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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.*

Contents:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| REVIEW OF THE WEEK— | PAGE | Gatherings from the Law and Po- | Signs and Warnings in France..... | New Novels |
| Imperial Parliament..... | 578 | lice Courts..... | 591 | Publications and Republications ... |
| The Indian Revolt | 581 | Accidents and Sudden Deaths | 591 | |
| Letters from China | 583 | Obituary..... | 591 | THE ARTS— |
| The Orient..... | 584 | Mercantile Marine..... | 592 | "The Merchant of Venice" at the |
| The Queen's "Progress"..... | 584 | Naval and Military | 592 | Princess's Theatre..... |
| Ireland | 585 | Miscellaneous | 592 | The Operas |
| America | 585 | Postscript | 592 | COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS— |
| Continental Notes..... | 585 | | | The Gazette..... |
| State of Trade..... | 586 | PUBLIC AFFAIRS— | | City Intelligence, Markets, &c..... |
| Central Criminal Court | 586 | Settlement of the American Diffi- | LITERATURE— | |
| Criminal Record | 586 | culty | Summary | |
| | | | Legends and Lyrics | |
| | | | Mr. Winkoff and Lord Palmerston... | |
| | | | Alexander the First | |
| | | | William the Conqueror | |

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SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1858.

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Review of the Week.

THE present Session of Parliament may not afford quite as much fun as a pantomime, but it exhibits even more changes and transformations, if we may use such a figure of speech so soon after our late experience of Indian summer heat. From February to the present time the grand question before Parliament and the country has been the government of India. Long nights of talk appeared to bring the difficult matter no nearer to settlement. The House of Commons had determined to legislate, but in what way? The discussion of the resolutions was to settle all the principles upon which the new government of India was to be founded. Resolutions one, two, three, four, and five had been conscientiously examined from all points of view, when, on Thursday, hold! enough!—at the sixth, Ministers and the House agreed to have done with the resolutions, and to carry on the further discussion of principles in Bill No. 3; which was thereupon at once produced, ready cut and dried, and amid a good deal of laughter read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next! But such a sudden change of plan could not have taken place without some very good reason. The reason appears to have been this. The House having pledged itself to the principle of a composite Council, partly nominated and partly elected, became aware, on the production of the sixth resolution, of the enormous difficulty it would have to deal with in settling the mode by which the elected portion of the Council was to be provided; a load of questions was found to hinge upon this one—the patronage, management of the Army, Secret Committee, salaries of the Councillors; in fact, the very heart of the subject was found to be enclosed in the sixth resolution, and the House had not courage to probe it, with the prospect of having to perform the operation all over again. To a certain extent, indeed, it was settled that eight of the Council should be nominated by the Crown, seven elected at first by the present East India Directors out of their own body, and subsequently by the whole of the Council itself. We see how much of reality there is in this plan of "electing" the smaller half of the Council! The remaining resolutions were set aside, and the House once more commences the labour of Indian legislation with Bill No. 3.

A petition from St. Mary's, Jamaica, presented

to the House of Lords on Thursday evening by the Bishop of Oxford, has opened out the question of the Slave Trade protectorate exercised by this country. The Jamaica petition complains that Spain violates the treaties under which she has bound herself to suppress the Slave Trade carried on through Cuba, and calls upon the English Government to compel Spain to fulfil the terms of her engagements; and the Bishop of Oxford, while urging the prayer of the petition, used the strongest terms of reprobation against the conduct of Spain. It is plain that the subject of the Slave Trade generally now stands for settlement. England is left alone in her defence of the Negro, and has to decide whether she can claim to enforce her views of right upon other nations. But the language of the Bishop of Oxford, directed as it is against a weak State like Spain, is not of a kind to help in attaining either a just or reasonable settlement of the difficult question. It is not with Spain that the settlement of the question lies, and it is little short of cowardice to talk of coercing her to fulfil the terms of useless treaties, at the very moment when we are using conciliatory language to America, and expressing simply "regrets" at the prosecution of the French scheme of "free emigration"—which latter transaction Lord GREY, in this very debate on the Jamaica petition, described as "gigantic slave trading." It was remarked that the galleries on Thursday evening were filled with beautiful women, whose tender emotions were freely expressed during the discussion; but the tears of soft-hearted women will no longer serve for arguments in this question. Moreover, it is not clear that the sympathy of our English women, which has been so warm in behalf of the Negro, has been of any great service to him. Protection has exposed him to sufferings from which, in all probability, he would have been more secure in an unprotected state.

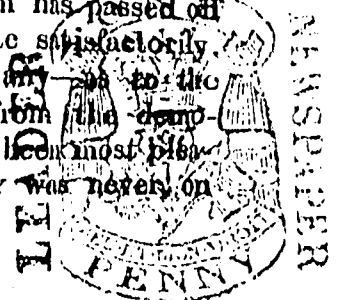
In spite of the forebodings of Lord GREY, the point of the bit-by-bit reform-wedge has been driven home: the Property Qualification Bill has passed the Lords, and only wants her Majesty's signature to make it law. English Members of Parliament may now take their seats without having to undergo the mortification of procuring—or of accepting—a qualification which had nothing to do with their fitness to represent their countrymen in Parliament. With the addition of Lord BROUGHAM's promised measure to make members liable, under proper checks and cautions, to arrest for debt, every needful security will be given to

Parliament and to the constituencies for the respectability and independence of members. The next blow on the wedge will perhaps drive home the Counties Franchise Bill, which stands at the third reading in the Lords.

The House of Lords has been very active during the week, and has dealt with several important subjects; one of these was the organization of the permanent staff of militia regiments. The statements of the noble Lords and Dukes who took part in the discussion on this subject, on Monday evening, made it appear that, both as regards the officers and men, the present militia system was a very costly and inefficient means of recruiting the army, and nothing more. Enough was stated and admitted to show that if the militia is to be kept as a means of national defence, it must be placed under an entirely new system. Ministers have already issued a commission on the subject; and the suggestions of the Peers—of the Duke of Newcastle especially—will probably help to expand the inquiring view of the commissioners.

The Under-Secretary of State's answer to Mr. DEASY, on Tuesday night, defines our position in the matter of the Cagliari. We had sent to the King of NAPLES a note requiring a categorical answer, for indemnity to our engineers and the restoration of the ship and crew. Sardinia was at the same time to have presented a similar note, but it chanced that the Sardinian note was delayed for some days, and the King of NAPLES had handed over the ship and crew to the British authorities before the Sardinian note was ready for presentation. So far we have our own way, even if, as the irascible father in *Paul Pry* says, "we haven't our own way of having it," and the Sardinian representative at our court has expressed himself well satisfied. And it must be frankly admitted that Lord MALMESBURY has brought the affair to this satisfactory conclusion in a way that is highly honourable to himself and to his Government. The terms of the note were such as a high gentleman conscious of being in the right, and of having the power to enforce it, would address to another gentleman of whom he had to make an imperative demand; firm to the last degree, temperateness and politeness governed every phrase employed.

The QUEEN's visit to Birmingham has passed off like a summer dream—that is, quite satisfactorily. Any doubts—if indeed there were any—as to the reception she would meet with from the merchants of the midland capital have been most pleasantly disposed of; HER MAJESTY was never on



any like occasion, received with more affectionate warmth. It is one of the marked characteristics of her intercourse with her people that she inspires a personal regard wherever she goes; and her visit to Birmingham, undertaken as it was to give *éclat* to a thoroughly popular undertaking, has established that feeling in the strongest possible manner. The object was to open Aston Hall and Park, which the Birmingham people have bought for a municipal museum and pleasure-ground. Prince ALBERT throws a German seriousness over the national question of play; and the QUEEN takes a pride in identifying herself with her people, their works, their glory, and their happiness; and the people, knowing it, identify her and her power with their own life. The lesson might be read usefully in some other lands.

The news from India exhibits the rebel forces unsubdued but falling back before the British. Our fiercest enemy at present is the hot weather, which is truly terrific; but our men appear to bear up even against the unconquerable sunbeams in an almost surprising manner. It appears that, with the exception of Calpee—which must have fallen long ere this—our commanders have to contend against no great bodies of the enemy. The war has been reduced to a war of posts, as a writer in the *Globe* well says, and fatigue and the sun are what we have most to dread encountering. With the exception of Brigadier WALPOLE's unfortunate attack upon the fort of Rhodamow, all the latest movements reported have been successful, and with Oude settling down into peace, and Rohilund well in hand, all appears to rest with time.

While the American Senate has placed at the disposal of the President extraordinary means for defending the American marine against further outrages from British cruisers, and, if need be, of making reprisals, which would be tantamount to making war, the tone of the Press and of the Senate itself is somewhat softened. Nothing new, in fact, has occurred to increase the difficulty, which stands in a fair way of being amicably adjusted. America, too, has domestic troubles on hand. New Orleans has been in a state of revolt, not against constituted authority so much as in defence of social order. For years the Crescent City has been the theatre of outrages of the most tremendous kind, robbery and assassination being common incidents of its daily experience. These crimes the authorities of the city left wholly unchecked, and the evil became so monstrous, that after the fashion set them by the citizens of San Francisco, a number of the inhabitants formed themselves into a Vigilance Committee. The Mayor opposed the proceedings of these persons, and called out the militia against them, but was ultimately compelled to resign his authority into their hands. So the matter stood when the latest advices were despatched.

A great change has taken place in the administration of an important office in France; General ESPINASSE has been removed from the Home-office, and M. DELANGLE put in his place. The change is most significant. General ESPINASSE was feared and hated by all who valued the civil liberty of their country, which he has constantly shown himself ready to trample on. The appointment of M. DELANGLE is accepted as the promise of a milder rule, and hope runs high in Paris. Even the Press takes heart of grace and whispers, "A new phase opens itself for the administration and politics of the country, to which M. DELANGLE is destined to render great services."

Our home news is painfully tinctured with scandal. The Belgravian "disclosures" take the lead, and, it is satisfactory to know, meet with pretty general reprobation. The course taken by the Hon. Mr. BAXTER in making a public appeal against the curate of St. Barnabas for alleged scandalous proceedings in connexion with the administration of auricular confession, at the very time when the case was before the highest ecclesiastical authority for final

adjudication, is considered to have been unwise and unjust in the extreme, and has done the high Protestant party, of which Lord SHAFTESBURY is one of the leaders, no small amount of injury.

In our law courts we have a petition for a divorce sued on the strength of a diary written by a lady under the influence of a distempered imagination, and which many eminent physicians declare renders her liable to confound fact and fancy. Another case presents a man who has the misfortune to have succeeded to a large fortune, beset by an anonymous letter-writer, who has set her wits to do him all the injury possible by such means. A lady of title, a near relative, whose daughter would have inherited the fortune but for his succession to it, is the person whom he accuses. It is a very pretty example of the "curse of wealth," about which out-at-elbow moralists say such good and, as we occasionally discover, such true things.

THE KENSINGTON-GORE ESTATE.—Some correspondence has taken place between the Royal Exhibition Commissioners and the Lords of the Treasury in reference to the Kensington-gore estate. The commissioners on the 1st of May informed their Lordships that the position occupied by them in relation to the Government has tended seriously to interfere with the prosecution of their plans for the advancement of science and art, as originally set forth, and they expressed their readiness to repay to Government the whole of the sums advanced by Parliament towards the purchase of the Kensington-gore estate, amounting to 177,500*l.*, the whole of the estate to be made, in return, the absolute property of the commissioners. To this proposal, the Treasury, on the 11th of May, acceded; so that the connexion between the Royal Commissioners and the Government will be forthwith dissolved. A bill has been brought in to give effect to this arrangement.

THE ADMISSION OF JEWS TO PARLIAMENT.—Lord Derby has, it is said, issued a circular announcing that, while his abstract opinions on the Jew question have undergone no change, he will not offer any further obstacles to the admission of Hebrews to Parliament.

THE CHURCH OF SAN ZACCARIA, VENICE.—The organ, in strains more brisk and jerking than I ever met with from that instrument, except indeed in similar places, like some florid drawing-room piano, began to play airs running off into roulades and flourishes, which had certainly much more of the gay and giddy dance than of the anthem or voluntary in them. Any beings whomsoever, would, I feel convinced, in moving to that highly ornamented melody, find it very difficult to abstain long from those motions which are proper and peculiar to the polka. Indeed, the strain drove our own weak thoughts into so flighty a dance that we could not, for the life and gravity of us, help thinking of it as Santa Rosalia's, or Santa Lucia's, or Sant' Agata's Polka. Nevertheless, in common candour it should be admitted that the harmonies at San Zaccaria were not always of this skittish, jerking, and operative kind, for on the last occasion a pure and delicately streaming hymn to the Virgin suddenly rose in our ears, sung by a number of tender infantine voices; and, on turning to discover from whom these sounds proceeded, we saw a procession of very little girls demurely ushered round and round the church, and offering up these deputed strains to their imaginary heavenly "mamma." Their hymn, in small fine notes, penetrated even into an inner and very sacred chamber of the heart, and woke the sluggish sleepers there, and stirred them into some sweet movements, with a sacred, a divine, indeed a mighty power. Bellini's holiest Infant (I clearly saw it) looked down on them with a yet gentler and more benign air as they passed beneath him. San Zaccaria should then have lifted up his too absorbing book; for the sight was a living moving text, preaching with celestial persuasiveness the beauty of tender innocence and unestranged humanity. I marvel he did not.—*Art Journal.*

THE REPRESENTATION OF EAST NORFOLK.—Sir Henry Stracey, of Rackheath Hall, near Norwich, has issued an address to the electors of East Norfolk, the seat being vacant by the death of Sir Edward Buxton. The division was represented by Sir Henry Stracey (who is a supporter of Lord Derby) from July, 1855, to March, 1857; but, in the general election in the latter month, he lost his seat. The Hon. Wenman Coke, brother to the Earl of Leicester, will be the Liberal candidate.

THE WEST INDIES.—The last advices from the West Indies present very few facts of interest. The islands are generally healthy; trade has recently shown greater activity than it has exhibited for some time past; and the crops promise well.—The Demerara papers report the arrival on the morning of Sunday, the 9th of May, per mail-steamer Prince, of Governor and Mrs. Wodehouse. The reception was a very cordial one. It was understood that the Governor's mission to Venezuela had failed of its object, in consequence of the present unsettled state of the country.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, June 14th.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Royal assent was given by commission to several bills, chiefly private.

THE BANKRUPT AND INSOLVENT LAWS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR presented a petition from twenty bankers' firms and 3000 of the principal merchants of London, praying for an amendment of the bankrupt and insolvent laws, and for assimilating the proceedings in bankruptcy and insolvency. He trusted that in the course of a few days he should be able to present to their Lordships a bill that would embody in its provisions all the amendments that the commercial world in general require.

THE ASSISTANT BARRISTER FOR KERRY.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE said he had a petition to present from Mr. Macdermott, assistant barrister for the county of Kerry, in reference to the charges brought against him by the Earl of Donoughmore. The petitioner stated that he had not had sufficient notice to prepare himself for examination before their Lordships, and prayed that their Lordships would postpone the period indicated for his appearance before them.

THE JEW QUESTION.

The Earl of CLANRICARDE having given notice that upon the second reading of the Oaths Substitution Bill and the Jew Bill he should move as an amendment that the bills be read a second time that day six months, the Earl of MALMESBURY mentioned that Lord Derby was detained from the House by indisposition, which might possibly last some days. He hoped, therefore, that the further progress of the bills, which stood on the paper for Friday, might be postponed.—The Earl of LUCAN consented to the postponement, as far as his measure was concerned.—After some further conversation, the subject dropped.

THE PROBATE AND DIVORCE ACTS.

The PROBATE AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL, and the DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ACT AMENDMENT BILL, were respectively re-committed, and passed through committee.—During a discussion before the re-committal of the Divorce Bill, the LORD CHANCELLOR announced that at present he could not recommend the Government to introduce a measure for Ireland; whereupon Lord CRANWORTH suggested that parties in Ireland seeking for a divorce should come to the court established for England, and not to the House of Lords; but this Lord CAMPBELL objected to, and submitted that a separate measure should be introduced for Ireland.

MILITIA STAFFS.

In answer to questions put by the Duke of BUCKLEIGH, in reference to calling out and training the Militia and the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the organization of the Militia Staff, Lord HARDINGE stated that a Commission would be appointed to inquire into the subject. The instructions to the Commission had not yet been published; but the points involved in the Duke of Buckleigh's questions would be fully investigated by the Commission. A portion of the Militia would be called out for training during next autumn.—Earl GREY wished to know if the Government intended to make the Militia an instrument for recruiting the regular army, or whether they designed it simply as a reserve force.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE hoped the attention of the War Minister would be directed to the state of the law with respect to the Irish Militia, which is in a highly unsatisfactory state.—The Duke of CAMBRIDGE said he understood that the inquiry by the Commission would be very full and ample. He could not concur in the idea that they were not to get any recruits or volunteers for the Line from the Militia. The Militia force could be made most valuable to some extent for both the purposes referred to by Earl Grey. The Militia might be kept in a complete state for the defence of the country, and render valuable assistance in recruiting the ranks of the regular army. It was very doubtful whether the country would not grudge the sum necessary for building barracks for the Militia; besides, it would take a very long time before the barracks could be erected. They still continued to receive daily large additions to the army, and the greatest good feeling in coming forward was evinced in all parts of the country.—Lord LYTTELTON protested against that view of the Militia which regards the force simply as a means of recruiting the regular army. The Militia ought to be considered as a reserve force for home service. "With regard to the statement that men are not got for the army fast enough, the reason is to be found in the fact that they are not paid enough, are not made comfortable enough, and have no sufficient prospect of a provision for their old age. Our system stands self-condemned by the existence of a bounty as a necessary adjunct to recruiting. Why should there be any necessity for a bounty? There ought to be sufficient military spirit in the country to bring men into the army, if their position there were made what it ought to be. The proper system would be that the bounty, which is now wasted, should be given to the soldier at the end of his time of service instead of at the beginning. It was worth consideration whether there might not be a reserve established, consisting of men who had passed

through the army, which would be much more economical than the Militia. What would be the condition of things if the whole of the Militia were to be called out it would be difficult to say; for it was known that many men had enrolled themselves in several regiments at different times, and, if the whole of the Militia was called out, there would be at least forty per cent. of the men missing from the different regiments."—The Duke of NEWCASTLE urged that Lord Hardinge should lay the instructions to the commission on the table as soon as they were issued. He also urged the necessity for adopting some regular system to provide the necessary barrack accommodation.—Viscount MELVILLE declared that there was scarcely a barrack in Scotland that was fit for the accommodation of troops.—The subject then dropped.

