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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.

LORD PALMERSTON has carried his Government of India Bill on the first reading by something like a triumphant majority, a majority all the greater when we consider the large combination of interests against him, and the comparative indifference with which most members regard the distant subject of India. It is true that the mutiny has occasioned a keener attraction for Indian questions just at present, and it is true that the Premier commands a large following; but both these advantages have been to a considerable extent neutralized by the dissatisfaction and uncertainty introduced amongst the Government ranks in consequence of the French embarrass, while the keener interest in Indian subjects is in a greater degree counterbalanced by the still keener interest in Company questions. Yet the debate was a dull one, because the subject was virtually decided from the moment when Lord PALMERSTON explained his bill; and the real contest was transferred to a later stage. The measure is calculated to engage the general liking of the British public; it is simple in its appearance, it looks effectual, it is bold; its provisions, in brief, amount to this: The Court of Directors is abolished; so is the Court of Proprietors. The advocates of the measure represent that the East India Company is only decapitated, not destroyed; that the great body of the Company—the shareholders and the limbs of the Company, its civil service—remain intact; only it is deprived of its head—the Court of Directors—and debarred the power of speech in the Court of Proprietors. In lieu of the present administration, the whole authority, patronage, and power will be drawn to the President, who is to be assisted by a council; for, instead of a Secretary of State for India, we are still to have a President, only he is to be a statesman of higher rank than the one that has generally held the office before. The Council will consist of eight members at 1000*l.* a year each; it will have consultative powers, and in finance it will have so much authority that the concurrence of four of its members, at least, will be required for any act of the President. It is not very likely, however, that gentlemen accepting office at 1000*l.* a year, holding it by only an eight years' tenure—for such is to be the rule—will be anxious to thwart the President even in financial matters. Hence the net effect of the whole measure is to promote the President of the Board of Control to a

higher rank, to relieve him of all conflicting or controlling authority in the Board of Directors, and to supply him, it has been said, with eight clerks to assist in his onerous duties. On the subject of patronage which will be reposed in the President of the Council—*videlicet*, the President—no assurance has been given that there will be any check upon favouritism, corruption, or abuse of any kind.

Although protracted for three nights, and indeed for a fourth, since the motion for papers on Mr. HENRY BAILLIE's part introduced a separate debate upon the question of Oude, the debate, we have said, was not animated nor interesting; nor can it be said that the cause of the Company was sustained with equal power by those who represented it. Mr. THOMAS BARING took the lead with a motion, "That it is not at present expedient to legislate for the government of India," and he supported this proposition with very great power; but in the subsequent debate the consistency of the argument fell off. If Mr. WHITESIDE galvanized it in a speech of large calibre, it had too much an appearance of procuracy about it; and subsequent speakers, even down to Mr. DISRAELI, diverted the pleading from the points at issue. Mr. DISRAELI, for instance, indulged himself by a separate essay on the subject of Indian finance, and the necessity for an entire reconstruction of administration in India, arguments which so seriously weakened the position, that the subject ought, for the present, to be postponed entirely. On a wind-up, however, it was found that the interests of the Government transcended those which would have whipped the Opposition; Lord PALMERSTON leading into the lobby 318 members, Mr. BARING only 173.

Neither in the House nor out of it is there a growing feeling favourable to the Conspiracy Bill; on the contrary, the Opposition is becoming more determined. Some of the signs may be noted in the number of questions, directly or indirectly, bearing on the subject which have been asked during the week; more notable still, as showing which way the Premier thinks the tide is setting, is the tone in which he has answered—or rather attempted to silence—them. If the House wished to break off the French alliance, let it do so, and take the consequences; these attacks upon the French Government were short cuts to that end. When Mr. GRIFFITH, on Tuesday, asked if anything had been done to induce the French Government to give publicity in the *Moniteur* to Count WALEWSKI's apology, Lord PALMERSTON rose in a pet, to say that of course the British Government had not done—

and did not intend to do—'anything so excessively absurd.' But his Lordship became positively 'indignant' with Mr. STIRLING for asking whether it was a fact that the legacy left by the first NAPOLEON to CANTILLON for attempting the life of the Duke of WELLINGTON had been paid by order of the present Emperor? The rules of the House forbade Mr. STIRLING from pressing his question any further: but out of the House he has taken a course which has exposed the futility of the indignation. Mr. STIRLING's pamphlet proves beyond doubt from the pages of the *Moniteur* that not only was CANTILLON one of those who claimed, under the will of the Emperor NAPOLEON I., but that his was the only legacy on which *interest* as well as principal was paid. It is now explained that the payment was made before the time of the present Emperor; but he long had the credit of obeying his uncle's last wishes, and the *Moniteur* appeared to corroborate that impression in the most formal way.

It is clear that Lord PALMERSTON has determined to go to dangerous lengths to meet the views of the Emperor of the French; at all events, he is as well aware as any one that so his conduct is interpreted in Paris, where the arrest of the refugee BERNARD has been hailed with satisfaction as the strongest possible proof of the good-will of the chief of the English Government. It is even said that very warm expressions of thanks have been tendered to him for this service from the French throne; and further, that the example will be made immediate use of for the purpose of bringing the Governments of Switzerland and Piedmont into the same way of thinking as the British Premier. The expressions which his mode of proceeding with this hazardous subject has called forth in various parts of the country are by no means complimentary, and these expressions are to be intensified on Sunday afternoon next in Hyde Park, when the People of London will meet to 'enter their peaceable and orderly protest against the new Conspiracy Bill.'

Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY succeeded on Wednesday night in getting 213 votes against 160 for the second reading of the Church-rate Abolition Bill. The steady increase of the number of voters on this long-debated question, while marking the progress of opinion in the House, indicates the growing feeling out of doors. The time is unquestionably ripe for the change; and if there was one domestic question more than another to which members pledged themselves at the hustings, it was the total abolition of church-rates. The handsome majority, then, of Wednesday night were only consistent to



their pledges in resisting the attempts of Sir GEORGE GREY to induce them to put up with the compromise measure offered by him. Of course, the subject is far from decided; but it has advanced so far safely on the right path as to give hope of its speedy arrival at the goal.

Another measure promising to be of great public utility is Lord BROUGHAM's pair of bills for effecting various changes in the jurisdiction in cases of bankruptcy. The reform is intended to do away many of the inconveniences of the present system, and will transfer to the County Courts of eleven districts the bankruptcy business which is now inconveniently brought to London. It will also abolish useless distinctions between 'bankrupts' and 'insolvents,' but will enable the judges to distinguish between persons brought before them through fraudulent trading, recklessness, or misfortune. The LORD CHANCELLOR admires the reform, but doubts over the bills—he would and he would not!

The news from India brought by the Bombay mail is again of the most satisfactory character. Everywhere our engagements with the mutineers have been successful, and a slow but powerful concentration of our forces is taking place. Sir JAMES OUTRAM with his 4000 men had twice driven off the enemy from Alumbagh, with loss of men and guns, and almost without casualty on his side. Sir COLIN CAMPBELL had also twice defeated the enemy; in the first engagement, on the 24th of December, seizing a quantity of treasure at Bhitoor. Reinforcements are pushed on as rapidly as possible to all the principal points,—into the Punjab, through Scinde; and Sir JOHN LAWRENCE's forces were in a fair way to be strengthened by between 3000 and 4000 men. He had provided horses at Lahore to mount the cavalry on its arrival. In all directions the country is settling down into tranquillity. A touching incident of the troubles in India was the arrival at Calcutta, on the 9th of January, of the fugitives from Lucknow; they were received on shore from the Madras steamer, under a royal salute, and amid the cheers of a concourse of their fellow-countrymen and countrywomen.

Operations in China have commenced in earnest with the capture of Canton by the allied French and English forces. The bombardment was opened on the 28th of December, and on the following day the place was assaulted with three columns, and all the commanding points of the fortifications captured, with very trifling loss. The mail leaves us still uninformed as to subsequent operations.

We are still left in a state of suspense as to the position of the two engineers implicated in the affair of the Cagliari. The trial of the Sapi prisoners has been brought to a stand by the refusal of WATT, one of the two Englishmen, to attend. The inference drawn from this strange refusal is, that the poor fellow has become insane, and a commission has been appointed to examine into the state of his mind. The investigations of this commission have established the fact that WATT did, shortly after he was first confined, attempt to cut his throat; and the evidence of his fellow-prisoners makes it clear that he is altogether a changed man. WATT, according to the latest accounts, has been sent to the English Hospital at Naples, and is to be in the keeping of the British Consul. So much for British protection of British subjects.

Of the news from America, that which refers to Kansas is the most notable. President BUCHANAN has attempted to extricate that country from political anarchy and civil war, and the course which he has adopted is perhaps the only one which offers any chance of finding a solution of the difficulty. He has cut the Gordian knot; and, by forcing the territory to stand by the constitution which it has adopted, he gives it constitutional means for righting itself according to the will of the majority of its people. The proceedings of the antagonistic parties had put them without the pale of constitutional redress; Mr. BUCHANAN has brought them back to the position which they had abandoned.

The farewell dinner given to Dr. LIVINGSTONE on Saturday last was marked by great enthusiasm on the part of all present; the Bishop of OXFORD and the Duke of ALEXANDER admirably improved the occasion, and the great traveller appeared full of hope and confidence in the results of his coming labours.

Everything that could be done to help him fairly on his way has been done. He has been appointed British Consul in the Portuguese possessions in Africa, which will secure him many advantages in the way of authoritative assistance from the representatives of the Portuguese Government. He is also provided with an able party of assistants, scientific and artistic. At no distant day, then, we may, with tolerable safety, hope to have it settled whether or not the interior of Africa is really openable to us to trade with and to civilize.

The Royal British Bank trial drags its slow length along, a marvel of legal development. It is almost as if the lawyers resolved to pall the appetite for such inquiries by surfeit.

TRIAL OF THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK DIRECTORS.

THE Court of Queen's Bench has been occupied during the whole of the present week by the trial, before Lord Campbell and a special jury, of the Royal British Bank directors—Humphrey Brown, Esdaile, McCleod, Kennedy, Owen, Stapleton, Cameron, F. Vaillant and L. M. Vaillant—on various charges of fraud. Sir Frederick Thesiger, Mr. Atherton, Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, Mr. Welsby, and Mr. Joseph Brown conduct the prosecution, the attorneys for which are Messrs. Linklater and Co. The following gentlemen represent the defendants:—For Mr. Brown: Mr. Huddleston, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Bell. For Mr. Esdaile: Mr. Edwin James and Mr. Aspland. For Mr. Kennedy: Mr. Serjeant Shee and Mr. D. D. Keane. For Mr. Owen: Mr. Slade and Mr. Kingdon. For Mr. Stapleton: Sir F. Kelly, Mr. Bovill, and Mr. Coleridge. For Mr. Cameron: Mr. Digby Seymour. Mr. McCleod was not represented by counsel. His solicitors are Messrs. Cardale and Co.

The trial commenced last Saturday, and is not yet completed. Our readers are already in possession of all the facts of this remarkable case, so that we may spare them the trouble of wading through the floods of evidence poured out during the last six or seven days. We may, however, briefly recapitulate the main facts. The bank was chartered in November, 1849, and Alderman Kennedy, Messrs. Esdaile, Owen, and Cameron, were among the original proprietors. The amount of capital, after various reductions, was fixed at 100,000*l.*, only half of which was to be paid up. Cameron was to be appointed manager, with a salary of 1250*l.* for the first year, 1500*l.* for the second, 2000*l.* for the third and succeeding years, till the seventh, with the allowance for house-rent, and a commission for certain business, to be afterwards determined on upon the profits of the establishment; and, for the purpose of raising the capital, Cameron agreed to purchase fifty shares, which he paid by a promissory note for 4300*l.*, and that, with other promissory notes, actually left a deficiency of 7402*l.* Notwithstanding this, Alderman Kennedy and Owen signed the certificate to the Board of Trade that the capital was paid up, and under that fraudulent representation the charter was obtained on the 17th of Nov., 1842. Reckless advances of money were made to the persons connected with the bank, especially to Mr. Cameron and Mr. Humphrey Brown; and most of these sums were lost to the concern. In February, 1855, Cameron was taken ill. Mr. Esdaile took the management, and it was found that Cameron's accounts were transferred to what was called the 'green ledger,' under seven different heads, and amounted to 27,000*l.*, for which he had not given the slightest security. Cameron's debt increased until it amounted to 36,000*l.*, and only 8000*l.* have been recovered, 33,000*l.* being utterly lost to the bank. Humphrey Brown had several large advances, and gave as security a mortgage of three vessels which he had previously mortgaged to a Mr. Walton, concealing this fact from the directors. The ultimate loss to the bank by these proceedings was 40,000*l.* Several improvident advances of money were made to various undertakings; and at last, to prop up the bank, persons were induced to become shareholders when the directors knew that the concern was in a bankrupt condition. Several of these persons have been ruined. In January, 1856, Mr. Esdaile wrote to Mr. Owen, relative to the retirement of directors, observing:—"Our highest policy is to present a bold front to the public, whilst our weakest conduct is to dangle a rope of sand before them. We want courage and coolness, and by God's blessing our difficulties will be overcome." In September, 1856, the bank stopped.

ARREST OF A FRENCH REFUGEE.

M. SIMON BERNARD, a French refugee, residing in Park-street, Bayswater, where he has earned his living as a teacher of languages, was arrested at his house on Sunday, and was charged the following day, before Mr. Jardine at Bow-street, with being concerned in the recent attempt to assassinate the Emperor and Empress of the French.

From the evidence brought forward, it appeared that on the 2nd of January Bernard went to the booking office of the South-Eastern Railway Company, in the Regent Circus, Piccadilly, and deposited there, for transmission to Paris, a package like a square box, with a

projection on the top, and covered with a rough material like canvas. This was directed to "M. Outrequin, 277, Rue St. Denis, Paris." Mr. King, the clerk, asked M. Bernard to declare the contents and value of this parcel, in accordance with the ordinary custom; and he said it contained two revolvers, value 12*l.*, and some samples of pitch, of no value. Mr. King requested him to put his declaration into writing; to which he answered, "I think I had better not do that: my name is known in France as a proscriber, and it might cause the detention of the packet." The suggestion was not insisted on, as Mr. King had known M. Bernard for some years. In reply to a question as to whether he was about to return to France, the refugee answered, "No, but I will go to France when that other one comes back here," at the same time making a significant gesture by pointing over his shoulder. Mr. King remarked that that would be a long while, and M. Bernard replied, "Wait a little; you shall soon see." He also made some allusion to "your good ally." This, as we have said, occurred on the 2nd of January: twelve days later—namely, on the 14th—the attempt was made in the Rue Lepelletier. On hearing of this catastrophe, Mr. King communicated with the French Ambassador.

The arrest of M. Bernard was effected by detective officer Frederick Williamson and police-constable Tinicci, an Englishman of Italian descent and a good linguist. The refugee made no resistance, but asked to be allowed to go up into his bedroom, in order to make some change in his dress. This was refused, and M. Bernard was conveyed to Scotland-yard. A revolver and an American 'knuckle-duster' were afterwards found by the police in the bedroom. On the way to the police-office, M. Bernard asked the detective officer why he did not let him go up-stairs, and whether he was frightened. Williamson replied that he was bound to be cautious. M. Bernard then rejoined, "You had no occasion to be frightened; you are Englishmen. If you had been Frenchmen, I would have killed you." After the reception of this evidence on Monday, the accused was remanded, and bail was refused.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

SHIPWRECKS.—A large ship was wrecked off Youghal harbour during a heavy gale last week, and was soon beating helplessly on the bar. There was a tremendous sea at the time; but the life-boat men went out, and, after encountering great peril, succeeded in bringing off the crew. Two other vessels have been wrecked on the same coast; but the crews in both cases were saved.—The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer Valdivia, at seven A.M. on the 11th of December, struck, during a thick fog, on a rock at Duas Point, fifteen miles south of Llico. The ship at once commenced to fill rapidly, and the passengers and crew were immediately landed. In less than two hours she went to pieces. The accident was attributed to deviation of the compasses, the ship being built of iron.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—The Leander, a fine ship of nine hundred tons, while on its passage from Liverpool to New Orleans, came into collision, on the morning of Thursday week, off Holyhead, with the North America steamer, from Portland to Liverpool. The catastrophe occurred between one and two o'clock A.M., and the shock was so terrific that the Leander cut two-thirds through the deck, just abaft the main rigging, starboard, on the lee side. The vessel immediately began to sink, and all hands were soon struggling in the water. In about five minutes after the collision, the Leander went down, and the captain's wife and nine seamen were drowned. The other persons on board—twelve in number—were picked up.

CHATHAM GARRISON.—In consequence of the crowded state of Chatham garrison, caused by the large influx of volunteers and recruits for the purpose of joining the various Indian depôts, the authorities have decided on reducing the strength of the garrison by the withdrawal of nearly 2000 troops.

TROOPS FOR INDIA.—The screw steam transport Hydaspes, 2200 tons burden, which sailed from Woolwich on the 18th of September, with the troops of Royal Horse Artillery and two field batteries Royal Artillery, making a total of 607 men (and which was reported to have been lost at sea), arrived at Calcutta on the 30th of December, after a pleasant and prosperous voyage.

THE DISTRESSED WIVES AND CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS.—A public meeting of officers and gentlemen connected with Chatham Garrison and Rochester, took place in the latter city on Tuesday, for the purpose of organizing a local association for the relief of the wives and children of soldiers on foreign service. The meeting was attended by a large number of officers belonging to Chatham Garrison, and was presided over by the Mayor. At the close, a considerable sum was collected in subscriptions.

THE ROYAL STANDARD IRON GUN FOUNDRY, recently erected in Woolwich Arsenal, commenced operations on Friday week in an experimental form, under the investigation of Lieutenant-Colonel Wilnot, R.A., Superintendent of that department. Some guns were cast, and, after being planed and bored, they will be subjected to some extraordinary proofs, in order to determine the contemplated advantages of the establishment as a check on the contract manufacturers.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, February 15th.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE INDIAN MUTINEERS.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH asked whether the Government had received any intelligence with regard to the execution of one hundred and fifty mutineers by Sir Hugh Rose. The rebels ought, of course, to be punished, and severely; but, except in some cases, death ought not to be resorted to. As the Duke of Wellington remarked sixty years ago, the natives of India derive from their religion a contempt for death, so that the prospect of it does not afflict them with any terror. Flogging, which degrades them in their own eyes, is a far more efficient punishment. Between ninety and a hundred thousand people had taken part in the mutiny; and it was quite evident that the punishment of death could not be resorted to in every instance. Since the capture of Delhi, there had been, with the exception of a few days, executions to the amount of four, five, or six a day; and, if this be continued, a bloody feud will arise between us and the natives which will make the re-establishment of civil government impossible.—Earl GRANVILLE replied that the Government had as yet no information on the subject except by means of the telegraph. The Government quite agrees—and so, it would appear, does the Governor-General—in the general principle laid down by Lord Ellenborough.

GENERAL WINDHAM.

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE expressed his satisfaction at the despatch written by Sir Colin Campbell in exculpation of General Windham's conduct at Cawnpore.

Certain returns in connexion with the Bankruptcy Commissioners were ordered, on the motion of Lord BROUGHAM, and their Lordships then adjourned.

ANNEXATION OF OUDE.

Mr. DARBY GRIFFITHS presented a petition from the Manchester Free Trade Association, praying for an inquiry into the facts connected with the annexation of Oude.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

Mr. LABOUCHERE wished to correct a misunderstanding which had gone forth to the public upon an important point in the answer that he gave to the question of the member for Sheffield in regard to the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company. He was represented to have said that it was the intention of the Government forthwith to take the whole of the territory from the Company. What he said was, that immediate steps would be taken to bring Vancouver's Island under the authority of the Crown. With regard to the Hudson's Bay Company, all he said was that he should be prepared to produce papers that would show what steps her Majesty's Government had taken in the matter.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

In answer to Mr. CHILDS, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the question of Weights and Measures had engaged the attention of the Government; but there are difficulties in the way of introducing a measure, and Ministers cannot pledge themselves to such a course.

CIVIL OFFICERS IN INDIA.

Mr. PALK asked the President of the Board of Control whether the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal had made any use of the services of those officers of the civil service who were recalled from their furlough by a despatch from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General of India, and who have been respectively reattached to the Bengal Presidency; whether the officers had received or would be entitled to any remuneration for the expenses of their return before the expiration of the furlough they claim to be entitled to after ten years' service; and whether the time occupied in performing the double journey will be permitted to reckon as service.—Mr. VERNON SMITH said he had received no report on the subject, but he had seen from the *Gazettes* that some of those officers had been employed. Their passage out will be paid, and the furlough will count as service to the extent of three years.

THE COMMISSION ON EDUCATION.

Mr. COWPER brought up her Majesty's reply to the address of the House, praying for the appointment of a commission to inquire into the state of education in England and Wales. Her Majesty stated that she has already directed a commission to issue for the purposes requested by the House.

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT BILL.

The adjourned debate on the motion for leave to bring in a bill for the better government of India was opened by Mr. ROEBUCK, who remarked that, in the acquisition of our Indian empire, we had broken through almost every rule of morality, and, while exhibiting great valour and great intelligence, had shown little virtue. Still, our sway might be turned to the great benefit of the people of India, who are incapable of governing themselves. India is not a colony, but a conquered territory, and we have therefore to frame a form of government for the natives under our charge. The double Government had destroyed all responsibility; and there had never been a worse administration in the world than that of the Court of Directors, as even Lord Macaulay, though a great defender of the Company, had shown. With certain changes, such as the omission of the

irresponsible councillors, he (Mr. Roebuck) thought that the proposed bill would be the best home administration for India. He liked the idea of a responsible secretary, and thought he would be likely to succeed where others have failed.—Mr. DUFF also gave a general support to the measure.—Mr. WHITESIDE defended the Company, and said that no case had been made out against them. The introduction of Parliamentary authority over India had been demoralizing and mischievous, and, if Lord Clive and Warren Hastings had been guilty of annexations, so had Lord Dalhousie.—Mr. LOWE said that the defenders of the Company wished to make others believe that the Government designed entirely to reconstruct, or revolutionize, the administration of India; but the Court of Directors might be safely eliminated, and a Council would perform its duties much more effectively. The effect of the indirect agency of the Court is to produce delay and embarrassment; besides, the Princes of India feel themselves degraded in being the vassals and tributaries of a mercantile body, and the natives generally have a notion that they are farmed out to that body. Another anomaly is that the Company might be at war with a Power with which the Queen is at peace.—Mr. LIDDELL opposed and Mr. SLANEY supported the bill.—Mr. CRAWFORD thought there should have been a previous inquiry by a committee of that House. He objected to the number of the Council, to the exclusion from Parliament of the members of the Council, to vesting the whole power of the present Secret Committee in President and Council, and to the enormous additional patronage placed in the hands of Government.—Sir HENRY RAWLINSON, while objecting to some of the details of the bill, thought it would be an immense improvement. Describing what he called "the gestation of an Indian despatch, from the first stage of its conception to the last days of parturition," he showed that its progress is a triumphant specimen of "Circumlocution-office" tactics, the document being banded about for several weeks between the secretary to the East India Company, the chairman, the Board of Control, and the Court of Directors. In cases of emergency, the forms might be simplified; but what is to be thought of a system which must be altered the moment the trial comes? The sooner the double Government was done away with the better. He believed that the natives of India would prefer the domination of the Crown to that of the Company, and so would the European community and the officers of the army, with the exception of a few covenanted civil servants.—Sir J. WALSH thought that the double Government presented useful features. Englishmen require checks on absolute power, and those checks necessarily involve complexity and delay. By this measure the Government would acquire vast patronage and the disposal of a revenue of 30,000,000*l.*, with only a phantom of control on the part of that House. He feared that the pressure which had forced the Government to introduce this bill would compel them to take steps for the conversion of the natives to Christianity. Our Indian Empire would thus be endangered; and consequently he should vote for the amendment.—Mr. A. MILLS, Mr. WYLD, and Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR spoke in favour of the bill, which Mr. ADAMS opposed.—Mr. ELLIOT denied an assertion of the last speaker that Europeans in India are either afraid or ashamed to make profession of their Christianity.—On the motion of Colonel SYKES, the debate was adjourned to the following day, 280 being in favour of the adjournment, and 82 against it.

The House adjourned at a quarter to one o'clock.

Tuesday, February 16th.

GENERAL WINDHAM.

In the House of Lords, the Duke of CAMBRIDGE said, with reference to some observations he had made on the previous night, that he had intended to state that he had received a report to the effect that no blame whatever attaches to General Windham for the defeat at Cawnpore, but that blame does attach to some other parties, and that those cases are under investigation by Sir Colin Campbell.

The CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPECIAL SERVICES BILL was considered in committee, and, certain verbal amendments having been agreed to, the House resumed, and immediately afterwards went into committee on the BISHOPS' TRUSTS SUBSTITUTION BILL. This having passed through committee, the House adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

In the House of Commons, Mr. EWART gave notice for that day fortnight of a motion for the future improvement of India by education and otherwise.

THE FRENCH DESPATCHES.

Mr. GRIFFITHS asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether—since the letter of the 6th of February from the French Ambassador, expressing the regret of the Emperor for the publication of the addresses in the *Moniteur*, has not appeared in that paper in the same way as its predecessor of the 26th of January, asking for redress—it be the intention of Government to suggest to the French Government that its publication would, in their opinion, be conducive to the satisfactory termination of the transaction?

Lord PALMERSTON: "Before answering the question of the hon. gentleman, I wish to put a question to the House. I wish to ask the House what is their intention upon a matter of great national importance; whether it is their wish and intention that those friendly and confi-

dential relations which now happily exist between her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French should be maintained, or whether it is their intention to infuse into the relations between the two countries a spirit of irritation, of bitterness, and of animosity? (*Hear, hear.*) Now, Sir, if the latter is their object, no more effectual course could be adopted, though it is not a very dignified one, than the continuance of personal attacks in this House upon the Emperor of the French and the French nation; and therefore, though with great regret, I will try to prevent it. Yet, if the House choose to pursue that course, upon them be the responsibility. If the House, on the other hand, attach the importance I attach to the maintenance of the friendly relations which exist between the two Governments, they will resist the continuance of these attacks upon the Emperor, who has been the spontaneous choice of the whole French nation. (*Cheers.*) With regard to the question of the hon. member, I can only say, that it is not the intention of her Majesty's Government to adopt a course of proceeding such as he suggests, because we think that such a course would be highly improper, and, if I may be permitted to say so, without meaning anything personally offensive, excessively absurd." (*Laughter.*)

POOR RELIEF, AND LAWS OF SETTLEMENT AND REMOVAL.

In reply to Mr. WISE, Mr. BOUVERIE said her Majesty's Government did not contemplate introducing any measure to alter the mode of raising the rates for the relief of the poor. With regard to the laws of settlement and removal, the subject was nearly exhausted, as far as inquiry was concerned, and he should not think it his duty to move the appointment of a new committee to consider the general effect of the laws. With regard, however, to the particular point relating to irremovable paupers, the Act had been in operation a very short time; it will expire next year, and then it might be advisable to have an inquiry into its operation.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS AT NAPLES.

In answer to Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, Lord PALMERSTON said the Government had been in communication with the Government of Naples, through her Majesty's consular agent, with regard to the English prisoners. The consul had attended the proceedings of the court, and had given due attention to them. The state of the matter was this:—Parkes had been put upon his trial. With regard to Watts, unfortunately, his spirits had been very much affected by the imprisonment he had undergone, and by the apprehensions that existed in his mind as to its final results; and he was found to be in a state of mental excitement which rendered it improper that his trial should be proceeded with. Upon the application of the consular agent, he had been delivered over to the representatives of the British Government, and placed in the British hospital at Naples, where he would be attended by Englishmen, medical men and others; and he (Lord Palmerston) hoped that with proper treatment he would recover.

THE DUBLIN POLICE.

Mr. GROGAN moved for a select committee to inquire into the system of management of the Dublin Metropolitan Police Force, and adduced certain figures to show that there are more policemen in Dublin than are necessary, and that the expense is very burdensome to the public.—Mr. VANCE seconded the motion.—Mr. H. HERBERT opposed the motion, stating at the same time that the Government is prepared to lay bills on the table which will remedy any abuses under the present system.—Upon a division, the motion was negatived by 200 to 105.

THE REBELLION IN INDIA.

Mr. BAILLIE, disregarding a request from Lord Palmerston that he would postpone his motion in order to allow the debate adjourned from the preceding night to be proceeded with, called attention to the "causes which have led to the rebellion in her Majesty's dominions in the East." The general opinion of our fellow-countrymen in India is that the rebellion had its origin among a portion of the Mahomedan population, irritated and alarmed by the policy of annexation. Eminent Indian statesmen had recorded protests against that policy. The Duke of Wellington, Sir Thomas Munro, Mr. Elphinstone, and Lord Ellenborough, had all warned the country as to the consequences of pushing the principle too far. The annexation mania began in 1833, since which date we have seized the territories of Scinde, the Panjab, Nagpore, and Oude. The annexation of the last-mentioned state had caused the dissatisfaction of the Bengal army. He had received information that thousands of petitions had been sent up from that army against the seizure of that kingdom. By the annexation of Oude, the tenure of land was affected, and the Sepoys, being the sons of the small farmers, were all more or less interested in it. The feudal chiefs had offered to the late King to bring into the field 100,000 men, with proportionate artillery, if he would resist the annexation; but he refused, and submitted to the British Government. The annexation of Oude was highly discreditable to the Government of Lord Dalhousie. The rulers of Oude had always been the friends and allies of this country, and the only charge that could be brought against them was the oppression of their subjects. We should have been better employed of late years in improving our administration of our own possessions than in acquiring fresh

territory. A change which he (Mr. Baillie) thought advisable would be that some restriction should be placed upon the unlimited power of the Minister of the Crown. (*Hear, hear.*) That was the opinion of the Court of Directors in 1833, as appeared from the correspondence that then took place between the Court and the Crown. What the Directors proposed was that, when the Indian Minister and the Court of Directors differed in opinion, there should be an appeal to Parliament upon the merits of the case. But the Government of the day was strong, and the Directors failed in their object. Mr. Baillie concluded by moving for certain papers.

