced him to be hanged, and enjoined him not to entertain hopes "which may be delusive"—and of course may not be delusive. The proper mode of fulfilling this sentence would be to provide for the hanging, and to let him escape; instead of grappling with him as madman and brute that he is, and subjecting him to the discipline that might tame the animal, call his condition what you will.

But the criminal classes are getting on better in high quarters. One of the greatest scoundrels that the world has ever seen is now the successful Minister of Spain. O'DONNELL, a soldier of fortune who made his riches as the accomplice of unlawful slave-trading in Cuba,—who lent himself to ESPARTEO's liberal ministry for the purpose of playing cuckoo in that nest,—has now turned out his chief, and has accomplished a real rebellion in Spain, none the less lawless or criminal since he has seduced the Queen into aiding it. He used his position suddenly to eject the unenergetic ESPARTEO, to take military possession of the capital, and to throw the whole country under martial law. There is an instant rush of Spaniards of all persuasions from the French capital. The French Emperor, too, appoints an "army of observation" to watch the frontier; but Lord PALMERSTON affirms that NAPOLEON will not follow the example of previous French monarchs, by burning his fingers in Spanish intrigues.

Oh, no, NAPOLEON is at present turning his eye entirely to works of peace. He has put forth a vast engineering scheme, to save France from those great inundations which have hitherto at uncertain periods ravaged France. The proposal is conveyed in a letter to the Minister of Public Works, and is very striking. The Emperor seems to have studied the dynamics of the matter. He finds that water flowing over low lands is sponged up, and runs away slowly; but shed upon Alpine slopes, it accumulates, and rushes down in a

broad rapid torrent. In Switzerland the lakes receive these sudden floods, and hold them until they can gradually flow away through the channels between the rocks. The Emperor would imitate nature. He would make great artificial lakes to collect the floods, and would construct weirs in the natural channels to check the flow where it commences, and so to render it slow and manageable; and this he thinks can be done at a practicable expense, with a certainty of preventing those disasters for which dikes are but treacherous palliations, failing when they are most wanted. NAPOLEON THE FIRST caused himself to be struck on a medal in the likeness of Jove dictating to the earth with the thunderbolt in his right hand: the new NAPOLEON takes his attributes from the Christian era, and presents himself to his admiring subjects as a special agent of Divine Providence, regulating the elements of nature, and subduing them to the service of man.

Mr. MECHI's annual gathering at Tiptree Hall has been the leading agricultural event of the week. It is a singular fact, and strikingly illustrative of the working of our free institutions, that a London tradesman, who has made a fortune by retailing razor-strops, finds himself influential enough to attract every year to a remote village in the heart of Essex assemblages of several hundred persons, many of them eminent in political and diplomatic life, luminaries in the learned professions, or leaders in the great social and sanitary movements of the day. Nor is it less remarkable, as indicating the practical sagacity of our national character, that the individual who has acquired this influence, so far from being distinguished by any uncommon attainments, has not himself contributed a single invention, great or small, to agricultural and sanitary progress, but owes his success solely to the persevering energy and enterprize with which he has embraced and executed the valuable discoveries of others, so as to turn to practical account the chemical researches of such men as WAY and LIEBIG, and the philosophica lconceptions of such reformers as F. O. WARD. Perhaps Mr. MECHI's heartiness and good humour contribute to his success; and these qualities were never more conspicuous than last Saturday, when he exhibited his tubular irrigation works, his sanitary cattle-sheds, and his luxuriant wheat and grass crops, with all his usual liveliness of exposition; and after a sumptuous dinner, and a series of complimentary speeches (for which, by the way, speaking of a more practical character might well be substituted on future occasions), the guests returned to town, strengthened, doubtless, in their adhesion to the principles of tubular sewage collection, and of tubular sewage irrigation; and, perhaps, even prepared to entertain the still more recent and bolder innovation of duplicate drainage, embodied in Mr. F. O. WARD's formula—"All the rainfall due to the river, all the sewage due to the soil."

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.—On Monday evening last, Mr. Alderman Spiers entertained, at his father's late residence at Ifley, the whole of the persons employed at his establishments in the High-street and Corn-market. They proceeded by water from Christ Church meadow soon after five o'clock in the afternoon, and on reaching Ifley, the party, numbering about forty, exclusive of six or eight of the juvenile portion of Mr. Spiers's family, partook of tea and coffee. The remainder of the evening was spent in various out-door amusements until nine o'clock, when the party sat down to an elegant supper. Mr. Alderman Spiers presided, and his superintendent of the High-street establishment, Mr. Harvey, officiated as vice-chairman. On the conclusion of the supper, loyal and appropriate toasts were done justice to in sundry bowls of punch, while the more abstemious were supplied with copious draughts from the crystal spring. Many addresses of an interesting and gratifying nature were delivered in the course of the evening, and it was delightful to witness the kindly feeling which exists between the employer and the employed, and the degree of unity which predominated among the youngest and oldest, and the highest and lowest members of these establishments. The superintendent of the Corn-market establishment, Mr. Seaman, took occasion to communicate to the party that Mr. Spiers was about to give another practical illustration of his desire to promote their welfare, by conceding a half-holiday every Saturday afternoon to one-third of his establishment, without making any deduction from their wages. This announcement, which was quite unexpected, was received with the utmost enthusiasm and satisfaction. The song and toast passed merrily round, and it would be difficult to find any gathering where so much good feeling prevailed, or a greater desire to contribute to each other's happiness.—Oxford Journal.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, July 21st.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Royal assent was by commission to several bills.—Lord PANMURE the table the report of the Crimean Commission. The LORD CHANCELLOR mentioned that, next, he intended to bring in a bill for the registration of mortgages and other encumbrances on real property.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE STATUTE LAW.

The LORD CHANCELLOR laid on the table a bill, intended to consolidate the statute certain departments of jurisprudence. It is a bill that officers should be appointed to perform, with to public bills, the duty which is in a great measure discharged by the examiner of private bills; a similar officer should be appointed in a similar both Houses, with a competent staff. His duty not be to interfere with the policy of bills, whose course rests with the legislature; but it happens even in Government bills, there being no one whether they harmonize with existing law, or clash with the language of existing statute blunders crept in every session. The measures on the table, the commissioners believed, embodied the enactments of forty acts of Parliament, and of 150 others, and from his own inspection of it believed that they did all that they professed to do, rule which the commissioners had laid down for guidance in framing these bills was to make no change in the law; but in some few cases it had been that that rule could not be adhered to. It had been an object with the commissioners to maintain nearly as possible the language of the acts consolidated; but, inasmuch as they found that the offences were described sometimes in one set of words and at others in another, they had adopted the words which they thought the best, and had adhered to it throughout. At present, the written laws of the country extend over forty volumes, and embrace 15,000 acts of Parliament. The commissioners thought that the whole might be reduced to about 300, were sanguine enough to say 250) statutes which all be brought within the compass of three moderate sized volumes.

The bills were read a first time.

The BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM RETIRED. A BILL was read a third time, and passed.

DISPUTE WITH BRAZIL.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called the attention of the House to the dispute which had arisen between the English Government and Brazil, owing to the courteous behaviour of our minister at Rio, on a arising out of the slave trade, and to his having supported by Lord Clarendon. The noble lord concluded by moving for papers connected with the case, which had arisen from an apprehension justified by the English Minister at Rio that preparations were being made for the extension of the slave trade in Brazil. The Government had the duty to be their duty to support its agent abroad, but happy to say that, after the mutual explanation had been given, the Brazilian Government harboured no ill-will against the Government of this country. Some observations from Lords ABERDEEN and MALMESBURY, the motion for papers was agreed to.

THE LATE WAR.

Lord MALMESBURY asked Lord Clarendon if it was true that the fortresses of Reni and Isma been dismantled by the Russians; whether any fortresses would be erected on that river; and whether a new Russian minister might be expected to arrive in the country.

Lord CLARENDON replied he had no doubt that the fortresses in question had been dismantled, the Russian conceiving that they had a right to treat them as chose up to the time of handing them over to the Russian. With respect to the arrival of a new Russian Minister, information had been received that Count Crep had been appointed to the Russian Legation in the country.—After some further discussion (in the course of which the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH and the LORD DERBY expressed their opinion that there had been neglect on our part in the matter), the subject dropped.

THE RAJAH OF COORG.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE complained of hardships to which he said the Rajah of Coorg had been subjected, in not being allowed by the East India Company leave of absence in this country for more than a year, where he was prosecuting a claim in the against the Company, who threatened that, if he regarded their injunctions, they would stop his allowance or a considerable portion of it.—The Duke of ABERDEEN, who professed to be not very well informed as to the circumstances of the case, said that the Rajah was a prisoner of war; that the Company had a right to detain him; that the term of his absence from India; and that the demand to return could hardly be called a tyrannical one. The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said the Board of Directors had no power whatever in this matter, but at the time he thought the conduct of the East India Company in withholding the Rajah's stipend was very ungenerous.

and most unwise. The 80,000*l.* for which the Rajah and the Company was a prize of war seized by the English troops when the Rajah's ancestor was deposed by force of arms. It belonged more to the Crown than to the East India Company; and under these circumstances he would suggest that the attention of the law officers of the Crown should be drawn to the subject.

THE IRISH MILITIA.

Lord DUNGANNON inquired of Lord PANMURE whether he had received any official communication of the dismissal of fifty-seven men of the city of Limerick Artillery Militia from Youghal on the 5th inst., who were suffered to depart, many of them with scarcely any clothing, and who had to proceed all the way to Limerick with only sixpence allotted to each individual? And also, whether it was correct that two hundred and forty men were discharged on the 10th inst. from the Curragh, belonging to the Mayo Rifles, to find their way home, with only one day's pay allotted to them, and that about an equal number of the Queen's County Militia were sent away without any clothing whatever?—Lord PANMURE said he had received no information to the effect indicated by Lord Dungannon.

STANDING ORDERS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the report of the Standing Orders' Revision Committee, a discussion arose upon a proposed additional order relating to grants from the Indian revenue, which was finally agreed to in an amended form, the House thereby resolving that it would not receive any petition or proceed upon any motion for a charge upon the revenues of the East India Company without the consent of the Crown.

THE GERMAN TROOPS AT ALDERSHOTT.

A rather warm discussion ensued on a motion by Mr. MURROUGH for the adjournment of the House. The hon. gentleman diverged into some angry remarks on the favouritism shown to the German troops at Aldersholt; but he was interrupted, on the question of order by Mr. WALPOLE, who urged that some reasons should be given for moving the adjournment. To this, Mr. MURROUGH retorted that he was about to state his reasons.—The SPEAKER thought that Mr. Walpole had very properly stated the rule in such matters.—Mr. MURROUGH then proceeded:—"It becomes us, as representatives of the public, to speak boldly. The public are indignant on this question. They feel that those troops are countenanced. (*Loud cries of 'Order, order!'*) This may be against the feelings of many hon. gentlemen, but I understand that these men at Aldersholt have their huts furnished for them at the expense of this country."—Here, Mr. SPOONER rose to order; the SPEAKER again protested; and a good deal of excited conversation followed, in the course of which, Mr. MURROUGH said his reason for moving the adjournment was that, in his opinion, no business ought to be proceeded with until the House had some statement from the Government on so important a question.—Colonel BUCK thought this was a reason why the House should not adjourn.—Mr. MURROUGH having at length put a definite question in connexion with his cause of complaint, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the German Legion is only accommodated temporarily at Aldersholt, and will be removed as soon as arrangements can be made. The furniture for the huts supplied to the English officers consists of two chairs, a table, and a fire-range; anything beyond that they provide themselves. When the German Legion was stationed at Shorncliffe, they applied for an additional indulgence, and that additional indulgence was a soldier's bed and mattress. It so happened that there were some to spare in the ordnance stores, and, considering the short time they had to be there, the accommodation was afforded. The same indulgence had been granted at Aldersholt; but the Germans had had nothing more than what has been furnished to the English officers.

In answer to Mr. NEWDEGATE, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Foreign Legion is not available for garrison or for active duty within the United Kingdom.

THE RECENT COAL MINE EXPLOSION.

Mr. CAXLEY asked whether the Government intends to employ any special means to ascertain the real circumstances under which the disastrous loss of one hundred and ten (some said one hundred and twenty) lives had just taken place from an explosion in a coal mine in Glamorganshire?—Sir GEORGE GREY answered that three inspectors would attend the adjourned inquest, and assist in a searching investigation.

THE BURNING OF THE EUROPA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Captain ARCHDALL, stated that the Government intends to take into consideration the propriety of erecting a monument to the memory of Colonel Moore and the men lost by the burning of the Europa in 1854.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in answer to Mr. HADFIELD, stated that he did not intend to proceed this session with the CRIMINAL APPROPRIATION AND TRUST PROPERTY BILL; and Mr. BAINES, in answer to Lord ROBERT CECIL, said that the DULWICH COLLEGE BILL would be withdrawn for the present.

THE CRIMEAN INQUIRY REPORT.

Mr. VILLIERS brought up the report of the Crimean Commissioners, and at the same time indignantly repelled a remark attributed to Lord Lucan, that he (Mr. Villiers) had delayed the report for the purpose of

serving the objects of the Minister of War. He could hardly believe that the noble lord had made such a statement, because "it would be impossible for any man to utter a more unmitigated and unequivocal untruth." He had not drawn up the report, nor had he delayed it; indeed, he had not the means of delaying it. So far from the inquiry having been biased by political prejudices against Lord Lucan, every member of the Board was of the same politics as his lordship, and three of the members were political partisans of the Earl.—General PEEL confirmed Mr. Villiers's statements as to the fairness of the Board's proceedings, and the groundlessness of the charge brought forward by Lord Lucan.

MR. JAMES SADLEIR.

On the unopposed motion of Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. James Sadleir was ordered to attend in his place on Thursday.

EAST INDIA BUDGET.

On the question that the House go into committee to consider the East India Company's revenue account, Mr. ISAAC BUTT moved, as an amendment, that the House go into committee to consider the claims of his Highness Meer Ali Moorad, for the unjust confiscation of his revenues and territories.—The SPEAKER decided that this amendment was out of order, and the House therefore went into committee on the Indian Budget.

Mr. VERNON SMITH then made his annual statement. On the head of revenue, the balance-sheet of income and expenditure had shown a deficit of two millions sterling in the financial year 1853-4, and of one million in 1854-5; it was expected to show a deficiency of one and a half million for the twelve months now current. This result, however, was attributable to the large expenditure incurred for public works, which would, he believed in the end, amply repay their cost. He had been mistaken in supposing last year that the deficiency was solely attributed to public works; other causes had contributed. With regard to the sources of revenue, it would be necessary to make a new survey and a fresh assessment for Madras. Upon the whole, he thought there was no reason to despair of a surplus revenue from the ordinary sources; but it would be necessary to diminish expenditure. The army it would be impolitic to reduce; but he thought the salaries in the civil service were far too high. He had also recommended large reductions with respect to public works. Passing from financial to general considerations, Mr. Vernon Smith described the state of India as tranquil. The possession of Herat by the Persians is in violation of treaty, and intimation to that effect had been given to Persia. Should that occupation not cease, the honour of the English Crown must be vindicated, and the treaty maintained. The annexation of Oude was absolutely necessary, considering the conduct of the King, and he therefore denied the justice of the charge that had been brought against the Indian Government of a tendency to annexation. Material improvements were advancing in India. The electric telegraph, under the direction of Dr. O'Shaughnessy, had been protracted four thousand miles at an expense of 2,000,000*l.* Alterations had been made in the Post-office; reforms, which were much needed, were in progress in connexion with the police; torture was being suppressed and education encouraged. With respect to the latter subject, the hon. gentleman observed that directors and inspectors of schools had been appointed, and educational establishments of some pretension had been commenced in various places. In some of these, meetings were held, at which an English essay was read, and occasional discussions took place in the vernacular tongue. He could not, however, but confess that he was not altogether satisfied with the progress of education, and trusted that on the next occasion he should have a more satisfactory statement to offer on this head. Connected with this subject was the question as to what was done at home with regard to the examinations of candidates in this country. The total number of candidates examined this year was fifty-six, just one-half of the number who presented themselves last year. *Viva voce* examinations had been here substituted for written replies, with great success. It had been objected by the member for Enniskillen that Irishmen had been uniformly excluded from the bench of India. He (Mr. Vernon Smith) had taken occasion to inquire into that subject, and he found that the hon. member's complaint was in fact a just one. When, therefore, vacancies occurred in the places of three judges, he had filled up those vacancies by appointing two members of the Irish bar and an Irish gentleman. Mr. Vernon Smith concluded by moving certain resolutions in accordance with the topics included in his speech.

Sir ERSKINE PERRY complained that the Court of Directors of the East India Company, though merely trustees for the Crown, assumed powers, and expended money out of the revenues of India, independently of the Board of Control. There were some discrepancies between the speech of Mr. Vernon Smith and the statements of Lord Dalhousie and of the Indian authorities with respect to the finances of India and to the amount expended upon public works. A reform in the administration of justice in India was a need of most pressing importance; but it would be extremely injudicious to effect a large saving by reducing the salaries of civil servants, among whom there should be introduced a large number of natives. The annexation of

Oude he looked on as impolitic and unjust. Solemn treaties had been set aside, and the name of England had been tarnished; but the fault rested, not so much, as he once thought, with Lord Dalhousie (for he had expressed an opinion against annexation) as with the Court of Directors.—Sir JAMES HOGG defended the annexation of Oude, on account of the atrocities practised by the King.—Mr. HEADLAM condemned the course pursued towards the Indian Law Commission; and Mr. LOWE, on behalf of his colleagues of the Law Commission, did not scruple to say that, if they had supposed that, after the enormous labour they had undergone, the result would be sent to India to be reported upon there, they would not have undertaken the task.—Mr. OTWAY severely criticized the Indian Government and the East India Company for several instances of mismanagement and injustice.—Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR replied, and explained that the discrepancy in the accounts relating to public works was owing to the accounts having been made up under the old system: next year, matters would be more uniform. Great progress was being made in the civilization of India.—Mr. MANGLES also defended the Indian Government. Mr. ISAAC BUTT briefly called attention to the hard treatment of Meer Ali Moorad.—Mr. VERNON SMITH, in a brief reply, explained, with reference to the report of the law commission, that he was not aware that any compact had been entered into with the commissioners that their recommendations should at once become law. From communications he had had with his noble friend Lord Canning, he entertained no doubt that the recommendations of the commissioners would be carried into effect as speedily as possible. The Commissioners on the Penal Code had also reported, and he hoped the Legislative Council would be enabled at an early period to give effect to the most important suggestions contained in their report.—In answer to Mr. OTWAY, he said he was not aware that Mr. Theobald, the law professor at the Calcutta Institute, who first brought the subject of torture in India under the notice of that House, had been dismissed from office. If he had been, he did not believe that it was owing, as Mr. Otway hinted, to revenge on the part of the East India Company. The resolutions were then agreed to, and the House resumed.

The Lords' amendments on the PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL were thrown out after some discussion.

The BISHOPS' RETIREMENT BILL was read a first time.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION (HOUSE OF LORDS) BILL.

On the motion of Mr. RAIKES CURRIE, the following members were nominated as a select committee on the above bill:—Mr. Raikes Currie, Lord John Russell, Mr. Attorney-General, Sir James Graham, Mr. Henley, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Stanley, the Lord Advocate, Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. Walpole, Sir Francis Baring, Mr. Baines, Mr. Cairns, Mr. Evelyn Denison, and Mr. Malins.

The subjoined bills were read a third time, and passed:—The CHARITIES BILL, the HOSPITALS (DUBLIN) BILL, the BURIAL GROUNDS (IRELAND) BILL, the MERCANTILE LAW AMENDMENT BILL, the LUNATIC ASYLUM SUPERANNUATION (IRELAND) BILL, and the JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES BILL.

Tuesday, July 22nd.

LORD LUCAN AND THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE OF THE CRIMEAN BOARD.

Lord LUCAN called attention to the charges brought against him by Mr. Villiers in the House of Commons on the previous evening, and asserted that that gentleman had misrepresented what he (Lord Lucan) had said on a previous occasion. He merely intended to offer a few remarks on certain defects in the construction of military courts, as evidenced by the Chelsea Board, and on the impropriety of making a political partizan the legal adviser of such bodies. He denied that he had charged Mr. Villiers with purposely delaying the report, and he repudiated the insinuation that he had had communication with Lord Hardinge on matters connected with the proceedings of the Board, and with their report. His Lordship concluded:—"I would give a piece of advice to the learned gentleman, which is, that holding as he does a judicial situation, and being supposed thereby to have the benefit of judicial immunity, he should in future be a little more careful in the language he uses when speaking of others."—To this, Lord PANMURE replied:—"Having heard the observations that have just been made by the noble Earl, I think I cannot do better than give him the advice he has just given to the learned Judge-Advocate, viz., to be a little more careful in the language he applies to others. I certainly understood, and it must be within the recollection of your lordships, that the noble Earl asserted that the Judge-Advocate had drawn up the report of the commission, and that he used his position to delay the production of that report. He was so understood not only by myself, but also by those members of the board who have a seat in this House." By the remarks he had just made, his Lordship had been bringing into contempt a high authority, not only of the Crown, but of the service to which he himself belongs. "I will enter," concluded the Secretary for War, "into no controversy between two parties in different Houses of Parliament, but this much I must say, that, if a high officer of the Crown is to be attacked and to have charges made against him in this House, you

lordships must not be surprised if, being entirely innocent of those charges, he takes an opportunity of vindicating himself in another place."

The CONSOLIDATED FUND APPROPRIATION BILL and the COAST GUARD SERVICE BILL passed through committee, after some discussion of a desultory character.—Various other bills also passed through committee without discussion.

The FORMATION, &c., OF PARISHES, the COURTS OF COMMON LAW (IRELAND), the UNLAWFUL OATHS (IRELAND), the NUISANCES REMOVAL, &c. (SCOTLAND), and the MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILLS, were severally read a third time, and passed.

At the early sitting of the HOUSE OF COMMONS, the COUNTY COURTS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL was read a third time, and passed. Some amendments were proposed by the Government, one of which, the SPEAKER ruled, could not be put, because it increased the charge on the public, a course which could not be taken on the third reading.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of this bill, Mr. HENLEY said he could not see the utility of appointing an official with a large salary and without any defined duties to be discharged; and he moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a third time that day three months.—Mr. GLADSTONE seconded the amendment. He regretted to find that the House of Commons seemed to have lost the wholesome jealousy with which it formerly regarded the creation of new offices with large salaries.—The measure was defended by Sir GEORGE GREY; and, after considerable discussion, the amendment was rejected by 77 to 35.—The bill was read a third time, and passed.

OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

In reply to Mr. MILNER GIBSON, Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government had not decided on the new Minister to the United States.

POLITICAL PRISONERS.

Sir GEORGE GREY, replying to Mr. DUNCOMBE, said that the persons convicted of high treason in September, 1820, would receive the benefit of the late amnesty, if any of them should be still alive.

THE AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved an address for the appointment of a Royal Commission, consisting of learned men well skilled in the original languages of the Holy Scriptures, and conversant with modern Biblical scholarship, to consider of such amendments of the authorized version of the Bible as have been already proposed, and to receive suggestions from all persons who may be willing to offer them; to point out errors of translation, and such words and phrases as have either changed their meaning or become obsolete in the lapse of time; and to report the amendments which they may be prepared to recommend. Mr. Heywood admitted that, unless public opinion was in favour of the proposition, it would not be prudent to move in it.—Sir GEORGE GREY concurred in the latter remark, and, believing that the notion was not in accordance with public opinion, he thought it would be most unwise to adopt it. He was ready to admit that the translation now in use is susceptible, in some passages, of improvement; but, taken as a whole, he thought it well entitled to the respect, veneration, and confidence with which it is universally entertained.—The motion was withdrawn.

RESTRICTION OF THE LENGTH OF SPEECHES.

Mr. WILKINSON moved "That, except upon the introduction of a measure to the House, no member do speak for more than half an hour at one time upon the same question; nor upon any occasion for more than one hour." He denounced in humorous terms the waste of time and the sacrifice of business accruing from the habit of making long addresses, and observed that, though he had great pleasure, of course, in listening to those speeches, he was ready to sacrifice that pleasure for himself (laughter), and he hoped that other members would be as ready to relinquish it as he was. (Laughter.) There were 278 members of the House who never spoke at all. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) There were 209 members who never spoke for more than half an hour. There remained 170 members who spoke more than half an hour, and some of these spoke but seldom. The monopoly of long speeches was therefore confined to a few, so that he hoped his motion would meet with a favourable reception.—Lord PALMERSTON agreed that a good deal of time was wasted, and that much advantage would accrue from hon. members carefully digesting what they have to say before they say it; but he thought the particular proposition brought forward by Mr. Wilkinson would put an unconstitutional restraint upon the freedom of debate. The evil is not so great now as it was; long speeches being more common in former times than now, and there was once a certain member of whom it was related that he began his speech at five o'clock, and that a friend of his went to Clapham, dined, played whist, returned to the House, and found his friend still on his legs. (Laughter.) Time is now occupied more with the number of speeches than with the length of each speech—one of the results of the greater freedom arising from the Reform Bill; and there are now a greater number of members than formerly who can produce addresses, from the talent, knowledge, and learning of which the House

may well derive advantage. His Lordship advised Mr. Wilkinson to withdraw his motion, and rest satisfied with the effect which the discussion, combined with his own good example, must produce.—Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. W. J. FOX, attributed blame to the "leaders" on both sides of the House for adopting courses calculated to prolong debates, and give bad example to their followers.—The motion was lost by 57 to 80.

SPANISH BONDS.

A motion was made by Sir J. FITZGERALD, enforcing the claims of British subjects, the holders of certain Spanish Bonds, to an honourable settlement of the interest on their advances from the Spanish Government.—Lord PALMERSTON acknowledged the just and equitable claims of the parties in question, and that the conduct of the Spanish Cortes was neither just nor generous, but remarked on the inconvenience which might arise from any formal expression of opinion on the subject, on the part of the legislature, as fettering the action of the Government.—The motion was thereupon withdrawn.

GENERALS BEATSON AND VIVIAN.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved "That the Under-Secretary for War having admitted that, upon anonymous information, a secret inquiry had been ordered into the conduct of a general officer, this House feels itself bound to express its reprobation of such a proceeding." Mr. Roebuck expressed much indignation at the course so taken, and called upon the House, as a body of English gentlemen, to throw their shield over the honour of the English army. General Beatson, the officer alluded to, had performed most distinguished services, and bore the highest character; but a charge was now brought against him of having excited the men of the Turkish Contingent, whom he had formerly commanded, to mutiny against their officers. That charge involved, not only the honour, but the life, of General Beatson; yet a secret inquiry had been entered into on anonymous information. Such a proceeding was most unjust and discreditable.—Mr. FREDERICK PEEL was glad of an opportunity of explaining that he was wrong on a former occasion in stating that General Vivian had acted on anonymous information in reference to the charges against General Beatson. He had now to state that General Vivian acted upon information received from a source upon which he was justified in placing reliance. That communication was received from General Shirley in an official form. General Vivian was bound to bring the communication he had received to the knowledge of the War Department, and Lord PANMURE took the only course which was open to him, namely, to call for a preliminary inquiry, before determining whether more decided steps should follow.—Mr. ISAAC BUTT expressed a strong disapprobation of the course taken by the War-office.—Colonel FRENCH appealed to Lord Palmerston to exonerate General Beatson from the charges made against him.—Lord PALMERSTON replied that the honour of General Beatson had not been compromised by the proceedings which had been taken, and he advised the House to suspend its judgment till the result of the inquiry has been arrived at.—Colonel LINDSAY regarded Lord Palmerston's speech as "a premium on anonymous slander;" the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER defended the course that had been pursued; Mr. ROEBUCK replied, and the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 71 to 23.

BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM RETIREMENT BILL.

The second reading of this bill was moved by Lord PALMERSTON, who denied that there was anything simoniacal in it.—Mr. HENLEY moved the adjournment of the debate, assigning as a reason that the bill had not been delivered to members, and that consequently they were not in a position to enter upon the consideration of a measure of so much importance.—Mr. GLADSTONE seconded the amendment, and Lord PALMERSTON consented to the adjournment.

The LEASES AND SALE OF ESTATES BILL was read a third time, and passed.

Wednesday, July 23rd.

THE REPORT OF THE CHILSEA COMMISSIONERS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. KINNAIRD inquired whether the report of the Chelsea Commissioners would be printed before the prorogation of Parliament?—Mr. VILLIERS replied that he had hoped the report would have been printed before this, but that it would no doubt be ready in the course of a day or two. He added that he treated with the utmost indifference the personalities concerning himself which Lord LUCAN had indulged in in the House of Lords.—Mr. FRENCH said he considered the explanation given by Lord LUCAN on the previous evening—namely, that he had never intended to say anything which could be personally offensive to the right hon. gentleman—quite satisfactory.—The subject then dropped.