The CHANCERY AMENDMENT BILL was read a third time, and passed.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.

A notice was on the paper from the Earl of KINGSTON, announcing his intention to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether Rajah Brooke has recently made any application to Her Majesty's Government for compensation for losses alleged to have been incurred in the public service in Borneo; and whether it is the intention of the Government to entertain any such application. The Earl accordingly rose, and twice endeavoured to put his questions, but both times was interrupted by the Earl of MALMESBURY, who rose to order, and finally, to put an end to the subject, moved the adjournment of the House, which was agreed to, and the sitting terminated at a quarter-past eight.

HIGH PRICE OF MEAT.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, SIR DE LACY EVANS presented a petition from inhabitants of the metropolis, complaining of the high price of meat; and praying the House to take measures to provide a remedy.

MILITARY CHAPLAINS.

Mr. HUME asked the Secretary for War if the Government contemplated the appointment of Presbyterian military chaplains in the chief garrison towns of the United Kingdom.—General PEEL said that it was the intention of the Government to appoint additional Presbyterian and Roman Catholic assistant chaplains, in order to place Presbyterian and Roman Catholic soldiers upon the same footing in regard to the number of chaplains as their Protestant brethren. All chaplains would also in future be placed upon the same footing in regard to pay. He would take that opportunity of replying to questions put to him on a former occasion by the member for Salisbury, as to the supply of water at the Chatham barracks, and the overcrowding of the barracks. He had received a communication from the commandant, to the effect that there was generally an abundant supply of water. On the previous Wednesday, the supply was short, owing to the machinery getting out of order; but this inconvenience had since been remedied, and there was now plenty of water for everything. In regard to the overcrowding of barracks, the commandant stated that the garrison is now very strong, but that accommodation is abundant, and the troops are healthy.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL SERVICE.

In answer to questions by Mr. HENRY BERKELEY and Mr. DRYER, Mr. HAMILTON said that the Treasury had been in communication some time ago with the European and Australian Steam Packet Company, in consequence of a strong representation made by a deputation from the colonies. The object of the communications was to promote an amalgamation with the Royal Mail Company, and an extension of the term of contract. When the amalgamation project was broken off, the directors of the European and Australian Company entered into further communication with the Treasury, with a view to the attainment, to some extent, of the object set forth in the treaty, and also to extend the service in many respects. Having, however, seen the resolutions adopted by the shareholders for the winding up and dissolution of the company, he felt it his duty to suspend any further negotiations on the subject. Her Majesty's Government had to proceed with caution; but steps had been taken to prevent any interruption of the mail service.

INDIA.

Replying to Sir ERSKINE PERRY, Lord STANLEY read an extract from a private letter of Lord Canning, and another from a private letter of Mr. Montgomery, enclosed in the former, giving a favourable account of the pacification of Oude.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Committee on the resolutions respecting the Government of India was then resumed, when Lord STANLEY proposed the fifth resolution—"That, with a view to the efficiency and independence of the Council, it is expedient that it should be partly nominated and partly elected." There were three modes of nomination. Firstly, there was nomination for good behaviour—practically, for life; but to this plan there was the strong objection that a certain proportion of the Council would always be incapable, through the infirmities of age, of performing their duties in a satisfactory manner. A second mode was nomination for a long term, without re-nomination; but this would be inexpedient in practice, from the manner in which it would operate on persons of different ages, and there would not be the same guarantee for independence as by nomination for

life. A third principle was nomination for a short term, with a power to re-nominate; but to this it might fairly be objected that the members would thus be placed in a position of too great dependence on the Minister of the day. The first of these methods he (Lord Stanley) thought presented the fewest inconveniences; but the question arose whether it would not be better to elect a portion of the Council. The constituency, to be proposed in a subsequent resolution, would consist of proprietors of East India Stock, holders of Indian railway shares, and retired officers in the various branches of the Indian service, forming an aggregate number of between 7000 and 8000, embodying a large amount of persons interested in Indian affairs, who would combine with a knowledge of Indian administration—freedom from political bias.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved, by way of amendment, that the members of the Council be appointed by Her Majesty. In that case, the Minister of the day would be responsible for any unit appointment. With the exception of retired Indian servants, the proposed constituents would feel no special interest in the welfare of India.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM was opposed to any change in the government of India at the present moment. Still, effect must be given to the decision of the House. Contrary to the wishes of Mr. Bright, he (Sir James) wished to reduce the change to a *minimum*, and to make the Council as like the Court of Directors as possible. He would build on the old foundation; and he was disposed to think that the members for the Council should be nominated in the bill; that they should hold office during good behaviour; and that a large portion of the present Court of Directors should be among the persons nominated. The principle of nomination might be combined with the principle of election; and accordingly he was prepared to vote for the resolution before the House, but not for the seventh, which established a peculiar constituency for the elected members. By the suggestions he had thrown out, he believed a safe mode would be afforded of introducing still further changes in time, without the danger of incurring a violent shock.—Sir G. C. LEWIS reiterated his opinion that the present form of government of India is cumbersome and inefficient; that it is desirous at once to remodel it; and that it is of essential importance that the President of the Board of Control should have the advantage of a consultative council. However, they ought not to rely on a fluctuating constituency, such as Indian stock-holders, for the election of any portion of the Council. The stock is liable to be extinguished at any time.—Sir ERSKINE PERRY thought that the power and intelligence of the Court of Directors had been praised to a most fulsome extent. When had they ever resisted the will of Ministers? But, with all their faults, they were a better body than would be got together under the proposed system.—Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT believed that by the proposed system they would have all the evils of election without any of the good of representation.—Mr. WILLOUGHBY did not think that the attacks made on the East India Company were justified by facts. He was glad to find that there was to be no change with regard to the administration of the revenue of India. The elective principle is surrounded by difficulties; but it possesses many advantages.—Mr. LIDDELL asked for some explanation from the Government as to how the local Governments in India were to be appointed.—Lord GODERICH said that it seemed not to be the intention of the Government to give the Council any power or control over the Minister for India. Care, however, should be taken to secure the perfect responsibility of the Minister. He could not support the resolution proposed by Lord Stanley, but should give his vote, in case of a division, in favour of the amendment of Lord John Russell.—Mr. H. BAILLIE defended the resolution.—Mr. VERNON SMITH observed that there was no good reason for supposing that a Council nominated by the Crown would necessarily be subservient. Since 1853, the Court of Directors had been partly nominated; but no one had ventured to say that the gentlemen so appointed are wanting in independence. On the other hand, it had been shown that many persons of great eminence and knowledge of Indian affairs had declined to submit to the humiliation of canvassing for election to the Court of Directors.—Mr. CUMMING BRUCE thought it necessary that there should be some check upon the Minister for India, and suggested that the object would be best secured by the appointment of a Council selected from the present Court of Directors.—Colonel SYKES remarked that the Council as proposed to be constituted would operate as a check on disbursements for Indian purposes; but he asked whether control was to be exercised over such attempts as had been made in days gone by to plunder the treasuries of Oude and Sattara, against which the late Mr. Hume so often raised his voice. The question now was, how was the committee to be constituted? Was it to be wholly nominated by the Crown? Or was it to be partly so nominated and partly elected?

Lord STANLEY admitted that the constituency proposed, or any other, would not be free from objection; but he had suggested that, in the event of the House deciding that the Council should be partly elective, and not wholly nominated by the Crown, a certain constituency for election, which would secure independence in the Council, was available. But the mode was one of detail, the principle being the security of the independence of the Council. The Government would not

object to any mode which the House might think right to adopt to secure the end, placing some check on the uncontrolled nomination of the Crown. That was all that was laid down in the resolution.

Lord PALMERSTON dissented from the views which had been expressed by Sir James Graham, and thought that, if the elective principle be good, it ought to be general; so that the whole of the Council should be elected.

Mr. GLADSTONE observed that it was evident that, in the opinion of the Committee, there were many strong objections to both extreme principles—election by a constituency on one hand, and pure nomination on the other. With regard to the first, it had not been brought before the Committee in a definite form; but, as to nomination by the Crown, the objections to it were of such a character that they would feel them more and more strongly as they proceeded. He felt the constitutional objection; but this was secondary to the consideration of how to reconcile nomination of the Crown with the independence of the Council. It would be impossible to have an independent Council free from suspicion, if the principle of nomination for a term renewable by the Crown were adopted; and, if the nomination were for life, the offices might elapse into sinecures, or the holders might become incompetent. It was difficult, therefore, to get over the objections to nomination by the Crown. The favourable manner in which Sir James Graham's proposition had been received by the Committee held out a prospect of its ultimate acceptance. The soundness of its principle rendered it likely that it would secure increased favour; it recommended itself, first, by its merits; and, secondly, as a mode of escape from a difficulty.

After a further discussion, during which the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER reminded the Committee that the resolution did not pledge it to approve any specific mode of election or any particular constituency, a division took place, when Lord John Russell's amendment was negatived by 250 to 185.

The question upon the resolution being put, Lord GODERICH moved that the Chairman report progress, in order to afford time for the consideration of Sir James Graham's proposition.—This motion was negatived upon a division, by 239 to 155.—The resolution was then agreed to, and the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

The House having resumed, some formal business was got through, and an adjournment took place at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

Tuesday, June 15th.

MANING THE NAVY.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, in reply to a question from Lord BROUGHAM, the Earl of MALMESBURY stated that a commission had been appointed to inquire into the best mode of manning the navy; but it should not be supposed that the present naval force could not be manned in a short space of time, or that ships enough to defend the Channel could not be immediately provided with crews.

PROPERTY QUALIFICATION BILL.

Earl FORTESCUE moved the second reading of this bill, which was strongly opposed by Lord RAVENSWORTH, the Earl of CLANCARTY, and the Earl of WICKLOW, on the ground that the measure had a revolutionary tendency, and was an advance towards Chartism.—Lord BROUGHAM thought that, as the qualification was often proved by falsehood, and sometimes by perjury, it ought to be abolished; but the abolition should be accompanied by an act rendering incapable of holding a seat all persons who should not have paid their debts within twelve months after they had been declared bankrupt. He gave notice that he should introduce a measure to that effect.—Lord DENMAN moved that the bill be read a third time that day six months; but this was negatived without a division.—The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

MR. MACDERMOTT.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, after some discussion, withdrew his motion for considering a petition from Mr. Macdermott, praying that the hearing of the articles of charge against him be postponed from the 21st of June to the 10th of July.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

There was a morning sitting of the HOUSE OF COMMONS, which assembled at twelve o'clock.

THE CASE OF MR. TOWNSEND.

Mr. FITZROY moved that a copy of the record of the adjudication of bankruptcy against Mr. John Townsend, the member for Greenwich, be read in conjunction with the Act 52nd of Geo. III., cap. 144.—This having been done, a discussion ensued in which Mr. TOWNSEND took part (affirming that he had obtained legal advice, and had been instructed that he was entitled to sit in the House), and which resulted in the following resolution being agreed to:—"That Mr. John Townsend, member for the borough of Greenwich, having been found, declared, and adjudged a bankrupt from the 29th of March, had since been, and still was, by law, incapable of sitting and voting in that House." This, however, does not amount to a permanent exclusion of the hon. gentleman, the law merely requiring that he shall retire for a year, for the settlement of his affairs.

SALE AND TRANSFER OF LAND (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion for going into committee, Mr. Serjeant DEASY urged the propriety of providing compensation in the bill for Mr. Flanagan, the master of the Encumbered Estates Court, who had for many years filled the office, and had given up another office to accept it.—Mr. WHITESIDE declared that it was impossible to make a distinction between Mr. Flanagan and other gentlemen.—After a long discussion, the subject dropped, and the House went into committee.—Some of the clauses having been agreed to, the House resumed, and the sitting was suspended till six o'clock in the evening.

THE CAGLIARI.

In reply to Mr. Serjeant DEASY, Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD stated that the arrangement by which the King of Naples had placed the Cagliari and her crew at the disposal of her Majesty was not made with the concurrence of the Sardinian Government; and that the vessel and her crew had been set at liberty without any categorical demand on the part of the Government of Sardinia. The papers would be laid on the table of the House as soon as they could be translated from the Italian originals.

THE STATE OF THE THAMES.

In answer to questions from Mr. R. D. MANGLES (which, strange to say, moved honourable gentlemen to merriment), Lord JOHN MANNERS said that the Government had no longer any control over the Thames, the jurisdiction having been transferred to the Metropolitan Board of Works. However, in his individual capacity as a member of the House of Commons, he was serving on the committee appointed to investigate the subject, and he trusted that a scheme would be devised for the purification of the Thames.

MR. WILLIAM HENRY BARBER.

Mr. BRADY moved for a select committee to inquire into the allegations contained in the petition of William Henry Barber, presented upon the 27th of April, and to consider and report whether any and what redress should be afforded to the petitioner; or whether any and what other steps should be taken in reference to the matters alleged. Mr. Barber was tried in 1844 for alleged complicity in will forgeries; he was found guilty, owing to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt refusing to grant him a separate trial, and thereby depriving him of the means of calling the only evidence which could show his innocence. The sentence was transportation for life. One person tried with him (Fletcher) made a confession, acknowledging Barber's innocence; so also did Mr. and Mrs. Sanders and Mrs. Dorey, each one acting without communicating with the other; and the jury then represented that, had such confessions been known to them at the trial, their verdict would have been one of acquittal. The ultimate result was that Mr. Barber was at length, after two years' suffering, liberated on a free pardon granted by her Majesty. Not only was he treated with the utmost cruelty in Newgate, in Millbank, in the convict-ship, and afterwards in that ocean hell, Norfolk Island, but his little property was swallowed up by the expenses of his defence, and his large practice in London was blown to the winds. Some compensation, therefore, ought to be granted him.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON was willing to accede to an inquiry, if Mr. Brady would consent so to modify his motion as to omit all reference to compensation. He thought the committee should not be bound to any particular course.—Mr. BRIGHT recommended Mr. Brady to accede to this suggestion; which was done, and the motion, so modified, was agreed to.

UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE (SCOTLAND).

Mr. BAXTER moved "that, in the opinion of the House, an Under-Secretary of State for Scotland should be appointed, to perform the political duties at present attached to the office of Lord-Advocate." For more than thirty years after the legislative union of England and Scotland, there had been a Secretary of State for the latter country; the office, in fact, had never been abolished, but had only fallen into disuse. The duties of the Lord-Advocate are so multifarious and anomalous, and so divided between London and Edinburgh, that it is difficult to find him when wanted. His judicial functions, moreover, interfere with his political duties, so that Scotland has only part of his time and attention to either. If there were an Under-Secretary for Scotland in that House, the Lord-Advocate could devote the whole of his attention to his judicial duties.—The motion was seconded by Mr. WILLIAM EWART, who stated that it was the opinion of the Duke of Argyll and of Lord Campbell that the duties of the Lord-Advocate are far too onerous.—Mr. BOUVIER, on the other hand, thought Mr. Baxter had failed to show that the duties cast on the Lord-Advocate are neglected or inefficiently performed. Scotch business in that House could not be well conducted by any but a Scotch lawyer.—The motion was further opposed by Mr. E. ELLICE, Sir JAMES OGILVY, Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS, the LORD-ADVOCATE, Lord DUNCAN, Lord PALMERSTON, and the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER; and was supported by Mr. STIRLING, Mr. CRAUFORD, and Mr. DUNLOP.

In the course of the debate, the LORD-ADVOCATE admitted that the duties of his office are anxious and laborious; but he did not recognize in that fact a reason for the proposed appointment. On the contrary, he

thought that the way to get an officer to do his work well is to give him plenty to do. (*Laughter and "Hear, hear."*) He had not, since he came into office, received a single letter from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which would not have properly come to him had there been an Under-Secretary of State for Scotland. (*Hear, hear.*) The appointment of such a Minister would not facilitate Scottish legislation. In fact, the Under-Secretary would scarcely have anything to do.—Lord PALMERSTON said he could not concur in the resolution. An Under-Secretary of State could not take the place of the Lord-Advocate in Scotch business in that House. The Secretary of State for the Home Department is responsible for every act of the Crown pertaining to public affairs in Scotland, in which he takes the advice of the Lord-Advocate; but, if the resolution were adopted, he would advise with his own Under-Secretary on Scotch law, and it was clear that he would possess less information upon the subject. The effect of the motion, therefore, would not be that which the mover supposed.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the great objection to the motion was, that the House had no evidence whatever that the people of Scotland were suffering in any degree from the existing system.—Sir G. MONTGOMERY expressed a hope that the Government would appoint a Scotch Lord of the Treasury.

Mr. BAXTER consented to adopt an amendment suggested by Mr. Stirling, and the resolution then stood in this form:—"That, in the opinion of this House, an Under-Secretary for Scotland should be appointed in the Home-office, to perform a part of the duties attached to the office of Lord-Advocate."—Upon a division, this resolution was negatived by 174 to 47.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SOLDIERS.