Mr. VERNON SMITH said that Mr. Baillie had cast no light upon the origin of the mutinies, which remained as mysterious as ever. There never had been any policy of annexation; no Government had laid down such a principle. With regard to the annexation of Oude, he was of opinion that Lord Dalhousie had acted with great discretion. The King of that country had been distinctly warned by Lord William Bentinck and Lord Hardinge that, if he refused to reform his government, he would forfeit his throne. It was by British bayonets that he was enabled to tyrannize over his subjects; and, even although the seizure of the country was the cause of the revolt, the act was justifiable. All the authorities in India which the Government consulted at the time were in favour of the measure. The discontent of the Oude Sepoy was owing to the monopolies which he had enjoyed being broken up. However, he (Mr. Vernon Smith) would offer no opposition to the production of the papers.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL vindicated the political character of Lord Dalhousie. The misgovernment of Oude was so notorious as far back as 1801, that Lord Wellesley concluded a treaty with the Nawab Vizier, which pledged the Prince to act in accordance with the advice of the Company. That treaty was constantly violated, but English soldiers were obliged to perform the odious duty of enforcing the misrule of a vicious Court. At length it became necessary either that our troops should be withdrawn, or that Oude should be seized. The home Government decided on the latter course, and Lord Dalhousie could not do otherwise than obey. It was unfortunate, however, that the annexation should take place contemporaneously with the Persian war, and without a sufficient force in hand in case of an emergency.

Lord JOHN MANNERS contended that the deposed King of Oude had really taken the advice given to him by us, so that there was no justification for the annexation. Besides, if the treaty of 1837, prohibiting the annexation of Oude, was in force in 1856, it had been flagrantly violated. His Lordship quoted a letter of Lord Auckland, and declarations of Lords Ellenborough and Broughton, to show that that treaty was valid, though Lord Dalhousie had asserted that it had been disallowed by the Home authorities. By fraud and chicanery they had won the kingdom of Oude, and it seemed that they were determined to hold it by blood; but for himself he disclaimed all responsibility in these transactions. He concluded by moving, as an amendment, for copies of correspondence between the Secret Committee and the Board of Control in the years 1837, 1838, and 1839.

Mr. MANGLES, as a member of the Court of Directors, was ready to take his full share of responsibility for the annexation of Oude, which he believed was a just and necessary measure. The treaty of 1837 was really disallowed. He did not believe that the annexation of Oude had had any appreciable effect on the mutiny. The Hindoos in Oude are in our favour, as had been proved by the natives having maintained the authority of the Government at stations deserted by civil officers. The rising is nothing more than a military mutiny. Colonel SYKES (likewise a director of the Company) addressed the House to the same effect. Mr. KINNAIRD thought Mr. Baillie's speech had not been answered. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON regarded the annexation of Oude as one of the most unrighteous acts that ever threw a stain on this country. If the treaty of 1837 were abrogated, the King of Oude was not informed of the abrogation. The act had been justified on account of the alleged degradation of the people; but Bishop Heber said that, when he visited the country, he never saw so industrious a population. General THOMPSON said that the Government had goaded the Sepoys into rebellion by insulting them in connexion with their religion. The execution of the princes at Delhi was one of the foulest murders that ever disgraced a country. (*Oh, oh!*) The English officers had tortured their prisoners, and then boasted of it. He sometimes wondered what we had done that such men should be decreed to be our countrymen. Many of the torturers and the tortured are now before the same God; and he believed the Hindoos would have the best of it. (*Oh, oh!*)—Mr. NEWDEGATE was not prepared to find the polluters of our women and the murderers of our children defended in that House; still less that a general officer would be found apologizing for the enormities of the Sepoys. General THOMPSON, in explanation, said that, except as to their victims being put to death, he did not believe in the outrages said to have been committed in India by the Sepoys. Mr. PATRICK O'BRIEN having offered a few observations, exculpating General Thompson from the charge of wishing to sympathize with Sepoy atrocities, the amendment of Lord JOHN MANNERS was withdrawn, and the motion was agreed to.

VACATING OF SEATS.

Mr. WRIGHTSON moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the Act of the 6th Queen Anne, c. 7, so far as relates to the vacating of seats in Parliament as the acceptance of office.—The motion was at once put from the chair, and the House divided, when there appeared—

For the motion.....	91
Against it	108
Majority against the motion ...	—17

BLEACHING AND DYEING WORKS.

Mr. BUTT moved for, and obtained, a select committee to inquire into the circumstances connected with the employment of women and children in bleaching and dyeing establishments in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and to consider how far it may be necessary or expedient to extend to those establishments provisions regulating such employment, and to report their observations thereupon to the House.

MORTALITY IN THE FOOT GUARDS.

Captain ANNESLEY moved for a copy of the report of the medical officers of the Foot Guards, which states the average mortality in that brigade.—Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT suggested that the returns should extend over fifteen years instead of ten, and include the number of officers discharged on reduction of the army; and he moved an amendment to that effect.—After a few words from Colonel NORTH, who conceived that further information was necessary, Sir JOHN RAMSDEN said he had no objection to offer either to the motion or the amendment.—The motion, as amended, was then agreed to.

The debate on the Government of India was postponed till Thursday, Mr. Roebuck, who had a motion on the paper, having consented to give way.

The House adjourned about one o'clock.

Wednesday, February 17th.

ECCELESIASTICAL RESIDENCES (IRELAND) BILL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. NAPIER, in moving the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Residences (Ireland) Bill, explained its objects, which are, to ascertain the law upon the subject, now uncertain; to consolidate and amend it; and to render it as complete as possible.—Sir GEORGE GREY, on the part of the Government, made no objection to the second reading of the bill, which was accordingly read a second time.—On the motion of Mr. NAPIER, the Churches, &c. (Ireland), Bill was also read a second time.

CHURCH RATES ABOLITION BILL.

Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY moved the second reading of the bill. Alluding to the irritating contests which constantly take place, and to the decay of the fabric of the churches owing to the majority in certain parishes refusing church rates, Sir John said the question was not so much that of Dissenters as of Churchmen.—The motion was seconded by General THOMPSON, who, as the bill did not provide any mode of supplying the deficiency, suggested that it might be made up by a land-tax.—Lord ROBERT CECIL moved, by way of amendment, to defer the second reading for six months. The bill proposed to remedy an evil which does not exist, and it would be the first step towards a separation of Church and State.—Sir ARTHUR HALLAM ELTON, as a Churchman, supported the second reading, but thought there should be some provision towards the maintenance of the fabric of the churches.—Mr. BALL, replying to Lord Robert Cecil, observed that the Dissenters of all classes far outnumber the Churchmen. They would willingly pay a voluntary contribution towards maintaining ecclesiastical edifices.—Mr. DRUMMOND thought that the history of England could not furnish a more scandalous decision than that in the Braintree case, when the House of Lords ruled that a minority cannot make a church rate.—Lord STANLEY supported the bill, being of opinion that the voluntary principle in Church matters is the best.

Sir GEORGE GREY could not agree to the abolition of church rates without an equivalent, nor could he oppose the bill upon the grounds stated by the noble lord who moved the amendment. He believed that the number of parishes where church rates had not been demanded, or had been refused, amounted to about ten per cent.; but they must look to the number of the population, and not to the number of parishes, in coming to a conclusion in this matter. He believed there were 9000 parishes, in about 950 of which church rates had not been asked for; but the number of the population accepting church rates was 13,500,000, while the number, in cases where they had been refused or withheld, was six million. He suggested that they should recognize the abolition of church rates wherever they had been abolished for a certain time by the inhabitants, and that they should relieve the individual consciences of those who differed with the Established Church, by exempting them from payment of church rates; but at the same time they should not be allowed to have seats in the vestry, nor to take part in any ecclesiastical business. He also suggested that landowners in parishes should charge their estates to a limited amount with church rates. If the bill of the hon. baronet were rejected, he (Sir George Grey) would ask leave to lay upon the table a measure embodying his own suggestions.

Mr. BRESFORD HOPKINS, who spoke amidst loud cries of "Divide!" opposed the bill.—Mr. GARNET supported it.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said the

suggestion of the Home Secretary was not a mere compromise, but would bring about a solution of the difficulty.—Mr. SLANEY, feeling bound to support the fabric of the churches, and at the same time to remove conscientious objections, should reserve his vote for the bill of Sir George Grey (*Oh, Oh!*), and vote against the present bill.—Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY replied, and the House divided, when there appeared—

For the second reading	213
Against it.....	160
Majority for the second reading, —	
and against the Government	53

The announcement was received with loud cheers.

The bill was then read a second time, and the committee was fixed for that day fortnight.

The House adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

Thursday, February 18th.

THE INDIAN LOAN.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord MONTEAGLE moved for a return showing the total expenditure, the surplus, and deficiency in the several Presidencies in India during the last ten years; also a return of the Indian debt, and the charges for the Indian debt, and the variation of the debt from year to year, both as regards the amount of principal and the rate of interest; and also a return showing the balances in the treasury at the commencement of each of those financial years.

THE MILITIA.

The Earl of CARNARVON moved for a return of the actual strength of the Militia regiments at present embodied, and expressed an opinion that the vote for the Militia contained in the estimates of this year (150,000*l.*) is insufficient.—Earl HARDWICKE also thought a larger sum should have been asked for.—Earl GREY held that the vote was sufficient. The Militia already costs as much as the regular army.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH believed, from returns he had seen of sick and wounded published in an Indian newspaper, that our force in the East is not so strong as supposed. Whatever arrangements might be made, he earnestly hoped that they would be enabled to relieve eight or ten regiments.—Lord PANMURE said he believed there was nothing more unpalatable to a regiment, however weak it might be, than to withdraw it from the field where it had earned its glory.—The motion was then agreed to.

DISTRICT COURTS OF BANKRUPTCY.

Lord BROUGHAM introduced a bill for effecting various changes in the present jurisdiction in bankruptcy. By this measure, parties would have the option of going before the district judge or the central judge, according as it might be found convenient or expedient. It would give jurisdiction to the bankrupt commissioners to imprison for debt, in cases of fraud and misconduct. It provided for the appointment of an officer, to be called an official examiner, and it would be his duty to attend on the part of creditors in the first instance; but, if the creditors did not choose to help him, or undertake the task of examination themselves, it would then be his duty to examine, inquire, sift, and scrutinize, on the part of the public, the conduct of the traders brought before the court. There were provisions for the improvement of the conduct of the official assignees, and above all for the improvement of the mode of remuneration. His Lordship desired to abolish the distinction between trader and non-trader, and declared that he brought forward the bill with the expectation that the Lord Chancellor would also propound a measure according to his own views on the subject.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said there seemed to be difficulties in the way of abolishing the district courts of bankruptcy, and giving the jurisdiction to the county courts. A bill on the subject had been under the consideration of the Board of Trade, and would be introduced by Government either in that or the other House.—After a brief and rather vague conversation, the bill was read a first time.

Their Lordships adjourned at seven o'clock.

GENERAL WINDHAM.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Sir WILLIAM CODRINGTON asked whether any additional despatch had been received by the Government from the Commander-in-Chief, and from the Governor-General in India, referring to the operations of General Windham in the defence of Cawnpore in November last?—Lord PALMERSTON said he rather thought that such a communication had been received at the India House. The honourable baronet knew that no communication exists between the Governor-General of India and any portion of her Majesty's Government; but he believed he might venture to say that explanations had been given which completely acquitted General Windham of any blame connected with the engagement which ended with the loss of a part of the baggage and tents.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The adjourned debate was resumed by Colonel SYKES, who defended the Company, denying that the double Government necessarily caused delay in the transaction of business; asserting that the Company had been anxious to encourage Christianity in India, but was obliged to observe caution lest the natives should be alarmed; expressing his belief that the mutiny is a military rising consequent on a religious panic; and urging the danger of leaving in the hands of the Minister

of the Crown the uncontrolled appointment of high officers in India.—Sir CHARLES WOOD, referring to the act of 1853, which he had introduced when President of the Board of Control, said he then expressly stated that it might be necessary at a future day to introduce still further changes, and to govern India in the name of the Queen. There should be a better mode of choosing councillors for India than by the proprietors of East India Stock. A larger number of European troops must be maintained in India, and to put an end to jealousies the whole of our Indian army should be the Queen's army.—Mr. WILLOUGHBY believed that the contemplated change would bring dismay on the minds of the natives, who would look upon it as the forerunner of the withdrawal of some of their most cherished privileges. The patronage of India is now distributed upon just principles, and he could not think favourably of a measure which would change that system. A vast amount of patronage would be placed in the hands of the Government without a check, and its influence would arm an unscrupulous minister with a very dangerous power. With regard to adoption, the Company never interfered with it where private or personal property was concerned. They had not ignored the Christian religion; on the contrary, the servants of the Company had been among the best friends of that religion. Much had been said about colonization; but it was said in ignorance. To entertain the project of colonizing the plains of India was an absurdity.—Mr. CAMPBELL said that the Company had taken credit to themselves for improvements in India, but most of them had originated with the Governor-General. He expressed his decided approval of the bill, and believed that the name of the Queen would be hailed with delight by the various classes in India.—Sir EDWARD BULWER-LYTTON characterized the measure as audacious, incomplete, and unconsidered. The system of check now complained of had saved the empire from many a fatal blunder. Lord Palmerston and Sir G. C. Lewis had affirmed that under the existing system there is no responsibility; but Sir Charles Wood—whose speech that night had answered his speech in 1853—contended that the whole responsibility rests upon the President of the Board of Control. Pass this bill, and the House would never interfere with the affairs of India, unless it were to the interest of some party to assail the Government through the Indian Minister.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL could not consent to leave this matter in doubt for another year. It was imperative that they should have only a Queen's army in India. That alone—seeing that it broke up the very foundation of the East India Company—showed the urgency of legislation. He saw no alternative but to look the question in the face, and to come at once to a solution of the difficulty.—Mr. DISRAELI reminded the House that they had not taken into consideration the financial part of the question. After the proposed change, it would be impossible to keep up any distinction between the finances of India and those of England. If the exchequer of India should be empty, England would be liable. At this moment there is a deficit in India of about two millions, and this will necessarily be doubled and quadrupled. The House ought to know, before it passed this bill, what are the resources of India, and how they are to be managed. What is wanted is a total change in the local administration of India itself. The projected scheme of home government for India would not meet the necessities of the case. The President of the Council must trust to the Governor-General, who would thus be invested with absolute power. The expenditure would increase every year, and England would have to pay for India.

Lord PALMERSTON said it was admitted on all hands that the Court of Directors was doomed; and the Government wished to bring the authority of the Queen to bear on India with as little derangement of existing machinery as possible. It had been said that the council would not be independent; but did those who said so mean that there ought to be associated with the President an antagonistic council, who would overrule him, without responsibility either to the Government or Parliament? Would that conduce to harmonious action and beneficial result? Clearly, the council must be one of advice, not of control. It appeared to him that the proposed arrangement would be most conducive to the end in view. He wished that the House would neither be led away by the sophistry they had heard, nor daunted by the phantom of an imaginary call on the revenues of the country for Indian purposes. If the local Government were to have power to increase the local expenditure—if the Governor-General were to be mistrusted—then, he said, strengthen the Government at home, and give them the power of bringing the whole concern under the control of Parliament.

Mr. NEWDEGATE having made an ineffectual endeavour to address the House, a division took place, and the result was—

For the motion	318
Against it	178
Majority	140

The bill was then brought in and read a first time, and Lord PALMERSTON stated that the second reading would be taken that day fortnight.

The House adjourned at ten minutes past one.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

An attack on the position held by Sir James Outram at Alumbagh, guarded by four thousand of our men, was made by the enemy on the 22nd of December, on the 12th of January, and on the 16th of the same month. On each occasion the insurgents were defeated, with heavy loss of men and guns, and with scarcely any casualties on our side. In the last engagement, the leader of the rebels, a Hindoo fanatic, was wounded and taken prisoner. The Sepoys in this locality are said to be fiercely quarrelling among themselves.

Heading a force of about eight thousand men, Sir Colin Campbell left Cawnpore on the 24th of December, and secured a large quantity of treasure at Blitoor. Three days later, he attacked and defeated the rebels on the Khoree Nudde; and on the 11th of January he took possession of Futtehghur. From this locality the enemy fled precipitately, leaving their guns, baggage, and ammunition behind them. The Nawab made across the Ganges into Rohilcund, whither Sir Colin was about to follow him. After subduing that district, the Commander-in-Chief was to advance again upon Lucknow. Brigadier Walpole joined Colonel Seaton's column at Bewar, near Mynpore, on the 3rd of January. The whole of the road is clear.

Troops are being pushed through Scinde into the Punjab, and it is calculated that Sir John Lawrence will soon have a reinforcement of from three to four thousand men. With the usual energy and alertness of himself and his lamented brother, he has already provided horses for the cavalry as soon as they shall arrive. A strong column, under Brigadier Roberts, is moving from Deesa into Rajpootana, and has already signaled itself by capturing an insurgent stronghold near Mount Aboo. This was effected by the first detachment, under Major Rains, which subsequently proceeded to Nusseerabad. Other forces are advancing to join them.

Sir Hugh Rose was at Sehore at the last advices, and was expected to arrive at Saugor on the 28th of January, and then to advance to Jhansi. On the 10th of that month (the Malwa mutineers at Indore being disposed of), he proceeded to Lechoa, and was followed next day by Sir Robert Hamilton. On the 13th, Sir Hugh tried and executed one hundred and fifty mutineers, having first disarmed the Bhowal contingent. A Madras column, about to be joined by Sir W. Grant, is advancing. General White-lock's force was at Nagpore at the date of the last despatches, and the village of the rebellious Thakur of Rewa had been attacked and burnt, after an obstinate resistance. This was on the 6th of January. The Kamptee column is advancing on Saugor. The Rajah of Kotah is said to be anxious to make terms. Captain Osborne, with the troops of the Rewah Rajah, took the city of Myhere by storm on the 28th of December, capturing two guns. The fort of Myhere was also taken on the 3rd of January. The direct route to Bombay has been re-opened. The Maharajah of Gwalior has come to Agra on a visit. The Dacca mutineers crossed the Teesta River, and made their way through dense jungles into Nepal. A Ghorka regiment has been sent against them by Jung Bahadoor, and it is supposed they will fall back again to the eastward. The Chittagong mutineers are wandering about in the Echar jungles. Many have been killed and captured by the Sylhet Light Infantry and the Kookies.

The Bheels, who had assembled in force near the Nizam's frontier, were attacked on the 20th of January by Captain Montgomery, in the Mindar Jumle-Aroum. The result of this struggle is described as 'indecisive.' Captain Montgomery and three other officers were wounded; and one of these—Lieutenant Stewart, of the Nizam's infantry—has since died. Our total loss is said to have been fifty rank and file. Reinforcements are on their way.

The Punjab is quiet, and the country for the most part is being gradually tranquillized; "but," says the telegram from Lord Lyons, "a vast amount of work has still to be performed."

Nana Sahib is said, in a despatch dated January 7th, to be near Nagode with a very large force, and it is added that he means to besiege Saugor, unless the arrival of reinforcements should compel him to move in another direction. An earlier despatch mentions a report that he was then at a place near Ghurmuckteer Ghaut, and that a party of infantry and cavalry had gone after him. A third report, of doubtful authenticity, speaks of his having been captured by General Outram.

Forty-five rebels have been shot at Goorgaon. Of these, thirty-five were members of the Royal family. The district is tolerably quiet, and the revenue is coming in fast.

"The general impression left by a review of the facts of the fortnight," says the *Times* Calcutta correspondent, writing on the 8th of January, "is one of success; but the condition of the country in some places is frightful. The people, released from all restraint, are indulging the

true Asiatic thirst for blood. In Goruckpore, for instance, Mahommed Hoossein cuts off quiet folks heads because they will not pay revenue. His assistants cut off heads because their owners will not pay bribes in excess of revenue. Jung Bahadoor is cutting off the heads of Mahommed Hoossein's followers, and, to crown the scene, the villagers kill each other to reconcile long-standing feuds. The slaughter from all causes is frightful, and Goruckpore will remember the year 1857 as the Irish remember the years of famine."

As a result of our improved prospects, trade at Calcutta shows signs of reviving health. The Governor-General is said to be on his way to the North-West Provinces.

ALLEGED RUSSIAN AGGRESSIONS IN INDIA.

A strange and startling piece of intelligence, which, however, awaits confirmation, is mentioned in a letter from Central India, which says:—

"News has just arrived here from the interior, that a large body of Russians, Kémin Tartars, and troops from Bokhara, have invested Yarkund, a place about forty marches from Simla, across the Himalaya mountains, and on the borders either of Thibet or Chinese Tartary. It was well known, some time ago, that a large body of Russians were making their way by land towards India, although the English papers denied the practicability of their being able to do so. I should not be at all surprised if they attempt to take Cashmere, and march on to Simla along the very road we have lately made."

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL AND GENERAL WINDHAM.

The Commander-in-Chief has published the following despatch with reference to the defeat of General Windham at Cawnpore:—

"To the Right Hon. the Governor-General.

"Head-quarters, Camp near Cawnpore, Dec. 20.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to bring to your Lordship's notice an omission, which I have to regret, in my despatch of the 2nd of December, and I beg to be allowed now to repair it. I desire to make my acknowledgment of the great difficulties in which Major-General Windham, C.B., was placed during the operations he describes in his despatch, and to recommend him, and the officers whom he notices as having rendered him assistance to your Lordship's protection and good offices. I may mention, in conclusion, that Major-General Windham is ignorant of the contents of my despatch of the 2nd of December, and that I am prompted to take this step solely as a matter of justice to the Major-General and the other officers concerned.—I have, &c.,

"C. CAMPBELL, General, Commander-in-Chief.

"R. J. H. BIRCH, Colonel, Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Department."

The Governor-General has followed this up by the General Order annexed:—

"The Right Hon. the Governor-General in Council has received the accompanying despatch from his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and hastens to give publicity to it. It supplies an omission in a previous despatch from his Excellency, which was printed in the *Gazette Extraordinary* of the 24th instant. Major-General Windham's reputation as a leader of conspicuous bravery and coolness, and the reputation of the gallant force which he commanded, will have lost nothing from an accidental omission such as General Sir Colin Campbell has occasion to regret. But the Governor-General in Council will not fail to bring to the notice of the Government in England the opinions formed by his Excellency of the difficulties against which Major-General Windham, with the officers and men under his orders, had to contend."

PROCLAMATION BY A REBEL 'KING.'

The rebel 'King' at Mundesore, has addressed Moulavie Jummaloodeen Bahadoor, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Army at Neemuch, in the following proclamation, dated Mundesore, the 10th of November, 1857:—

"Be it known that Akbar's messenger has this moment (twelve o'clock noon-day) arrived from Neemuch, and appeared in the presence of the King, into whose ears he has poured the glad tidings of victory and conquest over the infidels, by the capture of the Fort of Neemuch, by the courageous and all-daring warriors of his Majesty's army. This intelligence is most welcome and pleasing to his Majesty. But Heaven grant that the King and his faithful soldiers may achieve more and greater triumphs over their enemies! It is required that upon the receipt of this you immediately despatch, under a strong escort, and properly secured, the everlastingly hell-doomed English prisoners to Mundesore, that the King may himself fix upon a suitable mode of torture for them. Lose no time in eradicating every vestige of the English power, and in erecting our standards in the fort, cantonment, and town of Neemuch. Strictly enjoin the soldiers that they in no way injure the country people; severe punishment will be inflicted on those who disobey this order. Carefully preserve the arms and other property found in the fort, and, until further orders, do not march upon Jawud. Convey my hearty congratulations to the army on the attainment of this glorious victory, in honour of which I have fired a salute of eleven guns. But as the information has not yet been authenticated by your despatches, I am rather

sceptical as to the whole truth of the *Harkuru* report, though, from the knowledge of the known courage and bravery of my troops, I feel inspired with the brightest and most sanguine hopes. However, I am most anxious that you should write all the particulars without delay. May the Almighty protect and preserve you. Be vigilant, be happy!"

It is stated that the prisoners are to be boiled in oil.

ARRIVAL OF THE LADIES, &c., FROM LUCKNOW AT CALCUTTA.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* gives the subjoined account of the arrival at Calcutta of the women and children from Lucknow:—

"At six o'clock on Saturday morning (January 9th), a crowd of people assembled at Prinsep's Ghaut, but a dense fog delayed the arrival of the Madras, and it was not until a quarter to eight that she could be sighted. A royal salute of twenty-one guns from the ramparts of Fort William announced her arrival, and other salutes followed from the men-of-war in the river. All vessels in the river, with the exception of the American ships close to Prinsep's Ghaut, were dressed out with all their flags and presented a very imposing sight. Along the steps from the Ghaut down to the water's edge was formed a sort of gangway, guarded by policemen, and along the whole red carpeting was laid out, such as it is customary to use on state occasions. At last, the Madras arrived off the Ghaut, but owing to some cause or other considerable delay took place before the passengers could be landed; the public in the meantime looking on in stern silence, as if afraid lest even now some accident might happen to those whose escape from the hands of a barbarous and bloodthirsty enemy was decreed by a merciful Providence. The whole scene partook of a solemnity rarely witnessed, and, indeed, the expression on the faces of the bystanders betokened universal sympathy for those they were about to welcome to the hospitable City of Palaces. Mr. Beadon, the secretary of the Home Department, on behalf of Government; the Hon. — Talbot, private secretary to the Governor-General, on behalf of Lord Canning; and Dr. Leckie, as secretary to the Relief Committee, went down to the water's edge to receive the ladies. A sudden rush towards the river, a thronging towards the gangway, and a slight whisper of voices, indicated that the landing had begun. Cheers were given at first, but only slowly responded to, people evidently being too much occupied with their own reflections to think of cheering; but as the ladies and children proceeded up, people doffed their hats almost mechanically, silently looking on as the heroines passed up. At this moment, another ship in the harbour fired a salute, but it did not sound joyfully; it appeared rather like minute guns in remembrance of those whose widows and orphans were now passing in solemn review before us.

"The black dresses of most of the ladies told the tale of their bereavement, whilst the pallid faces, the downcast looks, and the slow walk, bore evidence of the great sufferings they must have undergone both in mind and body."

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK'S LAST DESPATCH.

The despatch of the lamented General Havelock, describing the relief of Lucknow in conjunction with Sir James Outram, has been published during the week. The subjoined extract will be read with melancholy interest:—

"From this point [the bridge of Charbagh] the direct road to the Residency was something less than two miles; but it was known to have been cut by trenches, and crossed by palisades at short intervals, the houses also being all loopholed. Progress in this direction was impossible; so the united column pushed on detouring along the narrow road which skirts the left bank of the canal. Its advance was not seriously interrupted until it had come opposite the King's palace, or the Kaiser Bagh, where two guns and a body of mercenary troops were entrenched. From this entrenchment a fire of grape and musketry was opened, under which nothing could live. The artillery and troops had to pass a bridge partially under its influence; but were then shrouded by the buildings adjacent to the palace of Fureed Buksh. Darkness was coming on, and Sir James Outram at first proposed to halt within the courts of the Mehal for the night; but I esteemed it to be of such importance to let the beleaguered garrison know that succour was at hand, that, with his ultimate sanction, I directed the main body of the 78th Highlanders and regiment of Ferozepore to advance. This column rushed on with desperate gallantry, led by Sir James Outram and myself, and Lieutenants Hudson and Hargood, of my staff, through streets of flat-roofed, loopholed houses, from which a perpetual fire was kept up, and, overcoming every obstacle, established itself within the enclosure of the Residency."

SPECIAL LETTERS FROM INDIA.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

Nagpore, December 27, 1857.

I should be sorry if any imperfections of expression in my former letters should have led your readers to sup-

pose that I am an advocate for rapid and radical and sweeping changes in the government and administration of India. I object to our general policy of the last thirty years, especially during Lord Dalhousie's tenure of office, as having been essentially radical, revolutionary, and destructive, both in imperial acts of state, and in minor fiscal and administrative measures; as having tended to ruin and exasperate the most reflecting and influential classes, and with them to destroy elements of strength, stability, and harmony, which a stroke of the pen in a period of transition may efface, but which a century of the wisest government cannot create. I deprecate as destructive a policy which, instead of introducing and encouraging our own absolute security of property, and of its descent, has rendered the tenure of the proudest and most valued rights, possessions, and privileges, more precarious than it was under the despotic but patriarchal rule of the native princes. I do not regard as conservative that system which threatens to perpetuate the retention of all offices of dignity and high emolument in the hands of a chartered and 'covenanted' guild of foreigners, and to exclude the most able and the best qualified natives from all possibility of an honourable and distinguished career, from all interest in our empire, and all fellowship with our race. But, although I certainly do consider that some acts of restitution and restoration might be appropriately and gracefully blended with those brilliant rewards for the fidelity and active aid of native chieftains, which are required no less for the support of our national honour than as an expression of our national gratitude; and although I consider that we must prepare to abandon the present most dangerous, inhuman, and insulting system of official hierarchy, monopoly, and exclusion, yet no one can be more convinced than I am of the necessity of caution and care. What I earnestly desire to see is rather some evidence of altered disposition, aims, and principles, than any striking and immediate change in our outward practice and policy. Let us lose no time, however. We can better afford to lay the foundations in the plenitude of our power and triumph, than in a period of discontent and agitation. Let us not present one more example of the neglect of "that wise lesson which experience teaches, that there is a time when to yield wins the affections, another, when it only obtains the contempt of mankind."

