

By Alfred Edmund Salloway, Esq. & Co. & Co.

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.

NICHOLAS falsified the prophetic sneer that the Russian monarch is always attended by his predecessor's murderers and his own; but he succeeded in rendering a natural death so troubled, that the custom was spoiled in the letter rather than the spirit. If NICHOLAS falsified one supposed rule of the monarchy, ALEXANDER has already contradicted the expectation that he had changed the manners and customs of his family and throne. With no abatement in the pomp of his coronation, no higher wisdom in his policy, and Russian to the backbone, he still trusts in the pageantry of Moscow as a means of establishing a hold upon his dominions. Of course ALEXANDER intended the huge outlay of cash and toil on the coronation ceremony to serve a purpose, and it could scarcely serve any purpose but one. The procession of entry on the 5th formed an army representing all the powers of Russia—its Government, its nobles, its soldiery, regular and irregular—the whole collected for a single parade in the presence of a multitude, also representing Russia. ALEXANDER led the assembled might of the empire to bow in adoration before the sacred images and the relics, and he feasted the multitude with a lavish hospitality. These acts formed tangible lessons to all beholders, which the meanest of the multitude could read. If a man will travel to the capital of old Russia, and for one single day witness the emperor's acts, he will find that from the royal hand flows the good cheer, the wealth, and honour of that vast portion of the globe. If he will enter the temple, he will find that the most exalted power which this world can display, the emperor, who is as far removed from the peasant as man is from a superior world, nevertheless bows down to the images and relics in the church; and shall not the peasant believe that his own welfare, here and hereafter, depends upon submission to the same power of images and relics. The peasant knows that he owes his life, his industry, the power to exist upon earth, to the nobleman above him; but in the capital of old Russia he finds all the nobles, all the soldiers, all the great of the land, bow down to the one emperor, the one and indivisible. The three lessons have practically taught the Russian that it is but an inferior kind of blasphemy to question the word, the power, or the goodness of the imperial representative of

might upon earth. It is true that the accounts of the pageant will not be carried throughout Russia, as they would throughout England or France, by the means of the press; true that the story will but gradually pass from mouth to mouth; but it will not be the less impressive, it will not be the less adorned with wonderful traits and incidents, it will not be couched in language less calculated to reach the heart of each particular man in the empire. The pageant, therefore, will really perform that function which the emperor and his councillors must have intended when they expended upon it so large a portion of their not unlimited funds as one million sterling or more.

At first we might say that the lesson which is conveyed to Russia must be read backwards by the rest of Europe—that the potentate who can rely upon such means of power as this, cannot have any higher reliance, and must be content to reckon himself beneath those who can command the intellect, the science, and the political influence of the civilized world. But perhaps our own superiority is not so certain. If neither NICHOLAS nor ALEXANDER obtained, through the Russian war, the Vienna Conference, or the Paris Conference, all the objects at which they immediately aimed, is it certain that any one of the other Powers obtained a portion of its objects, or even so large a portion of its objects? Still more, we may ask whether the peoples, whose pride it is to suppose themselves to be represented by their Governments, obtained any guarantee whatever for their own desires? What did Piedmont obtain? Nothing but slight. What did England obtain? Nothing but the doubt whether 'England' and CLARENDON were one and the same thing in the Paris meeting. All public events on the Continent, at present, are of a kind to make us ask whether Russia is, after all, not more truly persevering than any one of the most civilized countries of Europe,—whether, in fact, the Powers, as they are called, are not swayed more by Russian principles than by those which they are compelled to profess before their own peoples? France has professed to hold the balance between extreme parties in Europe, and should, therefore, give an immediate support to constitutional principles. Yet Piedmont is at present suffered to maintain a precarious independence of Austria; and when MANIN proposes a complimentary gift from the French people, in the form of a subscription towards the artillery expense for the extended fortifications of Alessandria, LOUIS NAPOLEON pro-

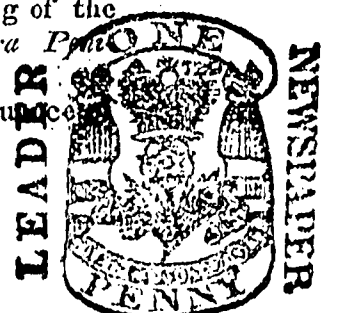
hibits the subscription. France is not allowed to sympathize with Piedmont; but France, officially at least, was represented in the idle pomp of Moscow.

The arch-Adventurer has just crossed over into Spain: what for?

Even the failure at Neufchâtel does not establish the impartiality of LOUIS NAPOLEON. For if it were true that he was prepared to wink at the restoration of royal authority in the canton, there are two reasons why he should not feel very warm on the subject. He has several things to request from Switzerland, who might materially obstruct his policy, both in Italy and in Germany; and he will not be very sorry to let the slow and uncertain FREDERICK WILLIAM undergo a few such misfortunes. Besides, Count DE FOURTALES was guilty of a grave offence when he attempted to raise an insurrection in the name of royalty, without being certain of more success. A nobleman who lifts a flag in the name of the King, and allows himself to be put down by a mayor, can be no object of sympathy or pity for the hero of the *coup d'état*.

The conduct of the Swiss in the canton may have its lessons for others besides the Kings and Emperors. It is an example which the French may study. There is no people on earth which, preferring freedom to death, cannot be free; the people of Piedmont have proved that they can overcome the most insidious enemies of their independence and freedom,—a great foreign enemy like Austria, and an alien clergy like the Roman priesthood. Unable to carry out his threat of excommunication, the Pope has been obliged to cede the offices of the Church even to the purchasers of the sequestrated Church property. The Bishops of the Sardinian dominions felt their difficulty. If they persevered in refusing the offices of the Church, they would first afflict many of their best clients upon earth, and secondly they would suffer to exist living evidences that men can oppose the Church and yet can thrive in all the relations of life. Since they could not command the lightnings of Heaven to strike the purchasers of sequestered property with death and destruction, they found that their only resource was to forgive the misappropriators; and they have obtained the concurrence of the Pope in that policy. This is the true meaning of the merciful concession made by the *Sacra Penitenzieria*.

From America they report the continuance



the dispute between the two Houses of Congress, and the Government is preparing to arrange for paying the army out of the existing resources of the department; in other words, preparing to do without the army appropriation for the current year.

The one reminiscence of our own Parliament is Mr. BAXTER circulating among his own constituents, addressing them in the several towns of the Montrose district of boroughs, criticizing the class of 'bores' in the House of Commons who have crochets and whom he would hang, and censuring old members who do not know how to bring forward measures, the Generals in the Crimea, and foreign affairs comprehensively. Arguing for the doctrine of non-intervention, Mr. BAXTER expressed horror at the massacre of CICERVACCHIO, declared Austria to be as bad as Naples, and proposed to waste no more words or paper, but to send a fleet to the Bay of Naples, to open the gates of its hateful guard-houses, and set the prisoners free! Whatever Mr. BAXTER may say, if he would offer himself as a minister on the promise of doing *that*, we believe that the people of England would carry him into office within a year.

In the meanwhile Government have announced a measure which may usefully engage Mr. BAXTER in both capacities,—that is, as the successor of Mr. HUME, cutting down our military expenditure, and as the crusader in Naples, demanding a more efficient military policy. Since we have arrived at a 'state of peace,' it is a matter of etiquette that we should have a 'peace establishment,' and a notification has issued from the War Department that there will be a reduction of all the regiments in the army. It will, however, not be very great. The total proportion of the army reduced will be one-sixth, the QUEEN'S forces in India not being included in any part of the arrangement. About six hundred officers will be placed upon half-pay, principally from the ranks of lieutenant-colonel, captain, and lieutenant. The cavalry regiments will be reduced to six companies in lieu of eight; the number of infantry regiments will remain as it is, but it will be reduced to one thousand men, eight hundred in eight service companies, and two hundred divided into four depot companies. The engineers and the artillery will not be reduced,—indeed we fully expect to find that they are rather augmented than otherwise. The Land Transport Corps will be reorganized and partially cut down. The reduction will be a means of removing from the army the diseased, the stunted, the worn-out, and the discontented. The camp system will be maintained. The forces will be permanently organized into separate 'armies,' each with its proper equipment of artillery, cavalry, and other arms. And the whole scheme includes a school for officers of a very high character. If the reduction in the number of men be only one-sixth, we can scarcely expect that the reduction in the estimates will be so much. Here then is the field for Mr. BAXTER: as the besieger of Naples, he may say, Give me transport and generals for this army, and I will use it; and, as the heir of HUME, he may say, Bring forward your estimates that I may reduce them.

While Government is announcing the reduction of the army, the public is entertaining every Crimean soldier it can meet at banquets here and there. Sheffield followed up its annual feasting of itself with a feasting of dragoons stationed in the town; a distinguished cutler presenting every man with a pocketknife. Folkestone has followed; Ireland and Scotland are both aspiring to be hosts in the same manner. In general terms, we may say that the speaking at these entertainments has not been of a very high character. The speakers seem to have been overlaid with a sense of what was expected of them, and we have effort without corresponding success or spontaneity.

The most stirring events have been in the region of commerce. The failure of the Royal British Bank not only removes one of the banking institutions of the metropolis from the field, but subsequent disclosures have shown that the managers had not been able to avoid the poorest temptations and worst risks of management. They had advanced money on such securities as Westminster Bonds, and to cover an advance of 25,000% had advanced 75,000%. more is some iron enterprise. The directors and shareholders talked of winding up the affairs of the bank without an appeal to law; but now Chancery is invoked! In short, the breakdown exhibits the usual characteristics of an English bankruptcy.

The case of TYLER presents the newer characteristic of English bankruptcy. The bankrupt, who was making some 3500% a year, was paying 4375% on loans, the motive for which does not appear. We have seen many such cases, and—without intending to insinuate anything in the present instance—we have usually found that these apparently motiveless loans were employed in speculative enterprises which were to make the speculator rich. Now there is no doubt that in many cases ventures of this kind have been successful; many a man receives after-dinner speeches and testimonials, and walks about amid the doffed hats of his fellow-creatures, who has gone through exactly the same tribulation with the unhappy bankrupt whose delinquencies are exposed. The unhappy gentleman at Liverpool appears to have been the sport of our system of fast money-lending. His case is treated by our contemporaries as exceptional; we know that it represents a class, and a very numerous class.

The conflict in the Unity General Insurance office brings important principles to the test, but the warfare belongs to a larger contest than that which appears upon the surface. Mr. THOMAS BAYLIS is one of a clever and active family, who have laboured to promote the practice of insurance for a variety of contingencies never contemplated under the old system, and they have endeavoured more exactly to apportion the annual investment required for the several kinds of insurance. They were at once denounced by the old offices as unsafe; the new offices retaliated that the old were decaying properties; and each division has laboured for years at blasting the character of the other. Any little accident to Mr. BAYLIS would be nectar and ambrosia to the champions of the old office. An agent of the Unity lately effected an insurance at Glasgow, on the life of a lady of some property, who had married a man with little property. The lady died; the agent saw, or thought he saw, some degree of suppression in the original statement respecting the lady's health; the husband was in want of money, and he consented to receive as a compromise—750% in lieu of 2000%. The compromise was sanctioned by Dr. LLOYD, the physician of the Company, and approved by Mr. BAYLIS, the manager. Subsequently, however, Mr. BAYLIS discovered that the lady actually died from natural causes; that notwithstanding the casualty of her speedy death, there had been no suppression of her symptoms, and that the credit of the office would not be promoted with persevering with the compromise. He advised, therefore, that the whole sum should be paid. The agent was angered at this misappreciation of his cleverness; Dr. LLOYD appears to have thought that his own character for professional ability and honour would be tarnished by reversing the original decision; the directors stood by Dr. LLOYD, and Mr. BAYLIS was forced into a resignation. An appeal was then made to the shareholders, and they, by acclamation, reversed the decision of the directors, and carried a motion for reinstating Mr. BAYLIS. The decision is interesting, as confirming the principle that a liberal construction is almost always nearer to

pure justice than a carping technical reliance upon weak points in the case of a claimant. It is to be regretted that there should have been any dispute on the point, but as there has been a dispute the mischief is minimized by the decision.

BIGOTRY RAPPED ON THE KNUCKLES.

FOR once in a way, the Government has acted with equal fairness to infidels and bigots. It will be recollected that some time ago permission was granted to certain religious sects to preach on Sundays in Victoria Park. Orthodox godliness (as interpreted by a dozen different 'persuasions') and apostolical temperance (as expounded by very loud-mouthed tectotallers) were free to sow their little patches of rancour, bitterness, and egotism broadcast over the park; and they availed themselves of the permission. But presently there appeared on the scene eleven infidels, members of the working orders, who preached Atheism in language which, unquestionably, was calculated to shock the feelings of many very honest and estimable people. We believe there can be no doubt in the minds of reasonable persons that these were demonstrations which should not be tolerated in a public place; and we think the authorities acted very wisely and properly in putting a stop to the plague of open-air preaching, making no distinction between the godly and the ungodly. It was hardly to be expected, however, that the former would submit without an effort to secure for themselves exclusive liberty to 'hold forth,' without fear of being contradicted by the unbelieving. Accordingly, the Rev. G. T. Driffeld, Rector of Bow, and chairman of the general body of "ministers of various denominations lately interested in promoting the practice of preaching in the public parks," addressed a letter, dated the 2nd inst., to Sir Benjamin Hall, in which the writer says:—

"A general notice has been issued referring to certain objectionable addresses and expressions which have been publicly delivered by parties in the Victoria Park, and prohibiting for the future not only the recurrence of such blasphemous and infidel addresses, but the efforts also of those parties who, being members of respected religious bodies, have endeavoured on such occasions to disseminate truth and to promote the cause of morality and religion."

"We have now to prefer a request that you will, on reconsidering the subject, consent to make such arrangements as will permit of our proceeding with a work so obviously useful; while, should any violation of public morality or religious feeling be repeated by any parties, we submit that it would become your duty to repress such occurrences by all lawful means."

"We beg, in conclusion, to express our regret that, when you first became informed of the anti-religious proceedings which you justly stigmatize, you did not intimate to us your desire that we should desist from the plan of preaching previously to issuing the notice in which we find ourselves by implication classed with blasphemers and Atheists."

To this wail, Sir Benjamin's secretary replied by intimating that the First Commissioner of Works, although anxious to consult the wishes of the gentlemen addressing him, could not allow any more preaching in the public parks. The communication proceeds:—

"He (Sir Benjamin Hall) regrets extremely that you should suppose that he could, even by the slightest possible implication, class those excellent clergymen, who were actuated by the purest and the highest motives, with those persons who made use of the blasphemous language which was uttered on Sunday, the 24th ult., in Victoria Park. He cannot see how the orders issued by him can in any way whatsoever bear such an interpretation."

The Government could not, consistently with justice and common sense, come to any other conclusion than that which it has promulgated. With what fairness can the Rev. Ebenezer Cantwell be allowed to send the promenaders in the parks to eternal fire, while John Brown, workman and materialist, is denied the right of disputing his first principles?—or what can be thought of the honesty or courage of those "excellent clergymen" who wish to have the argument to themselves, and to "repress" by force of law all those who disagree with them? The readers of the *Leader* know that we do not sympathize with the opinions advocated by John Brown; but we dislike petty tyranny and unfairness, and, on the other hand, we are glad to see that the parks—the true objects of which are to invigorate the body and tranquillize the mind by the influence of Nature's divine calmness and benignity—are not to be turned into the battle-grounds of sects, whether theological or anti-theological.

THE CORONATION OF THE CZAR.

The grand ceremonial of the coronation has taken place, and Alexander now ranks among the anointed of the world's monarchs. We borrow from the letter of the *Times* Special Correspondent a brilliant picture of the procession to the Kremlin:—

"On Monday (the 25th ult.), the Empress-Mother arrived at the Palace of Petrovsky, a country house about four miles from Moscow, where the Imperial family generally reside when ceremonies of state do not call them to the Kremlin during their visits to Moscow.

"The Emperor and Empress left St. Petersburg on Friday morning (the 22nd), and reached Petrovsky after dusk in the evening of the same day, having travelled about four hundred and forty miles in sixteen hours, which is regarded as a great feat in this part of the world. His Majesty's reception at the station was enthusiastic, and, late as it was, thousands of people awaited his arrival, and cheered him with great energy. Wednesday (the 27th) and Thursday were spent in preparing for the great event, the procession of their Imperial Majesties from the Château of Petrovsky to the Kremlin, which took place on the 29th under the happiest auspices.

"It would be as difficult to describe this dazzling pageant as it would be to give an accurate account of a grand spectacle at the theatre. In all its component parts it was magnificent and effective. The wealth of a vast empire was poured out with a profuseness almost barbaric, and displayed with a taste founded on Oriental traditions and modified by European civilization. Instead of a narrow stage, the scene was laid in the ancient metropolis of the largest empire the world has ever seen; instead of tinsel and mock finery, gold and silver and diamonds flashed in the real sunlight. He who played the part of an Emperor was indeed an Emperor; and those who appeared as Empresses, marshals, and soldiers were what they seemed to be; but, after all, when, amid the blare of trumpets, the clanging of bells, and the roar of the populace, the glorious pageant had passed away in a parti-coloured blaze of light, what was left but the recollection of the transitory pleasure of the eye and of the indescribable excitement which the memory in vain endeavoured to recall of all that had at the moment produced such irresistible effects?"

The side pavements were crowded by the populace, and the line of roadway was maintained by the Infantry of the Guard, formed three deep the whole length of the street, which was covered with a fine red sand, carefully raked from time to time. "The two lines formed by the soldiery are as strict and exact as those of the street itself, and the eye wanders down a long perspective of helmets, faces, red collars, green frocks, red cuffs, and white trousers, till they are diminished into mere streaks of colour in the distance. The officers look along their chins and noses, till they are all in line, and then retire to their places in the ranks; again the careful sergeants and corporals go round and give their charges a last finishing touch, brush the dust off their shoes and cross-belts, and comb their moustaches." After a party of Gendarmes had passed, the splendour of the pageantry commenced. "Mounted on high-bred, spirited horses, which are covered with rich trappings of an antique character, the escort of the Emperor comes by, and calls us at once back to the days of Ivan the Terrible. Their heads are covered with a fine chain armour—so fine, indeed, that some of them wear it as a veil before their faces. This mail falls over the neck, and covers the back and chest, and beneath it glisten rich doublets of yellow silk. Some of the escort carry lances with bright pennons. All are armed with antique carbines, pistols, and curved swords. The saddles are crusted with silver, and rich scarfs and sashes decorate their waists.

"The whole breadth of the street was now occupied by a glittering mass of pennons, armour, plumes, steel, and bright colours; the air was filled with the sounds of popular delight, the clanging of bits and clinking of weapons, the flourishing of trumpets, and, above all, the loud voices of the bells. Close behind the Cossackian escort and the wild Bashkirs comes a squadron of the division of the Black Sea Cossacks of the Guard, in large flat black sheepskin caps, with red skull-pieces, long lances, the shafts painted red, and the pennons coloured blue, white, and red; their jackets of scarlet; their horses small, handsome, and full of spirit.

"The forest of red lance shafts through which one looked gave a most curious aspect to the gay cavalcade. A squadron of the Regiment of Cossacks of the Guard, in blue, follows. Except in the shape of the head-dress, which is like one of our shakos in the olden time, and the colour of their uniform, these men resemble the Black Sea Cossacks. Suggesting some strange likenesses and comparisons, there follows after these four hundred Cossacks a large body of the *haute noblesse* on horseback and in uniform, two and two, headed by the Marshal of the Nobility for the district of Moscow. Nearly all of these nobles are in military uniforms, and those who are not wear the old Russian boyard's dress, a tunic glistening with precious stones, golden belts studded with diamonds, and high caps with *aiguillettes* of brilliants.

"The next cavalcade consists of the deputies of the various Asiatic *peuplades* or races which have submitted to Russia all on horseback, two and two. Here may

be seen the costume of every age at one view, and all as rich as wealth, old family treasures, hoarded plunder, and modern taste can make it. Bashkirs and Circassians, Tcherkess, Abassians, in coats of mail and surcoats of fine chain armour, Calmucks, Tartars of Kazan and the Crimea, Mingrelians, Karapapaks, Daghanbhis, Armenians, the people of Gouriel and Georgia, the inhabitants of the borders of the Caspian, Kurds, people of Astrakhan, Samoiedes, wild mountaineers from distant ranges to which the speculations of even the 'Hertfordshire Incumbent' have never wandered, Chinese from the Siberian frontiers, Mongols, and strange beings like Caliban in court-dress. Some of them had their uncovered hair plaited curiously with gold coins; others wore on the head only a small flat plate of precious metal just over the forehead; others sheepskin head-dresses studded with jewels; old matchlocks that might have rung on the battle-fields of Ivan Veliki, battle-axes, lances, and scimitars and daggers of every form were borne by this gaudy throng, whose mode of riding offered every possible variety of the way in which a man can sit on a horse. Some rode without stirrups, loose and graceful as the Greek warriors who live on the friezes of the Parthenon; others sat in a sort of legless arm-chair, with their knees drawn up after the manner of sartorial equestrians. Every sort of bit, bridle, saddle, and horse-trapping which has been used since horses were subjugated to man could be seen here. Some of the saddle-cloths and holsters were of surpassing richness and splendour. In the midst of all these cavaliers, two attracted particular notice. One was a majestic-looking old Turk with an enormous beard and a towering turban, whose garments were of such a rich material and strange cut that one was reminded immediately of the figure of the High Priest in Rembrandt's picture, or of the old engravings of the Sultan in old books of travel. The other was a young deputy from Gouriel, with clustering hair flowing down in curls from beneath a small patch of gold and jewels fixed on the top of the head, whose face and figure were strikingly handsome, and who was dressed in a magnificent suit of velvet *cramoisi*, flashing with precious stones. He was a veritable Eastern Antinous, and was well matched with his beautiful horse. This cavalcade of the '*peuplades soumises à la Russie*' was to strangers the most interesting part of the procession; but it passed too quickly by for the eye to decompose its ingredients. What stories of the greatness and magnificence of Russia will those people take back to their remote tribes! They went by bright, shifting, and indistinct as a dream of the *Arabian Nights*."

After a long array of valets of the court, lacqueys of the chamber, gentlemen of the chamber, court runners, negroes of the court, huntsmen, masters of the ceremonies, riding in chariots of crimson velvet and gold, drawn by horses richly caparisoned and led by gorgeous footmen, the masters themselves being dressed in green and gold, there came by "the second '*Charges de la Cour*,' in gilt carriages, four and four, crimson velvet linings, green and gold footmen, and fine horses. Next the Marshal of the Court, in an open phaeton, gilt all over, with his grand bâton of office flashing with gems. Next the Grand '*Charges de la Cour*,' by fours, in gilt and crimson carriages, all and each drawn like the first, with running footmen and rich trappings,—

All clinkant—all in gold like heathen gods;
Every man that walked showed like a mine.

The members of the Imperial Council, in gilt carriages, followed the Grand '*Charges*.'

"As the last of the train of carriages passes, a noise like distant thunder rolling along the street announces the approach of the Czar. But his presence is grandly heralded. Immediately after the members of the Council of the Empire, the Grand Marshal of the Court rides in an open phaeton, gilt like the rest; but, bright as is he and all about him, there comes after him that compared with the lustre of which he is as a mote in the sun. In gilt casques of beautiful form and workmanship, surmounted by crest eagles of silver or gold, in milk-white coats and gilded cuirasses and back-plates, approach the giants of the first squadron of the Chevaliers Gardes of his Majesty the Emperor, each on a charger fit for a commander in battle. These are the picked men of 60,000,000 of the human race, and in stature they certainly exceed any troops I have ever seen. All their appointments are splendid, but it is said that they looked better in the days of the late Emperor, when they wore white buckskins and jack-boots, than they do now in their long trousers. The squadron was probably two hundred strong, and the effect of the polished helmets, crests, and armour was dazzling. Their officers could scarcely be distinguished, except by their position and the extraordinary beauty and training of some of their horses, which slowly beat time, as it were, with their hoofs to the strains of the march. The First Squadron of the *Garde à Cheval* follows,—

All furnished—all in arms,
All plumed like estridges that wing the wind;
Bated like eagles having lately bathed,
Glittering in golden coats, like images,

so bright, so fine, that one is puzzled to decide which, they or the chevaliers, are the bravest. But, as we are debating the point, the tremendous cheering of the people, and the measured hurrahs of the soldiers, the

doffed hats and the reverences of the crowd, the waving of handkerchiefs, and the clash of presenting arms, warn us that the 'Czar of All the Russias, of the Kingdom of Poland, and of the Grand Duchy of Finland, which are inseparable from them,' is at hand; and Alexander Nicolaievitch is before us. His Majesty is dressed in the uniform of a general officer, and seems quite simply attired, after all the splendour which has gone past. He wears a burnished casque, with a long-plume of white, orange, and dark cock's feathers, a close-fitting green tunic, with aiguillettes and orders, and red trousers, and he guides his charger—a perfect model of symmetry—with ease and gracefulness. His features are full of emotion as he returns with a military salute on all sides the mad congratulations of his people, who really act as though the Deity were incarnate before them. It is said that several times his eyes ran over with tears. To all he gives the same acknowledgment—raising his extended hand to the side of his casque, so that the forefinger rises vertically by the rim in front of the ear."

The Grand Dukes, some officials attached to the Imperial and Ducal households, and several of the great generals, having passed, the Empress-Mother followed. "Her Majesty was right royally or imperially attired, but how I cannot say. A cloud of light drapery, through which diamonds shone like stars, floated around her, and on her head was a tiara of brilliants. The carriage in which she sat was a triumph of splendour—all gold and crimson velvet; and on the roof, which was composed of similar materials, was the likeness of an Imperial crown. The eight horses, which were attached to the carriage by trappings and cords of gold, were the most beautiful in the Imperial stables, and each was led with a golden bridle by a palefrier in grand livery. The Empress-Consort, Marie Alexandrovna, is seated in the next carriage, and by her side the little Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovitch, who is in full military uniform. Her Majesty seemed much affected as she bowed to the right and left and acknowledged the salutations of the people with vivacity and *empressment*. The boy seemed to take it all as a matter of course, and probably the arch-ducal mind was occupied by distracting thoughts of dinner. The equipment and attendance of the vehicle were the same as those of the Empress-Mother.

"The first squadron of the Cuirassiers of the Guard, and the first squadron of the Gardes-Cuirassiers of the Empress, clad in surcoats of mail, part bearing lances with rich pennons, part armed with sabres only, make the ground shake beneath the tramp of their ponderous horses, and by the splendour of their equipments almost challenge comparison with the Chevalier Guard. The Dames and Maids of Honour, the Maids of Honour *à portrai*, the Maitresses de la Cour of their Imperial Majesties and Highnesses follow four-and-four in many gilt carriages, all in court dresses, radiant with diamonds. As the last carriage passes, the first squadron of the Hussars of the Guard claims our attention. The uniform of these troops is very handsome,—Hessian boots with tassels, light blue pantaloons, scarlet faced jacket, a white pelisse trimmed with black fur, lined inside with yellow satin, and a black bearskin shako with scarlet calpack. The first squadron of the Regiment of the Lancers of the Guard, in blue and red, splendidly mounted, comes next in order; and the rear of the procession is closed by the municipal authorities, the civil authorities, and the magistrates of the bourgeoisie, with trade flags and civic emblems, and by the bands, kettle-drums, and standards of the various cavalry regiments which have taken part in the procession. After all the people—a crowd of long-coated, bearded people, struggling, and running, and sweltering together at the horses' heels." Various religious ceremonies at the Kremlin concluded the day.

A telegraphic despatch, dated last Sunday, states that the Emperor was crowned that day at twelve o'clock. "The ceremony took place in the Uspenski Sobor, and the act of coronation was performed by Archbishop Philaret, the Metropolitan of Moscow. Among the special Ambassadors who were present were Earl Granville, Prince Esterhazy, M. Castaliborgne, and the representative of the Sultan. The proceedings had all that august appearance which immense preparation had designed. An enormous crowd assembled at the Kremlin Palace and in the streets, and very great enthusiasm was everywhere manifested. The ringing of bells, the firing of cannon, the parade of troops, the ceremonials of the Church, the procession to the Palace, and the decorations of the city, rendered the whole affair most inspiring. The coronation was favoured by beautiful weather. Count Orloff was created a Prince, Prince Woronzoff a Field-Marshal, and Generals de Berg and Soumarokhoff Counts."

MR. DALLAS ON THE TRANSATLANTIC ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

The annual Cutlers' Feast was held at Sheffield in the course of last week. The Duke of Newcastle, Mr Dallas (the American Minister), and Mr. Roebuck were among the guests. In the course of his address, the Duke of Newcastle alluded to his exertions when Secretary-at-War, and implied that "his honourable, unvalued, and most distinguished, and he hoped he should be forgiven if he added somewhat aggressive friend, Mr Roebuck," had not done him justice in the House of

Commons. To this, Mr. Roebuck replied by reminding the company that he had spoken highly of the Duke in the House, and had stated his belief that he was made the scapegoat of the Government; in consequence of which opinion, he (Mr. Roebuck) had been accused of—what, it was said, was unusual with him—being illogical, and he had made a promise, which he intended to keep, never to praise a man again.