Mr. Serjeant DEASY said that, in consequence of the explanation given by the Secretary for War on a former evening, he would not proceed with his notice relative to Roman Catholic soldiers.

NEW BILLS.

Lord NAAS obtained leave to introduce a bill to make better provision for the police force in Dublin and other Irish towns, and also a bill for the more effectual administration of justice in the police districts of Dublin.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable persons to establish their legitimacy by the judgment of a court of law, and also to enable persons in like manner to establish their right to be regarded as natural-born subjects of Great Britain.—Mr. M'MAHON obtained leave to bring in a bill to secure the right of new trial in criminal cases.

The House adjourned about half-past one o'clock.

Wednesday, June 16th.

EDINBURGH, &c., ANNUITY TAX BILL.

Mr. BLACK, in moving that this bill be read a second time, said its object was to remove an enormous grievance, the tax being not only extremely oppressive, but injurious to morals and religion, and especially to the Church of Scotland. When the tax was first imposed, two centuries ago, the grounds of its imposition were reasonable; but what was applicable at that day, when all were of the same creed, is inapplicable now. He insisted that the burden is not merely an oppressive one, but that it is partial in its incidence, and that it forces consciences. The bill proposed that seat-rents and church-door collections should furnish a fund, or the principal part of a fund, as a substitute for this tax.—The motion was seconded by Mr. BAXTER, and opposed by Mr. BLACKBURN, who moved to defer the second reading for six months—an amendment which was seconded by Mr. BUCHANAN.—The bill was further opposed by Mr. FRANCIS SCOTT, Mr. CUMMING BRUCE, and the LORD-ADVOCATE; and was supported by Mr. J. B. SMITH, Mr. COWAN, Mr. GILPIN, Sir T. E. COLEBROOKE (who, however, objected to some of its features), Lord DUNCAN, and Mr. HORSMAN.—In opposing the measure, the LORD-ADVOCATE admitted that the present mode of providing for the stipends of the clergy is inexpedient. He should rejoice at the introduction of any measure which would abolish the tax, while at the same time it provided a sufficient equivalent for the support of the clergy. This bill, however, would not meet the requirements of the case, and would interfere with the working of the Established Church. It was in fact a bill of absolute abolition. If it passed, the clergy might be reduced to a state of great distress; and he felt bound to support the amendment. He was most anxious to have this question settled; but he would never consent to settle it on the terms of this bill.

Upon a division, the amendment was carried by a single vote, the ayes for the second reading being 129 and the noes 180. The bill, therefore, is lost.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On the order for going into Committee on the REGISTRATION OF COUNTY VOTERS (SCOTLAND) BILL, Mr. DUNDAS moved to defer the Committee for six months.—After a short discussion, this amendment was carried upon a division by 108 to 96.

On the order for the second reading of the INSURANCE AND ASSURANCE INSTITUTIONS BILL, Mr. SHERIDAN desired to postpone the second reading until the 7th of July; but Mr. HENLEY recommended him to withdraw the bill altogether.—This suggestion not being adopted, Mr. SOTHERON ESTCOURT moved to defer the second

reading for six months.—Mr. SHERIDAN continued to speak upon this amendment until a quarter to six o'clock, when the debate stood adjourned.

The remaining orders were then gone through without debate, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

Thursday, June 17th.

LETTER FROM LORD CANNING.

The LORD CHANCELLOR read the acknowledgment by Lord Canning of their Lordships' vote of thanks to the military and civil services in India.

DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

On the report on this bill being brought up, the provisions of the Act were, on the motion of Lord REDESDALE, extended to Ireland.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

The Bishop of OXFORD presented a petition from St. Mary's, Jamaica, complaining of the continued violation by the Government of Spain of the treaties by which that country is bound to suppress the slave trade to the island of Cuba, and praying that measures should be taken to compel Spain to fulfil the conditions of those treaties. The profits of the trade, the bishop said he believed, were shared by persons standing near the Spanish throne. While Cuba remained a slave-importing country, there would always be danger of a war with America. Spain should be compelled to do for Cuba what Portugal had done for Brazil, where the slave trade has been abolished.—Lord BROUGHAM strongly urged the Government to use its influence with Spain on this question. No amount of vigilance by any squadron on the coast of Cuba could stop the traffic; but the system of corruption upheld by the Governors of Cuba might be put an end to. The so-called "free emigration" patronized by France should also be borne in mind. The inhabitants of Jamaica have a right to complain of the slave trade; for that unnatural and infernal traffic is a cruel addition to the burdens of the planters.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said that England is not supported to the extent that could be wished in its efforts to suppress the slave trade. Spain opposed to successive English Governments the most difficult force of all to overcome—the force of passive resistance. He had endeavoured to obtain from all civilized countries some agreement as to the means of verifying the nationality of vessels suspected of being slavers, and had strongly represented to the United States that, if an obstinate adherence to the present declarations on the right of search were persisted in, the American flag would be dishonoured and prostituted to the worst purposes. Sending our squadron to the Cuban waters, instead of keeping it on the African coast, had been a mistake. The slave trade increased greatly after a portion of the squadron was withdrawn from the coast of Africa at the beginning of the Crimean war. England and the European States had always supported Spain in defending Cuba against any hostile invasion; but, if Spain continued to show such an utter want of principle and base ingratitude to this country, they would, henceforth, instead of taking her part, leave her to suffer the consequences.

The Earl of CARLISLE advised caution, but deprecated the adoption of a retrograde policy.—Lord WODEHOUSE doubted if the policy of interfering with foreign states was originally a wise one; but, having been adopted, it should not be precipitately abandoned.—Earl GREY attributed the revival of the slave trade entirely to the conduct of the Governments of France and the United States. Still, we must be careful how we exercise the right of search with respect to American ships. That the Government of the great Emperor of France should become a gigantic slave-dealer was almost too disgraceful to be believed. The recent rising of the slaves on board the French vessel was a justifiable act; but he hoped Liberia would not be brought into the quarrel.—The Earl of ABERDEEN said that the instructions for the guidance of the officers of their cruisers were approved of the American Government at the time they were issued, and he was not aware that they were altered.—The Earl of HARDWICKE thought it possible that the officers might have exceeded their duty. The course of the French Government had been strictly in accordance with the desire of their Lordships; and appeared from papers in their possession that the captured Africans were treated properly on board some of the French vessels.—The Earl of CLARENDON declared that he heard that statement with great satisfaction, and asked if the papers on which it was founded would be laid on the table.—The Earl of HARDWICKE suggested that his Lordship should give notice of moving for them.—The Earl of CLARENDON said he would do so.—Earl of MALMESBURY said that no public interest could be served by producing the papers. They contained nothing more than a sort of controversy between the two Governments respecting the new French system. The motion that the petition do lie on the table was agreed to.

THE OATHS BILL.

In answer to Lord DENMAN, the Earl of HARDWICKE said that, as far as the Government is concerned, there would be no objection to the Oaths Bill going down to the Commons as soon as possible.—Some discussion followed as to the proper course to be pursued; but no definite result was arrived at, and the subject dropped.

The House adjourned at half-past eight.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS had a morning sitting, which commenced at twelve o'clock; and the House at once went into committee on the resolutions touching

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The resolution first in order was the 6th, which set forth:—"That the members of the nominated portion of the Council shall be selected by her Majesty, subject, as a general rule, to the qualification before expressed, and one-half at the least of the elected members shall possess the like qualification." In supporting this resolution, Lord STANLEY said that the Government proposed not to vest the election in any particular constituency, but to deal with the first appointments thus:—Accepting the number of fifteen, they proposed that, out of those fifteen members, eight should be nominated by the Crown, and that the other seven should be elected out of their own body by the existing Court of Directors. For the filling up of vacancies, they proposed that every alternate vacancy should be filled up by nomination by the Crown, and by the choice of the members of the whole Council.—Lord PALMERSTON urged the necessity of delay, for the consideration of this new principle, and exhorted the House not to abandon the old constitutional arrangement of making Ministers responsible for the nomination of councillors. They confided to the Ministers of the Crown the discretion of selecting their judges; and why should they adopt a different principle in regard to the constitution of this Council? The noble Lord did not say whether the alternate election was or was not to be by the whole Council, including the members nominated by the Crown.—Lord STANLEY: "By the whole Council."—Lord PALMERSTON rejoined that in that case the Crown would always have a majority that would substantially place the nomination in the hands of the Minister, and he asked the Government to do that openly which they proposed to do substantially. Let them not violate constitutional principles in order to come back in practice to that from which they departed in theory.—Mr. WALPOLE defended the proposal made by Lord Stanley.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM urged delay.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER proposed that the sixth and seventh resolutions should not be proceeded with at present, but that they should now go on with the consideration of the eighth and subsequent resolutions. By these means, the bill might be introduced, and the principles involved in the sixth and seventh resolutions might be discussed with the general principle of the bill upon the second reading, which he would propose to take on Monday.—Mr. BRIGHT approved of the intention to drop the resolutions and introduce the bill.—Lord PALMERSTON made some further observations in support of what he had termed the constitutional mode of forming the Council.—Mr. GLADSTONE thought that all further discussion should be postponed till the bill was before them.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL concurred, and asked the President of the Board of Control, whether the cadets were to be appointed by competition, and whether the Council was to have communicated to it despatches in regard to the foreign affairs of India as well as the despatches relating to internal affairs.

Lord STANLEY explained that, in accordance with the vote at which the House arrived the other night, he had thought it his duty, at the earliest possible period, to state what are the views of the Government as to the manner in which the decision should be carried into effect. He would not enter into a defence of their proposition on that occasion; but, in reference to the remarks of the noble lord the member for Tiverton, that it was nomination in disguise, he would say that the noble Lord had described his own scheme rather than that of the present Government. In the appointment of cadets, open competition should have a fair trial; but he was not prepared at that time to state what should be the particular duties of the Council. The resolutions had answered the purpose for which they were intended (*a laugh*)—namely, to ascertain the opinion of the House upon certain general principles; and the bill would now be introduced.—After some further remarks of a very desultory description, the resolutions were ordered to be reported, and the Chairman was directed to move for leave to bring in a bill founded upon them.—The sitting was then suspended till six in the evening.

THE BREACH-LOADING RIFLE.

Mr. HENRY BERKELEY inquired of the First Lord of the Admiralty whether, seeing that the marines and small-arms men of the American navy, in the Cuban waters, are armed with the breach-loading rifle, by which each man can fire three times for once from an opponent armed with the old weapon, any steps had been taken to place the naval forces of Great Britain on an equality with those of America. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON replied that trials of a breach-loading rifle were now being made on board the Excellent. The result hitherto was, that some modifications were necessary; but, as soon as the experiments were over, the new weapon would be immediately brought into use.

COMMISSIONERS FOR EXHIBITION OF 1851 BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated that the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition in 1851 found themselves in possession of a large surplus fund, which,

under their charter, they were bound to apply to the encouragement of the arts and sciences. The Government had been brought into a kind of partnership with the Commissioners for giving effect to this object, and certain embarrassments had been the result of the interference of Parliament. The present bill was intended to determine this partnership upon the following terms: that the capital which had been advanced by the Government (£177,500L.) should be repaid by the Royal Commissioners, with the addition of half the rent and other proceeds received during the interval, making altogether a sum of about 182,000L. A long discussion ensued on the question of the promotion of science and art, and on the establishment of schools of design for the advancement of our manufacturers. Ultimately, the bill was read a second time.

The House then went into Committee on the JOINT STOCK COMPANIES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL, the clauses of which were agreed to, with amendments.—Several bills passed their second readings, or went through committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

On the order for going into committee on this bill, Mr. PALK raised various objections, which Mr. ADDERLEY recommended him to reserve, as relating to matters of detail, for the Committee; and the House then went into Committee upon the bill, the clauses of which were discussed, and, with some amendments, agreed to.

The ROADS, &c. (SCOTLAND) BILL was withdrawn.

NEW BILLS.

Sir RICHARD BETHELL obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law in relation to the wills of British subjects dying while resident abroad, and a bill to assist the administration of justice by affording better means for ascertaining the law of other countries in cases where questions as to such law shall arise.

Mr. HARDY had leave to introduce a bill to amend the law concerning the powers of stipendiary magistrates and justices of the peace in certain cases.

The House, after some further business, adjourned at twenty-five minutes past one o'clock.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

GREATER cheerfulness, as regards the prospects of the war, is the characteristic of the last news from India. Oude and Rohilcund—two of the most important seats of the revolt—are becoming tranquil, and further successes of our arms are reported. Still, insurrection is active in some districts; vague rumours spread an undefinable feeling of alarm through the minds of the European civilians; and many are almost despondent when they see the continual deaths among our officers and soldiers, not only from the bullets of the enemy, but from the climate.

The Roorkee column was at Moradabad on the 26th of April. The city was perfectly quiet, and the shops were open as usual. Precautions had been taken against plundering. Muffoo Khan has been seized alive by Angelo, of Coke's Rifles, who surprised the chief with four of his followers. Three of these he shot with his revolver; the fourth was shot by a Sikh; and Muffoo Khan was then captured. Since leaving Roorkee, the column has taken twenty-eight guns; and fifteen of these have been carried to Meerut.

An East India House telegram from Mr. Edmonstone, Secretary to the Government of India, dated (together with its supplement, which we have incorporated with the body of the message) "Allahabad, May 10th," states:—

"Oude.—Since my last message there has been no event of importance in Oude. There have been no disturbances, and a great portion of the province appears to be settling down. The Ghoorkas have reached Fyzabad, and on the 6th half of them had crossed the Gogra; they have met with no opposition on their way.

"BENARES DIVISION.—The Jounpore and Azimghur districts are reported quiet. At Belwah, in the Goruckpore district, there is still a collection of rebels, and in consequence of a movement by the forces under the rebel Nasim Mahomed Hussein and others, which threatened to interrupt the communication with Goruckpore, Colonel Rowcroft retired to Gunje. He has since been reinforced by the head-quarters wing of H.M. 13th Light Infantry, with two guns.

"ALLAHABAD DIVISION.—General Whitlock still at Banda, where he awaits the arrival of Brigadier M'Duff's columns. On the —, a band of rebels from the opposite side of the Jumna surprised the police post and the Tehsildar established at Lallpore, of the Cawnpore district. The Tehsildar was wounded. One of our men was killed, and some treasure was lost.

"AGRA DIVISION.—There is nothing of importance to communicate from this division. All is quiet except at Etawah and Etah, and there the rebels have been defeated in several small skirmishes, losing two of their leaders, and have become less troublesome.

"MEERUT DIVISION.—This division remains perfectly tranquil.

"ROHILCUND DIVISION.—The Bignour district is said to be perfectly tranquil, and our authority has been thoroughly re-established in it. Confidence has been restored throughout the district of Moradabad, and the inhabitants of the city, who had fled, are returning in great numbers. On May 9th, Brigadier Jones relieved the garrison at Shahjehanpore, after defeating the Moulvie.

"BUDAON DISTRICT.—The force under Brigadier Penny, after crossing the Ganges, marched on Kukrala, ten miles from Budaon. The General and his staff were in advance, and came upon a body of horse, which they at first took to be a portion of the baggage-guard, which had marched by a more direct route on the flank of the column. The General rode towards it, and, when at thirty yards' distance, four guns opened with grape on the party. General Penny shortly after was missed, and the command devolved on Colonel Jones, H.M. 6th Carabiniers. Our troops quietly came up, and the action ended in the total defeat of the enemy, one gun and two limbers being captured. It is not known when General Penny was wounded; but his body was recovered after the action, close to Kukrala. It appeared that his bridle arm had been broken by a musket ball, and his horse had then taken fright, and carried him close to the town, where the rebels rushed upon him, and cut him up with their swords. The troops which had composed Brigadier Penny's column, marched, after the action at Kukrala, across Rohilcund to their own risk (?), and joined the force of the Commander-in-Chief on the 3rd inst. Shahjehanpore was occupied without opposition, on the 1st May, by the Commander-in-Chief, who had joined Walpole's column. The next day, his Excellency, leaving a small garrison at Shahjehanpore, marched on Bareilly. On the 3rd of May, a large body of rebels, headed by the fanatic Moulvie of Lucknow, came down from Mohundie in Oude, cut up a picket of dekantzowhs horse, plundered the city (Shahjehanpore) massacring many of the inhabitants, and compelled the garrison to take shelter in the entrenchment round the wall. Our troops are believed to have a supply of provisions, and will, in all probability, hold their own against the rebels, who are closely blockading them, until relief is afforded. Brigadier-General Jones, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, marched with a strong force towards Shahjehanpore on the 8th inst.; he is expected to arrive there to-day (May 10th). [It will be seen above, under the head of Rohilcund, that General Jones effected his object on the 9th.] Bareilly was attacked on the 6th by the columns under the Commander-in-Chief and Brigadier-General Jones. The rebels were driven into the city with the loss of several guns. The city was entirely occupied by our forces on the 7th inst.