The scrupulous conservation of rights and possessions, the extension by commutation, by new grants, and, I should add, by sale, of our English security of landed tenure, administrative and social reform, and vitalization of the empire, by the gradual association of distinguished natives in all grades and departments of the public service, and the gradual elimination and exclusion of unqualified Englishmen, should be the guiding principles of the new era. The absorption and decay of the old system will give ample time for the sure and solid growth of the new.

And when an institution, a law, a ceremony, or an establishment has fallen into contempt and disuse, has become inadequate from the lapse of time, or has become corrupt, dangerous, and offensive, it is no true conservatism to endeavour, in defiance of every indication and warning, to prop it up once more, or to galvanize it into unnatural and mischievous life. Thus the Indian Regular Army has exploded in blood and fire, the Bengal Army has abolished itself effectually; the Bombay and Madras Armies have felt the contagion, and have indeed nothing in themselves so peculiar as should make the warning less significant with regard to them. Nothing has been more distinctly manifested during the late period of rebellion and excitement, both in the Bengal and Bombay corps which mutinied, and in the Madras regiments that were tampered with, than the utter helplessness and want of influence of the European officers. It is painful, it is odious, to be compelled to write in this strain at a time when so many of these countrymen of ours have exhibited such glorious devotion, when so many have suffered and perished nobly, and so many more are doing good and gallant service; but, in truth, in many instances, the bloodshed and suffering were augmented by, and those very acts of daring and devotion were the offspring and consequence of, that very want of influence over the Sepoys and insight into their true feelings, to which I have called attention. They are indeed doing good and gallant service, but not with their regiments. The regimental system was at fault, not the men; the system by which the delicate duty of commanding armed men of another race and colour was entrusted to unqualified officers, without experience, without interest in the work, and without authority; the system by which the ignorant and careless cadet could grow up by mere seniority to be the ignorant and careless commandant of a regiment of general of a division; the system was at fault, and its faults have now been blazoned in characters of blood and flame, so that all can see who are not wilfully blind. I regret to see that three new 'extra' regiments have been raised in the Madras Presidency, and that all the native battalions of that army have been recruited up to 1000 strong from their former strength of 700 Sepoys each. But we will consider this as a mere measure of immediate and temporary emergency. The regular

Sepoy regiment system must be doomed for ever; it is condemned by its fruits; nor can we afford, financially or prudentially, to keep up so large a force of trained and formidably armed infantry, to do duties which could be better performed by an efficient police. We should lose nothing in real military strength by reducing our Sepoy infantry to the lowest possible number of battalions, organized on the irregular plan, sufficient to furnish reliefs for Pegu, Aden, Singapore, and other foreign stations, and to form a valuable auxiliary to the British infantry in India, and in any Eastern campaign. Both for preserving the public peace in India, and for imperial and external warfare, for which Sepoy infantry never could be relied on, we should foster the irregular cavalry, the arm in which the British army has always been deficient.

One absolute and conspicuous result of the rebellion of 1857, is therefore the spontaneous reduction of our Regular Sepoy Army by upwards of fifty battalions; and it is to be hoped that the lesson to be drawn from this great fact will not be missed. It may be remarked *en passant* that by universal admission the Sepoys, both on our side, as the 31st at Saugor, and against us, everywhere, have fought quite as well without any European officers as they ever did on any occasion with them.

Another result is equally obvious and indisputable—a great increase of our financial difficulties, a loss and extra expense combined in one year which perhaps would not be much over estimated if taken at ten crores of rupees; or ten millions sterling, the climax of a deficiency of a million and a half per annum during five years.* I can see no remedy for this but in a reduction of the army and other establishments, which must be in a great measure prospective. Although the permanent proportion of European troops in India must certainly be somewhat increased (not to any great extent), yet on the whole the army and other establishments, as may be explained in detail when required, could be rendered much more efficient at a much less expense than at present.

But the most important results, and the gravest lessons and warnings arising from the events of 1857, remain yet to be considered. Has such a result been produced as must in some degree modify our relative position, and our general tone and bearing for the future, with the Native States of India? What effect has been produced on the public opinion of India? When all opposition has ceased, when every trace of the rebellion has disappeared, will the popular belief in our invincible power have been strengthened or diminished?

I believe that our relative position with the Native States has been materially altered by the occurrence and course of this rebellion, and that the Native Princes have morally and politically gained a higher and more independent standing than they enjoyed before the outbreak. I believe it, and I rejoice at it; I believe that this is no loss of power to us, but that on the contrary our paramount imperial power on the continent of India may now be consolidated and secured, openly avowed and distinctly acknowledged, in a manner that has not been hitherto attained,—if the lesson to be learned from the events of the year 1857 be duly appreciated and carried out. Our position towards the Native States partly from the essentially faulty nature of the unlimited right of interference exercised by the British Residents in conformity with treaties, partly by really unauthorized encroachments in the same direction, had become most anomalous and embarrassing to both parties, weakening and degrading the Native Sovereign and his ministers without adding in the least to our influence or dignity. The general tone and bearing of our intercourse with the Native States, and of the consultative minutes of the Supreme Government, especially during Lord Dalhousie's tenure of office, with regard to them, appears to me to have been very bad, unfair, unfriendly, offensive, and threatening. I rejoice therefore at the inevitable change of their position and of our tone and bearing, and cannot regard the change as anything but a gain both for us and for them. At the same time I consider that it involves a striking contradiction and condemnation of Lord Dalhousie's foreign policy.

Lord Dalhousie, writing in 1851 to the Nizam of Hyderabad, on the subject of the balance of a debt due to our Government, recommends him to dismiss or reduce the number of his Arab troops, and reminds him that ours is 'a great Government by whose friendship alone' he has 'so long been sustained, whose resentment it is dangerous to provoke,' and whose power can crush him 'at its will.'† Now, granting all this to be true, where was the necessity of this vulgar blustering in time of profound peace, and on a matter of finance? Could it be supposed that the Nizam was ignorant or forgetful of the enormous power of the British Government?—Surely such language might have been reserved until the Nizam had taken some unfriendly or treacherous course, which no member of his family has done during the last sixty years. In such a case, what terms more galling, what threat more unequivocal, could be used

* *Vide* Lord Dalhousie's farewell Minute, par. 28, p. 8.

† Papers relative to territory ceded by the Nizam, p. 42. 1854.

* Roebuck's 'History of the Whig Ministry.'

towards him? But these unstatesmanlike and unseemly phrases, though I doubt not sincerely employed by Lord Dalhousie, were not even reasonable or true. Able at all times to command the resources of that State, to control its acts, and to dictate its policy, it is not true that we could have 'crushed it at our will,' at least not with safety or impunity. There are many Indian statesmen who would have told Lord Dalhousie (probably have told him) that the existence of the Hyderabad State is a most valuable guarantee of the peace of Southern and Western India. All the most experienced officers of the Hyderabad Contingent, long before any extensive disaffection in our Native Army was dreaded, were well aware that their men could not be relied on to fight cheerfully against the Nizam himself. One distinguished officer, the lamented Brigadier William Mayne, whose opinions on military affairs were not despised by Lord Dalhousie, used to say that an open war between the Company and the Nizam would be quite as difficult and bloody a business as the Punjab campaign of 1849 was. But could Lord Dalhousie have crushed the Nizam at his will in 1857? Or if he had crushed him at his will in 1854, 1855, or 1856, what would have been the state of the Deccan during the rebellion of 1857?

I allow that Lord Dalhousie was justified in enforcing, was bound in duty to enforce, by all legitimate means, the payment of the debt due by the Hyderabad State; I know that in his minute of the 27th May, 1851, which immediately precedes in the Blue Book the letter from which I have just quoted, he expressly disavows all intention or wish to interfere in the Nizam's affairs, or forcibly to assume the administration of his dominions, as had been recommended by the Resident, General Fraser; and yet the sole object of this threatening letter, and of the negotiations which followed it, was to obtain from the Nizam the cession in full sovereignty of nearly one-third of his territory; and the result was that the desired districts were assigned and transferred to our management for the support of the Hyderabad Contingent, and the payment of the interest of our debt. But those transactions are not at present under discussion; it is solely against this overbearing tone, and against this language, so irritating and so alarming to a friendly power, that I protest.

But this seems to be one of Lord Dalhousie's favourite formulas; he appears to have considered its application to our most faithful allies peculiarly appropriate and impressive. We meet with these very words in the 7th paragraph of his farewell minute reviewing his eight years' administration, applied to the present Rajah Runbeer Sing of Cashmere, son of Ghoolab Sing, who was then in a declining state of health: "And when, as must soon be, the Maharajah shall pass away, his son, Meean Runbeer Sing, will have enough to do to maintain his ground against rivals of his own blood, without giving any cause of offence to a powerful neighbour, which he well knows can crush him at his will."

In July, 1857, Rajah Ghoolab Sing did pass away, and Runbeer Sing, instead of wasting his resources in fighting any rivals, managed somehow or other to advance fifty lakhs of rupees (500,000*l.*) to Sir John Lawrence, and to send 3500 of his own troops to assist in the siege of Delhi.

At Hyderabad also, in the same critical period, the usual agitation and disorder of a succession occurred—Nasirood-dowlah, the late Nizam, having died in July, 1857—yet the firmness of the present young Prince restrained the warlike and turbulent population of his dominions, and facilitated every movement of the Madras Army; while more than one-half of that Hyderabad Contingent, which Lord Dalhousie politely informed the Nizam's father, in the letter already quoted, was 'the main support on which depended the stability of his throne,' was pushed forward beyond the Nizam's frontiers into our own provinces, to uphold the stability of our empire against our own mutinous troops and our own rebellious subjects.

Sindia, Holkar, the Guicowar, the Rajah of Rewah, and others, have resisted all attacks and temptations, and the persuasions of their own relations and vassals, and have remained faithful to us; the Rajahs of Patiala, Jheend, and Bhurtpore have given us timely and zealous assistance in men and money. The despised dependents, the useless incumbents, have proved our best friends in the hour of need; and we must be truly blind if we have failed to remark how formidable they would have been as enemies. They themselves cannot have lost sight of the moral advantage they have gained by the events of 1857, and by the part that they have played therein.

We have hitherto placed ourselves in all sorts of anomalous and confused relations with the Native States; we have originally treated with some of them as equal and independent powers, and have gradually depressed them into tributaries, and virtual though not acknowledged feudatories. And this state of things has not brought with it the genial patriarchal ties and mutual sympathy of lord and vassal; but, on the contrary, we have taken everything that we could get—cessions of territory, tribute, loans, contingent troops—and have given nothing in return except that general military protection provided for by treaties, and for the expenses of which we have always exacted a full equivalent;

while during the last thirty years they have seen us watching to take advantage of any excuse or pretext for exercising our assumed right of general succession and of deposition.

Now I think this state of things must cease; the relations of the paramount power and of the minor sovereignties of India must be placed on a more definite and a more equitable basis; and the bonds of federal amity and mutual obligation must be drawn more closely. The native princes must be taught no longer to regard us with alarm and suspicion, as a haughty, inscrutable race, whose interests and objects are totally incompatible with their own, and who, however long the evil day may be deferred, are their destined and determined spoilers and successors; and we, on our part, must learn to recognize the native monarchies as forming an essential condition and a main security in the development of the full power, resources, and wealth of our Eastern Empire.

But for the inauguration of our imperial status among this congeries of princes, and chieftains, and nations, a name more significant and more imposing than that of the Honourable Company, is required. The Queen's name would be indeed a tower of strength in India. For loyalty, and wonder, and child-like confidence, and all the 'cheap defence of nations,' remain available in that excitable and productive stage of civilization through which India must pass, to be replaced by other, and, as we think, higher sentiments and motives, in a more advanced and deliberative social state. It will be very long before any important number of the hundred and fifty millions attain to that independence of thought and will on which we pride ourselves in England. And, in the meantime, complicated interests will have sprung up, closer ties will have been formed between the two countries, and will be maintained and strengthened by every dictate of inclination and reason. We have not hitherto appreciated the sources of power that lie in the peculiar phase of civilization and social life in India. We have hitherto neglected to guide, to mould, or to encourage the political sentiments of the natives, which are thoroughly monarchical and conservative, but have left them to feed on the memories and glories of bygone days and fallen dynasties. It is our fault that they have continued to gaze for the centre of their national existence, interests, and honour, anywhere but towards the British Sovereign; nothing has tended to impress them with the grandeur of forming an important part of the British Empire. There never was a more favourable time than the present for inaugurating a nobler, a more consistent, and a truly imperial policy.

E. V.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF CANTON.

THE Canton correspondent of the *Times* seems to have succeeded to, or to have shared, the vigorous and vivid powers of description of Mr. Russell. He has furnished an account of the bombardment of Canton which recalls the striking pictures of warfare which used to reach the public three years ago from the Crimea. Thus, on Tuesday, December 29th, does he chronicle the progress of the fiery tempest directed against the walls of Canton:—

"I mark the change of days, but they are not divided by repose. All night the city was girt by a line of flame. The approach of morning was indicated by a suspension of the rocket practice, and by the reopening of the mortar battery with redoubled energy. As the day broke the flames sank down and the sun rose upon a perfectly smokeless city. The charges of powder must have been increased in the mortar batteries, for the shells now flew high up to the hill forts. One of them at daybreak burst upon an embrasure of Fort Gough, and another went right over it. The ships that had been enfilading the eastern wall now ceased firing. It was the moment for the assault. In the neighbourhood of the east fort, the three divisions formed, and the rush was made. For two hours, nothing is visible but smoke—nothing is heard but the rattle of musketry and loud cheering. What deeds are done among this broken ground—among these trees and brushwood—on the tops and in the interstices of these grave-covered hillocks—how fare these forces, spread over more than a mile of attack, what divisions are first, who fall and who survive—I must tell hereafter. At eight o'clock, the wall is gained, and I see the blue-jackets, English and French, racing along it northwards. Gough's Fort gives out its fire, let us hope without effect, but, well-served, its guns might sweep the wall. There is a check and silence for half an hour. I can recognize the blue trousers of one of the divisions of our naval brigade. The leaders are probably teaching them how to take that five-storied pagoda upon the north-western wall. Along the city wall, and protected by its battlements, they pass (I think unscathed) the fire from Gough's Fort away to their right, and come in front of a gleaming white battery, newly built, and full of guns erected upon a ledge of the rock upon which the wall and the five-storied pagoda here stand. If the assailants would only go to a proper distance, how these guns would riddle them! But with a rush and a cheer a detachment strikes from the cover of the wall, which the guns do not command, and houses itself safely at the foot of the

very rock which bears the battery. Not a shot can it fire. The riflemen from the walls now ply this half-moon for some minutes, and in a quarter of an hour the detachment at the foot of the rock has gone round and taken the position from behind. Relieved from these guns, which might have swept them down by hundreds, our men in serried masses are now swarming along the wall. The five-storied pagoda (which is no more a pagoda, according to our notion of a pagoda, than it is a bum-boat, but an old square red building divided into stories) is carried by the bayonet, and the French and English colours are hoisted simultaneously. Now, Gough's Fort opens out sulkily upon its late ally; but the assailants, not waiting to reply, hurry along the intervening wall westward. I can follow them for some time from my position, and I hear them cheering, when I lose them in the hollow. A few minutes of sharp fusillade, and blue-jackets emerge from the trees and buildings upon Magazine-hill. A moment after, and up go the two bits of bunting which tell that this key of Canton is our own."

In the *Overland Register* we read:—

"The French and English Naval Brigades advanced on Monday forenoon (December 28th) and took Fort Lin; one French officer was killed, and several French casualties; some English wounded severely. The troops then advanced towards the south, and bivouacked for the night off the south-east angle of the city wall. We believe Lieutenant Hackett was acting as aide-de-camp to General Straubensee, and while at some distance from any corps, carrying despatches, was set upon by a party of Chinese, who overpowered and slew him.

"The advance on the Magazine or City-hill Fort, as it is variously termed, took place at nine A.M. on the 29th. Captain Bate was killed and Lieutenant Lord Guildford wounded there. Captain Bate, as usual, ever forward where duty called, was volunteering to place the scaling-ladders, when he was shot from the wall through the stomach. He died as he had lived, a Christian hero, with the sounds of victory ringing in his ears.

"Mr. Hackett was a young promising officer, much esteemed by his immediate commanding officer, and beloved by his regimental companions. His death is much regretted. Besides Bate and Hackett we hear only of the loss of Mr. Thomas, midshipman, of the *Sans-pareil*."

Some official despatches from General Van Straubensee and Admiral Seymour have been published. In a despatch from the latter, dated "Her Majesty's ship *Coromandel*, at Canton, December 28th, 1857," we read:—

"On the 18th I received a communication from the Earl of Elgin and Baron Gros, stating that the reply of the High Commissioner [to the ultimatum of the Powers] had been received—that it was most unsatisfactory, and inviting the naval and military Commanders-in-Chief to a conference on board the *Audacious*, to consider what further steps should be taken in consequence of Yeh's determination to resist the very moderate demands of the two Governments.

"The conference was held on the 21st inst., when it was determined that the Plenipotentiaries should address a letter to the Imperial High Commissioner, informing his Excellency that, in consequence of his non-compliance with the demands submitted for his consideration, the further settlement of the question had been transferred to the naval and military authorities, and that we should also address a letter to his Excellency stating the above fact, and that if at the end of a further term of forty-eight hours the city should be peacefully surrendered into our hands life and property would be respected; but that, if the terms were not accepted, the city would be attacked."

THE ORIENT.

CIRCASSIA.

The *Nord* of Brussels asserts that Schamyl is still unconquered, although a considerable portion of the plain of Tchetchnia has been cleared by the Russians of the mountaineers, and is occupied by Russian columns. Schamyl, accompanied by the mountaineers, who still cling to his fortunes, has retired to the rocky retreats beyond the plain.

PERSIA.

Mr. Murray, our envoy at Teheran, is recovering from his late severe illness.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

FAREWELL BANQUET TO DR. LIVINGSTONE.

A GRAND banquet was given last Saturday evening at the Freemasons' Hall, to Dr. Livingstone, previous to his return to Africa. Considerably more than three hundred gentlemen assembled, though covers had only been laid for two hundred and sixty. In many cases, 5*l.* were offered for a seat; but numbers were unable to obtain admission, the room, as it was, being crammed. The chair was taken by Sir Roderick Murchison, and several persons of the highest eminence in science and art were present. In his opening speech, Sir Roderick alluded to the appointment of Dr. Livingstone to the English consularship in the Portuguese colonies in Africa.

and on that very day the Queen had granted to the doctor an interview, in the course of which she had expressed the highest wishes for his success, and had heartily bid him God speed. The Chairman read a letter from Count Lavradio, the Portuguese Minister in London, in which he expresses the deep interest his sovereign feels in the researches of Dr. Livingstone, and states that the King has given orders to his representatives in Africa to pay every possible attention to the great traveller. Sir Roderick concluded by proposing the health of the Foreign Ministers. This was acknowledged by Count Von Platen, Minister of Sweden and Norway. The Chairman then gave the toast of the evening—"The health of Dr. Livingstone, and success to his enterprise." This was of course received with tumultuous cheering, at the end of which, at the suggestion of a gentleman in the body of the room, three more cheers were given for Mrs. Livingstone, who is an accomplished scholar in the languages of South Africa, and who is to accompany her husband on his new expedition.

Dr. Livingstone, in returning thanks, said:—"When I was in Africa, I could not but look forward with joyous anticipation to my arrival in my native land; but, when I remember how I have been received, and when I reflect that I am now again returning to the scene of my former labours, I am at a loss how to express in words the feelings of my heart. (Loud cheers.) In former times, while I was performing what I considered to be my duty in Africa, I felt great pleasure in the work; and now, when I perceive that all eyes are directed to my future conduct, I feel as if I were laid under a load of obligation to do better than I have ever done as yet. (Loud cheers.) I expect to find for myself no large fortune in that country (renewed cheers), nor do I expect to explore any large portions of a new country; but I do hope to find through that part of the country which I have already explored a pathway by means of the river Zambesi which may lead to highlands where Europeans may form a settlement, and where, by opening communications and establishing commercial intercourse with the natives of Africa, they may slowly, but not the less surely, impart to the people of that country the knowledge and the inestimable blessings of Christianity. (Loud cheers.) I am glad to have connected with me in this expedition my gallant friend Captain Bedingfield (hear, hear), who knows not only what African rivers are, but also what are African fevers. (A laugh.) With his aid I may be able to discover the principles of the river system of that great continent, and, if I find that system to be what I think it is, I propose to establish a depot upon the Zambesi, and from that station more especially to examine into that river system, which, according to the statements of the natives, if discovered, would afford a pathway to the country beyond, where cotton, indigo, and other raw material might be obtained to any amount. I am happy also in being accompanied by men experienced in geology, in botany, in art, and in photography, who will bring back to England reports upon all those points, which I alone have attempted to deal with, and with very little means at my disposal. (Loud cheers.) The success—if I may call it success (renewed cheering)—which has attended my former efforts to open the country, mainly depended on my entering into the feelings and the wishes of the people of the interior of Africa. I found that the tribes in the interior of that country were just as anxious to have a part of the seaboard as I was to open a communication with the interior, and I am quite certain of obtaining the co-operation of those tribes in my next expedition. Should I succeed in my endeavour—should we be able to open a communication advantageous to ourselves with the natives of the interior of Africa—it would be our great duty to confer upon them those great benefits of Christianity which have been bestowed upon ourselves. (Cheers.) Let us not make the same mistake in Africa as we have made in India (renewed cheering); let us take with us to that country our Christianity." (Cheers.) The Doctor further alluded to the probability of the slave trade being put a stop to by the cultivation in Central Africa of cotton, for which at present we are almost entirely dependent on the slave-holding states of America. Having gracefully and pleasantly referred to his wife, and again thanked the company, the enterprising traveller sat down amidst loud applause.

The Duke of Argyll, in responding to the toast, "The Legislature and the Government," denied an assertion that had lately been made in an American newspaper, that Lord Palmerston and his colleagues had recently changed their views with respect to the question of slavery. On the contrary, they are as earnest as ever for the suppression of the slave trade; and one of their chief motives in fitting out the expedition which Dr. Livingstone is to head, is the hope that it may aid in the extinction of that odious traffic.

Mr. Baxter returned thanks on behalf of the House of Commons. The toast of "Success to Missionary Enterprise" was proposed by Mr. Benjamin Brodie, and acknowledged by Lord Ebury. The Bishop of Oxford proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and, Sir Roderick Murchison having returned thanks, the company shortly afterwards separated.

RELIGION IN INDIA.

Mr. Miall delivered an address on the present aspect of religious affairs in India, in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich,

on Thursday week. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Miall, and carried unanimously:—"That in the judgment of this meeting, while the natives of India should enjoy the fullest religious liberty compatible with public morality, their religious tenets and principles ought not to be in any wise sanctioned or supported by Government; that this meeting further believes that the evangelization of India will be best achieved by abstinence on the part of the Government from any acts calculated to produce an impression that it regards the conversion of the people as part of the business of the State." The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Rev. George Gould, Baptist minister, who vindicated many of the proceedings of the East India Company, and directed attention to the adverse influence of the existing President of the Board of Control.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

The Chartist delegates to the Reform conference re-assembled last Saturday morning, to wind up their proceedings, and to adopt an address to the Chartists throughout the kingdom. The address was in harmony with the resolutions adopted at the previous sittings; and asked that the sum of 100*l.*, fixed upon as necessary for immediate action, be raised within six weeks. This business terminated the proceedings of the conference.

In the afternoon, a public meeting was held in the conference-room, St. Martin's Hall, to give the representatives of the middle and working classes an opportunity, before separating, of pronouncing on the Conspiracy Bill. Mr. Alderman Livesey was again voted into the chair, and Mr. Wilks (Carlisle) moved a resolution, declaring the bill humiliating and dangerous, and calling upon the country to make immediate and strenuous exertions for its defeat. The motion was seconded by Mr. Savage (Finsbury), and carried unanimously. Mr. Holyoake (London) moved, and Mr. Hooson (Manchester) seconded, the adoption of a petition, and the meeting then separated.

AGITATION AGAINST THE CONSPIRACY BILL.

A strong agitation is rising against Lord Palmerston's Conspiracy to Murder Bill, and there can be no doubt that a large majority of the country are strongly opposed to it. On Monday evening, a meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern (Mr. A. B. Richards in the chair), "to protest against the surrender of English liberties at the dictation of a Foreign Power." Letters were read from several Liberal members of Parliament, excusing themselves for absence, and one of these was from Mr. Bright, who said:—"I am not able to attend any public meeting, but I go heartily with the opposition to the Conspiracy Bill. I am very anxious, however, that any opposition to it should be conducted, so as not needlessly to cause any irritation between this country and the people or Government of France. Our business is simply with our Government. We have to condemn them for their total want of dignity in this matter, for their shrinking from their duty in giving a proper and respectful but firm reply to the French despatch, and because they have brought forward a bill which can have no influence in adding to the security of the Emperor or of any other person, and can only be pointed to as a hasty and humiliating concession to a hasty and needless demand. We have for years past been judging the Government of other nations, it is now time for us to examine the condition of our own." Resolutions condemning the bill, and recommending a general agitation of the subject, were unanimously passed.

The Town Council of Dunfermline has agreed to petition against Lord Palmerston's bill, while expressing detestation of the attempted assassination, and an earnest desire for the continuance of the present alliance with the French nation.

PROMOTION OF CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS.

The fiftieth year of the existence of the society for this object was celebrated on Monday, and a public meeting of the clergy and other friends of the cause took place at Exeter-hall on Tuesday morning. The Earl of Shaftesbury, who presided, said he was suffering from a sudden and serious rheumatic affection in his head and arms which would prevent him from making a long address to the meeting. The report, and the speeches of several of the persons present, gave a flourishing account of the success of the society in bringing Jews, both on the Continent and in England, to the religion of Christ.

THE EAST INDIA HOUSE.

A Special General Court of the East India Company was held on Wednesday, at their house in Leadenhall-street, for the purpose of there being laid before the proprietors resolutions of thanks adopted by the Court of Directors, in reference to the late mutinies in India. After some opposition from Mr. Jones and Mr. Malcolm Lewin, the following resolutions were carried:—"That the thanks of this Court be given to the Right Hon. Viscount Canning, Governor-General of the British Possessions in the East Indies; the Right Hon. Lord Harris, Governor of the Presidency of Madras; the Right Hon. Lord Elphinstone, Governor of the Presidency of Bombay; Mr. Halliday, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; Sir John Laird Mair Law-

rence, G.C.B., Chief Commissioner of the Punjab; and Henry Bartle Edward Frere, Esq., Commissioner of Scinde, for the energy and ability with which they have employed the resources at their command to suppress the widely-spread mutiny in her Majesty's Indian dominions." "That the thanks of this Court be given to his Excellency General Sir Colin Campbell, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief in India; Major-General Sir James Outram, G.C.B.; Major-General Sir Archdale Wilson, Bart., K.C.B.; and Major-General Sir John Eardley Wilmot Inglis, K.C.B., for the eminent skill, courage, and perseverance displayed by them in the achievement of so many and such important triumphs over numerous bodies of the mutineers." Two other resolutions, also agreed to, thanked the other officers of the army and navy, the non-commissioned officers and men, and the civilians who had specially distinguished themselves.

ANNEXATION OF OUDE.

A meeting condemnatory of the annexation of Oude was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday night. The chief speakers were Mr. Malcolm Lewin (the chairman), Dr. Sexton, and Mr. Ernest Jones.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE Board of Trade returns for the month of December were issued on Monday morning, and exhibit a reduction of 2,897,185*l.* in the declared value of our exportations, the chief falling off having been in Manchester goods. There has also been a heavy diminution in linens, silks, and woollens. The returns comprise also the totals for the entire year 1857. Notwithstanding the reaction in the closing months, the aggregate value of our exportations was beyond any former amount, the increase being 7,328,289*l.* as compared with 1856, and 26,467,152*l.* upon 1855. Among the items of increase machinery is most prominent, affording a strong indication of our mechanical progress, and also of the stimulus imparted by the unnatural prices so long paid for produce of all kinds to a development of foreign and colonial factories. Coal likewise, partly from this cause, has been shipped in extraordinary quantities. Metals figure next in importance, and then woollen and cotton goods and leather. Linens and silks show a reduction. With regard to imported commodities, there are few very extraordinary features, the general consumption having been steady. The importation of tea, however, shows a considerable decrease, while in the quantity taken into use there has been an augmentation. Wheat, flour, and Indian corn exhibit a reduction both in imports and consumption. In the arrivals of grain of other descriptions there has been an increase.—*Times*.