The GRAND JURIES, &c. (IRELAND) BILL, and the POOR LAW (IRELAND) BILL, were withdrawn.

BISHOPS RETIREMENT BILL.

The debate on the second reading of this bill was resumed by Sir WILLIAM HEATHCOTE, who moved that the measure be deferred for three months.—A long debate ensued, and considerable opposition was offered by Lord ROBERT CEIL, Mr. NAPIER, Mr. ROEBUCK, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, Mr. DUNCOMBE (who denounced the measure as "disgusting"), and Mr. GLADSTONE, who all

assumed positions similar to those taken by the opponents of the bill in the House of Lords, and argued that the character of such an act is simoniacal, that the amount of the retiring pensions is too large, that there is no necessity for a special measure to meet the cases in question, as the Church has already the power of appointing suffragan bishops, that a precedent is being established, that a general measure would be preferable to a specific measure, and that the resignation of a bishop should be pure, absolute, simple, and unconditional, whereas, in these cases, a bargain is made.—The bill was supported by Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, Mr. CARDWELL, Mr. BLACK, Mr. WALPOLE, Sir JOHN SHELLEY, Sir GEORGE GREY, and Lord PALMERSTON, who denied that there is anything simoniacal in the measure, and pleaded the necessity of relieving the Bishops of London and Durham of their duties.—The second reading was ultimately carried by 151 to 72.

The House then adjourned.

Thursday, July 24th.

THE MILITIA MUTINY AT NENAGH.

Lord PANMURE, in answer to the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, said that proper steps would be taken to bring the Nenagh mutineers to justice. There was one case of murder and several of assault, which would be handed over to be dealt with by the civil tribunals. With regard to the other offences, they were entirely of a military character, and would be dealt with by the military authorities accordingly. He thought it only right to take that opportunity of bearing his testimony to the admirable behaviour of the rest of the Irish militia.—This testimony was confirmed by the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, who quoted statistics to show that the desertions from the Irish militia had been much less than from the English or Scotch, and that the contributions to the regular army had been much greater. He looked upon the Irish militia, therefore, as incomparably the most valuable force of the kind we possess.

THE STAFF OF LORD RAGLAN.

Lord CALTHORPE complained that the Staff of Lord Raglan had been excluded from the French honours bestowed upon other officers. He wished to know whether the Government had not received some communication from the Emperor of the French with respect to his wishes in the matter.—After some remarks by the Duke of CLEVELAND (who thought a mistake had been accidentally made), and by Lord COLCHESTER (who regarded the distribution as incautious and unsatisfactory), Lord PANMURE stated that the responsibility for the selection of names did not rest with the Government, but with Generals Simpson and Codrington, who, he was sure, had acted without any favouritism. He had received no such communication as that indicated by Lord Calthorpe; but his predecessor at the War Office might have done so.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH protested against the principle of rewarding those soldiers and sailors who had not been under fire, and also against the reception of decorations from a foreign sovereign.—The subject then dropped.

THIRD READINGS.

The following bills were read a third time, and passed:—INCOME AND LAND TAXES, STAMP DUTIES, RACEHORSE DUTY, COAST GUARD SERVICE, CORRUPT PRACTICES PREVENTION, GENERAL BOARD OF HEALTH CONTINUANCE, MILITIA PAY, CURSOR BARON OF THE EXCHEQUER, LUNATIC ASYLUMS ACT AMENDMENT, DEEDS (SCOTLAND), JUDICIAL PROCEDURE, &c. (SCOTLAND), BILLS.—The MARRIAGE, &c., REGISTRATION ACTS AMENDED BILL was also read a third time, some amendments being introduced relative to the mode of entering the marriage.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

On the order for considering the Commons amendments to this bill, it was agreed to abide by the previous decision to restore that clause which continues the religious test in the appointment of schoolmasters.

BISHOPS RETIREMENT BILL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, at the morning sitting, on the order for going into committee upon the Bishops of London and Durham Retirement Bill, Mr. HAMPFIELD moved to defer the committee for three months, supporting the motion by a speech in which he inveighed against the vast incomes received by the two prelates (strangely contrasting with the miserable pay of the humbler clergy, and also with the income of the Pope, which, for ecclesiastical purposes, is only 1500*l.*, while that of the Cardinals is no more than 400*l.*), and denounced the bill as an odious measure. He also referred to the Bishop of London as a bigot, and spoke of the abuse of an Established Church.—This amendment gave rise to a long discussion, but ultimately it was negatived without any division. The House then went into committee upon the bill, and made some progress in the consideration of its clauses, the remainder being reserved for the evening sitting, when they were agreed to after some discussion, in the course of which an amendment, moved by Mr. ROEBUCK, and designed to reduce the retiring allowance of the Bishop of Durham to 8000*l.* per annum, was negatived on a division by a majority of 52 to 19. The annuity originally proposed (4500*l.*) was then agreed to.

EXPULSION OF JAMES SADDLEIR.

Mr. ROEBUCK, pursuant to notice, moved the expulsion from the House of Mr. James Saddleir, the member for Tipperary. He did not take upon himself to say

that Mr. Sadleir was guilty of the charges made against him, but simply that instead of appearing to answer those charges, he had fled, thus tacitly acknowledging the imputation. The case of George Robinson, in 1732, was in every way parallel; and so was that of Benjamin Walsh, in 1812.—The motion was seconded by Mr. NAPIER, who said the expulsion not only concerned the honour of the House, but was due to the constituents of Tipperary; and he fortified it by further precedents.—Mr. STUART WORTLEY thought the motion premature. Mr. Sadleir had left the country before a warrant was out against him, and he might come back.—Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD (the Irish Attorney-General) was also of opinion that the proper time for the motion had not arrived, as there had not been as yet any judgment of outlawry. There was no precise precedent. In Robinson's case, the expulsion was not for the fraud with which he was charged, but for contempt of the House.—Mr. S. FITZGERALD also advised caution.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL and Lord PALMERSTON followed on the same side, the latter recommending Mr. Wortley to withdraw his amendment, that the House might at once come to a decision on the original motion.—This having been done (after an expression of opinion on the part of Mr. HENLEY that Sadleir ought to have an opportunity of being heard), Lord PALMERSTON moved the previous question, which, after some further conversation, was adopted, and the original motion fell to the ground.

FRANCE AND SPAIN.

Mr. MURROUGH asked whether the Government was prepared to adopt any, and what, means for the prevention of the armed interference of France in the internal affairs of Spain?

Lord PALMERSTON replied:—"I apprehend that there is nothing at present in regard to the affairs of Spain that could in any way lead to an interference on the part of the French Emperor in those affairs. With regard to the general question, I may state that the Emperor of the French is a man of great justice, and will, no doubt, feel in any case that any foreign interference in the affairs of the Spanish nation would be unjust. He is also a man of great sagacity; and the lessons of the past show that those sovereigns of France who have been led to interference in the affairs of Spain have always, sooner or later, found that their interference was more or less destructive to themselves. (*Hear, hear.*) There can be no reason for apprehending that any intention exists on the part of the French Government to interfere in the affairs of Spain." (*Hear, hear.*)

ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS, &c., IN INDIA.

In answer to Mr. GROGAN, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that instructions had been sent out that there should be

no alteration in the status of Roman Catholic bishops from that established by previous orders. Those previous orders had always been that they should be entitled to rank or consideration on account of the position they held in the Roman Catholic church. The Roman Catholic bishops had for a long time had a pecuniary allowance for sending returns of their co-religionists; this allowance is made to one bishop in each presidency. Priests are employed at those stations where there are British born Catholic subjects, whether in the civil or the military service. They have been allowed, as a portion of their remuneration, medical attendance, on account of the difficulty of obtaining it. He was not aware of any grants that were to be given in aid of building Roman Catholic chapels, or that sums were paid to Roman Catholic orphanages, equal to the cost of maintaining each child; but instructions had been sent out that every attention should be paid to the treatment of Roman Catholic children in these parts.

The Lords' amendments of the METROPOLIS LOCAL MANAGEMENT ACT AMENDMENT (No 2) BILL, the FORMATION, &c., OF PARISHES BILL, and of some other measures, were agreed to, and the House adjourned at ten o'clock.

REPORTS.

The reports of several committees and other semi-judicial bodies have been published during the present week. Foremost among these is that of

THE CRIMEAN INQUIRY AT CHELSEA.—This is a document of very great length. The evidence taken in each case is elaborately analysed, and the general result on the minds of the members of the Board is favourable to the various officers implicated. The Board is satisfied that Lord Lucan "exercised every exertion to meet the peculiar difficulties which he had to contend with, and that he is therefore not chargeable with neglect in the performance of the important duties attached to his command." All the other officers are similarly acquitted. Sir Richard Airey is considered blameless in not issuing warm clothing, because "the responsibility of that officer must be understood to be limited to the duty of making requisitions for certain stores, and not to their safe custody, stowage, or even issue." With regard to huts, "the Quartermaster-General's Department completely fulfilled its duty by ordering huts at an early period from Constantinople—namely, 8th November, 1854." The upshot of the report may be stated as a reversal of the judgment arrived at by Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.—The report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Medical Department of the Army has been published. Its chief recommendations are—"That the governing power of the Army Medical Department should be vested, as at present, in one individual, and not in a Board; that the Commander-in-Chief should exercise a control over the appointments and promotions of the Director-General; that the principle of general competition, or of special examination, in recognized medical schools be applied, as far as practicable, to admission into the Army Medical Department; that the rules which guide promotion be published; that retirement be optional after twenty-one, and compulsory from regimental and second-class staff-surgeon duty after thirty-five years' service; that, as it has been stated to this committee that the supply of medical officers was insufficient during the late war, the establishment of civil hospitals may have been necessary, but your committee trust the recurrence to such alternatives may be avoided for the future; that a person duly qualified to compound medicines, and attested for military service, should form a part of the medical establishment of every regiment; that the Medical Staff Corps, which was raised for service during the late war, should continue a part of the peace establishment; that a military lunatic asylum be provided, as embraced in the design for the New Military Hospital at Southampton; and that, at the outbreak of any future war, separate transport should be provided for the conveyance of all medical stores." The report concludes with a compliment to the army and civil surgeons for their conduct during the late war.

PUBLIC OFFICES.—The Select Committee appointed for the purpose of considering the question of accommodation of the various public departments in Downing-street, have issued their report, in which they say:—"Your committee are of opinion that it is most desirable for the public service, both as regards economy and efficiency in the transaction of business, that there should be a concentration of the public offices, and that such concentration should be effected in the immediate vicinity of Whitehall and the Houses of Parliament."

THE METROPOLITAN TURNPIKE ROADS.—The Select Committee of the House of Commons have made their report. Impressed with the great inconvenience of the existence of toll-gates in the populous districts of the metropolis, and of the importance of providing, if possible, some mode of remedying this inconvenience, the committee suggest their reappointment next session for the purpose of completing the evidence.

THE BURIAL ACTS.—The Select Committee of the House of Lords have reported on the Burial Acts. They

have resolved—1. That before the ground is declared fit for consecration the Burial Board shall, besides the external wall or rail surrounding the whole cemetery, provide a boundary between the consecrated and unconsecrated ground, according to the metes and bounds described in the deed of consecration, to consist of an iron rail, not less than three feet high, and fitted to bound stones, provided that any other fixed and permanent boundary which the Burial Board may prefer may be adopted with the sanction of the bishop. 2. That to remove doubts, it is expedient to enact that, in any case where any ground shall be consecrated under any faculty as a family burial-place, no general right to bury in such ground shall be acquired by others than those to whom it is limited in such faculty as the result of such consecration.

THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ CANAL.—The following announcement appears in the official journal of the Hague:—"In consequence of a report lately presented to the King by his Excellency M. Simons, Minister of the Interior, his Majesty has, by a decree, dated the 10th of this month, appointed a commission charged with the following duties:—1. To examine what consequences are likely to ensue on cutting through the Isthmus of Suez as regards trade and navigation in general, and the trade of the Netherlands in particular. 2. To propose measures proper to be adopted under this change of circumstances, in order to maintain our share in the trade and navigation of the world, or even, if possible, to increase it. 3. To point out what course the Government should pursue, in order to support and foster the exertions of our commercial men in this affair."

AMERICA.

COLONEL FREMONT has published an address on the occasion of his nomination to the Presidency. He declares himself opposed to the principle of annexing states simply because they will be useful; to the extension of slavery in Kansas; and to an irritating foreign policy. He desires the intimate union and harmonious co-operation of all the States, and will discourage all merely sectional issues. In the Senate, on the 9th, the Committee on Territories reported the house bill for the admission of Kansas, with an amendment striking out the preamble and all after the enacting clause, and substituting the Slave State Kansas Bill, recently passed by the Senate. After some little opposition, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brooks, of South Carolina, has been sentenced to pay a fine of three hundred dollars for the assault on

Mr. Sumner. The latter gentleman does not progress towards recovery, but is considered in a very critical state.

The New York papers express great satisfaction at the settlement of the enlistment question; and a large meeting has been held at the Merchants' Exchange, Philadelphia, to reciprocate the pacific feelings manifested towards the United States in England.

The Kingston (Canada) Whig states that the feud existing between the two bodies of Orangemen in Canada—a feud that has long been a reproach to the Protestant faith—exists no longer. The two Grand Lodges met recently, under their respective Grand Masters, and came to an amicable arrangement.

The differences between Spain and Mexico have been arranged.

Some Mormons have been arrested on Beaver Island on a charge of theft, setting fire to some houses, and committing various depredations. It was necessary to threaten to fire on them before they submitted.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor has addressed to M. Rouher, the Minister of Public Works, a long letter, making certain suggestions for preventing the recurrence of inundations similar to those which have recently desolated the south of France.

The Government has determined to place an army of observation on the frontiers towards Spain.

Count de Persigny, French ambassador in London, has been in Paris for the last few days.

GERMANY.

Frequent riots, of a very serious character, have taken place among the students of Heidelberg. The Government has been obliged to despatch soldiers against them, to deprive them of their arms, and to dissolve the various clubs.

SPAIN.

The late *coup d'état* forms the chief topic of intelligence from Spain. A few particulars are now published. At Madrid, the third light battalion of the National Guard, or at any rate a portion of it, made a vigorous defence in a house, with Sisto Camera, the well-known journalist, at their head. When resistance was at length overcome, and the troops entered, it is said that they behaved with great severity. All the divisions of the National Guard have been disarmed, with the exception of two companies, which sided with the Government.

The origin of the crisis is thus stated in a letter from Madrid, dated the 14th inst.:—"M. Escosura,

Minister of the Interior, on his return from Cadix, endeavoured to explain the origin of the events which had taken place there, and which he attributed to the reactionary parties, meaning by that term the Moderados, the Conservatists, the Vicalvarists, or partisans of O'Donnell and the Carlists. M. Escosura had expressed the same opinion in the preamble of a royal decree, for assembling the Cortes in order afterwards to dissolve them; for banishing the Jesuits from the Peninsula; and for promulgating the Constitution. O'Donnell declared that it was henceforth impossible for him to remain in the ministry with M. Escosura; and the crisis followed." Another account states that a discussion had taken place in the cabinet presided over by Espartero, with respect to placing some restrictions on the reactionary or Carlist press, which had become very violent. The proposition for curbing the papers in question was opposed by O'Donnell, who, furthermore, made a counter proposition, which was, that Escosura should be ejected from the cabinet. Having put forward this suggestion, O'Donnell abruptly left the council-chamber, went home, feigning illness, and betook himself to bed. Espartero followed, and induced him to return, which he did, and again, with much bitterness, demanded the expulsion of Escosura. The proposition, on being put to the vote, was unanimously rejected. The President and Vice-President of the Chambers, according to the usual custom on such occasions, were then called in; the proposition was again put to the vote; and both the President and the Vice-President (though the former is believed to be a partizan of O'Donnell) decided against the expulsion of the minister. Escosura, however, placed his resignation in the hands of Espartero, who asked if O'Donnell was prepared to resign also, as he had previously intimated. O'Donnell said he should place his resignation in the hands of the Queen. The ministers then went in a body to the palace, though it was one o'clock in the morning, and remained in council, presided over by the Queen, till four. The Queen expressed her desire for Escosura's retirement, but refused to part with O'Donnell. Espartero then said that he and all his colleagues would resign. The Queen uttered a few formal expressions of regret, but accepted their resignation, and immediately appointed O'Donnell President of the Council. O'Donnell (says the Times Paris correspondent) "at once took precautions to maintain by force what he had done. In the early part of the day, the city had the appearance of tranquillity. The Progressists were in a state of stupor; the Carlists and reactionists of all kinds in the utmost exultation."

"That the crisis was anticipated and prepared for by

O'Donnell," says the same authority, "is proved by the rapidity with which Madrid found itself beset by 18,000 soldiers and sixty pieces of artillery. The barracks of the capital afford quarters to about 10,000 men, and the remainder were held in readiness at Alcala, Vicalvaro, Leganes, and other adjacent military stations. Everything was prepared to make the success of the reactionary party certain in the capital; but we have still to see how far submission has been secured in the provinces. Aragon is the point of most interest and importance. Espartero is idolized in that province, especially at Saragossa, where his two former aides-de-camp and steadfast friends, Gurrea and Falcon, are at the head of the combined troops and National Guards, and where eighty-five members of the Cortes (more than a third of the whole body) have assembled, and will doubtless soon be joined by other deputies."

The members of the Cortes, still in Madrid, assembled at five o'clock in the evening of the 15th. Fifty members form a quorum; ninety-one assembled, and of these 11 but one voted that they had no confidence in the O'Donnell administration. The deputies were then dispersed by the dictator, though their sitting was perfectly legal.

"The treachery of O'Donnell," says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News*, "is shown in two documents issued by him. In the bulletin published in the *Gazette* immediately after Espartero's resignation, it is said that Marshal O'Donnell 'hoped soon to terminate the crisis by the formation of a Ministry of order and liberty, such as public opinion required and had a right to expect from the Government.' In the report to the Queen, drawn up a few hours later, the new Ministry insists upon 'a provisional concentration and inexorable unity of the public power.'"

Some details of the struggle are contained in a letter from Madrid, of the 16th, the writer of which is evidently a partizan of the O'Donnell treason. He says:—

Between half-past five and six on the 15th, all the posts in the town, including the Post-office, had been evacuated by the armed citizens. The Plaza Mayor was the only point occupied, and the firing in that direction was kept up all night. The cause of the desertion of the National Guard is thus accounted for:—The minority of the Cortes had assembled, and after some discussion they determined on dissolving themselves, and they instructed their President, General Infante, to communicate their decision to the President of the Council. After that explicit, but conclusive, admission of the legitimacy of Government, resistance would have been illegal, and chiefs of the National Guard ordered the men to dis-

The writer adds that the National Guards were

ing normal order and submitting its conduct to the judgment of the Cortes, religiously practising in the administration of the State and in its relations with the Parliament those principles of respect for the law and love of liberty which have been the objects of the worship of your present advisers during their whole existence." Espartero, in his final letter to the Queen, attributes his desire to resign to ill-health.

Another document emanating from the new Government is addressed to the people, and is very insolent in its tone. The writers observe that "the existing ministry accepted this saving commission because the late cabinet, in the most critical circumstances, had left the nation without protecting support, and had abandoned the Queen." They add:—"The blood that will be shed during the continuance of the struggle, the misfortunes and horrors that may arise, will return upon yourselves, and it is to you that history will impute them. Inhabitants of Madrid! The great, the immense, majority of individuals bearing arms in your National Guard know well the actual and the awful truth; they know that the triumph of the means about to be employed by the Government is sure. But, in the extraordinary situation in which we find ourselves placed, there is yet another and more terrible truth, which is that the worst calamity of which you could be the victims, and the situation which would hurry you into the lowest abyss, the most bloody anarchy, would be your own triumph. Inhabitants and National Guards of Madrid!—Spare the Government this hard, spare yourselves this blood-stained, disgrace. Distinguish between and separate the pretences of a few deluded and discontented persons from the lawful rights and just liberties, which the Government neither can nor will infringe, and has never wished to infringe, and enable us to save the principle of power without having recourse to the means of force and to the horrors of blood." This document, which is dated July 15th, is signed Leopold O'Donnell, Nicomedes Pastor Diaz, Antonio de los Rios Rosas, Manuel Cantero, Jose Manuel Collado. It will be observed that the signatures of Luzuriaga and Bazarri are not attached.

Immediately after the reception at Saragossa of the news from Madrid, all the military, political, and civil authorities of the province and city, as well as the chiefs of the National Guard, assembled at the palace of the Captain-General of Aragon, and, in a sitting presided over by that functionary, voted a proclamation calling on the people to resist. This address was signed—Antonio Falcon, President; Feliciano Polo, Vice-President; Manuel Gorriga, Joaquim Marin, Jose-Cano Manuel, Lorenzo-Maria Schmid, Candido Conde, Simon

should be respected and executed, without excepting the *desamortizacion* law, "the provisions of which are so beneficial to the popular classes."

M. Martinez, the new Civil Governor of the province, has likewise addressed a proclamation to the inhabitants of Madrid, appealing to the patriotism and wisdom of the majority of the National Guard, and to the good sense of all, and demanding their support "to assist him in combating the enemies of public repose, who destroy the factories, render all labour impossible, and burn provisions, in order afterwards to speculate on the misery and despair of the famished people."

TURKEY.

A robbery and murder have been committed on the road from Shumla to Varna. Dr. Kalozdy, one of the surgeons attached to the Bashi-bazouks, was passing through a forest in company with his wife, an assistant-surgeon, his servant, and an araba-driver, when the party were attacked by five robbers. The assistant-surgeon attempted to make some resistance with his sword, and afterwards endeavoured to escape; but he was shot through the body. The robbers took away about 1000*l*. It is said that one of the Zapties, or policemen of the Kaimakan of Shumla, has been recognized among the robbers.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Hospodar of Wallachia, under date of the 7th of July, has addressed a proclamation to the Administrative Council of the Principality, informing them that he has resigned the reins of government, and that a Provisional Administration has been appointed to manage the affairs of the country until the new organization which has been guaranteed to Wallachia shall have been established. Prince Stirbey appeals to the good feelings of the people generally, and implores them to sacrifice all personal considerations and party interests. The Prince is now, together with his wife, at the Convent of Bistritza.

RUSSIA.

General Todleben has been receiving a series of ovations at St. Petersburg and Helsingfors, very similar to those which, in England, have greeted the return of General Williams. The last named officer is now very popular in Russia, owing to the praises which he has showered on General Mouravieff. From the Caucasus we hear of continued preparations on the part of Mouravieff for subduing the Circassians: large reinforcements are being constantly sent off to the scene of hostilities. The *Invalid* (says the *Times* Berlin correspondent) contains a letter of thanks from the Emperor, addressed to Bruot, General of Engineers, for the successful accomplishment of the task assigned him of erecting a series of

ing established, should they remain in opposition to a new Government. These statements, obviously coloured by political feeling, must be received with great caution. Subsequently, it would seem that the struggle was carried on by the populace under the leadership of Pucheta, the torreador (bull-fighter), who was joined by some of the National Guards in plain clothes. These entrenched themselves in the Plaza Mayor, and were only dislodged by cannon. In the same letter we are told that the first acts of the new government are moderate and conciliatory, and that O'Donnell has adopted the programme of the Liberal Union; but, if this be the case, it is clear that it must be a blind to further acts of treachery and despotism.

The names of Luzuriaga and Bazarri, as Ministers of Justice and Marine in the new Government, were asserted by O'Donnell without the previous permission of the gentlemen in question, who were out of Madrid at the time. O'Donnell desired to give a colour of Liberalism to his ministry by appointing these two adherents of Espartero; but Luzuriaga has protested against the use of his name. Bazarri will serve.

Narvaez arrived on Thursday week in Paris from the baths of Vichy, and left in the evening for the frontiers of Spain. It is thought that he has been in some way concerned in the recent *coup d'etat*, and that he will offer his services to the Government to aid in putting down the Liberals.

Espartero, it is now stated, was at once arrested; but he has since quitted Madrid in a carriage escorted by cavalry, which departed through the gate of Alcala.

O'Donnell has issued a long address to the Queen, on his assumption of power, justifying his acts by the disturbed state of Spain, which is said to require martial law, the zeal and patriotism of the Cortes and of the preceding ministry not having availed to check the tendency to disorder and socialism. The dictator writes:—"To the excitement of passions, the shock of interests, and the struggle of parties which accompany and follow the appearance of all political revolutions, are added, Madam, since the triumph of the movement of July, 1854, the absence of systematic political and administrative legislation, the renewal and the change of all the public functionaries, the accumulation of questions of great importance, either on account of their social or religious aspect, the dynastic war recommenced in the province of Aragon, the epidemic, scarcity, and continued disturbance of public order in every part of the monarchy." When the Government shall have secured the tranquillity of the peninsula, "it will hasten to fulfil another duty not less imperative—that of re-establish-

ing normal order and submitting its conduct to the judgment of the Cortes, religiously practising in the administration of the State and in its relations with the Parliament those principles of respect for the law and love of liberty which have been the objects of the worship of your present advisers during their whole existence." Espartero, in his final letter to the Queen, attributes his desire to resign to ill-health.

As a reward to the soldiers who fought on the side of O'Donnell, the Queen has decreed that "all the generals and officers who are wounded shall be immediately raised a grade; that the soldiers who distinguished themselves shall be decorated with the cross of Marie Isabella Louise, and pensioned at the rate of thirty reals per month for life; and that those who are wounded shall have a pension of sixty reals, and those disabled for service, six reals per day." That part of the National Guard which opposed the populace is included in these rewards. The Queen has distributed 80,000 cigars to the troops.

The French ambassador, on the 17th, paid a visit to the palace to congratulate the Queen and General O'Donnell. Several officers have been assassinated in Madrid. The Government is aware that an immense quantity of arms still remain in the hands of the people, and domiciliary visits are to be made. A decree posted in the streets forbids the assemblage of six persons, and declares that all who are found to possess any weapons of defence shall be brought before a council of war.

A despatch from Marseilles says:—"Whole families of the inhabitants of Barcelona have taken refuge here. At the moment of their departure from that city, on the 19th instant, great agitation prevailed there."

The *Gazette* publishes a number of documents emanating from the members of the new Government. One of them is a circular of the Minister of Finance, M. Cantero, stating that it is the will of the Queen that the laws voted by the Constituent Cortes

fortresses along the two rivers. General Kaloon has been dismissed from his rank by royal decree, and has been summoned before a court-martial. Troops have been sent against Saragossa, and General Dulce has been named to the command of Aragon, with instructions to put down the insurrection. A rising in Barcelona has been suppressed after some hard fighting. The National Guard of that city were disarmed on the submittal of the populace. A despatch, dated two o'clock Monday, and published in the *Paris Moniteur*, says:—"Santander has attempted to declare itself for the insurrection, but has now returned wholly to order. Navarre and the northern provinces of Spain are tranquil. We are assured that affairs at Saragossa are in a fair way to be arranged. The troops entered Logrono without resistance." Pucheta, the bull-fighter, has been shot, though accounts differ as to the precise manner. It would seem probable, however, that it was in the course of the struggle. Another bull-fighter, named Chulo, has also been killed. The military tribunal is now sitting at Madrid, and muskets and other arms are being rapidly collected.

At the instance of General Mouravieff, the nephew of that officer, Bakunin, who was taken at the insurrection of Dresden in 1848, and handed over to the Russians, has been liberated. He was at first condemned to labour for life in the Ural mountains; but this was countermanded, and he was confined in the citadel at Warsaw. In the course of five months, he was taken to St. Petersburg, and thrown into a subterranean dungeon. Here he passed nine months in darkness, chained hand and foot; but at length, falling ill, he was removed to a second-floor chamber, where he was allowed to have a bed.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* contains an ukase of the Emperor, dated June 21st, extending to all those persons who fled from any of the western provinces of the Russian Empire, in consequence of the insurrection of 1830, the same permission to return home, without being subjected to any prosecution, upon condition of their taking the oath of allegiance, which was granted by the ukase of the 15th of May to the refugees from Poland.

The ceremony of the coronation of the Emperor of Russia has been definitively fixed for the 30th of August.

ITALY.

The Austro-Italian journal, the *Specola d'Italia*, replies to what it calls the calumnies of the Piedmontese press with respect to the interference of the Austrians in Parma. It was the Duchess of Parma, and not the Austrian Government, says the *Specola*, who resumed the state of siege, and appointed the council of war, which was composed of Parmesan, and not Austrian, officers; and the arrests were made by the police of Parma, and not by the Imperial authorities. The Ducal Government merely requested the Austrian Government to place an Austrian prosecutor at the disposal of the council of war, because two Parmesan judges charged with making inquiries had already paid forfeit with their blood for their zeal in office. The commandant of the Imperial army complied with this request, but the tribunal did not cease to be Parmesan on that account,

the *jus gladii et grandi* was expressly reserved by the Austrian Regent. Such is the defence of the Austrian Government; but it is obvious that, after all, the real power was in their hands, by virtue of the military force possessed.