"CENTRAL INDIA AND RAJPOOTANA.—Sir Hugh Rose has defeated the rebels at Koonch, killing 400 or 500 men. The remnant of the enemy will, it is said, make a stand near Calpee. At the requisition of Sir Hugh Rose, who was apprehensive that Jhansi and his rear might be threatened, General Roberts has despatched a field brigade, consisting of one regiment Europeans, one regiment Native Infantry, one wing 8th Hussars, and squadron 1st Lancers, and one troop Horse Artillery, which will operate towards Gochnah. General Roberts, with the rest of his force, has marched towards Neemuch. A court of inquiry has been held on the Maharajah of Kotah, to investigate his conduct, in connexion with the murder of the late political agent, Major Burton. The proceedings have been completed, and submitted to Government. No British force has been left at Kotah, nor has any political agent remained there. The Ranees of Jaloun has surrendered to Sir H. Hamilton. The Ranees of Jhansi and Tantia Topce are at Calpee. The Nawab of Banda has joined them with a strong force. The road leading to Calpee has been destroyed, in order to prevent the passage of guns, and a bridge has been constructed for escape across the Jumna. Brigadier Smith's column from Kotah took the fort of Parou on May 8th. The Ranees of Parou was captured at Dadaghur on May 9th. Information was received at Gochnah on May 14th, that 5000 rebels had stormed and retaken Chundaree, which had been left by Sir Hugh Rose in charge of Scindia's troops. The resistance was obstinate. The rebels have also seized Sullutpore and Thalbut, and threatened Baghur.

"NAGPORE.—A zemindar in the Chopda district is in open rebellion, and has murdered two of the telegraph employes. The commissioner has moved out a force against the rebels, and taken necessary precautions.

"PUNJAB.—On the 25th of April, Sir Sidney Cotton destroyed Punnar, in Eu Sufzye, and Chenghe. On the 26th, the robber chief lost much property. On the night of the 27th and 28th of April, Sir Sidney Cotton and Colonel Edwards ascended the Muhabon mountains, on the right bank of the Indus, and destroyed the stronghold of a noted chief. On the 4th of May, Titana was destroyed by the same force. The Hindostanee fanatics fought with determination, and were cut to pieces. Our loss was four natives killed and twelve wounded. A conspiracy has been discovered and suppressed in the wing of the 4th Bengal Native Infantry, at Hooshiapoor; six of the conspirators have been hanged. The wing has been sent to Jullundur.

"BENGAL, BEHAR.—Her Majesty's 84th Regiment,

with two guns and one hundred Sikh cavalry, are at Arrah. Sir Edward Lugard marched on Arrah on the 7th of May, and intended to attack Juggdespore on the 9th. Colonel Corfield was to co-operate with Sasseram. The rebels, under Ummur Singh, the brother of Koer Singh, are believed to number from 7000 to 9000 men, mostly villagers. They have one small gun and our two howitzers. Koer Singh is now believed to be still alive. All is reported quiet in the other parts of the Patna division.

JUGGDESPORE.—Sir Edward Lugard attacked the rebels at Doanstanpur on May 9th, and drove them before him to Juggdespore, which place he entered on the same day. The enemy, having sustained severe loss, retreated to the southward, and abandoned the two guns they had captured from the Arrah force. Sir Edward Lugard entered Jaitpore on May 11th, after repulsing an attack on the enemy. On May 12th, he formed a junction with Colonel Corfield at Peron; and on May 18th returned, hearing that Major Lightfoot, who had been left at that place, had been attacked by the rebels. Amer Singh, a rebel leader, is reported to have been killed at Jaitpore.

ALLAHABAD.—A rebel force has crossed the Ganges, and entered the Allypore districts.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.—The Bheel raiaks, Beema and Musawa, have surrendered; and no further disturbances are reported in Kandeish. The rest of the Bombay Presidency is quiet.

THE GENERAL SITUATION.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, writing on May 5th, says:—

"In Oude, matters are decidedly improving. The Commissioner, Mr. Montgomery, has received a *carte blanche*, and has at once nullified the Proclamation. The raiakdars have been confirmed in their estates on new conditions, and are coming in rapidly. The zemindree system, natural to the country, has been introduced, and the zemindars rendered responsible for all offences against the State, society, or the law, committed on their estates. There is, consequently, to be no village police recognized as such by the State; the Government appealing to no one but the landholder. A strong military police and a centralized civil police will be immediately created, and there are signs that the barons really intend to obey the new constitution. The country is being pacified, Mr. Montgomery, like all the Punjab officials, recognizing the fact that the people will receive only one system. They choose a feudal organization, and have got it, and both parties are beginning to understand one another. The experiment is interesting, and a great fancy, succeed under Mr. Montgomery; but one distrusts plans that require special men to work them. Under a weak satrap, the barons will be the real rulers, as they are in Bengal. For the present, however, the political advantage of the lull is inestimable. The contest has now lasted twelve months, and is wearing men out. The number of sick—I do not mean only soldiers—is very great, and there is a feeling of despondency, of doubt as to the future, creeping over the land, which bodes no good.

"I have received some intelligence from the Andamans. The three hundred Sepoys sent there were located on the two islands in Port Blair, and ordered to begin building. One man refused to work, and was shot. Another committed suicide rather than descend to manual labour. A third informed his comrades that if they would follow him he would show them a neck of land leading into Behar; thirty-two agreed, escaped to the chief island, and were pursued in vain. At last one man came back, covered with ticks and starving. He said the natives had attacked them, and that they were living on roots. The man looked wretched to the last degree, but thirty more followed his example. Their escape is no injury to any one. They cannot get away, and if they kill the savages, or the savages kill them, the world can spare either without much compunction. The natives are evil to a degree, appearing to have descended war against the human race.

"The country is filled with rumours. One most mischievous one is reported everywhere. It is said that in Dacca, Burrisoul, and Calcutta, proclamation has been made in the bazaars announcing that, on the anniversary of Plassey, 'something white' will disappear. This may be salt, or even rice; but it is interpreted to mean Europeans, and to be intended to warn the populace for a general insurrection. It is much more likely to be a clever device for creating annoyance and alarm, and, if such, it has succeeded.

"Proceeding northward, it is reported that Goruckpore has again fallen, but the rumour when examined resolves itself into the murder of a deputy-collector—a Mr. Augustine—by some ousted proprietors. The station may fall any day, should the gangs wandering in and about the district coalesce; but the occurrence has not yet taken place. Azimghur is safe, from the heavy column there encamped, but Buxar, Ghazepore, Shergotty, and Sasseram are all supposed to be in danger. They are almost without garrisons, and may be carried by a thousand men. These fears are exaggerated, and spread even to Patna, which is safe enough with six hundred Europeans of her Majesty's 85th. A gun fired in Behar, however, affects all Bengal, and Lord Ellenborough's advice to secure our base at all

hazards has not been followed. From Azimghur to Calcutta, our provinces may be considered defenceless, Patna, Raneegunge, and Barrackpore being the only points really protected. Arrah and Sasseram have a few sailors, but not sufficient to assume the offensive. At Patna, the Europeans cannot move, with a turbulent city and millions in opium left unguarded. Raneegunge is the key to the railway, and would not be stripped except as a last resort; while the Barrackpore force, her Majesty's 19th and one hundred sailors, watch three thousand Sepoys, who, were the Europeans withdrawn, would soon find arms. The province requires five thousand men, one-third of whom might, for the moment, be sailors. The Sepoys fear their reckless dash and shifty ways more than the regular regiments."

Some further details and remarks are made by the *Calcutta Englishman*:—

"The climate," says that journal, "has begun to tell upon the soldier, and sickness prevails to a large extent. The Commander-in-Chief has sent in for every medical officer available at the Presidency, but there are few to spare, and they have been forwarded with all practicable speed. There is no doubt that, comparatively speaking, no branch of the public service has met with so large a number of casualties as the medical, and it will be absolutely necessary that a sufficient number of medical men should be sent out to India without delay, not only to replace casualties, but also to provide for the future wants of the army. There is no denying that the general aspect of affairs, so far from having improved, exhibits a reverse picture, and that the apprehensions we have repeatedly expressed with regard to a hot weather campaign have not been groundless."

A very significant test of the amount of sympathy given by the natives to the insurgents is afforded by the readiness with which they aid them in crossing great rivers, and the obstacles they throw in the way of our troops when they desire to effect the same object. On this point, the *Overland Phoenix* says:—

"If a European force is to be ferried, or otherwise taken from one bank to the other, it is generally found that the bridges of boats, if there were any, have been destroyed, and that of the boats which, in ordinary times, swarm at the ferries, few or none are to be found. With the rebels it is different. The villagers rush to their aid, sunken boats are dug up, and the rebel force is crossed over with a despatch which shows that natives can work when they choose. Again in the inland: a beaten rebel army breaks up into fragments and becomes scattered through hundreds of villages, but only to reassemble and reform when the British division has passed on. The remedy for a state of things such as this seems to be garrisoning each district in succession; but, as for this there is not sufficient troops, the campaign must be kept open, and the rebels and their sympathizers taught that there is no rest for them. On the whole, the general and apparently well-founded impression here is that any relaxation in the efforts of the Home Government to send out additional troops to this country will be unwise and impolitic. The rebels hardly yet consider themselves beaten, and the poison of disaffection has had time to spread into districts it would never have contaminated had the rebellion been promptly suppressed."

THE DISASTER AT JUGGDESPORE.

Some account of this lamentable event is contained in a letter from an officer. Having described the entrance of our men into the jungle, he continues:—

"A few seconds after, a cheer was raised; it was from our brave skirmishers, who, perceiving the enemy pushing on in dense masses, were preparing under their dashing leaders to give them six inches of steel, when the bugle sounded for them to fall back. This was the fatal error—it quite disheartened the men; and the enemy, who wavered at so gallant a cheer, now advanced unmolested, and took up their positions behind trees, brushwood, &c., and opened a galling fire from two guns, which was soon responded to by our artillery and infantry, and the action then became general. After an hour's fighting, they outflanked us on the right and left, and their cavalry were attempting to cut off our retreat; dismay was ensuing, when the order was given to retire. Our two guns were obliged to be left behind (as the horses that dragged them were not to be found), but not till they were gallantly spiked in the face of the enemy by Sergeant Hoolehan and Gunners Haytroy and Watson, of the Artillery, who nobly fell in serving their country."

"I have proceeded so far, but I am really ashamed to go any further; however, as I have begun I will end it. We began our retreat in a most orderly manner out of the jungle, driving the enemy back whenever they approached too near, till we reached a tank in the open plain, where soldiers, sailors, Sikhs, and followers began swallowing stagnant water, as they could get no better, and were dying from thirst, when a cry was raised that the cavalry was thundering down on us; but no one would rise, till Dr. Clarke, running forward, drew his sword, and called on the men to form square round him. A sort of one was formed, and a volley dis-

charged into them, which soon made the bloodthirsty, cowardly villains fly. After this, the retreat was disgraceful: every man had his own way, no commands were listened to, the men were raving wild, and, when we gained the main road, a more dreadful scene never before was beheld. The European portion of the force were falling from apoplexy by sections. As the medical stores were captured by the enemy—the dooly bearers having fled, notwithstanding the utmost exertions having been used by the medical officers to keep them to their post—what was to be done? There were sixteen elephants, but they carried the wounded; so the poor unfortunate beings were left behind to be cut to pieces. The bugles would sound the halt, the greatest portion of the Europeans with about twenty or thirty brave Sikhs would stand; but where was the main body. Captain Legrand on our retreat, about two miles from the village, was shot through the chest and died; Lieutenant Massey and poor Dr. Clarke (both of the 35th) fell from apoplexy on the road, and were left to the mercy of villains of the blackest dye.

"The soldiers and sailors, when they were five or six miles on the road, were unable to load and fire their pieces through exhaustion, while the main body of the Sikhs, who were accustomed to marching under a broiling sun, kept ahead with the elephants, instead of covering our retreat, and the only time they did so was about three miles from this, when there were only about eighty Europeans left (with faces as pale as death from hunger, thirst, and fatigue), from [qy. out of] one hundred and ninety-nine; they got off the road near a large house, and, when the enemy approached near enough, they brought them down very thickly."

GENERAL WALPOLE'S REPULSE.

Brigadier General Walpole, commanding Field Force, has addressed to the Chief of the Staff an account of the disaster which attended his attack on the Fort of Rewah, or Rooya, on the 15th of April. The despatch is dated the following day, and states:—

"Nurpat Singh, who I stated in my despatch of yesterday was at Rooya Fort, which is about one mile to the north of this place, did not come in or send any satisfactory reply to the message of Captain Thurburn, the magistrate who accompanies this force. I therefore thought it advisable to attack him, particularly as Captain Thurburn informed me that he understood this man had received only the day before yesterday a letter from the Begum, and that his intentions were certainly hostile to the Government; and, under these circumstances it would have had the worst effect to pass this fort without taking it.

"I accordingly directed my baggage to be massed in the open plain, near Madhogunge, under a strong guard of cavalry, infantry, and two field guns, and proceeded with the remainder of the force towards Rooya, turning off from the road about two miles from Madhogunge, for the purpose of getting round to the north side of the fort, which was stated to be the weakest part of it, where there was a gate, and where there were very few guns.

"The fort on the east and north side is almost surrounded with jungle, and at these two sides the only two gates were stated to be, which information proved correct. It is a large oblong, with numerous circular bastions all round it, pierced for guns, and loopholed for musketry, and surrounded by a broad and deep ditch; there is an inner fort or citadel, surrounded in like manner by a deep ditch, and with a high wall, considerably elevated above the rest of the work. On the west and part of the south side there was a large piece of water, which was partially dried up. On arriving before the north side, I sent forward some infantry in extended order, to enable the place to be reconnoitred, when a heavy fire of musketry was immediately opened upon them, and an occasional gun; the cavalry at the same time swept entirely round to the west side, to cut off all communication with the fort.

"A tolerable view of the fort having been obtained from the road which leads into it from the north, the heavy guns were brought up; the two 18-pounders were placed on it, the two 8-inch mortars behind a wood still further to the right.

"After a short time, a great many of the infantry were killed and wounded from having crept up too near the fort, from which the fire of rifles and matchlocks was very heavy; these men had gone much nearer to the fort than I wished or intended them to go, and some of the Punjab Rifles, with great courage, but without orders, jumped into the ditch, and were killed in endeavouring to get up the scarp. I therefore gave directions that they should be withdrawn from their forward and exposed situation, and here it was, I regret to say, that the gallant and able soldier, Brigadier Hope, was killed by a rifle or musket ball, fired by a man from a high tree within the walls of the place.

"By half-past two o'clock, the fire of our heavy guns appeared to have made little or no impression upon the place, and, as no gun could be brought to bear upon the gate, the passage to which was not straight, and it could not be approached without the men being exposed to a very heavy fire from the bastion and loopholed wall that commanded it, I considered it better not to attempt an assault until more impression had been made

upon the walls of the place, and, as it was getting late, to withdraw from the north side, and commence operations against the north-east angle on the following morning, which had been reconnoitred by the Engineers, and where they thought it would be easier to effect a breach, as it could be better seen and a more direct fire could be brought to bear.

"I therefore directed the camp to be pitched on the south side, about a mile from the fort, and withdrew from the north side, where it would have been dangerous to pass the night, as it was surrounded by thick jungle.

"This morning, at daylight, Major Brind, Bengal Artillery, and Captain Lennox, Royal Engineers, proceeded to again reconnoitre the place thoroughly before recommencing operations, and found that the enemy had evacuated it, leaving their guns behind them (five in number), ammunition, a large quantity of attar, and some tents. As some of the carriages were found without their guns, and the track of a gun carriage could be traced to a well, where the water is very deep, I have no doubt other guns have been thrown down it; I had information that there were more in the place, and it is certain none were carried out.

"The reports as to the numbers of the enemy vary so much that it is impossible to arrive at any certainty upon that point; but I am inclined to think the number stated in my despatch yesterday, viz. about 1500, to be nearly correct. But the strength of the garrison consisted in the nature and situation of the fort, not in their numbers.

"I regret to say, that this operation has cost us above 100 officers and men killed and wounded, and I have deeply to deplore the loss of Brigadier the Hon. A. Hope, from whom I had received the greatest assistance.

"The loss of the enemy it is impossible to ascertain; it must have been heavy from the fire of our guns, and especially from our howitzers and mortars. A few bodies which seem to have been overlooked, and three large funeral fires, with the remains of the bodies smouldering, were all that remained of their dead on our entering the place this morning.

"The fort, which has overawed this part of the country for the last year, is being destroyed under the superintendence of Captain Lennox, Royal Engineers, and I am in hopes that its destruction will be of the greatest advantage."

"In publishing this despatch, the Governor-General expressed his high admiration of the late Brigadier-General Hope, and his regret at his death.

MR. RUSSELL'S LETTERS.

"Mr. Russell, the *Times* correspondent, received a violent kick on the leg from his horse, which has completely lamed him. Since then, we greatly regret to hear, he has become ill from the heat of the climate and the fatigue attendant on his duties. He is now recruiting among the hills, and some interruption in the series of his graphic letters must necessarily take place. The *Times* of Thursday contains the latest of them, coming down to May 1st, and occupying nearly five columns. We pick out the plums:—

"In going out, about 11 o'clock at night, to the tree under which I slept, one of those grand spectacles which can only be witnessed in Indian warfare met my view. The moon shone brightly on the Ganges, and on the white sandy plains beyond its waters; it lighted up the bridge of boats, which trembled and heaved and shrieked under the pressure of a steady line of camels, elephants, and oxen, which went with soft tramp across it, and were lost in the distance in a small black streak; it brought out in sharp outlines or cast into deep shade the ruined houses, the fort, the mosques of the city, the bazaar camp, the figures of the huge animals, which passed us softly, like black clouds; and it revealed the masses of baggage animals escorted by the wild Sikh horsemen which were streaming to that narrow point whence they were to debouch upon Rohilund. All was life and motion without sound, except a hum of voices, the tumult on the bridge, and an occasional shrill flourish on his flexible horn by an elephant who was anxious to tell his friends he was going to battle. . . .

"We were still in a sandy plain, but a few miles more brought us to the sight of the enemy's camp, and of Walpole's, and soon we came on traces of the fight, hideous bodies, bloated and discoloured, lying all over the plain, with flocks of vultures pulling out their entrails and dogs crunching their bones. Sometimes these foul creatures crept inside the hollowed corpse to pick at their leisure, and by their movements gave the dead a revolting imitation of life. Those men, lying far apart, had fallen under the sabres of Hagart's cavalry and the fire of Tombs's and Romington's guns, and for two or three miles they marked the line of our pursuit. . . .