The most striking speech of the evening was that of Mr. Dallas, who thus alluded to the electric telegraph about to be laid down between the United States and Great Britain:—"You have probably heard already that the irresistible and insatiable cupidity of my countrymen—(laughter)—is about undertaking a daring exploit of annexation, an annexation that will at once embrace these islands—(loud laughter)—and must, with a march as rapid as civilization, ultimately include all Europe, Asia, and Africa. I have actually in my possession a piece of chain recently forged to bind these three venerable continents to the fresh one of Columbia. (Cheers and laughter.) We see in the Far West that you possess and accumulate treasures that we covet and must have. The hourly invention of your genius—the discoveries of your explorers on the earth or in the heavens—the numberless additions made to the comfort and happiness of the human race—the schemes of your commerce—every step onward or retrograde in morals, in jurisprudence, in the press, even in finance, in the stocks—we must have them all. (Cheers and laughter.) We must have them. We must have them as quickly as yourselves. (Cheers.) We are aware, gentlemen, that there is not in the wing of the carrier pigeon strength enough for this; that steam is too wretchedly slow for our impatience; but the submarine electric cable with one grapple at St. John's, Newfoundland, and the other at Valentia, in Ireland, resting for 1700 miles securely and indestructibly in the currentless depths of the Atlantic, will have realized and achieved all the ends of our ambition, and riveted an annexation infinitely more wonderful, and infinitely more praiseworthy, than that of Texas or of Oude. (Cheers.) I should not, gentlemen, have indulged in this flight, even to beguile you for a few moments, were I not perfectly satisfied that the established fact from which it has sprung is no longer disputable. Our two countries—the dominions of her Britannic Majesty and the United States of America—though separated by stormy seas thousands of miles in width, will, in the course of the coming year, so to speak, be drawn by the aid of a magical machinery and science within conversational distance. (Cheers.) The preliminary soundings were perfected a few days ago at the termini at one end and the other of this great artery of sympathy and of thought. I wish it were now in operation. And why? Because, gentlemen, I would instantly illustrate its most glorious adaptation to the promotion of good-will among men in distant places, by sending your toast to-night and giving you before you rose from this table a full-hearted American response."

The speech of Mr. Roebuck concluded with some observations on America in response to this. He said that Englishmen and Americans ought always to live on friendly terms, but that, being free nations, they ought not to object to mutual criticism. "If the Americans choose to find fault with us, we shall accept their criticism, but we shall reciprocate the benefit by finding fault with them." America, being a young country, had not acquired that sort of pride which makes an old nation like England careless of what is said of it: he wished she had. England and America reciprocate benefits; but "let not the Americans deprive us of the greatness that belongs to us. Let them be free and frank descendants of England. Let them honour the root from which they have sprung. If they are great, we are great. I believe that they are destined to be a great people. We are that already."

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A SINGULAR and very serious accident has happened at the plant works of the Great Northern Railway at Doncaster, to a lad named Holden. He was standing near a large revolving wheel, which was going round at the rate of 1800 revolutions a minute, when a huge splinter of oak, six inches in length, which the wheel threw off, struck him violently in the face, piercing his cheek, and planting itself firmly in his jaw-bone. Notwithstanding the immense pain he suffered, the lad did not faint, but was able to call for assistance. Several of his fellow workmen came to his aid, and used their utmost endeavours to extract the piece of wood, but in so doing, it snapped close to Holden's face. Finding it impossible to extract the remaining portion, Holden was taken to a surgeon, who, by means of a strong pair of jeweller's pliers (his ordinary implements having proved unavailing), succeeded in withdrawing the remnant of the splinter. Violent hemorrhage immediately succeeded, but was suppressed by proper medical treatment, and the sufferer is now progressing very favourably.

Mr. Lewis Morgan, a gentleman of property in the neighbourhood of Merthyr Tydvil, has been killed by a train passing over him while endeavouring to cross the Taff Vale Railway on horseback. It appears that he had been in Merthyr on business, and, meeting with several of his friends, had drunk too much liquor before he left. About half a mile below the Taff Vale station,

at a place called Brandy-bridge, is an old parish road crossing the railway, but there are no gates on either side to prevent the public crossing at all seasons. In endeavouring to go over the line, the horse was caught by the engine of a train from Cardiff, and both the animal and its rider were instantly killed. On the engine being stopped, and a search being made along the line, the remains of horse and man were discovered, fearfully mangled, and scattered piecemeal for a considerable distance.

James Cole, lately a waiter at an hotel in Bond-street, but more recently a hop-picker in the hop districts, has been burnt to death on the farm of Mrs. Mary Cole, Broughton Monchelsea. The room in which he was sleeping caught fire, and he perished in the flames.

A fatal accident has occurred at one of the Sheffield Coal Company's pits at Binley Vale. A man of the name of Hugh Bach was at the mouth of the pit, letting down some iron pipes for the watercourse, when the rope broke, and Bach was precipitated to the bottom. The pipe struck another man, who was stationed at the bottom, and knocked him into some water, where he was in all probability suffocated. Bach was got out as speedily as possible, but he lies in a very precarious state.

A boy, eight years old, was bathing in the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, on Saturday, when he sank in the mud out of his depth. James Brodick, a pointsman employed on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, dived in several times, at the risk of his own life, with the hope of saving the boy. After a quarter of an hour's exertion he succeeded in finding the body, but life was quite extinct.

A small sailing-boat was swamped by a steamer off the Ross of Kirkcudbright a few days ago, and six persons, two of whom were women, were thrown into the water. After struggling for some time, they were rescued by the boats of the steamer, in a state bordering on exhaustion, and they are now doing well, with the exception of one, who it is feared will not recover. The devotion of one of the women in supporting her husband at the risk of her own life, excited the deepest sympathy in those who witnessed it.

Extensive improvements are being made in Blyth harbour, Northumberland, with a view to improving it as a shipping place for coal. On Monday, a number of men were employed swinging a barge, which had been taking in mud from the dredger. She was lopsided, from having too much ballast on one side, and, getting into the tide, she upset. Thirteen men were plunged into the water, and every effort was made to rescue them; but few of them could swim, and four were drowned.

FIRES.

THREE fires broke out in the metropolis during the night of last Saturday. The principal of these occurred at Rutland Wharf, Upper Thames-street, a pile of buildings situated on the banks of the river, and extending about fifty feet landwards. They were in the possession of Messrs. Green and Sedgwick, cornfactors, and many thousand pounds' worth of corn has been destroyed. In the course of the night, a city policeman, passing along Blackfriars Bridge, perceived large volumes of red-coloured smoke issuing from one of the windows of the warehouse: he gave the alarm, and roused all the persons likely to be endangered by the flames. A large number of engines from various stations speedily arrived, and poured a copious stream on the building; but it was not till the steam floating engine on the river could be brought to bear, that the adjoining premises were placed out of danger. Under the influence of this vast and unceasing flow of water, the flames gradually diminished; but the fire continued to smoulder during the whole of the following day. Several hundred quarters of grain were washed into the river, and many boatloads were gathered up by watermen and lightermen: these they would have taken away and sold, had it not been for the services rendered by the Thames and City police. The fire at one time ignited the covering of a vessel filled with grain, but the flames were soon extinguished. Much damage was done to the cargo by the flames, but more by the water. The floating-engine had just ceased working when the greater part of the waterside frontage fell into the Thames, cutting the end off one of the barges and burying another. In the course of the operations conducted by the fire-brigades, a man fell off the wharf into the river, but was speedily rescued by the Thames police. Insurances in three offices will cover at least a portion of the loss.

Another very serious conflagration broke out on premises occupied by Mr. Stoneham, carriage-builder and proprietor, Bedford-street, Upper Seymour-street, Euston-square. After several hours, the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the flames; but the harness-makers' workshops and contents were destroyed, the painters' shops, with their stock-in-trade, were consumed, the stabling was burnt down, and the storerooms were nearly gutted. The establishment was insured.

The third fire was at a leather cloth manufactory, in Paragon-place, New Kent-road, nearly facing the Elephant and Castle. The persons residing in the neighbourhood, who were all very poor people, fled precipitately in their night-clothes. The conflagration was subdued in about two hours, but not until four thousand pounds' worth of property had been consumed.

AMERICA.

BOTH Houses of Congress again adjourned on the 26th ult., without having adjusted their differences on the Army Appropriation Bill. Mr. Clayton introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of a joint select committee of seven senators and eleven representatives, to take into consideration the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, with the view of arranging the details and settling the differences between them. Senator Walker also introduced a measure embodying the 18th section of the bill providing for the admission of Kansas into the Union, which repeals the last act, and the laws restricting the freedom of the press and the liberty of speech, passed by the Territorial Legislature. Mr. Campbell, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, has prepared a new Army Bill, excluding the restrictive clause, and providing for the repeal of the territorial laws of Kansas.

Mr. Army, a special agent from the Free Soil party of Kansas, has been in Washington for the purpose of soliciting the President for assistance against the pro-slavery advocates. In a document addressed to the Chief Magistrate, Mr. Army states that "the National Kansas Committee, located at Chicago, Illinois, have received from the 'Central Kansas Committee' at Lawrence, Kansas, official information in regard to the preparation of citizens of Missouri and other States to drive out of the territory of Kansas, or murder, 'all the Free State settlers.'" Unless the Federal Government interpose, Mr. Army fears that a civil war will break out, "which will involve the whole North-West against the South." The writer also encloses a semi-official account, by a Mr. Morrow, of the attack made by the Free-Soilers on the city of Franklin, which, he says, was undertaken in self-defence, the pro-slavery men having organized a large force for the purpose of exterminating their opponents. Mr. Morrow proceeds:—"Franklin was one of the dens of the ruffians. They occupied a blockhouse in the town. This blockhouse the Free State men attacked and carried on the night of the 12th of August. They lost one man, killed—Edward Sackett, from Detroit—and two were wounded, and seven others were slightly injured. The ruffians, being strongly fortified, escaped; only four were wounded. They surrendered and were permitted to leave. The Free State men took sixty stand of arms, one cannon, powder, and a large amount of stores. The most of the arms had been stolen from Lawrence, and were identified; there were a few United States muskets. The story of the St. Louis Republican and other papers, in regard to the killing of the postmaster and robbery of mails, &c., is untrue: not a building, not a citizen, nor the property of any citizen, was searched or disturbed. The assault was confined to the marauders' den; it began there and ended there." The slavery advocates, however, would seem not to be greatly discouraged by this reverse; for Mr. Morrow adds that he is fully satisfied that Missourians, Georgians, and South Carolinians, are about to invade Kansas and destroy all the Free State men.—Mr. Army, on presenting these documents, endeavoured to obtain an interview with the President; but General Pierce declined seeing him, on the plea of being excessively busy, but handed him over to his secretary, who appears to have given him no satisfactory assurances on the matters in hand.

A meeting in favour of the Free Soilers has been held at St. Louis; another in aid of the pro-slavery party is being organized in New Orleans.

The disturbed condition of Kansas has been evinced in several skirmishes. Five hundred Free State men marched on what is called Colonel Titus's camp, near Leecompton, on the 16th of August, and captured the party there assembled, amounting to twenty men, who defended themselves for some time from the log-houses, and wounded ten of the Free State party. One hundred United States Dragoons then interfered, to prevent an attack on Leecompton; on which, the Free State men retired to Lawrence with their prisoners. On the following day, Governor Shannon, Major Sedgwick, and Dr. Roderick, of Leecompton, went to Lawrence, to demand the release of the prisoners, which the Free Soilers promised to perform, on condition of the men of their own party held by the authorities being given up, together with the howitzers taken from Lawrence, and of all camps of armed pro-slavery men being dispersed. An attack on Leecompton by the Free State men was expected at the date of the last advices from that locality. It is said that the Free State men number two thousand in the territory, and are preparing to fortify Lawrence in case a retreat to any particular point becomes necessary. Four hundred volunteers from Jackson county have entered Kansas. Lane's Regiment is said to be fortifying Wakarusa. Governor Brown and others are still in the custody of the Government troops. General Smith has ordered all the disposable forces up to Fort Leavenworth.

The American State Council of North Carolina has determined to recommend all the lodges of that state to vote for Buchanan, instead of Fillmore, as the latter has no chance, and "it behoves the South to present a united front in such a crisis as that she has now to pass through."

California has not yet settled down into an orderly state. The San Francisco Vigilance Committee is in full force, having made many additional arrests and executed two persons since the departure of the previous mail.

Judge Terry is still kept prisoner by the committee. Hopkins, the man he stabbed, has recovered. One of the persons executed was a man named Braes, who committed a murder upwards of a year before. Several attempts have been made to destroy both San Francisco and Sacramento by fire.

The citizens of St. Paul, Minnesota, have held a meeting, and formed a committee, charged with the extirpation of all bad characters from the town.

It is stated in advices from Nicaragua of the 9th ult. that matters looked ill for Walker. A body of Salvadorian and Guatemalan troops, headed by Cabanano, were posted at Leon. There were many desertions from Walker's army—in one case a whole company. Walker has revoked the exequatur of the English consul at Leon. Another revolution has been put down in Costa Rica.

From Vera Cruz we learn that the Ministerial crisis passed without any resignations in the Cabinet, although some were tendered. The new Constitution was under discussion, and the liberal articles were in favour. There was an animated debate on the clause respecting religious toleration. The Cabinet opposed the measure as useless, but the peers adopted it. Congress, however, sanctioned the 15th article of the new Constitution, establishing religious toleration. The yellow fever is raging with great violence, and the Indians have committed fearful ravages on the northern frontiers.

Santa Fé has been the scene of a revolution. "If the news that has just reached us be correct," says a correspondent of the *Times*, "the province of Santa Fé is already in a state of confusion—General Lopez recognized as Provisional Governor in the capital; General Echague proclaimed Governor in one of the departments; and a considerable party decided to stand by the constitution and insist on the reinstallation of Governor Cullen." From the same paper we learn that at Pernambuco the investigation of the Gerinhern affair (*i. e.*, of landing slaves there in October last year) still occupies the attention of the authorities, and on account of further disclosures they have dismissed the naval chief of the Pernambuco station, I. E. Wanderholk, from his post, and have imprisoned Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond, preparatory to putting him on his trial for supposed complicity in the abstraction of the missing slaves. This last step led to an unpleasant correspondence between the English Consul and the President of the province (late Brazilian Minister in London), as Colonel Drummond had, through Mr. Cowper, the consul, received the thanks of the British Government for his conduct in this affair.

Money continues plentiful, and in good demand at New York. Bread stuffs are firm, and still tending upwards.

IRELAND.

THE KINGSTON ESTATES.—With reference to the Kingston estates in Cork, which mysteriously passed into the hands of John Sadleir, the *Cork Examiner* states that, "the Earl of Kingston, accompanied by his solicitor, Mr. J. M. Cantwell, Dublin, and Mr. Power, an English capitalist, arrived at the Kingston Arms Hotel, Mitchelstown, on the 2nd inst., and proceeded on the following day to visit the castle and demesne, which are situated about a quarter of a mile from the town. We have heard that the object of his lordship's visit is to collect all possible information relative to the management of his estates during the long period of his absence, with a view of sustaining the suit at present pending in Chancery, which is expected to come to an issue in November. The present trustee and mortgagee, both of castle and estate, is Mr. Thomas Joseph Eyre, of Bath. Mr. James Sadleir, as manager of the Tipperary Bank, originally held a mortgage on the castle and demesne, but on a recent application made by Lord Kingston before the Master of the Rolls, to have further security given for the receiver, Mr. Nicholas Sadleir, the official manager of the bank, consented to have Mr. Eyre, the then mortgagee of the estate alone, declared the mortgagee in possession of all. Mr. Eyre's claims on foot of his mortgage and for advances, are 100,000*l.*, which amount is disputed by Lord Kingston, who claims several sets-off, which, if admitted, will reduce it very considerably. It is understood that in November a motion is to be made in Chancery, on Lord Kingston's behalf, to have all the accounts of the estate taken up to the Master, and that when his decision is known, and the entire amount of the charges fully made out, Lord Kingston will negotiate to have them all discharged. The present annual rental of the Mitchelstown estate is about 18,000*l.*

THE SADLEIR PROPERTY.—A petition has been lodged on the part of John W. Burmester, F. S. Law, James Sadleir, and Clement Sadleir, heirs-at-law of John Sadleir, deceased, for the sale of property in the counties of Cork and Tipperary. The estimated yearly value is set down at 37,881*l.*, and the encumbrances amount to 157,298*l.* 16*s.* The petitioners in the case are Edmund Backhouse and another.

SADLEIRISM.—The *Carlow Sentinel* states that the directors of the Bank of Ireland have taken legal proceedings against several persons in that town whose bills were given as security by the Tipperary Bank for

advances to that unfortunate concern by the Bank of Ireland, and it is added that the effects of an extensive farmer residing near Ballyellen were seized under execution for 700*l.* due to the bank. It appears that the farmer was security for a trader in the town, and of course is held responsible for the amount. With respect to the whereabouts of James Sadleir, the *Carlow* paper says that the police are on the wrong scent, and that there is every reason to believe that the fugitive is now far on his way to South America, "where there appears to be little doubt that he will be afforded the opportunity of embracing his brother John." With regard to this latter prospect, it may be mentioned, as an instance of that second-sight said to be the peculiar property of our northern fellow-subjects, that a respectable professional man, recently returned to Dublin from New Orleans, is ready to aver on oath, if called upon, that during his residence at the latter place he had seen John Sadleir bodily striding through the streets of New Orleans.—*Times*.

A COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE OF DUTY.—The Maynooth question was aired at a meeting of the Belfast Protestant Association on the 2nd inst. The proceedings were opened by the Rev. Dr. Drew reading the 25th chapter of Isaiah, which was followed by all present kneeling in prayer. A resolution was then passed, to the effect that no compact whatever exists between Government and the supporters of Maynooth, and that the association learnt with regret that any doubt existed in the minds of Protestants as to the position in which Maynooth stands to the empire at large and to Protestants in particular. A letter from Mr. Spooner was read, intimating that gentleman's intention to make a fresh attack on "the idolatrous college" next session, should his life be spared, and expressing his conviction that the institution is "doomed." The local paper thus reports the conclusion of the proceedings:—"With hearty and well-tuned voices, the members joined in the Doxology, the President repeated the apostolic benediction, and all retired, happy in thus fulfilling their duty to the monarch, to religion, to the Bible, and the Sovereign Ruler of all men." This is certainly very comprehensive, and must have sent the gentle bigots home to their beds in a state of benign self-satisfaction.

THE HARVEST.—The greater part of the crops has now been gathered in; and the *Cork Examiner* expresses its belief that throughout the country the produce from wheat will realize more than the average. Barley will also be very productive.

THE DUBLIN CRIMEAN BANQUET.—The contemplated banquet to the Crimean soldiers has created the greatest enthusiasm, and there seems to be every prospect of a brilliant success. A meeting was held in the Mansion House on Monday to arrange the necessary preparations. The Lord Mayor presided, and among the speakers were Lord Gough, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the High Sheriff of the county, Mr. Butt, Q.C., Mr. William Dargan, &c. The Lord-Lieutenant sent a subscription of 50*l.*; and communications from a great many noblemen, Members of Parliament, and others, were acknowledged. Lord Gough mentioned that Marshal Pelissier had just addressed to him a letter, stating that he proposed to fulfil a promise he had made of visiting him in Ireland. It was suggested that he should be invited to the dinner. The entertainment will not be limited to soldiers who are natives of Ireland, but will include all English and Scotch soldiers at present serving in the country.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—The Committee of the Church Education Society of Ireland have put forth a long circular and appeal in reference to the present position and prospects of the association; and in this they reiterate the old arguments of their party against the national system of education.

THE IRISH CENSUS FOR 1851.—The Census Commission of 1851 has just completed its task, and the sixth part and tenth volume of the series of publications, which began with the record of the population, presented to the Lord-Lieutenant in 1851 and 1852, has been laid before the Earl of Carlisle. The *Evening Packet* supplies an abstract of the contents of the general report, in which we read:—"In reference to the famine and emigration of 1845 and the following disastrous years, the commissioners set down the total decrease of our rural population from that double cause at 19.85 per cent. or exactly at 1,622,789; but of course this enormous figure does not truly represent the havoc then made by death and voluntary exile. . . . Taking the English registration as their basis, the Irish commission reach the conclusion that the total loss of population from 1841 to 1851 was not less than 2,466,414! A curious feature of this 'general report' has regard to house accommodation. It appears that in 1851 there was a net decrease of 271,006 houses below 1841. When we examine the tables minutely, we perceive that this decline occurred in the dwellings of 'one room'—classed the fourth—the mud cabins of a few quarters in each province; while there was an increase in buildings of the better class, notwithstanding the pressure of the times. But, in some civic districts, a large number of the meaner huts were thrown down, as in Kilkenny city, where 618 out of a total of 690 were levelled within the decade. In Limerick and Cork, a like result was shown. The greatest decrease took place in Connaught, and the

greatest Connaught decrease in Mayo. Yet, notwithstanding this decline, there were 'more houses by a considerable number in 1851 than the wants of the diminished population required.'"

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

COUNT WALEWSKI has just received from Queen Victoria, as a souvenir of the Treaty of the 30th of March, a splendid gold snuff-box enriched with diamonds, and bearing a medallion representing the portrait of her Majesty. M. de Billing, chef du cabinet, has also received a very handsome writing-desk, and M. Benedetti an equally handsome token of remembrance.

M. Christian Bartholomès, to whom, only on Thursday week, the French Academy awarded a first prize of 3000 francs for his "*Histoire des Doctrines Religieuses de la Philosophie Moderne*," has just died suddenly at Nuremberg, on his return from the Carlsbad waters.

Prince Napoleon reached Stockholm on the 8th inst., on his return from his northern expedition, which is abandoned for this year, on account of bad weather.

A paragraph, evidently communicated, appears in the Government evening journals, to the effect that a morning paper is mistaken in stating that Count Walewski, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, is temporarily absent from Paris. The announcement complained of was made to account for the fact that Marshal Serrano, the Spanish Ambassador, had not been able to meet with him. It remains uncontradicted that M. Serrano did desire to see the Foreign Minister with all speed, and that, not succeeding in obtaining an audience with him, he suddenly determined to retrace his steps to Biarritz, to confer with the Emperor personally. It is to be inferred that his business is very pressing.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

The Emperor and Empress temporarily quitted Biarritz on Friday week, and, accompanied by a few attendants, visited the valley of Cambo, situated at the entrance of the Pyrenees. They were caught in a heavy shower of rain while on their way to the Pas de Roland, a spot celebrated in poetry and romance; but they had time to enjoy the scenery, and even to partake of a repast in the open air. They returned in the evening to Biarritz.

Princess Lieven has arrived in Paris.

Marshal Pelissier, who had promised to be present at the *fête* of Saumur, arrived in that town on Friday week, and, after joining in the celebration, left on Sunday for Paris. On the following day he was present at a funeral service, performed in the Church of the Madeleine, in commemoration of the officers of the staff who died in the East.

The defalcations of the cashier and sub-cashier of the Northern of France Railway (says the *Times*) are rumoured to reach 6,000,000*fr.* or 240,000*l.* The share and obligation holders have the power of depositing their stock with the company for security, and access has been gained to the property thus lodged, which has been made away with on the Bourse to the extent stated. Several other persons are said to be implicated in the robbery, one of whom has already been arrested, and there can be little doubt that the two principal delinquents, even if they have succeeded in getting away to America or elsewhere, will still be captured.

An Italian, named Luigi Guerzola, who recently left Sardinia for London, *via* France, has made the following statement of the treatment he was subjected to after he had landed in France:—"On the 10th of March a posse of police-agents dragged me out of my room, and I was locked up in a hideous dungeon. Here I was kept till the 10th of May. They took away my money and clothes. During these two months no kind of legal proceedings, even for form's sake, took place, not the slightest question asked to enlighten me as to the cause of my detention, and I began to give myself up for lost, when I was suddenly told I was about to start for England. They then handcuffed me, put a chain round my neck, and handed me over to the 'Correspondance.' My travelling companions were Enrico Todrani, from Rome; Domenico di Dominici, a Roman also; and another named Jean Baptiste de Negro, a man advanced in years, who for thirty years had lived constantly at Marseilles, a man who had a Frenchwoman for his wife, and by whom he had several children." They were afterwards landed penniless at Dover, whence they had to struggle how they could up to London, where they had friends. Several others have been subjected to the same treatment; indeed, it seems to be part of a system which has existed for the last three years, and which is still in active operation. Nothing can exceed the infamy of this execrable piece of despotism.

AUSTRIA.

According to recent statistical accounts, it appears that the number of Jews now serving in the Austrian army amounts to 12,000. Among this number there

* "*La Correspondance*, in the argot of the French police, designates relays of gendarmes, from one to another of which parties arrested (with or without cause) are transferred on their journey from the place where they were arrested to their final destination."

are 500 officers, surgeons with the rank of officer, and paymasters.

PRUSSIA.

Two nights following, the sentinels placed at one of the gates of the palace of Charlottenbourg have disappeared from their post, and their bodies have been found the following morning in the Spree, bearing marks which show that they must have been first stunned by a sudden blow and then thrown into the river. The police are making the most rigorous search to discover the authors of this outrage.

Another German prince serving in the Prussian army has sent in his resignation. His debts amount to 40,000 thalers. He was concerned in the affairs of the Jockey Club which resulted in the Hinckeldy duel.

Techen, ex-lieutenant of police, has been brought to trial before the tribunal of Berlin, on a charge of high treason, arising out of the theft of despatches. The trial has taken place with closed doors, and Techen has been found guilty, and condemned to eight years' imprisonment, followed by ten years' police surveillance.

"We are assured from a good source," says the *Bourse Gazette* of Berlin, "that it is not Baron de Koller, but Count Lianingen Westerburg, who is to replace Count Esterhazy as ambassador of Austria at Berlin."

"A piece of Court gossip is current," says a writer from Berlin, "for which I will not assume any responsibility. It is said that the widowed hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen is not unlikely to appear as a suitor for the hand of her Royal Highness Princess Mary of Cambridge, who is at this time with the Duchess, her mother, at Baden. On the other hand, the English Princess is said to have a rival in Princess Mary, younger sister of the Grand Duke of Baden and of the reigning Duchess of Saxe-Coburg."

GERMANY.

The *Carlsruhe Gazette* publishes two decrees, by the terms of which, the Regent Frederick takes the title of 'Grand Duke of Baden.' Since the death of Leopold, in 1852, Frederick has governed under the title of Regent.

SWITZERLAND.

The recent rising at Neuchâtel appears to have been prompted by Prussia, and carried out by a small party of aristocrats possessing strong sympathy with royalty in general, and with the Prussian monarchy in particular. There was a simultaneous movement at Locle. As soon as the disturbances were known, General Denzler put himself at the head of a levy of armed Republicans in the Val de Travers, and marched on Neuchâtel. The castle here had been seized and occupied by some two or three hundred Royalists, who had arrested several members of the Council of State, hoisted the Prussian flag, declared the town in a state of siege, and issued a monarchical proclamation. The Republican forces retook the castle and the other positions, and restored order in the course of an hour. About fifteen of the Royalists were killed, and thirty wounded. The Federal troops from Yverdon reached Neuchâtel an hour after the termination of the contest; but their services were not required. From two to three hundred of the Royalists were taken prisoners; and among them are three members of the family of Pourtales and a M. de Meuron.

Colonel de Meuron and M. de Montmollin and de Gelliac, who escaped by water from Neuchâtel, have been captured in the canton of Friburg. The last named is a Swiss officer in the Prussian Guards. Two clergymen have been arrested as connected with the plot.

ITALY.

There is a talk (says a letter from Rome in *Voss's Gazette*) of a collective note which the Italian Governments friendly to Austria, namely, Naples, Rome, Tuscany, Modena, and Parma, with Austria herself at their head, are said to be about to address to the Great Powers, with a view to put an end, or at least a limit to, the growing influence of Piedmont in Italy. To this note there is joined, it is reported, a memorandum intended to serve as an answer to that sent by Count Cavour to Paris. At the same time, a fresh protest against the conduct of the Sardinian Government towards the clergy is in preparation at the Vatican.

The ever fertile archaeological soil of Rome has just yielded fresh treasures in that part of the city placed between the churches of St. Ignatius and the Minerva which was formerly the site of the Temple of Isis, surrounded by the priests' houses, in which the Emperors Vespasian and Titus spent the night before entering the city on their joint triumph. Excavations for restoring the foundations of an old house, behind the apsis of the Minerva Church, have brought to light successively the marble steps conducting to the temple; a red granite group of a cow suckling a child, unfortunately wanting the animal's head and forelegs, but otherwise in good preservation, and evidently representing the mystic divinities of Isis and Horus; and, lastly, a column of grey granite, with figures of Egyptian priests sculptured on the shaft in basso-relievo, about two feet and a half high, bearing the emblematic implements of their worship. The objects now excavated are to be attributed to the time of Adrian, or even Alexander Severus, who was a great restorer of Egyptian worship, the style being that of Roman imitation rather than original Egyptian

workmanship. The marble steps of the temple being about twenty feet under the surface of the soil, have been left *in situ* and covered with earth again.—*Daily News Roman Correspondent.*

Some changes in the armaments of Naples are about to take place. "I have spoken several times within the last few months," says the *Times* Naples correspondent, "of new armaments taking place in different parts of the kingdom. I have now to speak of disarmaments, with a view to the introduction of cannon of a greater power and a newer construction. During the last ten days, all the pieces of artillery remaining in the Island of Capri have been removed and carried off to Gaeta. A partial disarmament took place a few years since, but most of the old iron cannon were left behind as not worth the expense of removal. It is expected that his Majesty and the Hereditary Prince will shortly visit Capri, and will direct the formation of a battery *a fior di acqua* (at the water's edge). As soon as Capri has been disarmed, the same operation is to take place on the opposite point on the continent, at the Campanella, with the same ultimate object; so that the narrow strait which separates the island from the mainland will be completely swept from either side. Similar changes and improvements are to be made on the Catanian coast."

Books, with the stamp of the British Library on them, are in future to be permitted to circulate freely in Naples. This is a concession of some importance, but it does not extend to books belonging to private persons.

Some suspicious vessels off the coasts of Italy have caused great alarm to the Papal Government. They are believed to belong to the revolutionary party; and an additional force of artillery and gendarmerie has been despatched to the coast stations in consequence.

The Papal Government has made certain modifications in its regulations with respect to those excommunicated persons, subjects of Sardinia, who supported the law directed against Church property. These modifications are in the direction of greater leniency. For instance, a marriage may be performed between an excommunicated person and one not so situated, if the priest finds all his persuasions against the marriage fail; and the offices of the Church may be performed with respect to the interdicted, provided they express their penitence.