General Garibaldi, on leaving his little island of Capri, went to the baths of Voltagio, where the young of the place and the neighbourhood gave him a serene.

On the following day, the General thanked them in a letter, in which he said:—"Young people of the rising generation, you are called to accomplish God's great designs manifested to the great men of Italy in every age—the unity of the great people that produced the Scipios, the Scipios, and the Emmanuel Philiberts. Italians in every province of the peninsula are called to rally to the glorious flag you carry; and, for my part, glad that I can fulfil my vow for Italy, I shall to it, thanks be to God, the remainder of my life."

The *Daily News* gives the annexed as the reply of the Government of Naples to the representations of France and England:—"His Majesty thanks the Governments of France and England for their counsels. He wishes to show clemency and to introduce reforms, but in such a manner as to preserve the competent judge of the time proper mode of so doing. At this moment, they do not be suitable to his dignity and independence; less would it be fitting to recal those who are shed, and liberate those who are imprisoned."

A proclamation from the Liberal party has been extensively circulated throughout the capital and provinces of Naples. It recommends the Neapolitans to await the development of events which will probably shortly in the south of Italy, and to conduct themselves, when they shall have attained their freedom, moderation, and with a determination not to "riot in the regions of Utopia."

The Sardinian Government has received an official intimation from the Powers more immediately interested to a representative to the conferences for the adjustment of the Danubian Principalities.

A very curious scene (says the *Times* Turin correspondent) took place in the Municipal Council of Bologna the other day, when the subject of local charges for any accommodation came to be discussed. On the subject required for this purpose being put to the vote, a Mr. Marsigli, who is a strong upholder of the Papal Government, and a personal friend of Pius IX., rose and said:—"he would not oppose the vote, but he would propose to the Council that they should address the Pope on the subject, and humbly request that he would take measures to remove the cause of such a burden on the people." This proposition was seconded immediately by a supporter of the Government, Signor Sassuoli, and was carried unanimously.

Count Crenneville has been recalled from the command of the Austrian troops in Parma. His successor, Field-Marshal Lieutenant von Baumgarten, now Austrian commandant in the fortress of Mayence.—*Burg Gazette*.

A congratulatory address has been sent to Count Crenneville from the Lombardo-Venetian provinces.

IRELAND.

TIPPERARY BANK.—The Master of the Rolls sat short time last Saturday to hear an application for appointment of a receiver to collect and receive the winding assets and property of the Tipperary bank, over the real and personal estate of James Sadleir. Judgment of the Court was that the question was difficult and doubtful to be decided upon motion. Effect of this rule is to leave matters as they stand till the main question comes on to be heard before the court by a cause petition next November.

CREASE OF CRIME.—The summer assizes of 1856 are likely to be soon forgotten by the legal profession in its branches. With one or two exceptions, the criminal business was, so far as the circuits have been concerned, all but nil, and the lists of records to be disposed of were equally scanty and profitless. In Clonmel, capital of South Tipperary, at one time the focus of crime and litigation, the criminal calendar occupied hours, and the trial of records six more, being the last commission which was ever held there. The criminal cases are those of Westmeath and Mayo.—*Irish Times*.

OF WAKING.—Some conversation has been exchanged in Ireland by a communicated article in the *Nation*, the great organ of rebellion—advising the Irish to heartily to submit to their connexion with England, to become more and more British, more and more Imperial, and to seek in that direction, as being the only true one, the development of their prosperity and of their rightful influence in the world. Young Ireland, he observes, is dead, but Ireland herself survives with vital requirements. He adds:—"Rebellion is a good thing. Submission in earnest is the best thing; and submission in earnest ought now to be made. I do not understand how pride or honour can lead to the rebel of 1848 to declare now for the Queen. I bless her—or other formula signifying allegiance to the British Imperialist. The English submitted to the Emperor of Hanover; the Scotch submitted to the House of Hanover; why not the Irish? Victoria, by the grace

of God, is Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. She is a stranger to Ireland; but let it be remembered there is not a drop of English blood in her veins, and still 'our Queen' is popular. The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal family are pure Germans, and yet the English drink their healths with three times three. The Scotch and English are stubborn races, but have come to endure the adopted aliens; and, if we cannot do better, let us do likewise." The writer recommends co-operation with the English Liberals; and concludes:—"Against what have the Irish contended from the first? Against the Norman aristocracy which conquered the English. It is against that governing class that the English are also contending. In England, a nation is rising up that will destroy a caste. Let us ally ourselves with that nation."

OUR CIVILIZATION.

TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF DOVE.

THE trial of William Dove was resumed on Friday week, on which day the defence was opened by Mr. Bliss, the prisoner's leading counsel. It was based mainly on the presumption of insanity; but Mr. Bliss also contended that there was not sufficient evidence, even apart from that consideration, to convict Dove. It had been alleged by the prosecution, he observed, that Mrs. Dove suspected the evil intentions of her husband: in that case, she would surely have kept a watch on him, and would have desired some one else to attend on her during her illness; but it was in evidence that she herself asked her husband, while there were other persons about, to give her the medicine she was taking, and that she addressed him in the language of affection and confidence:—"Love, will you give me my medicine?" At that time, it was said, he poisoned her. Could he have done so? Had he the opportunity? Mrs. Witham and Mrs. Taylor were present, and must have seen him put in the poison, if he had done so. Besides, the time that elapsed was not sufficient. Then, again, he went for the medical man and for the neighbours. Furthermore, there was no evidence of the existence of any motive for the commission of the crime. An accident might have been the cause of death. Such catastrophes frequently occur even in hospitals, where persons are most on their guard. Supposing the paper containing the poison had been opened by some one from curiosity, and that the wind had blown a little of the strychnine on to the floor—how easily might some of it have got upon any of the articles of food which Mrs. Dove alone took! With respect to the plea of insanity, Mr. Bliss brought forward several allegations with a view to showing that the accused had evinced a disordered mind from his boyhood. He had been violent and cruel when a youth; had at one time threatened to shoot his father; and was in the habit of telling wild and extravagant stories of his adventures in America, where he resided for two years. After his return to England, he fell under the influence of a man named Harrison, who pretended to be a wizard. Dove believed that this person had more power than the Devil, and he would get him to perform incantations. During his imprisonment pending the trial, the accused wrote a letter to Harrison, asking him for information as regarded his nativity and the general circumstances of his case, and suggesting that the reply should be written in milk or lemon juice, in order that the officers of the prison might not be able to read it. Another letter written by him in gaol, and which was relied on as a proof of insanity, was addressed to Mr. Pearce, the schoolmaster at York Castle, where Dove was imprisoned. It ran thus:—"York Castle, June 18, 1856.—Dear Sir,—I am very weary, at present, about a rumour which is said to be very prevalent in Leeds, and among the public at large, that I, William Dove, pretend to be insane. The said talk gives me great pain. I hope, sir, my conduct in this prison has proved the contrary. To take the Queen's pleasure, I cannot away with it, especially when I know that I am innocent of the charge. I ask you, sir, as a friend, would you allow them to plead insanity?" A third letter discovered on his person was addressed to the Devil, in these terms:—"Dear Devil,—If you will get me clear at the assizes, and let me have the enjoyment of health, wealth, and tobacco, beer, more food and better, and my wishes granted, life till I am sixty, come to me to-night and tell me. I remain your faithful subject, WILLIAM DOVE.—Written in blood."

A great many witnesses were examined to prove the plea of insanity. The general effect of the evidence thus adduced was to show that the prisoner had been malevolent when at school; that in after life he was sometimes extremely religious, and the next moment a great reprobate; that his disposition was at once vicious and generous; that he was fond of mischief for mischief's sake; that he would make the most irrelevant and foolish remarks in connexion with his farming operations; that he was wantonly cruel to animals; that one day he told his maid servant he meant to shoot her, himself, and his wife; that he believed he had sold himself to the Devil; and that, on several occasions, his words were wandering and his actions eccentric.

The cross-examination of Dr. Caleb Williams, who on

Saturday testified to the insanity of Dove, was singular as a matter of medical or mental science. He said:—"It is rare for a lunatic with the kind of insanity of the prisoner to take life by poison. I should not call administering poison five or six times an impulse; I should call it a propensity. I should call it an uncontrollable propensity to destroy life and to give pain. For the time, it would be a permanent condition of the mind. It might select the special object, and constantly seek opportunities of carrying out the propensity. I think a person with such a propensity would not know that he was doing wrong. I think he might fear the consequences, and would know that punishment would follow. He would know that he was breaking the law, probably. I say that because he would have a very incorrect appreciation of right and wrong. He would not know at the time that he would be hanged. I found that opinion on the occupation of the mind by the insane propensity. It is uncertain whether he would know it before he did it. He might after he had done it. He might do a murder secretly, because he could not otherwise do it. A propensity of that kind generally acts without motive. One of the peculiarities is, that a person seeks no escape, and in certain cases acknowledges the crime he is charged with. The propensity may come on suddenly; an impulse comes on suddenly—a propensity more frequently comes on slowly, and lasts for a considerable time. If a man gives way to his passions and commits a rape, I call that a vice, and not a propensity. Supposing a cruel man wishes to get rid of his wife, in the abstract that would be a vice. Supposing that man had taken every precaution against discovery, and pains to procure poison for his wife, and to prepare for her death, I should think that a vice and not a delusion. Supposing a man of a cruel disposition had formed a dislike to his wife, and wanted to get rid of her, and had nursed that dislike into a propensity to kill, I call that an insane propensity. I do not say that every man who dislikes his wife and wishes to get rid of her is therefore insane. When he acquires the propensity to kill and cannot control it, he is insane. If a man permit himself to indulge any passion till it becomes uncontrollable, that is moral insanity, and he is not responsible. Consulting a sorcerer, and all superstitious belief, is indicative of a weak mind. Belief in clairvoyance and in dreams is not necessarily an indication of insanity. A belief in spiritual rappings, I should infer, is an indication of a weak mind. I think talking to various persons about strychnine, as the prisoner did, an indication of a feeble state of mind. Talking, as he did, about strychnine, under the circumstances of his wife's death, indicated a feeble mind." In the course of re-examination, Dr. Williams said:—"Imitiveness is one of the characteristics of insanity; and hearing strychnine and Palmer's trial much talked of would be very likely in a weak mind to produce imitation. It is necessary to know a man's history before you can express an opinion whether certain acts of his proceeded from vice or from insanity. Madness very frequently develops itself in great cunning and foresightedness when reasoning on false premises. I have frequently known insane persons attempt to escape from the asylum, and in the preparations they have made they have frequently shown very great cleverness, and their preparations have often covered many days." In answer to the Judge, Dr. Williams said he thought it would require a longer period than a month to exhibit disease and an uncontrollable propensity to commit a crime. No doubt, if an insane person is about to commit a murder, the presence of a policeman would have a controlling influence on him. His Lordship having put several questions to the witness, Mr. Bliss objected; but the Judge said he had a right to put the questions, that he believed he ought to do so, and that he would do so.

Some of the other witnesses testified to Dove having been attached to his wife to an excessive degree, to his wife being jealous and irritable, and to her having had a tendency to hysteria, of which, it was contended, she died.

Mr. Overend having replied, and submitted that the evidence for the defence merely proved habitual viciousness and a tendency to superstition, Mr. Baron Bramwell summed up, and read through the whole of the evidence, commenting upon it as he proceeded. He observed that the jury must take the law as it stands, their duty being to administer it, whether right or wrong; not that he was of opinion that it is wrong, but that the business of a jury is to decide upon facts, and not in accordance with any abstract opinion. "If," said his Lordship, "you were to announce to all the world that a man who has a strong propensity to do an evil shall not be punished, you would take away from such persons the only thing that would deter them from committing the evil." He thought that none of the instances of strange conduct committed when the prisoner was a lad, were evidence of insanity, more than might be found in the conduct of a perverse, ill-conducted boy, and he contrasted the opinions of some of the witnesses as to the alleged weakness of the prisoner's mind, and his being almost an idiot, with the letters written by him, which exhibited no traces of mental incapacity. With regard to the opinions expressed by the medical men as to the prisoner being insane, he adopted the judgment of Dr. Lushington—that the facts on which they

founded their opinions were of more weight than the theories put forth, and he sincerely believed that the jury were as capable of judging as the medical men. If they believed these medical men—these experts in insanity—they would take away the protection of the law from the community, because they would have a check less to prevent the commission of crimes. It would be an affectation in him to say that he did not set a value on this scientific evidence. He did; but he would rather take his own independent opinion than the opinion of others on the facts proved. However, it was not for him to judge of the value of their evidence; he could only comment on it. It was for the jury to decide.

His Lordship's charge occupied six hours in delivery, and was not finished until ten o'clock at night. The jury then retired, and returned in three-quarters of an hour with a verdict of GUILTY, but with a recommendation to mercy on the ground of the prisoner's defective intellect.

Sentence of death was then passed, and the culprit was removed, without exhibiting any great emotion.

ASSAULT AND CONSPIRACY.

A strange story came out in evidence before the Marlborough-street magistrate on Tuesday, when Robert Johnston, of the Army and Navy Club, and of Webb's County-terrace, described as a gentleman, came forward to answer a charge of assaulting William Kay, a gentleman of fortune, residing at 36, Hill-street, Berkeley-square. From the opening statement of Mr. Bodkin, it appeared that the complainant, who is now twenty-two years of age, became the acquaintance of Mr. Johnston when he was about nineteen years of age. He is a young man of considerable fortune. The friendship began before he was of age, and he was led to the continent, where money may easily be expended. Mr. Johnston, assisted by two other persons, having contrived to get from him securities to the amount of 50,000*l.* or 60,000*l.*, his friends interfered. They applied to Mr. Galworthy, a respectable solicitor, who, by his promptitude in filing a bill in Chancery, obtained two decrees whereby all the deeds, bills, and securities acquired by fraud and conspiracy were made void and set aside. One night, as Mr. Kay was proceeding to his house in Hill-street, he was stopped by a man muffled in a cloak which concealed his features, who asked him if his name was Kay. Being told it was, he said—"I arrest you for debt." The other replied that he owed no debt he could be arrested for; but the man answered, "Your wife does." Mr. Kay was then arrested, and was not allowed to go into his house, but was taken in a cab by the man who arrested him to a house at the west end of the town. He was placed in a room on the ground floor, and the man disappeared, locking him into the room. Mr. Kay then sat down to write a letter to his solicitor, and while thus engaged the door was opened, and Mr. Johnston came in. The complainant naturally said, "Why have I been arrested for debt?" Mr. Johnston replied, "The arrest is all sham; it was only made for the purpose of getting you here." He next locked the door and commenced a tirade of abuse and slander of the characters of certain persons, afterwards making overtures to revive the association that had already proved ruinous to Kay. Johnston would not permit Kay to depart without extorting a pledge that he would write to him and ask him to dine at some place, when they could so arrange as to get the Court of Chancery decrees modified in some way. A promise so obtained is binding neither in law nor honour. As soon as Kay obtained his liberty, he sought advice, and in consequence of that step Mr. Johnston was summoned. Kay was imprisoned three hours—from twelve at night until three in the morning.

According to the evidence of Mr. Kay, the man who arrested him asked if he would like to be taken to a police office, the police station, or a private house: he answered that he would rather go to a private house. After some discussion, it was understood that the assault was to be disposed of by the defendant entering into his own recognisance to keep the peace, and that a summons to answer a charge of conspiracy was to be served on him in court.

SINGULAR CHARGE OF FORGERY.

James Railton, a stockbroker, was brought before the Lord Mayor on Tuesday, charged with having feloniously induced a woman, whose name is unknown, to forge the transfer of five hundred pounds in the New Three per Cent. Consols, with intent to defraud the Bank of England. Mr. Henry Halsey, a clerk in the Bank of England, having proved that a transference of the stock was made on the 20th of last May by a woman who signed her name Eliza Potts, the owner of the stock, and who was identified by the prisoner as the rightful possessor, Mrs. Eliza Humphreys, formerly Miss Potts, gave evidence to the effect that she employed Railton to manage her affairs in connexion with the stock which she possessed, that she never gave him any authority to effect the transfer of the 500*l.*, and that she knew nothing of the transaction. Mrs. Humphreys seemed almost in a fainting state during her examination, and was accommodated with a chair. Her counsel stated that, since the illegal transfer, Mr. Railton has caused 500*l.* to be placed in the name of Mrs. Hum-

phreys to her account in the Bank of England. The prisoner was committed for trial, and a similar charge against him was then entered into. This had reference to the illegal transfer of 200*l.*, purporting to be made by Mrs. Mary Stow, sister of Mrs. Humphreys. The accused was committed on this case also.

ACTIONS FOR COMPENSATION.—An action has been brought at the Stafford Assizes against the proprietor of a coalpit. The plaintiff was the father of a youth who was killed by an escape of "damp" in the pit, owing, as was alleged, to an absence of proper precautions. At six o'clock on the evening of the 25th of last October, the boy descended the shaft of the pit in company with two men named William Harris and William Booth, who were to remain in the pit till six o'clock the next morning. The shaft was about one hundred and eighty yards in depth, and they were engaged in driving a "gate-road," which they had already carried about twenty yards. At about half-past nine o'clock, the men came out of the working to the bottom of the shaft to have their supper; and while they were so engaged, the "damp" came down the shaft through a "heading," fourteen yards above them, which led into another shaft, in which there were some old workings. The candles were extinguished, and the "damp" then began to sink upon them very fast. The deceased lad and Harris endeavoured to climb up the chain attached to the bucket, but were overpowered, and sank back exhausted. Their companion, Booth, however, by the exercise of great presence of mind, strength, and perseverance, saved his life by climbing one hundred and fifty yards up the chain; and when his strength failed him, and he could get no higher, he succeeded in attaching himself to the chain by a strap, and there remained about six hours, till he was discovered in the morning by a boy passing by the pit mouth. While hanging on the chain, he heard his companions in the pit talking for several hours, but at last he knew by their breathing that they were dying. Before the plaintiff's case was concluded, a conference took place between the counsel on both sides, which resulted in the settlement of the action, by the defendant consenting to pay the plaintiff a sum of money agreed upon. The amount was not publicly stated. A similar arrangement was made of the action brought by the man Booth for the injuries which he had sustained; but it did not appear that the representatives of the man Harris, who was killed, had brought any action.—At the Lincoln Assizes, 145*l.* damages have been awarded to a Mr. Calthrop, who brought an action against the Great Northern Railway Company, for compensation for the loss of three horses, run down on the line, on to which they had wandered in the course of a stormy night. The company was held to be responsible because they had allowed a gate leading on to the rails to remain imperfectly fastened.

ROBBING A CORPSE.—Daniel Leary, who has been several times remanded at Bow-street on a charge of stealing a ring from the finger of a Mr. Stocker, who was killed in the streets of St. Giles's in the course of a disturbance, has pleaded Guilty, and been sentenced by Mr. Henry to three months' imprisonment.—John Daley has also pleaded Guilty to the same offence, and been committed for three months with hard labour.

FAIR IS FOUL.—Dr. John Blennerhassett Godfrey has been fined by the Thames magistrate forty shillings and costs for letting off fireworks from his residence into the public road on the 4th of July, the anniversary of Fair-op fair. He was summoned for the same offence last year, but it could not be proved that he was at home at the time, and so the summons was dismissed. On the present occasion, he did not appear; and judgment went by default.

A MODEL CLERGYMAN.—The Rev. P. B. Harris appeared at the Lambeth police office last Saturday, to complain of a report published in the daily papers as far back as the 20th of last March (and related in this journal of the 22nd of the same month), to the effect that he had been robbed of his gold watch and appendages by a young lady who, it was alleged, was living under his "protection." The report went on to state that the fair offender managed to escape by means of a rope from a back window of the house where she lived, and where the police had gone to apprehend her; and that the rev. gentleman ultimately declined to appear against her at the police-office, where her solicitor was prepared to meet the charge. Mr. Harris now complained that, as the charge had not been entered on the police sheet, it ought not to have been published. It had been put forth, however, in a way most detrimental to his character; and he wished to know how he was to obtain redress from the reporter or from the newspaper which published the statement. The reporter observed that, so far as he could understand the rev. gentleman, he did not deny the truth of the report, but merely found fault because the charge had not come forward in the ordinary way. Mr. Harris admitted that the statements in the report were perfectly true, with one exception, and that was, that Miss Oakford was then, or ever had been, under his protection; and he hoped that this, his solemn denial, would go before the public.—The matter was again brought up on Tuesday, when Miss Oakford, attended by her solicitor, appeared before the magistrate, and solemnly asserted the truth of the ori-

ginal statement that she was under the protection of Mr. Harris. A letter from Mr. Harris was read, from which it seemed that he is under apprehension of some inquiries from his Bishop, and is desirous of "hitting on a plan which will put aside all legal proceedings." Miss Oakford, in conclusion, said that the articles she was accused of stealing were given to her.

THE CREDIT SYSTEM AT OXFORD.—The "fatal facility" with which young men are led into debt at Oxford was evidenced on Monday in the examination, at the Insolvent Debtors Court, of the Rev. James Murray Richard Rawlins, a clergyman of the Church of England who now sought relief from his debts. His liabilities exceeded 2,850*l.*, and he attributed his insolvency to facility of credit at Oxford, while he was an undergraduate of that University, in 1846, and to the expenses of restoring the church of Vernon Dean, Hants, of which parish he had been curate. His opposing creditors alleged that he was extravagant and reckless during the time of his curacy at Bardsley, a period of about eighteen months. The insolvent, upon being questioned by the Commissioner as to the debts (11,000*l.*) incurred at Oxford, said his father was a clergyman, who died just as he (the insolvent) quitted the University. His father paid some bills and made him an allowance. The debts now due had not been communicated to his father. The tradesmen at Oxford are very easy as to credit, and in many cases solicit custom. When a bill is not paid, the Oxford tradesmen frequently insist upon fresh orders being given, and the account extended. He had never mentioned the subject of his debts to his tutor, nor did the College authorities interfere in the matter. The opposing counsel observed that there was no statement in the schedule of receipts between January, 1854, and January, 1856, and asked where the insolvent had resided during that interval. The insolvent's counsel here interposed, stating that an answer to that question would expose some very painful circumstances, which did not in any way affect the merits of the case in this court. The Registrar then handed to the Commissioner a note, and the question was not pressed. The Commissioner, in giving judgment, said that the insolvent would be discharged, after being in custody for a period of three calendar months from the date of the vesting order—a judgment which would detain him about six weeks longer in custody.

FRAUDS ON THE EXCISE.—Mr. Symington, the proprietor of a paper-mill at Tickhill Friars, near Doncaster, has been condemned in a very heavy penalty for committing frauds on the revenue by vending paper which had not been stamped; by affixing a counterfeit stamp on certain reams of paper; and by otherwise evading the law by various false representations and tamperings with the Government marks. The defendant, by the advice of his solicitor, pleaded guilty to all the counts, which were eighteen in number. A conversation between the bench and the supporters of the information followed, when some of the counts were withdrawn. The bench then mitigated the remaining penalties to one-fourth of the aggregate amount—viz., 2,850*l.* The Commissioners for Inland Revenue have the power of diminishing the penalties still further; but Mr. Symington is ruined by the discoveries that have been made.

JARNDYCE, v. JARNDYCE.—A law case was tried at the Stafford Assizes on Monday, to determine whether the infant of the late Mrs. Llewellyn was born alive or dead, as a matter of property depended on the issue. The question had already been tried at Stafford, when the jury decided in favour of the present defendant. The affair had since got into the Court of Chancery; and the present issue was directed by the Master of the Rolls. Mr. Keating, in opening the case, remarked on the vexatious legal processes which had to be gone through, and added that he did not believe a decision would ever be arrived at, as, long before that time came, the whole estate would be melted down. The cause would stop as soon as the last acre of land in dispute was exhausted. He had already expressed his opinion on this circuit that, where the property in dispute was small, there ought to be some opportunity of settling such disputes in a local court, without the expense and delay of proceedings in the Court of Chancery.—Mr. Baron Alderson: "Since the case of *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce*, that has been so determined." (*Laughter.*) Mr. Keating said that in the case of *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce*, a large property was involved, which was sufficient to keep the suit alive for half a century; but in the present case the property was only worth about 50*l.* a year.—The jury, after retiring for an hour and a half, said they could not all agree that the child was born alive, and they therefore found for the plaintiff, thus reversing the verdict of the previous jury.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.—William Hutchins has been sentenced to ten months' hard labour, for stealing seven shillings from a Mrs. Cheesman. The man belongs to one of the gang of fellows who hang about the County Courts, offering their services, as professed lawyers, to the simple and unwary. The prisoner made an offer of this kind to Mrs. Cheesman, who, however, had already suited herself with a previous applicant. Hutchins, resolving not to be altogether disappointed, followed the woman into a public-house after the conclusion of the case, and made a snatch at some change out of which she was paying the other individual. He was speedily

given into custody. On his trial, he made a scandalous attack on the character of the woman, which totally failed; and he was found guilty, and sentenced as already stated.

A FRAUDULENT BANKRUPT.—Charles William Norman, a trimming-seller and draper, of Belle Vue-terrace, Cleveland-street, Mile End, was charged at Guildhall, on remand, with not surrendering to his bankruptcy. Mr. Metcalf, for the prosecution, having put in evidence with a view to showing that the prisoner intended to defraud his creditors, and had thus become amenable to the statute under which the information was laid, Norman was further remanded for a week.

POISONOUS FLOUR.—A woman, named Thompson, stated to Mr. Yardley, the Thames magistrate, that she purchased a quarter of flour of a dealer in the neighbourhood of the Whitechapel-road, and made two puddings, of which her husband, herself, and two children, partook, and that they were all attacked directly afterwards with such severe illness that she was obliged to call in medical assistance. Her youngest child, who had not partaken of the puddings, was not ill. She had shown the flour to a medical gentleman, who said it was adulterated. She had also, by the desire of an officer of that court, taken the flour to Dr. Letheby, the medical officer of the City of London, who said he had no doubt it was bad, but declined to analyse it until he received orders to do so from a magistrate. Mr. Yardley said he would write a letter to Dr. Letheby requesting him to analyse the flour and report the result, and, if necessary, proceedings should be taken to punish the party who had sold the flour. A policeman said that several families who had partaken of puddings made with flour bought at the same shop, had been attacked with illness.

THE SPONDON MURDER.—The inquest on the body of Enoch Stone, who was murdered on the highway on the night of the 23rd ult., has been brought to a close, the jury finding a verdict of "Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown."

GAROTTE ROBBERY.—Another of those attacks which have of late been of frequent occurrence in our London streets, and which show the lawless state to which we seem advancing through the neglect or incompetence of our police force, took place a few days ago in the neighbourhood of Bethnal Green-road, one of the principal and most frequented thoroughfares in the east end of the town. Between eight and nine o'clock in the evening, Mr. Boden, a gentleman living in that locality, was returning home, and, when within a few yards of his own door, was suddenly knocked down by a heavy blow on the head from some one behind. Two men then seized him by his coat collar, and, having dragged him across the road, forcibly held him while a woman ransacked his pockets, from which she stole all the money he had about him. It was broad daylight when this robbery was committed, and what renders it still more remarkable is that a great number of people were on the spot at the time, whose astonishment at the audacity of the outrage got the better of their courage. The consequence was that the thieves escaped with their booty. One of them was afterwards traced out and apprehended by a detective officer, who stated to the magistrate that he believed the man was a ticket-of-leave convict. This was contradicted by the prisoner, who likewise denied the offence with which he was charged. He was remanded.

PERJURY.—A French artificial flower maker, named Roret, has been brought before the Westminster magistrate on a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury. In the course of the evidence it appeared that a Swiss tavern-keeper in Cranbourne-street, Leicester-square, named Kamerer, drew a bill for 21l. 5s. 6d., on a gentleman who owed him that sum. This bill, which was made payable two months after date, was subsequently indorsed to Roret. Early in January last, Kamerer was arrested and confined in the Queen's Prison for debt, but, having taken the benefit of the late act, he was released. Various sums owing to Roret were entered in the schedule against Kamerer; but the bill for 21l. 5s. 6d. was not included amongst them, Kamerer being under the impression that it had been duly honoured by the acceptor. Subsequently, an arrangement was entered into between Kamerer and Roret, who held an assignment of Kamerer's goods, in the course of which no mention was made of any claim respecting Seager's bill. However, in January last, Roret brought an action against Kamerer upon the bill, which was tried in the Court of Exchequer. During the trial, Roret swore that he informed Kamerer, personally and by letter, of the facts, both of the bill becoming due, and also of its having been dishonoured. Judgment was therefore given in his favour. It was afterwards proved that Roret's assertions in the Court of Exchequer were utterly false, and it was clearly shown by several witnesses that Kamerer was in prison on the day that the bill became due, and that no letter informing him that it was dishonoured had ever been sent to Kamerer's house. Hence the present charge against Roret, which, it is alleged, was instituted at the suggestion of the lawyer who had previously defended him in the Court of Exchequer. He was remanded for a few days, bail being accepted for his re-appearance.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—A man, named John Hunt, is now under remand at the Westminster police-office,

charged with striking John Westguard with an iron bar. A quarrel arose between the two men, owing to some alleged ill-usage of the wife of the accused by Westguard, who now lies in hospital in a dangerous state. Hunt admits that he cut Westguard down with the iron, on his forcing his way into a room occupied by him (the accused).