"We have just had our first dust-storm. The evening was sultry and oppressive, and on leaving the mass tent, about eight o'clock, to go to bed, I saw that a large bank of clouds lay under the moon. As I looked, a large globe of fire opened out, as it were, from the cloud, and seemed to fall to the ground. I returned to the tent and mentioned what I had seen, but there was no need of any telling that a storm was brewing. As I walked to my tent, and just as I was within twenty yards of it, I observed something like a wall

of mud, ten or twelve feet high, advancing towards us. In an instant I was half smothered and quite blinded by a rush of dust and fine pebbles, carried by a strong blast, above the noise of which rose the flapping of tents and the mutterings of thunder. I had to shout out for assistance, and my servants led me to the tent, which was intent on joining the dust and pebbles, but was coerced by ropes to desist. The sky became pitch dark, in spite of the moon; lightning flashed through the storm now and then, only to show how dense it was; the dust was irresistible and overpowering; tents were blown down and over; thunder rolled and great drops of rain fell; but, long after our tired soldiers were fast asleep, the storm passed away.

"Morning after morning, as our litters were laid down beside each other, he (Captain Peel) talked to me of the various news which came to us from home, and I well remember the light which was in his eye as he said, speaking of the division on the Conspiracy Bill, 'I am delighted at it, not from any sympathy with those rascally assassins who flock to England, or from any feeling against France or the Emperor, whose orders I wear; but because my instinct tells me, as its instinct told the House, that it was the right thing for an English Parliament to do, reason or no reason. We must never take a step in that direction, even if one came from the dead to tell us to do so.'

"The enemy fled from Shahjehanpore without firing a shot. The column left their camp at 3.30 this morning (April 30th), and arrived outside the town at 6.30. It was found to be only partially inhabited. The Moulvie went off yesterday to Mohumdee with a few hundred followers and four guns. Nana Sahib was here, with two hundred cavalry, till eight or ten days ago. He went off to Bareilly, but before he did so he gave directions that the church, cantonments, and Government stations should be destroyed, in order that our troops should get no cover, and his instructions have been faithfully executed.

"It is to be desired that Brigadier Walpole's despatch respecting the attack and check at Roer fort (Rhadamow) may be published, in justice to that officer, whose conduct is loudly and unreservedly condemned by the whole of the army. Two officers, one at Cawnpore and the other here, are now in command of troops; but they are certainly not in command of the confidence of their soldiers."

FIDELITY REWARDED.

Public notice has been taken of the noble conduct, in June last year, of Rissaldar Hidayut Ali, a Purbea of Purbeas, living in a village about twenty miles from Delhi. This gentleman, though a devout Mahometan, protected for eight days, though at great risk to himself, a party of English officers and ladies; provided the latter with clothes; and finally escorted the whole to the extreme limits to which his jurisdiction extended, whence they were conveyed to Agra in safety. He has recently been publicly addressed by the Commissioner at Delhi, and presented with a sword valued at 1000 rupees, and also with a sunnud signed by the Governor-General, conveying to him and his heirs for ever his native village of Mahonah, the annual revenue of which is 5000 rupees, in free jaghire.

LETTERS FROM CHINA.

(From a Private Correspondent.)

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1858.

HERE, in Hongkong, we are not in a very calm and settled state at the present moment, for conflicting rumours are constantly arriving from the north and from Canton; the dogs have taken it into their heads to go mad, and, for private ends unknown, to inflict hydrophobia on several members of the human species; the police have also gone mad, and are indiscriminately shooting in the public streets, and slightly to the public risk, all the dogs which are going about at large; and (to crown all) one of our local editors has gone mad with hatred against Sir John Bowring, and has, in consequence, been sent to prison for six months. What with the groans of merchants who are utterly at a loss how to speculate, the report of muskets, the howlings of dogs and the curses of their owners, the sighings of over-burdened officials, and the *De Profundis* of alarmed editors, this has become quite an island of tribulation.

The letter which I sent from Canton by last mail would inform you that matters there were not in a satisfactory condition. The mere fact of a number of our coolie corps (who, being the only Haka Chinese in Canton, must have been known as in our employ) being seized and tortured by Pihkwei, was strongly indicative of evil designs, and of the wretched working of the double government. Since then, there have been numerous reports of intentions on the part of the Chinese to burn the large pack-houses at Honam, to assassinate the police sentries, and even to attack the position of our troops. One important item in the news

which came down from Canton yesterday morning is, that the Chinese merchants—the men whose interests are bound up with ours, and who have been eagerly looking forward to the restoration of trade—were in a state of terror, and were urging foreigners to leave the city and return to Macao or Hongkong. Another very important fact is, that a proclamation has appeared in the city, offering a graduated scale of rewards for live and dead foreigners, and of compensation for death or wounds met with by Chinese in the patriotic work of cutting off the barbarians. These things prove that the inhabitants of the province of Kwangtung have not yet received a sufficient lesson and may yet give much trouble.

The proceedings of the plenipotentiaries in the north have been much discussed, and not always to a favourable conclusion. Rumour has it that Lord Elgin and Baron Gros received a letter from Peking, directing them to return southwards, in order to settle affairs with the High Commissioner, who has been graciously deputed to meet with them at Canton; and that they have been told no alteration will be made in existing treaties. Until his policy be played out, it would be unfair to judge the propriety of Lord Elgin's conduct, but his present movement bears much appearance of rashness. As a demonstration it is futile, and likely to be ineffectual; for he has no force to speak of available in the north; he cannot well withdraw the troops from Canton, or the gunboats from the Pearl river; and the Chinese have intelligence sufficient to know exactly how he stands. This is not the moment to press extensive demands upon them. After more than a year's delay, only a very small force has been brought against them; hence, very naturally, however erroneously, they may conclude that we have made our utmost effort, and that they now see the full measure of our strength. In these circumstances it would not be surprising if the Mandarins came to the conclusion that, by a sudden and vigorous effort, they might sweep us away altogether—if the result of the demands on Peking were an outbreak at Canton, and the resumption of kidnapping and assassination at Hongkong. On the other hand it may be said that Peking is the place where our influence must be directly felt, in order to effect any lasting settlement in the state of affairs.

The feeling of anxiety regarding the future course of trade extends over all the five ports; and at Shanghai especially there is a great disinclination to enter on new commercial operations. The export of silk from that place was 24,000 bales under that at the same period of last year. At Canton, there have been some extensive purchases of teas. The following important circular will exercise great influence upon the traffic in opium, and is a distinct recognition, on the part of the Chinese authorities, of the legality of that branch of trade:—

CIRCULAR.

No. 7.

British Consulate, Amoy,
10th April, 1858.

His Excellency the Taotae of Amoy, having notified officially that a tax of 48 dols. per chest, viz.: 40 dols. as duty, and 8 dols. for expenses of collection, is now levied on each chest of opium, and collected from the native purchaser, the undersigned begs to notify that questions connected with that article will stand in the same category as those connected with any other imported article.

H. M. Acting Consul further notifies to British merchants and ship-masters, that, for the future, when transiting in Manifests to the consular office, the quantity of opium imported will be required to be given in common with other merchandize.

W. RAYMOND GINGEEL.

To the British Mercantile Community,
Amoy.

The local politics of this colony are not likely to excite much interest at home, but perhaps you will like to know that Sir John Bowring and his Legislative Council are trying to increase the revenue of Hong-Kong by farming out the privilege of preparing, and selling prepared, opium—as has been done, with good results, at Singapore and elsewhere. As an experiment no one could object to this expedient, for the license system has failed altogether, owing to the unwillingness of the licensed Chinese shops to uphold their own rights, and avail themselves of Government protection against illicit sale; but two or three little things connected with the matter have caused much indignation. Did you ever hear of tenders being received and adjudicated upon for a monopoly of this kind before the power of granting it had been obtained, or the conditions had been determined on which it was to be granted? Such was the course

pursued in this instance by our Colonial Government, and not until the 17th March was the opium ordinance passed in Council, and the regulations connected with it were not issued till some time later; yet the time for receiving tenders for the privilege during the year 1858-59 was closed on the 13th of March! This enabled the Government to keep up the appearance of granting the monopoly to the highest bidder, and yet to keep back all bidders except those who, from their private intercourse with Government or with some of its members, could confidently rely on their knowledge of what was coming in the shape of ordinance and regulations. I am far from believing that Sir John Bowring had any such design. When it became a matter of notoriety that the acting Colonial Secretary was legal adviser to the Chinamen whose tender for the monopoly was accepted, people ceased to wonder at the haste with which the thing had been done, but were all the more indignant. So indecent was the haste made to dispose of this monopoly to Mr. Chunta-Kwong, that the Government actually gave it to him before legally empowered to do so; so Government had to annul the grant and give it anew. Another grievance connected with this ordinance is an attempt made by the monopolist to levy a tax upon opium, not only boiled and prepared, but actually shipped for Australia and California before his rights came into force. It seems a little doubtful whether the general scheme itself is advisable; for the preparation and exportation of opium forms no inconsiderable item in the manufacture and trade of this colony; and a heavy tax upon it may lead to its being sent directly from Calcutta, in a raw state, to both California and Australia.

The editor of the *Daily Press*—a very diminutive sheet published here—has been fined 100*l.*, and condemned to six months' imprisonment, for a libel on Sir John Bowring. The libel consisted in accusing the Governor of having kept a steamer back for nearly twenty-four hours, in order to enable another steamer, belonging to the house of Jardine, Matheson, and Co., to reach Calcutta first with important advices for the opium market. One fact which gave a slight importance to the accusation was, that one of Sir John's sons was a partner in the mercantile house just mentioned; but, otherwise, it had little to stand on, and received little credit. Had this been the only mistake committed by the editor of the *Daily Press*, his case might have excited some sympathy; but, unfortunately, he seems to have been actuated by the intensest hatred, for he has kept up a constant fire of false accusations and insulting remarks directed against Sir John. His Excellency has shown great generosity in allowing the prisoner to be placed in the debtors' gaol, to have every comfort, and to be permitted to edit his paper. Colonial newspapers do not always keep within proper limits, and the lesson this trial has given was required, and will not be thrown away here. You may judge to what freedom of speech tends in this place, when I mention that one of the papers lately attacked a lady, accusing her of having forcibly cut off her maid-servant's hair. But, as compared with that of other colonies, the character of the press stands high in general, and will be upheld by the result of the case just mentioned.

Of course you are aware that, for some time lately, Hongkong was not exactly a place of residence likely to be selected by nervous persons. The Europeans in it were in some little danger of having their throats cut by their own servants, or being poisoned by their bakers, and (still worse) of being kidnapped and carried off to perish miserably in a Chinese prison. Matters have now greatly improved in these respects, but still no one thinks of going alone, half a mile from the town, without having some weapon of defence. Not long ago I noticed no less a functionary than the Colonial Secretary, pacing up and down the road which runs behind my dwelling, with a huge revolver buckled to his side. Police regulations still confine the Chinese to their houses after nine at night, and persons very rarely venture singly round to the other side of the island. Not so many weeks have elapsed since one young Englishman was attacked in broad daylight within a quarter of a mile of the town, and on a most frequented road. He was cut seriously, and only escaped through the accident of a large party, returning from a picnic, coming up at the time. If we are still exposed to little incidents of that kind, you may fancy how it is with the Chinese inhabitants, who

have not our superior weapons, and are often unable, through ignorance, to avail themselves of the protection of our laws. Even from the harbour, into which I can now look down and count every vessel, boats are often carried off to a pirate village, two miles opposite, on the mainland. Last week, for instance, three men engaged a *sampan*, manned (to make a bull) by an old woman and two girls of fourteen and sixteen years of age, to take them off to a ship lying in the harbour. When, however, the boat got from among the shipping, the men rose and seized the two girls. Fortunately the old woman gave the alarm before jumping overboard, which she did next, and attracted the attention of two English captains, who were passing near by in row-boats. These immediately gave chase, after picking up the old female hero, and captured the harbour pirates. The inhabitants of the village opposite are all pirates and receivers of stolen goods. We cannot interfere with them, because they are on Chinese ground, and they set at nought the authority of the Cowloong Mandarin, who has nominal jurisdiction over them. Some time ago they killed two persons in the employ of the P. & O. Company, and yet, though living under our noses, they are protected by a narrow strip of water and the abuse of international law. A few weeks ago, one party here had a valuable boat carried off by these villagers, and he could distinctly see it with his glass lying on the opposite beach. On applying to the police, he was told that nothing could be done to aid him, the boat being then in China; so he quietly armed a number of his friends and servants, went over, and brought it back. This state of things exists all along the coast of China, and it makes Hongkong a rendezvous for all kinds of desperate characters. If, as I much fear, the China quarrel is far from being near a settlement, and war may really be declared, Hong-Kong will again become unsafe; especially, if very few troops be left in it. Then, I feel convinced, from a number of little incidents, we shall have some rather exciting amusement.

Meanwhile, it has again become tolerably safe to visit the mainland. I have made two visits, in shooting parties of three, and met with no interference on the part of the Chinese. The game was not abundant, consisting of partridges and pheasants lying very close, and difficult to rouse. Separating from my friends, I went alone into a Chinese village, and was well received. Of course, on such an excursion, it is expedient to be well armed; and a revolver is especially useful. The small size does not do well in this climate, for the best caps are apt to hang fire from dampness; and when these are damp, the small dog-head does not descend with force sufficient to ensure certain discharge. Tranter's patent revolver, medium size, is unquestionably the best for ordinary use. It will hit fatally as far as many a musket can; and the double trigger enables the hand to grasp it firmly, and hold it with steadiness. But it is a weapon which must be carefully handled. When cocking it, by drawing the lower trigger, one is very apt unconsciously to draw the other also; and so, before aim has been taken, to discharge a shot to the detriment of a friend, or the loss of an opportunity.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

It has been reported at Hong-Kong—but not on any sufficient authority—that the city of Nankin has been taken from the rebels by the Imperial troops. On the other hand, the Imperialists are said to have suffered severely in an engagement with the insurgents near the same city.

Her Majesty's steamer *Hesper* and four gunboats have left Hong-Kong for the North, and other vessels are under orders to proceed there.

A circular has been issued by her Majesty's Acting Consul at Amoy, notifying the receipt of a communication from the Taoutae of that port that a tax of forty-eight dollars is now levied as a duty on each chest of opium, and that questions connected with that article will stand in the same category as those connected with any other imported article.

THE QUEEN'S "PROGRESS."

HER MAJESTY has been making a "progress" during the week. Accompanied by the Prince Consort and a distinguished suite, she left Buckingham Palace on Monday afternoon for Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire, the seat of Lord Leigh. The party started from the palace at twenty minutes to three, and were escorted by a detachment of Light Dragoons to the Euston-square terminus of the London and North-Western Railway, where the Queen was met by Mr. Secretary Walpole, who attended her Majesty on the

journey. At three o'clock, the Royal train left the terminus, and, stopping only at Bletchley for a few minutes, arrived at Coventry precisely at half-past five, the hour indicated in the time-table. A large crowd had of course been waiting there for hours in the burning sun, and the station looked gay with evergreens, banners, and crimson cloth. A Royal salute was fired from a battery sent expressly from Weedon for the purpose; the city bells were rung; and Lord Leigh and Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Smith received her Majesty as she alighted from her carriage. A guard of honour was posted along the platform, and a squadron of the 15th Hussars lined the road leading from the station to the Stoneleigh-road. The Mayor and Town Council of Coventry, dressed in their ancient civic costume, which is very rich and picturesque, presented an address; and the Royal party then proceeded to the abbey, escorted by the Stoneleigh troop of the Warwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of the Hon. Captain E. C. Leigh. As her Majesty was leaving the station, a large choir, accompanied by about nine thousand school children, sang the National Anthem.

It may be interesting to note that Coventry is celebrated for feminine visits connected with Royalty. The Princess Mary was there in 1525; Queen Elizabeth in 1565; and the Princess Anne of Denmark in 1688.

The drive to Stoneleigh was between six and seven miles; and the abbey, as it is still called, owing to an abbey having once stood there, is a noble mansion of the time of Elizabeth, about three miles from Kenilworth. It is situated on the sloping bank of the Avon, in the midst of a magnificent park, full of ancient and embowering oak-trees, and well stocked with deer. A few relics of the old and veritable abbey remain, but not many. The apartments set aside for her Majesty were exquisitely decorated, and in the evening the mansion was illuminated. A grand banquet was given, at which a brilliant company was congregated round the Queen and her host. The band of the 2nd Life Guards was stationed in the park, and played at intervals during the evening.

Birmingham was visited on Tuesday. The town was in a state of glad excitement and holiday-making, and triumphal arches, banners, and floral decorations, made the dull streets lively with unwonted ornament. The beautiful Town Hall was newly cleaned and enriched for the occasion. The light, ornamental iron work running round the side and great galleries was gilded, and backed with coloured cloth; and curtains of purple velvet, a white silk and gold canopy, and other adornments, produced an effect of great splendour. The arrival is thus sketched in the daily papers:—

"The Royal train arrived at Birmingham at five minutes past twelve, having left Stoneleigh shortly after eleven. Her Majesty and the Prince were accompanied by Mr. Secretary Walpole, Lord Leigh, the Marchioness of Westminster, Major-General Bouverie, Colonel Seymour, C.B.; Colonel Sir C. B. Phipps; General the Hon. C. Grey, and other noblemen. The Royal carriages, which had been in waiting some time, were entered immediately after the presentation of the Mayor and town clerk. General Sir Harry Smith, K.C.B., and a numerous and brilliant staff followed, and the rear was brought up by two companies of the 86th Foot. The Royal party then drove up Worcester-street, High-street, Bull-street, and Ann-street to the Town Hall, where a Royal salute was fired by a detachment of the Royal Artillery. The Queen and Prince Albert entered the private apartments prepared for their reception at the Hall; but in a few minutes they were received in the body of the Hall by the Mayor, magistrates, council, and leading burgesses. Her Majesty and the Prince advanced to the raised dais, and the company, which of course rose when the Queen entered, sang the National Anthem."