The general business of the port of London during the week ending last Saturday has been very inactive. The number of vessels reported inward was 113, including 24 with cargoes of corn, flour, rice, &c. The number cleared outward was 91, including 15 in ballast; and those on the berth loading for the Australian colonies amount to 46.

The condition of trade in the various manufacturing towns during the same week is much the same as during the previous seven days. The suspension has been announced of the Blandford Bank of Messrs. Oak and Snow, in Dorsetshire—an old established house. The liabilities are supposed to be small.

IRELAND.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A dreadful catastrophe has occurred at Carlow. The clothes-store of the workhouse took fire; the flames spread to the other parts of the building; and three children and five men were burnt to death in their dormitories. Property has been consumed to the value of between three and four thousand pounds; but the whole is fully insured.

CITY OF LIMERICK ELECTION.—At the close of the poll last Saturday evening, the numbers were—Gavin, 767; Ball, 720. Majority for the former, 47.

THE ABOLITION OF THE VICEROYALTY.—A special meeting of the Municipal Council of Dublin was held in the City Hall last Saturday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, for the purpose of protesting against Mr. Roebuck's proposed measure for the abolition of the Lord Lieutenantcy. A resolution to this effect was adopted, and a petition to Parliament agreed to. A meeting to oppose the contemplated change was held in the Rotunda on Monday, and the chief resolution was proposed by Lord Howth. The proceedings, which were very unanimous, did not terminate till a late hour in the evening.

THE TRIAL OF THE MAYO PRIESTS.—This important trial commenced on Tuesday with the case of Father Conway.

DISTRESS IN DONEGAL.—The peasantry of Gweedore and Cloughaneely, in the county of Donegal, are at present suffering great distress from hunger, nakedness, and imperfect shelter. It is stated that, at the present moment, "there are eight hundred families subsisting on seaweed, crabs, cockles, or any other edibles they can pick up along the sea-shore, or scrape off the rocks." A committee has been appointed for the relief of the poor creatures.

AMERICA.

THE news from Kansas still speaks of disturbance. The *St. Louis Democrat* mentions "despatches from General Calhoun to the Cabinet at Washington. The despatches were telegraphed from Boonville. The tenor of these is that General Calhoun has thrown out the vote returned to Governor Denver, alleging as a reason for so doing that such returns were not made in accordance with the Lecompton schedule, and should have been delivered to him, and therefore are illegal and void. This high-handed measure gives the pro-slavery party a majority of one in the Council, and a majority of two in the Lower House, besides elects the pro-slavery state ticket throughout."

A pro-slavery member of the Kansas Legislature has been shot in a stage-coach by a horseman who rode up, called out his name, and fired, inflicting what is thought to be a mortal wound. "The party erring," as the assassin is delicately and considerably called by the paper just quoted, made his escape.

The Lecompton constitution for Kansas was sent by the President to Congress on the 2nd inst., accompanied by a message which is described as having a pro-slavery tendency. Mr. Buchanan, says an abstract published in the English papers, "characterizes the city of Lawrence as the hotbed of Abolitionism, denounces the persistence with which the Topeka movement is insisted upon by the Free-state men, and asserts that the dividing line in Kansas is not between political parties, as in other places, but between those who are loyal to Government and those who are endeavouring to destroy it by the force of usurpation. He says, in effect, that Kansas is now by the will of the people as much a Slave state as Georgia or South Carolina, and insists that an admission into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution is the only means of restoring tranquillity, the people having the power to amend it hereafter as they think proper. The message gave rise to animated proceedings in both Houses."

Further advices have been received from the Utah expedition. Colonel Johnston has mustered four additional companies of volunteers for a period of nine months. The troops are in good health, and very comfortable in their winter quarters. An abundant supply of beef has been obtained from a settlement to the north of Salt Lake. A volunteer regiment had been organized in New York for service with the Utah expedition.

Walker has appeared before the United States District Court at New Orleans, when Judge M'Caleb said there was nothing against him, the grand jury having refused to find a bill. The Filibuster then asked to be put on trial for violation of the neutrality laws; but the Judge refused.

Mexico is still in a condition of civil war. General Comonfort, uniting with the Liberals, has placed himself at the head of an army which will operate against the reactionists, who have proclaimed Santa Anna. By this move, Chief Justice Juarez becomes President of the country. The belligerents are going to fight it out in the city of Mexico; but they have made an arrangement that there is to be a three hours' truce every morning in order, that every one may go comfortably to market. This certainly shows forethought of a certain kind. From Monte Video we hear that Colonel Brigido Silveria has risen against the Government, but that the insurrection is very nearly quelled.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DR. ARNOLD.

FRANCE.

COUNT DE MORNY presented the report of the new penal law last Saturday to the Corps Législatif. He remarked that the well disposed have no occasion to feel any alarm at the bill, which, as now modified, is to be only a temporary instead of a permanent measure. The Count made some observations on the position of parties in France, and on the fact of the Legitimist and Orleanist statesmen withholding from all support of the existing Government. He observed:—"The greater part of those men who have remained attached to the ancient order of things have all been men of government; they know the conditions and difficulties of it; they are not under the delusion that a new revolution could at the present day be made in favour of their opinions; they are not ignorant that it is rather against society than against the Throne that a blow would be directed; and yet they prefer remaining aloof, forgetful of their ancient principles, and seeking to weaken the Government which protects them. A lamentable contradiction, which diminishes the prestige of men, and destroys political faith in the heart of the people!—a sad situation, with which, nevertheless, a strong Government ought to know how to live without too much umbrage, and without violence." Further on, he remarked:—"We must make a distinction. Legitimacy is the time which consecrates it, or the will of the people who found it; hereditary right is only its political consequence. Does any one believe that this last has been instituted for the advantage of royal families rather than in favour of popular interests? Is not its only object to render the transmission of the throne exempt from dispute and trouble? If

not, the elective system would certainly present greater guarantees. But, now that our modern society has no longer the superstition of divine right, the first condition of hereditary right is possession; and does not a good citizen sometimes feel his conscience troubled when, by the interpretation of a principle of which the sole object is the public tranquillity, he disengages himself from the obligation of defending the institutions of his country? Moreover, this theory is not new; it was that of the Orleanist party. That did not repose on any principle. It was founded neither on right nor on popular election. It had only a glimpse of a revolution, and yet it deceived no one when it called the dissentients to it by showing them the abyss that yawned beneath their feet, and conjured them to rally round it in order to save society from being precipitated." The Minister afterwards demanded a supplement of 1,200,000 francs for the secret service of the police.

An Englishman was seized the other day by some police agents while walking in the streets of Paris, was taken to the Barrière de l'Etoile, and there searched, and was afterwards marched some way on his road to the Prefecture of Police, when his captors suddenly changed their mind, and set him at liberty. They had mistaken him for an Italian of whom they were in search, and, although he produced his passport when first questioned, and thus clearly showed that he was English, the police officers kept him in custody until they found out their error to their own satisfaction.

The funeral ceremony over the remains of Count de Rayneval, late French Ambassador to the Court of Russia, took place yesterday week at the church of the Madeleine, with great pomp. The body was afterwards deposited in the cemetery of Père-la-Chaise.

The *Indépendance Belge* is informed from Paris that certain officers of high rank in the Imperial Guard, who had received the order of the Bath at the conclusion of the Crimean war, have torn off their ribands in consequence of Mr. Roebuck's speech, and sent them to Marshal Vaillant to be returned to England.

The decree nominating the Marshals to the new military commands appears in the *Moniteur*. Marshal Magnan has the command of the troops in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd territorial divisions of the North. He retains the command of the Army of Paris, and of the 1st military division; head-quarters, Paris. Marshal Canrobert, the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th divisions of the East; Nancy. Marshal Castellane, the 8th, 9th, 10th, 17th, and 20th divisions of the South-East; Lyons. Marshal Bosquet, the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th divisions of the South-West; Toulouse. Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers, the 15th, 16th, 18th, 19th, and 21st divisions of the West; head-quarters, Tours. The Marshals have taken their oaths to the Emperor, but they will not take possession of their commands till next April.

The Chambre des Mises en Accusation has received the report of M. Sallé, substitute of the Procureur-Général, on the attempted assassination of the 14th of January. The day for the trial is not yet fixed.

The condition of trade in France is at present very languid.

The Duke de Montebello has been appointed Ambassador of France at St. Petersburg. The Duke, though the son of Marshal Lannes, a Bonapartist general, has hitherto been an Orleanist. He was the French representative in Switzerland twenty years ago, and it was he who, in the name of his sovereign, demanded the expulsion of Louis Napoleon from the Helvetic Republic—a demand which induced the exile to leave the country voluntarily, and come to England.

M. Ottajano, the Neapolitan Envoy, who was the bearer of an autograph letter from the King of Naples to the Emperor, congratulating him on his escape from assassination, returns to Naples with a letter from the Emperor to the King. There is said to be no prospect, however, of a reconciliation between the two Governments; but France and Austria seem to be rapidly approximating.

M. de Persigny arrived in Paris from London last Saturday night.

The ancient exhibition of the *Beuf Gras* was celebrated in Paris this week with great splendour.

PRUSSIA.

The Prince and Princess Frederick William have received, since their arrival at Berlin, several addresses of congratulation; among others, one from the English residents in the Prussian metropolis. There have also been state balls and dinner parties, besides a subscription ball at the Opera House, in which the Prince and Princess appeared in public. The students have had a torchlight procession, which was very striking; but a superb bonfire which had been kindled was abruptly put out by the fire brigade, lest the town should be set on fire.

Colonel von Weymar, an Adjutant of the Emperor of Russia, has arrived at Berlin from St. Petersburg, commissioned by the Emperor to present to the Prussian Royal Family his congratulations and those of the Russian Court on occasion of the public entry of the newly-married couple; he was the bearer of an autograph letter from the Emperor and Empress, and of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Catherine for the Princess Frederick William.

ITALY.

France has been making certain demands on Sardinia similar to those already made on England. A verbal

message has been sent to the Cabinet through the Minister at Turin. This is said to have been expressed in very courteous terms, but the precise nature of the demands has not transpired.

The political trials have commenced at Turin. On the first day, a letter of Mazzini's was read, in which, according to the *Times* Turin correspondent, the ex-triumvir "accuses himself and his confederates of having unduly neglected the people of Lombardy, and urges the necessity of establishing in that country a secret organization under the name of 'Il Popolo,' in groups of five persons, to be linked together by means of one of each group, who shall swear fidelity to the Republican unity of Italy, and to the rules and directions that shall reach him from the centre of action. Every member of this society is to be instructed to provide himself with a short weapon, and to collect, little by little, as much ammunition as possible. Intelligent proselytes are to be instructed and made chiefs of groups and useful as propagandists. The plan is to be carried out not only at Milan, but at Como, Brescia, Bergamo, and other towns. Communications are to be kept up among these for the transmission of printed papers, and every opportunity of obtaining money is to be seized."

The cold in the north of Italy has been very great this winter. The Po has been frozen over for some days at Ferrara to such an extent as to bear crowds of persons—a circumstance unknown since the commencement of the present century. There has been a good deal of illness in consequence; but the carnival, nevertheless, has passed off with great spirit.

A commission having decided that our unfortunate countryman Watt, the victim of Neapolitan cruelty, is liable to fits of insanity (the result of his treatment in gaol), the trial has been suspended in order that certain *phrenologi* may make further inquiries *de lunatico*.

The Turin correspondent of the *Daily News* states that the municipality of Milan refused to attend the funeral of Marshal Radetzky.

"Between Rome and Frascati," says the *Courrier d'Italie*, "is a railway about nine miles long. A considerable number of persons went the other day to a fête at Frascati, the ladies being dressed in their richest garments, and wearing their costliest jewellery. This was all known to the brigands. Accordingly, they seized the officers who occupied the intermediate station in the midst of the deserted country, and proceeded to hoist the red flag, as a signal to stop. The engineer, fearing something was on the line, brought the engine to a dead stand, when the robbers instantly laid hold of the travellers, and coolly plundered them, doing them, however, no other injury. Up to this time we had fancied that railways would put an end to this sort of adventure; but the foregoing stroke, performed at the very gates of Rome, shows that we were too sanguine. Instead of robbing some ten or a dozen passengers in a diligence, the brigands now take one hundred in one haul. Of course, the more productive this peculiar branch of industry becomes in the Roman States, the greater will be the numbers of those who follow it."

The Sardinian Chargé d'Affaires has been directed to demand the immediate restitution of the Cagliari, and the liberation of the crew, on the ground that the capture was illegal. The demand is said to have been formally refused, and the refusal has left Naples.

SWITZERLAND.

The Ultramontanists have combined with the High Church Protestants in a monstrous endeavour to make the Church superior to the State. The Bishop of St. Gall demands that the clergy shall no longer be amenable to the temporal authorities. The Council of State of Freiburg has been revising the educational system of the canton, and has abolished from the list of subjects taught, history, geography, physics, and singing. To make up for the loss, the students are to spend several hours a day in reading theology.

TURKEY.

A brutal outrage has been perpetrated upon an American missionary and his family stationed at Jaffa, in Syria. His house was broken into during the night, he himself was stunned by a blow on the head, his son-in-law was murdered, and his wife and daughters were subjected to the grossest indignities. The American consul-general has brought the facts before the notice of the authorities.

BELGIUM.

The Duchesse de Brabant was delivered of a daughter on Thursday afternoon.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

THE February sessions were resumed on Monday, when a respectable-looking man, named John Reynolds, surrendered to take his trial on a charge of aggravated assault on a Mrs. Jane Archer. This woman claimed a right of way across Reynolds's garden, in Grove-lane, Stamford Hill, to a garden of her own. On the 7th of January, as she was endeavouring to enter his garden, he pushed her back, and, on her trying to get over a fence, he threw her down, seized her by the right arm and left leg, held her up over a well, threatening to drown her in it, and exposed her in a shameful manner. While doing this, he uttered the most revolting lan-

guage, and finally he threw her over the palings. In consequence of this violence, she had a miscarriage. The prisoner was found Guilty, but declared his innocence. He was sentenced to a month's imprisonment; the Judge (Mr. Bliss, Q.C.) being of opinion that 'he had used more force than was justifiable.'

A CAWNPORE IN ENGLAND.—Under this heading, the *Northern Daily Express* gives, on the authority of an eye-witness, an account of a most appalling piece of legalized cruelty committed in the barracks at Newcastle. A court-martial was recently held there on a private of the second battalion of Northumberland Fusiliers. We are not told what the offence was; but, the man being convicted, the punishment ordered was fifty lashes. The whip used is what is called a cat-o'-nine-tails, so that at each blow nine gashes are inflicted. That used at Newcastle is described as having the separate 'tails' weighted with pentagonal pieces of case-hardened steel, eighty-one in number. On the morning when the torture was to take place, the soldier respectfully refused to strip; on which sixteen of the strongest men in the ranks hurled the offender, face downward, on the stone pavement of the racket court, and stripped him by force. He implored that the punishment might be changed to that of death; but he was tied up to the triangles, and one of the largest drummers in the battalion proceeded to inflict the torture. What follows is described by the eye-witness in terms which we hope, and cannot but suspect, are overcharged. Suffice it here to say that the victim shrieked aloud at the first blow; that his back was horribly mangled; that the colonel and major were overcome by the sight; that the surgeon nearly fainted; that several men in the ranks actually *did* faint; and that the poor wretch now lies in the hospital in a dying state. Gangrene has ensued on the wounds, and it is stated that it is scarcely possible that the man can live. We do not, of course, commit ourselves to the truth of the narration; but, if it be established, the indignation of the country will demand that such an atrocity be severely punished.

THE ROBBERY OF THE EARL OF SUFFOLK'S PICTURES.—John Darbon, the person charged with stealing certain valuable pictures from Charlton-park, Wiltshire, the residence of the Earl of Suffolk, has been examined before the magistrates at Malmesbury, and committed for trial at the next Wilts Assizes.

A YOUNG LADY THIEF.—A Miss Annie Walker, of Wakefield, has been committed for trial on a charge of plundering several linendraper's shops; 60*l.* worth of drapery goods was found at her residence.

ESCAPE FROM HEREFORD COUNTY GAOL.—A man who had been committed for trial for housebreaking has escaped from the Hereford County Gaol, having wrenched off bolts and picked padlocks with a great deal of strength and ingenuity. A bag, composed of strong twine network, is deposited in his cell every night, and in this he places his clothes when he goes to bed. It is then removed until six o'clock the following morning. Of this bag he formed a rope ladder on the morning of his escape, making the steps out of his wooden trencher which he broke into pieces. Since his escape, a robbery has been committed at a house in the direction in which it is supposed he has gone.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—Mr. James Barraclough, cotton waste dealer, Todmorden, has been attacked by two men on the high road near Hebden Bridge. One of the men struck him a violent blow on the head; the other seized his throat. Though somewhat affected by liquor (for he had been drinking at a neighbouring tavern), Mr. Barraclough freed himself sufficiently to use his stick with good effect, and one of the ruffians was knocked down. Ultimately, however, Mr. Barraclough was overpowered, and the men then threw him into the river Calder, which runs parallel with the road. Mr. Barraclough kept his head above water by clinging to a bramble bush until a policeman came up. Next morning he was sufficiently recovered to return home. He had only a few shillings about him at the time; so that the thieves were disappointed in their expectations.

INDISCRIMINATE ALMSGIVING.—Sergeant Milham, of the West Sussex constabulary apprehended a man last Saturday for begging in the town of Bognor. Upon searching him, he found in his possession three sovereigns, eight half-sovereigns, one half-crown, ten shillings, fifty-five pence, one fourpenny piece, and two halfpence, amounting in all to 9*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*; also one silver watch, with silver guard-chain attached, and one metal watch, about two pounds of bread, and a small piece of cheese. He was begging of a shopman in a draper's shop, to whom he declared he had not broken his fast that day. He was wearing three shirts, three waistcoats, three pairs of trousers, one jacket, one coat, one necktie, and a large wrapper, and had several other shirts and stockings in his pack. *—Sussex Advertiser.*

MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A WIFE.—A married woman living at the east end of the town, named Julia Spilling, has been severely wounded by her husband, Patrick Spilling. She had been repeatedly ill-used by him, and he had more than once threatened to murder her. She was at length compelled to leave her home and take refuge in the house of a neighbour, in Port's-buildings, Shoreditch, where she remained for some time, until one evening Spilling, having discovered her place of shelter, abruptly entered the house, and ordered her to

return home with him. He repeated this three times, and, on being refused the third time, he pulled out of his coat-sleeve some sharp-pointed weapon, and stabbed his wife with it three times. The last wound was particularly dangerous, the instrument having penetrated to the woman's stomach, and caused her to bleed profusely, and become extremely faint and ill. After this, the ruffian ran away and threw something into the street, which was picked up by a woman who was passing at the time, and proved to be a large iron spike with a very sharp point. Spilling was afterwards taken into custody and examined before the Worship-street magistrate, by whom he was remanded.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

The adjourned certificate meeting in the case of Henry and Cheslyn Hall took place in the Court of Bankruptcy last Saturday, when Mr. Bagley appeared for the bankrupts, and contended that the charges against them had been greatly magnified by the press. They had engaged, early in life, in turf transactions, and had become embarrassed. He did not mean to say that the Messrs. Hall were free from blemish. They were needy men, and no doubt had desired to do the best they could for themselves; but he denied that they had acted fraudulently or dishonestly. Mr. Commissioner Fane said he should take time to consider his judgment.

An appeal has been heard in the Court of Exchequer from a conviction by the Justices of the Peace at Lindley, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. A publican named Whitely had been mulcted in certain penalties for keeping his house open on Sunday between half-past two and three o'clock. By the 9th George IV., all public-houses were to be shut on Sundays during the usual hours of divine service in the morning and evening. By later enactments, the time of keeping closed in the afternoon was restricted definitely to between three and five. On behalf of the appeal, it was contended that Whitely was justified in opening his house at the time specified in the indictment. The contention on the part of the justices was that, as the 9th George IV. had never been expressly repealed, its provisions still remained in force. Barons Martin, Bramwell, and Watson agreed that the conviction could not be sustained, and it was accordingly quashed.

An action has been brought in the same court on a bill of exchange at four months, dated June 29th, 1857, for 250*l.*, drawn by Messrs. Sanders and Woolcott, accepted by the defendant (the house steward of the late Duke of Devonshire), and endorsed by Messrs. Sanders and Woolcott to the plaintiff, Mr. Ries, the proprietor of a cigar divan in the Strand. Mr. Ries, according to his statement at the trial, had discounted, a few years ago, some bills accepted by Mr. Ridgway, the defendant, with interest at thirty per cent. per annum. This he had done at the request of Messrs. Sanders and Woolcott; but Mr. Woolcott had since committed suicide, and the firm had fallen into difficulties. As Mr. Ries was unable to obtain the payment of the last of these bills from Mr. Ridgway, he brought the present action, the defence at which was that the signature of Mr. Ridgway was a forgery. Mr. Chambers, who appeared for the defendant, said:—"His client by virtue of his office had to pay many bills for building and for furniture, and the firm employed for building purposes were Messrs. Sanders and Woolcott. During the time buildings were in progress, he gave acceptances to Woolcott, in order that the work might proceed. When the accounts were sent in, the defendant saw what had been paid by bills on account. The balance was then calculated, the amount paid, and all the bills destroyed. There was no attempt to deny that the defendant had frequently given Woolcott acceptances for work done; but what he said was, that Woolcott, taking advantage of the genuine acceptances, had introduced acceptances which he knew were not genuine, and this was one of them." The jury, after consulting for four hours and a half, could not come to an agreement, and were therefore discharged.

Mr. John Bailey Davis, described as a merchant trading in Spanish goods, was charged at Guildhall, on Monday, under the Bishop of Oxford's Act, with the abduction of a young girl alleged to be under seventeen. Elizabeth Wynn, a good-looking girl, apparently not less than eighteen years of age, stated that she was turned seventeen years of age, and that she was on a visit to an aunt at Liverpool about three weeks ago, when she met Mr. Davis in the street for the first time. She saw him afterwards, and consented to accompany him to Spain. They went first to Manchester and then to Sheffield before coming to London. She went voluntarily with Mr. Davis, and he had not promised her any money or anything else. She consented to go to Spain with him of her own free will. She did not go for money; she went with him for love. She did not want any money of Mr. Davis; she had plenty of her own. She did not wish to leave him. On hearing these statements, the Alderman discharged Mr. Davis.

The case of the Northumberland and Durham District Bank came on Tuesday before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley upon several petitions praying the compulsory winding-up of the company, or, in the alternative, that two liquidators might be added to those already chosen

by the shareholders of the company in the process of a voluntary winding-up. The Vice-Chancellor thought that the proper order to be made would be—that so much of the petitions as prayed a compulsory winding-up stand over; that a voluntary winding-up take place, subject to the terms that no action against a shareholder for calls be compromised without the leave of the court, and that no action against any creditor for a sum exceeding 2000*l.* be compromised without the like leave.

Mr. Commissioner Fane, in the Court of Bankruptcy, on Tuesday, delivered judgment in the matter of Edward Baldwin, upon the right of the mortgagees to the sum of 16,000*l.*, the purchase money of the *Morning Herald*, *Standard*, and *St. James's Chronicle* newspapers. Two petitions were entered—one on behalf of Edward Foss, the other on behalf of Charles Baldwin. The Commissioner came to the conclusion that there was no evidence to show that the property was not in the use, order, or disposition of the bankrupt, and consequently the petitions were dismissed. The 16,000*l.* will therefore be divided among the general creditors.

Certificates were refused, in the Hull Bankruptcy Court, on Wednesday, in the case of Harrison, Watson, and Co., bankers.

The French spy system is becoming rampant in London. An Italian gentleman, on Tuesday, waited on the Southwark police magistrate, to complain that he had recently been dogged about the streets by French spies, connected, as he supposed, with the Paris detective police. Could he give them into custody? The magistrate said he could not, as they had committed no breach of the law. No doubt they would soon find out they were on the wrong scent, and leave the applicant. In the meanwhile he had better take no notice of them.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alice, attended by Major-General Buckley and Colonel F. H. Seymour, went on Tuesday afternoon to Battersea Park and the new bridge.—The Queen held a levee, the first of the season, on Thursday afternoon, at St. James's Palace.

SIR JAMES MELVILL, having on the 3rd instant completed a service of fifty years, has, in fulfilment of an intention long since announced, retired from the office of Secretary to the East India Company. It is understood, however, that he will remain to offer such assistance as his long experience may enable him to afford during the present Parliamentary discussions. *—Times.*

INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—A remittance of 150*l.* 18*s.* has been received from her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Charleston, South Carolina, accompanied by a letter containing the following statement:—"I think it proper to add that a considerable proportion of this amount has been subscribed by American citizens, who have been desirous of uniting with the British residents in the expression of their sympathy with the sufferers by the Indian mutinies."

VICTORIA STATION AND PIMLICO RAILWAY.—The bill for this very useful undertaking (an outline of the proposed plan of which appeared a few months since) has passed through the Standing Orders of the House of Commons, and it is stated by the half-yearly report of the Brighton directors that their company has been the first to consult the public convenience by securing the use of the terminus. There seems, therefore, every probability that this scheme will be speedily carried into effect. *—Times.*

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE ORANGE ASSOCIATION.—A deputation of members of Parliament connected with the Conservative party, and of gentlemen representing the Orange Association of the north of Ireland, waited last Saturday upon Lord Palmerston at his private house, Piccadilly, for the purpose of presenting a memorial protesting against the letter of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland to the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Down, directing him not to recommend gentlemen to be justices of the peace who would not subscribe a declaration that so long as they held the commission they would not connect themselves with Orange Lodges. The Premier, in answer to the observations addressed to him, said that there had been no intention whatever to doubt the legality of the Orange confederation, or to assert that its members are disloyal. There is nothing in their political opinions of a nature to disqualify them from exercising magisterial functions; "but it is impossible not to perceive that suspicions may and must prevail among a considerable portion of the Irish people." This was the consideration which induced the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor to take the step in question; and they have the entire approval of the Government.

LORD SUPRELEY died on Wednesday week at Toddington Park, Gloucestershire.

THE BARBIELEY COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—This inquest was brought to a close on Monday, the jury finding that the explosion was the result of firing a shot or blast, and that it was consequently accidental. The deaths to the present time are 62 in number.

NEW FOUNTAIN AT HOLYROOD.—The quaint, antique fountain in the centre of the quadrangle of Linlithgow Palace, which was irretrievably ruined in the troubles of 1745, is about to be restored at the suggestion of Sir Benjamin Hall.

A LAMENTABLE EVENT has occurred at Stranraer, Dumfriesshire. A Mrs. McIntyre, while preparing to receive a small party of friends, received a letter, in which, by some singular mistake, she fancied she saw something about an accident having happened to her son, a ship-master. Uttering a few exclamations, she sank into a swoon, from which she never recovered. A telegraphic message was despatched to the son; but, by the time the answer arrived, stating that he was well, the mother was dead.

THE BILL FOR THE REFORM OF THE CITY CORPORATION.—A meeting of the Court of Common Council was held on Saturday, to consider the bill for the reform of the City Corporation, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir George Grey. After considerable discussion, a sub-committee of twelve was appointed, to draw up, in conjunction with the law officers, a petition to the House against the bill, and to submit it to an adjourned meeting for approval.

THE DEAD ALIVE.—The body of a boy was discovered in a box at Langley Point, near Eastbourne, Sussex, last October, and was identified as the son of a Mrs. Ann Marsden, of Sheffield. There was no doubt that the youth had been murdered; but, strange to say, Marsden has now turned up, alive and well, in the Union Workhouse at Ashton-under-Line, near Manchester.

CANADA.—It has been decided by the Queen (to whom the question had been referred by the Colonial Legislature) that Ottawa shall be the future capital of Canada. "Ottawa," says the *Canadian News*, "is approachable by railroad, and is besides situated on the finest river, after the St. Lawrence, in Canada. Between the river and the Georgian Bay there is available for settlement 24,000,000 acres of land. There may be, and undoubtedly is, some waste; but, making all due allowance for this, it is evident that Ottawa must be the centre of the future population of the country. The navigation between the Ottawa river and the Georgian Bay will one day be completed by means of the French river and Lake Nipissing." The new metropolis, moreover, is situated in the centre of the timber trade.

THE WEST INDIES.—The last advices from the West Indies do not contain any news of importance.

DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION.—The second anniversary festival of the Dramatic Sick Fund Association took place on Wednesday. Mr. Benjamin Webster took the chair, and was supported by Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Shirley Brooks, &c. The association is said to be steadily making way. A subscription was opened during the evening.

FOG AT LIVERPOOL.—For several nights past, there has been a dense fog at Liverpool. On Wednesday morning, the obscurity was so great that two ferry boats on the Mersey came into violent collision, and one of them sank after having landed all its passengers at the stage.