A FORGED BANK OF ENGLAND NOTE.—John Dumont, a foreigner, who is supposed to have served in the German Legion, is now in custody under a charge of having knowingly uttered a forged Bank of England note for 5l.

FORGERY ON THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT.—A gigantic attempt to defraud the Republic of Peru has been brought to light. Fouquin Savilla, a Spaniard, applied a few weeks back to Mr. Deutsch, a lithographic printer and engraver, to make *fac similes* of certain signatures, to be attached to about two hundred copies of several kinds of documents which were all printed in the Spanish language, and which Savilla described as passports for sending people to South America. Mr. Deutsch proceeded with the work; but his suspicions were soon aroused by the Spaniard surreptitiously endeavouring to get back the original signatures before the work was completed. Savilla was accordingly watched, and was ultimately apprehended by a detective officer. Several documents throwing light on the fraud were discovered at his lodgings; among them a copy of the accounts of the Government Bank of Peru. The forged documents proved to be imitations of the liquidation bonds of the internal debt of Peru, and of the compensation bonds for the manumission of slaves by the state. The signatures purported to be those of the President of the Republic, the Minister of Finance, and the President of the Liquidation Commission. Blanks were left for the sums, which could, of course, be filled up to any amount. Savilla having been examined several times at Guildhall, was on Monday committed for trial.

ASSIZE CASES.—William Boyden, alias Jackson, described as a druggist and quack doctor, was found guilty at Lincoln of manslaughter, resulting from his having administered to Mrs. Read, the wife of a labouring man, a potion containing half an ounce of *lobelia inflata*, an acrid poison. The woman had been suffering from fever, arising from cold, and had been attended by a regular practitioner, but was induced to place herself in the hands of Boyden, though a perfect stranger. He said she had abscesses in her side, and he prescribed the medicine which killed her. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.—Joseph Chivers, a miner, has been found guilty of the manslaughter of David Taylor, by beating him with great severity, and stabbing him with some sharp instrument, in the course of a scuffle arising out of some offence which the prisoner took against the deceased. He was sentenced to transportation for fifteen years.—James Afflick, a framework-knitter, pleaded "Guilty" at Nottingham to a charge of attempting to strangle James Afflick, aged about four months, with intent to murder him, at Hucknall Torkard, on the 28th of April. He was sentenced to fifteen years' transportation. The prisoner had made the attempt upon the child by putting a cord round his neck when he was in bed with his mother, who prevented the accomplishment of his purpose. The prisoner and his wife lived together on very bad terms, and the former, upon hearing sentence of transportation passed upon him, appeared highly pleased, and expressed his thanks to the Judge.—William Tuckley, aged twenty-one, engineer, and Henry Smith, aged nineteen, also an engineer, were indicted at Stafford for the manslaughter of Edmund Harris. This was a charge arising out of an explosion at some iron works, Bilston, owing to which the deceased was killed, and which was caused, as alleged by the prosecution, by the culpable carelessness of the two prisoners in not keeping the boiler properly supplied with water. The accusation, however, failed of proof, and both the accused were discharged.—William Ready, a young Irishman, has been acquitted at York of a charge of cutting and wounding Mr. John Vaughan, mayor of Middlesborough, in the course of a drunken riot. The assault appears to have been a very serious one with a life-preserver; but an *alibi* was proved by several of the man's fellow Irishmen, and he was discharged.—George Holmes was indicted for robbing a girl, and using great violence towards her. This is the man who was in custody for some days under suspicion of being concerned in the Ilkley murder. He was found guilty of the present charge, and, a previous conviction having been proved against him, he was sentenced to hard labour for two years.—William Sharp and Joshua Cawthra were found guilty of throwing a quantity of vitriol over Emanuel Hill, and seriously burning his face and neck. The prisoners had been drinking all through the night at a beer-shop. Early in the morning, they picked the lock of the door leading into the bar (the landlord had by this time gone to bed), and looked about "to see what they could find." They afterwards discovered that Hill, who was an old friend, was sitting in an adjoining room; and they then committed the outrage with which they were charged. The jury found them guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, on the ground that there was no apparent motive for the act. They were sentenced to two years' imprisonment each.—Elizabeth Martha Brown was tried at Dorchester for the murder of her husband. The woman was jealous, and on the night of the 6th instant, she called up at

neighbour, of the name of Damon, who, on going to Brown's house, found him weltering in his blood, with his brains dashed out, and quite dead. His wife's account was to the effect that her husband returned home in that state, faintly crying, "The horse." She carried him into the inner room along a passage and through a shop; but he grasped her dress so tightly that she could not get away and give the alarm for some hours. Such was her own account; but it was rendered improbable by the fact of there being no blood on the passage, &c. through which she alleged she dragged her husband, or on the road he must have traversed to get home. The medical man examined on the trial said the wounds were not such as would be caused by the kick of a horse, but were more like those of a hatchet. The man could not have walked home after receiving such injuries, nor could he have grasped his wife's dress for the length of time alleged. The woman was accordingly found guilty, and was sentenced to death.

WORKHOUSE BRUTALITIES.—It has come out in the course of an investigation before the Marylebone magistrate, that the master of the workhouse of that parish is in the habit of beating the girls with a cane when they are disorderly. Two girls were charged with riotous conduct, and they pleaded this fact as their excuse. Some of the girls, they said, had been severely hurt. The master urged that he was compelled in self-defence to order the porters to use the cane. The magistrate said he would adjourn the case, to enable the Board of Guardians and Directors to take the facts into their consideration.

THE ORANGE AND RIBBON RIOT.—Seven men have been committed for trial on a charge of being concerned in the late riots near Gateshead.

A WORTHLESS WIFE.—A Mrs. Quantrell, the wife of a licensed victualler in Shoreditch, has absconded from her husband's house, taking with her 40l. in money, and valuables worth upwards of 76l. The husband has for some time suspected her of unfaithful conduct, first with one man, and then with another; and the second of these has been charged at Worship-street with abetting her in carrying off the property. He was called on to enter into recognizances to appear again next week to answer the charge.

ADULTERATION.—A grocer, named John Huddart, living in Tyler-street, Regent-street, has been convicted in the mitigated penalty of 50l. for having in his possession a quantity of adulterated pepper. It was proved that forty per cent. of one parcel of pepper was rice, and ten per cent. hardwood. Another parcel also contained ten per cent. of hardwood.

A SWINDLING EMIGRATION AGENT.—Captain Lean, R.N., the Government emigration officer of the port of London, applied on Thursday to Mr. Yardley, the Thames magistrate, for a warrant to apprehend a German passenger agent, named Zitsche, who has absconded with the money he had obtained from some intending emigrants whom he promised to aid in their object. Mr. Yardley said he could not grant a warrant, but he made out a summons.

NON-SMOKE-CONSUMING FACTORIES.—Several large manufacturers in the Southwark district have been fined in various sums for allowing their furnaces to send forth large volumes of smoke, contrary to the late act.

ROBBING THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—On removing the box placed in the booking-office of the Great Northern Railway station at Doncaster, for the reception of penny subscriptions on behalf of the Patriotic Fund, it was found that some thief had rifled the receptacle of its contents, by slitting a hole in the back of the box, which is made of tin, and forcing his hand into the aperture.

SUCIDAL WOMEN.—Amelia Hopkins, a married woman, has been charged at Lambeth with attempting to drown herself and her child by jumping into the river near Westminster Bridge with the infant in her arms. Both were rescued with difficulty. The woman's husband alleged drink as the cause of the act; her friends spoke of "delusions," probably the result of drink. She was discharged.—Elizabeth Southern, a middle-aged woman, was charged at the same court with swallowing a quantity of sugar of lead in a glass of ale at a public-house. An antidote was timely administered by Dr. Bushell, and the life of the woman was thus saved. She was remanded. The magistrate was also informed that a young woman, who had been brought to the station on Tuesday morning on a charge of swallowing a quantity of oxalic acid to destroy life, had since died at Guy's Hospital.

STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports of the week ending last Saturday indicate the continuance of steady employment in most parts of the kingdom, confidence being stimulated by the prospects of the harvest, which are still considered generally favourable. At Manchester, however, another series of failures has occurred. Messrs. Wright and Co. are stated to have stopped with liabilities for 90,000l. and assets estimated to yield about eight pence in the pound; and to have been followed by Messrs. Lowe and Lawe, with debts amounting to 99,000l. and assets to 4000l. As a consequence of these, six other suspensions are announced, including that of Messrs. Baxter and Co for 50,000l. The general business of the week has been of moderate extent, at firm prices. From Birmingham the accounts describe great heaviness in the iron-market orders being scarce and many firms being ready to sell

a reduction. The contract for the ironwork for rebuilding Covent-garden Theatre has been obtained by Messrs. Fox and Henderson. At Nottingham, there has been good employment, especially in the lace manufactories. The woollen districts are without alteration, and the Irish linen-markets are still well maintained.—*Times*.

The Prospero, with 36,000 pines, has arrived from the West Indies, consigned to Messrs. Keeling and Hunt. The increasing demand for this article from the mother country is materially improving the prospects of the planters in the Bahamas.

The Secretary of State for the Finance department in New Granada has announced to the English creditors of the Republic that, in all probability, much time will not elapse before the remaining dividends in arrear will be provided for, as well as those which successively are becoming due.

It has transpired that, within the past few weeks, Naples has accorded perfect reciprocity, including the privilege of indirect trade on the same footing as the national flag, to the shipping of Sweden and Norway, Sardinia, Prussia, and the German Zollverein. The English flag remains subject to a high differential duty on goods if not exported to a direct port in England, although we have a treaty of reciprocity with the most favoured nation clause. Under these circumstances, great dissatisfaction is expressed by the mercantile houses connected with the commerce of Naples; but it is assumed that the matter is receiving prompt attention from the British Government.—*Idem*.

The strike at the Oaks Colliery continues, the men alleging that, owing to certain proceedings of the manager, Mr. Minto, the pit is unsafe. The men, who had already returned to work, have again left, in consequence of a rule established by the coal proprietors of the district not to employ any miner unless he has a written clearance from his last employer. Many of the men on strike would find work at the neighbouring collieries but for this rule, the refusal of the proprietors of the Oaks Colliery to give the necessary "clearance" precluding them from making engagements elsewhere. Some collisions have taken place between the turn-outs, and some of their comrades who have returned to work have been assaulted in a violent manner with stones and other missiles; the police have also been attacked in one of these affairs.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

COAST DEFENCES.—Government has come to a definite resolution of establishing lines of defence along the north-east coast of Scotland immediately, and prospectively on that of the west.

SHIP AGROUND.—The American ship Forest Oak, with a cargo of timber, ran aground at the entrance of the Gloucester and Berkeley ship canal at Sharpness Point, on the Severn. She heeled over, and the cargo was lost. A man, also, was drowned.

IMPROVED PONTOONS.—The authorities at the headquarters of the Royal Engineers have had brought under their notice an invention, which it is expected will entirely supersede the present description of pontoons in use by the Royal Sappers and Miners. The improved pontoons have been invented by Sergeant-Major Jones, of the Royal Engineers, who has also invented a new description of gabion, just brought into use by the Sappers and Miners.

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY paid an official visit of inspection to Chatham Dockyard on Tuesday.

ACCIDENT TO A STEAMER.—A Southampton excursion steamer, laden with excursionists, struck on the Culver Rocks, at the back of the Isle of Wight, on Tuesday evening. The excursionists had landed at Shanklin, and left there at six o'clock in the evening to proceed homewards round Spithead; but a dense fog prevailed, and, within an hour after the steamer had left Shanklin, she grounded, fortunately at half-tide. After remaining on the rock for four hours, the tide rose and floated the steamer off without any serious damage.

GROUNDING OF A CUNARD STEAMER.—The Cunard steamship Zebra, Captain Betts, from Havre, for Liverpool, has run on the Lizard Point, during a dense fog. She was much damaged, having knocked a hole in her bottom. Fortunately no lives were lost, the crew and passengers having been landed in safety. The cargo and stores are saved; but the removal of the steamer from her position is thought very problematical.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM.—The correspondence between the Bishops of London and Durham, on the one hand, and Lord Palmerston on the other, with reference to the retirement of those prelates, has been issued. The Bishop of London's letter (which is dated Fulham Palace, June 18th, 1866) runs thus:—"I think it proper to communicate to your lordship my desire, on account of continued illness, if allowed by law, to resign the Bishopric of London, upon being secured the enjoyment during my life of a clear annuity of 60,000*l*. If this proposal should be approved by your lordship I trust that you will take proper measures for carrying it into effect." The fifth of the Bishop of Durham's communication (dated from Upper Portland-place, June 21st) is contained in the first paragraph:—"In consequence of the great failure of my sight, and other infirmities incident to a very advanced

age, I am anxious, if allowed by law, to be relieved from the fatigue and responsibility of the high office which I have now enjoyed for the last twenty years. As I shall relinquish a very much larger income, I am persuaded that your lordship will not consider the annual allowance of 45,000*l*. per annum by any means unreasonable. Upon the assurance that this will be granted, I shall be ready to resign the Bishopric of Durham on any day not earlier than the 1st of August."

THE FUSILIER GUARDS.—A splendid banquet was given by the Fusilier Guards at the London Tavern on Monday evening, when covers were laid for one hundred. The chair was taken by the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief.

MONUMENT TO THE GUARDS.—A meeting of officers now serving, or who have served in the brigade of Guards, was held on Monday in the theatre of the United Service Museum, Whitehall-yard, to take steps for erecting a monument to the officers and men of the brigade who fell during the late war. The Duke of Cambridge occupied the chair, and Lords Stafford and Rokeby were among the speakers. Resolutions were passed in favour of raising subscriptions, and sundry gentlemen were appointed to act as treasurers and hon. secretaries.

THE CASE OF ARCHDEACON DENISON.—The suit promoted by the Rev. Joseph Ditcher, vicar of South Brent, against the Ven. G. A. Denison, archdeacon of Taunton, for preaching and publishing three sermons which contain doctrine, on the subject of the real presence, repugnant to the Articles of the Church of England, is now being heard at the Guildhall, Bath.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week that ended last Saturday, the deaths of 1018 persons, viz., 551 males and 467 females, were registered in London. The average number in the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, was 1032, and, if this be raised in proportion to the increase of population, it becomes 1135. The deaths of last week are therefore less by 117 than the rate of mortality which ruled in corresponding weeks would have produced.—During the week, the births of 798 boys and 765 girls, in all 1563 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1349.—*From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.*

THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEA has brought an action against Mr. E. T. Smith, the proprietor of the *Sunday Times*, for an article imputing to him dishonourable conduct in making an award in a dispute arising out of some horse-racing transactions. Mr. Smith, through his counsel, pleaded that he believed the allegations to be true at the time he published them; but, as he had since found out their falsity, he was ready to apologize, and to consent to a verdict that would carry costs. Damages, five guineas.

THE CROPS.—The accounts from the provinces are still favourable for the most part with respect to the state of the crops.

LORD WENSLEYDALE.—We have reason to believe that the question so long pending as to the ambiguous position of Lord Wensleydale will be immediately solved by the conversion of the life peerage which that eminent lawyer now holds into an hereditary peerage.—*Times*.

AUSTRALIA.—According to the detailed accounts just received from Melbourne, it appears that the precise receipts of gold per escort from the mines during the first three months of the present year were at the rate of 12,000,000*l*. per annum, while for the corresponding quarter of 1855 they were at the rate of only 6,550,000*l*.

FATAL ACCIDENT WITH FIRE-ARMS.—An inquest has been held on the body of Henry Miller, a farm servant at Highgate, who was accidentally shot, while at work on a hayrick, by a young man, named Isaac Spooner. This person appeared to be firing at random for his own entertainment; and a wooden fence prevented his seeing the deceased. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death; and the coroner reprimanded Spooner for his culpable carelessness.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—During the past and present week, the surveyors, under the direction of the superintending architect of the Metropolitan Board of Works, have been actively engaged in preparing the surveys for the new lines of streets proposed to be carried into effect, the one from the terminus of the South-Western Railway to the Town-hall in the Borough, and the other from Leicester-square to King-street, in order to open a better approach into and through Covent-garden-market.

MR. MECCHI AT TIPTREE.—The annual gathering at Tiptree took place last Saturday, when between five and six hundred persons interested in agriculture were present, and, under the guidance of the host, were taken over the farm and introduced to the various improvements in farm-cultivation introduced by Mr. Mecchi. In conclusion, a numerous company was entertained at dinner.

FIRE.—A large fire broke out on Sunday morning on the premises of Messrs. Hemmings and Co., house-builders, in Tredegar-road, Bow. In the yard belonging to these premises were several portable houses and churches, intended for exportation. It was considered that they were nearly, if not wholly, fireproof; but such proved not to be the case. The total loss is very considerable, but is covered by insurance. A fire took place on the same premises last December.—A most extensive conflagration occurred in Shad Thames on the

night of Friday week. The steam flour-mills of Messrs. Pimm and Co. were completely destroyed, and several warehouses, together with barges on the river, were very much damaged.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES.—We have received a communication from Mr. Richard Dover, giving an account of some remonstrances which he has addressed to the Metropolitan Board of Works, with respect to their project of discharging the sewage of London into the Thames at Plumstead, from which spot it is proved that it will oscillate within the metropolis, on the surface of the river, in a most noxious state of fermentation, for nearly six hours each tide. This plan is directly at variance with the intentions of the Legislature, as set forth in the act of Parliament which created the Metropolitan Board, and which declares that the objects of that Board are "to make sewers and works for preventing all or any part of the sewage from flowing or passing into the Thames in or near to the metropolis." Mr. Dover embodied his remonstrances in a letter to the Board, in which he enclosed the details of a plan by which the sewage may be deodorized and rendered of great service as manure. A formal notice of this communication was sent in reply, in obedience to a suggestion in which Mr. Dover presented his memorial to the Board, but apparently with no results.

A HARLEQUIN'S DEATH.—A Mr. Charlton, a professional harlequin, who appeared at Drury Lane in the last Christmas pantomime, died in the Whitechapel workhouse on Friday week, leaving his wife and children in a very miserable condition. The circumstance having attracted the attention of some of the gentlemen forming the committee of the Fielding Fund, now in process of creation from the proceeds of the late Amateur Pantomime, for the prompt relief of distressed literary and theatrical persons, a member of the committee personally visited the wretched residence of the poor people, and an arrangement was speedily made for the decent burial of the deceased, the immediate necessities of his family were provided for, and steps were taken for the administration of a little periodical relief, until the family should have an opportunity of earning sufficient to maintain themselves.

ANOTHER COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—An explosion of fire-damp occurred in the Stafford Main Colliery, Stainborough, near Barnsley, belonging to Messrs. Smith, Carr, and Smith, on Saturday afternoon, just as the men were leaving work. It appears to have been owing to the negligence of the two persons who were the only victims of the accident. Most of the hands had got out of the pit, when a man named George Ward, and a lad named William Griffiths, a son of one of the managers of the pit, incautiously took a lighted candle into a "benk" to search for some metal rails. The flame came into contact with some foul air, which is supposed to have been liberated by the falling in of a portion of the roof a day or two previously, and a loud explosion ensued. Ward was killed on the spot, and his body presented a shocking appearance. Griffiths escaped death, but was very seriously injured, being much contused about his head and other parts of his body; one leg was also broken. This is the first accident that has occurred at the pit in question since the management of the present proprietors, who have taken every possible precaution.

FALL OF A HOUSE.—The house in Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, known as Offley's spirit vaults, but which has lately been taken by the Strand District Board of Works for their offices and board-room, fell down last Saturday night, about ten o'clock. The adjoining house, formerly occupied by a wine and spirit merchant, had been pulled down as far as the first floor, and was to be rebuilt. A new party wall had been erected, and the scaffolding was removed on Saturday morning. This party wall had been insecurely and inefficiently made; and it fell outward, and carried with it the whole of the adjoining premises. No one suffered any personal injury. The porter and his wife were on the premises at the time, or at the door; but they were not hurt.

DEATH IN A BATH.—Mr. Charles B. Hulme, surgeon of the Leeds House of Recovery, was seized with a fit while taking a warm bath on Tuesday afternoon, and died before his condition was known to any one.

A FORGIVING QUAKER.—Several robberies, to a very serious amount, have recently been committed on the premises of Mr. Edward Smith, of Fir Vale, near Sheffield, a member of the Society of Friends. This gentleman refuses to take any measures against the thieves; and a woman having been given into custody without his knowledge, he declined to appear against her, and she was discharged. It seemed that this woman had twice before been detected in committing depredations on the same premises.

THE LATE COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN WALES.—Great excitement prevails at the scene of the late appalling explosion, and it has been found necessary to augment the police force, in order to prevent an outbreak among the people, who are very indignant against the persons employed as firemen at the time, and also against the manager for appointing them.

DEATH FROM INTemperance.—An inquest has been held on the body of Mr. James Macnab, aged thirty-six, late a surgeon of the 98th Highlanders, who died from intemperance while in the Clerkenwell police station on Tuesday morning. A verdict was returned in accordance with these facts.

BELGIUM.—The usual "July fêtes" have been proceeding in Belgium during the past week with great success.

MR. LAYARD AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Mr. Layard met his constituents on Wednesday evening, at Aylesbury. His remarks had reference chiefly to the peace, which he regarded as unsatisfactory, and attributed the imperfect result of the war to the indecent haste of the French Emperor and people to come to terms with the Czar. Russia, he believed, would not, as had been anticipated, resort to a peaceful and honest policy; on the contrary, she had already violated the treaty by destroying the forts of Kars, Ismail, and Reni, and by cruelly treating the Tartars in revenge for their assistance to us. Passing on to the consideration of the Anglo-French alliance, he said our present position as regards France is utterly unworthy of this country. No man was more anxious than he for a French alliance formed on an equal basis; but he would never consent to that alliance if the condition was a sacrifice of the interest or the honour of England. Our position at this moment with regard to France he thought exceedingly dangerous, and unless we took care it would lead us into great difficulty. He admired the Emperor of the French as much as any man, but he could not sympathize with the form of government he had introduced. After glancing at the general condition of Europe, he alluded to the appointment of the Duke of Cambridge to the command in chief of the army, of which he highly approved; and urged the constituencies to press on Parliament the necessity for Administrative Reform. A vote of confidence in Mr. Layard was carried unanimously, with much cheering.

A FAITHLESS "FAST MAN."—An action for breach of promise of marriage has been tried at Exeter. The plaintiff was a Miss Mary Ann Cooper, the daughter of a silk-mercant at Plymouth; the defendant, a certain George S. Trader, a person of landed property. He appeared to be very much in love with the young lady, and wrote to her letters of passionate affection; but all the while he was in the habit of flirting with other ladies, and would tantalize Miss Cooper by writing to her details of the attentions paid him by them—such as their applying poultices and fomentations to his ankle when he had sprained that part of his person. A married lady friend cribbed as the one of the best singers he ever heard in private, and as a persons who quite laboured to please him. He professed to be very religious; yet he said it was not "a part of his creed" to go to church, and that he made Sunday "a day of rejoicing." In one letter, he wrote, "I wish we were married. Cheer, girl, cheer! Write, girl, write!" In another, he said: "I shall send you your portrait. Rejoiced am I that I am going to have a good one—too pretty it cannot be. Mary, you know you are pretty. Girls always know. Oh, you little rogue! I want a kiss very badly. I send you one inside the portrait. You won't see it, of course; but send one back the same way." Finally, he broke off the match, on the ground that the young lady was jealous, but offered her money compensation for the music she had learnt on his account. A verdict was given for Miss Cooper; damages 200*l.*, less 60*l.* paid into court.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, July 25th, 1856:—number admitted, including season ticket holders, 52,158.

FRONE ELECTION.—Major Boyle (Whig) has been returned for Frone by a bare majority of one over Mr. Nichol (Liberal); the numbers being, respectively, 157—158.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, July 26. LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT. THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

SEVERAL bills were advanced a stage.

A motion of Lord St. Vincent, impugning Lord Combermere for certain conduct with reference to the case of Mr. Dyce Sombre, was brought forward, but nothing came of it.

The Commons' Amendments to the LANDS AND SETTLED ESTATES BILL, which was intended to prevent the enclosure of Hampstead Heath, was rejected on a division, when the numbers were equal—seventeen Peers voted on each side.

The House adjourned at a quarter past seven.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CRIMEAN INQUIRY.

Mr. LAYARD brought forward the subject of the report of the Crimean inquiry at Chelsea, complaining that it had been laid on the table too late in the session, and characterized it as very unsatisfactory. He asked if the Government were satisfied with it, and whether they thought it did justice to the army which had suffered so much.—Lord PALMERSTON said the question was an unusual one, as it only asked for an opinion. The board of general officers was to inquire into the report of the Crimean Commissioners, and to receive explanations from certain officers inculpated in that report. If the hon. gentleman had read the evidence, he could form an opinion for himself. It was not the intention of the Government to take any further steps in the matter.—After

some unimportant question had been put and announced, one or two bills were forwarded a stage.

THE BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM RETIREMENT BILL was read a third time and passed.

SUMMARY OF THE SESSION.

Mr. DISRAELI then rose to bring forward a motion calling on the House to consider the manner in which the business of Parliament had been conducted during the session. He deprecated the notion of his being about to make a party motion; but his object was only to initiate a discussion which might bring out some suggestion which could be made available in the recess for finding a remedy for the existing state of things. He referred to his having made a similar motion in 1848, and stated that his object in bringing forward his present motion was to endeavour to ascertain the reasons for that mode of conducting public business, which in the last two months had caused so much dissatisfaction in the country. He urged that no Minister ought to take up a subject of agitation unless he felt that he could deal with it satisfactorily. There might be reasons for excusing a Government in not bringing forward questions of importance, such as there being no need of legislation, the country being at war, or negotiations for peace being in the course of settlement; but none of these excuses were available to Lord Palmerston. He had introduced more measures of consequence than any Minister ever did in a session. Mr. Disraeli then proceeded to remind the House of some of the measures brought before Parliament—as, the Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords, the Law of Partnership, of Divorce and Marriage, the Law relating to the Discipline of the Church, Testamentary Jurisdiction, Police, the Corporation of London, Education, Criminal Appropriation of Trust-Property, Civil Service Superannuation, and Agricultural Statistics—questions which involved the very principles of social life. He referred to the special recommendations in the speech from the Throne of a series of measures. But how had they been dealt with? He criticized the bill on the change of the mercantile law which had been proposed, but not introduced, by the Government. The measure improving the Law of Partnership, after lingering from the 25th of February to the end of July, was abandoned. A similar fate awaited the attempts to improve the Poor Law. The Irish executive had been equally unsuccessful. Mr. Disraeli then touched on the various bills of importance which had been lost or withdrawn during the session, and asked if that was a satisfactory state of things. The right honourable gentleman then drew a picture at length of the state of the Government, urging that Lord Palmerston had not the real support of the Liberals; but had carried what measures had been brought to a successful termination more by means of the Opposition than by his own friends.

Lord PALMERSTON vindicated his course of proceeding, alleging, as the main ground of his many failures, the necessity in a representative Government of imbuing the country with the advisability of measures by continued efforts, and showing that slow progress in reform is inseparable from our institutions. He showed that for general measures of importance the Government had actually had only twenty-two days during the session, and he urged that the members of the Government had manifested the greatest personal assiduity in the conduct of the business of the House. He also urged that, notwithstanding some minor defeats, on all great occasions when real confidence in the Government was at issue, they had had larger majorities in their favour than had been enjoyed by any previous Ministries.

A short discussion followed, and the House adjourned early.

LATEST FROM SPAIN.

ADVICES from Bayonne of the 24th inst. state that according to a letter from Saragossa, dated the 20th inst., General Falcón had held a review of 16,000 men.

A battalion of Royalists, which had left Tudela, revolted on arriving near the town, and joined the insurgents. The Custom-house officials did the same.

15,000 militiamen or peasants, coming from Quinca, were advancing to join the Aragonese.

Narvaez refuses to accept the post of ambassador at Paris.