An address has just been presented by the Provincial Council of Brescia to the Cavaliere Burger, Lieutenant of Lombardy, complaining of the enormous taxation to which their province is subjected in consequence of the great military establishment maintained in the country by the Austrian Government.

It is believed that the Austrian Government intends transferring the arsenal establishment, &c., at Venice, from that city to Pola, on the Istrian coast of the Adriatic, where some military works are going forward. The whole peninsula district south of Trieste is to be organized into a naval command, and given to the Archduke Ferdinand, who will have his head-quarters as Lord High Admiral at Pola.

Several persons have been condemned by the Supreme Court of Lucca to various degrees of imprisonment for having formed part of a republican conspiracy. The chief members, a schoolmaster named Martinelli, and a tailor named Peruzzi, have been condemned to sixty-three months' imprisonment in irons; the others to much shorter periods of the same punishment.

The Florentine priests have wreaked a piece of petty spite on the body of a man who had professed Protestantism, by refusing for a long time to bury it. At length they were compelled to do so from fear of infection; but the corpse was cast into the ground set apart for criminals. In the meanwhile, the widow (also a Protestant) was subjected to insults and threats.

M. Landucci, the Minister of the Interior in Tuscany, has just offered a gratuitous insult to Piedmont by ordering several Sardinian subjects to leave the Tuscan territories within a few hours' notice, and refusing to listen to any remonstrances or explanations on the part of the Sardinian representative, so that his order was literally carried into effect.

SPAIN.

It is reported by the *Gazette* that the brigands who seized on M. Leonardo Garcia Espinosa, of Alcoa, after receiving the 9000 piastres required for his ransom, and dividing the same among them in his presence and that of the servant who was the bearer of it, put their prisoner to death in the most barbarous manner.

The Government has received a despatch from Burgos, announcing that five armed men, among whom were one of the Hierros and Villalain, entered Aguilar de Campo, in the absence of the civil guard, who had been sent to maintain order at a neighbouring fair, and robbed the funds belonging to the Government, to the Administration of the Rentas and the Ayuntamiento. The brigands afterwards fled with their booty on the approach of a patrol of the Queen's troops.

O'Donnell, who until now has exhibited the most bitter enmity to Queen Christina, has brought forward in the Council of Ministers a project for the restoration to her Majesty of all her property in Spain upon which sequestration was laid after the revolution of 1854—a proceeding which O'Donnell now denounces as revolutionary and iniquitous. The project was agreed to unanimously.

Two of the members of the present Ministry—Cantero and Bayarri—are likely to resign, owing to dissensions with their colleagues on the subject of the law of *desamortization*, which they insist on carrying through.

Such French exiles as are in the Basque provinces are to be forthwith removed to the interior of Spain.

The *Epoca* says that the Emperor of the French has conferred the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour on General O'Donnell, and accompanied the favour by "an autograph letter highly flattering to the man who in Spain has saved the cause of monarchy and society."

The suppression of journals adverse to the Government has commenced.

The harvest is very bad.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid announces that the Emperor of the French was on Tuesday at St. Sebastian.

SWEDEN.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Stjerneld, has resigned. He intimated his intention to take this step at the end of August.

TURKEY.

Suchum Kaleh and Redout Kaleh had been restored to the Russians.

Rumours of Ministerial modifications are current at Constantinople, particularly of the removal of the Seraskier.

M. de Thouvenel, French Ambassador at Constantinople, has given a banquet to M. de Boutenief, Russian Ambassador, at which all the members of the Turkish Ministry were present.

The Russian Generals Dainese and Kirikoff, members of the Bessarabian Boundary Commission, have arrived at Constantinople. Messrs. Koller and Benzi have also arrived, and M. Basily and Sir Henry Bulwer are shortly expected. The Smyrna and Aiddin Railway has been conceded to Mr. Wilkins, the representative of an English company, which also claims the concession of the Adrianople Railway.

The French Consul returned, on the 7th, to Erzeroum, where he was received with great honour.

The Russian Consul was to resume his functions on the 16th.

Kars has been evacuated by the Russians. The Turks took possession on the 6th ult. Three of the English officers attached to the British commissary with the Turkish army in Asia, Major Stuart, Major Fraser, and Mr. Evans, were present at the surrender, not in their official capacity, but as spectators. As in the Crimea, the Russian officers seem to have been very communicative on past events, especially about the main subject of interest, their unsuccessful attack on Kars. They say that Mouravieff was entirely against an attack, and opposed it to the last moment, in spite of the urgent entreaties of several of his officers. But the troops were so dissatisfied at this seeming want of confidence of their leader in them, that he was in the end obliged to yield, against his own better conviction, and ordered the attack. According to the accounts given by the Russian officers, the thing was decided one evening at dinner, and executed.—*Times Constantinople Correspondent.*

The new Persian ambassador to France, who is also charged with the settlement of the Anglo-Persian dispute, will open with the Turkish Government, when passing through Constantinople, the vexed question of the frontiers between Turkey and Persia. Not less than two hundred and thirty different claims and grievances have been collected by the Persian Government, which, among other things, desires to obtain the pass of Khutur.

RUSSIA.

A joint-stock company has just been formed in Moscow, for the most part of Russian men of letters, for the publication of the earlier productions of Slavonian, and more particularly of Russian, literature. The technical management of the undertaking is to be confided to a German long resident in Moscow and Kasan.

An amnesty is granted in reference to the events of 1825, 1827, and 1831. The confiscations, arising out of the same events, are to remain in force.

GREECE.

A serious quarrel has arisen between the French Admiral, Bouet de Willaumez, and the Greek Government. Major Anghelopoulos was appointed by the Queen Commander of the Piræus, in place of Major Melingos, who had shown great attention to the French. The French Admiral said he would not acknowledge him; denied that the power of the Greek Government extended to the Piræus; proclaimed the command there exclusively French, and confided it to Major Reboul, of the Marines. The small Greek garrison was immediately sent back to Athens, and the French Admiral signified to Major Anghelopoulos that he tolerated his presence at the Piræus solely because he was decorated with the Legion of Honour; otherwise he would have sent him away in custody of a detachment of gendarmes. On hearing of these events, the Queen consulted with the representatives of Prussia and Bavaria, and a protest was drawn up. The English Minister, Mr. Wyse, approved of what had been done, and told the commander of the English troops at the Piræus to support the French Admiral till further instructions should be received from the Home Government.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

ROBBERY AND FORTUNE-TELLING.

THE chambers of Mr. J. B. Holdsworth, Clement's-inn, were entered, during their occupant's absence, on the evening of the 28th of March. One of the drawers in the bedroom had been forced open, and a pocket-book inside, containing a 20*l.* note of the Bank of England and six sovereigns, was taken away. Four months afterwards, the note was paid into the Bank of England, and, upon inquiry, traced back to the possession of Mrs. Banes, baker, in Chandos-street, whose daughter, Isabella Banes, stated she had received it from a young woman named Emma Foreman when she called to pay an account for her father, a respectable man, living in Harvey's-buildings, Strand, in June or July last. Foreman, in answer to the charge, made a very extraordinary statement, implicating the daughter of Arnott, the lodge-keeper of the inn, at whose house Mr. Holdsworth had left the key of his chambers on the night of the robbery. On her way to the police station, after being arrested, she said that, about the beginning of last April, a young girl of the name of Betsy Arnott came to her in Harvey's-buildings and gave her a parcel to mind. It was sealed with black wax and stamped in five different places. Arnott said it contained a brooch given to her by a young man in the Temple-gardens. Foreman kept the parcel by her about three weeks, till one Sunday, on going up to dress for church, she missed it from her box. She told Miss Arnott this, when she called upon her next day, and she appeared much distressed at the loss of the parcel, saying it contained a 20*l.* note. After this, they went together to a fortune-telling woman, named Dent, in Brydges-street, to confer with her about the loss of the note. This woman, whose lawful calling is that of a charwoman, was examined when Emma Foreman was brought before the Bow-street magistrate, and made the following statement:—

"I know the prisoner Foreman by the name of Emma. Some time in April last, she came to me for advice, with the young lady now present (Miss Arnott), whom I had seen once before, but whose name I never knew till now. Emma said, 'We have come for advice about a parcel which was taken out of my box.' Miss Arnott then said, 'Emma never knew till this morning what was in the parcel. There was a 20*l.* note and a sovereign. The note belongs to a French lady, a friend of mine, and I gave the parcel to Emma to take care of.' I said, 'God bless me! How could you put a 20*l.* note in a parcel in that way? Do you know the number of it?' Miss Arnott said, 'No, but I dare say the lady in France does.' 'Dear me!' I said, 'France is a long way off, and what must be done? Is there anybody you suspect, or any one in the house who would take it for a lark?' Emma said, 'Oh, no. There is only my sister, and she would not do it.' I then said to Miss Arnott, 'Why did you not go at once to your mother and tell her?' She replied, 'My mother knows nothing about it, and I would not have her know it for the world. If father or mother knew it, I would never go home again.' Mr. Jardine here said that Miss Arnott must be placed at the bar, which was done. Mrs. Dent was then subjected to cross-examination, in the course of which she said:— 'The girls came to me for advice, because I am a motherly woman. They are not related to me. I have no relations. I do not profess to foretell the future. How could any one do that? I earn my living by hard work. I have 3*s.* a week coming in, and I make up the rest by charring. I lost my husband and my daughter all the many years come May last, and it is well known how I struggled to rear her two children, who would not have had a morsel of food but for me, sir. (Crying.) I have lived a great many years in Brydges-street. I am universally known and universally respected. I never heard till now that I am called a fortune-teller. Who ever said so? I certainly have told fortunes by turning the cards or the teacups, in a social way, for a bit of fun. Women and girls like it; and if you came to me with your wife, I might do the same for you—but only in fun. Of course, you could believe what I told you if you were fool enough to do it.' (Laughter.)

The witness was here cautioned by Mr. Jardine to be cautious lest she should criminate herself, fortune-telling being against the law. Both Foreman and Arnott were remanded, and have since been committed for trial.

CHARGE OF RAPE.—Monsieur F. Michel, professor of foreign literature, has been charged at Bow-street with committing a rape upon Elizabeth Lyons, a servant girl, at the house where the accused lived as a lodger. The offence was committed, according to the allegation of the servant, on the evening of Tuesday week, in the absence of her mistress. She did not tell her mistress till the following morning, previous to which she twice attended on M. Michel; and she then went home to her mother, but said nothing of the occurrence. She asked her mother to call at the house of her mistress; the mother did so on the following Friday, and then first learnt the cause of her daughter leaving. The girl said, in cross-examination, that, when she was assaulted, "she screamed and kicked M. Michel. Loud screams might be heard in the street. She might have scratched his eyes out, and now regretted that she did not do so. She

did not like to scratch his face, it would have disfigured him so much." There were some discrepancies between the evidence of the girl and of her mother, and a very high character was given of M. Michel, who, towards the close of the examination, cried bitterly; but he was committed for trial. Bail was tendered and accepted.

FAULTS ON BOTH SIDES.—A decently dressed woman, with a child, applied to Mr. Beadon, at Marlborough-street, for assistance. Her husband had locked her out of his house, and had refused to receive or support her. He was in a good situation, earning good wages, but was of bad temper and given to drink. In answer to questions from Mr. Beadon, the woman candidly admitted that there were faults on both sides, that she was not one of the best of tempers, and that she had no objection to take a glass of gin with anybody. Mr. Beadon said the only advice he could give the woman was to apply to the parish authorities, who would look into the case, and if necessary take steps to compel the husband to allow her a reasonable maintenance. The husband subsequently appeared, and gave various instances of the extravagance and dissipation of his wife, who sold his furniture and her children's clothes for drink. He also charged her with being unfaithful to him; and in proof of this he said he "cotched" her once with a young man, eating periwinkles. Mr. Beadon was "afraid that was not evidence enough to prove criminality." "But," added the husband, intent on proving his own disgrace, "the frying-pan was hot, and I've no doubt they'd just been having eggs and bacon." The incredulous magistrate replied, "Eggs and bacon won't help your case." The gist of the matter then appeared:—"I followed them out, and saw them sitting in Kensington-gardens, with their arms round each other's waists." To this, Mr. Beadon answered:—"There may be something in that. But I can only give you this advice at present, to let your wife apply for relief to the parish; the authorities will then decide whether it is a case in which they can interfere; and if they do interfere, the evidence on both sides will come before me, and then I shall be able to come to some decision. The husband then left the court.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF ALEXANDER PAINE.—The bankrupt, an innkeeper, of the King's Arms, Croydon, applied on Tuesday in the Bankruptcy Court for his certificate. The accounts extend only over thirteen months, but show an amount of 3550*l.* due to unsecured creditors, with assets of between 500*l.* and 600*l.* There were further debts to the amount of 7809*l.*, secured by property valued at 6350*l.* The profits were 701*l.*; losses 3689*l.*; expenses 2031*l.* Mr. Bagley opposed for Mr. Donaldson, wine merchant, of Mark-lane, a creditor, who complained that he had been induced, by false representations of the bankrupt, to refrain from issuing execution against him. The creditor had obtained judgment on a bill of exchange given by the bankrupt; but, at an interview on the 30th May, before the execution was issued, the bankrupt had stated that certain wine warrants held by other creditors were his property; that his stock was worth 2000*l.*; and that his debts only amounted to a few hundreds. Influenced by this representation, Mr. Donaldson refrained from issuing execution, but consented to receive his debt by instalments of 30*l.* every fortnight. Before the first instalment was due, Paine became bankrupt; and it was then ascertained that all these representations were false. The wine warrants were held by his bankers against an overdrawn account; the furniture was not his, but only leased to him; and his debts turned out to be about 2500*l.* more than he had stated. His Honour suspended the certificate, second class, for twelve months, and refused protection until the bankrupt had undergone three months' imprisonment, Mr. Donaldson having opposed the protection.

MURDERS AT THE CAPE.—A Wesleyan missionary, living at the Cape of Good Hope, has been murdered by the Kafir tribes inhabiting the country beyond the frontier. Some natives in the service of a Mr. Shaw having stolen some horses belonging to Faku's people, the latter complained of the theft to Colonel Maclean, who lately visited their chief. That gentleman immediately directed that compensation should be given to the parties robbed. Not being able, however, to obtain any, they determined to attack Mr. Shaw's natives, who, when they heard of the intention of Faku's people, fled for safety to Bechamwood station. Here the Rev. Mr. Thomas, the missionary, was summoned, and no sooner did he make his appearance than he was stabbed by the Kafirs. On his telling them who he was, they exclaimed, "Why do you harbour thieves?" and stabbed him a second time, when the missionary immediately expired. A pianoforte tuner, named Raynes, has also been waylaid and murdered by some of the same tribes, in the Amagaleka country, while travelling on foot from Graham's Town to Natal. He was unarmed, and had 15*l.* in his pocket.

SUPPOSED THEFT BY A GIPSY.—A young gipsy woman, also carrying on business as a hawker, named Alice Lee, was examined at the Thames Police-court on a charge of having stolen several articles of silver plate. She had been seen by a police-sergeant in a pawnbroker's shop in Limehouse, where she offered the plate in pledge. On being asked by the constable where she got the property from, she answered that her mother gave it to her

three years ago. This statement she repeated to the magistrate; but she afterwards said that her mother's name was Brinkley. None of the initials on the different articles of the plate, however, stood for that name, as all were marked "J. H. P.," or "J. E. T.," except three spoons, which were not marked at all. Inquiries were made of a man with whom the prisoner had lived for many years before she took to a gipsy's life, and he said that he had never seen such plate in her possession as that which she was accused of stealing. The woman was a well-known bad character, and belonged to a notorious tribe of gipsies and hawkers inhabiting a caravan in Bow Common-lane. Mr. Sells remanded the accused.

FORGERY.—John Cooper, of the late firm of Cooper, Pike, and Co., who stands charged with forging and uttering three cheques with intent to defraud the Royal British Bank (the particulars of which appeared in our last week's paper), has been committed for trial. At the final examination, some further conversation took place with Mr. Thompson, the prisoner's counsel, with respect to his giving up the cheque-books which Cooper had deposited with him. This he still declined doing, and asserted that there were twenty precedents in his favour. An application by Mr. Thompson, to the effect that the accused might have restored to him the money taken from him at the time he was apprehended, was refused. —Edward Chater, a printer and engraver, living at Birmingham, has been committed for trial on a charge of having in his possession a large number of forged 5*l.* Bank of England notes. The police, on entering the premises, found all the instruments and materials necessary for carrying on the trade of forging. Mrs. Chater, who was also arrested, was discharged.

DESERTION OF A CHILD.—A charge of child-desertion was brought forward at Lambeth against a Mrs. Sarah Russell, a middle-aged woman, who purposely left her infant in the third-class booking-office of the South-Western Railway, Waterloo-road. The child was found behind one of the advertising boards, and was taken to the workhouse, where the mother at length presented herself, admitted the infant to be hers, and begged to be allowed to take it away. It appeared that in the meanwhile she had suffered greatly from remorse, and had been noticed by her landlady to be greatly dejected. She was going to visit a sister at Portsmouth on the day when she dropped the child, and, on returning at night, she said she had left the infant with its aunt; but, in about a week's time, she confessed the truth to the landlady. The child was illegitimate, the woman having been a widow for a long time; and she was desirous of concealing the fact from her friends. On applying at the workhouse, she was given into custody, and was remanded by the Lambeth magistrate. The father of the infant was dead.—A very similar case was heard at the Thames office.

BANK ROBBERY.—John Pratt, a young man of nineteen, presenting a dissipated appearance, and who, till within the last few days, was a clerk at the Bank of Australasia, Threadneedle-street, was brought before the Lord Mayor, on a charge of having stolen, and absconded with, 98*l.* 10*s.* belonging to his late employers. He was arrested by the police in a house of ill fame, but no portion of the money was recovered. He was remanded.

PAWNING LINEN.—Harriet Archer, a laundress, has been committed to hard labour for three months by the Bow-street magistrate, for pawning 12*l.* worth of linen which had been entrusted to her care in answer to an advertisement she had put in the papers, and on the faith of a false reference as to character which she had given. She confessed to the lady whose linen she took that she had pawned the articles in order to raise the money necessary to redeem the wardrobe of another lady, which had been previously deposited with a pawnbroker.

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.—Some comments on the English law of marriage and divorce are reported in the *Liverpool Chronicle* as having been delivered by the stipendiary magistrate in a case of conjugal quarrelling brought before him. Charlotte Finchett, a middle-aged woman, dressed in rags, was placed at the bar and charged with assaulting her husband. It was shown that on several occasions she had savagely attacked him and his workmen; that she abused the customers, and even beat them; that she was constantly drunk, and used the most fearful language; that she stripped her children of their clothes, and sold them for drink; and that she made away with bedding, furniture, and every article she could lay her hand on, with the same object. Mr. Mansfield, the stipendiary magistrate, said the law of this country was so constructed that, if the wife stripped her children and sold their clothes, she could not be punished as a felon, the fiction of law holding that she took her own property. By a superstitious notion, or, perhaps, he might say, a delicacy of feeling, the sanctity of marriage was so regarded that there was no power, however abominable the wife's conduct might be, to obtain a divorce; and for a man to be linked to such a woman as this was a far greater punishment than if he carried a corpse upon his back until it rotted away from him. The course he should take would be calling on the woman to find very heavy bail—namely, two sureties in 50*l.* each, and be bound herself in 100*l.*, to keep the peace for twelve months. Bail, of course, was not forthcoming, and she was removed.

COMMITTAL OF A SOLICITOR FOR PERJURY.—A special borough bench of magistrates assembled at Guildford last Saturday, for the purpose of investigating a charge of perjury brought against George Smith, Esq., solicitor, residing in Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane. The alleged perjury took place at the recent Assizes held at Guildford, in the cause of "Smith v. Winder," in which a verdict was recorded for the defendant. In that action, Mr. Smith swore distinctly that, before the bond was executed by Mr. Winder, his son, and Mr. Wakeling, he read it over to them, and told them distinctly that it was given as a collateral security. Mr. Matthew Winder and Mr. William Winder, his son, swore distinctly that Mr. Smith did no such thing, and that they did not know the nature of the bond before they signed it, and signed it without having it read over to them, as they had entire confidence in Mr. Smith, who was their solicitor. The accused was committed for trial. Bail, in the sum of 2000*l.*, was taken for his appearance.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.—William Underhill and William Smith pleaded guilty to a charge of burglary at Stoke Newington on the 27th ult. They were sentenced to ten months' hard labour.—Three young men, of the names of Cooper, Miller, and Williams, also pleaded guilty to a charge of burglary. They broke into a warehouse at Limehouse, and packed up a large quantity of articles ready for removal; but they were disturbed, and the police found them on the roof, pretending to be asleep. When asked what they did there, one of them said very candidly that they were "out a-thieving." Judgment was deferred.—George Adams, a cabman, was found guilty of stealing fifty doubloons of the Republic of New Granada, value 100*l.*, and a number of other doubloons, value 3*s.* 4*d.* each, the property of a South American gentleman. The money was left behind in the prisoner's cab by mistake, and Adams immediately drove off, and appropriated the coins to his own use. A friend visited him in prison after he was arrested, and promised that the gentleman to whom the money belonged would not prosecute if the doubloons were given up; and Adams then stated where they would be found. A part was thus recovered. The gentleman, however, was compelled to prosecute; but he felt anxious to recommend the man to mercy. Having been already in prison twenty-seven days, he was sentenced to one month's hard labour.—Patrick Carroll was found guilty of an indecent assault on Emma Luff, a girl under fifteen years of age. He induced the girl to stand on a dust-bin in the garden of her parents' house, he himself being on a ladder placed against the wall of the next garden, belonging to his own house. He then took improper liberties with her; and, upon her resisting, he forced down her throat a drink which appears to have contained aconite. Directly after she had swallowed it, her feet became numb, fire seemed to flash from her eyes, her head whirled round, and she fell down heavily, her head coming in contact with something which caused a severe contusion. She became insensible, but ultimately she found herself in Carroll's back parlour on a bed, and here the assault was committed. On endeavouring to make a noise, he said he would poison her if she was not quiet, and he tried to force a handkerchief into her mouth. She was at length found in a closet by her sister, to whom also Carroll wanted to give some of the liquor. The defence was that the girl had gone voluntarily to the house, and had been there seized with hysterics, and that all the rest was false. The prisoner was sentenced to ten months' hard labour. The case occupied the whole day.—Two women were charged with cheating the parish authorities; in the one case by obtaining relief while the accused was in receipt of assistance from another parish; in the other case, by borrowing a child to stand in the place of one of the woman's own offspring which had died, and on account of which she had been enjoying an allowance. The first case failed for want of sufficient legal evidence; the woman in the second case pleaded guilty, and, having already been in prison three weeks, was only sentenced to a further confinement of the like duration.

A FEMALE "UTTERER."—A woman, named Mary Jones, has been committed for trial on three charges of uttering forged cheques.

A SWINDLER ON A LARGE SCALE.—George Brownman, otherwise Browne, a person of colour, describing himself as a surgeon just returned from India, and in the Hon. East India Company's service—the latter representation being totally untrue—has been committed for trial, charged with various frauds and robberies. He was paying his addresses to a young lady, with whom, on their marriage, he proposed to go back to India; and his system appears to have been to victimize several tradesmen by false representations and false cheques.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—The charges made in the course of last week at Guildhall against some of the Society's constables have been thoroughly investigated by the committee, and the result is, that two of the officers have been dismissed.

GAROTTE ROBBERY.—A robbery, accompanied with great violence, almost resulting in strangulation, was committed on Sunday night on the person of a Mr. Sapseid, a glass-engraver, in a court turning out of

Bruton-street, Haymarket. An Albert chain, worth 2*l.*, was taken away; but the groans of Mr. Sapseid attracted the attention of the police, and the two men who had perpetrated the outrage were taken into custody, each protesting his innocence. At the station-house, and again before the Marlborough-street magistrate, one of them admitted that he had "done the job," and asserted that the other was ignorant of the whole affair, and had been mistaken for another man. Both were committed for trial.

CAPTURE OF THIEVES.—A robbery having taken place, about a month ago, at the warehouse of Mr. William Walker, draper, of Longwood, near Huddersfield, from which eleven pieces of cloth, value 100*l.*, were stolen, the proprietor offered a reward of 10*l.* for the apprehension of the thieves. The superintendent of the county constabulary, therefore, made an investigation of the matter, and, being led to conjecture that the stolen property had been secreted under cover of a false roof, he examined, in company with a police sergeant, all the false roofs of the district. He ultimately ascertained that the cloth was placed in the false roof of Quarnby School, which was occupied by the Independents as a place of worship. Without communicating the discovery to any one, he from that night commenced a watch, stationing his men in a barn opposite the school. The watch was continued without intermission until the night of Wednesday week, when, about half-past eleven o'clock, two men came into the barn where the watch was stationed to search for a ladder. Not being able to find one they got a long plank instead, and being at this time joined by four more of their gang, they set one of them to watch in the garden, close to where the constables were concealed, while the others picked the lock of a door, and entered the house. They then placed the plank against the trap-door in the roof, no doubt intending to slide down the cloth which was hidden above. One of the constables being troubled with a cough, another went to give him a lozenge, and it is supposed that the watching burglar saw them, for he ran towards the school and shouted "All away!" The constables ran to the school and met the five men just coming out. One of them was knocked down by a blow on the head from the staff of the superintendent, and was at once secured. Another had a desperate struggle with one of the constables, but three other officers coming to his assistance, the thief was finally captured. The other four escaped. Two of them, however, were afterwards traced out and apprehended—one at Bradford and the other at Wilsley Slack.

WIFE BEATING.—A bricklayer's labourer, named James Styles, has been sentenced to a month's hard labour for assaulting his wife. He defended himself by bringing a counter-charge against his wife of pursuing a disgraceful traffic in the streets, contrary to his expressed wishes, and of having, on the occasion in question, assaulted him; but this was disbelieved.

THE SORROWS OF A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.—A young man, who gave his name as George Everett, was placed at the bar of Guildhall, before Alderman Challis, charged with stealing a clock, value 10*l.*, from a mantelpiece in the board-room of the New Zealand Company's offices, No. 9, Broad-street-buildings. He was shown to be an old offender, and was remanded. Shortly afterwards, however, he made an attempt to hang himself; and, upon being brought up again, he said, in answer to questions, that he had striven hard to obtain an honest living, but had not been able to get much work. When he had got into situations which he expected to be permanent, he was followed by the police, who informed his master that he was a convicted felon, and he was consequently compelled to leave them. He did not complain of the City police, but of the metropolitan. The summoning officer and the gaoler of the court confirmed this testimony. The Alderman said the police were not justified in volunteering information against ticket-of-leave men; they were only bound to watch them. The man promised not to repeat the attempt at suicide, and was removed to a cell with some others. Subsequently, the gaoler was called by one of the prisoners, who said he was afraid Everett was about to make another attempt upon his life, as he had taken his braces off, and was tying knots in them. They were taken from him, and a cab was at once procured, in which he was conveyed to Newgate and placed there under strict surveillance. Ultimately he said he would destroy himself; if prevented one way, he would do it another.

RETURN TICKETS NOT TRANSFERABLE.—John Long, a resident of Leicester, has been fined twenty shillings by the Marylebone magistrate for endeavouring to ride on the London and North-Western Railway without paying his fare. He was offered half of a return ticket by a man who had been travelling on the line, and he purchased it for 2*s.* 6*d.*, the proper fare being 1*l.* 6*d.* Immediately afterwards, he was taken into custody. The practice of selling return tickets, it seems, is carried on to a great extent. The prisoner had in his possession 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, a gold watch, chain, &c. At the police court, he pleaded ignorance of the law. Mr. Bingham observed that he believed he had some misapprehension of the law, or he would have fined him the full penalty.

SHOP-LIFTING.—Johann Forkolow, alias Edward Markzecks, a well-dressed man, who described himself

to be a lieutenant of the German Legion, and Anne Sabine Bolow, a middle-aged woman, who stated herself to be the wife of a colonel in the same service, are under remand at Southwark, charged with stealing silk and other property at various shops.—At Lambeth, a respectable-looking woman, giving the name of Hannah Mann, stands charged with stealing a bracelet from a jeweller's stall at the Crystal Palace, which she ingeniously abstracted while leaning over the stall pretending to admire a brooch. She also is remanded.

THE SUPPOSED MURDER AT HAMPTON COURT.—The adjourned inquest on the body of Lewis Solomons, the man whose corpse was discovered in the Thames near Hampton Court, was concluded on Wednesday. As soon as the jury had been reassembled, the coroner said that the information which had been given to a police inspector, respecting the deceased man having been seen on the night of the day on which he left home, had turned out to be incorrect. It must have been on the Thursday previous. The coroner further said that the stomach and intestines had been sent to Mr. Rogers, of St. George's Hospital Medical School, with a view to discover by analysis whether any narcotic poison had been used that might have destroyed life, and that gentleman had reported that nothing of the kind was to be found. After an elaborate summing up (which was in favour of a verdict of suicide, committed in a state of raving madness), the jury retired to a private room for about twenty minutes, when they returned into court with a verdict to the effect that they were unanimously of opinion that Solomons had died in consequence of wounds caused by a pistol-shot, but whether such wounds had been inflicted by himself or some other person there was not sufficient evidence to show.