A REMONSTRANCE FROM MR. CHEEK.—We have received two very inflammatory letters from Mr. Cheek, of Oxford-street, on the subject of some remarks we made on the London illuminations in honour of the Princess Royal's wedding. We said, after noticing several instances of peculiar taste in the devices exhibited by tradesmen in Oxford-street—"And the fourth (example) from the same street, where a fishing-tackle maker's joy at the great event of the day could find vent only in the publication of his own name in letters of fire two feet high—'CHEEK.'" To this, Mr. Cheek says (for we think it only right that he should give his version of the case)—"Now, Sir, I beg to observe that is wilfully untrue, for in honour of the occasion I had two large banners and a star seven feet in diameter, and for my own honour and for the information of the public I had my name." Now that the truth has been arrived at, we hope Mr. Cheek will be satisfied with the step we have taken to give it publicity. We never denied that the name of CHEEK appeared on the night referred to in a firmament; but we confess that stars and banners made not a tithe of the impression upon us that was made by the effulgent 'CHEEK.'

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—The Yorkshire papers of Tuesday contain an account of the destruction by fire of the new mill lately erected at Heckmondwike by Messrs. Edwin Firth and Sons, involving a loss of property estimated at 11,000*l*.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—A special general meeting of the friends of this society was held on Thursday at Exeter Hall, when resolutions were passed in favour of sending more missionaries to India.

THE SURRY GARDENS COMPANY.—In this case, in the Court of Bankruptcy yesterday, the propositions made for an arrangement with the creditors having failed, Mr. Fleming, of the Committee of Shareholders, and Mr. Chappell, for several creditors, consented to the order being made for winding up the affairs of the Company.

PASSPORTS FOR FRANCE.—The French Minister for Foreign Affairs has stated, in answer to inquiries from Lord Clarendon, "that no person whatever will be permitted to land in France without a passport, nor will a consul's passport, given to any one who may have landed without one, be recognized."

FRENCH ESPIONAGE IN LONDON.—A number of French police agents have already been sent to London, to hunt out, and keep up a surveillance on, the refugees.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, February 20.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TRANSPORT OF TROOPS.

VISCOUNT DUNGANNON called attention to the circumstances attending the transport of the 69th Regiment which was sent to India in a vessel which was asserted to be unseaworthy.—LORD PANMURE said the occurrence arose from unavoidable accident, and when the vessel was disabled another steamer was provided.

EDUCATION IN INDIA.

THE EARL OF ELLENBOROUGH moved for a return relating to Education in India, and cautioned the Government against a system of instruction which might be believed to disseminate among the native population ideas and principles destructive of British rule in that country.—After a short discussion, the returns were ordered.

THE HAVELOCK ANNUITIES BILL was read a second time, and the House adjourned at a quarter past six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE—MR. ISAAC BUTT.

MR. ROEBUCK gave notice of his intention to present a petition on Monday evening from an individual complaining that Mr. Isaac Butt, a member of the House, had been guilty of a breach of the privileges of the House; and to move for a Committee of Inquiry. After a conversation, it was arranged that the petition should be presented on Monday, and notice given of a motion for a Committee.

BOOKS OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSIONERS—IRELAND.

In answer to Mr. BLACK, Mr. WILSON said that the exclusive privilege of publishing school books by the National Education Commissioners in Ireland was to be discontinued, and the books might be published by any bookseller.

THE ROBBERY OF INCOME-TAX PAPERS IN THE CITY.

In answer to Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WILSON said that a number of the income-tax papers which had been stolen from the office of the Commissioners for the City had been recovered. He explained that neither the Government nor the Board of Inland Revenue had the custody of these papers.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

In answer to Mr. EWART, LORD PALMERSTON said the Government had not been able to perfect a plan for a department of Justice.

THE CIRCASSIANS AND RUSSIA.

In answer to LORD JOHN MANNERS, LORD PALMERSTON said that certain Circassian chiefs had asked assistance of France and England against Russia; but, as they had not co-operated with the Allies in the Russian war, they had no claim upon them for such assistance, and that no condition of this kind was contained in the Treaty of Paris.

CONSPIRACY TO MURDER BILL.

LORD PALMERSTON moved the second reading of this bill, and urged that it had no special application to aliens, nor did it arm the Government with any new powers to restrict the liberty enjoyed by foreigners in this country. Although no official communication had taken place, the Emperor of the French had been repeatedly assured in confidential messages that no infringement was possible on the English right of asylum.—MR. MILNER GIBSON moved as an amendment that "this House hears with much concern that recent attempts on the life of the Emperor of the French have been devised in England, and expresses its detestation of such guilty enterprises; that this House is ready, at all times, to assist in remedying any defects in the criminal law, which, after due investigation, are proved to exist, yet it cannot but regret that her Majesty's Government, previously to inviting the House to amend the Law of Conspiracy at the present time, has not felt it to be their duty to make some reply to the important despatch from the French Government, dated Paris, January 20th, 1858, and which has been laid before Parliament."—MR. BAINTES defended the bill, and urged that it covered a defect in the law, which it was necessary to amend.—MR. WALKER was prepared to give his support to the bill of Ministers, if they were prepared to vindicate the honour of the country by answering the despatch of Count Walewski, for unless that was done it would appear to Europe that we had altered our law at the dictation of a foreign power.—SIR GEORGE GARY urged that, after the debate which had taken place, and the division which followed on the introduction of the Bill, no further opposition should be made to it. He contended that it was unnecessary to have replied to the despatch of the French Government, which might have led to a complicated correspondence. A dignified course had been taken by the Government.—MR. M'MANON opposed the bill on the ground that if the offence was changed from misdemeanour to felony, it would enable the police to arrest refugees without warrants.—MR. BYNG opposed,

and Mr. SPOONER supported, the Bill, as did Lord HARRY VANE, and Mr. BENTINCK.—SIR ROBERT PEEL opposed the measure, urging that the present law is quite adequate for any emergency, and that it is a retrograde step on the principle which of late years had been adopted in our criminal law.

After a debate in which Mr. HENLEY, the LORD ADVOCATE, Mr. GLADSTONE, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, MR. DISRAELI, and LORD PALMERSTON spoke, the House divided—

For the second reading ...	215
Against it ...	234

MAJORITY ... 19

The Government was thus defeated.

INDIA.

A few additional facts are brought by the Indian mail. The district around Cawnpore is settling down, and is about to be traversed by a movable column from that station. The command of the Benares division has, it is said, been offered to Sir Archdale Wilson. The trial of the ex-King of Delhi had been fixed for the 9th of January, but, the prisoner being indisposed, it was postponed till the 13th.

An ambassador from the King of Bokhara has arrived at Cabul and been well received. Intelligence of the arrival at Herat of the British Mission had reached Cabul. The letters teem with accounts of internal dissensions and disputes, but the attitude of Dost Mahomed was very friendly to the British. The Dost intended proceeding to Jellalabad in a few days. From Kandahar Goolam Hyder Khan writes that the Hazarah tribes had been reduced to obedience; double revenue had been taken from them, and the chief instigators of the recent insurrection had been sent prisoners to Kandahar.

THE DEMONSTRATION TO-MORROW.

The Committee arranging the demonstration for to-morrow have taken every measure to secure its being a representation of all classes averse to the Bill; all attempts at speaking have been wisely prohibited. Any person violating the prescribed injunction will be regarded as a spy or an enemy of the public peace.

We understand that copies of every placard, address, and instruction have been sent by the Solicitor of the Committee to Sir Richard Mayne; the desire of the Committee being that the French authorities with whom Sir Richard has been in communication may see how widely different an English agitation is from a continental conspiracy.

On Friday the Committee wrote to the respective chiefs of the London Press, wishing it to be distinctly understood that foreigners were respectfully requested not to be present at the meeting in Hyde-park, it being purely an English question.

We have received the following communication from the Committee:—

3, Falcon-court, Fleet-street, E.C.,
February 19, 1858.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sir,—The Central Committee issuing the enclosed instructions will esteem it a very great favour if you will intimate in your paper that the Committee arranging the demonstration in Hyde Park on Sunday wish it to be distinctly understood that foreigners are respectfully requested not to be present, it being purely an English demonstration on an English question.

We are, Sir,
For the Committee,
Your obedient servants,
HOLYOAKE AND CO.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—*The Bohemian Girl*, which has had a successful run, is to be repeated once more on Thursday; and the winter season finally closes on Saturday next, with the *Trovatore*.

PROFESSOR FRICKELL.—Two Hours of Illusions at the St. James's Theatre continue to be fully and fashionably attended.

THE BELGIAN PRESS PROSECUTION.—In virtue of an ordinance of the President of the Court of Assizes of the province of Brabant, the preliminary formalities required by the law as far as regards the proceedings by default against Victor Hallaux, editor of the *Crocodile*, took place on Wednesday.

THE CONSPIRACY BILL.—A large and influential body of the citizens of Newcastle have resolved to call a meeting to petition against this bill. It is fixed for next Tuesday.

THE SOUTH-NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ELECTION.—This election has terminated in the return of Colonel Cartwright, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 85 over the Government candidate, Lord Henley.

TRIAL OF MR. MONK.—The Lancaster Spring Assizes opened on Thursday, on which day Mr. Thomas Monk, surgeon, and late Mayor of Preston, was found guilty of forging the will of Mr. Edward Turner, a person whom he had professionally attended. The prisoner was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. Several communications unavoidably stand over. 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. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1858.

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.

LORD PALMERSTON'S INDIA BILL.

It appears to be forgotten that the Government of India is not the only double government in Great Britain. Our institutions rest upon a system of double governments. Parliament itself is double; the administration of the National Debt is double; the metropolis has a double government; the Poor-law is a double system; the Governor and Company of the Bank of England form, in one sense, a parallel to the East India Company. The principle of absolute unity belongs to despotism and centralization. Therefore, the advocates of a direct Crown responsibility must be cautious not to push that principle too far. Otherwise, when Ministers have condemned the miscellaneous constituency which returns a majority of the Court of Directors, a party in the country and the Legislature may demand to know why the grand financial operations of the empire, the management of the National Debt, the control of the exchanges, the regulation of the currency, should belong to the members of a company elected by a medley and fluctuating constituency of capitalists and spinsters whose votes have enthroned Baring, Norman, and Hubbard in positions of immense and almost imperial responsibility. It is true that the Chancellor of the Exchequer presides over the most important of these operations; but here the double principle comes in to play, Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS being the VERNON SMITH of Threadneedle-street. A little consideration, indeed, might have suggested to the wholesale Indian Reformers the inconvenience of arguing this question upon the abstract merits of a single, as compared with a double machinery. That the title of the QUEEN, if pompously proclaimed, would exercise a salutary influence, may also be doubted. She would probably be known, as the Company is known, as The Sirkar; unless the fairyland ideal of Sir HENRY RAWLINSON were carried out, and a little prince in a tunic, or a princess in rosy areoplane, were sent from Buckingham Palace to sit prettily upon the throne of Hindostan. In that case the natives would understand how to designate the power that wielded their armies and held them in subjection. But, confining ourselves to practical proposals, we do not think it matters whether the Company and the Board of Control, or the Crown advised by a Council, administers the affairs of India, so long as able and conscientious men are in power at home, and so long as similar functionaries are deputed to fulfil the duties of local government.

The question is, then, whether Lord PALMERSTON'S bill opens a prospect of a

more vigorous and beneficent government in India. Its uncompromising advocates in Parliament have laid too much stress upon the slow progress of railway and other enterprise in British India. The analogy of America is altogether inapplicable. Upon that continent a teeming European population has carried on those vast works at its own cost, and for its own profit. In India, if the Government has not to construct the lines, it has to guarantee their success; and it must be admitted that the task is more difficult in the one country than in the other. We have not found the Crown too willing to enter into speculations for the public benefit, nor are we disposed to believe that it would effect a rapid regeneration of India, although it would enjoy the immense advantage of working upon a broad, solid, and magnificent basis prepared by the East India Company.

Lord PALMERSTON'S bill, intended to effect this change, is a curious admixture of modern Reform ideas with those of the plan prepared by Fox, with its responsible Septemvirate, and other checks upon the royal authority. The proposed Council of Eight, however, could in no way be regarded as an independent body. It would be nominated by the Crown; it would be too small to exercise deliberative functions in the true spirit of deliberation; with the President would rest, except in cases of peace or war, the option of receiving or rejecting its advice; he would be vested with the power periodically to introduce new members, thus healing up any combinations that might be formed; and, seeing that the councillors could not sit in Parliament, some of the very best men possible would be excluded. The only persons representing the government of India in the Legislature would be the President and his Secretary, who, of course, would be of one mind. It is not clear whether the protests of the councillors would be laid before the public. This division of the subject is of serious importance, and we earnestly commend it to the attention of gentlemen on both sides of the House. Moreover, it is evident that to vest the Governor-General with the right of appointing the local councils is still further to tighten the grasp of the Crown—that is to say, of the Whig and Tory aristocracies in rotation—upon the immense domains of Great Britain in Asia.

The councillors would share with the President a certain proportion of the Indian patronage. But only nominally. They would appoint cadets, who, upon examination, might be plucked by the local authorities. To this no objection applies. With all its difficulties, the competitive principle is a sound one, and has already weakened the close borough system of the great departments at home. Youngmen have been introduced into our public offices, in considerable numbers, who would never have had a chance under the former principle. Still, the practice of competition is as yet an experiment, while we are legislating for the permanent government of India. Not a few thoughtful and discerning minds have had their confidence shaken as to the net value of the system, so far as it affects the efficiency of practical administration. Writerships are already open to competition. But the army? There will, of course, no longer be a Queen's army and a Company's army, but there will be a Queen's army and an aggregate of local corps, on a level with the Ceylon Rifles and the Cape Mounted Rifles. To this will the magnificent army of the East India Company descend: but it is easy to detect, through the complexities of the Government measure, the golden clue that will lead every candidate for an Indian commission to seek for favour at the Horse Guards. The inde-

pendent and elective principle having been detached from the entire Indian Government, there remains nothing but Ministerial 'discretion' upon a mighty scale. The last check upon the Governor-General will be destroyed, and we much overrate the talents of the heaven-born, if they do not practise high political agriculture in a field the fruits of which are star-pagodas and jewels, large salaries, rapid fortunes, and presents from Ranas and Nawabs.

'The Crown' means the ascendant Minister of the day. In the first instance, he—Lord PALMERSTON—makes a careful selection of eight gentlemen to sit at the Council table of the Presidential VERNON SMITH, whose right hand is, possibly, Sir HENRY RAWLINSON, now near and dear, we believe, to the family circle, and adopter of the proposal which originated in the *Edinburgh Review* in 1810—to send out an infant viceroy of the blood royal to Calcutta. The eight members, retiring by rotation, to be replaced by other nominees, exercise only one positive function. Four of their number must concur with the Chairman before he can go to war. Otherwise, they can only state their views, and record their objections. They can nominate certain cadets to be approved of by the local authorities in India. These local authorities are appointed exclusively by the Cabinet, which, whatever may be said, gains thus a vast sweep of patronage, for it names a Governor-General to do its work without the fear of the Company in its eyes. Hence radiate innumerable lines of patronage, and we think it will be generally understood, when these features of the bill are closely inspected, that it is intended to put the British Indian Empire into the pocket of the First Minister.

At the same time, it is less objectionable than the plans originally suggested by the advocates of immediate change. Those plans, as at first adopted, we believe, by the Government, included the creation of an Indian Secretaryship, all but supreme, without any council whatever, and the abolition of the local machinery as at present existing at Calcutta. To this public opinion was universally opposed, and we have now something in the nature of a compromise. But does this prove that the moment for a sweeping Indian revolution has arrived? Does it not suggest the wisdom of delay? We have to remember that, if the government of India has been difficult hitherto, it must be more difficult hereafter for many years to come, for we have to reconstruct important parts of the engine while the other parts are worked at high pressure. We have, with party Government incessantly in action, to keep India free from party influence. Otherwise we lose it. We have to reorganize the army, to bring the country under a system of fortifications, to create naval harbours on the Eastern and Western coasts, and, whatever may become of Lord PALMERSTON'S bill in the Houses of Parliament, we question whether it provides a guarantee for the effectual accomplishment or even the safe undertaking of this task, enormous in its difficulty and responsibility.

THE FRENCH ALLIANCE.

LORD PALMERSTON, rebuking Mr. GRIFTHS, laid himself open to contradiction on two points. He said there had been attacks in Parliament on 'the French nation.' There had been no such attack, and the House of Commons would do well to challenge Lord PALMERSTON to an explanation. The insulter of France is the man who declares that the French Emperor was 'the spontaneous choice of the French nation.' It

would have been perfectly fair, had the forms of the House permitted it, to have replied by recapitulating the history of the December days, and for this 'personal attack' the Premier would have been distinctly responsible. A key to the whole discussion is supplied by this incident. The claim of the Empire in France and of the Cabinet in England is, to utter what they please, and to remain unrefuted. So far as Lord PALMERSTON is concerned, the French Emperor must be abundantly satisfied. There has been no reply to M. WALEWSKI's despatch; but the rough draft of a Conspiracy Bill. When members of the House of Commons, in the exercise of their undoubted right, remark upon the transactions between the two Governments, the Premier rises and solemnly adjures Parliament not to endanger the alliance. We, at least, can speak plainly and calmly on this subject. We have no enthusiasm to recant, no panegyrics or invectives to recal. Every line we have written since the partnership with France was established, has been consistent with one principle, and with one view of the relations that should subsist between Great Britain and the French Emperor. France and Great Britain are allies; we value and respect the alliance; but it is one that can only endure upon certain conditions, and upon a national basis. The two countries have for centuries competed in the race of wealth, power, and grandeur. They imagine themselves equal. That is to say, France invariably assigns to Great Britain, and Great Britain to France, the rank of second among nations, which is merely an admission of mutual equality; and we most sincerely believe that, in order to preserve this balance, which is the true basis of the alliance, the strength and dignity of England must be uncompromisingly asserted. We have nothing to gain by unworthy concession; we have but to sacrifice the respect of France in order to lose her co-operation. There is no such principle as that of friendship in diplomacy. We said, long ago, that LOUIS NAPOLEON had the sense, perhaps the magnanimity, to grasp the hand of England, but let us say now that he who grasps your hand knows better than others when it trembles. Yet, that concord which arose with the necessities of usurpation, may become national, and precious to mankind. To the name of France has been dedicated by far the greater part of that generous good-will which has been ostensibly rendered to the person of the French Emperor. The spirit of Waterloo has departed, from England at least. Even a BONAPARTE may now forgive that victory. He wears the garter of WELLINGTON; he has paid the legacies of St. Helena. Therefore no bitterness is justifiable on either side. As public writers, we would rather throw away the pen for ever than utter a word of offence to the French nation. And we protest against Lord PALMERSTON's insinuation that LOUIS NAPOLEON's Government has been gratuitously attacked. It was the Emperor who began the controversy. Aimed at by Italians, he denounced the English; he gave official circulation to prætorian insolence; he dictated a round impeachment to the English Cabinet, Parliament, and nation; an apology which was extorted from him by honourable expostulations has not been published in France; it is he, therefore, who raises a painful question, and renders recriminations unavoidable. Lord PALMERSTON excuses, easily enough, the violence of the French colonels, adopted solemnly by the French Government, but he blames Parliamentary observations, which, so far from being violent, are not even hostile, and appeals to English public opi-

nion in defence of the French alliance. He might justly be told that to permit London to be overrun by imperial spies, to legislate under a fire of French legionaries, to be humble in the presence of arrogance and complimentary in reply to threats, is to sacrifice the first and last condition of the bond contracted between the two empires. We rest, as a nation, upon our power; and our power is represented by the public conduct of our Ministers.

Three years since, we put into the mouth of LOUIS NAPOLEON the words of his uncle, *Tout m'est soumis, et tout me manque*, which may be interpreted, "I have eight millions of votes, and no supporters." There has been no change since LOUIS NAPOLEON stood where KOSSUTH stood before him, to receive the adulations of the stall-fed Corporation of London. The intelligent classes throughout France are the members of one vast conspiracy, and, in addition to this, the conspiracies of other nations explode in Paris. Is this our fault? It brings upon us threats, insults, maledictions; it fills our streets with spies; it wrings a capitulation from our Government, and we are asked to apologize. For what? For having been outraged. There was once a solicitor with a leaden face who was employed to stare ERSKINE out of countenance; Lord PALMERSTON, with another sort of grimace, puts Parliament out of conceit with itself. Now, it must be repeated, the meek attitude simulated in Downing-street never gained for us a great ally. We need not be dictatorial; we have a right to be proud, and, unless we would abandon our position, we must be independent. If we cannot establish with the French Emperor an alliance of sympathy, we can accept from him an alliance of policy, not incompatible with, but preliminary to, that alliance of the future, which shall unite in common interests two nations of reasoning men.

We recur without apology to the opinions long since expressed in this journal. The policy adopted in support of the alliance has been false from the beginning. It was so when, in 1855, we wrote, "We have idolized the usurper and not obtained the respect of the army, the sole support of that Government." It is so when the French colonels, at a safe distance, clamour for the invasion of England. Without representing the passions of any defeated party, without oscillating from slander to flattery, without at one time accepting a government of repression, darkness, and silence, as preferable to that of a great constitutional party, and at another vilifying it with indiscriminating animosity, we have been faithful to a policy of conciliation, not to the Emperor, but to the nation of France, and we repeat once more that "we avow the responsibility of every printed word; but, if there be justice in history, it will never be said that the British press has broken faith with the French people by pointing out the infatuation and the recklessness of the Empire. We have taken a decided part, but it has not been the part of faction or of levity."

NOBLE PRESSURE FROM WITHOUT.

THERE was a noble Lord who, in 1831, offered to arm his tenantry in order to beat down the cry for a Reform Bill. That hereditary Conservative was a fierce declaimer against the 'pressure from without.' He did not appear to understand that buckling on the swords of the yeomanry to stuff the public opinion of the towns would have been 'pressing' with a vengeance. Lords and gentlemen, however, have abandoned that mode of polemics. The fashion is now to publish books containing statements of deli-

berate opinions. Thus, Lord GREY, whose father was said to stand at the door of the Upper House, 'as though his face had been the face of an angel,' has produced a volume,* of which it may be said that politicians should read it, since it is an exposition of party opinion; but the essay is condemned by its preface. We have been reminded that Earl GREY forgets the essential distinction between an organism and a mechanism, and that he treats the constitution of Great Britain as a watch to be taken to pieces, cleaned, oiled, repaired, laid out to dry in the sun, and repaired according to an artificer's rule. This, we think, is the vitiating principle of the book; it proposes to treat the constitution as an old house requiring a new staircase, and he insists that a committee of surveyors should sit to inspect the dilapidations of the structure and send in an estimate for repairs.

We have not discovered a single practical suggestion in Earl GREY's essay. It is an attempt to anticipate Parliamentary discussion. The author praises the rotten-borough system, and proposes that a certain number of Privy Councillors (Radicals included) should assemble to debate the necessities of Parliamentary Reform. But Lord GREY is mistaken on one point. He thinks the country will accept a new Reform Bill as a favour from the governing classes. He thinks that whatever improvements a set of political patentees determine to propose may be screwed on without resistance to the machinery of the constitution. He thinks that the change to come will be welcomed 'from above to below' by a grateful and acquiescent people. He is grossly in error. The question is not one for the peerage to decide. It depends upon the verdict of public opinion.

That public opinion is clearly in favour of Reform upon a large and liberal scale. The proposals of the United City Reformers have met with general acceptance throughout the country. It is acknowledged that the Tory programme, involving a readjustment of the electoral system in favour of the landed interest, is simply ridiculous; while Liberal politicians seem to be agreed that the shout for manhood suffrage, as the only possible concession, is the merest clamour. With this clamour, however, the working classes, as a body, are not identified. That was sufficiently proved by the conference held at St. Martin's Hall. Neither Lord GREY nor the champion of manhood suffrage has hit the real tone of public opinion, which, powerful in its moderation, asks for that which may be conceded without difficulty or danger.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM.

WE shall now finish our discussion of this subject for the present, by giving a *résumé* of the different defects that we have touched upon from time to time, and which we consider it will be necessary for any bill to remedy that professes to be an effective and comprehensive measure of bankruptcy reform. The primary duty that such an Act of Parliament has to perform, is to secure us the administration of the bankrupt law with cheapness, simplicity, and despatch. The framers of such an act, and the men whose duty it is to discuss its merits and demerits in committee, are unfortunately, in most cases, utterly ignorant of the practical details of the court. It is for this reason that we feel compelled to dwell upon the glaring defects of the present rotten and ineffective system to an extent that may seem wearisome to persons not directly interested

* Parliamentary Government Considered with Reference to a Reform of Parliament. By Earl Grey. Bentley.

in the subject; and watch and report upon the scope, character, and intent of the measure that has been forced upon the present Government by the unanimous cry of the mercantile classes for an improved commercial tribunal. Apart from the fact that bad law, and bad law administration, make bad morals, the existence of such a court warrants a full discussion when we know that in its present state, with all the prejudice and indignation felt against it by the trading community, it receives assets in the course of the year amounting, at a fair calculation, to four hundred thousand pounds, two-thirds of which it retains or wastes, distributing one-third only to the creditors.

The first thing required is a total reconstruction of the present dirty, inconvenient, crowded, and badly ventilated series of courts in Basinghall-street. Even for the business that now flows to them they are miserably inadequate; and this reform may be easily carried out by taking in the long, dark, gloomy passages that lead to nowhere, and building over the court-yard, which in its present state exists for no other purpose than to collect rain-water.

The next requirement is the centralization of Assignees (of course, we are speaking of the London Court of Bankruptcy). Instead of being scattered about the City in offices suited to their notions of expenditure or individual tastes, these gentlemen—as many of them as it is desirable to maintain—should be collected in a wing of the court easy of access, open to the creditors at any time by right and not by favour, and provided with good fire-proof vaults for bankrupts' account-books and documents.

The Commissioners—as many of them as it may be desirable to retain—should sit every business day of the year from ten to five, and be accessible at any time if required.

The office of Registrar should be abolished, its duties being transferred to the Commissioner and the Official Assignee.

The Messenger and Broker should also be discharged, the law being quite stringent enough, if enforced, to compel a bankrupt to guard for a few days what little property he has left when he comes to the court; and the sale can be effected in the ordinary way, by auction, under the guidance of the Official Assignee.

The office of the Accountant in Bankruptcy should be abolished, there being quite checking power enough between the Commissioner and the Official Assignee if properly exercised.

The first qualification of a Commissioner should be a knowledge of trading and mercantile accounts, and the ordinary operations of commerce. After this may come law, which in this court, if the administration of assets is to be retained, ought to be seldom required.

Two active, well-selected, qualified Commissioners (instead of five) could do the work well, not only now, but for some time to come, allowing for the probable increase in the business of the court.

There is no objection to the number of Official Assignees appointed, in reason, but they should be paid by a small salary and a commission upon the dividend, not upon the assets. The appointment should be taken from the Lord Chancellor, and thrown open to public competition at the minimum salary and commission, provision being made for integrity by the usual mercantile process of a guarantee from a public company.

This improvement in the organization of the court would tend to reduce the charges of the solicitor working the *fiat*, which

charges now amount to twenty-six per cent. of the realized assets.

With regard to improvements in the law of Bankruptcy, there are many that may be and must be made for the benefit of the trading classes. The first power that the court requires, is the power of suing out claims upon the debtors of bankrupt estates, without having to transfer the action to one of the ordinary law courts. Arrangements should be made to do this in a cheap and efficacious manner, and the expense should fall upon the estate, but not, in the event of insufficient funds, upon the Official Assignee.

Compromises of claims should be effected speedily and legally by the Official Assignee, with the concurrence of the Trade Assignee, without the intervention of the solicitor.

The expenses of the Trade Assignee should in all cases be paid, and compensation be given to him for time and labour expended in working and benefiting an estate, of which he of all men must have the most knowledge and experience.

A rule should be made enforcing the taking of all proofs in private (creditors only being present), and also trader debtor summonses.

A certificate should not only absolve a bankrupt from all debts up to the date of the *fiat*, but from all engagements—bonds, leases, and endorsements of bills.

With respect to the severity of the bankrupt law, the penal clauses are now sufficiently stringent (consistently with the freedom of trade) if they were only honestly and fearlessly carried out.

THE ARMY REPORT.

THE report of the Commission to Inquire into the Sanitary Condition of the British Army has excited a great amount of interest, and might well do so; for the conclusions to be drawn from its revelations are of the most distressing kind. The high mortality of our army generally, with the vast excess as regards one particular section of it, has excited almost as much indignation as astonishment. Not only does the report set forth the facts of this extreme liability to death in our soldiers, but it gives such a complete exposure of their whole condition as seems to put us on the direct track of the causes to which this terrible result is to be attributed.

A very little search brings us to the conclusion that there is hardly one influence to which the British soldier is subject that is not deleterious to his health. The dwelling provided for him seems to have been specially adapted to make him uncomfortable and ill; so with his food, his clothing, and his occupation. His clothing is of such a kind as leaves him exposed to the worst influences of our climate—or of any other, indeed, into which his duty may carry him. His occupation is so ill-regulated that, slight as it is compared with that of the labourer, from which class he is generally taken, it is fatiguing to the death from excess of monotony. This monotony being, from first to last, the impending fate—the crushing evil of the soldier's life—finds its climax in the unvaried sameness of his food, with its inevitable tendency to enervate and ultimately destroy the digestive organs. Wearied with the eternal monotony of his daily duty, and with his stomach in revolt at the changelessness of boiled beef set daily before him, he is in fit condition to be the victim of the fatal miasma of the barrack-room, with its hundreds of beds, side touching side, and every chink and crevice stopped to 'keep out draughts.'—He flies, for change, to drink, and to other debauchery; he soon finds—or rather the military doctor soon finds, that pulmonary consumption has found a well-prepared victim; and the country soon has to supply his place with another man, in the bloom of life, perfect in wind and limb—to be killed inch by inch with the fatal monotony that had sapped the foundation of his life—to die, at length, like him, of pulmonary consumption.