The addresses to the Queen and Prince Albert were then read and replied to; after which, her Majesty knighted the Mayor, Mr. Ratcliff, who was thereby transformed into Sir John Ratcliff. The whole of the Council were next presented, and the Aldermen had the honour of kissing hands. The National Anthem was again sung, and soon after the procession to Aston Hall was formed.

"On leaving the Town Hall, the Queen passed along the route already described, being everywhere received with the most enthusiastic cheering. Her Majesty stated to Lord F. Scott that she had never seen such masses of people of all ages among whom such admirable order was preserved. After admiring the gun-makers' trophy, and passing the arch at the borough boundary, the Queen found herself between the two platforms on which the Sunday-school children were assembled. The effect of 47,000 voices of children led by twenty cornets, and admirably conducted by Mr. Dobbs, was very touching. The Queen ordered the procession to stop, and remained deeply affected till the juvenile choir had concluded singing 'God save the Queen.' During the morning, they sang other hymns. An address had been unanimously agreed to by the schools of eighteen dif-

ferent denominations, and was formally presented to her Majesty."

The Queen and Prince Albert arrived at Aston Hall shortly afterwards, and there lunched. Here an address was read by Sir Francis Scott, in the course of which it was remarked:—

"In addition to the historical interest and kindly reminiscences of Aston Hall, and the picturesque features of its architecture, which will at once be appreciated by your Majesty and your Royal Consort, we venture to bespeak your Majesty's kind interest in the peculiar circumstances under which the park and hall have been purchased.

"In some towns in your Majesty's dominions, public parks have wisely been provided by wealthy corporations; in others by the munificence of philanthropic citizens; here, also, we are indebted to private liberality for two places of recreation for the people; but to Birmingham alone has it been given to secure by her own exertions an ancient park for the physical relaxation—an ancient hall for the mental cultivation—of her variously employed and laborious population.

"Your Majesty will, we believe, be gratified to learn that Aston Hall and Park have been acquired, for the most part, by the industry and economy of the people themselves. Of the money required for this purpose, a very large proportion has been subscribed by the working classes, a circumstance which, we venture to hope, will not be without interest and satisfaction to your Majesty."

The reply to this address having been read, several members of the corporation were summoned to kiss hands; after which the interim managers were introduced to her Majesty, and bowed as they passed the throne. A very interesting, gratifying, and novel circumstance then ensued. Eight of the principal working men concerned in the restoration of the hall were summoned before the Queen, who thus addressed them extempore:—"I thank you for your great exertions in preserving this old Hall to your townsmen; and I sincerely hope that the park may prove a boon to the industrious classes of Birmingham." These words were loudly applauded.

The Queen subsequently requested Sir Francis Scott to declare the park formally inaugurated, which was done, and was followed by loud cheers and salves of artillery. Shortly afterwards, the Royal party returned to Stoneleigh Abbey, where a state banquet was given in the evening. At night, the grounds of Aston Hall were illuminated, and fireworks were let off. The streets of the town remained crowded till a very late hour. The Queen returned to London on Wednesday.

IRELAND.

HYDROPHOBIA.—A fatal case of hydrophobia, arising from the bite of a cat, has occurred at Tattycor, in the parish of Dromore, Tyrone. The sufferer was a poor woman, and two months elapsed before any evil symptoms resulted from the bite, which in itself was not considerable. In the intervals of her paroxysms, the patient talked very calmly, warning those about her to take care of themselves, as she could not control herself when the fit was on. She died in a lunatic asylum from sheer exhaustion, not having taken the slightest food for several days.

THE BELFAST TEA FRAUDS.—The case of "the Attorney-General v. Wallace," being one of a series to be instituted by the Crown against parties alleged to be implicated in the frauds of John James Moore, was heard in the Court of Exchequer on Monday before the Chief Baron and a special jury. The result was a verdict for the defendant, without his having been required to offer evidence on his own behalf.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES COURT.—There were several heavy sales of properties on Tuesday, the gross amount realizing over 40,000*l.* The estates sold are situated in the counties of Louth, Clare, Kilkenny, and Tipperary.

AMERICA.

The excitement on the subject of the outrages committed on American merchant-vessels by English schooners continued to increase at the last dates. In the Senate, a bill has been reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs authorizing the President to employ force to protect the rights of citizens from the aggressions of foreign powers. A report from the Committee on Foreign Relations, on the same subject, has been presented by Mr. Mason. Pending the uncertainty regarding the probable action of the British Government, this report does not recommend any immediate legislation, but states that the committee have unanimously resolved that American ships, when at sea, are under the jurisdiction of the country, and that any molestation of them is an infraction of the national sovereignty. It is also affirmed that an unequivocal explanation should be demanded from Great Britain; and the report concludes by an expression of approval of the action hitherto taken by the administration, and of readiness to recommend such future legislation as circumstances may require. The Democratic Republican General Committee of New York met, on the evening of the 27th ult., at Tammany Hall, for the purpose of denouncing the late aggressions on the American flag—which was done with much emphasis.

Lord Napier is said to have despatched a messenger by special steamer to the English Admiral commanding on the West India station, informing him of the feeling that exists with regard to the conduct of our cruisers, and the measures which have been taken by the United States Government. The despatches are not in the nature of instructions, but simply suggestions for his guidance until the British Government can be heard from.

By the latest news from the United States, we learn that measures were before Congress arming the President with full powers to resist the pretensions of Great Britain.

The case of Captain Judkins, who has been arrested for not allowing a Custom-house officer to go on shore while the vessel was in quarantine, is to go to trial, though Mr. Cunard, the head of the great company which goes by his name, protests against the injustice of subjecting the shareholders to the expense of defending the suit, which is merely to settle a disputed question of law. The New York Board of Aldermen have passed a resolution, on the recommendation of the Mayor, holding Captain Judkins harmless in any suits that may be brought against him by the United States authorities, on the ground that he acted in accordance with the directions of the Board of Health and the health officer.

The Federal House of Representatives have passed a joint resolution, which virtually amounts to a declaration of war against the Republic of Paraguay. The proposed protectorate over Mexico has been rejected in the Senate. The trial of General Walker, the Filibuster, has ended by the jury disagreeing, and the district attorney entering a *nolle prosequi*.

Great excitement has been caused at Petersburg, Virginia, by the discovery that several slaves were missing on the departure of a schooner belonging to Wilmington, Delaware. A steamer was sent in pursuit, and five slaves were found on board. These, together with the captain and crew, were taken back, and lodged in gaol.

The excitement at New Orleans has ended by the triumph of the Vigilance Committee. The mayor has resigned the municipal authority into the hands of the committee, who have appointed one thousand men to maintain order. The city was again quiet.

The Zuloaga Government of Mexico has declared all the Mexican ports closed to commerce. It was expected that Alveran would have two additional brigades in the field on the 3rd inst., with a view to advancing on Cuernavaca. It is thought probable that Peschiera, Governor of Sonora, will declare that State independent in the event of the success of the Zuloaga Government or Santa Anna's return to Mexico.

The Yrisarri treaty, before reported as ratified by the Nicaraguan Legislature, is still under consideration in that body. President Martinez has returned it for amendment, objecting to the occupation of the transit route by the United States troops under the conditions proposed in one of the clauses. M. Felix Belly, San Salvador, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua have formed a treaty, offensive and defensive; and President Martinez has officially urged a union of all the States of Central America. Colonel Kinney, aided by some followers, has made an attempt to seize on the Government of Greytown; but the movement failed. During the struggle, the Mosquito flag was hauled down, and that of Nicaragua hoisted. The boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua has been arranged. The Indians in Guatemala are troublesome, but the Republic is mostly quiet.

A very severe shock of earthquake was experienced at Lima on the 11th of April, which lasted fifty seconds, and the alarm and confusion were frightful.

The New York money market does not seem to have been affected in any way by the unsettled questions between Great Britain and the United States.

Considerable attention has been recently attracted to the gold washings of Tipuani, and two companies have been formed in La Paz for the purpose of exploring the mines.

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.

The recent questions and debates in the English House of Commons with reference to the defence of the country, and the allusions which have been made to the alleged increase of the French navy, have led to another official intimation in the *Moniteur*, which thus alluded to the subject in its Sunday issue:—"About three months since, the English newspapers pretended that the French Government was making great warlike preparations. The *Moniteur* denied the fact; but the same assertions are now renewed. We deny them again. The military and naval forces established a year since for the budget of 1858 have not been increased."

Pursuant to orders given by the Emperor, all the regiments of infantry of the line are to receive rifles in exchange for the smooth-barreled muskets with which they are at present armed.

"The Prefect of the Gironde, in a note communicated

to *La Guienne* of Bordeaux," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "congratulates the administrators of the charitable establishments of that city on having anticipated the measures prescribed by the Minister of the Interior by selling, several years since, the landed property belonging to the establishments under their care, consisting of thirteen houses, some arable land, and marshes. These properties, which were valued at 229,525*fr.*, and which produced a rental of 7,479*fr.* 94*c.*, were sold for 258,135*fr.*, and this sum, vested in Government *rentes*, produces a revenue of 11,616*fr.* 7*c.*"

Some wheat and barley of this year's crop have just been received in Paris from Algeria.

Some apprehension was entertained in the wine-growing districts as to the approaching vintage, notwithstanding the healthy appearance of the vineyards. In many places wine is falling into disuse, and the population are resorting to more economical drinks.

"M. Regnault, one of the chief functionaries of the Western Railway," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "has invented a new indicator for announcing the departure of trains at the different stations along the railway line. The apparatus consists of a dial-plate with a hand which may move right or left, according to the direction in which the train is to start. The station-master at the terminus from which the departure takes place has only to press with his finger on a knob with which the dial-plate is provided to make all the apparatuses of the same kind along the line mark the departure; the hands remain in the same situation even when the communication is interrupted, and (this is the most important point), should an inattentive station-master press on the knob of his indicator while the hand marks the impending arrival of a train, it will not obey this wrong impulse, but remain where it is, and thus call the station-master's attention to the mistake he was about to commit."

Great excitement exists in France owing to the bill before the Belgian Legislature for the fortification of Antwerp. The official press in Paris exhibits some uneasiness on this head; but the democratic *Siecle* says there is no occasion for alarm.

General Espinasse has been superseded in the Ministry of the Interior by M. Delangle, Senator, and First President of the Imperial Court of Paris. The General is raised to the rank of Senator.

The fifth meeting of the Conference engaged with the organization of the Danubian Principalities was held on Monday. It is stated that the non-union of Wallachia and Moldavia has been decided by a majority of one—France, Russia, and Sardinia being for the union, and England, Austria, Prussia, and Turkey, against it.

"A singular edict," says the *Morning Star*, "has appeared in the *Moniteur* relative to the circulation of books and pamphlets by the *colporteurs*, the individuals so much employed by our English Bible Society. This edict sets out with the assertion that 8,000,000 immoral books were dispersed over the rural districts of France by 10,000 hawkers 'about the year 1847,' that is to say, before the happy period when a revolution prepared that country for its present ruler. 'This was the consequence,' we are told, of the imprudent neglect that is adorned with the name of Liberty. For six years, the Imperial Government has sought to abate the plague, and, not being so successful as could have been wished, severe measures are to be adopted. 'It is the duty of the administration,' we read, 'to prevent foreign societies, possessed of considerable resources, from despatching agents to France with the view of producing agitation.' We hope this does not mean that the Bible is the next danger to be apprehended in the land of Fénelon. At all events, it pretty clearly shows that the Emperor has a compact with the French clergy which may involve his retention of power."

A horse-dealer of Montrouge, named Meunier, has been tried by the Paris Tribunal of Correctional Police, for using insulting words towards the Emperor and Empress. The charge was brought by two personal enemies, who were severely cross-examined by the judge, who entirely shook their testimony, and the man was acquitted. The two false witnesses were then taken into custody, and committed for trial. Meunier received a good character from the police; that is to say, he was reported as a man who never, under any circumstances, talked politics.

The report on the circumstances attending the late duel has been drawn up by the public prosecutor at Versailles, and has just been published. It condemns the article in the *Figaro* as "an unbecoming and dangerous piece of pleasantry, addressed to an entire grade in the army, which is not less distinguished by its good conduct than by its bravery." The article, it is added, "was calculated to awaken just susceptibilities." The two wounds given to M. de Pène are described as being in some sort accidental, and it is stated that M. Hyenne did not know, when he inflicted the second wound, that one had been received just before. The report affirms that Hyenne has never been a fencing-master, and declares that as the seconds of M. de Pène did everything to prevent the second duel, they must be declared not liable to prosecution. "As to the military parties concerned—namely, Hyenne, who inflicted the wounds, and Courtiel and Roge, his seconds—the appreciation of their acts does not belong to the ordinary tribunals, for they are sub-lieutenants of the 9th Light Dragoons, on active service, and figure as 'present' on the muster-roll of

heir regiment. According to Article 56 of the Code of Military Justice, they are subject only to military jurisdiction, and must therefore be placed at the disposal of the military authorities."

Ary Scheffer, the celebrated painter, died on the 15th inst. He had just returned to France from England, where he had attended the funeral of the Duchess of Orleans.

Franc-Picard, a racer that has won for himself a fair reputation on the turf both in England and France, and for his owner nearly 40,000*l.*, in stakes, bets, &c., was burnt to death the other day on the Namur and Liège railroad. The horse-box caught fire from the friction of the wheels, and, when the train was stopped, Franc-Picard and two racers of less note were found burnt to a cinder.

The Emperor has appointed Generals Delarue d'Oraison, Tisserand, Planhol, Legay d'Arcy, Eynard, L'Heureux, Pierre, and D'Ormoys to inspect the Gendarmerie throughout France; General de Guyon is to inspect the French Gendarmerie at Rome, and General Vinoy is to inspect the Fire Brigade in Paris.

Mademoiselle Sarah Felix, the sister of the late Mademoiselle Rachel, has brought an action before the Civil Tribunal against Madame O'Connell, the well-known artist, to obtain damages for having pirated a design belonging to her. The design was a photograph of Mademoiselle Rachel, taken on her death-bed; but the expression was so ghastly that Mlle. Felix put the photograph into the hands of two other photographers, for them to soften it down. They were bound by an agreement to take every care to prevent the design being pirated; but one of them allowed Madame O'Connell to take a copy, with some slight alterations, and this was afterwards published. Hence the action. Judgment was postponed.

MONTENEGRO.

Prince Danilo, of Montenegro, has suddenly raised the siege of Klobuck in the Herzegovina, in which his victorious adherents seem to have engaged soon after the battle of Grahovo. His reason for so doing is not yet known.

"The Montenegrins," says the *Agram Gazette*, "retired, between the 14th and 20th ult., to their mountains, leaving at Grahovo only 80 men to protect the part of the booty which had not been sent to Cetinje. Notwithstanding their departure the rayahs of Zubsi and Grahovo sent, on the 14th, an expedition against the village of Korenci, which was completely ravaged on the 15th and 16th. All the bodies of the Turks, which were lying about in great numbers near Grahovo, have been burnt." Two Turkish steamers, with 1125 men and 51 horses on board, cast anchor in the bay of Gravosa on the 13th inst. On the following day, the Russian steamer Polkava cast anchor off the island of Croma, to the south of Ragusa.

PRUSSIA.

"The public has learnt with great satisfaction," says a letter from Berlin, "that the Ministry has at length decided on increasing the Prussian navy: the Cabinet will propose to the Chambers to raise the Navy budget from 710,000 thalers, the present allowance, to 1,500,000 thalers, or even 2,000,000.

DENMARK.

Five Ministerial and four Opposition candidates have been elected at Copenhagen. President Hall, who has warmly declared himself in favour of liberal independent principles, and against Germany, was unanimously elected.

ITALY.

Mr. Howard having left the court of Tuscany in the extraordinary way already mentioned, Lord Malmesbury has appointed Mr. Lyons, eldest son of Lord Lyons, to the vacant post.

The Piedmontese Chamber has unseated various newly-elected members on the plea that the clergy had canvassed in their favour, and had described their adversaries, who had voted for the confiscation of monastic property, as excommunicated persons.

The electric cable between the citadel of Messina and the new fort of Reggio was successfully sunk on the 4th inst.

The Neapolitan correspondent of the *Times* says that "thirteen men, confined in Santa Maria Apparente because they were born in the same town or district with Milano, have just been liberated. After nearly eighteen months of imprisonment, neither tried nor accused, they receive the boon of liberty. Of course, their gratitude and attachment to the Government will be boundless."

SPAIN.

The *Novedades* of Madrid mentions a horrible crime. A little boy, age nine, son of a gentleman named Portero, of Ciudad Real, was lately carried off by a gang of bandits, and a ransom of 200,000 reals was demanded from his parents, to be paid by a given day. The ransom not having been sent, the boy was murdered, and his dead body was thrown into a well, at a few hundred yards from the walls of the town.

TURKEY.

The island of Candia still continues in full insurrection, and several families are leaving the country in alarm. The mediation by the consuls between the Christians and the Turks has failed; and the Government has been obliged to resort to a blockade, in order to subdue the rebels.

Fuad Pacha, it is said, has handed in a note from the Sultan to the Paris Conference, in which Turkey consents to recognize the *status quo* before 1856 with regard to Montenegro, but adheres to the claim of *suzeraineté*. More troops have been despatched from Constantinople for the Herzegovina.