THE MONEY-LENDING TRADE.—A very extraordinary case of bankruptcy has been made public. The affairs of William Tyson, late a corn merchant in Liverpool, were investigated before Mr. Commissioner Perry at the Bankruptcy Court in that town. It appeared that, during five years and a half, for which time the bankrupt had carried on his business, his profits had amounted to 3635*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* In the course of the same period, he had paid no less a sum than 4072*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* for interest on loans to a man named Pemberton, besides a smaller sum of 185*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, for law expenses in his capacity as attorney. The usual interest paid by Tyson to Pemberton was at the rate of seventy-two per cent. per annum; but on some transactions even that monstrous rate had been exceeded. Pemberton's account alone was for 20,000*l.* In it there was one charge for interest on money lent at no less a rate than one hundred and twenty per cent. per annum. The entry in Pemberton's account stands thus:—"1st of April, 1852, lent you till the 13th inst. 100*l.* My charge, 5*l.*" Another entry records the loan of 100*l.* for four days, Pemberton's charge for the accommodation being 2*l.* Again, 3*l.* is charged for the loan of 100*l.* for a week. The consideration of the case was adjourned for three weeks.—*Times.*

A HANGING EXHIBITION.—The following is a copy of a placard which was extensively circulated at the recent races at Wilslow:—

"Wilslow Races, September 2nd and 3rd, 1856.
John Fletcher,
King's Head Inn, feels great pleasure in announcing to his numerous friends and visitors to Wilslow Races, that he has secured the services of
John Smith,
of Dudley, the executioner of the late
William Palmer,
at Stafford; and also been fortunate, through a friend, of procuring from Liverpool a
cast of his face and features,
forming an exact model of the culprit, dressed in corresponding clothes, as he appeared on the morning of execution. There will be the
scaffold and beam,
with a company of trained officials, who will perform and go through the ceremony of
Hanging
twice each morning of the races. Performance commencing at ten and twelve o'clock.
Admission 1*s.* each, 6*d.* to be returned in refreshments."

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE ARMY REDUCTIONS.—The rules for placing the army on a peace footing have been published during the week. We subjoin the main features of the scheme from the summary presented by the *Globe*, which states that "on the 1st of October each of the Crimean battalions, forty-nine in number, will be reduced in round numbers from 1500 or 1600 to 1100 men, of all ranks below that of commissioned officers." The manner of the reduction will be such that "no good soldier will be lost to the country until all men below the old standard height of five feet six, all men physically unfitted for service, or whose constitutions are likely to render them hereafter ineffective, and all men of incorrigibly bad character, are got rid of. To the 49 battalions comprised in this category are to be added 33 who were not in the Crimea. Thus, exclusive of the corps on the East India establishment, our infantry force at home and in the colonies will

consist of 82 battalions of about 1100 men each, and one (the 12th Regiment), which will for the present remain as a reserve battalion regiment, of 1200 rank and file. With the exception of six regiments on foreign service, each of those will be divided into service and depot companies. The service companies will be kept at a strength of eight companies, or 800 rank and file exclusive of non-commissioned officers, with which all the field-officers are to be present as a general rule. They will form part of brigades and divisions, as much together as practicable. These portions of the army will be constantly kept in training and accustomed to military operations on a large scale. "The old regimental system will be preserved at the depôts, of which there will be 77 in all, grouped into 24 battalions, each comprising from three to six depôts, as barrack accommodation may suit. The regimental depôt will be composed of four companies of 50 men, or about 200 in all; and its mission will be to recruit and train men for the service companies, so as to keep them at their full strength and efficiency. These depôts being under experienced field-officers, specially chosen for the purpose, it is hoped that each draught of men sent to the service companies will arrive thoroughly effective regimental soldiers, as fit for service, in fact, as were our regiments of the line before the war. The Land Transport Corps is to be entirely reorganized, and will assume the title of the Military Train, being divided into bodies proportioned to the strength of the regiments, brigades, and divisions to which it will be attached." Of the cavalry we read:—"The regiments will be reduced to the extent of the two additional troops by which they were severally increased during the war, and will now have six troops each instead of eight. The two junior captains, therefore, will be placed on half-pay, and, as the regiments not on the Indian establishment number 19, it follows that 38 captains altogether will be thus reduced.

CORRUGATED METAL WAGGONS FOR THE ARMY.—The experiments with Mr. Francis's corrugated metal waggons, which were last week submitted for trial before the authorities of Woolwich Arsenal, have been pronounced of so satisfactory a nature that they have expressed their decision of urging the Government to decide on their introduction for all the purposes to which they may be applied. Sir George Pollock, Sir Frederick Abbott, Major-General Brooke, Colonel Tulloch, and many other scientific officers, have expressed their opinion that, if the metallic waggons were introduced into our public services, they would prove of incalculable value. Sir George Pollock, after testing their floating capabilities, when fully loaded, expressed his opinion of their merit in the following terms:—"If I could have had the benefit of Mr. Francis's carts when I crossed the five rivers of the Punjab, the soldiers would have been saved some days' hard labour. I was detained a day or two at each river, whereas with this carriage I could have crossed each river in three or four hours with no difficulty, and without fatiguing the troops." Colonel Portlock has given his opinion that there is so much of practical ingenuity in Mr. Francis's invention that he sincerely hopes the British Government, however habitually cautious it might be in admitting great military changes, will follow the example at once of the Governments of the United States and of Napoleon III. by adopting in the army and navy both the boats and the waggons of Mr. Francis, as well as his life-car for our coasts. The first experiments, which were tested under the inspection of the Emperor of the French, so convinced his Majesty of the importance and efficiency of the invention, that he sanctioned on the spot a supply to the French army, and, as a testimonial of his satisfaction, presented Mr. Francis with a gold snuffbox valued at 200*l*. Mr. Francis is about to proceed to Vienna and St. Petersburg, where he has received orders to attend from the Austrian and Russian Governments. —*Times*.

SHEFFIELD'S GREETING TO THE DRAGOONS.—On the evening of Monday last, the anniversary of the fall of Sebastopol was celebrated by a very interesting ceremony at New Hall Gardens, Sheffield. This consisted in the presentation of a valuable pen and pocket knife to each of the surviving officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the 4th Dragoon Guards (now principally stationed at Sheffield), who were with their regiment on its landing in the Crimea and passed through the Crimean campaigns. The knives, two hundred and twenty-five in number, are the gift of Mr. Thomas Youdan, proprietor of the Surrey Music-hall, Sheffield. The presentation was made by Mr. W. Overend, J.P., who delivered an address, after which, Mr. Roebuck spoke, observing at the close of his remarks:—"The men of England respond to you. They are with you. They know the difficulties that you have overcome; and they welcome your return from them. We are men of peace. We know full well the blessings of peace, and it is because we know them that we appreciate you, who are men of war; for by your efforts those blessings are maintained. (*Applause*.) It is a great mistake to suppose that the English army is in any way opposed to Englishmen. They are the protectors of England; they are the protectors of our glory; they are the protectors of our freedom. (*Hear, hear*.) We are not afraid of soldiers. We love you as brethren, and we know that you will protect us as such. (*Applause*.) Gentlemen, I have very imperfectly performed the duty imposed upon me. I beg heartily to return you the thanks of this

town—of England, ay, and I may say of the whole world—for the deeds, the great deeds, you have done, the gallantry you have shown, and the thorough devotion you have always manifested to England and all that belongs to her."

A LONG ABSENT SHIP.—Her Majesty's sloop Express, Commander Boys, arrived at Spithead on Monday evening from the Brazil, after an absence from England of five years and three months. She was employed, first at the West India station, and afterwards along the coast of South America, looking after English interests, and suppressing the slave trade. During the time the Express was on the Brazil station, she suffered much from sickness, principally dysentery and yellow fever. Her captain, Commander Head, died of this malady in May, 1853. In May last, when at sea, the fever broke out again very violently; six died before her return to Rio, on the 1st of June, and forty-one officers and men were on that date sent to the Fever Hospital of St. Isabel, in Jurugaba-bay, Rio de Janeiro; seven men died at that place, including Lieutenant W. G. Sewell and Assistant-Surgeon Soden. The Express returns home with only one officer (Mr. George Richards, master), sixteen seamen, and two marines, who left England in her.

RUNNING DOWN OF A STEAMER IN THE RIVER.—Shortly after seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, a steam-boat collision took place in the river, in Lower Hope Reach, two or three miles below Gravesend, resulting in the running down of the Sydney Hall, screw steamer, an iron-built ship, of between 500 and 600 tons burthen, the property of the Patent Fuel Company, and commanded by Captain Michel, bound to Cronstadt. The other ship was the Dodo, Captain Hanson, from Cork, belonging to the Cork Steam Navigation Company. The morning was misty. The Sydney Hall was cut down more than two feet below her water line. She drifted to the Essex shore, and then went down. All the crew got off. At the moment of the collision, indeed, Captain Michel got hold of the Dodo's bowsprit, believing that his own vessel was going down, and was so taken off, the mate being left in the command. The Sydney Hall is insured.

A STEAMER ON SHORE.—The English steamer Newcastle, Captain Legett, which left Flensburg on the 2nd September, with one hundred and twenty-nine head of cattle on board, bound for Stettin, got aground near Holnis, in Kragesund, the same evening, and threw overboard the whole of her coals to lighten her; but she still remains on shore, and it is feared she will be lost.

A TRANSPORT DESTROYED BY FIRE.—The Prussian barque Albion, Captain Kroker, on her voyage from Constantinople for England, with Government stores, took fire on the 31st August, in lat. 17, lon. 14 E., about seventy miles from Gozo, and was destroyed. The crew landed at Malta.

A SUGGESTION FOR THE GERMAN LEGION.—A German newspaper (the *Londoner Deutschen Journal*), published in London, and which advocates democratic principles, gives a supplement to its last number, containing a long exhortation to the soldiers of the British German Legion. They are called upon neither to return to the Continent, nor to allow themselves to be enlisted as military colonists for the Cape of Good Hope, but to claim, one and all, a free passage to the United States, to which they are entitled by the terms of their stipulation. The document is signed by Colonel Mack. "Where should you go?" asks he. "To the United States," he replies. "And what to do there? To labour! For it is in the United States alone where the greatest part of the European political refugees have an opportunity to do their duty towards themselves as well as towards their mother-country. Among their duties towards themselves labour is the first—for by labour alone independence is secured. There is no political liberty without personal independence, and there is no personal independence without labour." He advises them, further, not merely to emigrate, but to settle in a body, for the purpose of mutual support. In conclusion, he declares himself willing to give personal advice, and we should judge that it might be to the effect that the sudden arrival of ten thousand free-soil settlers in Kansas, of the sword-and-gun sort, would be of some service against the border ruffians. —*Morning Star*.—[We have received from Colonel Mack an elaborate statement, and shall give our attention to it.]

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIVES.—The American ship Ocean Home, of 700 tons burthen, bound from Rotterdam to New York, came into collision, off the Lizard, with a large ship (name unknown), and received such injuries that she immediately began to sink. The captain of the other vessel, though he was informed that the Ocean Home was going down, made no effort to save the crew and passengers, and at least eighty-four perished.

COLONEL LAKE, C.B., is about to be brought into the Royal army with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel (Unattached).

COLONEL HERBERT, and the other Shropshire officers who served in the late war, were entertained at Shrewsbury on Thursday by the citizens. They were all made burgesses and the greatest enthusiasm was manifested.

THE EDINBURGH BANQUET TO THE CRIMEAN SOLDIERS.—It has now been arranged that this interesting event shall be held on the 31st of October. The banquet is to take place in the Corn Exchange.

THE HIGHLAND BRIGADE AT DOVER.—It was proposed to give the Highland brigade now at Dover a dinner at the Surrey Gardens, the Highland Society of London defraying the expenses; but the Duke of Cambridge has refused permission for moving the troops, which he says would be very inconvenient.

STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the week ending last Saturday indicate a general improvement of tone from the satisfactory results of the harvest. At Manchester, although the transactions have not been very large, increased confidence is observable, and prices are extremely firm. The Birmingham advices describe steadiness in the iron market, and a general expectation that the quotations of last quarter-day will be upheld. Great anxiety is manifested among all classes for the practical confirmation of Mr. Bessemer's invention. In the general trades of the place there has been full occupation, and good orders have arrived from Australia, South America, and India. The demand for agricultural implements is active. A useful waterproof paper for packing has been introduced, which is found especially valuable in the export of polished articles. At Nottingham there has been no alteration. The competition for silk, which is dearer than at any time during the past thirty years, is augmented by French buyers in our markets. In the woollen districts there has been a steady extent of business; and in the Irish linen markets the operations have been moderate at former terms. —*Times*.

In the general business of the port of London during the past week there has been little activity. The number of vessels reported inwards was 183, being 39 less than in the previous week; and the number cleared outwards was 144, including 14 in ballast, showing a decrease of 19. The number of ships on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 73, being 5 less than the last account. Of those now loading, 11 are for Adelaide, 2 for Auckland, 1 for Canterbury, 7 for Geelong, 4 for Hobart Town, 3 for Launceston, 2 for Melbourne, 2 for Moreton Bay, 5 for New Zealand, 17 for Port Philip, 2 for Portland Bay, 13 for Sydney, 2 for Swan River, 1 for Wellington, and 1 for Warnamboul. —*Idem*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREAT COMET OF 1556.—In a letter addressed to the *Times* by Professor Hind, the astronomer, that gentleman states that, by means of the obliging exertions of Professor Littrón, of the Imperial Observatory of Vienna, he has discovered the missing chart of Fabricius and his 'Judicium' upon the comet of 1556, together with an unknown, but highly important, descriptive treatise by Joachim Heller, astronomer of Nuremberg. By these documents, Professor Hind is strengthened in his belief that the comet of 1556 was the same as that of 1264, and that the next appearance of the celestial body is near at hand.

THE ENGLISH HARVEST.—A large portion of the crops has been got in, and, although in some districts wheat has been injured by the rain, this depreciation is by no means general, and for the most part the corn has been housed in excellent condition. The harvest, taken altogether, will be at least above the average, and prices are falling in consequence. In the neighbourhood of Norfolk, however, considerable damage has been done by a storm which occurred on the 1st inst. Green and root crops promise admirably, and the hop-grounds are yielding a most liberal supply, equal to that of last year.

THE HARVEST IN THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND.—The harvest has commenced in the north of Scotland, and many fields have already fallen under the sickle. The crops of wheat, oats, and barley are all far above the average of the last few years. Potatoes are an abundant crop. The disease has been checked by the fine dry weather of this month, and is not likely to appear again. Turnips are in excellent condition, and the aftermath of the hay crop is most luxuriant.

ONE OF THE CREW OF THE VICTORY.—Peter Moser, aged eighty-three, died on the 21st of August last, at the Royal Hospital, Greenwich. This veteran sailor was in several engagements of the British navy between 1794 and 1806, including the battle of Trafalgar. When Nelson fell, Peter Moser served on board the Victory as captain of the maintop. In recognition of his services, which extended over more than twenty years, he received two medals (one with three clasps), and was for the last thirty years of his life an inmate of Greenwich Hospital. It is worthy of note that he had the honour of carrying the first flag at the public funeral of Nelson.

HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM FOR MARINE PURPOSES.—An interesting trial has taken place at the Railway Foundry, Leeds, in the presence of the Government Inspector and other scientific persons, of a novel application of locomotive high-pressure machinery to marine purposes. The machinery, which has been arranged and completed from designs of the engineer of the works, is intended, we understand, for a screw steamer recently launched at Hull. Nothing could apparently be more admirable than the smoothness and facility with which the machinery worked, a speed of a hundred and twenty revolutions of the screw-shaft per minute being obtained from the direct action of the engines,

without the intervention of multiplying gear. This quickness of piston motion, which is not attainable at low pressure, is one of the main advantages of the application. Another is the great saving of space and weight, amounting to more than one-half. But what seemed to excite admiration most was the ease and quickness with which the motion was reversed, which was repeatedly effected under unfavourable circumstances, and against the full steam pressure of a hundred and forty pounds on the inch, seven and eight times within thirty seconds. Upon the whole, it is not too much to say that this very admirable arrangement bids fair to supersede all other applications of steam power to marine purposes, especially for screw steamers.

—*Leeds Mercury.*

SUICIDES.—A girl, twenty-one years of age, named Emma Louisa Felstead, the daughter of a gun-implement maker at Islington, has committed suicide by drowning. She was described by the witnesses at the inquest as being a very sensitive, high-minded girl. A young man, named Parrott, was paying attentions to her, and they had an altercation between nine and ten o'clock on the evening of Monday week. According to the testimony of her father, "she said to her lover, 'You ridicule and satirize the family when we are together, and I cannot bear it.' After this, she went upstairs to her room and divested herself of her bracelets, combs, &c., and, when the family retired to rest, slipped quietly out of the house, and was never after seen alive. Upon her body was found a letter addressed to Parrott, where she had begun with several broken sentences, and saying, 'Dear Jasper, I cannot stand this parting; no one can tell how I love you.' She had never evinced any suicidal tendency; on the contrary, she was always expressing her astonishment how persons could be so weak-minded that way. Her friends were not aware of the intensity of her attachment. What preyed upon her mind very heavily was the return of ten shillings to her by Parrott, on the Monday night, which he had borrowed from her on the evening of the illuminations." The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the testimony of the witnesses. A man named George Bradley has killed himself by swallowing a large quantity of laudanum. He had just married a servant girl; but poverty prevented his furnishing a house, or living with his wife, and he appears to have put an end to his existence in a fit of despair. A verdict of Temporary Insanity was returned by the coroner's jury. A factory worker in Bishopsgate-street, City, has hung himself on account of alleged hard treatment by a salesman on the premises.

CHESHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The nineteenth anniversary of this society has been held at Nantwich. Mr. Tollemache, M.P., presided at the dinner, and called attention to a Scotch harvest-cart, which would undoubtedly carry nearly as much as any waggon (the Scotch themselves said more, but that he questioned), and which was much lighter, presented far greater conveniences, and was about one-fifth of the expense. Waggon had become almost extinct in Scotland; they were disappearing from Northumberland and other of the northern counties; and he hoped they would soon vanish from Cheshire. With respect to farm agreements, he did not think it possible, since the repeal of the corn-laws and the recent discoveries of gold, to frame such a notion of the future price of agricultural produce as to form a fluctuating scale whereon to let farms for a term of fourteen years. He had therefore adopted a portion of the Scotch system of farm tenure, the whole of which system, however, he trusted would never be introduced in England; but his tenants (particularly those in Suffolk) disliked this plan, and he had since determined on adopting annual agreements, with clauses which secure to the tenants compensation for unexhausted improvements. His Suffolk and Northamptonshire tenants were well satisfied with this plan, and he intended to introduce it on his Cheshire estates.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.—The Royal Humane Society at their last meeting awarded to Mr. John Laws Milton, surgeon, of Castle-street, Falcon-square, City, their honorary bronze medallion, and a vote of thanks inscribed on parchment, for his successful exertions in plunging in and rescuing a child from out of the Medway Canal, near Gravesend, on the 9th ult., the child having fallen in while playing on the banks.

SALFORD FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.—This valuable institution is about to be enlarged by the addition of a new wing, and other architectural improvements, at a cost of above 2500*l*. The Museum has been very successful. It now possesses an excellent library of modern literature, amounting to 18,000 volumes. It has issued the large number of 410,000 volumes to the readers who daily frequent the reading-room. A lending library is attached. Three-fifths of the books borrowed consist of light and pleasant tales, novels, and romances, and the remaining two-fifths are works upon history and other sound books. Nine-tenths of the 2300 borrowers belong to the working-classes, one-fifth of the entire number are young women, and 150 are soldiers of the 26th Regiment, now stationed at the Salford barracks. An average of 2000 people visit the museum and library every day in the year.

IRELAND, HUNGARY, AND POLAND.—"One who has visited" these three countries writes thus to the *Times*:—"Will the writer who has received orders from the

Austrian Government to refute you (*impar congressus*), and who asserts that Ireland is more oppressed than Poland or Hungary, be kind enough to inform us how many of the Irishmen taken prisoners by the Russians volunteered to serve against the tyrannical English? because it appears, by returns in the English War-office, that out of 274 Poles taken at Bomarsund, all, excepting eight only, enlisted in the Turkish service without bounty, and on condition of receiving the same pay as the Turkish soldiers—about 1*s*. per week. It might also be well, if he would at the same time explain how it happens that England, with considerably fewer than 20,000 soldiers, can coerce Ireland (writhing under her unparalleled wrongs), when 200,000 Austrians were unable to reduce Hungary to subjection without the assistance of 180,000 Russians?—and what is the reason that Queen Victoria dares to permit Smith O'Brien's return to distracted Ireland, while the Emperor Francis-Joseph not only keeps in exile Kossuth and innumerable other Hungarians, but makes it a ground of complaint against her Majesty's Government that it affords them an asylum, in a spot so near as England to the Austrian dominions?"

THE LATE TURKISH CONTINGENT.—A correspondent of the *Times* complains of the illiberal treatment of the English officers of the late Turkish Contingent (of whom he was one), and of the hardships to which the men have been abandoned, and contrasts these grievances with the favours showered on the officers of the German, Swiss, and Italian Legions, who were allowed to make a bargain beforehand, and who are now to be rewarded with grants of land in the colonies.

A NOBLE WOMAN AND AN IGNOBLE MAN.—An instance of womanly presence of mind and unmanly parsimony occurred at Southend last Saturday afternoon. A gentleman had engaged a bathing-machine, and had swum out about a hundred feet from the machine, when a cry was heard of "Save me, save me!" He was attacked with cramp; his arms were upright and his fingers extended. A young man swam out to him, and could have brought him ashore had not the drowning man clasped him round and prevented further action; they both sank twice together. At this moment, a delicate-looking young woman, about twenty years of age (Miss Emma Ingram, residing at the Royal Southend Baths, near the pier), rushed into the sea and swam out to them with all her clothes on, and succeeded in holding both up until a boat arrived and rescued them. The drowning man was taken ashore insensible, and the usual remedies were applied with success; but what was the reward offered to this young woman who had risked her own life for a stranger? and what was the value of this gentleman's life? Just one shilling, for that was the amount he tendered to Miss Ingram, and has since added ingratitude to his meanness, by stating that he was not in such danger as was supposed. —*Correspondent of the Times.*

THE BELGIAN CONGRESS AND BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.—The Manchester Chamber of Commerce has appointed a deputation to the Free-trade Congress about to be held at Brussels, and it has selected for this duty its chairmen, leading men, and secretary. It was expected that the Liverpool Chamber would have also been represented, but it seems that the council of that body has decided otherwise. In the report last week, the subject was referred to, but no motion was made when the report was read; and the council, in consequence, has resolved not to appoint a deputation.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The last mail from the East does not bring much intelligence of importance. In India, a treaty is being negotiated with the Momund chiefs, hitherto the only disturbers of the peace on the north-west frontier. Burmah is to be made over to the Madras army. Oude is perfectly quiet, and our forces there are to be reduced. Lord Canning is at Calcutta: his health has improved. The annual report of the trade of Calcutta shows great improvement. In China the rebels took possession of Tanyang on the 6th of July—a step which brings them close to Souchow, the capital of the province, and the outlet of commerce from Shanghai. The Imperial fleet of forty sail is cooped up near Nankin. The American house of Wetmore and Co. has suspended payment. Mr. Howard Cunningham has been killed by the Chinese.

AUSTRALIA.—Heavy rains have hindered the diggers, but, nevertheless, the yield of gold continues good. The total gold received at Melbourne by escort from the beginning of the year to the 19th of June was over 900,000 ounces. The balance of trade continues largely in favour of the colony. In the week ending the 19th of June, the value of exports was 305,000*l*; imports, 243,000*l*. The two Houses of the new Sydney Legislature met for the first time on the 22nd of May, when Mr. Daniel Cooper was elected Speaker by a casting majority of one vote.

NEW ZEALAND.—At Narananki, on the 3rd of May, the natives fought with the British troops, when eighteen were killed and wounded. Gold has been discovered near Nelson, as well as a large lode of copper at the height of 1800 feet on the Dun Mountain. Uninsured property, valued at 25,000*l*, has been destroyed by fire at Wellington.

THE GAMING TABLES ON THE RHINE.—Two tragedies of the German 'hells' are related by a correspondent of the *Times*, who, writing from Wiesbaden, says:—"A terrible scene occurred here last Monday (the 1st inst.).

A young man, said to be an officer in the Dutch service, who has for some time past been a yearly frequenter of the 'Kur-saal,' and had just lost everything he possessed at play, blew out his brains while sitting at the gaming-table. A momentary pause took place, but very shortly, even before the poor man's blood had been washed from the floor, gambling was resumed as madly as before. A week only previous to this event an English officer destroyed himself under like circumstances at Homburg. It is said—and I trust there is truth in the report—that the Duke of Nassau will shortly expel the hell-keepers from his dominions, and that he will exert his influence with other German princes to induce them to do the same."

PIRACY AT QUEBEC.—Piracy is carried to such an extent in the harbour of Quebec, that, night after night, ships are boarded by ruffians armed with revolvers, who carry off the crew, threaten the masters and officers with instant death if they resist, and plunder the vessels of all valuables. The dead loss during the present season will not be less than 100,000*l*. The authorities seem to be powerless to resist.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD IN COLLISION WITH A UNION.—One of the largest unions in the west of England—that of St. Thomas, near Exeter—has come into unpleasant collision with the Poor-law Board. The guardians, on the death of one of their relieving officers, did not wish to fill up the vacancy, but to pay the remaining three better salaries, so as to enable them to keep good horses and do the work efficiently. The Poor-law Board sent their assistant commissioner, Mr. Gulton, to confer with the guardians, and the result is that a peremptory order has been received, requiring the St. Thomas's guardians to proceed to the election of a fourth relieving officer, notwithstanding their request to be allowed a trial of three for six months. The parish authorities are determined to resist.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—The petition for an adjudication of bankruptcy against this bank has been dismissed by Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, on the ground that an incorporated company cannot be made bankrupt under the Bankruptcy Consolidation Act, and there were no reasons to suppose that the company had committed an act of bankruptcy under the Winding-up Act.

AN ACT OF INTOLERANCE.—A short time ago, at Shanghai (says the *China Mail*), a Singapore-born Chinese, who had purchased a carriage, was driving on the race-course with his wife and children—his wife being also a British subject, and speaking the English language—when he was accosted in a rude and threatening manner by a clerk in an English mercantile house, and ordered off the course under risk of having his head broken. He preferred the former alternative, and left the course, but appealed to the secretary of the race committee, complaining of the uncivil treatment he had received, and claiming the privilege of other British subjects, of admission to the course upon payment of the usual subscription. The reply, worded in the most courteous language, contained a refusal on the part of the committee, on the ground that though they had no objection to the applicant personally, still he was "a Chinese in all respects but that of birth," and that could only be known to acquaintances; they were therefore, though sorry he should be disappointed, "obliged to include him in this particular among the inhabitants of the place, to whom access to the course is denied."

THE NEW REPRESENTATIVE AT NAPLES.—The mission at Naples, vacant by Sir William Temple's death, will, we hear, be reserved for Sir Henry Bulwer, after he shall have returned from his present temporary employment in the Principalities. —*Daily News.*

THE CASE OF HENRY CORT.—It is satisfactory to hear that the appeal which has been made on behalf of the son and two surviving daughters of Henry Cort, and which has been backed up by the approval of the most eminent engineers and ironfounders in the kingdom, is now beginning to tell. What is required now is merely a subscription to defray the cost of the publication of this case, and application to Parliament for the redress of the great injustice which has been done to a great national benefactor. The names of Messrs. Maudslay and Field, and Mr. Robert Stephenson, are first in the list of contributors. —*Daily News.*

A PATIENT INQUIRER.—The ever-inquiring Herman Heinfetter has once more made his appearance in the advertising columns of the papers, seeking for spiritual knowledge in connexion with "the authority for the non-observance of the Seventh Day." The main body of the advertisement is dated "1st Sabbath of 1852;" then comes this postscript, dated September 1st, 1856:—"Again, for the One Million Three Hundred Thousandth time, I inquire, 'Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt-offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord?' It is surely time to give up inquiry, if no answer is granted to so many iterations of the same question. Mr. Heinfetter comes to this conclusion:—"It appears, That there is no authority for the Non-observance of the Seventh Day, above Dogmatic Teaching; or, The Edict of a Living Infallible Head. May Almighty God grant us to consider, Whether if the Non-observance of the Seventh Day is not preached by St. Paul, and where is it preached by him? we are not cursed by the apostle, if we so preach, even though we claim to have powers equal to the 'Angels of Heaven.' See Galatians, 1-8."

THE DISTRESSED CURATE.—The Essex Curate, whose

painful case of destitution has been recently brought before the notice of the public through the columns of the *Times*, now writes to that journal to acknowledge the kindness of "the laity of our good Church" who have succoured him in his affliction. He adds, that "his bishop did not help him, and his vicar would not," and he thus concludes:—"I am sorry that any discrepancy should have occurred with regard to my stipend. It was 80*l.*, and I fear that, in the hurry of writing, my 8 was mistaken for a 6. As I am informed that people dispute the description of the vicarage I have had to live in, I beg distinctly to state that it is excessively damp, arising from its contiguity to the churchyard, and its being so choked up by trees. Of the furniture I will only say that it is most miserable. Of the vicar I will say nothing, for I remember that it is written, 'Speak not evil of dignities.'"

THE LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—A meeting of members of the Land Transport Corps was held on Monday evening at the Rose and Crown, Crown-street, Westminster, to complain of their summary dismissal without remuneration, and of the violation by Government of the understanding upon which they had been enlisted. Resolutions in favour of the objects of the meeting were agreed to.—Another meeting was held on the following night, at the King's Arms Tavern, Surrey-row, Blackfriars-road.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.—The nave of this cathedral has been restored by the removal of the coats of whitewash which concealed the coloured stone and marble pillars supporting the roof. These operations have been conducted under the direction of Mr. Frederick S. Waller, F.R.S., B.A., of Gloucester, architect to the cathedral.

THE LATE FALL OF A HOUSE IN THE CITY.—A motion by Mr. Abraham, "that it be referred to the General Purposes Committee to inquire into the cause of the falling of the house in Little Swan-alley, and into the working of the present system of house inspection, with especial reference to dangerous structures, and also whether it is necessary to make any and what alteration of system, and to report thereon to this commission," has been unanimously carried in the City Commission of Sewers.