But putting aside all feeling, the mere money cost of this wasted soldier-material is so serious as

to demand immediate attention. The British army is the costliest in the world, considered with reference to the number of men composing it; and there is little doubt that a leading cause of this costliness is the wanton extravagance that characterizes all the army expenditure. The very first consideration would naturally be the maintenance of the forces in a state of the utmost efficiency; and for that purpose no reasonable amount of money would be grudged by the country; but it is plain that we have the enormous cost without the efficiency; for an army—whatever its bravery and discipline—can never be considered as properly efficient while death is in the heart and lungs of the very flower of its men. An army, to be in high condition, must possess not only technical knowledge of its duties, but perfect physical ability to perform them. The pale Guardsman may storm the heights of new Almas, and astonish the world by his pluck and bravery; but what more would he not do if the heavy hand of death were not upon his vital parts?

There is, however, no need to prove the necessity for reform, since the report puts the matter beyond question; all that need be urged is that the reform demanded is one in every way practicable. Apparently, we should begin at once with the barrack, to which the report traces, at least, an unquestionable predisposing cause of the mortality among our soldiers. The work is, in fact, already under weigh, and only requires to be watched with an eye to remedy the evils demonstrated by the report. Several large sums are named in the army estimates of the present year for new barracks; let these barracks be perfected so as to serve as a type of the buildings required for the healthy lodgment of the army. Then, with regard to the clothing supplied, there can be no serious doubt but that it is greatly deficient in the qualities most essential to the health and comfort of the men. Great expectations were raised by the improved system on which the army is at present clothed; but, just as in 1853 we reorganized the Indian Government, and now find it necessary again to reorganize it, so, having revised the Colonel-system of clothing our soldiers, we are now called upon to revise the contract-system under which they are at present clothed. We have still to get rid of coats that will not keep out either wind or water, and caps that are—not even very slightly.

But one of the most important reforms demanded, to give the British soldier a fair chance of health—but possibly the most difficult of attainment, from the horror felt by military authority at the thought of 'change'—is such an arrangement of drill and barrack duty as will not weigh down the soldier's spirit by its monotony. This reform cannot be too strongly insisted on, for without it, whatever else is done to alleviate his sanitary condition, will be but partially successful. The next most important reform must totally change the present mode of feeding him; variety of wholesome food is as absolutely necessary to his physical well-being as cheerful exercise. At present the soldier is slop-clothed and slop-fed, at a cost to the country amply sufficient to provide him with food and clothing adequate to his preservation in health and military efficiency. Again, in spite of all that has been said, and, as the country supposes, done, to improve the condition of the army hospitals, they are a disgrace to all concerned in them, as is shown by a pamphlet, by Mr. GEORGE REDFORD, lately issued. This brochure will demand a closer attention: it presents the outline of a complete hospital corps, dispersed among the regiment, or concentrated for duty, always ready where it is wanted, with medicines, stretchers, and instruments to its hand.

Not the shadow of a doubt is left by the report as to the necessity of an immediate revision of the regulations under which the soldier passes the greater part of his life; and too much praise cannot be given to Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT for the manner in which he conducted the inquiry and prepared the report, which brings the whole condition of the soldier before us at one view. Especial praise is due to him—one of the most refined gentlemen of the day—for his merciless scrutiny of many things that ruder minds might have shrunk from looking into. How much attention he had paid to the condition of the army we knew before; and we knew that the later improvements of the present Minister were but continuations of those set on foot by Mr. HERBERT; but we could not, until the publication of the report, know how completely he has made himself master of the whole subject. This subject we shall ourselves take up from the report, section by section.

THE INDIAN LOAN.

NEVER did a Government have to come into the market under such promising circumstances as the present. The public are quite anxious to pay down their money, and almost any amount could be raised with the greatest ease. Two months ago the difficulty was how to get cash at all, now the anxiety is how to get rid of it. Then the circulation seemed to be almost dried up, now society is full of repletion. We do not stay to inquire into the causes of this extraordinary change in the world of finance, but hasten to give our readers the fullest information upon the subject of the new loan that can at present be obtained.

The bill before the House of Commons is simply to enable the East India Company to raise money in this country by way of loan. At present it is under a legal disability from borrowing any considerable sum here, and it is quite unable to raise the necessary funds in India. Power will be taken to make loans to the extent of eight or ten millions, but it is not intended to borrow even so much as the smaller sum immediately. Probably about five millions will be required—an amount that will, no doubt, pour into the treasury at Leadenhall-street in a few hours, if only moderately favourable terms are offered. Already the two leading houses are understood to have received numerous applications to be inserted in the lists of subscribers which it is presumed they will make, and the leading stockbrokers are daily met with inquiries as to the time and terms of the new loan. We believe we may state positively that no steps will be taken in the matter until the bill has passed both Houses of Parliament, when biddings will be invited.

It is pretty generally understood that the security will be in the form of debentures having a certain term to run, during which term the rate of interest will be fixed; in fact, that it will be very similar to the Exchequer Bonds which Mr. GLADSTONE introduced. The main difference will, of course, be that the British Government offers no guarantee whatever, the security being the revenues of India; the interference of the Legislature being limited to granting power to raise the loan, in the same manner that it enables railway or other commercial companies to borrow money to a limited extent. We think it necessary to dwell upon this point, since an erroneous impression has got abroad, that as Parliament is called upon to pass an act upon the subject, it, in so doing, gives some guarantee for the interest. Nor will the nature of the security be in any way improved or altered should the Government succeed in carrying their crude and most inopportune measure for transferring the government of India from the merchant princes in Leadenhall-street to a board of Government dependents at Whitehall. Whatever may be the form of Government, the security offered will be simply, as we have said, the revenues of our Indian empire. On this account, trustees will not be able to place any moneys settled by deed in the new loan, as it will not come under the designation of a Government security. Private individuals and public companies will, however, find it a most convenient mode of employing temporarily any sums of money they may have over. After the late revelations, a large number of persons prefer having their money idle to placing it in deposit with the joint-stock banks; they will not give 40s. per cent. premium for Exchequer Bills, which will no doubt have the interest lowered next month; and Consols at 97 and upwards are too high for investments of a temporary character. The new loan will, therefore, supply a want extensively felt; it will afford a legitimate means for investment of the numerous and very large sums of money that are at present entirely unemployed.

APPROACHING SETTLEMENT OF THE KANSAS QUESTION.

We offer a very hearty welcome to the *Times* on its arriving at a much clearer view of American politics, and especially a more distinct appreciation of Mr. BUCHANAN's own character and position. Our contemporary is wrong on one point, which has passed out of notice, though it is of the greatest importance. It endeavours to give a recapitulation of the history of the Kansas Settlement, to explain how the present position has happened, and it is quite correct in saying, "The fact of the matter is, that from the first settlement of Kansas there have been two factions, each ready to shed the other's blood." What follows is not so correct:—

"It seems beyond a doubt that the majority of the

first inhabitants were opposed to slavery; but a large body of slavery men burst into the country from the adjoining State of Missouri, not with any intention of settling, but merely to force slavery institutions on Kansas, and to deliver their own state from the dread of a freesoil neighbour."

The first point is omitted, and upon that all turns. 'The fact of the matter is,' that if there had been no interference, no factious contest, no race for the possession of the territory, Kansas would have been settled from the neighbouring Slave states. The population of the Union is gradually spreading westward, in lines nearly parallel; and any one who will consult the map will see how 'the two factions,' which may be regarded as taking Virginia or Massachusetts for their centre, would extend towards the Pacific.

There are, as we have already pointed out, many qualifying circumstances in this progress; more particularly as settlement advances towards the west; it encounters difficulties not necessarily belonging to the business of the planter—difficulties which it is impossible to surmount by means of a Negro population. Hence natural limits are offered to the colonization of the west by means of the Black race; and as we shall presently see, the Free states are sure to circumvent the Black states by the simple extension of territory in the process of natural settlement.

With regard to Kansas, however, the Freesoilers, anxious to preserve a new state of the Federation from the Black taint, hastened to settle it in order to pre-occupy the ground and pre-establish free opinions in the new territory. This was where the contest began, and the irruption of settlers from the Slave states was simply the effect of 'unrestricted competition' in that behalf. Each side has endeavoured to obtain its own convention. The Free men had the convention of Topeka, the Slave men the convention of Lecompton. There was, however, a distinction between the two conventions, very slight, but not unimportant. The Free men monopolized the Topeka convention, but they deliberately abstained from attending the Lecompton convention. They thus permitted the Lecompton convention to assume the appearance of a convention representing the whole territory—one party being absent by default. 'De apparentibus et non existentibus eadem est ratio'—those who do not make their appearance must be considered as non-existent; and in the eyes of a lawyer, the Lecompton convention bears to a certain extent the aspect of a convention representing the territory:—

"The President," says the *Times*, "absolutely denies the authority of the Topeka Legislature, and declares that the Constitution which has been lately voted, and which he presents to Congress, is the legal expression of the wishes of Kansas, and must be received as such; but it rests with Congress to accept it or not. By the fundamental law of the United States, any region within its jurisdiction which is sufficiently settled may be declared a territory, and when it attains a certain population may be admitted as a state, on the demand of a properly constituted Convention. Now, even allowing that the Convention which framed the Lecompton Constitution was duly constituted, the question is whether Congress, looking to the circumstances of the case, should admit it. The south is, of course, eager in the affirmative. The admission of Kansas would, for the present at least, give two Pro-slavery votes in the Senate. A more moderate party is for rejecting the Constitution, and passing an 'enabling Bill' to give Kansas the power to form another. Mr. Buchanan is for the former course. He shows that it is an inherent right of a territory to meet in convention as Kansas did, and that it would be unjust to refuse to acknowledge the Constitution it adopted or to contest the claim to admission. Moreover, Minnesota and Oregon are waiting also for admission, and Kansas, which has waited longest, ought to be disposed of first.

"Yet it must not be supposed that Mr. Buchanan is anxious that Kansas should be a Slave state. He merely says that the Constitution which the Convention has established enacts slavery, and that Kansas must come into the Union with its Constitution, and change it afterwards, if it pleases. The question of slavery was duly submitted to the people on the 21st of last December. The Freesoilers abstained from voting, as not recognizing the assembly which put the question. If they had chosen to vote, says the President, they might have made Kansas a free state; as they abstained, they must take the consequences, and remedy the evil by another vote after the territory has become a state. The late judgment of the Supreme Court, which has caused such astonishment at home and abroad, is cited to show that Kansas, being United States territory, is from that very fact Slave soil. 'It has been solemnly adjudged by the highest judicial tribunal, that slavery exists in Kansas by virtue of the Constitution of the United States. Kansas is therefore at this moment as much a Slave state as Georgia or South Carolina.' So there is nothing

in the facts of the case or the law of the country to forbid the admission of the territory with its present Constitution.

"There can be no doubt that the President has much reason on his side, and that the Freesoilers have acted of late with imprudence and intemperance."

* * * * *

"That their cause will have the sympathy of a large class both in their own country and in Europe we have no doubt, but that they will have to yield seems equally clear. Resistance to the Central Government is the highest of crimes in the eye of every true American, and when the Chief of the Republic calls upon the citizens to support his authority he will be responded to from every side. Perhaps the best solution of the question is what the President proposes—that Kansas should be admitted with her present Pro-slavery Constitution, and that then the Freesoil party should demand a Convention, and endeavour by legal means to abolish the institution they detest."

This is excellent: it places the whole case, as it now stands, very clearly before the British public. One of the sources of trouble in the entire case lies in a point which Englishmen generally cannot appreciate, but which is felt with all the force of desperate pressure in the United States. The citizens of the Slave states are quite conscious of the process of surrounding that we have already described. At this very moment, when they are struggling as if for life, in order to procure the admission of one state into the Union—one Slave state giving them two more votes in the Senate—they see that *two* other states, giving *four* more votes in the Senate, are at the threshold of the Union, awaiting admission. Henceforward the progress of Free settlement must be still in a greater ratio. At the same time, with the decline of Abolitionist agitation, opinions favourable to the ultimate extinction of slavery have again made their appearance in the Slave states. It is no wonder, therefore, if the extreme Conservatives—the Tories of Slave institutions—should just now be in that frame of mind which the Orange party have exhibited in Ireland—violent with a sense of approaching defeat—a defeat the more restless since it is coming upon them by the natural progress of the Union, in population, in territory, in power, and in intelligence. It is true that the party which Mr. BUCHANAN represents foresees a time when the industry of the Black race may be reconciled with the gradual requirement of freedom, and with the continual prosperity of all the states, South or North. But what man of extreme opinions will consent to listen to the dictates of either reason or fate? Meanwhile, we cannot but rejoice that so universal an authority as the *Times* should assist in enabling England and America to arrive at a better understanding.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S OATHS BILL.

On Wednesday next the Oaths Bill is to be committed, and it is to be hoped that it will be settled and become law this session. On every ground of right and expediency it is desirable that there should be no longer delay in the closing of this ungracious question. Framed with the avowed object of giving admission to Jews into Parliament, it puts that part of the question upon a fair basis for discussion, and deals with it in such a manner as to challenge as little as possible of the Christian antagonism by which it has hitherto been met. The course now adopted by Lord JOHN RUSSELL has been taken in the belief that it is the only one likely to be practicable at the present time. His bill no longer attempts to reconcile members of different religious persuasions to the taking of one form of oath; but it amends the oath of allegiance, the oath of supremacy, and the oath of abjuration, and while proposing one form of oath to be taken by all Protestant Christians in the Legislature, it provides a special form for the Jews.

It is with the Roman Catholics that the principal difficulty lies; but Lord JOHN RUSSELL has surely given an answer to their gravest objection such as ought to suffice any but opponents pedantically tenacious. We do not seek to keep Jews out of Parliament, say the Roman Catholics, speaking by the lips of Mr. MAGUIRE; nay, we demand for them an equality with ourselves: but you ask us to sanction a form of oath which will make every Protestant who takes it be forsworn, for it will make him affirm his belief in that which the Catholics know to be not true, namely, that the Pope has no spiritual authority in this country. Lord JOHN RUSSELL answers this casuistry:—

"I must say that I do not see any difficulty in a Protestant declaring that no foreign prince, potentate, or power, has, or ought to have, any power or jurisdiction, spiritual or temporal, in these realms. I make no reservation when I take that oath. I accept the word

as implying the denial, not of any mental influence, but of any authority capable of being enforced in any of our courts: "I take them as meaning that the Queen is the supreme head of this nation, and that no laws can be allowed to have any authority in this country other than the laws to which the Queen and her Parliament have assented. For instance, suppose the Pope were to issue orders with regard to the approaching Lent, directing that certain fast days should be kept. Roman Catholics might be bound by these orders, and the fast days might be observed accordingly; but if anybody were to point out some person who had not observed it, he could not go into any court and obtain the enforcement of that decree."

Surely a frank and earnest desire on the part of the Roman Catholics to assist in getting rid of the disabilities which keep their Jewish brethren from political equality with them would make lighter of such imaginary differences. The considerations which have induced Lord JOHN RUSSELL to abandon the principle of providing a single oath for members of whatever religion, and which he regretfully ascribed to the jealous opposition of Protestants, should teach the Roman Catholics that, on their side, something of concession, if not of actual compromise, would both be wise and just at the present. They have once before received the boon of legislation in their behalf, and may, by the very act of conciliation now demanded of them, help forward the day for further boons, an unobjectionable adjustment of the present oath as soon as any.

But, altogether, the temper of the Roman Catholic members appears better disposed towards the present bill than it has towards any previous measure. And on the point of admitting Jews to Parliament there is a decidedly healthy feeling in the House of Commons. Indeed, the question of the right of Jews to take an equal share in the Government of the country of which they are as much a part as their fellows, whether Protestant or Catholic, has over and over again been settled; the one great difficulty has been the oath which they have been called upon to take, and which it was obviously impossible for them to pronounce. But at length a form of oath is proposed such as the Jew may conscientiously and without reservation take, to the acceptance of which his Protestant brethren in the House of Commons will, it is to be hoped, offer no serious opposition. Should the House of Commons pass the bill with any approach to unanimity, the Lords can scarcely refuse the forms necessary to make the bill law, or decline to assist in closing the perennial dispute which divides the Legislature and keeps one member for London City in a chronic state of invidious exclusion.

DR. LIVINGSTONE AND THE COMMERCE OF AFRICA.

DR. LIVINGSTONE has laid open to science, and now undertakes to lay open to commerce, the interior of Southern Africa, from the border territories of the Atlantic to those of the Eastern Ocean. No longer associated with any missionary league, he is free to pursue this great work according to the bent of his own judgment. He has demonstrated the existence of a great line of water communication from the western settlements northwards, begun by the Coanza, continued by the Kasye, and completed by the Leambye, all but communicating with the navigable Lake Ngami. Thence another line, of similar importance, trends eastward along the course of the full and broad Zambesi, which, in fact, is a prolongation of the Leambye, and which, dividing into several channels, is poured into the Indian basin at Quillimane. Throughout this great region, Dr. LIVINGSTONE has discovered the materials and facilities of an extensive commerce, as yet undeveloped. The sugar-cane, several fibrous substances of great strength, previously unknown, indigo, quinine, senna, wax, honey, iron ore, copper, and malachite, exist in abundance, with coal and gold. "The country is so fertile, that in the gardens cultivated by the natives a constant process of sowing and reaping goes on all the year round. It likewise grows immense quantities of grain." In the course of one of his Zambesi-voyages, the traveller found immense quantities of the plant alfalfa, from the cultivation of which in Kashmere Government derives a revenue of 12,000*l.* a year for a hundred and twenty-eight thousand ass-loads. The question is, then, whether the Zambesi is penetrable by European commerce. Dr. LIVINGSTONE, Captain HYDE PARKER, and Lieutenant HOSKINS have declared it to be practicable; and the Portuguese appear disposed to favour such an inland traffic. The first necessary object is to secure a

safe and permanent avenue to the healthy highlands on the edge of the central basin; and, although the Zambesi has not been surveyed, it is known to contain ample depth for navigation by large vessels during four or five months in the year. The course is thus navigable for upwards of three hundred miles; above this point there is another reach of three hundred miles, occasionally obstructed by sand, but without mud-banks. Along both banks the cotton cultivation might be developed without limit, in addition to the ordinary commerce of the country. Dr. LIVINGSTONE says:—"It is on the Anglo-American race that the hopes of the world for liberty and progress rest. Now it is very grievous to find one portion of this race practising the gigantic evil, and the other aiding, by increased demands for the produce of slave labour, in perpetrating the enormous wrong. The Mauritius, a mere speck on the ocean, yields sugar, by means of guano, improved machinery, and free labour, equal in amount to one-fourth part of the consumption of Great Britain." On that island, however, land is excessively dear, and far from rich; no crop can be raised except by means of guano, and labour has to be brought all the way from India. But in Africa the land is cheap, the soil good, and free labour is to be found on the spot. Dr. LIVINGSTONE, with his brother—separated from him in America for seventeen years—proposes to complete the great and patriotic work of his life by establishing, with the aid of the British and Portuguese Governments, an open highway from the sea to the fertile and salubrious interior of Africa south of the Equator. In this endeavour, the good wishes of the civilized world attend him.

POLITICAL NOTES.

THE story of CANTILLON's reward has been very clearly explained by Mr. STIRLING, and, without desiring to rip open a painful question, we will state the points which may be relied upon in proof that the French Emperor actually sanctioned payment of that scandalous legacy. In the *Moniteur* of August the 14th, 1853, it was stated that none of the legatees named by NAPOLEON I. had been paid in full, "except some servants," of whom, as Mr. STIRLING says, "CANTILLON was certainly not one." In May, 1855, however, the statement of the *Moniteur* showed that CANTILLON was "the only person who had been paid in full." In the April of that year, it will be remembered, we published information from a special source that he had received ten thousand francs. Now, taking these points together, it is proved that the bequest was made by NAPOLEON I., and that it was not disavowed by NAPOLEON III., while a reasonable inference (even if we had no positive information) would be, that between the August of 1853, and the May of 1855, the amount of the legacy was quietly forwarded to Brussels.

The increase of French spies in London is becoming a nuisance. They have been assisted, it is well known, by our own detectives; but there is some danger that if the foreign principle of hunting down the suspected he adopted in Great Britain, it will considerably abridge the liberties and comforts of those who, in peace and quietness, enjoy our national hospitality. The gentleman who applied to Mr. BURCHAM for redress, was told that the law provided none. Public feeling, however, is hostile to the spy. We, in England, abhor a man who uses the knife, but we respect a man who, on proper occasions, uses a 'box of fives.' He might be fined; but the amount would be forthcoming.

The Hyde Park Demonstration against Lord PALMERSTON's Conspiracy Bill, is intended to serve an excellent object. It would, if really national and dignified, swell the current strongly against an odious and disgraceful measure. We hesitate, however, to approve of these open-air mass meetings. That arranged for Sunday is no doubt in the best possible hands; but can it be certain that a vulgar tumult will not be created which would serve no one so much as the French Emperor? It would be worth his while to subsidise a thousand 'roughs' to convert the Hyde Park gathering into the semblance of a ribald and random mob.

Civis Romanus is in a lunatic asylum at Naples, goaded into insanity by the royal police. There was a time, we think, when the members for Newcastle would have started up on the floor of Parlia-

ment to ask why this humiliation had been endured. Lord CLARENDON and Lord PALMERSTON, in their pleasant way, have excused the Neapolitan Government; but Count CAVOUR has distinctly shown the seizure of the Cagliari steamer to have been illegal under the common code of nations. We doubt whether France would have left two of her subjects thus unprotected; but, after all, our relations with Naples have sunk into an intrigue. Lord PALMERSTON will not have Muratism; LOUIS NAPOLEON will not have Constitutionalism; between the two the 'intervention' amounts to acquiescence, and *Civis Romanus* is driven mad by Neapolitan ill-usage—a scapegoat of diplomatic civilities, and a set-off to the official 'rupture.'

ATTEMPTED MURDER BY A MANIAC.—An attempt has been made on the life of one of the prisoners confined in the Preston House of Correction by Thomas Kershaw, a young man who was recently apprehended at Over Darwen on the charge of murdering his father, the particulars of which case appeared in the *Leader* a few weeks ago. Kershaw has lately been placed in one of the hospital wards of the prison, where two of his fellow prisoners, named Collins and Gerner, were appointed to watch him and prevent his doing himself any injury. He has latterly shown symptoms of mental derangement, having frequently talked in a very strange and incoherent manner about Louis Napoleon, and likewise offered the most extravagant sums of money to the Governor to permit him to escape. He appears to have taken an immense dislike to Collins, to whom he made a confession of the murder of his father at Over Darwen, adding that he (Collins) had told tales of him to the Governor, and that he had better keep the poker and tongs out of the way, if he valued his personal safety. One night, Kershaw contrived, on some pretext, to withdraw Collins into a private part of the prison, and the moment he had got him there, he endeavoured to fracture his skull with a spade that lay near him, but was frustrated in his design. Between four and five o'clock the following morning, as Collins was reading by the fire, and Gerner and two invalids were asleep in the same room, Kershaw suddenly leaped out of bed, seized a large iron coal shovel from the grate, and struck Collins four heavy blows on the head with it, the last of which rendered him insensible for ten minutes. His screams for help aroused the sleeping inmates of the chamber, when Gerner, after a severe struggle with Kershaw, succeeded in overpowering him, and, further assistance arriving shortly afterwards, the maniac was secured and manacled. The wounded man is progressing favourably. Kershaw was subsequently brought before Mr. Winstanley, jun., in the hospital ward, and committed for trial at the Lancaster Assizes on the two charges. He has since been very wild and rambling in his manner and conversation, and has often stated that some person had a razor with which he meant to put him to death.

TRANSPORT OF TROOPS AND STORES TO INDIA.—The select committee of the House of Commons, appointed, on the motion of Sir De Lacy Evans, to inquire into the transport of troops and stores to India, met for the first time on Tuesday. The committee consists of Sir De Lacy Evans (in the chair), Lord Goderich, Sir John Pakington, Lord Stanley, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Danby Seymour, Mr. Osborne, Captain Vivian, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Willoughby, Sir E. Colebrooke, Mr. Byng, and Sir J. Elphinstone. Mr. P. Melvill, Secretary to the Military Department of the East India House, was called as the first witness. He said that "in February, last year, there was a deficiency of about 5000 men. There had been a number of men withdrawn in 1854, and remonstrances had been addressed to Lord Dalhousie on the subject. The events in the North-Western Provinces, including the outbreak at Meerut, occurred on the 10th of May, and, as the communication by telegraph was then complete, the intelligence would be received by Lord Canning and Lord Elphinstone the following day. Lord Canning sent word that he did not consider it necessary to send out a steamer. The news was received by the Court of Directors on the 27th of June, and immediately the Directors asked her Majesty's Government to place at their disposal four regiments to be sent out, in addition to four regiments of infantry and two cavalry regiments which were then on their way. The Board of Control instantly acquiesced in the application. Lord Canning lost ten days by not despatching a steamer with the news. Ever since 1854 there had been a deficiency of European troops in India, and the Government promised to make up the deficiency as soon as possible." The witness gave further evidence, tending to show that there had been no delay on the part of the East India Company, but that there had been on the part of the India Board. Troops could not be sent out to India during the winter, because then they would arrive in the hot season, which would be prejudicial to their health. Mr. Melvill also stated that the chief reason why troops were sent by sailing ships was because the difference of expense between those vessels and steamers is 10*l.* and 50*l.* a man.

ABUNDANCE OF FISH.—For some weeks past, the mouth of the Tees has abounded with fish, chiefly sprats and herrings.

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*.

THE last number of the *North American Review* has an article on 'Reformatories at Home and Abroad,' which is interesting as giving a brief outline and criticism of what has been accomplished in this direction in the United States. It is natural to suppose that a new country like America, offering ample scope for the activity of all classes, and keeping the various elements of society in full play, would have little of that vicious social sediment which calls for the purifying action of reformatories in European countries. This, however, is not the case. The necessity for such institutions is felt quite as strongly in America as in England, and during the last twenty years nearly as many reformatories have been established in the different states of the Union. From the review before us it would seem, however, that these institutions are more numerous than successful. And this comparative inefficiency is traced by the writer of the paper to the characteristic vices of the American national character—the passion for display which leads public men to care more for vast and showy undertakings than for solid results, and the want of deeper insight which elevates mechanical over moral means in the work of social reformation. The following passage signalizes these defects:—

If we examine the institutions of Hamburg and Mettray, with a view to discover the principle which lies at the root of their usefulness and success, which enables the superintendents so easily to preserve order by day and by night, which throws around these simple roofs and walls, and over these little patches of grass or flowers, an air of contentment and of happiness, which removes from the minds of the overseers all fear of desertion, and from those of the pupils all desire of escape, we shall find it in that wise regulation so early adopted by Mr. Wichern, which we have before mentioned as the *family system*. Essentially the same at both these great institutions, it overbalances in each all the minor deficiencies and errors, and at once brings them into harmony within themselves and with each other. It is this principle which Americans, in looking across the water for aid in forming similar establishments at home, should most thoroughly impress upon themselves. This is the lesson we have to learn—that it is not by creating an imposing institution, locating it in an edifice of palatial size and massive front, and inaugurating its operation by speech and procession and display, that the true inspiration can be gained which shall lead to the charity all its usefulness and efficiency. Four or five hundred vagrant boys, taken from the foulness of their early life in the streets, gathered promiscuously together under one great roof, and subjected daily to some sort of mechanical discipline and instruction, are not therefore necessarily reformed, or in any likelihood of being reformed. All this is done in almshouses, for a different end. All this is done in gaols, for an end still more remote. For reform, more is needed. But such in our land is the passion for immediate effect, such the impatience of anything like humility in our institutions, that, until the establishment of the Industrial School for Girls at Lancaster, the gregarious system above alluded to enjoyed a full monopoly of the great institutions of charity, whether reform schools, almshouses, or hospitals. If a reform school was to be built for five hundred boys, the commissioners never asked what was the system on which the institution was to be conducted. That the building was to be palatial was determined at the outset, and the daily duties of the inmates were to be gregariously performed. Thus has arisen a cloud of establishments among us, of which, perhaps, the State School at Westborough may be taken as a favourable example. Much dissatisfaction is expressed in regard to the practical working of the Westborough school; and this not from any doubt as to the watchfulness of its government in general, or the efficiency of its officers individually, but from a reasonable doubt whether, under any government, a multitude of boys could be indiscriminately brought together beneath one roof, and as one family, eating in crowds, sleeping in crowds, working in crowds, with no more than the general superintendence that is possible under such circumstances, and manifest as the result of such aggregation the genuine reform, in character, manners, and tendencies, which it is the aim of the institution to promote and advance. The contrast between this system and the 'family system,' as practised at Hamburg and Mettray, is too striking. The necessary superiority of the latter as a means of reform is too obvious to need any elaborate demonstration. Nothing more than the most cursory examination is necessary to convince any one of it, and we are glad that the trustees who were appointed to give to the Lancaster school its organization were led so promptly to the adoption of this beneficent system of families and homes. We have no doubt that, as it is the first American institution in which a similar organization has had trial, so its success will be such as to leave no question in any mind as to the wisdom which has led to its establishment among us.