One thousand persons are said to have been killed in the streets of Madrid. The struggle at Barcelona was also extremely bloody. The garrison at Gerona has risen.

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD STURT is to be elevated to the peerage under the title of Lord Kingston.

VISCOUNT CASTLEROSSIE has been appointed Comptroller of the Household in the room of Lord Drumlanrig, who has resigned.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT will take place on Tuesday by Royal Commission.

THE FOURTH DRAGOON GUARDS.—The head-quarters of the 4th Regiment of Dragoon Guards, which greatly distinguished itself in the cavalry charge at Balaklava, having become located at Sheffield, a public dinner is announced to take place at the Cutler's Hall, on Tuesday next, to give a welcome to the officers on the return of the regiment from the Crimea. The Earl of Cardigan will be present at the dinner. Sir Harry Smith has been invited, and it is also in contemplation to request the Duke of Cambridge to attend.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. 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.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1856.

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.—DE. ARNOLD.

THE SESSION OF 1856.

PARLIAMENT met in January, and has sat, in talkative imbecility, until the end of July—for we may treat it as virtually adjourned. It has attempted nothing sincerely, and has done nothing well. It has displayed no independence, yet its leaders have displayed no power. Whatever Lord PALMERSTON has done mischievously and recklessly, he has not been called to account for; whatever his Cabinet has proposed to do in the direction of reform, has been, in nearly every instance, prohibited by an adverse majority, or abandoned, or delayed until it became impossible. The Prime Minister, the flatterer of French Imperialism, has aimed, without attempting to conceal his object, at reducing the influence by degrading the character of Parliament; and he has succeeded. The nation has not interested itself in one legislative debate during the past session. And not one legislative debate has been high in tone, or serious in intention. There have been criminatory motions, by bidders for place; but they have been mere parliamentary manoeuvres. There have been discussions on America, on Italy, on the rights of nations; but the discussion on America was faint and paltry, that on Italy was like the rising of a damp mist, that on the prerogative of journalism in Belgium was the least respectable of all, because it exhibited the British House of Commons apologizing to foreign governments for the existence of a free British press.

The ministerial speech at the opening of Parliament promised little, evaded all great topics, and was as insignificant as a ministerial speech could be. Still, it announced some measures, some principles of administration. It said that the Government were prepared to improve the Limited Liability Act of last session, to reform the Commercial Law of Scotland, to suppress local and passing dues on shipping. What became of these good intentions? A little sectional clamour "put down" the Cabinet proposal with respect to local and passing dues; the Limited Liability Amendments were carried through both Houses mutilated and incomplete; the Commercial Law of Scotland stands where it did. Nothing was said of Kars, of America, of the principles of peace, of political or administrative, city and railway reform, of education, or of church-rates. But those subjects were treated in separate debates, upon issues raised by ministerial, opposition, or independent members.

How were they treated? and with what result? The fall of Kars gave occasion to the Tories to submit a factious resolution of censure, which the Liberals refused to recognize, and which was rejected by an overpowering majority. The American debate, after many postponements, failed to elicit the real intentions of the Government, and ended by leaving that Government *carte blanche* to embroil us irrevocably with the United

States, or to adjust our differences. That, said the courteous House, is exactly as Lord PALMERSTON pleases; the House will not presume to interfere; so we are to hope that, during the recess, the Administration will act precisely as it has *not* acted during the session. But there is some difficulty in believing this.

As to the War—or the Peace—with Russia, Mr. ROEBUCK has epitomized, in an epigram which deserves reputation, the invariable answer of ministers on subjects of that nature: "When we ask what the Government are about to do, we are met with the objection that we are too early; and when we venture to inquire what they have done, we are told that we are too late." Lord PALMERSTON, who has learned something from the *Moniteur*, gives for answer, this:—"What I design to do will, I trust, when done, be found perfectly consistent with law and propriety."

When he is negotiating a peace, it would be indiscreet to expect any information; when the peace has been negotiated, the English House of Commons may debate, or do anything else as meaningless, but to vote dissent would be a breach of faith, and imperil our alliances. That is the simple process by which foreign affairs, in difficult times, are removed from the jurisdiction of Parliament. For observe, Parliament dare not change the Government while delicate diplomatic transactions are pending. Besides, what have we to hope for from a change of Government?

Then, no one expected a Reform Bill during the past session. But the House of Commons, going further than the Ministry, refused to entertain any political suggestion of any kind whatever. Mr. BERKELEY made his Ballot motion; for form's sake, a Government member replied, and the House dismissed the subject as a nuisance. Sir JOSHUA WALMESLEY was still less successful when he proposed to introduce a debate on the extension of the franchise. The House would not assemble. Mr. BERKELEY, the member for the Ballot, clung to it, until Lord PALMERSTON, anxious to avoid a division, pledged himself, next session,—to inquire.

Lord GODERICH, who is too much in earnest to be a fit member of the present House of Commons, moved a resolution on the subject of Administrative Reform, to which the Commons assented, and the subject was thus disposed of in the least objectionable way. It is due to the Government, indeed, to admit that they have made some progress in this direction, having dug away the ground under the feet of the City Association of Reformers. Their County Police measure was well-timed and not ill-constructed. They had prepared, however, a plan for the Reform of the Reformers, and for the remodelling of the City Constitution. That plan, of course, they were too weak and too insincere to carry into effect. It was withdrawn, and it lies in limbo, with Mr. Lowe's Partnership Bill, the Oath of Abjuration Bill, the Church Rates Abolition Bill, the Divorce Bill, the Married Women's Estates Bill, the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill, the Appellate Jurisdiction Bill, the Formation of Parishes Bill, the Church Discipline Bill, on which Ministers and their friends have been baffled and beaten, and which lie over to form a part of the futilities of 1857.

Several general debates took place on education—Lord JOHN RUSSELL's, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON's, and Mr. WALPOLE's schemes. Lord JOHN RUSSELL's bill was rejected, the House of Commons having no real intention of educating the people; Sir JOHN PAKINGTON's views were politely laid aside; and only Mr. WALPOLE's were adopted. But as the House, when it adopted them, never meant them to be carried out, they, too, were re-con-

sidered, and a majority was juggled among the dissentients. It was not so easy to suppress the Maynooth motion of Mr. SPOONER, who actually carried it upon a division, Mr. SPOONER being in earnest, though even he might regret that he had superannuated himself by succeeding in the one object of his political life. However, the Commons rescued him, and the Government, and the Tories from their dilemma by laughing loudly while Mr. HERBERT talked incoherence against time, and the question of Catholic endowment in Ireland was settled by the hand of the clock.

Lord PALMERSTON created Lord WENSLEYDALE a life peer. The House of Lords condemned the creation. Lord PALMERSTON asked the House of Commons to send up Lord WENSLEYDALE as a Deputy Speaker. The House of Commons refused. So Lord PALMERSTON gives up his principle, and presents Lord WENSLEYDALE, and the heirs male of his body, lawfully begotten, for ever, with a ticket of admission among the peers. That is the urbane way in which the Prime Minister suffers repeated defeats. He knows the House of Commons dare not turn him out; he gives the members a holiday, one time by sea, another time by land, at the public expense; he talks of Italy in a style that implies a contempt for the judgment of his hearers; when the House censures his policy, he observes that "there seems to be an objection;" and the House bears all this, and deserves it, for Lord PALMERSTON, political infidel as he is, eclipses the entire House by his vigour, by his self-possession, and by a certain sort of courage, though not of the best quality.

And now Parliament adjourns. It has done nothing, and the nation has not shown that it expected anything to be done.

While the recess lasts, Government will have its own way in affairs of foreign policy. If our American interests are jeopardized, if our name in Europe is disgraced, if Italy and Spain be abandoned, let us not ascribe the responsibility to Lord PALMERSTON's Cabinet alone. The nation has political duties to perform, and does not perform them; the Parliament is weak, devoid of feeling, and spiritless; and the Tory party, like the Whig party, is utterly without a policy. It can do nothing but cavil, and make factitious diversions under cover of popular pretences. Why, then, should we anticipate that the session of 1857 will be more profitable than the session of 1856, or that any session will be profitable while we continue to be governed as we are?

THE COUP D'ÉTAT TRADE.

MARTIAL law has been proclaimed throughout Spain. Until a week or two ago there was no dread of any revolutionary movement; on the contrary, partial attempts at disturbing the existing order of things were notoriously a failure. The man most trusted by the average Spaniard was ESPARTERO. He was responsible to the country for the Crown, and to the Crown for the country. If any mistrust existed as to the unscrupulous and despotical adventurer who occupied the Cabinet in a strange partnership with ESPARTERO, it was supposed that "the Liberator" was effectively, as well as in title, bail for O'DONNELL. The journals occasionally got up imaginary movements, and the Ministers talked of interfering. Strangely enough, there was one person who rather impeded any decided interference with the journals of a particular colour. The journals which enjoy this species of patronage amongst the official ranks were of a reactionary tone, and the Minister who objected to interference with them, although not with ultra-Liberals, was O'DONNELL. Such is the state of things

when somebody represents to the Queen the necessity of violent measures; when ESPARTERO is found to be suddenly opposed by his strange partner-lieutenant, O'DONNELL; and the result is, that ESPARTERO actually disappears, O'DONNELL remains master of the field, and the whole of Spain is placed in a state of siege—the state of a country which is supposed to be in actual rebellion.

We have heard of another country which was treated in a somewhat similar manner. It was a large and highly populous island, with a very numerous Negro population. At the date in question the Governor of that island had not long been appointed; he had discovered, from some sources which to this day remain totally unknown and unconfirmed, that the Negroes were on the verge of a universal insurrection. Military parties were sent over the whole island in order to take measures against the revolt. The officer of any one of the military parties thus distributed would come upon the estate of a planter, and inform him of the contemplated insurrection. A single case will show the object of this strange precautionary measure. The Planter receives his official visitor with surprise; he has heard of no insurrection amongst his slaves; in fact, he does not believe the story, and he avows his disbelief. Now surely the Planter ought, at least, to know more of his own men than a Lieutenant of infantry from a distance; particularly as the Lieutenant does not think fit to disclose a single fact in proof of the asserted revolt. A sudden light breaks upon the Planter: he is so confident of his slaves, that he offers to be bail for the whole body of them; and as a step "to make things pleasant," he offers a kind of free-will offering, say of three thousand dollars. The Lieutenant sees that the Planter understands matters; he has further to go in the course of his visitation, and he will call as he comes back. During the absence of the Lieutenant with his men, the Planter bethinks him that three thousand dollars is more than he is obliged to pay; and when the Lieutenant returns, the Planter is avowedly more convinced than ever that the slaves thought of nothing less than a revolt; so he proposes to make things pleasant on rather less expensive terms—to give, say only one thousand five hundred dollars. "Remember," says the Lieutenant, "that I did not ask you for any money at all; but since you have mentioned a sum, I cannot, of course, take less." And he goes away empty-handed. Soon after, however, he returns again, retaining his original conviction that the Negroes intended a revolt; and to punish them, a number of them are flogged. The flogging is so severe that many of them are permanently injured, and some of them are killed. The Planter estimates the injury to his property at the sum of ten thousand dollars. Other proprietors had not been guilty of the same backsliding, but equally perceiving the proper way to make things pleasant, they had persevered, and had secured immunity for their estates. It has been said that during the suppression of that apocryphal revolt, as many as ten thousand Negroes were killed. They were the property, of course, of the planters who had viewed the subject after what we may call our friend's "second manner." No Negroes were flogged to death on the estates of the planters that had made things pleasant. The Governor resided in the island not a very great number of years; he entered it a notoriously poor man—indeed it was his poverty, joined with the favour of his Sovereign, which caused him to receive the appointment; he left the island in the possession of a large fortune. That island was Cuba—the Governor was General O'DONNELL.

It is difficult for an Englishman to understand how the trade in suppressing imaginary revolts can be a profitable line of business; but in England we have contracted notions, and we have not the experiences which illustrate this species of commerce.

The Cuban tale, however, has a sequel not less interesting. General O'DONNELL returned to Spain. He was received as a man who had preserved to his Sovereign the brightest jewel in the Spanish diadem—the Queen of the Antilles. If the truth were known, it is possible that this Jeffries-like campaign is among the most powerful of the causes which have shaken to the very foundations the allegiance of Cuba to Spain,—which have loosened it from the original monarchy, and have rendered its future Sovereignty doubtful. However, for the time at least there was queenly gratitude for the manner in which the insurrectionary attempt of the Blacks had been prevented before it burst forth, and high favour was shown to the Spanish Colonel BLOOD. Decorum itself was transgressed, for he was made a nobleman of the highest rank. The story shows how many uses an insurrection seen *in futuro* may serve.

THE COUP D'ÉGLISE.

THE faithful Commons have not refused to assist Ministers in essentially changing the constitution of the Church of England. Much depends, as the saying is, upon the manner of doing the thing. The specific necessity which is pleaded on behalf of the measure might have been met without altering the state of the Church of England. Indeed, there is not a word to be said against providing for the proper performance of the episcopal duties in the sees of London and Durham, and for making all handsome provision on behalf of the two aged prelates. Dr. BLOMFIELD was born in 1786, and is therefore seventy years of age; but his condition of health is worse than might have been expected from the mere duration of his life. Dr. MALTBY was born in 1770, and is therefore eighty-six years of age. He has been twenty years in his present bishopric; he is fatigued; other men could perform the duties better; and he ought to have the right to retire. The two bishops are rich men, they have enjoyed handsome incomes for many years, and the relatives for whom they have provided might reasonably be expected to provide for them in return. We do not, however, hold with them who think that a State should be near in providing for its old servants. A handsome generosity is the very life-blood of social intercourse, for States as well as for every rank of life; and it is not well for the official body to set a bad example. The duties of the two sees must be performed. Lord PALMERSTON'S Government is answerable for the proper conduct of all public affairs, and in some way or other we might expect to see acting bishops appointed to London and Durham—of course with proper payment for the work done. Arrangements of this kind have been formerly made in various ways, by the appointment of Suffragan or Coadjutor Bishops. In the case of Bath and Wells, Sir ROBERT PEEL proposed, as it were, to place the see in commission; perhaps it is a still better plan to permit the aged Bishops to retire from duty, and to place the office in perfectly new hands. Any measure for this purpose, we conceive, ought to have nothing but support from Parliament, and from the public.

Ministers know exactly what was required at the end of last year. They have actually been considering the subject for the whole session, and we are prepared to say that the arrangements such as we have pointed out

might have been accomplished. It would no doubt have been necessary to consult the heads of the Church in order to ascertain how to provide for the retirement of the Bishops without disturbing the Apostolical succession. Lord PALMERSTON appears to think that if Coadjutor Bishops had been appointed, after the old plan, there might have been a conflict of authority between the Coadjutor and his chief, and that the Coadjutor would not have that distinction and influence which he ought to possess. Surely, however, if the State could interfere at all, it could interfere effectually. It could, for example, retain for the Bishop of LONDON the title and the actual possession of the see, but it could totally exclude him from interfering in its administration; could divert from him the larger part of the income, retaining only the retiring allowance. It could, in fact, leave him in possession of the palace, the title, and the "succession," while transferring the active ministration to the new Bishop with the certainty of succeeding to the post. This would, in fact, be to appoint a regent and heir to the Bishop. As a matter of business such a plan would have been quite as effectual; it would have been but slightly to modify the older practice of Coadjutor Bishops; it would not have disturbed the Apostolical succession. But, we repeat, there is a manner of doing the thing. We are not inclined to join in the common cry against Bishops as "rolling in purple and fine linen;" we do not cavil at giving 6000*l.* to the one, and 4500*l.* to the other. Their names have been in the list of peers; their pensions do not greatly exceed high judicial pensions; their age is greatly advanced, and the enjoyment of the pay is not likely to be protracted. It is not we, therefore, who speak in terms of slight.

But when Lord PALMERSTON, with his easy manner, tells us that the Bishop of LONDON, "instead of laying up treasures on earth, has sought rather for *those* treasures," &c., it is impossible to avoid laughing at the manner of presenting clerical mortification. In truth, "the Bishop has not made any other provision for his family than that which arises from insurances on his life"—that is, just about the most economical mode of saving. Now, we do not object to Dr. BLOMFIELD for effecting an insurance upon his life, but surely that act of providence does not constitute a special claim upon Parliament. If that is presented as one of the peculiar claims of Dr. BLOMFIELD, it does compel us to note that the real plea advanced on behalf of the Bishop's petition is, that he has been rich and has tried to make his family rich after him. The civil servant, for example, who has enjoyed a salary of 60*l.* a year, and who is superannuated upon a pension of 20*l.* a year, will be "quite unable to keep up the insurances" that he has *not* effected; and the absence of a policy would, in strict humanity, be a *stronger* claim upon our sympathy and aid, than the possession of a property which has a saleable value.

If Lord PALMERSTON had told us that the Bishop had established an office, "not for insurances in *this* world," but for effecting insurances in the future, by great sacrifices; if he had shown us practically how to obtain a policy in that office, the plea would have been irresistible. But, perhaps, it could not have been urged in support of a pension of 6000*l.*

The one difficulty that ought really to have made the Minister pause, was the treatment of Apostolical succession. How can Lord PALMERSTON take away the episcopal character from CHARLES JAMES BLOMFIELD? The Premier, indeed, did not consider this point at all. He was not obstructed by the difficulty;

he did not try to untie the knot; he *cut* it—he cut the succession! We are in future to have Parliament-made Bishops. As to the Apostolical succession, it is not even worth debate; it cannot for a moment be set in comparison with the succession of premium on a life-policy. If any of us have supposed that there was a mysterious virtue in the Church of England from that Apostolical succession, the delusion will be entirely dissipated by the union of the Executive, Lords, and Commons in disposing of the episcopal office.

The Established faith has had some few hard knocks lately. When this week Mr. HEYWOOD pointed out a number of fatal mis-translations in the acknowledged version of the Scriptures, proposing a revision, he was answered by Sir GEORGE GREY, that to alter the translation would "unsettle the faith of the people." The faith of the people, therefore, depends upon the maintenance of an erroneous translation! It is not very long since that Mr. M'NAUGHT was expelled from the Clerical Society of Liverpool because he had expressed doubts in his own mind as to the "verbal inspirational infallibility" of the Scriptures; a member of the society who expelled him said that "he would not stoop to pick up a copy of the Scriptures, if he doubted the absolute verbal infallibility of every part." How is the Reverend HUGH M'NEILE's friend reconciled with Sir GEORGE GREY? Sir GEORGE affirms that he dares not investigate the text of the authorized volume, which is issued by the authorized printer, and Lord PALMERSTON does not think the Apostolical succession worth debate. It is not sceptics or Dissenters who have put forward these strange avowals with respect to the Church of England.

FIRST FRUITS OF BONAPARTISM IN SPAIN.

THE events which have just occurred in Spain would be a lesson to the world, if the world ever learned by experience. We much question, however, whether the *coup d'état* of General O'DONNELL will have any other effect than the *coup d'état* of LOUIS NAPOLEON. It will demoralize, if that be possible, the country in which it has taken place, and contribute to corrupt and confuse the public conscience throughout Europe. Success always finds its devotees, and we shall presently begin to hear that O'DONNELL is a good and a great man.

It is now full six years since every one who took the slightest trouble to become acquainted with the progress of ideas from the changes of situation in France, foresaw that a burglarious attack was about to be made on the Republican Constitution. On all hands the press raised its warning voice; but was, of course, not listened to. The people supposed to possess "special information" smiled knowingly, and shrugged their shoulders, and talked contemptuously of alarmists. Innocent Republicans and terrible Socialists were allowed to have the greater part of the talk to themselves. Sham *émeutes* were got up here and there. Frightful doctrines were imagined by timid or venal journalists, and attributed to opponents whose existence even has remained problematical. Meanwhile, the Imperial conspiracy was carried on openly. It was secret only as to the time of execution. The whole political world looked forward to a *coup d'état* as we look forward to thunderstorms in summer. They must come, but no one knows on what day.

Yet, when the fearful crime was committed, every one pretended to be not only shocked but surprised. With the exception of the few inveterate newsmongers, who will have

it that they have foreseen everything at the risk of being taken for accomplices before the fact in all poisonings and murders, no one cared to acknowledge to what extent his moral complicity had been carried. It was generally felt that he who had foreseen might have assisted to prevent; and among diplomats and statesmen there was a very general and very beautiful display of the best feelings of human nature. Who could have supposed that any man was so wicked as to break his oath and murder his fellow citizens in order to obtain supreme power?

The first moments of indignation and astonishment being passed, these virtuous persons found ample reasons for accepting established facts; and, with rare and honourable exceptions, seeing the new sort of despotism established, began to flatter it. France had been saved from anarchy; the French were unfit for freedom; a strong government at Paris would add to the securities of European peace; and if LOUIS NAPOLEON's means of obtaining power were somewhat equivocal, let bygones be bygones.

But the *coup d'état* is not a bygone. If it had been a bygone, the condition of France would not have encouraged every military adventurer throughout Europe to expect the sanction of England to any act of successful treachery. If it had been a bygone, the Queen of SPAIN, and the desperadoes surrounding her, would not have dared to mimic the treason of LOUIS NAPOLEON and St. ARNAUD. What has been the history of the plot prepared by O'DONNELL and his accomplices against the constitutional laws of Spain?

They are the inferior men, we are told, who usually succeed in civil conflicts. They were resisted by virtue, and not by audacity. Rumours of their conspiracy floated from Madrid to the provinces, but were treated with contempt by public leaders of unblemished reputation. The scheme was concocted in the dark. O'DONNELL and his associates forced on a crisis. The capital was surrounded by troops. At the first opportunity the troops fired upon the people. There was a battle in the streets; the Constitutionalists were surprised and overpowered.

That is the sketch presented by a journalist who writes in the interest of order. In what does it differ from the history of France under the presidency of LOUIS NAPOLEON? Only in two particulars. First, we have not yet heard of any indiscriminate massacre in Madrid, such as that which was perpetrated in cold blood in the streets of Paris. Then, the resistance of the Spanish nation appears to be vigorous, and there is a chance that the military conspirators may be overwhelmed and punished.

France is told to be content. "If the new revolution of Madrid be framed in imitation of LOUIS NAPOLEON's conduct," why should he interfere? Such is the suggestion of journalists who dread a Peninsular War. But to suppose that the French Emperor would not interfere to prevent a liberal reaction, is to ignore the truth, that the *coup d'état* in Spain was instigated from Paris, that the old Queen CHRISTINA has been in perpetual communication, for several months past, with the Court of the Tuileries, that it is the policy of the French Empire to suppress the constitutional liberties of the Continent, and that England, under Lord PALMERSTON's Government, has been dragged by LOUIS NAPOLEON wherever it has been his will to go.

CORN, CASH, AND CREDIT.

THE actual circumstances of Europe and America tell us that within the next commercial year there will be an immense amount of trading, and of honest profit thus accruing;

and that there will be also an immense amount of false trading quite as fraudulent as the schemes of JOSEPH WINDLE COLE, JOHN SADLER, or JOHN DEAN PAUL, though presenting a more commercial mask. Thus many persons will make large fortunes, many will lose fortunes, and some who stand between will find their honest earnings taken out of their hands by business speculators. We could foretell this without the aid of ZADKIEL. Indeed it is told already in some of the great facts before us.

Sir JOHN FITZGERALD endeavoured the other night to procure the assistance of our Ministers in getting a fulfilment of Spanish obligations towards English creditors. In 1851 the Five per Cent. stock of Spain was converted into a One per Cent. stock, the interest to increase in the course of three years to a Three per Cent. stock. Spain is continually making these exchanges, converting her stock, capitalizing her interest. Having got English money to the amount of 8,000,000*l.*, she finds a difficulty in repaying. We easily see the reason why. She is at the mercy of a Court which thinks only of the revenue for pleasure's sake; of Ministers who are continually fighting each other; of parties which contend for supremacy; of a Priesthood which prevents education; and so Spain produces no more than the mere force of nature pushes through the soil, or than the rudest mediæval industry could make of the abundant raw material.

The French were in the habit of hoarding away their cash. M. PEREIRE, one of the Socialist leaders of the St. Simonian sect, has shown them how to combine capitals with great profit. The Crédit Mobilier has set going much profit, and much productive industry that would otherwise have been dormant. This is done in a great degree by credit. Credit becomes the great talisman for France. Crédits Mobiliers are established in all directions; Germany imitates, and great capital are got up to be employed *somewhere*. But who can discriminate between the real commercial purposes of those undertakings, and the mere getting up of joint-stock mockeries of commerce?

Under the impulse of this new worship of credit, with some stimulus of real industry, France has engaged in enormous expenditures, some at home, some in every part of the world—in many quarters of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. France has now for months been labouring under an incessant and insatiable craving for more money to meet those demands. At the present moment, as the *Daily News* discloses, France is buying up all our importations of gold. Contracts are now in course of fulfilment to furnish four millions. By an ingenious contrivance, this is not bought of the Bank, which cannot sell it under 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.*, but of those who would otherwise lodge it with the Bank, sometimes, at 3*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*; and the consequence is a steady subtraction from the golden basis of our monetary credit. There is, however, another reason not so clearly explained for this decline in the price of gold. It is of course not a decline in the value of gold as compared with commodities generally; quite the reverse. California and Australia barely keep pace with the rapid expansion of the demand in Europe. The true cause is, that there is a still greater devouring of silver for the European continent and for India; and that therefore the value of silver by which the price of gold is measured has increased in proportion to gold.

Money, gold or silver, is rising in value through these demands in France, Germany, and other countries affected by the Crédit Mobilier mania; hence, partly the rise in the

price of bread and meat with us; of which, however, we have lately pointed out other causes. Our opinion that the price of bread in particular is beyond all reason, is confirmed by the latest accounts from America. Increased demands have gone over from France, and from Europe generally, yet such are the stores of wheat already existing that they are ample to meet the current demand at New York. What is there behind? The crops are in a magnificent state; a private letter says:—

"We are having a pleasant summer—no epidemics or prevalent sickness—and the whole country is covered with one of the most luxuriant crops of grass and grain ever produced, while Indian corn and potatoes look equally promising as the grain. Money is plentiful, and the prospect of a continued peace with John Bull and the 'rest of mankind,' makes business men feel cheerful."

This is the true test of commercial progress—the production of articles which the largest number of mankind desire. What is "credit?" It is belief; it is the commercial belief in the future increase of solid wealth from a particular series of transactions. Some of the Crédits Mobiliers on the Continent will mobilize credit out of all existence; the money turned will diminish at every turn, with nothing in the place of it. The credit which we gain from the United States is purchased by us with the goods which we send over to be worn and used up by living men; those living men employing the limbs which we help to warm, the hands which we furnish with tools, in growing for us good, wholesome, pleasant-tasting bread. If we do not want the bread, they have the more for themselves; and that is wealth in which man can never be too rich, bread, meat, food, pleasant clothing, and habitable houses. We should be all the richer, our commerce with America would be all the greater and all the safer, if we used up more of our wealth in the direct reproductive form. Mr. MECHE showed them how, the other day, at Tiptree. On some of the worst land in Essex, he has made one of the finest farms in the whole world. For every 2*l.* of manure extra he obtains 4*l.* worth of corn. He expends money in irrigation, and gets four good feedings off his Italian rye-grass in one year—four and something more. "If all the farms in the kingdom were cultivated after my method," he said, "they would be able to supply food to the whole community without recourse being had to importation." The merchant in manure may safely give MECHE credit to the extent of twice two pounds, and both will be the richer by the transaction. The dealer in agricultural tools may safely give credit to Mr. MECHE, for the tools lodged with MECHE will bring far more than their own worth, and both will be the richer for the investment.

Neither you nor we who read and write, can at once alter the current of commerce by noting these facts. We must put up with the drain upon our cash-box, brought upon us by the synthetic German imitations of French beginnings in the credit line. We must pay the price that corn-dealers wantonly inflict upon us, while they last. We must be content to see beggarly Englishmen walking about beggarly land. But, as the knowledge and understanding of facts expand, opinion forms; genuine credit will extend, false credit will be seen through, riches will be diffused, and we shall attain to that height of wisdom which consists in knowing our own interest. Some folks indeed think we do so already!—with Spain, the miller, M. PEREIRE and his German-silver counterfeit laughing at us!

THE FARCE OF FROME.

WHO made Sir WILLIAM WILLIAMS Member for Calne? The Marquis of LANSD-

DOWNE. Who made Major BOYLE Member for Frome? The BOYLE family. Neither of these places is to be found in the modern gazetteers; but they divide between them a three-hundredth part in the government of the British Empire. Taken together, they represent as much parliamentary power as Marylebone, with its twenty thousand electors, and its three hundred and seventy thousand inhabitants; whereas their united registrations amount to little more than five hundred electors, and their united populations to less than fifteen thousand. This is a conspicuous illustration of the plan by which one-sixth of the registered voters of the United Kingdom are enabled to return a majority of the House of Commons.