MANCHESTER MECHANICS' INSTITUTION EXHIBITION.—The Art and Industrial Exhibition with which it was intended to inaugurate the new Mechanics' Institution at Manchester, was opened on Tuesday. Owing to the recent death of his brother, Lord Palmerston was unable to fulfil his promise of presiding; and the opening speech was therefore delivered by Mr. Oliver Heywood, president of the institution, who said that the exhibition they then opened was the fifth which had been undertaken and successfully carried out by the directors of the institution. Their fame had long gone by, eclipsed by the grander conceptions of later times, yet Manchester might recollect with pride that she was the first to set the example of these industrial exhibitions, and that the announcement which the directors were able to make at the conclusion of the first—now twenty years ago—that, although, after having been visited by upwards of 60,000 people, it had closed without wilful injury to any single article exhibited—led to the opening of the museum, and other institutions in Manchester, and was the circumstance upon which Mr. Hume, in the House of Commons, founded his motion for the opening of the British Museum. After expressing a wish that this exhibition, though on a humbler scale, might supply a want to the working classes which they could not attain through the greater and nobler efforts at London, Paris, and Dublin, the president concluded by announcing that the Exhibition was open, and that the company were at liberty to pass at pleasure through its various departments. The opening ceremony concluded with a concert.

A HOAX.—A Mr. Wyndham has victimized an hotel-keeper at Birmingham, and hoaxed the mayor, Mr. Scholefield, M.P., and others, by pretending to be the agent of the Queen of Oude, who, he asserted, was about to visit the town. Having got all he could, the 'agent' vanished, leaving a bill at the hotel, of upwards of 15*l.*, unpaid.

TOM THUMB.—General Tom Thumb is married, and in a Cincinnati Court the other day he stated his age to be nineteen.

THE GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL has been held during the last week.

DESERTION OF A WIFE.—George Grey, the man who was lately suspected of the murder of Solomons at Hampton, was brought before Mr. Combe, by the parish authorities of St. George's, Southwark, charged with deserting his wife and five children, who had become chargeable to the parish. He was remanded.

A POLICEMAN CAN DO NO WRONG.—A policeman was charged at Marlborough-street with neglect of duty. A man in Norfolk-street insulted and annoyed a Mrs. Smith and two young girls who were with her. Being pushed away, he struck Mrs. Smith violently in the face, but without drawing blood. The policeman was appealed to, but refused to interfere, further than taking the scoundrel's name and address; and Mr. Beadon, the magistrate, now upheld him in that refusal. Policemen, he observed, have a discretionary power; they are only to apprehend a person in the case of an aggravated assault, and this was not an aggravated assault. The complaint was therefore dismissed. We confess we are at a loss to understand the law. Where does an aggravated assault begin?

THE SUSPICIOUS DEATH AT BETHNAL-GREEN was further investigated on Thursday. Philip Darwin, farrier, was found dead with his throat cut, in Smith's-place, Charles-street, Hackney-road; and it appeared from the evidence that his wife had run away with another man, and that this desertion preyed greatly on his mind. The seducer said he would bring the wife back; and Darwin said he would forgive her. But, before the time appointed for her return, he cut his throat. A verdict of suicide was returned.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER BY AN ACCOUCHEUR.—A Mr. Matcham, a surgeon at Lowestoft, has been committed for trial on a charge of causing the death of a woman, by an unskilful use of instruments to which he resorted in the course of a difficult labour.

MURDERS.—A married woman, an actress in a travelling "theatrical establishment," who has for some time past been cohabiting with a man named John Allen, has been murdered by her paramour at an inn in Leeds. The man cut her throat, and escaped, but was arrested shortly afterwards.—A wife has been murdered by her husband, Benjamin Harper, at the salt works, Newside, Stoke Prior. The man was generally a sober man; but on Monday the wife found him drunk. She was greatly incensed, seized him by the hair of his head, and abused him. Blows were then struck, the wife was knocked down, and finally death ensued. The man, who was only twenty-three years old (which was about the wife's age), is said to have been a very kind husband up to the time of the fatal occurrence.

MR. BAXTER AT MONTROSE.—Mr. Baxter addressed his constituents of Montrose on Tuesday in a very discursive speech. He alluded to the slovenly way in which business is transacted in the House of Commons, where, from mere vanity and the desire to see their remarks reported next morning in the papers, many members will intrude on the time of the House without any claims on its attention. He also condemned the remissness exhibited in drawing up bills; disapproved of the Horse Guards; lamented that our officers are not equal to our common soldiers; expressed his belief that the warlike resources of Russia are exhausted; affirmed that our consular system needs reformation; and concluded by denouncing the various Italian tyrannies, and by suggesting that we ought to send a fleet to Naples and set the prisoners free. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. Baxter for his conduct, and the fullest confidence expressed in the views he had enunciated. Mr. Baxter addressed the constituency of Brechin on Wednesday afternoon, and the people of Arbroath in the evening, and received the thanks of both meetings.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, September 13.

RUSSIA.

TELEGRAPHIC accounts have been received of the grand military review of Monday.

"The aspect of the field," writes the *Times* correspondent, this day, "may be imagined, when it is recollected that there were more men present than there were on both sides together at the battle of the Alma, and considerably more than there were of English, French, and Russians at the battle of Inkerman." The charge of the 15,000 Imperial Horse Guards is described as being most magnificent and overpowering.

ACCIDENT.—An accident of a frightful character occurred yesterday to a man named John Scott. He was a labourer employed at St. Katherine's Docks, Upper East Smithfield, and, while he was engaged in his usual occupation beneath one of the loop-holes in front of a lofty warehouse, a bale of tobacco dropped from the upper floor upon his head. He was crushed into a flattened mass, and died in about an hour in the London Hospital.

THE LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—A notice has been posted at the Horse Guards, acquainting the dissatisfied men of the Land Transport Corps that their claims to pay, return of income-tax, &c., were in course of settlement at the head-quarters of the corps, Horsefield Barrack, and that they should communicate with the officers commanding their respective battalions who are quartered there.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—A lad has been committed for trial by the Southwark magistrate on a charge of stealing a lady's watch in the Borough-road at night, with great violence. A policeman coming up opportunely, the thief was at once captured.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN A POLICE CELL.—A man who, together with his wife, or the woman with whom he lived, were in custody on a charge of being drunk and disorderly, attempted to hang himself yesterday in a cell of the Somers' Town station. On the woman promising for him that he would not do so again, he was discharged.

FIRE.—A fire (caused by an escape of gas) occurred at Baron Rothschild's zinc mills, City-road, yesterday. It broke out shortly before three o'clock, and considerable alarm was caused in the densely-populated neighbourhood. Considerable damage was done before the flames were got under; but the premises are insured.—A little girl named Amelia Smallwood, whose parents reside at

Poplar, was engaged yesterday morning in lighting the fire, when her dress ignited, and, before the flames could be extinguished, she was dreadfully burnt over the whole of her body. She expired in the London Hospital.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We do not undertake to return rejected communications. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. 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, SEPTEMBER 13, 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.—DR. ARNOLD.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

At all times the best security of peace consists, of course, in the general indisposition of statesmen and nations to war. Nations and statesmen at present have many quarrels, which the statesmen, at least, desire to settle upon the old basis of diplomacy. But there is little confidence anywhere. As, from the Russian war, some dupes of their own desires anticipated a political doomsday, that should bring rulers to judgment, so, from the Paris Conference, other easy optimists looked for a universal assimilation of interests between Powers, courts, and peoples. But the war, which barely determined the relations of Russia with Turkey, and of Turkey with the rest of Europe, was concluded by a peace which only added to former complications in the West. The attempt to convert the Conference into a Congress was not more successful than the convulsive outcry by which it was sought to represent the Russian war as a war of revolution. Scarcely had the plenipotentiaries sealed their engagements of eternal peace and amity, than the several governments began to draw off to their several speculations.

An alarm of war was first heard in England from the other side of the world. But such a war was all but a natural impossibility. Something like instinct convinced the nation that, whatever remained to be done by British fleets and armies, the fleets were not manned, or the armies equipped, to carry out a meaningless quarrel with America. The danger passed, and the public mind was once more turned to Europe, where, because the old principles of monarchy and feudalism are at work, the old monarchical and feudal conflicts are possible. Nevertheless, we are to reduce—some say only to winnow—our military forces; but if this step be adopted with any reference to the tranquil aspects of the Continent, it seems to us the result of a misconception. Even in our direct relations with the heavy-armed Powers, there are probabilities of a breach of the eternal amity. We have several causes of misunderstanding with France:—our last naval movement in the Black Sea excited dissent and jealousy; we are not at one with Louis Napoleon on the affairs of Italy; we have absolute suspicions of his policy with respect to Spain; we cannot join in his implied assent to the German conspiracy which has failed, for a time, in the Swiss Cantons. At any moment, also, we may be brought into serious antagonism with the European Governments on the subject of the Danish and Greek successions. But, allowing these to be remote contingencies, there are some sources of immediate apprehension.

Nowhere is it believed that the crisis has passed in Spain. The O'DONNELL usurpation seems at present but an equivocal success. There is an ominous pause in the conflict. It would be more satisfactory to the new Government not to be received with so little opposition. We must believe, then, in the probability of a state of confusion arising in that peninsula, the only question being whether it would be left to exhaust itself, or whether an external influence would be brought to bear in favour of one party, and against the other. In that case it would not be safe to calculate upon the continuance of a good understanding between Great Britain and France. Up to this time England has had a Spanish policy, worthless, no doubt, but always opposed to that of France, and it does not seem that the official alliance of the imperial and constitutional Governments has gone so far as to remove every landmark of diplomacy and opinion. To mark the difference, LOUIS NAPOLEON has sent O'DONNELL the Cross of the Legion, called of Honour. Spain, however, is less a source of anxiety than Italy. In that country there is a probability of war. We may be told that all the military preparations going forward are defensive; but when contiguous States set double guards upon their frontier, when border cities are fortified, and camps established, virtually hostile, almost within signal distance, the expectation of a struggle is implied. The Austrian and Sardinian Governments, moreover, are positively at issue, upon serious matters of international law, with so much rancour, that no calculable chance seems to exist of a sincere or permanent accommodation. But supposing Austria and Sardinia to be diplomatically reconciled, the result does not depend solely on them. LUTHER said: When monarchs agree to parcel out the world, perhaps the Lord God will arise and make a different distribution. There is the nation of Italy to be consulted: now, we take it to be demonstrable that the statesmen of Austria and Sardinia cannot effect a satisfactory settlement of the Italian question, even as it concerns their territories alone. When two claims are inconsistent one must be modified. Now, either Vienna or Turin must give way. Has Vienna ever given way to Turin? Has Turin ever given way to Vienna without mortifying and exasperating the Italian people? This Italian people, let us remember, has become an important party to the discussion. The Republicans alone are powerful enough to discompose the plans of the several Cabinets and their self-inspired supporters. It is very easy to say, as we hear it said with suspicious pertinacity, that MAZZINI is a dead politician. If he be dead, why is he stamped on? Why are a hundred pens engaged in proving that he is of no consequence whatever? This may be said in reply,—that it is not known at what moment a large and well-equipped army may start up in the peninsula, receiving its commands from the untiring Genoese. The subscription for VICTOR EMMANUEL's artillery has a formidable rival in the subscription for MAZZINI's muskets. It is well that this truth should be recognized, in order that the Government at Turin may understand that the capitulation of Piedmont would not be the capitulation of Italy. Meanwhile, the Sardinian fortresses are prepared for defence; the argument in favour of reprisals of confiscation becomes stronger daily; and it is hoped that the Piedmontese camps of exercise will not be formed far from the frontier. Again the sinister shadow of Bonapartism is visible. MANIN, at Paris, is forbidden to aid in the fortification of Alessandria.

In other quarters, Italy is disturbed by the signs of coming trouble. Muratism creeps on

in the kingdom of Naples, and has its influential advocates in France, to whom unhappily the most injudicious replies are made in Italy. When LOUIS NAPOLEON's relative is proposed for the throne of the Two Sicilies—as if Naples were a royal living, in the gift of certain great Chancellors of Empire—a counter-proposition is made, and Naples, independently of the Neapolitans, is offered to VICTOR EMMANUEL by his friends. The Italians, however, have learned to estimate the good-will of France. They have heard of their exiles—Italian subjects—dragged through the territories of the French Empire, with iron collars on their necks, suffering outrage in French prisons, and transported, like convicts, to Dover. And they are invited to crown MURAT King of Naples.

Neither the Austrian nor the Prussian Governments have been induced, by the transition of Europe from a state of peace to a state of war, to effect any reduction of their military forces. Of course we are aware that great reductions were announced in the official *Gazette* of Vienna. But we know what that means. Two or three myriads of armed men are taken to the rear, and not paid for a time. But they do not the less constitute an army. They only enjoy a vacation, but are not relieved from their responsibility to martial law, and are liable to be summoned, at any hour, to the service of the State. Even in Prussia there has been some political restlessness of late, which has broken out in Neufchâtel, where the recent insurrection may turn out to have been the premature fruit of a conspiracy not hatched at Berlin alone. Neufchâtel abuts unpleasantly into the drowsy land of Germany, and has been warmed into obnoxious life since its union with the Confederate Cantons.

Whatever schemes of philanthropy were attributed, upon the conclusion of peace, to the Court of Russia, seem in no danger of being realized. Russia remains Russia without NICHOLAS, and it would be premature to say that all doubtful points, in that direction, have been settled. A constitution has not yet been found for the Danubian Principalities.

But, after all, whatever may be the general inclination of mankind to peace, and whatever the ingenuity of governments in evading a settlement of disputed questions, the great probability of the future is that pointed at by Mr. ROEBUCK. The principles upon which the mass of Europe is governed, and by which the diplomacy of Europe is regulated, are totally incompatible with the interests of the several nations; and when the nations understand their interests the day of reckoning will have arrived.

THE REDUCTION OF THE FORCES.

UNDER the name of 'reduction,' the British army is about to receive a permanent increase. There is something so little methodical in our system, that it is not easy to place the proposed arrangement before the reader in a perfectly natural and distinct form. Our old plan has been to divide the army into regiments, each under its colonel or colonels; permitting those regiments to find themselves separated or aggregated according to the necessities or accidents of the day. When they were brought together under an army, they were arranged into divisions or brigades according to the nature of the particular movement to be carried on. The one permanent classification of the army is into different kinds of forces—cavalry, infantry, artillery, and so forth; but within those several kinds only into regiments. The French system is to form 'armies,' and to accustom the constituent parts of the army to adapt

themselves to the whole, so that the soldiers constantly practise in combined action with a large force. During the war in the Crimea our regiments were expanded by recruiting to an unusual size; new corps were formed; and many of our officers for the first time became acquainted with combined duties in brigade or division. In reducing the army, Government does not simply return to the former organization of the 'peace establishment.' The division into regiments is of course still maintained; but the permanent organization will be in many respects new. Each regiment will maintain eight companies of about 100 men each, for active service; and will have about 200 men, divided into four companies, at its dépôt; the regiments thus consisting of about 1000 men. The Land Transport Corps will be reorganized as the Military Train. The Artillery will not be reduced, but will be maintained in the full strength which it had acquired during the war. The forces at home will be constantly trained in the camp and field duty. In short, abandoning the old position of keeping up certain regiments at home, distributed with more or less symmetry in divers topographical districts, we shall be keeping up a real army. It is true that the gross number of men will be reduced: at present the total is reckoned at about 153,000 men; the reduced forces will probably consist of about 125,000. But even this slight reduction is greater in appearance than in fact.

What will the new army cost? Our last peace establishment barely reckoned 100,000 men, and could in no respect compare with the army now proposed, either in organization or equipment—there were no camp exercises to be carried out. The expense, therefore, of the 125,000 men will be far greater in comparison to the expense of our last peace establishment than the simple increase of 25 per cent.

It is evident that those who have laid down the new plan for the British army contemplated something more,—that the plan has been clipped here and there in order to diminish the expense. One point alone will establish this fact. Each regiment of eight service companies of 100 men each will have four reserve companies of 50 men each, more or less in dépôt. Now, any man in the slightest degree acquainted with military subjects is well aware that this proportion is not at all sufficient. We quite admit that the army, under its intended improvement, will not require so large a reserve as it did during the war, not only because the draughts of men will be less, but because there is evidently an intention to abandon the vicious style of recruiting which was thought necessary or expedient during the contest. We need not say that we do not believe in the necessity or the expediency of bad recruiting.

The purchase system, excluding from commission all but the wealthy, or the connexions of men already in commission, and coupled with the restriction of promotion from the ranks, tends also to exclude from the ranks all but those who are alien alike to the trading and the 'gentle' classes. The consequence is that the field of recruitment is narrowed in exactly the same ratio. It is very undesirable for the soldier to begin his business too late in life, although recent experience has ascertained that it is undesirable at least to send the soldier abroad too early in life. A particular range of age, therefore, is designated by the two conditions, of choosing the recruit not too young nor too old. In compliance with these conditions, the appeal is made to a mere fraction of the whole population; and at the commencement of the war, in order to obtain a sufficient number of recruits, the

standard was lowered, of physical strength, of constitutional health, as well as of height. The result has been so bad, that in some regiments it has been impossible to muster much more than 50 per cent. of the whole force in the barracks, the remainder being absorbed either in picket duty or in the hospital. The reduction will be so conducted as to *relieve* the army of the permanent hospital which that vicious system of recruitment imposed upon it. That is the first object, and it constitutes the main reason why we say that under the name of the reduction there will be a virtual increase; since the body will be relieved of a burden, better brought together, and rendered more efficient. Nevertheless, the proposed depôts will not be sufficient in proportion to the service companies. When it is considered that the gross strength of the depôt must be qualified by the effect of the drafts to keep up the service companies, by the proportion of raw recruits, by the invalids, and by other effects of home life, it will be perceived that the theoretical number of 200 is scarcely sufficient to allow margin enough for a reserve justly proportioned to the 800 in the field. This must be so obvious to military men, that the reserve must have been narrowed solely in deference to the presumed discontent of the House of Commons at voting large supplies. But the military Ministers cannot expect to escape from being called to account in the House of Commons, especially at the present day. It is a slavish adhesion to old ideas which makes our Ministers assume that the House of Commons is to be propitiated by blindly cutting down the estimates. On the contrary, in the present temper of the public, the House will be prepared to provide any forces which the Government may declare to be necessary for the position of the country; but in giving whatever means may be demanded, the House will require satisfactory proof that the proposed organization is suitable for its purpose. We have shown how weak the Ministerial case will be in one particular; but there are other points in which the same line of reasoning could be carried out.

The great net fact is, that we shall possess an army considerably larger than that which we possessed before the war, its strength increased in a far greater proportion by its organization, equipment, and exercises. Now the country would be prepared to make any sacrifice for the maintenance of an efficient army; but undoubtedly it will ask, What is that army to be established for? In what service is it to be used? This is the most important question of all. We do not expect to receive an answer from the Duke of CAMBRIDGE; even Ministers are not to give us an answer until the meeting of Parliament, if then; but the plan for 'the reduction of the army' constitutes an avowal that we do return to the peace of 1851, and that we may require to be armed at *all* points. For we hear of no reduction of the *naval* force.

Now who is our anticipated enemy? We might conjecturally anticipate danger from three quarters. We should have said from *four*; but, from the fact that, notwithstanding the boasted readiness to meet America on the ocean, satisfaction has been given to the United States in the Central American question, we presume that our present Ministers do not anticipate any danger from the West.

Is Russia to be the enemy? This might be; only that we find Russia yielding whenever the Allied Powers press their interpretation of the Treaty of Paris.

Is it to be Austria? This is not compatible with the report that Austria and the Western Powers have been contemplating a

revival of the treaty of April 15 as against Russia. It is not compatible with the latest concession to Austria—the suppression of the subscription set on foot by MANIN towards the artillery for the fortress of Alesandria. All the recent movements in Italy, no doubt, corroborate the opinion that the most influential classes would readily combine for a constitutional movement reducing the Neapolitan idiot to reason, and reducing Austria to her non-Italian possessions; but is it probable that the English Government will separate from the French alliance, or that LOUIS NAPOLEON would be prepared to take that original and vigorous course in the Peninsula?

Where, then, is the fourth enemy against which the English army may be intended to act in combination with our allies? Is it against the people of Italy, and the natural allies of the people of Italy?

These are questions to which a real English House of Commons would require an answer before it voted the ways and means.

THE MOSCOW CORONATION.

THIS week, our divinities have been Velvet and Gold—the purple testament of Moscow. Not Russia alone, not only the serfs whose prostration we affect to pity have gazed at the second ALEXANDER until their eyes have grown dim with theatrical delight. We have all sighed to be in the capital of crystal, gasping at the red-shafted spears and rainbow pennons of the Cossacks, the blue vest of the dainty Prince of Gouriél, the crested casques of the Imperial Guard, the golden coats of the nobles, the green-and-orange livery of the Czar, the Cinderella carriage of the Empress, and the trembling brilliance of the diamonds on her head. Our hearts have yearned to see VASHTI herself, and, for a day, we have wished we were Babylonians. "How Heaven loves colour!" So does Earth. We "joy in red and green, and a thousand flashing hues made solely to be seen," as though we were all Alhambra artists, and we perfectly understand why the North American Indians, not content with being red-skins, paint themselves, and why Quakers are unpopular. The whole tendency of our civilization, for a hundred years it may be said, has been to abolish the use of tinted garments, and to clothe men in black, or invisible green, or grey, or other lustreless manufactures. It is true. We dress dully; but how we try to get back a little of the variegation when we can! We go to the sea-side, as an excuse for wearing gaudies that would be ridiculous in town; and if, by rising to parochial, or county, or knightly dignities, we may but privilege ourselves to touch our dark monotony with a scarlet edge or an enamel spot, that is a compensation for many years of suffering. How else can we account for the expenditure of a million sterling to paint the lily of Imperialism at Moscow? You will say, perhaps, it was the policy of ALEXANDER II. to impress the Bashkirs and Circassians with an admiring awe, and to show the proud-hearted Karapaks that, however they may sport gold coins in their hair, or stud their sheepskins with jewellery, the splendour of their plains and mountains is mere barbarism at Moscow. This sort of philosophic interpretation is suited to the dramatic theory of a great monarch, cavalcading in glory, and concealing in his breast a noble disdain of all frippery whatever. Careless eyes and curling lips, of course, belong to Czars, and uneasy is the head that wears a crown; but, without any sophistry, the spectacle just exhibited in Russia was an attempt at the deification of a man in the sight of men, and it appealed to

the grossest love of material magnificence. The honours paid to the new Czar were all but divine. Myriads of people went on their knees to offer him reverence. His name was coupled with names that are sacred, and the plumage of his escort seems to have smitten, not Kurds and Bashkirs only, but citizens, French-polished in the West, with almost ghostly awe. For him rang the bells of the cathedral, for him chanted the clergy, for him the altars were decorated, to him necks were bent and faces bowed to the earth, through him, the clergy said, the will of Heaven would be known to the Russian people. If they could have stolen the thunders of the firmament, undetected by the correspondents, they would have pealed them over Moscow, to complete the apotheosis of ALEXANDER, who is lord of millions, as BYRON was club-footed, because he was born so. Even one Western citizen, who had escaped the contagion of the DE MOIRY rituals, and of the 'high-as-the-sky' heraldry of the palace, doted so on the sight of a real Emperor and Empress, and a stage larger than ASHLEY's, all bright with crimson plumes and eagles, and the man standing in the genuine boots of NICHOLAS, that he wrote more madly than if he had seen DIANA, and her hundred lovely virgins, 'lily-white, or passed a day with COMUS. It was not tinsel, but pure gold—not a vision, but Moscow—not an actress, but an Imperial lady, shining from a cloud of gauze, with a tiara of brilliants, sitting in a red-and-gilt carriage, with a crown on the top, and eight horses, harnessed with gold, and palefreniers leading them, and little auburn-curved pages perched up aloft, to screen the uncourtly coachman's back, and a galaxy of fairylike chariots following, and chivalry, Amazonian and other, all around, as though CHARLEMAGNE and his Empress were coming along, with a cavalcade of maidens in violet cloaks, riding on cream-coloured palfreys.

We ought to be dazzled, and are—by the strange contradictions of history. We have been learning, for eighteen hundred years, that lilies of the valley are arrayed more gloriously than SOLOMON, yet it is SOLOMON still that bewilders us. We have an intense admiration of power, for men who have abundance of money and soldiers, and can do as they like, especially if doing as they like extends so far as to be able to put people to death when they please. But Imperialism alone does not suffice to secure devotees. Even ATTILA, though he used wooden knives and cups himself, gave golden cups and knives to his courtiers. If we confer authority, we insist upon show. Our aldermen must turn upon us the scarlet lining of their cloaks. And if the Emperor of RUSSIA enters Moscow to be crowned, in the plain blue coat and red trousers of a general officer, with only a plumed and burnished helmet on his head, and a zodiac of decorations on his breast, there must be glowing crests, and mail, silver, gold, purple, velvet, diamonds, an Assyria of pomp and brilliance around him; otherwise how could we venerate his Majesty? In such a procession GEORGE WASHINGTON would have looked like a *memento mori*. O WASHINGTON! O BELSHAZZAR!

THE LAST K.G.

IF EDWARD III. were now to visit London, we can well imagine the embarrassment which he would feel in finding his way from Charing to St. Paul's; how difficult it would be to make him understand how he could go to Dover between breakfast and luncheon; could receive a message from York in an instant; and that, being once more King of England, he could raise any requisite sum of money without summoning his barons or

bullying them into benevolences. But no 'improvement' of modern days would astound him so much as the proposal of his beloved cousin, Queen VICTORIA, to confer the Garter upon the SOLDAN—upon the SALADIN of our day. How a Christian Queen could introduce the Arch-Infidel into that most exclusive order—that sacred band which has hitherto been limited to kings, nobles, and the bastards of royalty—so consistent and practical a prince would be unable to comprehend; and it would be very difficult to explain to him the reason why.

It is not in the mere technicalities that we see the difficulty. It has been asked, indeed, how you can place the Garter upon the leg of a potentate who does not wear stockings? But more difficult manœuvres than that have been successfully attempted. In Naples we have more than once seen a crown placed upon a thing without a head. Besides, we are not sure that the Garter originally was a garter; and the fact that it is so called rather affirms, than otherwise, the pretty but apocryphal legend of the Countess of SALISBURY. That part of the insignia was first called 'belt' as well as garter; and it is much more probable that among the furniture of the Order would be the badge, sword, and belt, than the badge, sword, and garter. But if EDWARD were engaged in contemplating his Order,—if the little incident of the Countess really happened at the ball,—if he saw a lady more beautiful than charity, and more virtuous than virtue, blushing at the rude glances of the knights, it is by no means inconsistent with his character that he should seize the occasion of rebuking their un-knightly manner by making them wear, in the most honourable Order of his country, for evermore, that same garter as the most distinguishing badge.

To this day, and back to the earliest days of stockings, it has been the practice to work quaint devices upon that article of dress which the Knights of the Order wear upon the leg, and Queen VICTORIA wears upon her arm—another reason for supposing that EDWARD suffered the belt to become a garter, and adopted the motto which might have been woven on the gentler band.

It is not the oath that could impose the difficulty; for the oath has been changed many times, and could be changed as often. We may yet have the Emperor of CHINA admitted to the Order, and breaking a saucer upon his admission, as our own Lord Mayor, it is well known, until the present reign, counted hobnails in proof of his legitimate authority. There is nothing, we venture to affirm, in the statutes which can exclude the SULTAN. It certainly is not his personal character: he will find amongst the Knights SHAKESPEARE'S notorious Sir JOHN FAUSTAFF, whom real history represents as a very ordinary knight, though contemporaries did accuse him of treachery and cowardice. He will find also the Emperor NICHOLAS, who broke every knightly rule by breaking his word to the Order, and nevertheless was not expelled. It is not the putting of 'Mahound's' arms in Windsor Chapel that is the trouble; though the fact will, indeed, mark the ascendancy of the 'Broad Church.'

But to what end introduce the SULTAN as the youngest knight in the ancient Christian English Order? We do not know what the act was intended to mean; but we well know what it does mean. *Nothing*: except that AND-UT-MENDJIN will be able to write K.G. after his name.

BOOKSELLERS' ADULTERATIONS.

THERE is a great authority for saying that critics should do sharp justice upon bad

books, as upon malefactors; but what do the booksellers deserve? There are two classes of them, at least, that ought to be marked for surveillance. The one class is composed of certain shilling-volume publishers, the other of magazine manufacturers, especially those of a philanthropic tinge. As to cheap literature, we are persuaded it is what the best literature will come to, and the sooner the better, good cheap books having a strong effect in driving bad cheap books out of the field. But it seems to be considered that, to make up a volume for a railway stall, nothing more is necessary than a few forgotten sketches from old periodicals, some grossly bad illustrations, and a chimerically repulsive yellow cover. When the process has been advanced thus far the most disgusting part remains—the composition of a puff. A curious change has taken place in this respect. Formerly, the least scrupulous advertizer was careful to quote his authority, and the list of testimonies ran thus:—"The world will writhe under this satire."—*Wormwood Mercury*. "We are much deceived if this poem does not become immortal."—*Tin Trumpet*. "Since HORNER, we remember no novelist so successful."—*Country Cousin*. "The essay is a gush of intellectual glory."—*Earthen Vessel*. Now, whatever the absurdity was, somebody had written, printed, and perhaps paid for it. Even the 'everlasting immortality' of a particular 'work of travels' was really attributed to it by an evening paper. But, at present, that necessity seems abolished. We take up a batch of reprints in dragon's blood board covers, and learn from the fly-leaf, "These are the happiest efforts of their author." The same fly-leaf presents other literary intelligence. Some ghastly parody of COOPER'S Red Indian romances in embellished wrapper is pronounced "a most thrilling tale of extraordinary adventures," not one of the weekly animalcules lending even the sanction of its name to the imposture. Then, a mass of epileptic comedy on the late war is offered, "so truthful that the reader can hardly imagine the story to be a fiction." "The most delightful book of travels ever written" is next in the list, followed by "one of the most delightfully written tales we have ever read"—the said *us* being the composer of the fly-leaf, or the critic of some unacknowledged gazette. We have no information, moreover, as to the name and weight of the reviewer, who recommends a shilling selection of sketches as the companion volume of the *London Labour and the London Poor*, or as to the authority which affirms *Lily and Love* to be a specific for the moral complaints of children; or with respect to the claims of a youthful American authoress "to rank among the first writers of the day;" or as to "the other productions" of a talented lady, which are to be surpassed by her last production. Well may the great publishing houses, dreading to be confounded with these concocters of puffs, exclude "critical opinions and laudatory notices" from their catalogues.