It is rather curious to find an American writer thus urging the introduction of the *family system* into public institutions, at the very time that it seems fast going out in private life. When individual homes are abandoned for the plan of common life in barrack-like hotels, we can scarcely wonder that the family system should be on the decline in America.

We have omitted to notice the first paper in *The Journal of Psychological Medicine*, entitled 'Body v. Mind,' which is, however, well worth reading. The writer discusses at large the much-mooted question touching mental and muscular education, mental and muscular activity, and the relation which ought to exist between them. The main object of the article, however, is to solve on physiological grounds the problem recently debated in the *Times* and other journals—Whether severe mental labour has necessarily an unfavourable influence on the health and character, ruining the former, and rendering the latter 'feeble, sickly, and unmanly?' The reply is in the negative, the writer deciding "that the effects of mental application, even of a severe character, are not in themselves so generally serious as it is now the fashion to consider them; and that the greater part of the evils which follow head-work are due to secondary causes, against some of which, at least, it is easy to guard." The following passage gives a specimen of these secondary causes:—

Another source of evil is the neglect of the corporeal requirements for a great number of hours consecutively. It is almost certain that the same amount of work which

often proves injurious by its continuity, might be achieved with ease, if it were divided by short intervals of rest and refreshment. We appeal to the experience of all students, if during their earlier efforts nature did not give broad hints of requiring repose and restoratives;—the stomach asserts its right to food at proper intervals, but it is put off—"Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season . . . ;" then when the exhausted powers refuse any longer to work without fuel, the meal is but a business to be accomplished as speedily as possible; the food is swallowed unmasticated, and the stomach, loaded perhaps with a mass of indigestible material, is further impeded in its operations by the immediate resumption of a cramped, constrained, and compressed attitude. Indigestion with its thousand sons is the natural result. Then the headache, and its hint is evaded by a wet towel, and perhaps an irritating stimulant, as a cup of strong tea or coffee; under the influence of which, temporary power, or a semblance of it, is regained. The weary eye, the aching limb, the general febrile condition—all these are disregarded; day by day the same process is repeated; until the wonder is, not that the brain gives way at length, but that it has held out so long—longer, we venture to say, as an ordinary rule, than any other organ would have done under an equivalent amount of ill-treatment. Yet in all this, the fact of mental labour simply is not more to be blamed than is commerce for the great number of deaths brought about by the all-absorbing desire of gain, the *auri sacra fames* which operates in precisely the same secondary manner upon the health and character.

The fact that many of the severest intellectual labourers in all departments, such for instance as NEWTON and FRANKLIN, HALLEY and HERSCHEL, KANT and REID, HOBBS and VOLTAIRE, GOETHE and BENTHAM, MICHAEL ANGELO and CHERUBINI, all attained not only the appointed span of threescore years and ten; but all died upwards of eighty years old, is in itself sufficient to disprove the common notion that severe intellectual labour is necessarily injurious. The *Psychological Journal* has also a spirited article on 'The Indian Rebellion, in its Moral and Psychological Aspects.'

Amidst the active exertions that are just now being made by the various churches to extend not only their own borders, but the action of Christianity generally, we look almost in vain for any signs showing a profounder comprehension of its essential spirit or a broader grasp of its deeper truths. Without such moral basis, however, any apparent 'revival,' as it is called, of religion must be short-lived and superficial. The fuller recognition of an obscured Christian truth is therefore really far more important than the opening of Westminster Abbey. We are glad to meet signs of such recognition in a young religious journal, entitled *Church of England Monthly Review*, which, in its recent numbers, takes far higher ground in the discussion of moral and social questions than is usual with such journals. The last number contains a happy illustration of this in a short, but striking paper, on 'The Life and Genius of Charlotte Brontë.' Here is an extract:—

The chief objection which has been urged against Jane Eyre, is that she should have loved such a man as Rochester, knowing what his past life had been. We are ready to confess that till the publication of Miss Brontë's life, it did appear somewhat strange that she should have selected such a character as Rochester, and have made him deliberately recount his sins to the girl whom he wished to marry. The explanation, it seems to us, is to be found in the painful history of Miss Brontë's brother, Bramwell Brontë, who was gifted with the same indomitable will as is portrayed in Rochester, and fell into deep degradation and sin, which was the cause of his early death. As he resided in his father's house after his fall, Charlotte Brontë had to endure the knowledge of his degradation, and had, in her inmost heart, to grapple long and sternly with the question—"Has sin the power of slaying affection?" Is it impossible, is it degrading, for us to love those whom we know to have sinned deeply, and to be reaping the just, merciful reward of past misdeeds? This is really the point at issue between those who condemn Miss Brontë for representing such a character as Rochester, and making her heroine love him notwithstanding the life he had led, and those, on the other hand, who, like ourselves, consider that she has not only been true to nature, but has in her novel asserted a much higher, deeper righteousness, than seems to be dreamt of by her opponents. Did Miss Brontë—does any sister, worthy of the name, ever love her brother less, because she knew he had fallen into sin? Rather, whilst grief mingles with such love, must not a shade of pitying tenderness add a depth and solemnity to it? Is it not so with the mother who weeps over her prodigal son? Does she love him less because he has strayed from the paths of uprightness? And are not these human instances but faint reflexions of the Divine love? Is not this the very essence of the Gospel of Christ, that the love of God is mightier than the sin of man, that sin cannot change it, that sin can only be utterly burnt up and consumed by it? If, then, human love is the reflex and image of the Divine, if the sin of a brother or son cannot efface the love of a sister or mother,—why—in the deepest of all human relationships, which shadows forth 'the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and his Church'—may not the love of a pure woman cling to and redeem a man who has lost the innocence of childhood? To say otherwise, seems to us to be asserting that sin is more powerful than love; in other words, to be denying the revelation which has been made to us in the Cross of Christ. It is not that the guilt is in the smallest degree made light of. Its blackness is only fully seen in contrast with the clear, pure light of love. If it were not so, no human being could truly love another, for all have sinned; and whatever outward form sin may take, the inward root is the same. Any weak and wavering affection which might exist between two human beings, must necessarily be based upon ignorance, and would be as fleeting as it would be fictitious. Let us apply these remarks to the love of Jane Eyre for Rochester. She felt the strength and fascination of his character; she owned him as her master. He tells her his past life, revealing its darkest shades, but, at the same time expressing his own sense of degradation and weariness, his longing after a better and higher life. He appeals to her to aid him—to help him to reach a purer and more elevated atmosphere. Would she have acted as a true-hearted woman if she had then forsaken him? Shall we not rather say, that by remaining faithful to him, she practically declared her belief in the forgiveness of sins, and caught a far-off glimpse of that joy which is among the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons who need no repentance? On the very highest grounds, therefore, we regard *Jane Eyre* as a book in which the most thoroughly Christian morality is asserted; and consider this the reason why the advocates and upholders of Pharisaical conventionality are offended at it. We regard it as an honour to the Church of England—as no small tribute to the depth and soundness of her teaching—that such a book should have been written by the daughter of one of her clergymen.

A religious journal is the last place in which we should expect to find such a noble vindication of the deeper truth contained in *Jane Eyre*.

A perfect SHELLEY literature seems to be springing up. Besides Mr. MIDDLETON's *Life* (which we shall notice in full next week), Mr. E. S. TREAWNY—a friend of the poet—has just put forth a volume of *Reminiscences of the Last Days of Byron and Shelley*, to which we shall be glad to give our attention; and Mr. HOGG, the college friend of SHELLEY, who was expelled from the University, together with the poet, for vindicating liberty of conscience, and who afterwards wrote in the *New Monthly Magazine* some pleasant papers about his friend's youthful days, announces four volumes of recollections and correspondence. The first two will soon appear. We cannot but anticipate that this will be the most important and exhaustive work on the subject yet published. We trust, however, that the correspondence will be selected in such a way as to avoid profaning purely private relations—a principle too often lost sight of.

Mr. MIDDLETON, by the way, publishes a fragment of an orthodox Essay on Prophecy, the MS. of which he has discovered in SHELLEY's handwriting. The *fac-simile* which he gives leaves no doubt as to the authenticity of the penmanship; but Mr. OXENFORD, in a letter to the *Athenæum*, has brought out the simple fact that this is nothing more than a translation from SPINOZA's *Political-Religious Tractate*, which one can easily imagine SHELLEY devouring with delight in the MARLOW days.

THE NEW WELLINGTON PAPERS.

Supplementary Despatches and Memoranda of Field-Marshal Arthur Duke of Wellington, K.G.: India, 1797-1805. Edited by his Son the Duke of Wellington. Vol. I.

THIS is a publication the importance of which is not to be represented by extracts. Every page and paragraph is valuable. We had scarcely anticipated that so many new documents relative to Wellington's Indian career had been left inedited by Colonel Gurwood. By the extent, the variety, the living interest of these despatches and memoranda, most readers will be surprised. They cover eight years of the Duke's campaigns in the south of the Peninsula, and, though referring to the end of the last century and the beginning of the present, have a strong and direct bearing upon contemporary events. An army of volumes had already been marshalled by Colonel Gurwood; but we have here a multiplicity of letters and memorials equally worthy of permanent preservation, as testimony to the genius of the statesman warrior, to the untiring activity of his mind, to his rapid insight into Indian politics, and, above all, to the peculiar character of those responsibilities which are imposed upon the masters of India. Upon the voyage out Arthur Wesley, afterwards Wellesley, occupied the unengaged evenings with framing instructions for the regulation of troop-ships; in an hour of leisure he devoted himself to drawing up a memoir on the defence and revenue of Prince of Wales Island; in the midst of war he studied the commerce of Bengal, and in the field sketched a plan of strategy for the frontiers of Oude. All this belongs to the present no less than to the past; we could wish that no one would write on Indian political, civil, or military matters without having diligently studied the book. It is far from being a dull or dry collection of official despatches; a large proportion is filled by familiar letters, in many of which, however, the allusions are blunted by the editor's suppression of proper names. This may have been necessary to spare the susceptibilities of individuals, but we trust that a copy will be preserved at Apsley House with manuscript marginal notes, for a time will come when the whole truth must be told of persons as of events. Until this has been done no true biography of the Duke can be written; the work is left to a future generation; all that has or can be effected is to assort and arrange the materials; but Wellington's life passes vividly before us while we peruse these despatches and memoranda. We see him, in the spring of 1798, landing for the first time in India; within sixty days he is master of the region as a general, a geographer, and a statician; he shows where and how troops may be collected, upon what lines they may be moved, how they may be provisioned, and against what positions they may most efficiently operate. Nor is it long before he acquires a perfect knowledge of the native character, not from authority, for it would have misled him, but from observations in which he seldom erred. "I have not yet met with a Hindoo who had one good quality," he writes, after fixing a momentary glance upon the mild and meek disguise in which the treacherous cruelty of the Bengalee is enveloped. The natives, he thought, were not to be dealt with upon all occasions with unlimited severity, so as to render the punishment of death a joke, but it is necessary, while quoting the passage in which he states this opinion, to compare it with others directed to the same point of inquiry. After a longer residence in India the following was his language: "The repetition of the crime of rebellion of which he (the Aurnial Polygar) has been guilty renders it necessary that the most rigorous measures should be adopted against him and his adherents; I therefore request that he and all those taken in arms with him may be punished with death. Lenity towards them would have the most cruel effects, by encouraging others to take arms and again to plunder and ravage the country and murder its inhabitants." A similar view is more than once expounded; but there are also some curious illustrations in the volume of that upon which the Duke was accustomed to pride himself as high policy. Thus, when in command at Seringapatam, he received from the Pere Dubois an application to have returned to their husbands the wives of about two hundred Christians and other unmarried Christian women whom Tippee Sultan had carried off from their husbands and friends upon different occasions when he visited the Malabar coast and Canara, and who were placed, and were then supposed to be, in his zenana. "I have refused to comply with this request," said Arthur Wellesley, "although the refusal is unjust, because the Company, having taken this family under its protection, it is not proper that anything should be done which can disgrace it in the eyes of the Indian world, which can in the most remote degree cast a shade upon the dead, or violate the feelings of those who are alive." Here is strange morality; the whole of the letter on the subject contains interesting details and suggestions.

Some of the most remarkable of the despatches are those which refer to the material organization adapted to an Anglo-Indian army. Upon the employment of light artillery, the opinions of the Duke of Wellington, who was not, as he says, "regularly bred to artillery," are well known. He might have doubted, perhaps, whether it would be possible to advance the 24-pounders of a frigate with the front line of skirmishers, as Sir William Peel and his naval brigade did at the battle of Cawnpore. With reference to that and the other stations on the Oude frontier, the volume contains a memoir of singular interest, which may be studied in connexion with the actual war. There is no method of annoying and disarming the enemy so effectual, he affirms, as the establishment of small fortified posts, not made strong enough to stand a siege, or "that we find any difficulty, in retaking them" if abandoned by our own troops or captured, "but they should be of the nature of the mud forts in the Carnatic, which afford protection to a small body of infantry against a large one of cavalry, and enable officers proceeding with convoys to put them in security almost every night." After pointing to the value of Allahabad and Futtehabur, and enumerating the positions at Calpee, Etawah, and Abopshce, he adds, "The Nabob of Oude ought to be called upon either to regulate or to dismiss his force," and "the main object should be to keep the enemy from Lucknow." In contrast with these elaborate papers, we have some characteristic drafts of letters to be written at large by his secretary. There is one for despatch to Colonel Cotton, now Lord Combermere:—

That I beg to know what he thinks of Mr. Guthrie, his sergeant; that in general I have an objection to making officers of people from the ranks; that I can't go to him.—ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Wellington formed an early and accurate opinion of the distinctive characters of the Madras and Bengal troops. Referring to the latter he said, in 1798:—"There is no army that lays claim to the title of *disciplined* that is in so bad a state;" while of the former he wrote, under the same date:—"Notwithstanding that their grievances were heavier than those suffered by the officers in Bengal, there was not the same violence of complaint, or any reason to fear the consequences of discontent." Again:—"To their credit it may be said, that if it had been necessary they would have gone to Bengal and quelled a mutiny for the redress of grievances, in the success of which they were more interested than those who mutinied." But while the distinguished commander surveyed these large subjects his mind was not less occupied with the minutest details of military management, to the lesser points of which he would frequently refer in a very jocular spirit, as when writing on a question of money and provision purchases, he says:—"If there be any necessity for it, I'll see if I can't beat Ben Roebuck, Esq., out of the sixty days: Cherry draws on him at thirty." There is a good deal of similarly light matter in the volume, in addition to that which will prove of more interest to a certain class of readers—details connected with personal incidents and the scandals of the time, such as the harmless duel between Picton and Aston, and the fatal duel in which Aston fell, shot through the backbone by Major Allen. Indeed, upon the whole state of India during eight memorable years, upon the force, condition, and discipline of the European and native armies, upon the course of politics and war, upon the relations of the British Governments with the several native powers, these papers throw a valuable and much-needed light. Nor are the despatches and letters wanting in allusions to the grand movements passing in the general world. That was a stirring and momentous period. When young Wellington arrived in India, Sir John Jervis was bearing down on St. Vincent, and Duncan on Camperdown; the second coalition against Napoleon was preparing, and before the last date in the volume a great burst of competing victories had illuminated the Pyramids, the Nile, the north of Italy, Marengo, Heliopolis, and Hohenlinden. The next volume will traverse five still more important years; it will lead through the battles of Alexandria and Copenhagen; the rise of the French Emperor, the battles of Elchingen, Ulm, Austerlitz, and Trafalgar. Wellington himself will assume a more glorious prominence, invading the Mahratta States, fighting the battle of Assaye, and opening up a vast arena of conquest. To the completion of the book, so far as India is concerned, we look forward with extreme curiosity; but the volume before us is in itself invariably interesting, as a contribution to history, as a chapter in the autobiography of the Duke, and as a study of Indian affairs, very opportune at this crisis of our Eastern history. The book is essential to the library of every English gentleman, and should be found in all public collections in London and the provinces.

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE.

La Liberté de Conscience. Par Jules Simon. Deuxième édition. Paris: Hachette.

THE questions discussed in this book are now more than ever in France questions of the day; for, although the learned and eloquent author glances over the whole of Europe, and proves that in no country religious liberty really exists, his labours are of course undertaken with home views and desires. When he went, at the request of the Liberal party, to preach toleration in Belgium—a task he accomplished so well that the defeat of the clericals is in a great measure attributed to him—he spoke with a force and an earnestness which showed that he himself felt the weight of oppression, that he was pleading his own cause as well as that of truth.

The truth is, that although much talk is indulged in on the equality of every Frenchman before the law, that equality does not exist in matters of religion. Catholicism, the dominant form of Christianity, has not only succeeded in vitiating the law, but daily succeeds in vitiating the action of the law. Mr. Simon points out that the twenty-sixth article of the constitution of January 14, 1852, lays down that it is the duty of the Senate to oppose the promulgation of all laws which might interfere with "the liberty of worship"—not, be it observed, the liberty of conscience, but the right of all men to meet and adore their God after their own fashion. But this article is mere hypocrisy, like so many other articles of that forsworn constitution. In France no public worship can be carried on without preliminary authorization; and this authorization is not granted, like a license, on the fulfilment of certain formalities, but depends entirely on the arbitrary will of Mayors

and Prefects. We need not say that all officials in France serve two masters, first the Emperor and then the Church, which contributes so much to the support of the present order of things. A Mayor, at any rate, who should incur the displeasure of a Curé, would have but a short lease of office.

Many instances could be cited to show the arbitrary manner in which permission to exercise the Protestant religion is refused in France. In August, 1852, that religion was interdicted at Grand-Fresnoy, in the department of the Aisne. At Franvilliers, in the Somme, it was interdicted on November 27, 1852, and allowed on the 13th of the following December; whilst at a locality in the Oise, it was authorized in 1851, and interdicted in 1853. But the grounds on which such measures are taken are better explained in a decree pronounced by the Academic Council of the Var, interdicting a Protestant school:—"Considering that the Sieur Guilbot, by coming to La Gaudé to open a free Protestant school in a commune where there was no Protestant by origin, born and recognized as such, has introduced such a ferment of discord that the said commune has ever since been constantly divided; and considering that the closing of this school is asked for on all sides . . . as the only and necessary means of re-establishing calm . . . it is decreed that the said school shall be immediately and for ever closed."

Precisely the same reasons are constantly alleged to justify the closing of Protestant chapels, or the refusal to allow them to be opened. It is announced by all authorities, and even by all magistrates, that the Catholic religion is the religion of France, and that all other religions are to be only tolerated to the smallest extent possible without absolute persecution. The principle obeyed is that the descendants of the old Protestant families are to be allowed to exercise their religion in certain places, but that nothing like conversion is to be tolerated. Observe the phrase, "Protestant by origin, born and recognized as such."

In order to prevent the spread of the hated doctrine all means are thought justifiable. Of course the Government is merely in this respect an agent of the Church, by whose powerful influence it is mainly supported. We are often assured of the weight of the peasantry being thrown into the scale of the Empire; but it is not so often pointed out that the peasants are chiefly acted upon not so much by political delusion as by the priests. This powerful body, which sees as yet no chance of the triumph of legitimate doctrines, is unanimous in its desire to accustom the French population to obedience. It will gather up the heritage at some future day; but, meanwhile, it gives its hearty support to Napoleon III., stipulating, however, that Protestantism shall be narrowed and checked in all possible ways.

What becomes, then, of the part assigned to the Senate? It is true that we know no instance of its opposition to laws of any kind; but perhaps, in other departments, its interference has not yet been called for. In matters of religion it might have done much if it had felt so disposed. Last year it received a petition from certain Methodist preachers, begging it to examine if the decree of March 15, 1852 (which forbade meetings for religious objects without preliminary authorization), was not unconstitutional, and states that many condemnations had been pronounced under that decree with evident repugnance by the judges. The petition was referred to a commission presided over by M. Delangle, who reported not only against its demands, but laid down the doctrine that among the rights of men was not that of teaching their brethren. Since that time the severity formerly displayed against the Protestants has been redoubled, and has risen almost to the height of absolute persecution. Nearly all demands for new schools and chapels, except in Paris and some southern departments where the members of the Reformed religion are in great force, are peremptorily refused; and some of the more hot-headed members of the clergy look forward to the time when their rivals shall be utterly silenced. In vain has the Emperor declared that all religions are equally protected by the State. No man is more accustomed than he to use language to conceal his thoughts; and the *Moniteur* has since admitted, in obscure and Jesuitical phrases, the whole truth of the complaints made by the oppressed Protestants of France.

The doctrine therefore of liberty of conscience, preached with so much courage and ability by M. Jules Simon, whose previous works are not unknown in England, has become one of the most important of the day. All liberties are mutually interdependent; and it will be ever found impossible to establish political freedom in a country where absolute freedom in religion is not allowed. The question whether France ought to have become Protestant need not here be discussed: it is quite certain that if it had gone with England and Germany in the sixteenth century we should never have heard of convulsive revolutions in Europe. At present, a great part of its free thought has taken another direction. But there is no doubt that, if absolute liberty of preaching were allowed in France, within a few years the Church would lose one-third of its flock. There is evidently a yearning among the masses for a new form of faith; but as long as priests make or interpret the laws no change can take place that is not at the same time a revolt.

There has of late been quietly formed in England, Belgium, and Piedmont, a 'Pacific Association for the Defence of Religious and Philosophical Liberty'; but the three liberal countries named have not the honour of originating the idea. It came out of France, where it cannot pretend to result in any action at present. The only notice that has been taken of it is the publication of its laws in a provincial journal, which has of course been seized. The reason at first given was that in one of its clauses the word 'political' was printed for 'philosophical'; but it is evident that no association of the kind would be tolerated for a moment in France. One of its objects is to supply money for the defence of 'victims of intolerance.' Now, it is penal in France to subscribe for the assistance of any prisoner whatever, even to pay the fines to which he may be condemned. The founders must be content to act at first in countries where their aid is less wanted, waiting for a cranny by which they may slip into the country where their aid is most wanted.

We have not noticed M. Jules Simon's *Liberty of Conscience* as a book. Its literary qualities are of the highest order; but we regard it chiefly as a manifesto of the party of enlightened liberty in France. We come perhaps

too late to recommend it, for we believe two large editions are exhausted. But we cannot refrain from expressing our admiration of the author, and the hope with which the success of his labours inspires us. It is something that such questions are actively discussed in France, and that the rising generation has teachers so wise and so fearless. We once feared that the terrible command of the Jesuits, bellowed out by M. Veuillot in the *Univers*—*abétissez-vous*—would be listened to. This book is one among many signs that there are better things in store for the future.

THE DESCENDANTS OF THE STUARTS.

The Descendants of the Stuarts. An Unchronicled Page in England's History. By William Townend. Longman and Co.

THE Stuarts have found many apologists, but none more ardent than Mr. Townend. His labour of love has been to illuminate their pedigree upon a silver and purple scroll. This book is like a painted window, blushing with the blood of queens and kings. As a contribution to history it is useful, being a careful collection of facts and inferences bearing, not exactly on an unchronicled page of English history, but on topics and personages sufficiently English in their relations to interest the historical student and the general reader. Mr. Townend, however, has committed two mistakes: he has sought too elaborately to prove the importance of his own work, and he has gone out of the way to contradict other writers on points not essential to the development of his own subject. "That a narrative of the Roman Catholic Stuarts is a desideratum in Anglican literature is proved by the absence of such a work," is an affirmation bad in style and logic. It might as well have stood, "is not a desideratum." That there is no record of Sir Richard Walworth's business dealings in Southwark, after he had killed Wat Tyler, is no evidence that such a chronicle is imperatively called for, or that it would be edifying if compiled. Mr. Townend also winds through the long complexity of our dynastic annals, to show that the biography of kings is important in the history of kingdoms, a position which might have been assumed without any sacrifice of modesty. We must not, perhaps, arrest a genealogist in his excursions, or half his learning will be lost; but a knowledge of genealogical tables is scarcely a qualification for such judgments as are here pronounced on the characters of sovereign families and personages. The Stuarts, Mr. Townend urges, have been more traduced, vilified, and misrepresented, than almost any other race of princes; as a dynasty, they 'will bear comparison with any on record.' His first illustration is unfortunate: "Were they savage? The idea of a savage Stuart seems too ludicrous for utterance." Yet, they were even ferocious. Charles I. was pitilessly cruel; the Restoration, at its advent, dragged Blake out of his grave. Charles II. was King of the Bloody Assizes. The reader will, at all events, be glad to find that Mr. Townend is not a practical Jacobite. He simply thinks it unfair that eight members of the Stuart family should be entirely neglected by historians. Sir Frederick Thesiger believes their names to be hidden in Bishop Cullen's Library; but it is here satisfactorily shown that the forbidden lineage, after parting from the English throne, did not run down to its sunless sea through immeasurable spaces of obscurity. The line still sparkles in continental pedigrees, and Stuarts and Stuart Simmerens, 'whose very names have been unregistered by the historians,' are written in the book of Townend thus:—James, Prince of Wales; the Princess Louisa, Anne, Queen of Sardinia; Elizabeth Charlotte, Duchess of Orleans; Louis, Prince of Salms; Louisa, Princess of Salms; Eleonora, Princess of Salms; Anne, Princess of Condé; Benedicta, Duchess of Hanover; and the Princess Palatine Louisa. Of these, the Chevalier de St. George was the only British subject. First parading Hume, Mackintosh, Goldsmith, Rapin, and Keightley, Mr. Townend demonstrates how far they have omitted to notice these personages, and then proceeds to quote his own authorities to correct the pedigree of the House of Stuart, and to reunite the imperfect passages cited.

The attack upon Lord Macaulay is fierce and somewhat arrogant, but it is entertaining, and we have no objection to the multiplication of critical commentaries upon a history too partial to be above correction. But Mr. Townend relies upon very feeble evidence in some of his extracts from 'able reviewers,' and in his comparison between the composition of Lord Macaulay and the compilation of Miss Strickland, in which the latter bears away the palm. But it is at least amusing to find Mr. Townend breaking lances for the beauty of Anne Hyde and Mary Beatrix, for the haggard face of Catherine Sedley and the exquisite eyes of Arabella Churchill. The retort courteous is triumphant. If Catherine Sedley, insists Mr. Townend, was lean, ugly, and painted, Elizabeth Villiers squinted like a dragon, which was at least the opinion of Dean Swift. We may concur with the writer on another point, in his estimate of the bloody mandate sent by William to Glencoe, but was there not a similar passage in the reign of the first Charles, when the broad seal of England sanctioned a human holocaust as terrible? Without going further into controversy, it may be said of this volume that it has been industriously compiled, that it is of some historical value, and that the enthusiasm of the writer adds to the narrative a zest which many readers might not anticipate from a glance at its genealogical tables reaching from the ninth to the nineteenth century.

SPORTING IN BOTH HEMISPHERES.

Sporting in Both Hemispheres. By J. D'Ewes, Author of *China, Australia, and the Islands of the Pacific*. Routledge and Co.

THE Author of this book is, by the female line, a direct descendant of the well-known Charles Cotton, who wrote the second portion of Isaac Walton's 'Contemplative Man's Recreation.' Mr. D'Ewes passed his childhood on the banks of the river Dove, in the mansion inhabited by his ancestor, and, as might be anticipated, became a steady angler. Even when at Rugby, he seems to have spent all his leisure moments in this amusement; for the Avon, where Shakespeare often wetted a line, runs hard by the College, and holds in its sedge banks and deep holes many a monster pike and perch. His favourite resort in these boyish expeditions he de

scribes to have been at the confluence of a brook with the river, in front of the noble old Elizabethan mansion at Charlote Park.

The Squire of Charlote, says Mr. D'Ewes, was the wonder and amusement of the country round. He excluded all visitors from the hall, living there, 'like hermit poor,' on the venison and wild rabbits of its spacious park. Although a clergyman by profession, and educated at Oxford, he indulged in the most extraordinary liberties with the Queen's vernacular. Once a year—and once only—he issued to the surrounding gentry cards of invitation to what he styled 'a cold collection;' when calling attention to the ancestral portraits suspended round the walls of the apartment, he regularly introduced them to his visitors with the following remarkable speech: "These, ladies and gentlemen, are my postasses." Passing a summer on the coast, it was his boast that he had evaded the knavish designs of hotel and lodging-house keepers upon the wealthy Lord of Charlote, by travelling 'in a cog.' A poor exiled Frenchman resided in his village, quietly pursuing the profession of an artist. By the joint warrant of the then Lord Warwick—another Dogberry—and his own, he commits him to prison under the conviction that he had caged the conqueror of Marengo in disguise. Young D'Ewes, desirous of propitiating this second Master Shallow, used to introduce himself and basket, stored with an offering of pike and perch newly taken from the brook, exactly at noon, by a modest ring at the hall bell. A matronly serving woman conducted him to the parlour, where sat the lord and lady of Charlote, discussing a dish of deer's fry, and he was always invited to partake. Then followed a glass of home-made wine, a present of sixpence for schoolboy disbursement, and what the little fisherman prized more than all, unreserved permission to explore every nook and corner of the beautiful stream that meandered through the park, and the green meadows beyond, which was the object of his visit. "Peace be to their manes!" adds the recipient of these hospitalities. "Their memory is associated with some of the happiest moments of my life; and although the mysterious economy of the old hall has been replaced by the profuse and noble expenditure of the present race, and errant schoolboys are no longer free to poach in the preserves, or lunch on deer's fry with its proprietor, still there is a lingering charm about the olden time of —, which no modern magnificence can dispel."