We say *enabled*; but we might say *forced*. What is Calne? A little borough mouldering on the banks of the Merlan, a relic of pot-wallopper glory. Many German dukedoms are more important. Like those sovereign dukedoms, it has a constitution and a standing army, the constitution being a mayor, four aldermen, and twelve councillors, and the standing army a headle. In ancient days, when BRUCE and BALIOL were candidates for the Scottish crown, when CORVINO was preaching to the Tartars, when Genoa began to glow in marble on the purple coasts of the South when the Knights Hospitallers were retiring to Cyprus, the Merlan weavers, subjects of the Barons of Kerry, were first represented in Parliament by one member, and so have they continued, and now, being an appanage of the same family, with the eightfold coronet of LANSDOWNE, they elect the LANSDOWNE member. Generally the Marquises have chosen one of their own blood to occupy this seat in the House of Commons. Now and then, however, they have picked out a favourite of their party, as DUNNING, BARRÉ, JEKYLL, MACAULAY, and General WILLIAMS. The constituent body, however, composed of five ancient burgesses and about a hundred and fifty-two ten-pound householders, is gradually dwindling away, so that, ultimately, a jury of broad-cloth weavers may represent the British Constitution at Calne.

Frome is a more lively borough, the BOYLES not having bought up all the electors. Frome possesses, in fact, an independent party, which has endeavoured to vindicate the eternal and inalienable rights of the human race, by declaring that though the BOYLES belong to Frome, Frome does not belong to the BOYLES. The vote of one Somerset brewer, however, is said to have turned the scale, and the Earls of CORK and ORRERY are still the feudal Seigneurs of Frome.

The history of this borough involves us in less pedantry than is inevitable, when we trace with admiration the chronicles of ancient Calne decaying on the banks of Merlan waters. Frome was not an integral part of the British Constitution until 1832, when, to balance the new constituencies, such as that of Birmingham, the CORK and SHEPPARD interest was endowed with the votes of about three hundred electors, there being, even then, a small independent party at Frome. We know not what has become of the SHEPPARD people—of that THOMAS SHEPPARD who progressed so magically from Liberalism to Liberal Conservatism, to Conservatism, and to Protection; or of his heirs, representatives, and assigns. Certain it is that, fifteen years ago, the SHEPPARDS discontinued their old practice of sending themselves to Parliament. Whether their influence was bought, borrowed, broken up, or carried away; or whether they retired, like weary emperors, from publicares, the BOYLES, whom they had defeated in two elections, elected themselves in July, 1847, July, 1852, March, 1853, and July, 1856.

Three times without opposition. But the cloth and silk-weavers, ale-brewers, and iron-workers of Frome have long determined to see their borough free, and DONALD NICHOL, known to the City of London as an ex-Sheriff, and to a certain class, in a certain way, as an employer, is the elect of the Frome Liberals. As when the Greeks and Trojans, Guelphs and Ghibellines, the Red and White Roses, the Church and the Reformation, were at war, and shepherds saw from afar the smoke of burning cities, so did the battle rage, and telegraphs flashed hourly to an expectant Commonwealth the announcement that BOYLE had headed NICHOL, or NICHOL headed BOYLE, that the bloated aristocracy had trampled down the nation, or that the man of the people had triumphed and asserted Magna Charta, the Bill of Rights, and those glorious principles which have made Great Britain all she is, and will make her all she can ever hope to be, with more to follow.

BOYLE, however, beat NICHOL. In the morning NICHOL was in a proud position, at the head of the poll, being two in advance of BOYLE. The Boylians then rallied, and NICHOL, nine in the rear, was compelled to remind the Fromites that England expected every man to do his duty. Whereupon the independent electors made a national effort, and placed the two candidates upon a level. The heart of NICHOL throbbed. But "a BOYLE, a BOYLE," was sounded, and NICHOL was one behind. Him rescuing, a pale silkweaver, passing through the ranks of three thousand non-electors—as base as the rabble of Braintree—gave his name firmly at the hustings, and once more it seemed that the vital principles of the Constitution for which our forefathers fought and bled, and which carried England in safety through the convulsions of 1848, Sir, would have a memorable triumph at Frome. CORK and ORRERY, however, possessed a reserve, and, at the last moment, when NICHOL had not one voter left, that inauspicious brewer at the butt end of the election rolled to the front, proved his qualification, gave his suffrage, and decided that the family, not the borough, should be represented in Parliament.

Meanwhile, at least three thousand non-electors, full-grown men, looked on, or stayed at home, animated or otherwise by the farce. They were of the residue—if they had opinions, it would have been impertinent to repress them. The three hundred voters would "indirectly" guard their interests, and Major BOYLE, the representative of a hundred and fifty-eight subjects of his family, would go to Parliament full of urbane resolves in their behalf.

But there is yet one chance against him. There will be a scrutiny, and the result of this scrutiny may be that two of Major BOYLE's constituents may be expunged, and the hundred and fifty-seven voters be represented instead of the hundred and fifty-eight. That will indeed be a triumph. Only, suppose the majority of the nation were to object to this process, and to insist that an election should be something more than a farce?

They might then substitute a real for an unreal representation, a serious parliament for a parliament that is superannuated and ridiculous.

MR. CHARLES MATHEWS, the comedian, has filed his schedule in the County Court at Lancaster, under the Insolvent Debtors Act. The document contains a number of creditors. The debts in the aggregate are set forth at 9781*l*. Of that sum, 626*l*. are without consideration. Upwards of 1000*l*. are more than once entered on the schedule, reducing the debts for which value had been received to 7551*l*., incurred from June, 1854. The insolvency is attributed to the unfortunate speculation in the Lyceum Theatre (by which 5000*l*. were lost), and to the removal of old debts under his bankruptcy.

MR. THACKERAY has a new serial work, in monthly parts, in preparation.

Open Council.

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

A REMONSTRANCE WITH THE CRITICS.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Although you seem to differ from me on some of the details of Italian politics, I trust you will give me an opportunity of answering in your columns certain unwarrantable remarks that have been made in the English press with reference to my recent work on the Subalpine Kingdom. I address myself to you, partly because on most matters of principle and political doctrine I cordially agree with you, partly because I know that the *Leader* is much read and respected in Italy. I wish my explanations to be known in Turin as well as in London.

I have often observed that if in ordinary life you make a statement, modified by restrictions, to an irritable person who expects you to agree with him unreservedly, he is apt at once to class you with determined opponents of his views. Because I have not joined in the foolish, unrestricted praise which has hitherto been lavished on Piedmont, or rather on the persons actually in power in that country—praise put forward by interested individuals and repeated from want of information—I am accused of being inimical to its progress. It is curious to notice that even in English papers Piedmontese politics are discussed in this eminently Piedmontese way. Nothing satisfies Count Cavour and his party except awe-stricken admiration. The writers for the ministerial press of Turin are generally the *pique-assiettes* of some powerful courtier; and it is easy to recognize the parasite in their style. It is not to be expected that such persons should have any very great regard for truth; and accordingly the statements circulated in England, generally with reference to Piedmont, and particularly with reference to my work, are characterized by extreme recklessness. The ignorance of editors has been calculated on, and not without reason in some cases.

I should rather say that statements are made concerning me personally totally at variance with fact; and it is this new style of criticism that chiefly provokes me to write. Several journals have indulged in small biographical sketches, against which I must strongly protest. It seems to be agreed unanimously that having spent the greater part of my life among "Red Republicans" in Paris, I was transferred to the society of extreme liberals or democrats in Piedmont; and that I have made it my business to reflect blindly the opinions of the men with whom I have come in contact. It is quite a revelation to me if this be the way that writers in the English press come by their ideas. I suppose that critics speak from their own experience; and because they make themselves the echo of one circle, fancy that whoever disagrees with them must make himself the echo of another.

The time has not yet come for me to write my autobiography; but such accusations having been put forward most perseveringly, I hope it will not be thought that I am eager to take an opportunity of speaking of myself, if I say that my system of obtaining information has always been the very opposite of that attributed to me. I did not go to France for my democratic opinions,—I was born and bred to them; and before I went to Paris was too confirmed in my views to run any risk of being corrupted in that capital of extravagant theories and impractical men. Where do the reviewers see any traces of my adoption of French ideas? What French republican will accept me as a comrade and endorse my views of the policy of his party? It is quite true that I have not joined in the vulgar and ignorant abuse that has been lavished on men who, with all their faults, are the most respectable that France possesses. It is quite true, also, that although I have taken my liberal principles from England, I have endeavoured to leave behind English prejudices in discussing French facts; and was not disgusted, because, when our neighbours overthrew a government which we would have overthrown ourselves, they took counsel of the circumstances by which they were surrounded, of their past history, and their national character, instead of stupidly endeavouring to apply some English remedy to their case. In the absence of an honest dynasty, monarchical constitutionalism is impossible in France. Englishmen who become convinced of this fact fly into a passion, call for despotism, and, when it comes, say, "The only government fit for the vagabonds!" I think I am more moderate and reasonable in maintaining that, respect for monarchy and respect for aristocracy being eradicated from the Gallic race, the establishment of a democracy would do no more than place that country on a level in progress with ourselves. An English House of Commons, elected in a little fairer way than our present one—say according to the law withdrawn "in tears" at the commencement of the war and never heard of since—

agents,
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about

perfectly co-operate with a National Assembly. I wish it to be observed that I have excepted the monarchical element of our country from my strictures on monarchy—of course pretending to maintain that it is an essential part of a good government. I am quite sure that no one will take this exception for a political concession.

On what ground, then, is the English public informed that I have been "living for some years in Paris, in society not of good political repute—that of the Red Republicans;" that I have been in the "habit of familiar intercourse with members of the extreme democratic party;" and so forth? I have certainly always endeavoured to see the people of whose characters and opinions it might be my lot to speak, to converse with them, and obtain their confidence, instead of adopting vague reports, and picking up the bitter scandal of political opponents. In the case of the French republicans, I have found their private characters to be so pure in comparison with the private characters of many of the chief men of other parties, that I have certainly been offended by the tone of violent detraction adopted towards them in the English press; and have thought it proper to be lenient in judging of their public acts even when I most disagreed with them. The absence of the usual scurrility in my pages seems to have led many unreasoning persons to believe that I am "a Red" myself. But because I refuse to say—lying—that a certain party, whose views I do not adopt, is composed of cannibals and spoliators, it is rather hard not only to identify me with them, but to found biographical surmises thereon, and deliver them to the confiding public as information from behind the scenes.

It is not incumbent on me to describe my social experiences in France and Piedmont. I may be allowed, however, to deny what one journal affirms, namely, that I studied politics during a *Three Years' Residence in a Levantine Family*; to affirm that, in Paris I have seen far more of Legitimist and Orleanist society than Republican—Bonapartists I generally avoid, because they are not respectable;—and that, in fact, my system always has been to consort with persons of opposite opinions to myself. Truth comes out in the collision of minds. There is no greater mistake than darning on in company with people who never differ from you. I believe that, after having satisfied the sentiment, I should have cut the Republicans altogether, had I not found an infinite number of points on which we could dispute.

As to Piedmont, although it has been impertinently said that I knew no one there but Valerio, I shall not enumerate the persons with whom I came in contact. I have given my reasons for this discretion in the fourth chapter of my second volume. It is extremely improper to introduce nominally the persons who receive you hospitably in a foreign country—especially when you have to differ from them. All I shall say, therefore, on this point is, that among my many introductions I had one from the person best fitted in this country to give it to the person best suited in Piedmont to receive it. My other introductions, direct and indirect, with one exception, were to supporters of the Ministry. A friend procured me one from a very distinguished Italian to Lorenzo Valerio; but I did not present it at first, and when I did so, thought I was received with coldness and suspicion. It was only when I found that among the Ministerialists I could get no accurate information—that they were only inclined to "cram" me with fulsome praises of Count Cavour, and libels against the private characters of all liberals—that I was awakened to the necessity of seeing unofficial people. I remember one evening at the Opera, whilst listening to La Piccolomini, asking M. — in presence of some ladies, wives of senators and deputies, for information about a distinguished orator. He drew me a little aside and whispered the horrid fact that that gentleman had "two wives!" "So had the king," replied I, "before he became a widower," &c. &c. I assure you, sir, that if it had not been for several small facts of this kind, I should have forgotten, in that agreeable society, to use the means I generally employ for ascertaining the truth. I went to Valerio and opened my heart to him. I believe we understood one another—at any rate I learned to respect and love him. But it is a gross absurdity to try, against my most positive statements, to make him responsible for the opinions I have put forward in my work. I have never yet adopted any man's opinions. Valerio and myself differ on many most essential points—and especially on the necessity of telling the whole truth with reference to Piedmont. He repeatedly refused to enter into details on certain points, because he thought it inopportune to speak about them, so that—as I believed that England should not be kept in the dark—I was obliged to go to other sources which I do not choose to enumerate. To sum up my personal experiences in Piedmont, I was led by introduction among the Ministerialists, by accident among the reactionists, by necessity as well as taste among the extreme liberals. I saw little or nothing of the disciples of Mazzini, between whom

and the Constitutional liberals there is a strong opposition which I regret and condemn. As for Mazzini, I will not libel him—though I am far from belonging to his school—and this is a reason why Piedmontese courtiers will always anathematize me. I was really nauseated at Turin by the silly things I heard said about that great patriot. Ladies crossed themselves at mention of his name. A pistol shot was fired at, or near, a quiet old man, while I was in Turin, by some scoundrel. Immediately it was stated to me that formerly the frightened gentleman had held some political appointment in the Legations; and that he had been set down for assassination by the agents of Mazzini! When M. Turr, the Hungarian, was piratically seized by the Austrians, all the Ministerialists I heard speak of the matter, except M. Torelli, a Lombard, began to take away his character, and advise his abandonment because he was an "agent of Mazzini."

But it is not surprising that this uncompromising opponent of the dishonest Italian monarchies should be libelled to strangers in Piedmont. All members of the opposition, all members of the movement party, are treated in precisely the same way; and, in fact, nothing is tolerated but abject submission to the designs of the dynasty—tolerated in Ministerial society I mean; for the laws of the country allow very great latitude to the expression of opinion.

I believe that one of my reviewers is the "bastard Piedmontese" whose Mazzinian doings have been so vigorously exposed by Pinelli in his *Military History of Piedmont*. I judge so from internal evidence. If I am right there is nothing at all startling to me in the fact that, in order to commit the paper in which he has procured the insertion of his notice, he should deny the existence even of places with which he must be perfectly familiar. One of our most brilliant members of Parliament once astonished the House by pretending to be ignorant of the whereabouts of Bedford-place, in which he lived. It is equally amusing to see, coming from the source to which I allude, a disclaimer of any acquaintance with the gambling-tables of Amphion. I refer the reader to the guide-book of Mortillet, to the letters of M. Conziè des Charmettes, which I have published, and to any traveller in Savoy, for an elucidation of this geographical difficulty. "These are the merest trifles," says the reviewer. Certainly; but the importance given to this ludicrous denial of the existence of a place which is as well known in the Sardinian States as Cheltenham is in England, exhibits the animus of my assailant.*

I shall not at present, however, show in how many other particulars this reviewer, presuming on the ignorance of Piedmontese affairs in which England has been so cleverly kept, ventures to deny matters which are as clear as noonday. Whilst presumptuously questioning my statements, he admits the most important of them. In reply to my accusations against Charles Albert, he follows the custom of the day, and puts in the plea of *imbecility*. This already takes us very far from the character implied by the epithet *Magnanimous*. As to Victor Emmanuel, the "chivalrous young king," he is now admitted to be "ill-educated" and "dangerous from his want of knowledge and capacity." This is about my representation of his character, except that I add that there are five or six facts in his career which do not square with our ideas of honesty. The great questions to be discussed are: Did Victor Emmanuel begin his political life by an attempted anti-constitutional insurrection at Alexandria whilst his father was still reigning? Did he revenge the failure of the attempt by dismissing Messrs. Tarrena and Rodini as soon as he came to power, and have not these gentlemen been always under a cloud since? Did he not associate exclusively with the Codini who demoralized the troops at Novara, and, in fact, persuaded the men to run away, and leave Charles Albert in the lurch? Did not Charles Albert quit Piedmont without seeing his son, and die, proclaiming that he had been betrayed? Did not Victor Emmanuel force the Chamber of Deputies to sanction his submission to Austria by repeated dissolutions? Was not the proclamation of Moncalieri a distinct threat of a *coup d'état* in connivance with Austria, if a majority were refused to the king? In real constitutional countries, when the constituencies send up a majority of members of a particular opinion, a ministry is constituted from amongst them. This has never been the case in Piedmont. The character of a ministry has never had anything to do with the situation of parliamentary parties. This is why I say that the Constitutional experiment is not fairly tried. That it is not, is admitted by my most violent critic, when he says:—"Liberty, as now enjoyed in Piedmont, was originally, and is even now, the spontaneous gift of the king." Imagine liberty in England having been the spontaneous gift of William III., and remaining the spontaneous gift of Queen Victoria! Spontaneous

* I allude to the criticism in the *Daily News*, which journal has since courteously allowed me to correct in its columns some of the errors into which its occasional contributor had fallen. Amphion is the place, near Ivrea, where the mineral waters and gambling-house are to be found.

gift indeed! Charles Albert was the very last king in Italy to yield to the thundered popular demand for Reform; and it was only when the Neapolitan tyrant had granted a constitution that, urged by fear and lured by ambition, he at length, with much tribulation and reluctance, gave his consent. The writer in the *Daily News* forgot that he was addressing an English public when he talked of liberty as a gift. We usually call it a concession.

I think I have now said sufficient to explain the position I have taken up in the discussion of the Piedmontese question. My great complaint is that internal improvements have been almost entirely postponed in favour of external intrigues. The House of Savoy, now as in all times, is looking to aggrandizement, no matter in what quarter. To attain this end it resorts to liberalism as a "dodge"—a point of view implicitly admitted by the critic to whom I principally refer when he tells us that "there never has been a moment in which the king could not have freely and openly" committed a *coup d'état* if he had chosen. Heaven help the country where liberty is held on such a tenure as this! My complaint has no other scope. I say that the constitution in Piedmont is to a great extent a sham, that it is kept up to delude liberal Europe and Italy, that the people have no guarantees for their freedom, that they know this, and that this knowledge prevents them from manifesting their real opinions at elections. I also say that the liberals of Italy share my discontent, and that if they did not, the Congress of Paris would have been followed by an insurrection and the expulsion of the Austrians. No one cares to fight in order to exchange the government of Austria for that of Victor Emmanuel so long as he keeps this power of "freely and openly" taking back his "spontaneous gift." Here is the sore point. In 1848 the Italians would not submit unconditionally to Piedmont. Neither will they in 1856. This is the secret of the new anti-revolutionary theory preached by Massimo d'Azeglio and his friends. Before 1848, these gentlemen were always endeavouring to rouse the people, because, in their enormous self-complacency and want of knowledge of human nature, they imagined that what would satisfy them must necessarily satisfy everybody. It was very clearly expressed to them, during the few months when the Italian people could express their ideas, that something more was wanted than they had ever dreamed of. Now, therefore, we hear of nothing in Piedmontese high circles but savage sneers against the secret societies of which Mr. Monckton Milnes speaks so respectfully; and against all attempts at progress from below. The fashionable notion at present is, that the population must not speak, but must throw itself humbly at the feet of the Savoyard dynasty. Against this I protest and shall always protest. If Victor Emmanuel desires to become the chief man in Italy, let him discard his exclusive, aristocratic ministers; let him draw the sword at the proper moment; let him gain victories; let him call together a constituent assembly freely elected, and trust his fate in their hands. The chief fault of the people in all countries is, that they are too enthusiastic in their gratitude; and I am afraid that many a Republican would be carried away to acclaim a brave young monarch, no matter what his antecedents, who should discard the huckstering ways of his ancestors, and not stipulate the price of his assistance beforehand. I think I should be weak enough myself to join the cry. But when I see an attempt made to stifle the popular voice, when I see true liberals assailed with calumny and ridicule,—above all, when I see unmistakable signs that Count Cavour, representing his master, is endeavouring to arrange Italian affairs without consulting Italian feelings, seeking his inspiration at the Tuileries instead of in the heart of the people with whose interests he is entrusted,—when I see English influence utterly set aside, our money accepted and our wishes disregarded, whilst all official minds are prostrate before France, I think it is high time to raise a cry of alarm. I believe the effect of the revelations which will no doubt now be provoked, will probably be to postpone the flagitious attempt which was to have been made to bring about a new partition of Italy. So much the better. Victor Emmanuel is still a very young man. He will probably live to be thankful that he was not allowed to throw away his chance of being King or Podesta of all Italy, in order to obtain early possession of a few provinces, which would always have been disaffected, and to keep down which he would have been obliged, periodically, to call in the assistance of France or the new kingdom in the South. There is no likelihood that English influence will continue to be null on the continent; or that Imperialism is to have a much longer lease of existence. In the meantime, though Italy should of course accept any unforeseen chance of deliverance that may offer, it is not the duty of good men to excite her to spend her blood and her energies.

I am, sir, yours obediently,
BAYLE ST. JOHN.

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*.

It is a fact demonstrable by statistics that our forefathers lived, increased the number of visitors at "Nature's banquet," and for the most part died in their beds, unless drowned or hung. The fact, we say, has unimpeachable evidence; and against the rocky stubbornness of fact, the groundswell of speculation vainly dashes its waves; nevertheless speculation will restlessly beat against the rock, and will ask: How was it possible for men to live in such social anarchy? How did they escape the manifold ills and perils which it is proved they did escape? How was life secured? Above all, how was property amassed, in days when the new police was an undeveloped idea? Read the *Quarterly*, just out, and in one of those extremely attractive articles, partly philosophical partly gossiping, in which the *Quarterly* treats social topics, you will learn what is the régime you do not live under:—

Most men who have arrived at that age when the last one or two buttons of the waistcoat are allowed to be unloosened after dinner, can remember the time when the safety of life and property in the metropolis depended upon the efforts of the parochial watchman, a species of animal after the model of the old hackney coachman, encumbered with the self same drab greatcoat, with countless capes, with the self same Belcher handkerchief, or comforter, speaking in the same husky voice, and just as sottish, stupid, and uncivil. At night—for it was not thought worth while to set a watch in the day time—the authorities provided him with a watch-box in order that he might enjoy his snooze in comfort, and furnished him with a huge lantern in order that its rays might enable the thief to get out of his way in time. As if these aids to escape were not sufficient for the midnight marauder, the watchman was provided with a staff with which he thundered on the pavement as he walked, a noise which he alternated with crying the hour and the state of the weather in a loud singing voice, and which told of his whereabouts when he himself was far out of sight.

The laws were as savage as the prevention was lax. In the first year of this century legists counted one hundred and sixty capital crimes, and among these capital crimes were the destruction of a dam in a fishpond, or the cutting down of an apple tree! We rode lately outside a coach (in a primitive district where coaches still run) and were edified by listening to the complaints which a mild but rather deaf old gentleman was uttering respecting the ancient laxity of the laws. "Why," formerly, he said, with utter gravity, "there was no punishment for stealing a ferret." His friend shouted in his ear this reply, the effect of which was exquisitely ludicrous: "Except... the... chance... of getting... well... bitten!" And probably our ancestors thought that punishment enough. At any rate they thought that man could take care of himself, as well as a ferret; and it is probably this fact—namely, that our forefathers were their own police—which accounts for the statistical fact mentioned at the outset of this article. We have delegated our self-defence to the "Crushers." Who keeps a blunderbuss in his bedroom, now, or sleeps with a sabre by his bedside? Even the bellicose Brown snores in serenity conscious that Policeman X watches for him.

That PEARL's scheme for the protection of London was an admirable one the result has eloquently proved. There is no one thing in which England so completely transcends the world as in her police. It is the least offensive and most defensive police known anywhere. Foreigners are all struck with the courtesy and efficiency of the men. Yet their introduction was accompanied by the usual Jeremiads: England was lost if she adopted this New Police!—Let us not waste our space on retrospects, but employ it more worthily in extracting what the *Quarterly* tells us of the present:—

At the present time the Metropolitan Police Force consists of a Chief Commissioner Sir Richard Mayne, 2 Assistant-Commissioners, Captain Labalmondiere and Captain Harris, 18 Superintendents, 133 Inspectors, 625 Sergeants, and 4954 Constables, making a total of all ranks of 5733. The machinery by which this comparatively small force is enabled to watch by night and day every alley, street, and square of this vast metropolis, nay, tries every accessible door and window of its 400,000 houses, patrols 90 square miles of country, exercises a surveillance over the 8000 reputed thieves who prey upon its inhabitants, and keeps in awe the 40,000 or 50,000 people who form "the uneasy classes" of the metropolis, is not very complicated. The Metropolitan Police district extends from Charing Cross 15 miles in every direction, and includes the whole of Middlesex and large portions of Surrey, Hertfordshire, Essex, Kent, Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire, for which seven counties the Commissioners are magistrates and the police are sworn constables. The River Thames is under its jurisdiction, from Chelsea to Barking Creek, including all its wharves, docks, landing-places, and dockyards.

Nothing like statistics for staggering you with accumulated facts. For instance, you have walked down Cheapside, and of course were sensible of the crowd; now read this:—

In the year 1850, it was ascertained that no less than 67,510 foot-passengers, and 13,796 vehicles, containing no fewer than 52,092 persons, passed Bow Church, Cheapside, in one day. By another channel of communication, Aldgate, near the Minories, 58,480 foot-passengers, and 9332 vehicles, containing 20,804 persons, passed in the same time; and it is estimated that altogether no less than 400,000 persons are poured into this one square mile and a quarter in the course of the twelve hours. The congregation in so confined a space of so vast a number of people, many of whom are forced to carry about with them considerable sums of money, must prove a great source of attraction to thieves of all kinds, and demands the constant vigilance of a comparatively large body of police. It was not until ten years after the successful experiment of the Metropolitan Police, however, that the Corporation of London, wedded to its old system of ward-beadles, street-keepers, and imbecile constables, could be brought to adopt the new system; but it must be admitted that the present

force, consisting of 1 superintendent, 13 inspectors, 12 station sergeants, 47 sergeants, and 492 policemen—making a total of 565, do the duty well; and the City, with all its stored wealth, is now as safe as the rest of the metropolis. At all the banks plain clothes men are constantly in attendance to keep out the swell mob who buzz about such places, as wasps do about a peach wall; and in the great thoroughfares, such as Cheapside, six or seven policemen are always to be found.

The following observations are curious:—

As every policeman must be able to read and write, have a good character, and be of sound body and mind, the mere overflowings of the labour-market are excluded from the force; moreover, persons can always leave the service by giving a month's notice. For these reasons a much more intelligent class of men recruit the police than the army, and it is singular to note how this intelligence tells. The drill of constables and soldiers is nearly alike, yet the former learn all their movements in a fortnight, whilst the latter require at least two months. Intelligence of a certain kind, however, may be carried too far; your sharp Londoner makes a very bad policeman; he is too volatile and conceited to submit himself to discipline, and is oftener rejected than the persons from other parts, with whom eight-tenths of the force are recruited. The best constables come from the provincial cities and towns. They are both quicker and more "plucky" than the mere countryman fresh from the village—a singular fact, which proves that manly vigour, both physical and mental, is to be found in populations neither too aggregated nor entirely isolated.

We can only find room for one more extract, and must send the reader to the *Quarterly* for much that is both instructive and entertaining:—

From an analysis of the Criminal Returns of the Metropolitan Police, it is apparent that crimes have their peculiar seasons. Thus, attempts to commit suicide generally occur in the months of June, July, and August, and rarely in November, according to the commonly-accepted notion; comfort, it is evident, is considered even in the accomplishment of this desperate act. Common assaults and drunkenness also multiply wonderfully in the dog-days. In the winter, on the contrary, burglaries increase, and, for some unknown reason, the uttering of counterfeit coin.

Besides this, the most attractive article in the number, there are papers on "Grote's History of Greece," "Guizot on the Civil War," for historical students, a biography of SAVONAROLA, and a telling paper against the "Papal Government," written with a strong feeling of indignation against the tyrannies under which Italy languishes. We can spare room but for one short extract:—

Imagination, learning, and reason, can find no expression under such a system. It is impossible, without experience of it, to credit the frivolity, the ignorance, and the folly of many of the persons who are the official judges of the literary labours of their countrymen; and as no one attempts to publish anything which could favour progress or freedom, it is, indeed, chiefly in trifles that the censors have an opportunity of displaying their discretion. In a satirical little poem was a line which spoke of "a king who made a Somerset down from his throne." The notion excited horror. "No such words should be applied to a sovereign; they suggest bad ideas to the people." In a sonnet on envy, it was stated that the passion was everywhere—in the camp, in the palace, and in the cloister. The word cloister was effaced by the censor. The theatres are great objects of attraction in Italy, but the same restraint is imposed. A dramatic author put into the mouth of one of his personages the phrase, "Order the carriage." "The expression must be changed," said the censor; "to order is for priests alone." An actor accustomed to perform at Turin forgot that he was speaking in the Papal States, and used some forbidden word, such as "patria" or "libertà." He was arrested by the police and ordered to pay a fine, or go to prison. He accepted the latter alternative, and was shut up for three weeks.