One of the worst consequences of this traffic is, that no book published in America is too bad to be republished as a shilling volume in England. It is announced as a story which sold ten thousand copies in one day at New York. The cover is of burning crimson, imprinted with a white school-girl, and, on the fly-leaf, criticism is anticipated by the remark, coolly and loftily written, that "This entrancing story will be read by the ruddy light of every Christmas fireside throughout the kingdom;" or, "No mother should allow her daughter to reach a marriageable age without reading this romance." Our last specimen, it should be observed, relates to a story by an English writer, and

was published by himself. When comic publications—imitations of *Punch*—were in vogue, many a block of boxwood was cut with very few impressions taken from it. Consequently, the thing was thrown into the market. It turns up on the railway stall. You find a portrait of Sir PETER LAURIE doing duty as the ruined banker in a tale of City life.

The trade in second-hand woodcuts is considerable, the use made of them being abominable. It is not two years since a great manufacturer of cheap publications was accustomed to take a monthly expedition to Paris, where he bought the old blocks at the offices of illustrated periodicals, and returning, employed his clerks to 'write up to them,' which was done with much educational flourish and infinite deception. Having been used in England, the wood engravings were next exported to America, and we have lately encountered them in this third form, illustrating a third class of 'literature.' The same building has figured as a Rock Temple in India, the Interior of a Tomb in Egypt, and the Approach to the Napoleon Shrine in Paris. We have met with the same figure as ZAIKÉ, as the heroine of a Spanish story, and as the daughter of HERODIAS; and we should not be surprised to behold its fourth appearance as a Princess of Oude.

The present is the season for such manufactures. They have an open market. They glow upon the stalls. But the woodcuts are not so bad as the letterpress they illustrate. This is often got up with the most pernicious facility, the writers themselves ridiculing the publishers who issue their cold-pressed verbiage as the 'educational feature' of some deplorably illiterate miscellany. Fortunately, an exposure that was effected by one or two of our contemporaries a year or two ago broke up some of the merchant princelings of penny and twopenny literature; but the imposture has been transformed into the shilling volume shape, and thrives in fancy covers. Half these fancy covers represent only so much nonsense, puffed off by praises which were never written except by the nonsense-dealers themselves.

CONGRATULATIONS.

Two or three old notions there are, connected with the richer and poorer classes, which are unaccountable. With reference to the poorer classes, it is an established maxim that they drink to excess, beat their wives, and neglect their children; that small class excepted which comes under 'charitable institution' care. With reference to the richer classes, the received way of writing at them is to deplore the fate of daughters married heartlessly to coronets, and to furnish forth a story with illustrations of the platitude that wealth does not bring happiness. We have always wondered how a universally intoxicated working class produces, regularly, such immeasurable results of industry; how half a dozen magistrates can dispose of all the cases of outrage occurring in a depraved population of three millions; and how every trade in the three kingdoms is fully supplied with apprentices by children-neglecting fathers. Assuming that half the villany practised is concealed, that artisans and labourers are frequently inebriated when they are not fined for it, that numbers of children grow into criminals through the inattention of their parents, we must nevertheless believe that there is an immense power of sober and self-denying application at work, or else England would not be what it is.

We will leave that topic at present. The point more immediately suggested by the aspects of the season is—the immense num-

ber of persons there are, in this country, at once happy and rich. Statistics do not represent them. Nothing represents them better than a glance at London. A prodigious city, lost amid its suburbs, with nearly every house inhabited and furnished, and a large majority of the houses inhabited by quiet and comfortable people. Beyond the suburbs, in every direction, are double lines of luxurious villas; and still farther, grouped near the different railways, little towns, supported almost solely by pleasure-seekers—all indicative of prosperity, and, to some extent, of happiness.

If you say that rich people leave town because to leave town is fashionable, that weary girls seek restoration in the country from the dissipations of the long London carnival, that the gaiety of the sea-side is a social mockery,—that may suit the tone of an opening chapter; but go to a watering-place, dull as a watering-place in England is, and Contradiction meets you on the parade. There are a thousand beauties there, with a flush, not hectic, on the cheeks; there are crowds of individuals too well conditioned, in mind, body, and estate, to be miserable; you may take it for granted life is not a burden to them—the stout gentlemen and the superb CORNELIUS; the conscious, confident faces are those of merry young people, who enjoy their rides, drives, and walks, and never think of cankers in roses, or hollow hearts that wear a mask, or anything else disagreeable. They come down by first-class, express, and they come down by the excursion train; they may be seen at every pretty place on the coast, and when they are unable to strike from the metropolis as far as the sea, they haunt the pretty places on the river, or rejoice on the little hills that seem made for holiday-seekers round London.

If we did not think of these things from time to time, a false melancholy would come over us. All the divorce cases are recorded and repeated in the journals; but with happy marriages reporters have nothing to do. We hear of houses burnt, but if we go outside the door, we shall see London more immense than ever. So, in every direction. The scum rises to the top, and we have dismal hints of the dregs that lie at the bottom, but there is a healthy, well-compounded body between, doing its daily work, suffering only a light average of human sorrow.

If the vice, or the misery, that is obtruded upon our attention in particular exemplifications, were really working through the whole mass of humanity, if men were not in general honest, marriages in general happy, individuals in general only so far dissatisfied as to be stimulated in their careers, society could not hold together. And if it could hold together it would not be worth improving, and reformers and moralists would be the worst of the whole illusion.

A POET AND A PATRIOT.—Mr. J. Bronterre O'Brien has published an 'Elegy on the Death of Robespierre,' with a modest preface confessing that a few lines are copied literally from the 'Lycidas' of Milton, with "one or two exquisite passages, applicable to the 'situation.'" The first four lines are appropriated, and spoiled; then follows a parody down to "The meed of some melodious tear." Two or three stanzas are interposed, and we then resume "Begin, ye sisters of the sacred well." From "Ye valleys low" fifteen lines are copied, and so forth, no marks being used to indicate which is which, whether it is Milton or O'Brien that sings. This exposure may show to the reliquary band that still clings to the old class of Chartist orators, what are the capacities and what the scruples, of the individuals who pretend to lead them. Not a line in the Elegy, or in the two Odes that accompany it, is readable, except Milton's.

A STUN FARM.—A joint-stock company of a novel character is in course of formation at Newmarket—a company for the breed of horses. It includes some high and aristocratic names among its committee.

Open Council.

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

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

THE ORDER IN AMERICAN DISORDER.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

We Americans are doubtless very grateful for every attempt at a fair appreciation of our institutions made by Europeans, but it is not to be denied that our critics generally exhibit a profound lack of sympathy with what constitutes the distinctively American mind and tendency. Our present America may be called a *purgatorial* world. That is to say, it bears very much the same relation to Europe that the purgatorial world of the Papists bears to nature. For America is really the connecting link or transition point between two very distinct stages of human culture, and unless it be viewed in this light, it is impossible, in my opinion, to formulate any reasonable or commanding doctrine on the subject. America connects the great past evolution of mankind, which has been ecclesiastical and political, with a much grander future evolution, which shall be pre-eminently social. And inasmuch as this past evolution of the human mind has proceeded in a strictly *literal* manner, being based upon the reverence due to certain institutions, so, consequently, the new evolution, which is a spiritual one, being based exclusively upon the reverence which is due to man as man, can hardly fail to bring the most sacred institutions into desuetude, or, what is the same thing, vacate our existing morality.

What Europe has done for man has been to lift him out of barbarism and give him citizenship, or turn him, from a mere puppet and plaything of the gods, into the member of a peaceful and orderly earthly community called the State. The barbaric conception of life, out of which our existing civilization has been gradually wrung, involves a doctrine of God and man, suggestive only of despair for the latter. Man is regarded only as the sport of the gods, while they themselves, instead of being wise and good beings, are, to the last degree, childish and capricious, taking delight in whatever flatters their power, and intolerant of everything like constancy and dignity in human affairs. But even these gods themselves obey a deadlier despotism, for over all the early imagination of the race presides a diabolic doctrine of Fate, a fate which domineers gods and men alike, which laughs at the holiest affections, and lifts one to exalted heights only that it may precipitate him to an utter downfall. Before the coming of Christ the State had no power to emerge from the womb of this gaunt and stifling superstition, because the Church, which alone fathers the State, had hitherto had only a formal or symbolic development, the Jew being as hopelessly superstitious as any of the Gentile nations. The superior historic interest of Greece and Rome, to our imagination, will be found, on analysis, to refer itself to the fact that their growth exhibits a striking decline in the empire of superstition and fanaticism, or argues an approximation towards the scientific conception of the State. Good and wise men in those communities aspired to give stability to human affairs, but their aspirations were fruitless, because, having merely the *personal* conception of God, or being destitute of the *human* conception which was revealed only in the Christ, they did not know how to shape the popular thought into harmony with the rational fact. Indeed, the best minds of that day were bound to run into infidelity, and mere infidelity, as all thoughtful men recognize, furnishes a very treacherous bottom for any permanent engineering. What was wanted was the complete discrimination of religion from superstition, and this took place only in Christianity.

Superstition has been often defined, but its etymology tells the whole story. It is the doctrine of a superfluous or unemployed divine force in the world, of a force which is not entirely worked into the ordinary woof of life, and which is liable therefore to an occasional mischievous determination; for nothing is more essentially mischievous than idle or unemployed force. To the un instructed mind God *superstai*—stands above the world, stands spatially aloof from his creation and sees it spin, giving it now a cuff and now a caress, as it suits his irresponsible pleasure. It is the doctrine of an essential disproportion between the creator and the creature, of such a disproportion as makes it incumbent on the creature to do something more than reflect or image his creator, namely, to flatter him and give him a certain portion of his time and substance. In short, superstition gives us a haunted world, a world haunted by the power which made it, and which, instead of engaging in new enterprises of similar

pith, ever comes back with senile pertinacity, to mend or mar that which has long since passed from under its fingers.

Religion, and by religion I mean Christianity alone, tells a wholly different tale. It is the doctrine of a complete proportion or harmony between God and man, between creator and creature. It denies that there is any superfluous Divine energy in the world, any energy which is not fully engrossed in the work of creation. It denies the temporal and spatial conception of the relation between God and the soul, and affirms that this relation is exclusively spiritual, standing in the intensely human perfection of God on the one side, and the unselfish dispositions which that perfection is sure to generate in the creature, on the other side. In this way Christianity prepared to sop up the Pagan or superstitious conception of God, as an idle and possibly mischievous power, by showing Him intent on developing his creature out of all merely personal or natural ties, up to the highest capacities of the human form, that is, into the love and fellowship of universal man.

That Christianity has so imperfectly manifested her mission as yet has been owing to the fact that she has been obliged to operate by such poor instrumentalities as bishops and priests. These persons have had so powerful a vested interest in maintaining the comparatively worthless *letter* of her authority, that her divine and universal spirit has been completely stifled in their bosoms. Still the practical influence of Christianity in Europe has ever been to secularize the Church, or rather to consecrate the State. Its constant operation has been to take the relation of the soul to God out of the custody of the priest, and make it the exclusive concern of the private conscience. The immense corruption it encountered in the Romish Church seems to have had no other effect than to inflame this tendency or bring it into clearer day. Nothing, accordingly, is more obvious in Protestantism than the ceaseless effort which the State, or secular element, makes to *precipitate* the Church, or vacate it as a *present* power over the life and liberty of the citizen. All its energy goes to dignify the citizen, or to ensure him an irreproachable character and an unchecked career, without the least reference to his ecclesiastical status. No one acquainted with Europe can help seeing that its ecclesiastical life is at its last gasp, and that the living tide of the divine influence tends ever more and more away from it; to the evolving of an earthly state of man which shall be commensurate with his heavenly one, and therefore *instinct with an order of its own*. The popular conscience feels the Church to be wholly dissociated with the religious life of the race. It is admitted to have been an admirable witness of the truth, when the truth itself was rationally latent, but science is now furnishing an embodiment to that truth so infinitely superior as to make the Church look comparatively imbecile and delirious. We treat it in short as we treat the aged and infirm: we leave it to repose undisturbed in the chimney corner, and go about our business from Monday morning to Saturday night, without once remembering its maxims or heeding its complaints.

Yours, &c., H. J.

Paris, August 30th, 1856.

THE CHURCH DIFFICULTIES AT CLERKENWELL.—Fresh difficulties have arisen in the parish of St. James's, Clerkenwell, in reference to the election of a minister for that district. Acting upon the opinion of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, that the right of the parishioners to elect has passed from them to the new vestry, the vestry have claimed the right of nomination, and have announced that they will receive applications from clergymen wishing to become candidates, until Monday next, the 15th inst. The new difficulties which have arisen are in connexion with the appointment to another church in the same district, and which the Bishop of London has formally sequestered. During the incumbency of the Rev. W. E. L. Faulkner, the late minister, St. James's Chapel, Pentonville, was converted into a perpetual curacy, an ecclesiastical district was assigned to it, and the Rev. Dr. Anthony Lefroy Courtenay, chaplain to the Earl of Hardwicke, was appointed to the incumbency. Dr. Courtenay repudiates the sequestration. Sir Fitzroy Kelly having been applied to for an opinion, writes:—"It is clear that the chapel, which seems to be of considerable pecuniary value, has been dealt with in an unauthorized manner, and that the trustees who hold the property in it for the benefit of the parishioners of Clerkenwell, ought to have interposed long ago to check the proceeding said to have been adopted by Dr. Courtenay, and that they ought now to recover that property for the benefit of the body of parishioners whom they represent." Dr. Courtenay intends to resist any interference with his rights, while it is understood that the parishioners generally will apply to the Queen's Bench to restrain the vestry from appointing an incumbent to the parish, inasmuch as they contend that the election ought to be in the hands of the ratepayers.

MADemoiselle JOHANNA WAGNER.—The *Presse*, of Brussels, states that Mademoiselle Johanna Wagner the celebrated singer, was married, on Saturday last, to M. Jochmann, the son of a millionaire of Tilsit.

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 has long seemed to us that the education of mankind would be more effectually accomplished by the establishment in all schools and colleges of a thorough instruction in the principles of Evidence, than by any course of study. We have indeed a Chair of Logic in every college, and Evidence is supposed to form one chapter of Logic. But instead of treating Evidence as one chapter of a course, it should be made the subject of a course of lectures, and carried into minute detail. You cannot teach men how to reason; you cannot endow them with greater ratiocinative power than they have received from nature; but you can instruct them in the principles of Evidence, you can make them alert to the demands made by Evidence, you can teach them not to accept as Evidence facts and statements which have no validity. No one even superficially acquainted with science, philosophy, history, or political economy, will deny that the errors which incessantly arise on these subjects are less frequently traceable to imperfect reasoning than to imperfect data; and in any vexed question we are sure to find the disputants disagreeing because they cannot satisfactorily settle for themselves what is Evidence and what is not.

We must not write an essay here; indeed no space at our disposal would suffice; but we will take two illustrations offered by the literature of the week, to show how this neglect of a proper appreciation of Evidence opens the door to absurdity. Our first illustration is a pamphlet which has been sent to us bearing this title:—

"WAS LORD BACON THE AUTHOR OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS?"

The pamphlet is printed for "private circulation only," yet, inasmuch as it has been forwarded to this journal, we presume the author means us to give it publicity. As a compromise we respect the author's desire of privacy, and suppress his name. We do not notice the pamphlet from any belief that it will convince a single human being, but simply from a desire to show the sort of Evidence which can satisfy a man of culture and talent, like the author; in that respect it is worthy of attention.

The doubt respecting SHAKESPEARE'S authorship is by no means novel, although it is no more justified than would be the doubt whether DRYDEN wrote *Abolom and Achitopel*, or BYRON *Childe Harold*. It is true we know little of SHAKESPEARE'S life, but we have Evidence, as satisfactory as Evidence of this kind can be, respecting his authorship. We have the Evidence of his contemporaries, friends, and rivals, and of his editors, fellow actors, who knew his dramatic ability, and knew his handwriting. If BEN JONSON and HEMMINGES and CONDELL could be so imposed upon, that the one should believe him capable of writing the works to which he only lent his name, as a screen, and the others should believe that the handwriting from which they printed was his, it being BACON'S all the while, there is a chance for some future critic to discover that MACAULAY wrote the *Pickwick Papers*, and that BRADBURY and EVANS were dupes when they believed in the handwriting of DICKENS.

It is quite possible that SHAKESPEARE was merely the ostensible author; but we require some evidence to make that possibility a probability. The writer of the pamphlet under notice thinks he has such evidence. He sketches briefly the facts of SHAKESPEARE'S history:—

Such being the circumstances connected with the parentage of William Shakspeare, the information we possess respecting his early years is even more scanty. There is neither record nor rumour of his having exhibited any precocity of talent. It is only known that, at the age of eighteen, he contracted or was inveigled into a marriage with a woman eight years older than himself; and it is believed that, somewhere about the time at which his father was deprived of his alderman's gown, he left his wife and family at Stratford-upon-Avon, and went to seek his fortune in the metropolis.

Now, up to the time of Shakspeare's arrival in London, there is no suggestion or tradition of his having manifested any superior attainments. The hypothesis connecting him with the stage is, that he may have formed an acquaintance, at Stratford, with Burbidge's company, during their visits to that town, and, being unable to procure a livelihood in his native town, have been encouraged in the desperate resolution of going to London by the hope of employment by him.

The absence of rumours and traditions (which by the way is more than questionable) is considered as evidence of SHAKESPEARE'S having no remarkable talent, and that, too, in the face of the direct evidence of BEN JONSON'S intense appreciation of his talent! The writer further says:—

From these varied circumstances it would appear that William Shakspeare was essentially the man of business of the theatre; that to him was entrusted providing the wardrobe, properties, and plays; and that in negotiating for the purchase of any or all of these matters, he exhibited that shrewdness, skill, caution, and sagacity which distinguished him in every transaction of his life, and from the exercise of which the company he was connected with derived no small benefit, whilst he, in forwarding their interests, was by no means unmindful of his own.

Seeing, then, that William Shakspeare was a man of limited education, careless of fame, intent upon money-getting, and actively engaged in the management of a theatre, are we, from the simple circumstance of his name being associated with these plays, to believe, at once, that he was the author of them?

No, not from the "simple circumstance of his name being associated with the plays," but from quite other circumstances. But having satisfied himself that SHAKESPEARE did not write the plays, this writer is at no difficulty in proving that BACON was their author;—

The history of Bacon is just such as we should have drawn of Shakspeare, if we had been required to depict him from the internal evidence of his works.

His daily walk, letters, and conversation, constitute the beau ideal of such a man as we might suppose the author of these plays to have been, and the very absence, in those letters, of all allusion to Shakspeare's plays, is some, though slight, corroboration of his connexion with them.

Now we venture to say that had this ingenious gentleman been early instructed in the nature and principles of Evidence, he would never have wasted his time and ingenuity in such an investigation as this; and still less would the many cultivated and intelligent persons who have been so deplorably duped by Spirit Rappers and Mediums, have permitted themselves to draw philosophical and religious deductions from the 'facts' furnished by Turning Tables and Writing Mediums. Our second illustration is suggested by an article of great independence and ability in the *Revue de Paris* on the "Mystical School," à propos of a French translation of the work of GOERRES. From this article, we learn that Spirit Rapping was eagerly accepted by one portion of the French clergy as an additional argument in favour of the truth of supernatural agencies in general, and of miracles in particular. But when Spirit Rapping and Table Turning were experimentally proved to be delusions or impositions, a great blow was given to the whole doctrine of supernatural agency, in as far as it relied upon human testimony; since, if the testimony of hundreds of honourable and educated men could thus be proved to have no value whatever, it became clear that the reliance on historical testimony in support of miracles must also cease to coerce the convictions of men. Nay, so clearly was this seen, that a well-known writer of the Evangelical school, the Count AGENOR DE GASPARIN, published a book to show that with respect to supernatural things human testimony was radically incompetent. The Bible carried its own evidence. All the bulwark of historical testimony was thrown down. Curiously enough this book was accepted by the whole party! But we have not to deal with that question here, our purpose is to point out the wretched want of philosophical culture, in the direction of Evidence, which the whole dispute implies.

The subject of philosophic culture naturally leads us to Professor FERRIER'S pamphlet, *Scottish Philosophy the Old and the New*, in which with great spirit he defends himself against his adversaries. Taking for his motto a passage in SOPHOCLES (which we may render "If you think my doctrines madness, I will not suffer you to think me mad"), he complains of having been shut out from the Edinburgh Chair because his doctrines were novel. We have throughout abstained from interfering in this question, but we must call attention to Professor FERRIER'S explanations.

EMERSON ON ENGLAND.

English Traits. By R. W. Emerson.

G. Routledge and Co.

EMERSON has twice visited England, at intervals of fourteen years, and he has allowed the classic nine years to elapse before publishing the reflections suggested by his last visit. It is evident, then, that in *English Traits* we have the matured results of a matured and original mind reflecting on the aspects of English Life which came under its observation; and if these results sometimes appear incomplete, sometimes too complimentary, and sometimes not sufficiently appreciating, every serious reader will make allowances for the difficulty, if not impossibility, of adequately describing phenomena so complex as those of national life. Certain we are that only the incorrigible coxcombs will treat this work with disrespect. Small reviewers may 'patronize' a man like Emerson, may ridicule him, and 'set him right.' But the serious minds of England will, while differing from him, recognize in him a man of great culture, of essential veracity, of original power, and of noble, simple nature. Those—and we are of the number—who object strongly to much both of manner and matter in his former works, will find nothing obscure or fantastical in *English Traits*. They may differ from his judgments, but at any rate they will have no hesitation as to his meaning. They may think he paints England and the English too much *en beau*, but they will admit that he really sees the prominent characteristics. Many wise and excellent observations are scattered through these pages, but their great attraction is the glimpse they give us of the man himself. It is interesting to watch this meditative solitary American contemplating the gigantic organism of English life with calm yet curious eye, not satirical, not polemical, having no party to flatter, no cause to uphold, no theory to support. As we want all our space for extracts, we shall content ourselves with this brief indication of the quality of the work.

It opens with sketches of Landor, Coleridge, Carlyle, and Wordsworth, as they presented themselves to the young American in 1833. These sketches are very graphic, done with a few touches:—

LANDOR.

Greenough brought me, through a common friend, an invitation from Mr. Landor, who lived at San Domenico di Fiesole. On the 15th May I dined with Mr. Landor. I found him noble and courteous, living in a cloud of pictures at his Villa Gherardesca, a fine house commanding a beautiful landscape. I had inferred from his books, or magnified from some anecdotes, an impression of Achillean wrath—an untamable petulance. I do not know whether the imputation were just or not, but certainly on this May day his courtesy veiled that haughty mind, and he was the most patient and gentle of hosts. He praised the beautiful cyclamen which grows all about Florence; he admired Washington; talked of Wordsworth, Byron, Massinger, Beaumont, and Fletcher. To be sure, he is decided in his opinions, likes to surprise, and is well content to impress, if possible, his English whim upon the immutable past. No great man ever had a great son, if Philip and Alexander be not an exception; and Philip he calls the greater man. In art, he loves the Greeks, and in sculpture, them only. He prefers the Venus to everything else, and, after that, the head of Alexander, in the gallery here. He prefers John of Bologna to Michael Angelo; in painting, Raffaele; and shares the growing taste for Perugino and the early masters. The Greek histories he thought the only good; and after them Voltaire's. I could not make him praise Mackintosh, nor my more recent friends; Montaigne very cordially.

—and Charron also, which seemed indiscriminating. He thought Degerando indebted to 'Lucas on Happiness' and 'Lucas on Holiness'! He pestered me with Southey; but who is Southey?

He invited me to breakfast on Friday. On Friday I did not fail to go, and this time with Greenough. He entertained us at once with reciting half a dozen hexameter lines of Julius Cæsar's!—from Donatus, he said. He glorified Lord Chesterfield more than was necessary, and undervalued Burke, and undervalued Socrates; designated as three of the greatest of men, Washington, Phocion, and Timoleon; much as our pomologists, in their lists, select the three or the six best pears 'for a small orchard'; and did not even omit to remark the similar termination of their names. "A great man," he said, "should make great sacrifices, and kill his hundred oxen, without knowing whether they would be consumed by gods and heroes, or whether the flies would eat them." I had visited Professor Amici, who had shown me his microscopes, magnifying (it was said) two thousand diameters; and I spoke of the uses to which they were applied. Lander despised entomology, yet, in the same breath, said, "The sublime was in a grain of dust." I suppose I teased him about recent writers, but he professed never to have heard of Herschel, *not even by name*. One room was full of pictures, which he likes to show, especially one piece, standing before which, he said "he would give fifty guineas to the man that would swear it was a Domenichino." I was more curious to see his library, but Mr. H—, one of the guests, told me that Mr. Lander gives away his books, and has never more than a dozen at a time in his house.

Mr. Lander carries to its height the love of freak which the English delight to indulge, as if to signalize their commanding freedom. He has a wonderful brain, despotic, violent, and inexhaustible, meant for a soldier, by what chance converted to letters, in which there is not a style nor a tint not known to him, yet with an English appetite for action and herbes.

COLERIDGE.

From London, on the 5th August, I went to Highgate, and wrote a note to Mr. Coleridge, requesting leave to pay my respects to him. It was near noon. Mr. Coleridge sent a verbal message that he was in bed, but if I would call after one o'clock, he would see me. I returned at one, and he appeared, a short, thick old man, with bright blue eyes and fine clear complexion, leaning on his cane. He took snuff freely, which presently soiled his cravat and neat black suit. He asked whether I knew Allston, and spoke warmly of his merits and doings when he knew him in Rome; what a master of the Titianesque he was, &c., &c. He spoke of Dr. Channing. It was an unspeakable misfortune that he should have turned out a Unitarian after all. On this, he burst into a declamation on the folly and ignorance of Unitarianism—its high unreasonableness; and taking up Bishop Waterland's book, which lay on the table, he read with vehemence two or three pages written by himself on the fly-leaves—passages, too, which, I believe, are printed in the 'Aids to Reflection.' When he stopped to take breath, I interposed, that, "whilst I highly valued all his explanations, I was bound to tell him that I was born and bred a Unitarian." "Yes," he said, "I supposed so;" and continued as before. "It was a wonder, that after so many ages of unquestioning acquiescence in the doctrine of St. Paul,—the doctrine of the Trinity, which was also, according to Philo Judæus, the doctrine of the Jews before Christ,—this handful of Priestleians should take on themselves to deny it, &c., &c. He was very sorry that Dr. Channing, a man to whom he looked up—no, to say that he looked up to him would be to speak falsely, but a man whom he looked at—with so much interest, should embrace such views. When he saw Dr. Channing, he had hinted to him that he was afraid he loved Christianity for what was lovely and excellent—he loved the good in it, and not the true; and I tell you, sir, that I have known ten persons who loved the good for one person who loved the true; but it is a far greater virtue to love the true for itself alone, than to love the good for itself alone. He (Coleridge) knew all about Unitarianism perfectly well, because he had once been a Unitarian, and knew what quackery it was. He had been called 'the rising star of Unitarianism.' He went on defining, or rather refining: "The Trinitarian doctrine was Realism; the idea of God was not essential, but superessential;" talked of *trinitism* and *tetraktism*, and much more, of which I only caught this, "that the will was that by which a person is a person; because, if one should push me in the street, and so I should force the man next me into the kennel, I should at once exclaim, 'I did not do it, sir,' meaning it was not my will." And this also, "that if you should insist on your faith here in England, and I on mine, mine would be the hotter side of the fagot."

I took advantage of a pause to say, that he had many readers of all religious opinions in America, and I proceeded to inquire if the 'extract' from the Independent's pamphlet, in the third volume of the "Friend," were a veritable quotation. He replied, that it was really taken from a pamphlet in his possession, entitled, 'A Protest of one of the Independents,' or something to that effect. I told him how excellent I thought it, and how much I wished to see the entire work. "Yes," he said, "the man was a chaos of truths, but lacked the knowledge that God was a God of order. Yet the passage would no doubt strike you more in the quotation than in the original, for I have filtered it."

When I rose to go, he said, "I do not know whether you care about poetry, but I will repeat some verses I lately made on my baptismal anniversary," and he recited with strong emphasis, standing, ten or twelve lines, beginning

"Born unto God in Christ —"

I was in his company for about an hour, but find it impossible to recal the largest part of his discourse, which was often like so many printed paragraphs in his book—perhaps the same—so readily did he fall into certain commonplaces. As I might have foreseen, the visit was rather a spectacle than a conversation, of no use beyond the satisfaction of my curiosity. He was old and preoccupied, and could not bend to a new companion and think with him.

This portrait, or sketch, of Coleridge, is unlike those most familiar to us; but it is a photograph of the man in one aspect. How familiar is the sketch we have of the great Carlyle, in his farm of Craigenputtock:—

CARLYLE.

It was a farm in Nithsdale, in the parish of Dunscore, sixteen miles distant. No public coach passed near it, so I took a private carriage from the inn. I found the house amid desolate heathery hills, where the lonely scholar nourished his mighty heart. Carlyle was a man from his youth, an author who did not need to hide from his readers, and as absolute a man of the world, unknown, and exiled on that hill farm, as if holding on his own terms what is best in London. He was tall and gaunt, with a cliff-like brow, self-possessed, and holding his extraordinary powers of conversation in easy command; clinging to his northern accent with evident relish; full of lively anecdote, and with a streaming humour, which floated everything he looked upon. His talk playfully exalting the familiar objects, put the companion at once into an acquaintance with his Lars and Lemurs, and it was very pleasant to learn what was predestined to be a pretty mythology. Few were the objects and lonely the man, "not a person to speak to within sixteen miles except the minister of Dunscore;" so that books inevitably made his topics.