The Bashi-bazouks who attacked the residence of the English consul at Belgrade, were repulsed by the Servian Guards, who protected the consulate.

SWITZERLAND.

The Geneva Government has protested against the expulsion of the Italian refugees from the canton by an order of the Federal Council.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE state of business in the chief seats of industry during the week ending last Saturday differed in no important respect from the condition of affairs last reported. A continued improvement is noticeable in most localities; but languor still prevails at Bradford, Huddersfield, Leicester, Manchester, and Wolverhampton.

"It appears," says the *Times*, "that, at the meeting of the partners of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Bank, held at Edinburgh on Thursday week, a protest was served on the directors, in behalf of shareholders who had purchased stock since last February, holding the directors liable for the price of the same, on the ground that the report laid before the meetings of the proprietors in February did not represent the true condition of the bank's affairs, and counsel, we believe, have been retained to follow up the protest by litigation. It was admitted by the directors that since February they had bought in stock of the nominal value of 43,927*l.*, at a cost of 43,887*l.* It was stated that the number of shareholders is about 1400, and that the nominal value of their holdings is about 360,000*l.* The fact was likewise elicited that the directors of the Clydesdale Bank; and also, we believe, the accountant employed by the committee of proprietors to investigate, did not think that the assets of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Bank would amount to 165,000*l.*, and therefore, to carry out the amalgamation with the former, a call would, in their opinion, necessarily have to be made on the shareholders of the latter. Ten trustees were appointed to carry out the amalgamation, four being selected from the present directors and six from the shareholders. The meeting (to which the representatives of the press were not admitted) was, we believe, a very angry one. About four or five hundred persons were present, and the meeting lasted two hours and a half."

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE June sessions commenced on Monday, but no case of conspicuous interest was tried that day. On Tuesday, William Rawson and Jonathan Mirehouse were placed at the bar to take their trial upon several indictments, charging the former with stealing jewellery and other articles, and the latter with receiving the property, knowing it to have been stolen. They were acquitted on both counts, but other charges against them stood over. The prosecutor had allowed Rawson to put a watch and chain round his neck, immediately after which the man made off; and, under these circumstances, the Recorder said that the charge of robbery could not be sustained. On Wednesday, Rawson was found guilty on another charge, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. Mirehouse was acquitted.

Henry Keene Smithers, a gentlemanly-looking man, pleaded guilty to three indictments, charging him with embezzling and stealing the several sums of 61*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, 58*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, and 25*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*, from his employers, the Commercial Dock Company. He was sentenced to penal servitude for six years.

Some cases of robbery by persons employed at the General Post-office have been tried during the week. A letter-sorter, named Randall, has pleaded guilty to a series of robberies of money out of letters, which had been carried to so great an extent that, when taken into custody, he had in his possession 207*l.*, the produce of his thefts. He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

George Alfred Brown, a shoemaker, was found guilty on Wednesday of wounding one Stephen Perry, of whom, though apparently without foundation, he was jealous. He was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude.

The persons concerned in the celebrated robbery at Lord Foley's were tried on Thursday, when the jury gave a verdict of guilty against Pusey, Partridge, and Whetstone, and acquitted Benjamin, although they said they were aware that his conduct was very suspicious. Benjamin, who was the alleged receiver, fell down in a fit in the course of the trial.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MURDER IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—William Collier, a working man, has been murdered in a field near Brockmoor, Staffordshire. He had been drinking at a beer-shop through the greater part of the preceding day, in company with an old friend named Outons, with whom he left at night, and who is now missing. Suspicion has fastened on him, and the police are looking after

him. Robbery does not seem to have been the object of the murderer, for Collier's pockets were unmolested.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT ISLINGTON.—Within the last few years, Islington has been the scene of an unusual number of murders and suicides; and during the present week another horrible tragedy has been added to the list. At No. 10, Park-road, Barnsbury-road, lived a woman, known by the names of Mrs. Cooke and Miss Phillips. She was a person of light character, and many gentlemen in stylish equipages used to visit her. About twelve o'clock on Wednesday morning, the police were informed by a lodger that she suspected something was wrong. They entered the back parlour by force, for the door was locked, and there discovered the dead bodies of the woman and of a young man, the latter of whom had a revolver in his hand. The corpse of the woman did not present any external marks of violence. On the following day, the man was recognized by his father, a Mr. John Hodges. He was only twenty-five years of age, and was a clerk in a solicitor's office. He resided with his parents, and, on being missed from home, suspicion was excited. The motive of the murder would seem to have been jealousy; for in the pocketbook of the man was found a document, on which the following words were written in a very legible hand:—"I said it should not last a twelvemonth. Mr. Elsmere and Mr. Horlick are to blame, and I leave them to the everlasting curse of a dying man." On the back of the document there was written, "In Chancery." A short time previous to the commission of the act, the man was heard to accompany a street organ with his voice while it was playing "the Old Hundredth."

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

SATURDAY was a memorable day in the Court of Queen's Bench, being signalized by the retirement of Mr. Justice Coleridge, who, for the last three-and-twenty years, has exercised the functions of a Judge with great learning, indomitable patience, and admirable courtesy and kindness of manner. He is the last of the Judges appointed by any monarch preceding her present Majesty; for the hard work of the bench, coming on the top of many years of toil at the bar, does not allow of any protracted period of judicial service. The respect and esteem felt for the retiring Judge (who, besides being an admirable lawyer, was a gentleman of a very elegant and scholarly mind—a relation, we believe, of the poet Coleridge) were such, that the court on Saturday was densely crowded with barristers; and, shortly after two, Lord Campbell called on the Attorney-General, who thereupon rose and addressed the retiring Judge in an eloquent speech, in which he enlarged on his shining qualities as a lawyer, on his affable bearing towards the bar, and on the regret universally felt at his retirement. Mr. Justice Coleridge was so much affected by this address that it was a considerable time before he could find utterance. He then spoke at some length, and, in the course of his observations, made some excellent remarks on the moral character of the bar. "So long as England is rich and free," said his Lordship, "the law must always exercise a predominant influence. I am sure you feel that your responsibility is commensurate with your interest; and I have no fear but that, in any political difficulties or dangers that may arise, you will be found, as your predecessors were, courageous, and entirely equal to any crisis. But the most insidious dangers are those which beset you in your daily business—the excitement of controversy; the desire of victory; the love of intellectual display; and the excessive sense of duty to your clients. Gentlemen, and especially my younger friends, suffer me to put you on your guard. We can well afford to bear with broad pleasantries, but we cannot afford that our professional standard of honour should be questioned, or that it should be said that we would do as advocates in court what as gentlemen we should scorn to do. Sometimes we lend support to this notion by the ease with which we attribute ungentelemanly conduct to one another. That client is dear indeed that would induce an advocate in carrying out his views to go beyond his great and glorious profession. Forgive me, my friends, these free words. I speak in the love of a profession to which I have given the best part of my years, and which I shall continue to love as long as my heart shall beat." At the conclusion of his speech, his Lordship bowed and hastily rushed out of court, evidently overcome by his emotions. Many members of the bar, moreover, could not restrain their tears. The court was shortly afterwards adjourned for the long vacation. It will reassemble on the 2nd of November.

The case of Palmer v. Maclear and Macgrath, involving the validity of the will of Sir George Macgrath, was concluded in the Court of Probate last Saturday, by the plaintiff consenting to a verdict for the defendants. Sir Cresswell Cresswell accordingly directed the jury to find that at the date of the will and codicil propounded by the plaintiff, the testator, Sir George Macgrath, was not of sufficiently sound mind, memory, and understanding to execute those instruments. The foreman of the jury said that that was the conclusion at which they had already arrived. Sir George, it appears, was very old, and was greatly under the influence of a Miss Palmer, who lived under his protection, and who, it was said, had acquired such a con-

trol over him by a union of threats and kindness as to influence his will to the detriment of his relations. However, that might be, there appears to be no doubt that Sir George was in a childish state of mind at the time the will was executed.

Lord Campbell gave judgment last Saturday in the case of the Tiverton Burial Board. The point to be decided was, whether a fence of sufficient height had been erected between the consecrated and unconsecrated portions of the Tiverton burial-ground. The fence was twelve inches high, and the Bishop of Exeter contended that that was not sufficient; and that it ought to be four feet in altitude. This the Board refused to accede to; and the case went before a jury, who found a verdict in favour of the Board. To this there was a demurrer, which was argued before the Court of Queen's Bench. The Court took time to consider, and on Saturday delivered judgment in favour of the defendants, thus confirming the verdict.

The case of the Queen v. the Justices of Leicestershire was also decided the same day. This was a rule for a *certiorari* to bring up a distress warrant, issued by three justices of Leicestershire against Joseph Nunley for 17 16s., being the amount of a church rate levied upon him, which he had refused to pay, so that it might be quashed. Nunley was summoned before the magistrates. He told them that he objected to the rate on the ground of its illegality, and he contended that the matter was taken out of their jurisdiction. He declined, however, to state to the magistrates what his objections were; but he said that one objection was, that the chairman of the vestry had refused to put an amendment. The justices decided that he did not intend to dispute the legality of the rate. Lord Campbell now said that the justices, in their affidavit, did not deny the truth of the statements. They only had jurisdiction when the rate was undisputed; in this case they had no jurisdiction, and the rule must be made absolute.

The "press prosecution" trials are postponed till next Tuesday.

The "after term" sittings in the Court of Queen's Bench commenced on Monday. The only case of note tried that day was that of the Submarine Telegraph v. Gibbs. This was an action to recover damages for injury done to the telegraph cable, off the coast of Kent, by reason of the fouling of the anchor of a ship belonging to the defendant. The accident occurred during a severe gale in January, 1857, when many vessels were lost in the Channel. The case occupied the whole of the day, and, at the conclusion, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

The Court for Divorce and Matrimonial causes sat in full on Monday, and made orders for dissolution of marriage in three cases, on account of adultery and desertion by the husband. In one of the cases, the husband had also committed bigamy.

The Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, on Monday, said he had received several communications of late relative to nuisances of various kinds, which it was wholly out of his power to remedy or abate. Among them were complaints of the state of the Thames. One correspondent said:—"My Lord,—What is to be done? The stench from the Thames, yesterday, even at high water, exceeded anything I have ever smelt or noticed before. On leaving the Adelphi Pier, I was seized with vomiting, and I really expected some injury would accrue to me. Can nothing be done excepting speeches in Parliament on the subject of this fearful 'sewer evil'? When some dreadful calamity shall brood its pestilential form over the great metropolis, then shall we mourn the destroying effect of our culpable negligence." His Lordship said he sympathized with the writers of such letters. He had gone up to Westminster the day before he had received the foregoing description, and certainly no stench that he had ever encountered was comparable to that which assailed the passengers on that occasion. He would not try the experiment again. He knew that the nuisance was most abominable, and apprehended that it was most dangerous; but he hoped the fears of his fellow citizens would not be speedily realized.—On Wednesday, two master lightermen complained to the Lord Mayor of the fetid, stagnant condition of the water in the London and St. Katherine's Docks. They stated that a man who fell into the London Docks a few days ago was taken out dead, although he was only under water two minutes. The Lord Mayor advised the applicants to make a representation to the Board of Conservancy.

William Mayhew, a warehouseman, was charged at Guildhall, on Monday, with creating a disturbance on Saturday evening in the church of St. Bartholomew, Moor-lane, during the performance of service. The chief witness against him was a Mr. Smith, a printer; and he stated that Mr. Mayhew called out at one time, "Do you call this religion? This is Puseyism. Have you seen the papers of to-day?" (alluding to the report of the meeting at St. James's Hall with reference to Puseyism at St. Barnabas). He also, according to Mr. Smith, swang about a parcel in a very irreverent manner. Accordingly, Mr. Smith directed the verger to detain Mr. Mayhew while he fetched a policeman; and, finally, Mr. Mayhew was given into custody. Mr. Smith added, that these disturbances had become very frequent of late. The verger, however, when before the magistrate, only said that Mr. Mayhew put on his hat

while the Creed was being said, and went towards the door. Being remonstrated with, he took his hat off. Another witness, who was present in the church, denied that there was any irreverence on the part of Mr. Mayhew, with the exception of his putting on his hat and walking away when the Creed was repeated, at which time the curate and officials turned to the east. "At the close of the Creed, he (Mr. Mayhew) turned round, as if inwardly offended, but said nothing." Mr. Smith, however, "bounced out of his pew, and ran down the aisle after the defendant, calling out 'Stop him!'" "Then, in your judgment," said Mr. Alderman Rose, "it was Smith who created the disturbance, and not the defendant?" "Precisely so." Mr. Mayhew was accordingly discharged.

Frederick Noble, a morose-looking youth, is under remand at Worship-street, on a charge of stabbing his father in the back with a knife. The father is employed at a factory in Stepney, and the son had just arrived in town from Southend. He had some conversation with his father; but no quarrel whatever was heard. Suddenly, however, he inflicted the wound (which is of a very serious kind), and rushed away, but was pursued and caught. To the policeman who took him into custody he said that he did the act in a moment of excitement, in consequence of his father having ill-used his mother some years ago. When before the magistrate, the youth offered no explanation or defence. A witness having been asked by the magistrate as to his (Noble's) disposition, the young man himself stopped him with the remark, "I am of rather a quick temper, sir." He has evidently a strong affection for his mother, as, on the constable mentioning her name, he displayed great emotion. The father, it appears, is in a very critical state.

An action was brought in the Court of Exchequer on Wednesday, for the recovery of a sum of money, under an agreement entered into in March, 1856, whereby the plaintiff (an Oriental, named Abdoolah) undertook to act as interpreter, at 6*l.* a month, to the defendant (the Rajah of Coorg). He was to be paid the sum of 500*l.* in addition if the defendant, with the plaintiff's assistance, recovered possession of his pension of 100*l.* a month from the East India Company. The defendant paid a sum of money into court relative to the salary, which was accepted by the plaintiff. The only remaining question was the plaintiff's right to recover anything on the pension, the defendant denying that he obtained it through the plaintiff. After hearing some evidence, an arrangement was come to, under which a juror was withdrawn, the Rajah undertaking to pay the sum agreed upon to the plaintiff.

A very remarkable divorce case has been tried in the new Court of Divorce this week. The petitioner was a Mr. Robinson, who had already obtained a divorce *à mensâ et thoro* in the Ecclesiastical Court. Mrs. Robinson is now about fifty years of age, and in 1854 she was staying at the hydropathic establishment at Moor Park, near Reading, kept by a Dr. Lane. It would appear, from a diary kept by Mrs. Robinson (the discovery of which, last year, first opened Mr. Robinson's eyes to the infidelity of his wife), that the lady had for some years entertained a passionate attachment to Dr. Lane. At length, one day, when the two were together in the park, the doctor remarked, in answer to some observation from the lady, "If you say that again, I'll kiss you." To this she "made no opposition," and in the course of a few days the intimacy was carried to an extent which involved the deepest wrong it was possible for the wife to inflict upon her husband. These facts, and the tumultuous condition of the lady's mind, alternating between "blasphemous excitement" and nervous depression, are recorded in the diary with great minuteness, and with no small amount of literary power. Extracts from the book have been liberally published; but we decline to follow the example. The defence was based on the assumption that Mrs. Robinson was subject to a malady which sometimes induces ladies to accuse themselves of transgressions of which they are not really guilty; and the evidence of a Mr. Thom, a literary gentleman staying at the establishment, showed that he had been similarly credited with improper conduct with Mrs. Robinson—an assertion which he denied, and attributed it to the lady's romantic disposition. Dr. Phillimore claims that Dr. Lane be dismissed from the suit, in order that he may be examined as a witness to deny the alleged intrigue. The court takes time to consider the point thus raised.

An action was brought in the Court of Queen's Bench on Tuesday by the executors of a person named Butcher, mill-owner of Wickham Market, against the defendant, a medical man, to recover the sum of 100*l.* The defendant pleaded that the money was a gift. It appeared that the defendant (a Mr. Cochrane) had been Butcher's medical man since 1854, and, during that time Butcher was operated upon for the stone. It was contended by Mr. Cochrane that the money was given to him by Mr. Butcher out of gratitude for his attention and the relief he had afforded him in his illness. On the counterpart of the cheque was written, in Mr. Butcher's handwriting, the words, "A gift." The jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. Perrins, an ironmaster residing near Birmingham, has obtained, by an action in the Court of Queen's Bench, damages to the extent of 300*l.* from the London and North-Western Railway Company, on account of

injuries received in an accident on their line on the 19th of last December.

The action of Birch v. Ridgway, brought by the endorsee of a bill of exchange for 225*l.* against the acceptor, which was tried some months ago, has been again tried in the Court of Exchequer, with the same result as before—the discharge of the jury on their being unable to agree to a verdict. The defendant pleaded that he did not accept the bill, which was one of several bills drawn by Messrs. Sanders and Woollett, builders, and alleged to have been accepted by the defendant, who was for some time steward to the late Duke of Devonshire. This gentleman repudiated the bill; and the case was further complicated by the suicide, last November, of Mr. Woollett, who was greatly embarrassed. The evidence was very conflicting, and the defendant swore positively that the acceptance was not in his handwriting.