How long, O Italy! how long will such things be borne?

Although there are several papers of interest—as usual—in the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*, there is nothing which admits of such brief notice as can be afforded here. We may refer Naturalists to Dr. STRETHILL WRIGHT's paper on the reproduction of the *Cydippe*, and to his description, with a coloured plate, of the new *Actinia* he found at the Isle of Arran. Dr. WRIGHT also describes, as new, an *Actinia Bellis*, which may be new to naturalists in Scotland, but is common enough at Morte, near Ilfracombe, and at Tenby. His new species is very lovely; and now "every one" is getting interested in the Sea Anemones, which hitherto no one would look at, we may expect new species to be added daily to the catalogue. We cannot help a feeling, half of regret and half of pleasure, at seeing so many persons enthusiastic about sea anemones; the pleasure of thinking that the study of natural history is becoming general, is marred by the thought that in a few years *Actiniae* may become as scarce as beavers, so remorselessly are they hunted. The public must rush in one direction—and to-day they are rushing after sea anemones; should the fashion last, the race will be extirpated! Already it has become a trade to "supply" these pretty creatures; and at Ilfracombe and Tenby there are persons whose livelihood depends on the anemones they can send up to London and Bristol. We speak from knowledge of these two places; it is probably true of many other places. Fortunately the fecundity of the race (we mean of *Actiniae*, not collectors) is generous; although not by any means so great as is commonly supposed; and fortunately, also, these animals have a trick of nestling themselves in impossible places, where you look at them with hungry eyes in vain, no chisel being capable of approaching them. So let us hope they will survive even the present fashion!

BEAUMARCHAIS.

Beaumarchais and his Times: Sketches of French Society in the Eighteenth Century from unpublished Documents. By Louis de Loménie. Translated by H. S. Edwards. Vols. I. and II. Addey and Co.

THE second title accurately describes the character of this work, which is sufficiently interesting to make us forget its serious defects. As a biography it fails in the two cardinal requisites of clear, distinct statement of the biographical facts, and clear delineation of character. Of the creative power which enables a good biographer to exhibit the character of his hero, to make him live in our presence, M. de Loménie has scarcely a trace. He

might as well have written a panegyric as this pale featureless biography. We should however, have laid little stress on this deficiency, seeing how general it is in biographical works, had M. de Loménie attended to the easier but equally necessary condition of prosaic explicitness in statement. Nothing can be more sketchy, fragmentary, and tantalizing than the style in which he glides over the important details wherewith the career of Beaumarchais might have been traced. On one page we read of Beaumarchais losing all he possessed; on the next we find him with large sums at his disposal, and no hint of how he lived when ruined, nor whence came the money which he now flings about. No romancist was ever less explicit touching the ways and means of his hero than M. de Loménie. And the same want of clear statement utterly destroys the biographic value of the work, giving it the appearance of, what originally it was, a series of magazine articles.

With this restriction we can cordially commend the work; and as the reader probably cares less about Beaumarchais than about his times, the objection will not be felt as serious. Curious indeed is the picture of society here painted. No one can contemplate it, and marvel at the French Revolution; and if any one, aghast at the excesses of that outbreak, or despairing at the apparent relapse into a social condition from which the Revolution strove to escape, should be disposed to question the good effected, let him read these volumes. This may be said to be the moral running through the work. Of another kind is the interest one cannot help feeling in Beaumarchais, whose life was more adventurous than that of a Dumas hero. He plays many parts, and all with considerable success and vivacity. He begins as a watchmaker, then emerges as a courtier, a song-writer, a dramatist, a speculator, a man of fashion, a popular idol, a secret agent, a shipowner, a contractor, a pamphleteer, a man always at law, always quarrelling with somebody, always "en évidence."

Almost at the same moment we see him, after being condemned to civic degradation by the Maupeou Parliament, bring about the overthrow of his judges, produce the "Barber of Seville," correspond secretly from London with Louis XVI., and though not yet recovered from the effect of the judicial sentence which still presses upon him, his credit exhausted, his goods seized, we see him obtain from the king himself a million francs, with which he originates and fosters the intervention of France in the quarrel between England and her American colonies. A short time afterwards, still composing songs, comedies, and operas, and always having two or three lawsuits on hand, Beaumarchais trades in the four quarters of the globe; he has forty vessels of his own on the sea; his navy fights side by side with that of the state at the battle of Grenada, his officers are decorated, he discusses the expenses of the war with the king, and treats with the United States as one power would do with another.

Powerful enough to do all this, powerful enough to get "Figaro" produced on the stage in spite of Louis XVI., and to get the first general edition of Voltaire printed in spite of the clergy and the magistracy, Beaumarchais was not even able to insure respect for his own person and to save himself in the midst of all his splendour, at the age of fifty-three, from being arrested one fine morning, without rhyme or reason, and shut up for several days in a house of correction like some young scapegrace. Yet at the same time he appeared as the patron of men of letters, whose interests he advocated with the ministers; was in continual communication, as financier, and even as special agent and councillor, with MM. de Sartines, de Maurepas, de Vergennes, de Necker, and de Calonne; was courted by the nobles, who borrowed money from him, and frequently forgot to return it; interceded on behalf even of princes with the Archbishop of Paris, and was contributing powerfully, but involuntarily, as will be seen, to the destruction of the monarchy.

Persecuted under the Republic as an aristocrat, after having been imprisoned for his opposition under the royalty, the ex-agent of Louis XVI. became all the same, and in spite of himself, the agent and commissary of the Committee of Public Safety. His appointment as commissary, instead of placing him beyond peril, endangered his life and gave the last blow to his fortune. Originally poor, after having made his fortune and lost it again two or three times, he now saw all his property seized upon, and after having possessed an income of 150,000 fr., Beaumarchais in his old age proscribed, concealed under a false name in a garret at Hamburg, was reduced for a time to such a degree of want that he was obliged, as he says, to economize his matches so as to be able to use each of them twice.

On his return to his native land, at the age of fifty-five, in ill health, deaf, but still indefatigable, Beaumarchais, while with more than the energy of youth he was mixing himself up with all the affairs of the day, at the same time superintended the production of his last drama, the "Guilty Mother," collected courageously the remains of his fortune, and recommenced, with one foot in the grave, all the labours of his life; defended himself against a legion of creditors, prosecuted a legion of debtors, and died, with lawsuits pending both against the French Republic and the Republic of the United States.

M. de Loménie has sketched each of these episodes with sufficient fulness of detail, aided by valuable unpublished material. Here is a capital story, which we select for its brevity, illustrating the life of the Princesses of France:

Now "Mesdames," like all other women, especially princesses, had the most varied fancies, which it was necessary to gratify at once. The correspondence of Madame du Deffant contains a very curious story, of a box of preserved Orleans quinces, which were desired so impatiently by Madame Victoire, that the king, her father, sent a messenger flying to M. de Choiseul, the prime minister, who forwarded a despatch with equal haste to the Bishop of Orleans, who was waked at three in the morning to receive, to his great alarm, a missive from Louis XV., couched in the following terms:

"Monsieur l'Evêque d'Orléans, my daughters wish for some *cognac*; they want very small boxes: send some. If you have none, I beg you will."

In this part of the letter there was a drawing of a sedan-chair, and underneath the chair,

"send immediately into your episcopal town to get some: let the boxes be very small; and, Monsieur l'Evêque d'Orléans, may God have you in his holy keeping."

"Louis."

Lower down was this postscript:

"The sedan-chair does not mean anything; it was drawn by my daughter on this sheet of paper, which I happened to find near me."

A courier was at once despatched to Orleans. The *cognac*, says Madame du Deffant, arrived the following day; they no longer cared for it.

It often happened to Beaumarchais to receive commissions which somewhat recall the story of the *cognac*, with this difference, that the young and needy music-master had not always—like the Bishop of Orleans—a courier at his disposition.

Here is another story, very pretty as it seems to us, and showing Beau-

marchais in an amiable light. He was in prison for the crime of having been insulted and nearly murdered by a duke and peer. M. de Loménie reminds us that Beaumarchais had been on very intimate terms with

M. Lenormant D'Etiolles, the husband of Madame de Pompadour, who, after the death of his first wife, had married again, and who had a charming child six years and a half old. This little boy, who was named Constant, was very fond of Beaumarchais, and on hearing that his friend was in prison, he wrote to him, of his own accord, the following letter:—

"Neuilly, March 2, 1778.

"Sir,—I send you my purse, because people in prison are always poor. I am very sorry you are in prison. Every morning and every evening I say an Ave Maria for you.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very humble and very obedient servant,

"CONSTANT."

Beaumarchais replied immediately to the mother and child by two letters, in which all his good nature and delicacy of feeling are shown. Here is, first of all, his letter to Madame Lenormant:—

"I thank you very sincerely, madame, for having conveyed to me the letter and purse of my little friend Constant. These are the first promptings of benevolence on the part of a young nature, from which excellent things may be expected. Do not give him back his own purse, so that he may not conclude that all sacrifices bring with them this species of reward. It will be very gratifying to him one day to see it in your hands, as a memorial of the affectionate kindness of his generous heart. Compensate him in a manner which will give him a just idea of the nature of his action, without allowing himself to become proud of having done it. But I do not know what I am saying when I make these observations. Your care has originated and developed in him so great a quality as that of beneficence at an age when all morality consists in referring things to one's own interest. Receive my thanks and compliments. Allow M. l'Abbé Leroux to share them; he is not contented with teaching his pupils to decline the word virtue, he also teaches them to love it; he is full of merit, and more fitted than any other man to second your views. This letter and this purse have produced quite a child's delight in myself. Happy parents! you have a son six years of age capable of such an action. And I also had a son; but he is no more! And yours already gives you such pleasures! I share them with all my heart, and I beg that you will continue to have a little affection for him who has been the cause of this charming trait on the part of our little Constant. Nothing can be added to the respectful attachment of him who makes it his honour to be, Madame, &c.

"At For-l'Evêque, March 4, 1778."

Now comes the answer to little Constant:—

"My little friend Constant,—I have received with much gratitude your letter and the purse you added to it: I have made a just division of what they contained, according to the different wants of my fellow prisoners and myself, keeping the best portion for your friend Beaumarchais, I mean the prayers, the Aves, of which I have certainly great need, and distributing to poor people, who were in distress, all the money your purse contained. Thus, while intending to oblige one man only, you have earned the gratitude of many. This is the ordinary fruit of actions like yours. Good-by, my little friend Constant.

"BEAUMARCHAIS."

On the whole, this work deserves a place on the lighter shelves of every library, for although its defects as a biography are great, its positive value as a collection of sketches of society is undeniable.

THE ROMANCE OF JAUFRY.

Jaufray the Knight and the Fair Brunissende: A Tale of the Time of King Arthur. Translated from the French Version of Marie Lafon. By Alfred Elwes. With Twenty Engravings. Adley and Co.

Jaufray was originally composed in the Provençal dialect, by a minstrel who heard the tale at the Court of Aragon, and by a modest poet, who, concealing his own name, finished the rhymed romance of the troubadour. It had lain in library dust for six hundred years when Marie Lafon undertook its translation into Parisian prose. The octosyllabic narrative thus modified has been turned into English, carefully and successfully, with a slight restoration of the metrical movement, by Mr. Alfred Elwes.

As an example of chivalresque romance *Jaufray* is perfect. It brings the balm and glitter of the East into a story of Britain. It is one of the links connecting two great bodies of literature. From the fable of Arabia the troubadour took the rose, the wishes, and the tent of the Fairy Paribanou. From the troubadour, Cervantes took his episodes of the galley slaves, the cavalier in green, the braying of the regidors, the Princess Miconicoma, and the enchanted head. *Jaufray* is typical, indeed, of the condemned books in the collection of La Mancha. It is an impossible history, carried on by impossible agencies, in a world of giants, dwarfs, sprites, and enchanted damsels, such as moved the satirist of Alcalá to write his epic of mockery; but it is a tale to be read with delight, especially by those who would trace the affinities of the European and Oriental literatures. For it is in this direction that our researches must be carried on. We have not yet travelled far into the fairy land of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries—for fairy land it is, a region of chivalry and magic. The bright lady—mistress of enchantment—who succours the knight, is the goddess who arms and defends the pagan hero. The maidens who bestow sweet courtesies on Sir Jaufray are the damsels who tend the couch of Hatim Tai. There is an identity of conception in the romancists of an early period, whether they write in Greek, or Persian, or Provençal. The world of mediæval fancy, however, is unique. It abounds in symbolism, ingenuous simplicities of suggestion, wondrously bold pictures, and tenderness of sentiment. It is a realm of cloudy mountains, of vast castles, of queens, knights, pages, and maidens of stately grace, always in contrast with grotesque dwarfs, misshapen crones, and gigantic evil-doers, who give employment to the lords of chivalry, as boars, lions, and sea-monsters, employed the classic heroes—the deliverance of damsels, or the pure exhibition of prowess, being the general object. The castles are barbaric structures, based on kindred rocks, tower above tower. The knights have shoulders two cubits broad, with golden hair, ruddy complexions, and clear, bright eyes; they wear violet silk, and garlands, like the Grecian chiefs. The ladies are tall, "more purely white than snow that lies upon the frosted dew," clad in exquisite attire, and wear battle-mented crowns of gold. The style is that of fantastic but not rude or re-

pulsive exaggeration. Cervantes himself, at one point in his life, was an admirer of these pictorial extravaganzas, and even projected the composition of a serious romance of chivalry. Indeed, we are yet far from a comprehension of the varieties of the Provençal minstrelsy, which tinged so strongly the early literature of Italy and Spain. It is true, as the French translator of *Jaufry* remarks, that the literary catacombs of France contain a vast number of twelfth and thirteenth century manuscripts, which Sainte-Palaye, Rochegude, Raynouard, and Fauriel have lightly and partially criticized; but they were, to a great extent, pillaged from Italy. Raynouard himself says, if we remember aright, that no Provençal manuscripts, or very few, exist even in the south of France, where they were indigenous. Marie Lafon, we have said, describes *Jaufry* as a Provençal romantic epic. Without a critical acquaintance with the old dialects of France, it is impossible to say whether it is genuine Provençal, or simple northern French. We are incompetent to decide upon this point; but Mr. Elwes has printed two or three fascinating specimens of the original, amongst others a description of birds:—

Chantan desobre la verdor
E s'alegron en or Latin.

This is beautiful:—

Car plus es fresca, e bella, e blanca
Que neus gelada sus en branca
Ni que rosas ab flor de lis. . . .
Que cant hom auria cercat,
Totas cellas que son nascudas. . . .
Non auria hom una trobada
Tan bella ni tangeu formada;
Que ses ouells et sa bella cara
Fai oblidar qui ben l'esgara
Totas cellas que vistas a.

The story commences on the day of Pentecost, when King Arthur held a festival at Carlisle. After mass, the King of Britain and his knights set out in search of adventure, and a most tremendous adventure indeed befel the king, which, as the old novelists were accustomed to say, the reader will understand on perusal. However, it is the key-note, for mighty revels ensue, at which bucks, boars, kids, cranes, bustards, swans, wild beasts, and peacocks—a curious bill of fare—heaped upon golden dishes, were consumed by laughter-loving knights and ladies, with white bread and Homeric draughts of unmingled wine. In the midst of these revels a strange rider appears, gloriously apparelled, who prays the boon of knighthood. That favour granted, he sits with Arthur at the board. Following him comes Taulat, Lord of Rugimon, not, however, with a petition, for he charges into the hall, “and with his lance did strike a lord upon the breast, and stretched him dying just before the queen.” This is merely by way of challenge, for he rides away, daring the champions to pursue him. Inevitably, the newly-knighted hero, “Jaufry, son of Dovon,” arms, mounts, and departs in search of the wicked Lord of Rugimon.

That lord is the horizon of his adventure. Of course he does not find him until near the end of the troubadour's eleven thousand verses, and of the

Lafon and Elwes versions; but, in the interval, the favourite incidents of chivalry are narrated, and we doubt not that they represent, romantically, the aspects of the chivalresque age, at least as faithfully as the manners of our own time are represented by nine-tenths of our modern novelists. That is to say, they do not represent them at all, except very artificially, and with the addition of purely ideal interludes. First, Jaufry finds upon the road, among the lowering shadows of castles and mountains, many dead knights, slain by the powerful Estout de Vermeil. Estout de Vermeil, accordingly, is challenged in the midst of his dwarfs and guards, and, after a dreadful encounter, is vanquished. Jaufry sends him to Arthur's court, to say that he has been conquered by the son of Dovon. Next, he finds a wondrous lance suspended from a branch, and is warned by a vigilant dwarf that three-and-thirty knights, who have dared to touch that lance, have been hanged by its owner upon a neighbouring tree. The result is at once apparent. Jaufry vanquishes this murderous lord, hangs him amid the skeletons of his victims, and sends the dwarf to King Arthur's court, to tell of the prowess of the son of Dovon. Thirdly, a yeoman of stupendous strength is overcome in a wild desert of rocks; then a damsel is released from the castle of a leprous enchanter; at the cleaving of a marble head, a dreary palace disappears like a cloud, and, at length, the unrivalled loveliness of the Princess Brunissende is revealed in an orchard encircled by marble walls, with pavilions like the domes of Xanadu, with a crystalline radiance illuminating the halls and groves, and all the charms of earthly beauty abounding, though eclipsed by the troubadour's queen of romance. This queen conceives a violent rage at the temerity of the son of Dovon, who ventures to sleep on the sword within the precincts of her divine seclusion. One by one she sends her most terrible knights to slay him, but they are brought to her feet dead, or battered into insensibility. Each time Jaufry dismounts a champion he resumes his slumber, until he is surprised, and brought into the presence of Brunissende. She threatens to hang him, but “hearing his courteous words, the dame forgets her wrath. Love, with his golden shaft, hath pierced her heart, and now she pardons all.” She quits him, “leaving for sole adieu a look so sweet that, spite of his dull sense, it fills his heart with joy.” The five hundred mortified knights, however, assail him in his sleep, and all the boldness of the troubadour is necessary to bring his hero safely out of their hurricane of blows. Departing from Brunissende's domain, he observes that all the people of the land weep and howl at sunset, and that, though hospitable and courteous at every other time, they are furiously enraged when he inquires the cause of their intermittent sorrow—the secret whereof it would be unfair, on our part, to disclose.

Jaufry's next adventure is with the black knight, Taulat de Rugimon, who, once a year, binds his wounded enemy to a stake, and strips and scourges him. “Seeing a portal set with marble leaves and tinged of various hues,” he enters, and two dames “in robes of woe” acquaint him with the story of the captive knight. After a succession of desperate adventures, the Lord of Rugimon is conquered, condemned to periodical scourgings for seven years,

and sent to do penance at King Arthur's court, with an avowal that he has been reduced to humility by the son of Dovon.

Finally, Jaufry, after fighting an invisible knight, eating a roasted peacock served by a lovely damsel, descending into a magic realm beneath a lake, and there subduing an enchanter, leads the fairest of the fair Brunissende, to the gallant Count of Carlisle. Two thousand four hundred maidens, and three thousand knights, form their array, and they are married with prodigal pomp:—

At trumpet sound, Lucas, the royal steward, with twenty thousand pages clad in vests of scarlet silk, bearing snowy cloths, vases of silver and rich cups of gold flocked to the hall to furnish forth the boards.

Even now, however, ensues a chivalric interruption. A vast bird, the roc of the Oriental fable, with eyes like carbuncles, seizes King Arthur and bears him aloft, and turns out to be the same enchanter who had terrified the Knights of the Round Table on the day of Pentecost. All ends happily, and the romance of Jaufry leads us to the bridal doors in Brunissende's palace.

We must not forget to notice the engravings by G. Doré. They are admirable, except where the figures of women are delineated. The vast castles, the battle of the knights in the Druidical glade mystically lighted by the moon, the melting of false scenes, Jaufry with the fairies under the magical lake, the haunted forests, the eremetal shrines with winding paths leading to them, the spectral owls that mope on dim branches, the ghastly tree on which the knights are hung,—all these are presented with a sort of enchanted shadowy effect very creditable to the artists and engravers. The romance is printed on rich, cream-tinted paper, and forms a beautiful volume. But this old Tale of Britain, told by Provençal troubadours, would be a treasure in any form.

A COMPANY OF TOURISTS.

Wanderings Among the High Alps. By Alfred Wills.

Bentley.

In this very unassuming and intelligent narrative, Mr. Wills has illustrated his wanderings from the Col du Géant to the Mer de Glace, from Chamouni, through the pass of the Monte Moro, to the valleys of the upper mountains, the Allelein glacier, Interlaken, and the Wetterhorn. The way through the Alps has been trodden, many a time and oft, by the English Rambler; but Mr. Wills is possessed of a sort of mental originality that teaches him to rebel against the dogmatism of guide-books. He insists that there are places worth seeing among the upper Alpine valleys, that have not been described, sketched, and sonnetised to satiety. Some of these, he says, are near Chamouni and Interlaken, and Interlaken and Chamouni know as little of them as does the stranger forwarded from spot to spot by orthodox directions. Another theory held by Mr. Wills is, that men have, by a kind of Spanish deception, created a monopoly of travelling magic, and excluded all but the boldest of ladies from the grander scenery of the Upper Alps. Mrs. Wills, who accompanied her husband in most of his excursions, wandered to some purpose, and produced some well-drawn sketches on the artistic illustration of the narrative.

Mr. Wills's book has two merits, which will recommend it to the general reader. It is a spirited relation of incidents, and it presents a well-coloured sketch of scenery, men, and manners, as they are found among the Upper Alps. We cannot read his description of the Val Anzasca, a paradise of woods and flowery lawns—bright as a vision of Boccaccio—with pastoral cottages and idyllic groups in the fields, without perceiving the writer's intense sympathy with the finest and most fascinating aspects of nature. Mr. Wills has a peculiar aptitude for suggesting a picture. When after the enchantment of a sunset has crimsoned the Alps, and the colour turns and brightens into “just the colour of a new sovereign,” the whole scene is instantly and magically changed into gold. Besides effects of this kind, the volume contains a variety of anecdotes, sketches of inn and cottage interiors, lake and forest glimpses, stories of glaciers and precipices, an “ascent of the Wetterhorn,” a chapter of useful instructions for the pedestrian, and Mr. Wills's private opinion on glacier action and glacier theories. If the reader be in search of a modest, cheerful, and entertaining book, Mr. Wills is one of that sort.

A Journey in the Sea-Board Slave States. By F. L. Olmsted. (Sampson Low.)—There is too much pretence in Mr. Olmsted's work. It is copious, elaborate, authoritative, and has no less than three mottoes—one from Shakspeare, one from Macaulay, and one adopted from the title-page of the *Leader*. Mr. Olmsted travelled from Washington through Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, examining the state of the slave population, and its relation to the class of owners and employers. He occupies himself with minute essays on the mental and social habits, the natural qualities, the inclinations, the capacities of the negro, inquiring how he performs his work, how he regards his own condition, how he is influenced by punishment, how he stands in comparison with the free labourer; and on these subjects the reports vary, that which is true of Virginia not being applicable, in all cases, to Georgia or to Alabama. Mr. Olmsted discredits, in general, the charges of cruelty and of gratuitous oppression brought by abolitionists against the slave-holders of the South. Only in one state—Louisiana—does the law compel a slave-owner to supply his slaves with meat; yet they are habitually supplied with it, of course, upon the calculation that you must feed “the force” that cultivates your land. On the subject of punishment, Mr. Olmsted, who argues from the same point of view as the most impatient abolitionist, denies the accuracy of the pictures that have been given to Europe, which represent the lash as the ruling power of the Southern states. He admits that some of the Southern ladies—the young and hot-blooded especially—send their slaves to the whipping-house, or order their overseer to flog them; but he has heard a girl defy her mistress to use the rod—certain that it was not in her nature to do it. On the other hand, it is unquestionable that some influence, whether it be that of cruel and shameless government, or the abasement inseparable from servitude, often deadens in the slave the sense of self-respect and decency. Mr. Olmsted's book, though pompous and formal, is dispassionate, and full of carefully-recorded information.

Sketches and Adventures in Madeira, Portugal, and the Andalusias of Spain. By the Author of "Daniel Webster and his Contemporaries." (Sampson Low.)—Madeira has become a sickly topic in England, but the author of this volume is an American, and the island has been curiously neglected by American travellers. This volume is intended to reflect, for the benefit of New World readers, the actual aspects of Madeira and Andalusia. It would have answered its purpose better had the writer been less ambitious of displaying his personality. He starts with a pirouette, in a line that is meant to be of Rabelaisian flavour, and, after gossiping at random from the English to the Spanish coast, reaches a climax of absurdity at Cadiz. He was stunned, he says; his "thoughts were suspended" by the sight of a Spanish girl. Hair, eyes, lips, hands, nails, waist, hips, and shoulders, leave him, like Lord Byron, dazzled and drunk with beauty, and he raves about the Spanish girl's natation, undulation, propulsion, in contrast with "the heavy strut of the Englishwoman, the senseless wiggle of the French, the affected shuffle of the American lady." And, thence diving into an eccentric dissertation on half-forbidden topics, the author of *Webster and his Contemporaries* succeeds in showing that, in travelling as in writing, he can make himself supremely ridiculous.

A First Trip to the German Spas and Vichy. By John Aldridge, M.D. (Dublin: M'Glashan.)—It will be sufficient to indicate Dr. Aldridge's route, and to say that tourists following him will find this little volume a charming companion by the way. He went from Ostend to Bruges, visiting the churches and museums. Thence, by way of Ghent, he proceeded to Antwerp, Liege, Cologne, Bonn, and Coblenz, gossiping of familiar places, in a pleasant, familiar way. Of Wiesbaden, Kissingen, Homburg, Baden-Baden, and Vichy, he gives particular descriptions, adding a professional essay on the nature and uses of natural Spas. We are persuaded that to disseminate the praise of Spa-water is to increase the securities of health, Dr. Aldridge argues in opposition to the idea that it is necessary to suppose the presence of any artificial or recondite chemistry, any unexplored and unintelligible influence, galvanic, telluric, or spiritual, in the composition of Spas.

Italian Sights and Papal Principles. By J. J. Jarves. (Sampson Low.)—The last volume published by Mr. Jarves—on France—was a failure. It was impertinent, gross, and repulsive. This is better—in spirit, in plan, in substance. Its worst offence is, that it professes to be illustrated with woodcuts, which are, in the majority of cases, exaggerations of caricature. Mr. Jarves himself tells at large of Florence, Rome, Venice, and Pompeii; enters into elaborate details with respect to the manners and ceremonies of the Papal Court, and is drawn, at length, into a discussion of the political prospects of Italy. The opinions of an American on this subject might not be uninteresting had Mr. Jarves any claims to the representative. But he has nothing very striking to say or suggest. Venice, he thinks, hates Milan; Pisa hates Leghorn; Leghorn hates Florence. The people of Lucca sigh for a grand-duke; Venice dreams of her doges; the Tuscans are proud of their miniature despotism; Genoa is restless under the irritation of Piedmontese supremacy; the Lombards prefer Austria to Italy. Genoa, no doubt, has not forgotten that it was once governed by better institutions

than those of the Subalpine Kingdom; but where did Mr. Jarves attain this knowledge of Italian history—especially of the fact that the Lombardo-Venetian States have been conciliated by the depraved rapacity of the Austrian Government? Having disparaged his political chapters, we are bound to add that his pictures of Italian manners, whatever they want in accuracy, are redolent of life and humour.

Gleanings after "Grand Tour"-ists. (Bosworth and Harrison.)—These are the notes and reminiscences of a tourist who began his Italian journey among the March strawberries of Naples, and ended it among the June strawberries of the Grisons. Like certain birds, he followed the summer, in search of flowers and beauty. But, for grace and gaiety, we counsel no readers to look in this volume. It is a mass of incongruous twaddle, forced, affected, conceited, full of prejudices that are incomprehensible, jokes that are ignominious, and criticisms worse than the prejudices or the jokes. The publication of such a book is an impertinence. The writer, who, we suspect, had been let out upon Italy from some public office, winds up with a comparison of London with Ferrara. Why was he not satisfied with the sun and the strawberries?

AFRICAN HISTORY AND PROSPECTS.