He had names of his own for all the matters familiar to his discourse. 'Black-

wood's' was the "sand magazine;" 'Fraser's' nearer approach to possibility of life was the "mud magazine;" a piece of road near by that marked some failed enterprise was the "grave of the last sixpence." When too much praise of any genius annoyed him, he professed hugely to admire the talent shown by his pig. He had spent much time and contrivance in confining the poor beast to one enclosure in his pen, but pig, by great strokes of judgment, had found out how to let a board down, and had foiled him. For all that, he still thought man the most plastic little fellow in the planet, and he liked Nero's death, "*Qualis artifex pereo!*" better than most history. He worships a man that will manifest any truth to him. At one time he had inquired and read a good deal about America. Lander's principle was mere rebellion, and that he feared was the American principle. The best thing he knew of that country was, that in it a man can have meat for his labour. He had read in Stewart's book, that when he inquired in a New York hotel for the Boots, he had been shown across the street, and had found Mungo in his own house dining on roast turkey.

We talked of books. Plato he does not read, and he disparaged Socrates; and when pressed, persisted in making Mirabeau a hero. Gibbon he called the splendid bridge from the old world to the new. His own reading had been multifarious. 'Tristram Shandy,' was one of his first books after 'Robinson Crusoe,' and Robertson's 'America,' an early favourite. Rousseau's 'Confessions' had discovered to him that he was not a dunce; and it was now ten years since he had learned German, by the advice of a man who told him he would find in that language what he wanted.

He took despairing or satirical views of literature at this moment; recounted the incredible sums paid in one year by the great booksellers for puffing. Hence it comes that no newspaper is trusted now, no books are bought, and the booksellers are on the eve of bankruptcy.

Hestill returned to English pauperism, the crowded country, the selfish abdication by public men of all that public persons should perform. "Government should direct poor men what to do. Poor Irish folk come wandering over these moors. My dame makes it a rule to give to every son of Adam bread to eat, and supplies his wants to the next house. But here are thousands of acres which might give them all meat, and nobody to bid these poor Irish go to the moor and till it. They burned the stacks, and so found a way to force the rich people to attend to them."

We went out to walk over long hills, and looked at Criffel, then without his cap, and down into Wordsworth's country. There we sat down and talked of the immortality of the soul. It was not Carlyle's fault that we talked on that topic, for he had the natural disinclination of every nimble spirit to bruise itself against walls, and did not like to place himself where no step can be taken. But he was honest and true, and cognizant of the subtle links that bind ages together, and saw how every event affects all the future. "Christ died on the tree; that built Dunscore kirk yonder; that brought you and me together. Time has only a relative existence."

There is another glimpse of Carlyle in the visit to Stonehenge, and as of all living Englishmen Carlyle has the most impressed himself upon the minds of his age, influencing even those who are diametrically opposed to him, we may be sure these little personal glimpses will be sought with great interest. Speaking of our earnestness, Emerson says:—

They have a horror of adventurers in or out of Parliament. The ruling passion of Englishmen in these days is a terror of humbug. In the same proportion they value honesty, stoutness, and adherence to your own. They like a man committed to his objects. They hate the French, as frivolous; they hate the Irish, as aimless; they hate the Germans, as professors. In February, 1848, they said, Look, the French king and his party fell for want of a shot; they had not conscience to shoot, so entirely was the pith and heart of monarchy eaten out.

They attack their own politicians every day, on the same grounds as adventurers. They love stoutness in standing for your right, in declining money or promotion that costs any concession. The barrister refuses the silk gown of Queen's Counsel, if his junior have it one day earlier. Lord Collingwood would not accept his medal for victory on the 14th February, 1797, if he did not receive one for victory on 1st June, 1794; and the long withheld medal was accorded. When Castlereagh dissuaded Lord Wellington from going to the king's levee, until the unpopular Cintra business had been explained, he replied, "You furnish me a reason for going. I will go to this, or I will never go to a king's levee." The radical mob at Oxford cried after the Tory Lord Eldon, "There's old Eldon; cheer him; he never rattled." They have given the parliamentary nickname of *Trimmers* to the timeservers, whom English character does not love.

And he adds this note:—

It is an unlucky moment to remember these sparkles of solitary virtue in the face of the honours lately paid in England to the Emperor Louis Napoleon. I am sure that no Englishman whom I had the happiness to know consented, when the aristocracy and the commons of London cringed like a Neapolitan rabble before a successful thief. But—how to resist one step, though odious, in a linked series of state necessities? Governments must always learn too late, that the use of dishonest agents is as ruinous for nations as for single men.

Of our constitutional melancholy, or our reputation for melancholy, he says:—

I suppose, their gravity of demeanour and their few words have obtained this reputation. As compared with the Americans, I think them cheerful and contented. Young people, in this country, are much more prone to melancholy. The English have a mild aspect, and a ringing, cheerful voice. They are large-natured, and not so easily amused as the southerners, and are among them as grown people among children, requiring war, or trade, or engineering, or science, instead of frivolous games. They are proud and private, and even if disposed to recreation, will avoid an open garden. They sported sadly; *ils s'amusaient tristement, selon la coutume de leur pays*, said Froissart; and, I suppose, never nation built their party-walls so thick, or their garden-fences so high. Meat and wine produce no effect on them: they are just as cold, quiet, and composed at the end as at the beginning of dinner.

The reputation of taciturnity they have enjoyed for six or seven hundred years; and a kind of pride in bad public speaking is noted in the House of Commons, as if they were willing to show that they did not live by their tongues, or thought they spoke well enough if they had the tone of gentlemen.

The only chapter which can be called satirical is the one on Religion, and it is difficult indeed to speak of religion in England without ridicule or indignation:—

The curates are ill-paid, and the prelates are overpaid. This abuse draws into the Church the children of the nobility, and other unfit persons, who have a taste for expense. Thus a bishop is only a supplied merchant. Through his lawn I can see the bright buttons of the shopman's coat glitter. A wealth like that of Durham makes almost a premium on felony. Brougham, in a speech in the House of Commons on the Irish elective franchise, said, "How will the reverend bishops of the other house be able to express their due abhorrence of the crime of perjury, who solemnly declare

in the presence of God, that when they are called upon to accept a living, perhaps of 4000l. a year, at that very instant they are moved by the Holy Ghost to accept the office and administration thereof, and for no other reason whatever? The modes of initiation are more damaging than custom-house oaths. The bishop is elected by the dean and prebends of the cathedral. The Queen sends these gentlemen a *congé d'élire*, or leave to elect; but also sends them the name of the person whom they are to elect. They go into the cathedral, chant and pray, and beseech the Holy Ghost to assist them in their choice; and, after these invocations, invariably find that the dictates of the Holy Ghost agree with the recommendations of the Queen.

The following is worthy of Sydney Smith:—

The Church at this moment is much to be pitied. She has nothing left but possession. If a bishop meets an intelligent gentleman, and reads fatal interrogations in his eyes, he has no resource but to take wine with him. False position introduces cant, perjury, simony, and ever a lower class of mind and character into the clergy: and, when the hierarchy is afraid of science and education, afraid of piety, afraid of tradition, and afraid of theology, there is nothing left but to quit a Church which is no longer one.

THE SKETCHER.

The Sketcher. By the Rev. John Eagles.

Blackwood and Sons.

ALTHOUGH the *Sketcher* appeared as a series of papers in *Blackwood's Magazine*, and may therefore be presumed to have some element of popularity in it, we suspect that only a peculiar public will appreciate it: a public interested in landscape and elegant literature, which is a much smaller public than it pretends to be. Mr. Eagles was a man of elegant culture, an artist, and something of a poet; but he was a mild writer, correct rather than fascinating, judicious rather than impressive. We found his book one which could be laid down without any regret, and left unread without much impatience; yet while reading it we felt as if a mild and pleasant gentleman were discoursing to us on subjects agreeable and suggestive, to which we listened with admiration, but from which our attention was easily withdrawn.

The part of the book which pleased us most is that which he has devoted to Poussin, probably because we share to a great extent his admiration of that painter:—

Who ever better understood the placid stream, the deep tarn, or mountain river, in its life and motion, from the first gushing, through all its course and rests? So his figures are all disengaged and free—are beings of leisure. They are of robust growth, natural vigour of limb and understanding, of a race sprung from the very woods and rocks, untamed and untamable to slave toil; no artificial elegance—the very reverse of the smirking, piping, cocked hat, and flowered shepherds of French crockery (how the artist must have detested them!) but all of the simple elegance of pastoral freedom and leisure, a part with and influenced by the whole scenery—not as if they commanded it, or could command it, or would twist aside the streams, or cut a twig in all their land. Even the peculiarity of undress is entirely appropriate. It makes them of the pastoral age, and such as never can belong to any other. Like their fraternal trees, they are not ashamed to show their rind. They live in no dressed paradise; all that is of the formal cast, as belonging to another beauty, that poetical painter rejects. All his pictures are, therefore, a just whole. Though he saw the beauty, as one who could be insensible to it, of the solemn cypress and pine, he would not overawe the simple youth and freedom of his foliage by their forbidding dictatorial cast. And it is remarkable that all his trees are in, or rather under than past, their vigorous growth. They are of youth and freshness, like the fabled indwelling wood-Nymph and Faun that never grow old. Scarce any have attained the girt of timber to invite the axe, that the most avaricious eye shall never calculate their top and lop. They have the life of pastoral poetry in themselves, and are therefore eternal in undying youth and vigour. And to make this his natural ideal perfect, nothing is introduced to disturb this serene life, unless, indeed, he paints a storm, and then, who ever tossed his foliage about like him, as if he were familiar with the winds, and knew all their ways, and played with and limited their power?—for you still see that there is but an occasional irruption of violence that will pass, to uproot and tear away perhaps some discordant objects, and that gentle Peace had but retired to the shelter of the shepherd's homes, and would again soon walk forth in uninjured beauty. But in the whole landscape, no too rugged form, and no awful sublimity, is introduced, to mar, as it may be termed, the natural ideal. Accessibility is a striking character in all his compositions. There is not a height or a depth unapproachable; and this accessibility is marked throughout, or carefully indicated, by path, or road, or building, or figure. The whole terrene is for the inhabitants, and the inhabitants for the terrene, and all are free "to wander where they will." The accessibility is perfect, and it is of a home character, for all the lines tend into the scene, none out. The paths entice you within, where you may eat of the lotus, and never dream of departure.

Very ingenious also is his analysis of Poussin's method of composition. But the *Sketcher* by no means confines himself to pictures; he breaks out occasionally into verse (which, to confess the truth, we skipped after the first specimen) and varies his themes by criticisms of the poets. Altogether the *Sketcher* is a composite affair, better suited to the pages of a Magazine than to the demands made by a book.

At page 70, Mr. Eagles opposes the now universally admitted opinion that the ancients cared little for landscape, and those who have read Mr. Ruskin's eloquent and convincing pages on this subject will be curious perhaps to see what can be said on the other side:—

It has been said that the ancients had no great notion or admiration of landscape;—as a painter's art, perhaps not; but Horace was not the only one who thought "flumina amem sylvasque inglorias." It is true, they give you no very elaborate descriptions; and I doubt whether any elaborated descriptions, not excepting our Mrs. Radcliffe's ever give them quite successfully. But they often paint in a word, and awaken to the eye more than meets the ear. There is a vast range for the sketcher over Homer's *οὐρεα σκιόεντα*—"the shadowing mountains, and resounding sea," are a boundary within which are noble and exquisite pictures. The *Odyssey* is delightful to the landscape painter. And who will be bold enough to try his hand at the gardens of Alcibiades? Then, what magnificent lion-hunts and marine pieces, with the steam-vessels that knew all ports, and went self-directed, "covered with vapour and cloud!" Ulysses throwing the magic safety-girdle behind him into the sea, and a thousand other admirable subjects.

This is saying nothing while pretending to settle the matter. It is not only because the ancients "give you no very elaborate descriptions" but because they exhibit no feeling for landscape, that critics maintain their inferiority in this respect. Had they admired landscape as much as Mrs. Radcliffe, they would have described it as elaborately. As to their painting

in a word more than meets the ear, that entirely depends upon the eye which sees it. Mr. Eagles chooses Homer's *οὐρεα σκιόεντα* as a specimen; and says it offers "a vast range for the sketcher." Truly, but the sketcher must bring his own landscape! If "shadowy mountains" is suggestive to the sketcher, it can only be because his mind is already full of pictures; Homer paints none. Let us consider for a moment the passage in which Homer employs the phrase, which because it happens to occur in a sounding line has become memorable, and to us moderns seems pictorial. Achilles is complaining of his treatment, regrets having left his own country to come and fight against the Trojans, who never did him any harm, never drove his cattle off his meadows, for the excellent reason that the Trojans were separated from him by "shadowy mountains, and a roaring sea." Achilles is not intending to be poetical; he states a prosaic fact; the more shadowy or wooded the mountains, the greater the obstacle they presented. If we, in reading Homer, forget the obstacle, and think only of the picturesque mountains, we must not credit Homer with our sensibilities, and suppose he meant what we interpret.

While touching on Homer, we may quote what the *Sketcher* says about Cowper's translation of a passage:—

Pictor. Rising smoke is always delightful—it is associated with home; and we would place a home wherever we see beauty. We say to ourselves—"Here would I live;" and in this place the proprietor and architect have but embodied the mind's sketch and desire. It is the picture ever present to the mind's eye of Ulysses. When heart-sick in despair of not seeing it, he would die.

"Ulysses—happy, might he but behold
The smoke ascending from his native land—
Death covets."

Sketcher. You quote from Cowper—he has lost the feeling and the picture of the passage. Homer does not say happy would he be, as if it were the reflection of the author, but that Ulysses, ardently longing to see the smoke, &c., desires death. It is the feeling of Ulysses that Homer intended to show. Then the picture—"the smoke ascending," is feeble in motion. In Homer the smoke itself would be seen to rise, and with a life and animation springs up, leaps up from his native land—*καπνὸν ἀνέθροσκοντα*. Ovid is as feeble in his imitation—

"Optat
Fumum de patriis posse videre focis."

To see the smoke is imperfect, the Greek alone is complete. When Ulysses first discovers the abode of Circe, it is likewise by the smoke; but Homer does not on that occasion use the same sentient word, it was rising, and indeed gracefully waving, *δίσσονται*, but not leaping up to be seen—there is not that life and desire in it that Homer engenders. He wished that the very smoke of home should have a sentient life, and spring up to welcome the master of the hearth. And why may not this be Circe's habitation? the passage illustrates the position as well as the incident. Ulysses had ascended a rock, and hence saw the smoke arising. It is an abode fit for an enchantress—beautiful, well built, and the scene appropriate to magic arts in the depths—a place deep in among the windings of such a valley as this—*ἐν βύσσῳ*, and in just such a clear spot, thus surrounded, as if words of magic power had bade the woods recede, and make a place for the magician's dwelling, it is *περίσκηπτος ἐν χαρῶ* "in a look-round place,"—recollect it is in the midst of the depths, so that if you had not that word *περίσκηπτος*, the position would be well marked; yet in spite of this does Cowper, who, like other prospect lovers, thought perhaps there must be a distinct view, ventured to mistranslate the passage thus:—

"We went
Through yonder oaks! embosom'd in a vale,
But built conspicuous on a swelling knoll,
With polish'd rock, we found a stately dome."

Not a word about a "swelling knoll" in the original; but Cowper thought there could not be any looking about or around without it, and gives that meaning to *περίσκηπτος*. He adopts Clarke's translation, "Conspicuous in loco," and by way of adding something of his own to match it, hits upon the "swelling knoll." It is too suburban.

THE RELIGIOUS WARS OF FRANCE.

Guerres de Religion. By J. Michelet.

Paris: Chamerot.

So many histories of St. Bartholomew have been written that a new history has become essential. M. Michelet's, the newest, and one of the best, ought not to close the series. It is a richly-illustrated essay, a critical argument flashing with light and colour, rapid and searching, yet more suggestive than satisfactory. When the historian ceases, when he has presented, with caputular inscriptions, twenty-six tragic or romantic tableaux, crowded with sixteenth-century life, bold, and abundantly artistic, it is felt that the narrative is imperfect, episodic, abrupt. Some of the connecting links have been lost; events and men have been too dramatically grouped to allow the entire imposing procession to move across the stage. But M. Michelet has broken up a mass of ecclesiastical chronicle that had long passed for history, in and out of France. In his volumes on the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Religious Wars of the seventeenth century, there is a broad debatable ground, for as a writer he is too personal, too authoritative, too much addicted to surprise and paradox, not to draw on many an attack; but this may be said,—that he obliterates a multitude of chimerical traditions that once held possession of the Church and the Academy. Were it not that civil history is so perversely separated from religious history, he might even dethrone some of the doctors of the critical Sorbonne; but it must be a keen knife, in a good light, which will pierce through that integument. However, M. Michelet writes for those who will read, and it is possible that the students of De Caefigine and De Falloux—now known to fame as the Père Lorrquet of our generation—may receive a purer inspiration from writers who believe neither in the virtues of Catherine de Medici, nor in the vices of De Coligny, in the terrors of the Reformation, nor in the beneficence of St. Bartholomew. In relation to those topics, a number of loose errors are afloat, such as those which M. Eugène Despoix has so effectively characterized. These not being the days, he says, when Freret would be committed to the Bastille for insinuating that the Franks were not descended from Francus, grandson of Hector, it is permissible to write historical truth. M. Despoix knows, of course, as well as we, that historical

truth may not be spoken in coffee-houses, or published, except in volumes; but a book has an advantage over a newspaper, and is difficult to suppress. We cannot send MM. de Montalembert or De Tocqueville to Cayenne; we must even allow M. Michelet to write criticisms that blister the Church, and to deny the vandalism imputed to the Reformation. Chronology is one of the few things exempt from a government prosecution. The annalists of the Crozier have made large use of an argument very effective in our times. The Huguenot spirit, they say, was jealous of art, insensible to beauty; it mutilated the cathedrals, defaced the cartoons, discouraged the sculptor. But it did not. One of its earliest institutes prohibited the breaking of idols and crosses; for, its austere moralists added, "We have idols in our hearts; let us destroy them." Who was it that offered to be shot, provided he might first hammer to pieces an exquisite marble image? One of Condé's own soldiers. Who were they that smote into fragments every object of art that could be discovered in the Palatinate? The troops of Louis the Fourteenth. The Reformation, observes M. Despoix, may have been a war against art; but the three artists of the period, Jean Goujon, Bernard de Palissy, and Goudimel, were Calvinists nevertheless!

Moreover, as M. Michelet characteristically suggests, men are worth more than statues. It would have been better to mutilate an Apollo than to murder Coligny; there are crimes against nature worse than crimes against art, worse than a Puritan blow at a Grotto, or even a profanation of the Venus of Milo. But when Rohrbacher, who writes in Pastorals—Catholic, not Arcadian—attributes all the crimes of the epoch to the Huguenots, whom he compares to "a sect of stranglers," what is the use of quoting the infamous argument of Gabriel Naudé in favour of public massacres, the assassination of Coligny by a Guise, and of the Guise princes by Henry III., or the names of Clement, Châtel, or Ravallac, or the murder of Escovedo, or the reward of Gerard—the stigma of Philip II., or the fate of D'Ancre, Wallenstein, or Monaldeschi? M. Michelet has a wiser method. He paints the portraits of Coligny and of Montmorency—Brantôme's—who never failed to say his prayers in the morning; but, while he muttered paternosters, kept saying, "Go, seize such a one; hang this fellow on a tree; run them through pikes, presently, or, stay, shoot them before my face; cut to pieces all those scoundrels who have been raising a cry against the king; burn this village; come, let me have a good fire for a mile or two." "This most Christian nobleman," according to Brantôme's confession, was a Jeffreys in the service of the Church. When a male prisoner was brought before him he was accustomed to say, "You are a Huguenot, my friend; I recommend you to M. Babelot"—a shoemaker turned hangman. Any young and beautiful woman he handed over to his servants, from whom she suffered a punishment which the count found much amusement in describing at dinner to his familiars. When Brantôme testifies to the acts of his "good friends," and Montluc to his own, what has M. de Falloux to say?

The truth is, that the history of the French Religious Wars has been as much falsified as the history of the French Revolution, which is our reason for saying that a new history is essential. Another class of error is associated with another class of apology. The Church, adopting the ideas of 1789 and 1839, has found it convenient, at times, to flatter the Revolutionists, by finding them a Huguenot ancestry. What were the innovators reviled by Bossuet as demagogues but an order of incorrigible aristocrats? What were the followers of Coligny but traitors—historical accomplices of the Coburgs and the Pitts, inviting English armies into France, and only suppressed by a committee of public safety, composed of the Guises, the League, Richelieu, and Louis XIV.? These frivolous suggestions have duped many a writer led away by the love of parallel and analogy. It is forgotten that French Protestantism did not recruit itself from the ranks of the nobility. Its first martyr was a shoemaker, the second a silk-winder. The heretics burnt in Paris were generally artisans. The list for 1534 begins and ends with a shoemaker; it does not include the name of one "gentleman!" The list for 1562 is entirely made up of workmen and petty shopkeepers. As De Capefigue admits, Catherine de Medicis knew how, with her troops of beautiful girls, to conquer the religious zeal of her aristocracy: "she could soften a heart of bronze by the touch of a rose."

Pictures of this character abound, indeed, in the narrative recited by M. Michelet. There are infinite contrasts—the scenes of a gay decameron, and the scenes of the blackest tragedy; the exquisite levities of Diana of Poitiers, and the murders of Tournai; the blue and gold salons of Anet, and the cells of the Inquisition, Goujon's marble Grace, and the form of the burning martyr; the marriage of Navarre, and the slaughter of Paris. Sometimes the light is that in which beautiful faces grow pale at Fontainebleau, sometimes that which tints the corn in the field. Indeed, M. Michelet resumes his master-work—the History of France in the Sixteenth Century—at the court of Diana, the wanton of the Rhone, whose beauty, attested by many a medallion and statue, he describes with diffuse elaboration. She had a delicate nose, a broad forehead, with the hair rolled away on both sides, large, wandering blue eyes, and she knew how to cherish her beauty.

A sort of myth grew around her; the false chivalry of the times was easily attracted to adore this goddess who possessed the art of blushing like a girl, or of returning the gaze of an artist, like a model, as she pleased. Says M. Michelet, "when we look on her portrait at Cluny, its coldness startles us." But at Anet she smiled as Armida. Her beauty, nevertheless, did not suffice for the personal government of Henry II. When she could not engage him in romance she engaged him in architecture; when she could not interest him into architecture, she seduced him into war. According to M. Michelet, who is, however, an historian that needs to be followed by a critic, her influence decided the king in 1555 to make war. France, he says, was then the sport of caprice, ruled without policy or resolution. Two treaties, of the most contradictory nature, were made in direct succession—a treaty for a war against the emperor in 1555, negotiated by the Guises, a treaty for peace with the emperor in 1556, negotiated by the Constable. What were the influences working on these two occasions? "That which, as I believe, determined the king, in the first instance, upon war, was a court intrigue that threatened the royalty of Diana, and tended to involve Henry II. in the anxieties of a new position." In fact, Henry had grown tired of

that fidelity upon which so many poets—the priests of divinity chancels—expatiated. A little masquerade at St. Germain, a bevy of young girls, some of them princesses, dressed as sibyls and graces, and a Scottish beauty, named Fleming, were instructed by the queen to perform a drama of fascination before him, and the trick succeeded so far, that Diana had the best proofs of a rival being in the field. "No time was to be lost in distracting Henry II. by a war."

Such is M. Michelet's interpretation. We may take it as incautious, and as resting upon insufficient testimony, but there can be no doubt as to the general reality and value of his historical researches. They draw to light much that had been obscured and confused by partial or conflicting narratives. In several instances the most overpowering evidence is cited to establish the main argument—the justification of the book,—that the history of the Religious Wars of France has been converted, in the hands of ecclesiastical writers or their apologists, into a libel and a caricature.

THE JEWISH NATION.

History of the Jewish Nation, after the Destruction of Jerusalem under Titus. By the Rev. Alfred Edersheim, Ph.D. Old Aberdeen.

Edinburgh: Constable and Co.; London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

DR. EDELSHEIM has laboured amongst a host of modern writers to gather the stray notices and information scattered through their commentaries, and to weave them into a continuous and regular narrative. The voluminous work of Dr. Jost, of Frankfurt, served for the foundation; Dr. Grätz lent partial aid from his uncompleted work, whilst the short but comprehensive essay of Selig Cassel in *Ersch's Encyclopædia* suggested hints, and gave an occasional colouring to the history. The researches of Prideaux, Selden, and especially Lightfoot, on the manners and customs of the Hebrews, besides those of numerous other writers, principally German, have been consulted, to fill up the general outline with vivid and pictorial illustrations. The work of Dr. Edersheim, however, is not a compilation. He avails himself of the services of others, but does not blindly adopt them. He challenges their statements when his superior information leads him to suspect their accuracy, nor does he allow his own style to be disfigured by the violent partisan feeling he sometimes meets with in the authors he consults. The spirit in which he criticizes the Jews nationally and individually is tempered with great liberality, and bears out his own admission, that "nothing is more repugnant to the spirit of the Gospel, or more certain to carry with it the most serious consequences (as history has clearly shown), than any systematic attempt to legislate for other men's consciences on questions of practice."

The period over which the present volume extends is particularly fertile in historic matter. Commencing with a retrospective sketch of the Jewish people from the time of the Babylonian captivity, Dr. Edersheim follows his dispersed countrymen (for we believe he is a Christianized Jew) into every quarter of the globe whither persecution drove them. He then returns with the returning tribes to Judæa, and traces out their history down to the grand final war of liberation under the impostor Bar Cochab, which was ruthlessly quelled by the generals of the unwarlike Hadrian.

It is impossible not to be struck with the wonderful tenacity with which the Hebrews of every period clung to their customs and nationality. They were dispersed into Europe, Asia, and Africa, from Italy to China, and from Ethiopia to Thrace; yet we find the persecuted race still reading the law, and looking forward to the restoration of their liberties and their country. In some kingdoms their superior knowledge gave them great influence, and they rose to princely offices; in others where they took refuge, kings became proselytes, whilst in China many of the children of Abraham became mandarins. Yet their hearts still yearned for the land of the nativity of their forefathers—for the land of the hilly and beautiful Palestine.

History, it has been observed, consists of little more than a narration of injustice leading to invasion, and oppression leading to insurrection. It would be, therefore, superfluous to recount the bloody items that make up the grand sum of persecution so often threatening annihilation to the Hebrew race. The reader is familiar with the siege, the seizure, and the destruction of Jerusalem, the queen of cities, under Titus. There is something so horrible and so repulsive in the accessories of the picture, that humanity may well desire to draw a veil across the exhibition. With the destruction of Jerusalem, however, the spirit of the people, though broken, was not extinguished, and instances of revolt constantly recurred to prove the inextinguishable nature of that hope which had burned so brightly in the deepest darkness of persecution. This gives the historian the opportunity of portraying the heroism of individual Christian cities and persons—a heroism that has never been surpassed in any cause. The martyrdom of the Rabbi Akiba is suggestively related, as well as that of the Rabbi Chananja ben Teradion.

These dark features of history are relieved by the light thrown upon the powers and zeal of the Sanhedrim and Synagogue, their noble stand for independence, their devotion to their creed and their country, and the constant efforts they made to collect together the wrecks of their nationality when it had at last been shattered to pieces against the mighty legions of Rome.

The most interesting portions of the work, however, are those which depict the social condition of the inhabitants and the progress of the arts and sciences in Palestine. These are very full and illustrative, and we learn from them much of the life and manners, agriculture and commerce, character and views of the Hebrews.

The ancient Jews, it is well known, lived in constant fear of invasion from their neighbours, either the Egyptians, the Arabians, or the Syrians. This necessitated them not only to multiply the number of their cities to protect their flocks and herds, and the fruits of the ground, but also to fortify them well, which was done by thick walls, gates covered with iron, and watch-towers. A town was not computed large or small according to the census, but by the number of students of the law it contained. If there were less than ten, it was reckoned a small town. The sanitary regulations, in most cases, were excellent. Cemeteries, tan-pits, and similar places which might en-

danger the health, or in any way annoy the inhabitants, were established in the country, nor could they approach within a hundred and fifty cubits of the wall. Bakers' or dyers' shops, stables, &c., were not tolerated under the dwelling of another person. The houses of course varied in extent and splendour from the humble structure of the poor to the patrician palaces of the rich. They were built either of bricks, or half-bricks, dressed or undressed stones, and sometimes of white marble, with mortar, gypsum, or asphalt for cement. In the interior the walls were covered with a kind of whitewash painted occasionally with various colours. The wood-work was constructed of the sycamore, olive, almond, and even cedar tree, inlaid with gold or ivory. Gratings or lattices supplied the place of glass. In the wealthier houses, however, the window-frames were carved, as well as were the tables, chairs, couches, lamps, and candlesticks. Fish from Spain, apples from Crete, cheese from Bithynia, lentils, beans, and gourds, from Egypt and Greece, plates from Babylon, wine from Italy, beer from Media, burdened the ornamented tables of the luxurious, whilst to Sidon, Egypt, India, Laodicea, Cilicia, and Arabia, they were indebted for their choice household vessels, baskets, dresses, sandals, shawls, and veils. For these articles of commerce were given in exchange wheat, oil, honey, figs, and balsam, the products of the hills and valleys of the country.