Being appointed to an Indian cadetship, he was stationed at Wallajabad, where the swamps and paddy fields afford the best snipe shooting in the Madras Presidency. Four different species of this description of game are found in India: the large or solitary snipe, nearly the size of a woodcock; the common full snipe; the painted snipe, rather larger, of beautiful dark, variegated plumage, slow of flight, and not much esteemed for the table; and the jack, or half snipe. An indifferent shot may bag from twenty-five to fifty couple during the morning's shooting, 'washing out his gun as often as it becomes heated, and restoring his own energies with a little cold brandy pawnee.' An instinctive dread of snakes mars his enjoyment of these sporting rambles. The hideous cobra, so frightfully domestic in its habits, often creeps into the officers' beds, and is met with coiled up on the stone steps of their quarters; and once being pitched off his pony, that fell in leaping a nullah, or ditch, on gathering himself up, D'Ewes saw a cobra capella sneaking off within a few yards from the spot where he lay. A drunken soldier confined in the black-hole, felt as he lay stretched upon the straw something gliding over him, which from its movements he well knew to be a snake. He dared not move, or touch it with his fingers. The reptile having crept up to his breast, insinuated itself beneath his military undress jacket, and curled itself up comfortably to repose. With a nervous system debilitated by habitual intemperance, the soldier endured hours of mental torture, knowing that every attempt to free himself from his dreadful position would be at the risk of life. The period of his confinement having expired, and the door when thrown open admitting a strong glare of sunlight, the cobra hastily glided from its nest to an obscure corner of the prison. The man rushed out, a deplorable picture of emaciation and terror. His hair, which twenty-four hours previously had been of a dark colour, had turned perfectly grey, and he died in a few weeks.

Among the wild animals infesting the neighbourhood of Visiapoor, are numberless hyenas, and Mr. D'Ewes witnessed a curious proof of the toughness of that animal's hide. A hyena had been seen to enter a hole in some ruins, and a shikaree volunteered for a trifling recompense to either catch the beast, or cause it to bolt from its lair, as we pleased. He commenced operations by making a second opening in the earth, whence a low growl was heard, and a large dummel gundy made his appearance at the mouth of the hole, from which he had no sooner projected half the length of his body than several spears were thrown or poked at him, but which, although sharp as penknives, bounded off his hide like a racket-ball, and had only the effect of accelerating his pace when he emerged into daylight. The author on another occasion planted a hog-spear, sharpened to the finest edge, right between the shoulders of one he had ridden down on the plains near Jaulnah, without being able to pierce the impenetrable hide, and was glad, after the experiment, to make off himself.

On his return to Europe, he visited France, to enjoy the chase of the stag and wild boar in the royal hunting establishments adjacent to Paris, then under the able superintendence of M. le Comte de Girardin. He says that his first excursion to mingle in these sylvan pastimes was in company with a well-known English sportsman and master of hounds, George Templar, of Devonshire. Hunting during July—a Paris July—greatly outraged the English prejudices of Templar; but he made up his mind when at Rome to chime in with the Romans; so he ordered a horse to be brought to him at Armanvilliers, the appointed rendez-vous de chasse. No horse however arrived, and, steadily refusing to accept one of those belonging to his friends, he resolved to hunt on foot, convinced he knew how to see as much of the chase as the best-mounted cavalier out that day. "With a thorough contempt for the artificial aid of dress, and in sober contradistinction to the bright scarlet coats and gaudy trappings of the French sportsmen, he was attired in a full suit of black, and but for the jovial expression of his countenance and the merry twinkle of his eye, looked far more like a well-conditioned member of the Established Church than what he really was—

perhaps the best practical sportsman in England. The hunted deer usually made for a large piece of water in the forest, and thither the author and his party turned their horses' heads. The approaching sounds of the music of the pack and the horns of the picqueurs, showed they were in the right track, and on arriving within sight of the *élang*, the first object that met their eyes was the stag nobly breasting the waves with the whole pack in full cry after him. On the bank stood George Templar, mopping his head and good-humoured countenance, which the sun and exercise had tinged with the deepest vermillion, and giving the death halloo with the intonation of a true British sportsman. Presently Monseigneur rode up, and requested to be informed who was the individual in black, whose voice woke the echoes of the forest and could be heard even above the noise of the French horns. Upon being told he was one of the most celebrated masters of hounds in England, he treated him with much courtesy, and was greatly amused when Templar informed him that the huntsmen and picqueurs whom he had frequently met in his short cuts on foot through the woods (guided by the wind and his own thorough knowledge of the chase), had taken him for an English priest—*un prêtre anglais*—and had interpreted one or two British hunting halloos which he could not refrain, as vociferous benedictions or loud curses upon the sport he was pursuing."

This was in the time of Charles X., who spent a great portion of the latter years of his reign in hunting and shooting at Fontainebleau and St. Cloud. It was at the close of an unsuccessful chase at Rambouillet, and after the king had returned to the latter place, as he stood looking towards the 'Avenue de Paris,' that the Comte de Girardin, the chief huntsman, suddenly directed his attention to a courier advancing at full gallop down the Avenue. Charles X. remained motionless. In another minute he was at the King's feet. Every eye turned on him with a look of mournful inquiry. The courier muttered only a few words. He had brought the news from Paris, of July 26th, 1830, five minutes P.M. The *Ordonnances* had been promulgated, and the revolution was begun.

We give but a very cursory analysis of this book, which may serve as a guide to those readers who desire to combine an economical residence on the Continent with unlimited hunting, shooting, and angling. Brittany, Huy, on the Meuse, Offenbourg, and several portions of Germany, seem to possess these desirable requisites. Mr. D'Ewes also travelled and sported in Australia and China.

NEW NOVELS.

Margaret Hamilton: a Novel. By Mrs. C. J. Newby. 3 vols. (Bentley.)—*Margaret Hamilton* is an interesting novel, and Mrs. Newby writes with great vivacity; but the book has one serious defect. It is false as a view of life. Regarding it from only one point of view, as it bears—which it does strongly—on the question of frugal marriages, we must say that if Mrs. Newby's idea of household economy were not absurd, happiness would be impossible among persons with incomes of less than a thousand a year. It is fair to acknowledge that we are turning a scapegoat into the desert, and that Mrs. Newby has had many predecessors in the sin of disclaiming all practical acquaintance with poor people; but young readers are apt to be impressed by the teachings of the circulating library, and it is necessary at times to suggest that the reports of novelists upon society must be received with some reserve. We had, not long ago, a romance from a fashionable lady's pen, which depicted the miseries of a married couple with one child on five hundred a year. They lived on black chops, scrags of mutton, and potatoes; when they attempted a dinner party everything was dark, greasy, and unwholesome. The husband walked hungry from his club and the wife was compelled at Christmas to turn an ancient silk gown, which was her only stock and store of that material. All this has a very vicious effect, and Mrs. Newby, if not among the worst specimens of the preachers in derision of poverty, is unconsciously, in the same sense, a bad instructor. It is true that her theme is virtue battling against a cold, proud, and rich world; but mark how she distributes a salary of 130*l.* a year, the income of a broken banker who has been forced to accept a clerkship and live in Islington: rent, 32*l.*; taxes and rates, 8*l.*; housekeeping, 52*l.*; 'Fred's schooling and other necessary expenses,' 23*l.*; and 'Mary's wages,' 15*l.*! The little family has to limit its bread-and-butter, to make fourteen cups of tea out of two spoonfuls, to 'bring Fred's appetite within compass,' and to suffer occasional 'hunger and faintness.' Margaret eats 'as little as possible,' and denies herself 'the temptingly thick slice of bread-and-butter.' Apart from these exaggerations the story of *Margaret Hamilton* is wholesome and entertaining.

Uncle Ralph: a Tale. By the Author of 'Dorothy,' 'Still Waters,' &c. (J. W. Parker and Son.)—We have in *Uncle Ralph* a very good example of romantic family history. The writer has not a perplexed plot to disentangle, and seldom forces a startling incident into her narrative, though there are situations sufficiently striking to carry the reader along; but she paints a large group, in which every figure is naturally and distinctly individualized. This skill in the delineation of character is her principal merit, accompanied as it is by a tender and touching sympathy with all that asks for affection and for charity in human life. We think *Uncle Ralph* will become a general favourite.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

We merely announce this week the publication by Messrs. Longman and Co. of *Essays, Biographical, Historical, and Miscellaneous, contributed chiefly to the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews.* By the Rev. G. R. Gleig. Mr. Gleig states that they form but a fragment of the essays the authorship of which he would be entitled to claim.

The Children's Bower (Longmans), so far as we may judge by a first and rapid glance at its pages, appears to be as full of fine feeling, delicate and subtle fancy, rich and various learning, scholarly refinement, and high chivalrous spirit, as all the former works of Mr. Kenelm H. Digby, who (albeit a Catholic) is, to our thinking, certain peculiarities apart, one of the most graceful and genial of guides, philosophers, and friends. He conducts

us through the pleasant places of literature as through a garden, not forgetting to draw—

apis Matinae

More modique—

the honey of sweet and holy thought from every flower.

Mr. Murray has published a third and cheaper edition of a really valuable and fascinating book, *Pen-and-Ink Sketches in India*, by General Mundy, Governor of Jersey, and author of 'Our Antipodes.' It is gracefully and profusely illustrated, and lights up with picturesque, careful, and pleasant descriptions the whole scene of the campaign in India. Where Sir Colin Campbell is now fighting General Mundy went sporting; and it is interesting to glance through his accounts of the cities, plains, fortresses, and rivers on the route.

A very important volume has been produced by Mr. James Biggs, of 53, Parliament-street, who is at once publisher and editor. It is a *Collection of Public Statutes Relating to the General Law of England Passed in the Reign of Queen Victoria*, and contains the legislation of 1857, with an index, table, and register. The utility of such a work is obvious. It appears to have been very diligently compiled.

Messrs. Smith and Elder have published this week *Select Odes of Horace in English Lyrics: a Specimen of a New Translation of the Poet*. By J. T. Black, F.R.S. Edited by Gilbert Malcolm Sproat.—The translator's attempt has been to combine an almost literal fidelity of rendering with the spirit of the original. His verse flows not unpleasantly, and he has ventured to contrast it with that of the Roman in parallel passages.

The Gloaming of Life is the title of a memoir of James Stirling by the Rev Alexander Wallace, reprinted from our Glasgow contemporary, the *Commonwealth*, and published by the Glasgow Scottish Temperance League.

We must satisfy ourselves until next week with recording the appearance of the following pamphlets:—

Memorandum of Improvements Suggested in the Medical Service of the Army, with a Description and Drawings of a New Plan of Equipment for the Medical Staff Corps. By George Redford. (Churchill.)

A New System of Drill in Times of Emergency. By Lieutenant Hartley. (Owers.)

Cause and Effect: the Rebellion in India. By a Resident in the North-Western Provinces. (Shaw.)

Remarks on the Rapid Transmission of Troops to India. By J. C. Hoseason. (Stanford.)

On Reorganizing the Administration of India. By Captain Moorsom. (Effingham Wilson.)

Justice for India: a Letter to Lord Palmerston. By a Plain Speaker. (Hardwicke.)

Brief Observations on the Basis of the Reorganization of our Power in India. By an Old Resident. (Lepage.)

Canillon's Legacy: When Was It Paid, and Who Paid It? containing Mr. Stirling's speech and an array of documentary evidence, published by J. W. Parker and Son. Mr. Stirling has compiled a network of official data which Imperial equivocation will find it hard to break through.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ATKINSON.—On the 15th Dec., at Kingston-upon-Hull, Elizabeth, the wife of Anthony Atkinson, M.A.: a daughter.

BOYS.—On the 16th Nov., 1857, the wife of William Boys, Esq., M.H.A., of Boisdale, Hobart-town, Tasmania: a son.

MARRIAGES.

ROBY—CONDY.—On the 11th inst., at Spanish-place, Manchester-square, by the Very Rev. Canon Hunt, Samuel Charles Roby, Esq., of Alvecot Priory, Warwickshire, to Flora Ross Condy, third daughter of the late Major John Leckhart Gallie, 38th Regiment.

MOFFAT—UNWIN.—On the 15th inst., at Union-street Chapel, Brighton, by the Rev. J. N. Goulty and Dr. Livingstone, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, the Rev. John Smith Moffat, son of the Rev. Robert Moffat, missionary in South Africa, to Emily, only child of Mr. J. S. Unwin, of Brighton.

DEATHS.

ROLT.—On the 11th inst., at Algers, Mary Charlotte, wife of Thomas Francis Rolt, second son of the late Lieut. Gen. Rolt, K.C.B., and daughter of Capt. Foot, R.A., of Tor-Grove, near Plymouth, Devon.

WILLIS.—On the 11th Dec., 1857, at Masulipatam, while proceeding to join his regiment for service in the Sauror district, Lieutenant Robert Willis of the 3rd Madras European Regiment. Adjutant of the European Depot, St. Thomas's Mount, aged 30, youngest son of the late Robert Willis, Esq., of Caroline-place, London.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, February 19.

THE upward tendency of Consols has been fully maintained throughout the week. Yesterday they opened at 97½ for account, and closed after business hours at 97½ 9-16, the rise chiefly owing to an expectation that the interest of the March Exchequer Bills would be reduced from 2½d. to 1½d., as is deemed very probable.

Funds opened this morning at the closing price of yesterday very firmly, closing, however, upon a slight reaction at 97½ for the account.

The railway market quiet but very firm, the principal improvements being in Midlands, Berwick, Dovers, Sheffield, and, above all, Caledonians.

The Bank of France has lowered its rate to 4 per cent. from 4½, at which it was fixed on the 6th inst.

Blackburn, 94 94; Caledonian, 96½, 97; Chester and Holyhead, 38, 40; Eastern Counties, 63, 64; Great Northern, 107, 108; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104, 106; Great Western, 61½, 62; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 95½, 96; London and Blackwall, 64, 65; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 108, 109; London and North-Western, 102, 102½; London and South-Western, 99, 100; Midland, 100, 100½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 98½, 99½; South-Eastern (Dover), 75½, 76½; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 66, 68; Dutch Rhenish, 34, 34½; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 28, 28½; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 8, 8½; Northern of France, 38½, 39; Paris and Lyons, 34½, 34½; Royal Danish, 10, 10; Royal Swedish 1½, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 84, 84.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	224	225	225	227	227	227
3 per Cent. Red.....	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½	98½
3 per Cent. Con. An.....	96½	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½
Consols for Account.....	96½	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½
New 3 per Cent. An.....	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New 2½ per Cent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Ans. 1800.....	1½	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock.....	219½	222	222	222	222	222
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	20 p	25 p	20 p	—	30 p	31 p
Ditto, under £1000.....	—	—	20 p	—	20 p	31 p
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	33 p	38 p	40 p	38 p	33 p	30 p
Ditto, £500.....	33 p	38 p	—	—	35 p	30 p
Ditto, Small.....	33 p	33 p	40 p	40 p	35 p	37 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.	
Brazilian Bonds.....	103½
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	82½
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	100
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	75
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	60
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.....	101
Equador Bonds.....	—
Mexican Account.....	20½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	83
Portuguese 6 per Cents.....	40
Portuguese 4 per Cents.....	—
Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	112
Russian 4½ per Cents.....	100
Spanish Committee Certif.....	44½
Turkish 6 per Cents.....	102½
Turkish New, 4½ ditto.....	104½
Venezuela 4½ per Cents.....	—

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, February 19.

THE pressure to sell home-grown Wheat has slightly subsided, and the market is consequently firmer than it has been. Barley is also less freely offered by farmers, and Oats remain without alteration. We quote runs of Kentish red 40s. to 44s.; white, 50s.; Stralsund, 47s. per 496 lbs. French red, same weight and price. Maltling Barley, French Saumur, 34s.; Sarthe, 33s. per 420 lbs. Grinding Odessa, 23s. 6d.; Ibrail, 23s. 9d. to 24s. per 400 lbs. Swedish Oats, fine, 24s. 3d. Irish, 40 lbs., 24s. per quarter.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 16.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—WILLIAM WADSWORTH and JOHN HARRISON, Salford, cotton waste dealers—JOHN JACKSON, Halifax, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.—WILLIAM EDWARD PAINTER, Strand, printer—JAMES HADDON, Eling, Hampshire, miller—JAMES ROBSON, Peckham, ship broker—MARIA LAWRENCE, Lambeth-walk, tailor—EDWARD SMITH, Russell-street, Bermondsey, woolstapler—THOMAS WILLIAM SHEERMAN, Brighton, upholsterer—JAMES COATES, Sheerness, hardwareman—HENRY HARRIDANCE, jun., and JAMES BUTLER, Maldon, Essex, corn merchants—JAMES BARBER, Chichester, upholsterer—THOMAS EDWARDS, Birmingham, iron-founder—THOMAS REYERS, Worcester, grocer—JAMES PAUL, Wadebridge, Cornwall, innkeeper—JOHN PEARCE, Bridestowe, Devonshire, draper—JOSEPH and EDWARD SYKES, Huddersfield, silk dressers—JAMES NELSON, Oldham, cotton spinner.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—T. LENNOX, Kintillo, Perthshire, agent—D. GRANT, Cromdale, Inverness-shire, innkeeper—C. STEWART, Glasgow, dyer—P. DEY, Glasgow, fish merchant—J. WILLIAMS, Cupar-Fife—M. RITCHIE, Dundee, clothier—J. JOHNSTON, jun., J. JOHNSTON, jun., and W. JOHNSTON, Stirling, ship builders—A. B. WRIGHT and W. RENWICK, Edinburgh, nurserymen—C. M'FADZEAN, Crosshill, Ayrshire, millwright—M. H. WILSON, Kilmarnock, professor of music—W. BURNSIDE, Castle Douglas, draper.

Friday, February 19.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—JAMES PACKWOOD, Woolston, Northamptonshire, tailor—HENRY HOLMES WOODFILL and LOWEN GIMBER, Aldermanbury, stationers.

BANKRUPTS.—JOHN SMITH, Bow Church-yard, warehouseman—WILLIAM FIELD, Bexley Heath, Kent, grocer—REUBEN BROOKS, King-street, St. James's, auctioneer—JOSEPH MOSES, Newham-street, Goodman's Fields, manufacturer—ADOLPHUS ACKERMAN, Beaufort-buildings, Strand, printseller—EDWIN GEARING, St. John's Wood, Middlesex, jeweller—WILLIAM DARTON, Islington, pianoforte manufacturer—JOHN EDWIN GRIFFIN, Colchester, auctioneer—GEORGE WILLIAM BENNETT, Eastbourne, draper—JOSEPH and JAMES WATSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, builders—EDWARD DAVIES, Liverpool, shoemaker—WILLIAM HUMPHREYS, Liverpool, corn merchant—JOHN STRONGTH'ARM STANLEY, Ashton-under-Lyne, cotton-spinner—SAMUEL BENNETT, Manchester, commission agent—JOHN SMITH, Morton Mills, near Bingley, Yorkshire, paper manufacturer—JAMES SHAW, Huddersfield, cloth merchant—ALEXANDER GEORGE GAY, Gateshead, alkali manufacturer—ISAAC KILBY, Dalehall, Staffordshire, builder—THOMAS M'INTYRE, Leeds, tailor—HENRY TOMLINSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, licensed victualler—WILLIAM GARDNER, Birmingham, miller—WILLIAM HENRY BROOKES, Wolverhampton, mineral merchant—JAMES HERON CLARKE, Bury New-road, Manchester, grocer—CHARLES BACON, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester, button manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES PATON, Glasgow, cabinet maker—WILLIAM HUDSON HAND, sometime in Edinburgh, now in Peebles—DUNN and STEVEN, Glasgow, brassfounders—CHARLES GRANT, Delmore, Banffshire, farmer—JOHN CLARK, Holytown, Lanarkshire, hotel keeper—JOHN GLOVER, Greenock, confectioner—JAMES SHEPHERD, Aberdeen, merchant—JAMES YOUNG, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, farmer.

PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY AFTERNOONS at 3, and EVENING (except Saturday) at 8. Stalls, 5s.; Balcony Stalls, 4s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes, Two Guineas, One Guinea and a half, and One Guinea. Places to be secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—210th Concert, Polygraphic Hall, Strand.—ITALIAN OPERA NIGHTLY.—Morning Performance on Saturday, commencing at 3, evening at 8. Stalls, 3s.; Arcs, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Seats can be had at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Hall.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE LAST NIGHTS.

Piccolomini, Sannier, and Spezia—Giuglini, Violetti, Aldighieri, Luchesi, and Belletti.

TUESDAY, February 23 (last night but two), LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO. Last Act of LA FAVORITA, and L'HYMENE.

THURSDAY, February 25 (last night but one), LA ZINGARA, being the Italian version of Balfe's opera of "The Bohemian Girl."

SATURDAY, February 27 (last night), IL TROVATORE, and L'HYMENE.

Prices:—Pit Stalls, 12s. 6d.; Boxes (to hold four persons), Pit and One Pair, 24. 2s.; Grand Tier, 32. 3s.; Two Pair, 17. 5s.; Three Pair, 15s.; Gallery Boxes, 10s.; Gallery Stalls, 8s. 6d.; Gallery, 2s.; Pit, 3s. 6d.

The doors will be opened at Half-past Seven, and the Opera commence at Eight o'clock. Applications for Boxes, &c., to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre.

MUSICAL UNION.—SECOND SOIRÉE.

Tuesday, February 23, Hanover-square Rooms.—Quartet, No. 71, E flat, Haydn; Variations, pianoforte, Op. 54, Mendelssohn; Quintet in G, Op. 33, Spohr. Solos for Violin and Violoncello, and Vocal Music by the Orpheus Glee Union. Artists—Molique, Goffrie, Schreurs, E. Blagrove, Paque, and Mdle. Anna Molique. Visitors, Tickets, 7s. each for the Royal Box, to be had at Cramer and Co., Chappell and Co., and Oliviers. For other particulars apply by letter to J. ELLA, Director.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC.

NAPLES, POMPEII, and VESUVIUS, EVERY NIGHT (except Saturday), at Eight, and Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Monday afternoons at Three.

Places can be secured at the Box-office, Egyptian-hall, daily, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—The Exhibition of Photographs is Now Open at the South Kensington Museum, every Morning from Ten till Five.

Admission, 1s. Evenings, every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, from Seven till Ten. Admission, 6d. The Brompton and Putney Omnibuses pass every five minutes.

HYDE PARK.—THE MEETING AT THREE TO-MORROW.

LORD PALMERSTON'S CONSPIRACY BILL.

The Committee of the Freemason's Hall Meeting for arranging Demonstrations against the above Bill announces that subscriptions are received for this object at Messrs. Webster and Co.'s 3, Falcon-court, Fleet-street.

N.B.—Attend the MEETING of the people of London in HYDE PARK on SUNDAY NEXT at 3 o'clock p.m.

FINSBURY CHAPEL, SOUTH-PLACE.

MR. HENRY N. BARNETT, of Bristol, having been elected to the Pulpit of this Chapel, will deliver the following course of Lectures.

RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENTS.

The following series of Discourses will be delivered at Finsbury Chapel (South-place),

Commencing Sunday Morning, February 14, 1858.

Theism—the worship of Spirit.
Pantheism—the worship of Life.
Polytheism—the worship of Ideas.
Atheism—the worship of Law.
Supernaturalism—the worship of Miracle.
Idealism—the worship of Mystery.
Revelationalism—the worship of Literature.
Ceremonialism—the worship of Art.
Theologism—the worship of Creed.
Spiritualism—the worship of Consciousness.
The glory and the weakness of dogmatic Christianity.
The Church One and Universal.
Service will commence on each occasion at a Quarter-past Eleven o'clock.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY.

OF SCIENCE, 3, Telford-street, Haymarket. Programme for February:—Lectures by Dr. KAHN, on "The Philosophy of Marriage," at 4 to 5 and a 4 to 8 p.m.; and by Dr. SEXTON, on "The Chemistry of Respiration," at 4 past 1, on "Skin Diseases," at 4; on "The HAIR and BEARD," at 5; and on "The Relations of Electricity," at 6. The Lectures illustrated with brilliant experiments, Dissolving Views upon a new principle, &c. Open (for Gentlemen only) from 12 till 6, and from 7 till 10. Admission, 1s. Illustrated Handbook, Sixpence. Programme gratis. Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures and a Programme sent post free on the receipt of 12 Stamps.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.
HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 56, Pall-mall.
 Feb., 1858.

SISAL CIGARS! at Goodrich's Cigar Stores, 47, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Boxes, containing 14, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra; lb. boxes, containing 103, 12s. 6d. None are genuine, unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock of the most approved Brands. Orders, amounting to 1 Sovereign, sent carriage free within the London Parcels Delivery circuit amounting to 2 Sovereigns, carriage free to any railway station in the United Kingdom. The trade supplied.

KEATING'S PALE NEWFOUNDLAND COD LIVER OIL, perfectly pure, nearly tasteless, having been analyzed, reported on, and recommended by Professors TAYLOR and THOMSON, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late Dr. PEREIRA, say that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour." Imperial Pints, 2s. 6d.; Quarts, 4s. 6d.
 78, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL
 Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the entire confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners as the most speedy and effectual remedy for 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.
 ENTIRE FREEDOM FROM NAUSEOUS FLAVOUR AND AFTER-TASTE.
 RAPID CURATIVE EFFECTS AND CONSEQUENT ECONOMY.

OPINION OF THE LATE
JONATHAN PEREIRA, M.D., F.R.S.E., F.L.S.,
 Professor at the University of London, Author of "The Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics," &c. &c.
 "It was fitting that the author of the best analysis and investigations into the properties of this Oil should himself be the purveyor of this important medicine. I know that no one can be better, and few so well, acquainted with the physical and chemical properties of this medicine as yourself, whom I regard as the HIGHEST AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT. The Oil which you gave me was of the very finest quality, whether considered with reference to its colour, flavour, or chemical properties; and I AM SATISFIED THAT, FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES, NO FINER OIL CAN BE PRODUCED."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 8s.; and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by most respectable Chemists.
 WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPOT,
ANSAR, HARBORD, & CO., 77, STRAND, LONDON, W. C.
 DR. DE JONGH'S SOLE BRITISH CONSIGNEES.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS the most popular medicine for the cure of Female Complaints. After many years' experience, it is incontrovertibly proved that there is no medicine equal to Holloway's Pills for the cure of diseases incident to females; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable; they may be taken by females of all ages, for any disorganization or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause, thus restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unequalled, and may be taken by old and young, restoring health and energy after all other means have proved unsuccessful.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world, and at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment, 244, Strand, London.

FOR GOUT, RHEUMATISM, AND RHEUMATIC GOUT. SIMCO'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS are a certain and safe remedy.

They restore tranquillity to the nerves, give tone to the stomach, and strength to the whole system.
 No other medicine can be compared to these excellent Pills, as they prevent the disorder from attacking the stomach or head, and have restored thousands from pain and misery to health and comfort.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors, at 1s. 1d. or 2s. 3d. per box.

TRIESEMAR.—Protected by Royal Letters Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Trieseemar, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. Trieseemar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. Trieseemar, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Trieseemar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may be taken on the toilet table without their use being suspected. Sold in tin cases, price 11s., free by post 1s. 8d. extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 33s., by post 3s. 2d. extra, which saves 11s.; and in 57 cases, whereby there is a saving of 13 12s. 1. divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpey, Lallmand, Roux, &c. Sold by B. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 43, King William-street; G. E. Wicks, 17, Strand; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay, 63, Oxford-street; Sanger, 190, Oxford-street, London; J. H. Ingham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

PIESSE AND LUBIN'S

FRANGIPANNI PERFUME, 2s. 6d.
 FRANGIPANNI SACHET, 1s. 6d.
 FRANGIPANNI SOAP, 1s.
 FRANGIPANNI POMADE, 2s.
 FRANGIPANNI INCENSE, 1s. 6d.
 Sold by all fashionable Perfumers and Druggists.
 Be sure to ask for PIESSE and LUBIN'S FRANGIPANNI, there are numerous imitations.

LABORATORY OF FLOWERS,
 2, NEW BOND-STREET, LONDON.

BRECKNELL'S SKIN SOAP, recommended as the best for producing a clear and healthy Skin, being the old Yellow Soap, made expressly for the purpose, of the best materials, and not scented. Sold only in One Shilling packets of either four rounded tablets, or eight squares; and extra large tablets, Sixpence each.—BRECKNELL, TURNER, and SONS, Manufacturers of Wax, Spermaceti, Stearine, and Tallow Candles to her Majesty, Agents to Price's Patent Candle Company, dealers in all other Patent Candles, all kinds of Household and Toilet soaps, in Colza, Sperm, Vegetable, and other Lamp Oils, &c. Beehive, 31, Haymarket, London.—Please observe that each tablet and square is stamped "Brecknell's Skin Soap."

BRECKNELL'S GLYCERINE SOAP.—This Soap, now much improved, is recommended for use when the skin is rough or chapped, the glycerine combined with the soap producing a softening effect. Sold in Packets of four Tablets, for 1s. 6d.—BRECKNELL, TURNER, and SONS, Beehive, 31, Haymarket, London.—Please observe that each Tablet is stamped "Brecknell's Glycerine Soap."

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.
 And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.
 Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

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