Western Africa: its History, Condition and Prospects. By the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, eighteen years a Missionary in Africa, and now one of the Secretaries of the American Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

WESTERN AFRICA is that portion of Africa lying between fort San Luis, and Cape Frio. It is divided into several kingdoms unhappily famous in the annals of the slave trade, rich and luxuriant in soil and vegetation, and possessing populations demoralized indeed, but yet differing greatly amongst themselves in the scale of civilization. It is pleasant to learn that some tribes are enterprising whilst others know no other state of existence than that of animal repose; that some are bold and wealthy whilst others are sluggish and indigent, that some are intelligent and promote education by the means of schools, whilst others are ignorant, and seek enjoyment in the lowest kinds of pleasure.

It was to these shores that the Portuguese in early times, and after them the English, the French, and the Dutch were lured in the hopes of finding inexhaustible riches in gold, ivory, bees' wax, and spices. It was here that they established forts and factories, and endeavoured to promote their own prosperity without regarding the miserable condition of the natives. It was from these shores, too, that the Portuguese drew their first cargo of slaves, a cargo which, strange as it may appear, received the approbation of the Pope, and soon became a thriving and a fearful traffic. Our most recent account of these countries is from the pen of Mr. Wilson, who is in some degree qualified to speak of their condition, from having resided eighteen years amongst the inhabitants.

Music and poetry amongst the Jalous of Senegambia are severely handled.

The bards or musicians are not permitted to live within the walls of the town, to keep cattle, or to drink sweet milk, and are refused interment on the ground that nothing will grow where one of their caste has been buried. The Mandingoes, however, are a superior race. Their children are regularly educated, though the education they receive is exceedingly limited. They are singularly attached to their mothers. "Strike me, but don't curse my mother," is a proverb amongst them, and illustrative of this feeling. It may perhaps be wrong to limit this prominent affection to the Mandingoes. All the native tribes of Africa partake more or less of this filial sentiment—a fact which the friends of slavery should read, mark, and inwardly digest when they attempt to palliate the cruelty of separating the children from their parents. Amongst the Susus, who are more industrious than the Mandingoes, the great ambition is to have a colony, we might call it of domestic slaves, the possession of a thousand raising the master to the rank of a prince. These are procured by purchase and are said to be treated more in the light of dependants than slaves.

But the *veys* are, perhaps, the most remarkable tribe on this part of the coast. Though not a numerous or powerful family, they have recently invented an alphabet for writing their own language and enjoying the advantages of a written system. To this they are indebted entirely to their own ingenuity and enterprise. The characters used in this system are perfectly original, and have been invented by the people within the last twenty years. The idea of the possibility of expressing their thoughts in writing was doubtless suggested by the Mandingoes, who use the Arabic characters, or by Europeans, with whom they have partial intercourse in the way of trade. It has, however, no similarity with the Arabic or any European character. Metallic types have been cast in London with which little books have been written, so that the natives can now enjoy the fruits of their own enterprise. The specimens of the printed writing which we have seen are clear and bold, and indicate a very extensive alphabet. Of this, however, it would be presumptuous to offer an opinion, knowing nothing of the language. It is, however, very peculiar, and partakes something of the nature of hieroglyphic and something of short-hand writing.

The inhabitants of the Grain Coast may be included under one denomination, and termed the Kru race. Under this general term will be found men of nobler physical form, of more muscular development, and more real energy of character than either the Fulahs and Mandingoes of Senegambia or the inhabitants of the Gold Coast. Their manly and independent carriage, their grace of manners—we are comparing them with the other tribes of Western Africa—their frank, open countenances, their robust and well-proportioned forms, are very prominent when contrasted with the other native races. Their colour varies from the darkest shade of the negro to that of the true mulatto. Their heads, however, are narrow and peaked, which betokens rather a low order of intellect. Not a few of them serve an apprenticeship on board foreign vessels which trade along the coast. A part of the wages of the apprentice is paid to the father in advance. When he returns home, if he has been able to save much of what his friends consider this world's goods, festivities of every kind take place. Guns are fired, the fatted sheep is killed—if his success admits of it, a bullock—dances are

started, and pæans in celebration of his achievements are sung. For a day or two he is paraded about the streets, and taught to imagine himself the most important person of the village. In the meantime a domestic council is held, including father, brothers, uncles, and cousins, who divide the booty, and if the adventurer succeeds in securing one or two handsome cloths, a blue cap, or a cotton handkerchief or two for his mother or a favourite sister, he may think himself very fortunate. The next step is to provide a wife for the prosperous sailor, and negotiations for this purpose are immediately set on foot by the family.

The houses of the Kru people are little else than circular huts, with peaked roofs varying from twelve to thirty feet in diameter, and from twelve to twenty in height. The body of the house is generally five or six feet high, over which the peaked roof is fitted on like a cap, projecting, however, over it for several feet so as to protect the house from the heat of the sun and from the rain. The lower part of the house, which is in most cases a single room, serves the threefold purpose of a parlour, kitchen, and bedroom. In some of the more genteel residences, however—the West-end of the community—a small space is partitioned off, so as to form a sleeping apartment. The attic, or upper part of the house, is used as a granary. At Ashantee, where the style of building is somewhat similar, the houses are sometimes very large, and have many rooms. The walls and doors are painted with a species of chalk, and pictures of animals and grotesque figures of all kinds are drawn upon the panels and window shutters. The houses of the nobles and principal men are so constructed as to inclose a hollow square, into which the apartments of the different wives all open. In the houses of the Kru population the fires are made on the floor, and the smoke escapes as best it can. Sometimes the floors are paved with palm-nuts, which, when polished, acquire almost metallic lustre; but generally they are made of clay beaten almost as hard as mason-work. The furniture is simple: a few earthen pots of native fabrication in which they keep their drinking water, a few iron pots, a few wooden bowls, half a dozen plates, and one or two wash-basins, a mat to sleep on, a block of wood for a pillow, a pine chest to serve as a wardrobe, and a few low wooden stools constitute the list of articles to be found in the generality of these houses. In the middle of most villages or towns stands the "Palaver"-house, where the public business of the community is transacted by an assembly of the people and a council.

Mr. Wilson's book is not entirely based upon his own experiences. The travels and studies of Laing, Gray, Goldberry, and others have been made subservient to the purpose and efficiency of the present volume. However, a residence of eighteen years amongst a people half Pagan, half Mahomedan, living pretty equally in the same moral and civil degradation, must have familiarized Mr. Wilson sufficiently with the manners, customs, and condition of most of the tribes to judge of the correctness of the authors whose materials he occasionally uses. We regard, therefore, this work as a valuable contribution to our stock of travel-books. The accounts we have

THE OPERAS.

THE entertainments at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE have not been quite so supremely diverting this week as the last. We have had no Anglo-Italian tenor with a voice like a sponge, singing always half a tone too sharp, or ever so many tones too flat, to the bewilderment and exasperation of the orchestra, and almost 'bringing the house down' by the dying contortions of an apoplectic Fantoccino. We have had no Teutonic *Lucrezia Borgia*, storming at the pit and gallery; but, *en revanche*, we have had *Tancredi*, an opera for ever associated in the memories of opera-goers with the names of PASTA and RUBINI. We have had *Tancredi* 'interpreted' by a German prima donna endowed with a prodigious power of screaming out of tune: we have had a small German tenor with a thin reedy voice straining to be noisy, and successfully ineffective: moreover, we have had a 'house crowded to suffocation,' a perfect flower-show of bouquets thrown upon the stage by a laborious but not discreet *claque*. On the other hand, we have had, by way of a refreshing contrast, another Thursday evening with LA PICCOLOMINI, who needs neither bouquets nor *claque* to convince the world of her success, but whom the smiles, and tears, and sympathies of her audience accompany evermore. So true and so potent is the charm of youth, of its freshness, its fervour, its enthusiasm! Madlle. PICCOLOMINI is not a consummate or even a great singer, or a great dramatic artist; perhaps she has not even the promise of greatness; she is not of the calibre of a GRISI, or a VIARDOT GARCIA, or a JENNY LIND. But her chief defects at present are those of limited physical powers, and of immaturity in art, and she possesses already what no power or study can bestow: we mean that indefinable charm which the bird-like sweetness of the voice, and the impulsive abandonment of the acting, and the somewhat apocryphal romance of the singer's young career do not wholly account for.

Let us recommend our readers not to miss *Le Corsaire*. It is the most beautiful ballet that has been produced in London for ten years; and ROSATI's dancing is delicious.

THE *Elisir d'Amore* was repeated at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA on Tuesday, to introduce a new light tenor, Signor NERI-BARALDI, who has sung for a short

time, and with moderate success, at the ITALIENS, and also at the ACADEMIE in Paris. Signor NERI-BARALDI enjoys a pure tenor voice (a rarity now-a-days), sweet and sympathetic in quality, not too deficient in power or in cultivation. He may, with due care and study, become very acceptable in such parts as *Nemorino*.

Otello, with MARIO, GRISI, and RONCONI, is announced in the bills. This opera enjoys the peculiar privilege of always coming in at the death of the season.

Our readers will be glad to learn that Madame RISTORI is to be engaged for four more nights.

UNDER the title of MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS, a series of musical entertainments, with a graduated scale of admission from twopence up to one shilling, has been commenced at the PHILHARMONIC HALL, Newman-street. We trust the enterprise may succeed, and we believe it will, for the Englishman, after all, is a music lover, and only requires that his natural tastes shall be educated.

Music is also being popularized at the SURREY GARDENS, as we mentioned last week; and JULIEN, enthroned in the new Music Hall of those once zoological regions, wields his lordly *bâton* as of old, and directs the varied harmony which gives delight to crowded auditories.

THE HAYMARKET on Wednesday evening produced a new comedy by Mr. PALGRAVE SIMPSON under the title of *Second Love*, in which Miss REYNOLDS reappeared for the first time since her severe illness. Mr. BUCKSTONE likewise performed, and was roughly and grotesquely humorous, as usual. The piece was entirely successful.

A stage favourite of former days—Mrs. CHATTERLEY—has returned once more to the boards, having appeared at the ADELPHI with much success in the part of the Countess Molinga in *Born to Good Luck*.

The LYCEUM, it is announced, will be opened for the ordinary dramatic season at the latter end of September, under the management of Mr. DILLON, with a Shakspearian tragedy, in which the lessee will sustain the principal part. A burlesque by Mr. WILLIAM BROUGH is also spoken of.

A DETECTIVE TELESCOPE.—Some thieves on the Glasgow and Renfrew Railway have been detected in a novel way in abstracting spirits from some barrels. They had eluded discovery for a long time; but at last the station-master swept the line with a telescope, and perceived the men at work on the barrels. They have been committed for trial.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—A charming addition has been lately made to the attraction of the tropical end of the Crystal Palace, in a collection of 1000 living birds, which have just arrived from South Australia. They consist mostly of the smallest Australian variegated parrot (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), and are in a very hardy and healthy state.

THE ESTATE OF JAMES SADLER.—A motion has been made before the Irish Lord Chancellor, to the effect that Mr. George M'Dowell, the official manager, be appointed a receiver over the personal and real estates of James Sadler, and that, in case of the manager's refusal to act as such, it be referred to the Master to appoint another receiver. Some of the absconding Tipperary member's furniture has been traced to the sale-rooms of a Mr. Dillon, residing in Dublin, upon whom a copy of an injunction has been served.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, July 22.

BANKRUPTS.—ARTHUR ALLEN, jun., Wharf, Harrow-road, Paddington, dealer in drain pipes—EDWIN KAY, Duke-street, Manchester-square, and Lewisham, licensed victualler—FREDERICK WILLIAM WEBSTER, Snow-hill, tavern-keeper—EDWARD IND THURGOOD, Orchard-street, Kentish-street, builder—HYLTON CARR, North Hylton, Durham, ship-builder.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. DENHOLM, Dunbar, fletcher—J. HOPKINS and J. BELL, Glasgow, engineers—A. FRASER, Edinburgh, builder—J. JOHNSTON, Airdrie, wine merchant, and Blackbraes, grocer—T. MACDONALD, Fort William, writer.

Friday, July 25.

BANKRUPTS.—JOHN DUNHAM, New Oxford-street, boot manufacturer—DAVID STEVENS, Montague-place, Poplar, cattle dealer—ROBERT NEWENS, King-street, Richmond, Surrey, baker—ISAAC BLANKENESS, Birmingham, merchant—EDWARD WILLIAMS, Birmingham, commission agent—JOHN LOWE, Manchester, merchant—JAMES JOHN LONG, Holbeach, printer—JAMES BLOHARROW, Coventry, haberdasher—PETER HALL, Manchester, smallware manufacturer—RICHARD ADAMS, Dudley, Worcestershire, grocer and provision merchant—DAVID MARSHALL, Bristol, tailor—JOSEPH PORTER, Salford, engineer—CHARLES DOUGLAS HOPE, Great Marlborough-street, publisher—THOMAS MATTHEW SHEPPARD, Cambridge, corn and coal merchant—JAMES UTTING, Wisbeach, iron founder—LOUIS ROCHFORD, Broad-street, City, importer of foreign goods—WILLIAM CLARKE, Tipton, Stafford, miller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES PRINGLE, Perth, farmer, cattle-dealer, trader, and woolstapler.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

AINSWORTH.—On Friday, the 18th inst., at Backbarrow, North Lancashire, Mrs. Ainsworth: a daughter.
DASHWOOD.—On the 18th inst., at Stone Lodge, Suffolk, the Hon. Mrs. George Dashwood: a daughter.
POLE.—On the 18th inst., at the Old Park House, Derbyshire, the Lady Anna Chandos Pole: a daughter.
VAUGHAN.—On the 21st inst., at St. John's Parsonage, Brixton, the wife of the Rev. Matthew Vaughan: a son.
VERNON.—On the 18th inst., at Sudbury Hall, Derby, Lady Harriet Vernon: a son.
WALKER.—On the 13th inst., at Castleton, Monmouthshire, the wife of Sir George Walker, Bart.: a son.

MARRIAGES.

BEKE—ALSTON.—On the 25th of April, at the Cathedral

Church of St. James, Port Louis, by the Right Rev. Vincent W. Ryan, D.D., Lord Bishop of Mauritius, Emily, youngest daughter of William Alston, Esq., of Harwood-square, St. John's-wood, London, to Charles T. Beke, Esq., Ph.D., of Mauritius.

FELLOWS—HILL.—On the 22nd inst., at Hampstead, Frank P. Fellows, Esq., of Wolverhampton, to Louisa Mary, eldest daughter of Rowland Hill, Esq., Secretary to the Post-office.

VINCHIATURO—GOSSET.—On the 15th inst., at the British Embassy, Paris, the Marquis de Vinchiaturo, to Charlotte Sinclair, youngest daughter of the late James Douglas, Esq., and widow of the late George Bagot Gosset, Esq., 4th Dragoon Guards.

DEATHS.

FAULKNER.—On the 17th inst., at Evington, near Cheltenham, Lady Brook Faulkner.

FERGUSON.—On the 22nd inst., at his residence, Park-hill, Clapham, John Ferguson, Esq., M.D., late of Kingston, Jamaica.

JONES.—On the 29th ult., at Brantford, Canada, West, the Rev. Peter Jones, Indian Missionary and Chief, aged 55.

OTTLEY.—On the 16th inst., at Millbrook-park, Southampton, George Wetherill Ottley, Esq., late a Member of H.M.'s Council of the Island of Antigua.

WEST.—On the 25th of April, at his residence, Champ de Mars, Port Louis, Mauritius, of cholera, after twelve days' great suffering, the Hon. William Wade West, Commander, R.N., and member of the Legislative Council in that island, aged 72.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, July 25, 1856.

THERE is no alteration in the Funds—a great absence of business, speculative or real. Money is very cheap, and the drain of bullion to the Continent slightly diminishing. In the Foreign Stock market there has been an improvement during the week. Turkish Four and Six per Cent. Stock is in demand.

Our home heavy railway market is hardly so good as at the commencement of the week. French and Foreign shares but little doing in. The London and South Western are enabled to announce a dividend of 5½ per cent. The management of this line is worthy of imitation.

In the new adventures, there are transactions in Riga Railway, Bengal, Ceylon, and South Eastern of Bengal. The Joint-Stock Banks are well maintained in prices. National Discounts have wavered a little yesterday and to-day, once or two similar undertakings having been announced.

Mines are all neglected: the great depreciation of ores, excepting tin, and people finding other means of investing money more safely and profitably, are the causes.

It would seem that the Bank of England will wait until the harvest is safe before decreasing their rate of discount further.

At four o'clock Consols close 95½-1.

Aberdeen, 23, 30; Bristol and Exeter, 95, 97; Caledonian, 60½, 61; Chester and Holyhead, 17, 17½; East Anglian, 18, 19; Eastern Counties, 10½, 10¾; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 61, 63; Great Northern, 97½, 98; Ditto, A stock, 78, 79; Ditto, B stock, 130, 132; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 11½, 116; Great Western, 61½, 62½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 73, 78; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97½, 98; London and Blackwall, 7, 7½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 109½, 110½; London and North-Western, 107½, 108½; London and South Western, 108, 109; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 34, 34½; Midland, 83½, 84; Birmingham and Derby, 54, 56; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 14½, 15½; North British, 37½, 38½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 87½, 88½; Ditto, Extension, 31½, 32½; Ditto, Great North-Eastern Purchase, 2, 1½ dis.; Ditto, Leeds, 18½, 19; Ditto, York, 62½, 63½; North Staffordshire, 4½, 4½ dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 32, 34; Scottish Central, 108, 110; Scottish Midland, 77, 79; South Devon, 15½, 16½; South Eastern, 73½, 74½; South Wales, 81, 83; Vale of North, 19½, 20½; West Cornwall, 64, 71; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8, 8½; Bombay and Baroda, 24, 25 pm.; Dutch Rhonish, 24, 24 pm.;

Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 36½, 37½; East Indian, 23½, 23¾; Ditto, Extension B, 23½, 23¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 13½, 14½; Great Central of France, 7½, 8 pm.; Great Indian Peninsula, 22½, 22½; Great Luxembourg, 54, 55; Great Western of Canada, 25½, 26½; Ditto New, 3, 3½ pm.; Great Western of Canada Bonds, payable 1857, 100, 102; Ditto, ditto, Bonds, payable 1873, without option, 111, 112; Madras 4½ per cent. guar., 21½, 21½; Namur and Liege, with interest, 9, 9½; Northern of France 42½, 42½; Paris and Lyons, 56½, 56½; Paris and Orleans, 54, 56; Royal Danish, 19½, 20½; Sambre and Meuse, 11½, 11½; Scinde, guar. 5 per cent., 2½, 3½ pm.; West Flanders, 5, 5½; Western and North Western of France, 37, 38; Brazil Imperial, 2½, 3½; Cobre Copper, 56, 58; Great Polgooth, 1, 1; Great Wheel Vor, 1, 1 dis.; Linares, 8½, 8½; Pontefract, 10½, 11½; Santiago de Cuba, 24, 24; South Australian, 3, 3; Australasian, 102, 104; Bank of London, 70, 72 x d.; London Chartered Australian, 20½, 21½; Oriental Bank Corporation, 40½, 41½; Australian Agricultural, 25, 27; Canada 127, 130; Crystal Palace, 2½, 2½; Oriental Gas, 1½, 1½; Peel River Land, 2½, 2½; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½, 1½; South Australian Land, 36, 37; Van Diemen's Land, 16, 17.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, July 25, 1856.

THE weather during the week has been most favourable for the growing crops, the supply of English Wheat has been as small as for some time past, but the arrivals of Foreign have increased, and amount to 27,750 qrs., besides 6720 barrels of Flour. The demand for Wheat and Flour on the spot is confined to the supply of pressing wants, and to effect sales to any extent, lower prices must be submitted to; this, however, holders refuse to do, and the trade is therefore little more than nominal. There have been very few arrivals of Wheat and Maize off the Coast since last Friday, and as most of those which were then waiting for orders were either sold or otherwise disposed of, there has been no great pressure to sell, yet to effect sales it has been necessary to take less money. Danube Wheat arrived has been sold at 58s. 6d. and 58s. 8d. Taganrog Ghirka on passage at 64s. with guarantee of condition, and 61s. without guarantee. Galatz Maize arrived at 30s. 3d., 30s. 6d. and 31s., and a cargo of Odessa at 30s. Ibrail and Foxanian at 29s. Barley continues to advance in value, and the demand for Maize on the spot is consequently on the increase. Its value, ex Ship, duty paid, is 31s. 6d. to 32s., weighed 480 lbs. Oats have arrived in considerable quantity, and the trade to-day is excessively slow at a decline of 6d. to 1s. per qr. Beans and Peas scarce and fully as dear.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	217½	217½	217½	217½	217½	217½
3 per Cent. Red.	95½	96	96	96½	96½	96½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Consols for Account	95½	95½	95½	96	96	95½
New 3 per Cent. An.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
New 2½ per Cent.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
Long Ans. 1860	3 5-10	3 3-10	3½	3 3-10	3½	3 7-10
India Stock	234	234	234	234	235	235
Ditto Bonds, £1000	23 p	23 p	23 p	23 p	23 p	23 p
Ditto, under £1000	25 p	25 p	25 p	25 p	25 p	25 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	23 p	24 p	21 p	21 p	24 p	21 p
Ditto, £500	23 p	24 p	24 p	24 p	24 p	21 p
Ditto, Small	24 p	24 p	24 p	25 p	24 p	21 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	102½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	...
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	80	Russian Bonds, 5 per	...
Chilian 6 per Cents	101½	Cents	111½
Chilian 3 per Cents	...	Russian 4½ per Cents	98½
Dutch 2½ per Cents	85½	Spanish	44½
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	97	Spanish Committee Cor.	...
Equador Bonds	...	of Coup. not fun.	6½
Mexican Account	23½	Turkish 6 per Cents	104½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents	81	Turkish New, 4 ditto	100½
Portuguese 4 per Cents	...	Venezuela, 4½ per Cents	33½

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, LYCEUM.

CLOSE OF THE OPERA SEASON.

Monday next, July 28.—Extra night.—Last night of
LUCREZIA BORGIA.
Grisi, Didié, Ronconi, Mario.
With the Ballet of EVA—Mlle. Cerito.

Tuesday.—Last night of
IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA.
Bosio, Ronconi, Fornes, Tagliafico, Mario.
With the Ballet of EVA—Mlle. Cerito.

Thursday.—Extra night.—Last night of
IL TROVATORE.
Bosio, Didié, Graziani, Mario.

Saturday.—Last night of the Season.
LA FAVORITA.
Grisi, Graziani, Zelger, Mario.

MADAME RISTORI—LYCEUM

THEATRE.—Positively the Last Three Performances.

Monday next, July 28, a Morning Performance (com-
mencing at Two o'clock.)
PIA DE TOLOMEI.

And the Petite Comédie
I GELOSI FORTUNATI.

Wednesday Evening, July 30.
ROSMUNDA.

Friday Evening, August 1.
FRANCESCA DA RIMINI and
I GELOSI FORTUNATI.

Being the last night of Madame Ristori's performing this
Season.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

Monday and Tuesday will be performed the Comedietta
of DELICATE GROUND; in which Mr. Alfred Wigan, Mr.
Leslie, and Mrs. Stirling will appear.

After which, a New Histori-cal, Mythological, Polyglottal
tragedy, entitled MEDEA. Medea, Mr. F. Robson.
To conclude with a comic scene, inculcating and entitled
A CONJUGAL LESSON. Mr. Lullaby, Mr. F. Robson;
Mrs. Lullaby, Mrs. Stirling.

Wednesday, and during the week, A FASCINATING
INDIVIDUAL, RETRIBUTION.

Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, Emery, G. Vining, Misses
Herbert and Marston.

To conclude with MEDEA.
Commence at Half-past Seven.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

Last week
of PROFESSOR ANDERSON in MAGIC and MYST-
ERY. Five nights only. On Saturday, August 2, PRO-
FESSOR ANDERSON'S BENEFIT, on which occasion,
being the great night of the Season, Rob Roy and Black-
Eyed Susan will be performed. Doors open each evening
at 7, commence at half-past. On Saturday to commence at
half-past 6.

SURREY THEATRE—PROFESSOR AN-

DERSON in MAGIC and MYSTERY, Monday, August
4th, being his final farewell to London.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,

4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gen-
tlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one
thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part
of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men
&c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, and at Half-
past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.C.S.; and a new and
highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of
delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four p.m. precisely.—Admis-
sion 1s.

THE FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS,

made to order, from Scotch Heather and Cheviot
Tweeds, all wool and thoroughly shrunken, by B. BENJAMIN,
Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street.

The PELISSIERE OVERCOAT, 21s. and 23s., adapted for
the season; the TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COATS;
the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS; and the HALF-
GUINEA WAISTCOAT.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

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extensive Premises, which enable them to keep upwards of
One Thousand Bedsteads in stock, one Hundred and Fifty
of which are fixed for inspection, comprising every variety
of Brass, Wood, and Iron, with Chintz and Damask Furni-
tures, complete. Their new Warehouses also contain an
assortment of BEDROOM FURNITURE, which comprises
every requisite, from the plainest Japanned Deal for Ser-
vants' Rooms, to the newest and most tasteful designs in
Mahogany and other Woods. The whole warranted of the
soundest and best manufacture. Heal and Son's Illustrated
Catalogue of Bedsteads, and Priced List of Bedding, sent
free by post.—HEAL & SON, 106, Tottenham-Court-road.

BUY of the MAKERS.—BRUSHES, COMBS,

and TOILET articles of every description, whether for the
dressing-table, household, or stable use, thirty per cent.
lower than any other house in the trade, at the Manufac-
turers, J. and J. WITHERS, 36, Tottenham-court-road (op-
posite Bedford-street, Bedford-square).—Warranted tooth
brushes, 3d.; superior sets, 6d.; the best that can be made,
6d. each.—N.B. The lowest price asked, and no abatement.

THE LARGEST STOCK of BRUSHES and

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TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD.

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TURE.—WILLIAM S. BURTON'S Stock on show of
Iron and Brass Bedsteads and children's Cots, stands un-
rivalled either for extent, beauty of design, or moderateness
of prices. He also supplies Bedding and Bed-hangings of
guaranteed quality and workmanship.

Common Iron Bedsteads, from 16s.; Portable Folding Bed-
steads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with
dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 17s.; and Cots,
from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass
Bedsteads, in great variety, from 2l. 7s. 6d. to 15l. 15s.

A Half-Tester Patent Iron Bedstead, three feet wide, with
Bedding, &c., complete:

Bedstead	£1 4 6
Chintz furniture	0 17 0
Pailasse, wool mattress, bolster, and pillow	1 13 0
A pair of cotton sheets, three blankets, and a coloured counterpane	1 5 0
	£4 19 6

A double bedstead, same.....£6 15 9

If without Half-Tester and Furniture:

Single bed, complete	£3 13 9
Double bed, complete	5 8 9

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WILLIAM S. BURTON has ONE LARGE SHOW-
ROOM devoted exclusively to the DISPLAY of BATHS
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largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the pub-
lic, and marked at prices proportionate with those that have
tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in
this country. Portable Showers, 7s. 6d.; Pillar Showers, 3l.
to 5l.; Nursery, 15s. to 32s.; Sponging, 14s. 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.

PAPIER MACHÉ and IRON TEA-TRAYS.

An assortment of TEA-TRAYS and WAITERS wholly
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New Oval Papier Maché Trays,

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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.

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of the most magnificent stock of GENERAL HOUSE
IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated
Goods, Baths, Brushes, Turnery, Lamps, Gaseliers, Iron and
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PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

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Approved drafts negotiated and sent for collection.

Business with all the Australian Colonies conducted
through the Bank's Agents.

Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street,
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A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK,

IN CASE OF INJURY BY

ACCIDENT OF ANY DESCRIPTION,

OR THE SUM OF

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH,

May be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 for a Policy
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RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A weekly Allowance of Fifteen Shillings for Injury, or
£100 in case of Death secured by a payment of Ten Shillings.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

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May be insured against by the Journey or by the Year as
heretofore.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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a Special Act of Parliament. Offices, 3, Old Broad-street,
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BRITON LIFE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on and after
the 1st August next, the business of the above Asso-
ciation will be conducted at its new offices, No. 52, Moor-
gate-street, London. JOHN MESSENT, Secretary.

Chief Offices, 36, Moorgate-street,
24th July, 1886.

ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

39, Throgmorton-street, Bank.

THOMAS FARNCOME, Esq., Alderman, Chairman.

WILLIAM LEAF, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

Richard E. Arden, Esq.

John Humphrey, Esq., Ald.

Edward Bates, Esq.

Rupert Engleby, Esq.

Thomas Camplin, Esq.

Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.

Professor Hall, M.A.

Lewis Pocock, Esq.

PHYSICIAN.—Dr. Jeaffreson, 2, Finsbury-square.

SURGEON.—W. Coulson, Esq., 2, Frederick's-place, Old
Jewry.

ACTUARY.—George Clark, Esq.

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY.

The Premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with se-
curity.

The assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital
—an Assurance Fund of 415,000l. invested on Mortgage and
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