The domestic regulations were characteristic. It was the duty of parents, however opulent, to have their children instructed in some light and healthy occupation. The women were taught to spin, to weave, and to work curiously with the needle. They were also famed for their skill in cookery. The toilet, however, was a rather formidable undertaking, no less than eighteen articles being required to complete an elegant one. The most familiar were trousers and the skirt, kept close to the body by a girdle, over which an upper garment was worn, sometimes white, sometimes purple, but generally embroidered. The head-dress consisted of a pointed cap or kind of turban. The garments of the women were remarkable for the fineness of their texture. The veils were of two kinds, the Arabian and the Egyptian. The latter covered the breast, neck, chin, and face, leaving only the eyes free, the former depended from the head, but left the wearer at full liberty to adapt it as she thought fit, either to conceal her features or enable her to see. Gloves were used, but only for protection. Sometimes costly slippers, embroidered and studded with gems, were used instead of the simple Laodicean sandal. These slippers contained delicate perfumes which emitted the most delicious odours on the pressure of the foot. The personal ornaments principally consisted of gold head-dresses, nose-rings, finger-rings, necklaces, bracelets, and ankle-rings. The men sometimes wore bracelets made of gold, iron, or precious stones strung together.

The minutest features of Jewish social life—the various domestic arrangements, the education of the children, the rites of marriage, the laws of property, the state of commerce, the condition of agriculture, the religious and charitable institutions, taxation, proselytes, baths and mineral springs, the estimate of the virtues, the duties of wedlock, &c.—have all been faithfully portrayed by Dr. Edersheim, who enters deeply into the character of the literature of the Jews, and shows the close connexion that existed between the manners and customs of the people and their legends and writings. From the Hebraic treatment of divorce, insolvency, and slavery, we think many wholesome lessons might be taken. Without recommending the doctrine of the Hillelites, who affirm that a divorce is warranted if a wife spoils her husband's dinner, we may allow that much was said by them about the rights of women that we of the nineteenth century might avail ourselves of. In dealing with debtors, the mildness of the Hebrew law is almost unparalleled, in ancient or modern times; whilst slavery, though it existed as an indigenous institution, was subject to many softening modifications.

TWO NOVELS.

Zuriel's Grandchild: a Novel. By R. V. M. Sparling. 3 vols. (Newby).—There are unmistakable evidences of talent in this ill-managed story. The interest is real, strong, and sustained; some of the characters are excellent as suggestions; the dialogue is often close and rapid, and more natural than is usual in fiction; there is no attempt to force on the catastrophe by theatrical surprises, nor is the writing of that blush-rose tint so common in three-volume novels. But Mr. Sparling has most of his art to learn. He is incompetent to guide his narrative; he crowds the scene with supernumeraries; he prefaces his chapters with long utterances of mediocrity, enough to tempt critics and readers to injustice. Whatever may be our solicitude for the grand-daughter of Zuriel, we have none for Mr. Sparling's philosophy, that being helplessly splenetic, watery, and weak. If the book finds favour, it will be as a tale of life, and had half the incidents been omitted, half the personal sketches expunged, and the whole brought within moderate limits, *Zuriel's Grandchild* would have had a chance of being popular. We may assume, perhaps, that 'melancholy interest' is a thing acceptable at watering-places, for none other need be looked for in the history of the lord of Stor Court and his successors. There are three elaborate death-bed scenes; there is a father's curse; there is a forgery; there is a description of Dora, the heroine, offering to perjure herself (and it is fair to add that this scene is one of the most dramatic and the best-toned in the novel); indeed, when Lesparde and his bride take possession of the Jew's vast palace, with all its splendours, they very much resemble the survivors of a massacre, and a sort of miserable sensation accompanies the certainty of their happiness. This arises, partly, from the recollection that the curse which fell on the first daughter of that house is not removed, she and her mother lying in dismal graves after lives of broken-hearted pain. Thus, there is a good deal of quiet woe, even after the customary peal of marriage bells, that brings the curtain down. Still the novel has its particular merits. Though Mr. Sparling insists upon costuming the aristocracy for his own purposes, he does not beshimmer his pages with attempts to imitate the empty small-talk and macaronic loquacity of those supposititious heroes and heroines of high life who sicken and sicken in fashionable novels.

Claud Wilford: a Novel. By I. One. (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.).—Having read this novel, we can form no very positive conception as to the

age or character of the author. He may be an unbloomed youth, intoxicated with *Vathek* and the *Epicurean*, but insensible to the necessities of grammar, or he may be a foreigner, exercising himself in the English tongue: but this is not probable. The manner of the book betrays immaturity, credulity, ignorance of life and language. The hero, Claud Wilford, is the son of a ruined knight, and is led through a series of social enchantments. At sea he meets a perfect Lara, in Spain a pale, melancholy, gorgeously-beautiful Diavolo, whom he accompanies to Paris. There the Diavolo, an Englishman metamorphosed into something between Cagliostro and the Wandering Jew, dresses his young friend in hussar uniform, and plays him as a puppet in the midst of pearl fountains, foliage of gold, long curving rooms, pyramids of lustre, and such visions of girls in gauze as delight the young-eyed generation at Christmas. There are also strange impostures practised, Trevanion, a British scoundrel, disguised as Monsieur Melpomene, being deceived by his arch-enemy, Lord Dungarion, first in the shape of Count Huron—the Diavolo we have mentioned—and then in the operatic shape of Athabasca, a dark Nubian. It may be conceived, then, that scenes like these, and others belonging to the Otranto class, make up an ambitious story. But everyone who writes a *Vathek* is not a Beckford. The story opens on the Kentish coast, where Claud is bowing sweetly to fair acquaintances, but 'more majestically' to older friends:—

Walking arm in arm might be seen some fair creature, with the idol of her heart, whose advancement towards the hymeneal tie was fast approaching, as their freedom, in being unattended by a lacquey, gave strong proofs.

That is the style in which the epic is composed. The author, however, does not 'get away' from the Kentish coast, but makes several false starts before he really begins his story. It is not in the human heart to recommend dull people at the sea-side to try *Claud Wilford*. As a joke it might be offensive, as anything else it would be too absurd.

SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE.

Glances and Glimpses; or, Fifty Years Social, including Twenty Years Professional Life. By Harriot K. Hunt, M.D. Trübner.

HARRIOT, daughter of Joab and Kezia Hunt, is a lady superior to prejudice. Tending, at an early age, to physiological studies, she first became a private practitioner, then took a medical degree, and, lastly, has issued the record of her thoughts and researches. This is the daring act for which she will be questioned by all except those singularly infatuated persons who think that, because some social laws are absurd, all social laws ought to be violated. Take Miss Harriot's personal experience. She asks, "Why should not women be treated, surgically and otherwise, by women?" Is that a reason for advocating the treatment of men also by female physicians?—or is it an excuse for publishing a volume such as this, so full of ostentatious rhapsody and sick-bed metaphors? The worst of these high-spirited ladies is, that they take the bit in their mouths, and galloping beyond all limitation, assume that they only have a proper appreciation of the womanly nature. To them it seems demonstrable that a young girl who is not educated in all anatomical mysteries, as well as in that mystery of forgetful courage which enables Harriot Hunt to write and speak in public, is a poor thing oppressed by society, and quite as pitiable as a Greek or Mandingo slave. In their eyes, to be the equals of men means to do that which ordinary men shrink from doing, and to break the trammels of convention means to shut your eyes and rush against the world, saying all you please. Moreover, in the case of the daughter of Kezia, a remarkable degree of insensibility is displayed in combination with the mawkishness of the boarding-school and that sort of lurid twaddle which, not in America only, goes for eloquence. But Harriot is not wholly a poetess, or wholly a philosopher. Terrestrial suggestions interrupt her allopathic ecstasies. She is jealous of the quacks who 'consolidate sarsaparilla into marble palaces,' and 'expand pills into princely mansions.' In general, however, her tone is 'vinous and caloric.' Her 'hygienic thought' bursts into the wildest of the wild flowers of language, coloured, like the bottles in chemists' windows, by the tints of the medical idea within. Keep the 'cranial apartments' of your children in order, says Miss Hunt. If you force them to be 'constantly digesting acquisition, dyspeptic brains will be the result.' 'Look at the weary libraries that are walking our streets.' But, on the other hand, avoid tying down the girls to lace-thread, or wool:—

I know a case of a scientific lady whose mother was so shocked at her engaging in her brothers' sports and frolics, that whenever she discovered that she had been guilty of the crime, she put on her a pair of pantaloons and locked her in a dark closet.

Characteristically, Harriot Hunt believes, and declares, that she is a special instrument in the hands of Providence. This is parenthetical, for she dashes again into narrative and affirmation—the affirmation being of this stamp: 'Bathing is not responsible for the harm it has done when used by persons of no judgment.' 'The myriad mysteries of sin are laid bare to the medical practitioner.' 'Utterance is the law of life—to violate that law brings on mental dyspepsia.' 'Progression is the cholera of the pocket.' But the most curious illustration of her mental habits occurs in a notice of the birth of her sister's child. There is the usual superfluity of 'fullness of time,' 'anguish,' 'weary hours,' 'reverent silence,' 'angelic,' 'vision of love,' 'is there any rapture so great?' but the clinical lady pauses to weigh the infant, and it is four pounds eleven ounces! Six months pass. The 'infantile beauty' becomes 'magical.' Harriot is 'in the presence of angels,' the baby is 'an ever-new delight,' a 'well-spring of pleasure,' a 'link between the spiritual and material,' and weighs 'only ten pounds!'

The lady is as diffuse on all matters. Far from being 'glimpses' merely, her chapters are broad disclosures of absurdity, at which our 'glance' is a stare; but it would be an extravagance to wonder too intensely at the eccentricities of Harriot Kezia Hunt, for, having looked into the beginning of her book, the reader is fully forewarned. To be just, it is necessary to add, that in the midst of these tumid and repulsive exaggerations there are some very sensible remarks on the treatment of children and young girls, but then these are only plain sayings, proper to write and read, and what would become of the vestal doctor's 'mission' did she confine herself to utilitarian common sense?

THE ANCIENT SOLAR SYSTEM.

The Lost Solar System of the Ancients Discovered. By John Wilson. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

THIS book deserves respectful treatment. We cannot read it all, but we could not have written any of it. It is the monument of mathematics—probably the work of a life—and can only have been published in the spirit of a devotee. Such a display of algebra, geometry, and diagrams we have never before seen. All the inscriptions of Egypt and Assyria would not confer on two volumes an aspect of more abstruse solemnity than these two volumes of Mr. Wilson's calculations.

The 'discovery' has not been made very clear, because Mr. Wilson, without an introductory word, begins in his first paragraph to measure velocities, and the proportions of obelisks. At the end of the book he presents no summary of his ideas, but disappears, like a sorcerer in the midst of his incantations, muttering of Ninus, Belus, and the Chinese law of numbers. Therefore, we have to filter his theory through dense formations of algebra, overlying as dense a mass of history connected with ancient architecture, mythology, and science. If, then, we misrepresent Mr. Wilson, it is unwillingly. He seems to be convinced that every antique monument was typical of a natural law, that pyramids represented the theory of gravity, that the obelisk, dumb to us, indicated to the Egyptian the laws by which the universe is governed, that the magnitude of the earth was described by a stone in the pyramid of Cheops, the magnitude of the moon by another stone, the magnitude of the sun by the contents of the whole pyramid together. Its terraced gradation denoted, according to a principle which Mr. Wilson expounds with scarcely human patience, the time of descent from the sun to the earth. His ideas derive some credit from the remark of Maclaurin, that the fondness of the Pythagoreans and Platonists misled them, as it probably misled others, by inducing them to derive the mysteries of nature from such analogies of figures and numbers as are not intelligible to us, but in some cases seem not capable of any just explication. But might not this observation be applied to the book before us? We dare not argue with Mr. Wilson, because he is no doubt prepared with irrefutable calculations, and could confound us logarithmically. It is impossible to question the accuracy of his cubes, spheres, and pyramids, though it may be suggested that the height of Cheops being uncertain, calculations upon the height must be uncertain also. Herodotus probably measured the slope, Niebuhr the direct altitude. Various other measurements have been taken from the shifting level of the desert, which at times has hidden a considerable portion of the base. Mr. Wilson seems to have overlooked Vyse's measurement, which was trigonometrical. When, moreover, assuming in behalf of the ancients a perfect knowledge of the laws of light and velocity, he 'proves' that the distance of a star was represented by the length of the walls of Babylon, and affirms that "monumental distances are the roots of celestial distances," we are inclined to hand him over to some one who, as enthusiastic as himself, will follow him closely over the same ground, and test his tabular logic.

It should be added that the work contains notices of the principal ancient buildings of simple construction, and of the greatest ruins of Asia and America. With all these Mr. Wilson connects his singular theory, which, however, we do not pretend to have explained, for only one or two points are indicated in the foregoing slight exposition. We find it difficult to do more. Appreciating heartily Mr. Wilson's earnest and erudite labours, we

must admit ourselves unable to distinguish more than a faint and irregular outline of his theory. Students of curious hypotheses, possessed of the necessary knowledge, will interest themselves in the book, which may, or may not, indicate a real discovery. To us, the views presented are too obscure for precise characterization.

The Arts.

THE REOPENINGS.

SADLER'S WELLS commenced its 'winter season' (alas! how chilly and foreboding the words sound, though September yet lies green and golden around us, and the harvest is not yet over, and the leaves are not yet brown) on Saturday night, with a reproduction of *Macbeth*. Mr. PHILIPS was enthusiastically hailed, as he deserved to be, by an audience which has frequented his house now for so many years as to greet him almost as a personal friend. His rendering of the character of *Macbeth* is not one of his happiest achievements, there being, as we conceive, a want in his acting of the highest perception of purely ideal poetry; but the performance is thoroughly intelligent, painstaking, and unvulgar; and, recollecting how subtle and fine he is in other parts, we do not wonder at an audience expressing its gratitude to an actor who is not a buffoon, and to a manager who is something better than a showman.

Monday evening saw the commencement of the dramatic season at the SURREY THEATRE, and the production of a drama called *The Half Caste*, in which Mr. CRESWICK performs the part of a Guadeloupe slave, of semi-negro blood, bearing the romantic name of *Maximus Marol*, who heads an insurrection of slaves against his master and oppressor, at that time in Paris, and who, having afterwards gone to Paris himself, is there discovered, though in disguise, hunted down, and finally driven to poisoning himself at a grand masquerade in his own house, where he dies in much agony, to the infinite delight of the beholders. The piece is from the French, and was received with much approval. The LYCEUM opens under the new management on Monday, with *Belphegor*.

We believe it will not be disputed that the rearing of flowers, fruits, and shrubs is an art, though SHAKESPEARE says "the art itself is Nature." It might, indeed, form a pretty little text for a piece of subtle reasoning, to try and ascertain where art begins and Nature ends in these matters. But, when a single flower is converted into a double flower—when new tints, at the bidding of the gardener, flush the cheeks of unsophisticated wild buds, and when the mystery of grafting produces from the tart aboriginal crab the elegant ribstone pippin, and out of the rustic simplicity of the unadorned plum brings forth the green and golden and purple varieties that go by that name—something must be conceded to art. Therefore (which, to be candid, is our object in making these discursive remarks), we conceive ourselves justified in notifying, under the general head of 'The Arts,' that a grand display of flowers, fruits, and plants took place at the CRYSTAL PALACE on Wednesday—the last exhibition of the kind this season. It would require the pen of a poet to describe the pomp and splendour of the vision (whereto the variegated bonnets of the ladies not a little contributed)—the blushing, odorous, ethereal beauty of the flowers, the innocent epicurism of the fruits, with cheeks like childhood, and abundantly tempting to childhood, and the more sober glories of the ferns, heaths, and flowering shrubs. However, not being poets, but only journalists, we can simply exhort the reader to draw upon his own imagination. On this occasion, prizes, fifty in number, from 10*l.* downwards, were for the first time offered to cottagers and amateurs for the best specimens of the produce of the kitchen garden. Forty-six of the exhibitors were working men.

THE EPIDEMIC AT BOULOGNE.—Several correspondents of the *Times* have been calling attention to the scarlet fever now prevalent at Boulogne, and which has carried off several persons, English and French, among the former of whom was Mr. A. Beckett, the magistrate and author, whose death we chronicled last week. Some of the medical men of the town have contradicted the alleged unhealthiness; but their testimony seems to be overborne by a weight of evidence on the other side.

THE LATE MYSTERIOUS DEATH AT BRIGHTON.—The inquest on the body of Richard Watts, who died last week under circumstances which excited considerable suspicion, and which was adjourned in order that an analysis of the contents of the deceased's stomach, &c., might be made, was resumed on Thursday week, when Mr. M. Phillips and Mr. Schweitzer, the gentlemen who made the analysis, were examined, and deposed that neither the stomach, liver, nor intestines, presented any indications of poison having been administered to the deceased. The jury accordingly returned an open verdict.

AMERICAN BOOKSELLING ADULTERATION.—Mr. A. Spiers has written to the *Times* complaining that in an American edition of *General French and English Dictionary*, the name of another gentleman is coupled with his own on the title-page. This is an example of booksellers' adulteration in America, and Mr. Spiers would be perfectly justified in carrying out his suggestion of "The Life and Exploits of John Sadleir and D. Appleton," seeing that D. Appleton had as much to do with the Sadleir scheme as Mr. Spiers with the — alluded to.

VAUXHALL GARDENS.—This once favourite place of amusement, which for the last two hundred years has been the resort of the gay and the pleasure-loving, and where, in the days of Queen Anne, Sir Roger de Coverley walked and meditated with 'the Spectator'—is about to be sold to a gentleman who does not contemplate continuing the old state of things. Vauxhall Gardens, therefore, will cease to be, after the close of nine gala nights, the first of which was on last Monday. Shade of Simpson! (not he of Cremorne, but he of "the Royal Property") what dost thou say to this?

SECESSION FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—The Rev. J. Littleboy, B.A., curate of Shearsby, near Lutworth, has resigned his connexion with the Church of England, for the purpose of joining the Romish communion.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Eleven hundred deaths were registered in London in the week that ended last Saturday. The deaths of males were 552, those of females 548. The rate of mortality which now rules approximates to the average rate at this season. As the births registered last week were 1634, the excess of births over deaths was 534. Diarrhoea continuously decreases: the deaths from it in the week were 124, which is less than half of the number caused by this complaint about three weeks ago. Four deaths are referred to cholera: 3 of these occurred to infants. With reference to the house in which a young man died of diarrhoea, the medical attendant remarks:—"There is a cesspool apparently under the kitchen, with an untrapped drain in the court, which emit very offensive effluvia, and the whole of the family, with one exception, have suffered from the complaint during the past month." A child died of tetanus, apparently idiopathic. Two women died at the age of 92 years, two at 93, and a woman of more extraordinary longevity is stated to have attained the age of 106 years. She died in the Marylebone workhouse on the 31st August, and Mr. Joseph, who registered her death, was informed that she had been there 34 years, and that her son is now living, who is 84 years old. She had been formerly cook in a nobleman's family. Last week, the births of 827 boys and 807 girls, in all 1634 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846—55, the average number was 1451.—*From the Registrar General's Weekly Return.*

QUARANTINE IN THE BLACK SEA.—Official intelligence has been received that the Russian Government has abolished for the time being all the quarantine restrictions now in force in Bessarabia, the Black Sea, and the Sea of Azoff. This new regulation is to remain in force until the navigation is closed for the present year.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, September 9.
BANKRUPTS.—DAVID BARCLAY, Richardson-street, and Long-lane, Bermondsey, leather manufacturer—JOHN PETO, and JOHN BRYAN, Dacre-street, Westminster, and elsewhere, army contractors—ALFRED ROELS, Ladgate-hill, umbrella manufacturer—SAMUEL GROVE, Brierly-hill, Staffordshire, corn dealer—GUSTAVUS HENRY ADOLPHUS MERTENS, and THOMAS JOHNSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, dyers—JOHN ANDERTON, Halifax, grocer—JAMES HENRY MITCHELL, Kingston-upon-Hull, bootmaker—EDWARD PRIMROSE, Sheffield, ivory dealer—JAMES CATTARAL LEACH, Liverpool, provision merchant—WILLIAM DESILVA, Liverpool, chro-

nometer-maker—JOHN M'CLURE, Liverpool, grocer—ROBERT BARWICK, late of Sunderland, shipowner.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—G. MENBET, Stirling, railway contractor—R. FORBES, Glasgow, ironmonger—A. CHRISTY, Glasgow, manufacturing chemist.

Friday, September 12.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ALEXANDER ELMSTIE THOMSON, Culham-street, wine merchant.
BANKRUPTS.—HENRY JEWELL, High-street, Shadwell, clothier—EDWARD FENYON, York, rag-merchant—JOHN EVANS, Liverpool, tailor—JOHN DILLON, Lowestoft, book seller—JAMES LING, Taunton, Somersetshire, music seller—ALFRED JOHN FRANKLIN, Clapham, Surrey, ironmonger—JAMES TAYLOR, Helmsford, Lancashire, druggist manufacturer—JAMES CATTARAL LEACH, Liverpool, provision merchant—JAMES MILLS, Heywood, Lancashire, cotton-spinner—JAMES HENRY HARGREAVES, Leeds, sharebroker—JOHN SCAIFE HODGE, Pocklington, Yorkshire, miller.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CRANLEY.—On the 5th inst., at Ashridge, Herts, the Viscountess Cranley: a daughter.
DOWNE.—On the 6th inst., at Rookham-grove, the Viscountess Downe: a daughter.
WIGAN.—On the 5th inst., at Under River, near Sevenoaks, the wife of the Rev. Alfred Wigan: a son.

MARRIAGES.

FITZGERALD-TALBOT.—On the 10th inst., at St. John's-wood, Lucius H. FitzGerald, Esq., barrister-at-law, to Mary Katharine, youngest daughter of the late Admiral the Hon. Sir John Talbot, G.C.B.
LAPSLIE-NORGATE.—On the 4th inst., at the parish church, Streatham, William Forster, youngest son of the late Lieut.-Colonel Lapslie, H.M. 39th Regiment, to Maria Katharine, only surviving daughter of the Rev. Burroughes Thos. Norgate, M.A., and niece of Miss Norgate, of Park Lodge, Streatham.
STEELE-FITZGERALD.—On the 9th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Colonel Thomas M. Steele, C.B., Coldstream Guards, eldest son of the late Major-General and Lady Elizabeth Steele, to Isabella Charlotte, only daughter of Edward FitzGerald, Esq.

DEATHS.

AUBREY.—At Oving House, Bucks, in his 74th year, Sir Thomas Digby Aubrey, Bart.
CORNWALL.—On the 5th inst., at his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch's Villa, Richmond, Surrey, Louisa Grace, relict of Major-General William Henry Cornwall, and second daughter of the late General Lord Robert Kerr, fourth son of William John, fifth Marquis of Lothian.
DENT.—On the 6th inst., suddenly, at Reading, Mr. R. E. Dent, chronometer maker, of London, aged 37.
READ.—On the 9th inst., after a severe illness, Mary, the beloved and affectionate wife of Richard Read, of 35 Regent-circus, Piccadilly, aged 60.

ROBINSON.—On the 3rd inst., at Crouch-end, Hornsey, after nine days' illness, Mr. Edward Robinson, in his 55th year; and, on the 6th, his eldest son William, in his 27th year, after 48 hours' suffering from the same malady, resulting from his attendance on his parent.

TWENTYMAN.—On the 9th inst., at her residence, Duke-street, Liverpool, in the 96th year of her age, Mrs. Elizabeth Twentyman.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, September 12, 1856.

SINCE our last, continued depression has been the feature in the funds and heavy stocks and shares. Consols particularly have exhibited a downward tendency, which the settlement on the 10th failed to arrest; they closed heavily on that day, after business hours, at 94½, sellers for the October account being fully half per cent. below quotations of the previous morning. This decline was attributable to the continued demand for money, the plentiful supply of Stock on the market, and to the drain of Gold to the Continent, and efflux of Silver to the East; according to some, to the operations of a large speculator in settling his account, and the fear of others of a rise in the Bank rate of discount from 4½ to 5 per cent.—a measure which, although not realized on Thursday, is still believed only to be deferred. A further decline occurred on Thursday morning, followed by a corresponding reaction upon its becoming known that the directors had parted without determining on any change in the rate.

Although the foreign markets have been more active, flatness mostly prevails. American markets continue inactive. Consols open this morning 94½, 5, and close 94½, 4.

Aberdeen, —, —; Caledonian, 52½, 52½; Chester and Holyhead, 15½, 16½; Eastern Counties, 88, 88½; Great Northern, 93½, 94½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 117, 118; Great Western, 63½, 64 x.d.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 96, 96½; London and Blackwall, 6½, 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 107; London and North-Western, 101½, 102½ x.d.; London and South-Western, 104, 105; Midland, 77½, 77½ x.d.; North-Eastern (Berwick), 78, 79; South-Eastern (Dover), 71, 72; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 73, 74; Dutch Ehenish, 17, 24 p.m.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 36, 36½; Great Central of France, 61, 61 p.m.; Great Luxembourg, 44, 44½; Northern of France, 39½, 39½; Paris and Lyons, 52½, 53; Royal Danish, 18½, 19½; Royal Swedish, 7, 11; Sambre and Meuse, 12, 12½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, September 12, 1856.

ENGLISH and Foreign Wheat and Flour have advanced from 1s. to 2s., and a fair amount of business has been transacted in each since our last report. The supplies have been limited, and the demand has improved. Barley has declined 1s., but Beans and Peas remain unaltered in value. Off the coast, there have been but few arrivals, and little has been done in cargoes on passage. Marianopoli and Berdianski Wheat on passage is held at 62s. to 64s. Taganrog Ghirka 60s. to 62s. Galatz Maize at 35s. to 35s. 6d.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.	95½	.....	94½	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Con. An. ..	95	94½	94½	94½	94	93½
Consols for Account ..	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
New 3 per Cent. An. ..	95½	95½	95½	95½	94½	.....
New 2½ per Cent. ....	.....	.....	79	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1850 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000 .....	.....	.....	13 p	16 p	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000 .....	.....	14 p	18 p	.....	17 p	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	16 p	13 p	17 p	16 p	15 p	12 p
Ditto, £500	15 p	.....	.....	16 p	17 p	14 p
Ditto, Small .....	.....	.....	17 p	16 p	14 p	17 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	103½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	49½
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.	75	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents	109½
Chilian 6 per Cents	106½	Russian 4½ per Cents.	98
Chilian 3 per Cents .....	.....	Spanish	44½
Dutch 2½ per Cents	65½	Spanish Committee Cer. ....	.....
Dutch 4 per Cent. Cert.	98½	of Coup. not fun.	5½
Ecuador Bonds	14½	Turkish 6 per Cents	103
Mexican Account	22½	Turkish New, 4 ditto	103½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents	80½	Venezuela, 4½ per Cents.	33½
Portuguese 3 per Cents.	46		

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS ARE PRE-EMINENTLY RENOWNED FOR THEIR CURE OF ASTHMA.—Mr. James Judd, of Mitcham, had been for years afflicted with Asthma, experiencing great agony upon respiration with violent cough; he had also acute pains in his side. He tried every remedy, and was advised by all classes of medical practitioners, but his time, patience, and money, were alike thrown away. He at length had recourse to Holloway's Pills, and by perseverance in their use for a few weeks obtained the most favourable results, and became perfectly cured.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stamps, Constantinople; A. Guidicy, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS.—DR. BARKER'S celebrated REMEDY is protected by three patents, of England, France, and Vienna; and from its great success in private practice is now made known as a public duty through the medium of the press. In every case of single or double rupture, in either sex, of any age, however bad or long standing, it is equally applicable, effecting a cure in a few days, without inconvenience, and will be hailed as a boon by all who have been tortured with trusses. Sent post free to any part of the world, with instructions for use, on receipt of 1s. 6d. by post-office order, or stamps, by CHARLES BARKER, M.D., 10, Brook-street, Holborn, London.—Any infringement of this triple patent will be proceeded against and restrained by injunction of the Lord High Chancellor.

LYCEUM THEATRE ROYAL.

Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES DILLON.
OPEN FOR THE SEASON.
Monday, September 15th, 1856, the Drama of
BELPHEGOR.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dillon.
W. Brough's new Burlesque
PERDITA, THE ROYAL MILKMAID, OR A WINTER'S
"TALE."
Miss Woolgar, Mrs. B. White, Miss H. Gordon, Mr. W. Brough, Mr. J. L. Toole, Miss Rosina Wright, and grand Corps de Ballet.
Box-office open daily, from 11 till 5, by Mr. Chatterton, jun.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,

4 Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen 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.G.S.; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four P.M. precisely.—Admission 1s.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL

Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners in the treatment of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Its leading distinctive characteristics are:

COMPLETE PRESERVATION OF ACTIVE AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES.
INVARIABLE PURITY AND UNIFORM STRENGTH.
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The bowels must be opened, cleansed, soothed, and strengthened; the urine must be made to flow healthfully and naturally, and to throw off the impurities of the blood; the liver and stomach must be regulated; and above all, the pores must be opened, and the skin made healthy. These things done, and Nature will go to her work; and ruddy health will sit smiling upon the cheek; and life will be again a luxury.

We will suppose the case of a person afflicted with a bilious complaint. His head aches, his appetite is poor, his bones and back ache, he is weak and nervous, his complexion is yellow, the skin dry, and his tongue furred. He goes to a doctor for relief, and is given a dose of medicine to purge him freely, and he gets some temporary relief. But he is not cured! In a few days the same symptoms return, and the same old purge is administered; and so on, until the poor man becomes a martyr to heavy, drastic purgatives. Now, what would be the true practice in such a case? What the practice that Nature herself points out? Why, to SET IN HEALTHY OPERATION ALL THE MEANS THAT NATURE POSSESSES TO THROW OUT OF THE SYSTEM THE CAUSES OF DISEASE. The bowels must of course be evacuated, but the work is but BEGUN AT THIS STAGE OF THE BUSINESS. The kidneys must be prompted to do their work, for they have a most important work to do; the stomach must be cleansed; and, above all, the pores must be relieved and enabled to throw off the secretions which ought to pass off through them. We repeat, that by the Bowels, the Urine, the Pores, the disease must be expelled from the system, and not by the bowels alone, as is the usual practice.

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