An action for libel, unfolding a strange story, is now in course of trial in the Court of Queen's Bench. The plaintiff is Mr. Hugh Robert Hughes, of Kimmell Park, North Wales, a son of the younger brother of Lord Norbun, but not on good terms with the family. In July, 1852, Mr. Hughes was engaged to be married to a daughter of the present Lord Ravensworth; and at that period an anonymous letter was addressed to the young lady's father, describing Mr. Hughes as extravagant, "hard up," seeking the match merely for the sake of money, and affected with the king's evil. The family were, therefore, exhorted to have nothing to do with him. The prosecution alleges that this letter was written by Lady Dinorben; and that is the main point to be established. The case was not concluded yesterday.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A GENTLEMAN named Dewdney was killed last week by the down express train, at Hele station, on the Bristol and Exeter Railway. At an inquest which was held before Mr. Crosse, coroner of the district, it was elicited that there is a level crossing at the Hele station, which is a public highway, and that the entrance gate was not closed against the public previous to the arrival of the trains. The jury found a verdict of "Accidental death," and added the following to their verdict:—"That there is not at Hele station a sufficient number of policemen to perform the necessary duty on the arrival of the trains, and to protect the lives of the public; and that at the said station, the crossing being a public highway where there is a very large traffic, it is desirable that a bridge should be carried over the line."

Mr. Richard Stevenson, one of the Commissioners of the Liverpool District Court of Bankruptcy, died suddenly when on his way to attend to the duties of his court. He resided at New Brighton, and left home to catch the half-past nine o'clock boat. Being rather late, he ran a short distance, and when he got on board, he seemed to be very flurried. He sat on a seat on deck, but appeared to become very sick; and, immediately after, putting his hand to his heart, he fell off his seat, uttering some exclamation. He was sixty years of age. The occasion of death was disease of the heart.

A child, two years of age, residing with its parents in Cary-street, Lincoln's Inn, has been scalded to death, owing to the upsetting of a large saucepan of boiling water.

A plate-layer on the Midland Railway was run down on the line last Saturday by a luggage train, as he was going to his work. His head and one arm were nearly severed.

We have more boiler explosions to chronicle. Three men have been killed by one of these dreadful catastrophes at the cotton-mills of Messrs. William Barlow and Son, near New Church, Rossendale; and seven persons are severely scalded and otherwise injured by a similar accident which occurred on Monday at Messrs. Snowden and Hopkins's iron works at Middlesbrough.

A young man from Southampton, who was just about to be married, has been accidentally poisoned, at the village of Netherby, near Beaminster, by swallowing a cupful of hydrocyanic acid, used by him in amateur photography, in mistake for beer. The cup was given to him by the father of the young woman he was about to marry. The father was drunk at the time. The young man swallowed enough to kill forty men, and of course was dead in a very short time.

OBITUARY.

THE LORD JUSTICE CLERK.—The Right Hon. John Hope, Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, died at his residence in Moray-place, Edinburgh, at half-past eleven o'clock on Monday night. The death was rather sudden, and resulted from paralysis. He was born in 1794, passed the Scottish bar in 1816, and was chosen Lord Justice Clerk in 1841.

MR. MICHAEL WILLIAMS, M.P. for West Cornwall, died at Trevince, near Cornwall, on Tuesday, afternoon.

ROBERT BROWN, Esq., F.R.S., expired on the 10th inst., at his town residence, Dean-street, Soho-square. He was born in the year 1773, and was formerly President of the Linnæan Society, keeper of the Botanical Collections in the British Museum, and Foreign Associate of the Academy of Sciences of the Institute of France.

EX-ALDERMAN GIBBS.—Mr. Michael Gibbs, who was for many years Alderman of the Ward of Walbrook, and in his turn Lord Mayor of London, is just dead. Some years ago, he involved himself in serious differences with his fellow parishioners, in consequence of his refusal to give up the accounts of several charities with which he was connected, and this eventually led to the resignation of his gown. He lived during the last few years in retirement.

GENERAL HAWKER.—The colonelcy of the 6th Dragoon Guards has become at the disposal of the General-Commanding-in-Chief, by the death of General Sir Thomas Hawker, who died on the 13th instant at Clifton, in the eighty-first year of his age.

ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES OGLE, BART., Admiral of the Fleet, died on Wednesday, at a quarter past one, at Tunbridge Wells, after a short illness. His eldest son, Mr. Chaloner Ogle, formerly in the army, succeeds to the baronetcy.

JOHN SHAKSPERE, ESQ., a gentleman who, though bearing the name of the poet, seems not to have been related to his family, but who has recently exhibited great munificence in connexion with the house at Stratford-on-Avon, died, at the latter end of last week, at Langley Priory, at the age of eighty-three.

DR. BUNTING.—The Rev. Jabez Bunting, D.D., died on Wednesday at his residence in Myddelton-square, Pentonville, having attained the eightieth year of his age and the fifty-ninth of his ministry. "This rev. divine," says a biographer, "has been described as the Hercules of modern Methodism. He was a native of Manchester, and earned his recent exalted position in the ranks of his sect by the force of natural talent and assiduous self-cultivation."

MERCANTILE MARINE.

SHIP-BUILDING ON THE TYNE.—On Saturday evening, an immense concourse of people crowded the shores of the Tyne, in the neighbourhood of Jarrow, and some hundreds were also on board of steamboats and other craft on the river, to witness the launch of the Hudson from the building-yard of Messrs. Palmer, Brothers, and Co., the largest iron steamship yet built on the Tyne. She is 3000 tons burden, will be propelled by engines of 700-horse power nominal (about 2000 effective), and is of the following dimensions:—345 feet over all, 40 feet beam, and 26 feet deep. She has four decks, poop, spar, middle, and lower, and she will accommodate 100 first-class, 125 second-class, and about 400 third-class passengers. She is one of the four first-class steamers, two built on the Tyne, two on the Clyde, ordered in this country by the North German Lloyd's, and intended to run between Bremen and New York with passengers.

THE CEYLON, a new vessel just added to the fleet of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, was launched last Saturday from the building-yard of Messrs. Samuda, Brothers, at Poplar. Miss de Salis performed the christening ceremonies, and the vessel was launched completely masted and rigged—a novel feature in such proceedings. The following are the exact dimensions of the Ceylon:—Length on deck, 300 feet; beam, 41 feet; depth, 29 feet; burden in tons, builders' measure, 2376 tons; displacement at load line, 3200 tons.—The day did not pass over without one of those fatal accidents which frequently occur in connexion with launches. About five o'clock in the morning, James Jolly, a shipwright's apprentice, was assisting near the anchor in making preparations for the occasion, when an unperceived nail in a plank, which was being lowered to the ground, caught in his trousers and dragged him down with it from a terrible height. The poor fellow died a few minutes after, as he was being carried to the hospital.

WRECK OF THE STEAM-SHIP NEW YORK.—The screw steamer New York, which sailed from the tail of the bank for New York last Saturday, got ashore at the Mull of Kintyre about midnight of the same day. The weather was not stormy, but it is said there was a dense fog, and this is assigned as the cause of the accident. When the ship struck, the passengers were all in bed; but the concussion was so great that they were awakened. All were saved, and so was their luggage.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

MOVEMENTS AT MALTA.—The fleet of Admiral Lord Lyons was in Valetta harbour at the last date (June 7th). The Admiral has received the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Her Majesty's steam-gunboat Wanderer left Malta for Gibraltar on the 28th of May, to order to remain there the Renown, 91, and Racoon, 21, on their way to Malta from England, in consequence of the large naval force which is being assembled at Toulon. The Algeiras, screw line-of-battle ship, bearing a rear-admiral's flag, arrived on the 18th of May at Corfu from Toulon, and left on the following day, accompanied by the Eylau steam-frigate, for the Adriatic. A French screw steam-frigate, bearing another rear-admiral's flag, arrived at Alexandria on the 19th, and is reported to have landed a party of gendarmes to protect French subjects in concert with the Egyptian police. A very large force is said to have been landed at Oran from the French Toulon fleet.—We read in the *Malta Daily News*, of June 11th:—"About 11.30 P.M.,

last night, a heavy cannonade was heard, which at first alarmed many of the natives, but it proved to be a sham battle fought by the fleet, bearing N.N.E. of the island. The firing was quick, and lasted till a little after midnight. Some of the broadsides were so heavy that houses were actually shaken from the effects, and several people fancied it was a shock of earthquake."

A MUCH-NEEDED REFORM AT CHATHAM.—Colonel Eyre, with the sanction of the authorities, has issued orders directing that all clothing and other necessities required by soldiers during their voyage to India shall be sent into the barrack stores, when the whole will be inspected by a board of officers appointed for that purpose, and no stores are to be issued to the troops but such as have been approved by the board. The practice of issuing necessities to the non-commissioned officers and men on board (a practice which prevented the soldiers from remedying any defects in the goods, which frequently existed) is to be discontinued.

THE ROYAL ARSENAL AT WOOLWICH.—One of the members of the Royal Commission went to Woolwich last Saturday and instituted inquiries relative to certain departments of the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich. Notwithstanding the length of time which has elapsed since the Royal Standard Gun Foundry was completed, not one serviceable gun has been turned out and passed the ordinary proof, although a guarantee was given to the Secretary of State for the production of two hundred and fifty guns from that foundry by the 31st of last March. The important blunder, it is understood, lay in the utter absence of practical men to direct the working of the establishment. The nominal and responsible founder is an Artillery officer, and the subordinate foremen or sub-directors, who should be well up to the work of gun casting, are mere novices in that class of duty, having passed their lives as engineers' workmen and cylinder casters, and being therefore unacquainted with the proper fusion of the metals requisite for making good and durable iron ordnance. The Royal Laboratory is also about to undergo investigation, it having been stated on official authority that in spite of the large expenditure and cost of that establishment, the British Government is not in possession of a single species or shell adapted to present use. The enormous sums claimed by that department for the expenses of the late peace rejoicings in Hyde-park are also about to be rigidly inquired into. It is stated that the cost of the fireworks alone amounted to upwards of 100,000*l.*, and that the surplus, buried and destroyed at times in Woolwich marsh, is inconceivable.—*Times*.

LAUNCH OF THE ORLANDO.—The launch of the first-class screw steamer frigate the Orlando took place at Pembroke last Saturday. The Orlando is the first of the new class; she is 300 feet in length, and of 3726 tons burden, and her armament is of the heaviest calibre. She is of greater length than the Duke of Wellington, and carries 40 guns.

REWARDS FOR CRIMEAN HEROES.—The Queen has conferred the decoration of the Victoria Cross on seven officers (non-commissioned and otherwise) who distinguished themselves during the Crimean war by acts of extraordinary courage. Their names are—Sergeant Henry Ramadge, 2nd Dragoons; Brevet-Major Mark Walker, 3rd Regiment, late of the 30th; Colour-Sergeant George Gardiner, 57th Regiment; Surgeon James Mount, C.B. (now Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals, late of the 6th Dragoons); Captain Howard Crauford Elphinstone, Royal Engineers; Colour-Sergeant Henry McDonald, Royal Engineers; and Colour-Sergeant Peter Leitch, Royal Engineers.

WRECK OF THE INDIAN EMPIRE.—A telegram from Dublin reports that the steamer the Indian Empire, which was to make the experimental trip between Galway and New York with the mails, got on a rock on Tuesday morning. She was got off however, apparently without damage, and it is to be hoped that this accident will not delay the voyage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Prince Consort have been visiting Birmingham during the week. A full account of their progress will be found in another column. The Royal family is now again in London.

IN RE THE "COWHIDING" OF MR. CHARLES MATHEWS.—A correspondence has been published in the New York papers by Mr. Charles Mathews and Mr. Davenport, touching the circumstances out of which the recent "cowhiding" arose. Mr. Mathews accuses Mr. Davenport of drunkenness, of having ill-used his late wife (now the wife of the English comedian), and of habitually defaming her. Mr. Davenport, it is said, sought the divorce and obtained it, though Mrs. Davenport, aided by Mr. Mathews, had already determined to apply for the same. Mr. Mathews admits that he had already determined on making the lady his wife as soon as she should be legally free; but he denies having had illicit intercourse with her. To this Mr. Davenport replies by quoting some of Mr. Mathews own letters to his wife before the divorce had been obtained, which show unequivocally the nature of the acquaintanceship then existing.

THUNDERSTORMS.—A very violent thunderstorm burst over the neighbourhoods of Liverpool and Birmingham last Saturday. Several buildings were struck and in-

jured; haystacks were fired, horses killed, and men, in a few instances, knocked down and seriously hurt. At Birmingham, the rain fell with remarkable heaviness, carrying with it a great number of meteoric substances, about the size of peas, and looking like coal.—On the previous Tuesday, the West of Scotland was visited by a storm of most alarming violence. A great many animals were killed and human beings injured, and much damage was done to property. Near Portpatrick, a boy and girl were drowned while amusing themselves near a burn which had become greatly swollen during the storm. On the same day, there was a storm in Shropshire, when a man was killed by the lightning.—The town and neighbourhood of Reading were visited last Saturday evening with a deluge of rain and hail, accompanied by violent wind, which broke a great many windows, and did immense damage to the crops in the open fields. The storm has had no parallel in that vicinity since 1840. For a long time afterwards, the hail remained in places fully six inches deep, and one singular effect of the storm was, a dense fog which prevailed after dusk.

STATE OF THE SEWERS.—The Commissioners of Sewers met on Tuesday, at Guildhall; Mr. Deputy Christie presiding. Mr. Deputy Harrison (one of the representatives of the City in the Metropolitan Board of Works) brought under the notice of the court, as a matter of great importance, the fact that the board, in order to prevent the annoyances now arising from the deposit of noxious substances along the shores of the river, had determined upon carrying out the sewer outfalls to a distance below low water-mark. They intended so to deal with ten of the sewer outfalls, and on the previous Friday decided to commence with four, of which the London-bridge sewer, and the Goswell-street, or, as it was called, the Dowgate Dock sewer, were two. The expense of the works in the case of these two would be 6000*l.* After some discussion, a motion was carried, instructing Mr. Hayward, the engineer of the Commission, to inspect the plans to ascertain what proportion of the expense was proposed to be thrown on that court, and to report the result to the next meeting.

THE WORTHING LOCAL BOARD.—Mr. William Hugh Dennett, clerk to the Worthing Local Board, has written to the *Times* to deny the inferences sought to be established from the case of *Frend v. Dennett*, in the Court of Common Pleas, of which we gave a summary last week. He asserts that all amounts fairly earned by Messrs. Frend and Hammill, the contractors, have been paid; but that the sum disputed was not a fair charge. To this Messrs. Frend and Hammill reply by the assertion that their demands were perfectly fair, and by a statement of facts tending to support that view.

OBELISK CHRISTIANITY.—The meetings which, for a long time past, have taken place nightly at the Obelisk, for the purpose of discussing Christianity *pro* and *con*, have been put down by the police. They collected large mobs of thieves and ruffians, and led to great danger and disturbance.

THE HEAT.—The heat during the present week has been most extraordinary in its intensity. Wednesday was the hottest day, when the thermometer stood at 120 in the sun. The heat has since abated.

FIRE.—A very extensive fire, commencing in an undertaker's shop, in Curtain-road, Shoreditch, and extending to several other buildings, burst out on Wednesday night, and did great mischief before it could be suppressed. The parish church of St. James's is a good deal injured by the flames and the water, and a policeman, who was attempting to keep the crowd out of danger, was so seriously hurt by the falling of the walls that he was taken to the hospital. The total damage to property is estimated at 4000*l.*

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—A French lady, a governess, has attempted to drown herself in the sea at Brighton, owing to disappointment at losing an action she had brought in the County Court. She nearly succeeded in her design, and now lies in a very weak state.

AUSTRALIA.—The new Victoria Ministry has adopted the Reform Bill without the minority clause, and there is every chance of its passing. The principle of this bill is that of equal electoral districts, and the representation is based on population. Business was stagnant at Melbourne, and the unemployed were set to public works.

CHURCH-RATES IN ST. CLEMENT DANES.—A church-rate has been refused in the parish of St. Clement Danes by 81 to 82.

MR. WASHINGTON WILKS.—The working men of Carlisle have held a meeting, at which they have resolved to present a testimonial to Mr. Washington Wilks.

HEAVY PENALTY.—The penalty which will be incurred by the European and Australian Company for delay in bringing to England the heavy portion of the Australian mail, recently brought to Suez in the steamship Victoria, will amount to about 5250*l.*

REDUCTION IN THE CHARGE FOR PASSPORTS.—Notice is given in the *Gazette* of Tuesday that, on and after that day, the charge payable on the issue of a Foreign-office passport is reduced from six shillings to two shillings.

COMMISSION ON MANNING THE NAVY.—We read in the *Gazette* of Tuesday that "the Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the great seal appointing the Right Hon. Charles Philip Earl of Har-

k, Richard Plantagenet Grenville Nugent Chandos (commonly called Marquis of Chandos), the late Hon. Edward Cardwell, Vice-Admiral William Ashmead Martin, Sir James Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone, Bart., Captain John Shepherd, Royal Navy, rising the rank of commodore; William Schaw Lindsay, Esq., John Shepherd, Esq., Deputy Master of the City House; and Richard Green, Esq., to be her Majesty's commissioners to inquire into the best means of improving the navy."

MR. DICKENS, on Thursday, read, at St. Martin's Lane, "The Poor Travellers," "Boots at the Holly Tree," and "Mrs. Gamp."

THE CASE OF SIR HENRY MEUX.—This protracted trial, *de lunatico*, concluded on Thursday. The evidence for the defence tended to show that Sir Henry was perfectly sane at the time the disputed will and codicil were made; and family matters were gone into to a great extent. Sir Henry, it appears, was rather a hard-ker, and there is no doubt as to his present imbecility. The finding of the jury left the case in all the purity out of which it was sought to be dragged. The jury, while agreeing as to Sir Henry's present insanity, was unable to agree as to whether or not he was in a sound state of mind when he wrote the codicil to his will, by which, in the event of his death, the whole of his vast fortune would come into the possession of his wife and child. The three sisters, who promoted the suit, appear to have been amply provided for by Sir Henry; their conduct has therefore excited some disapprobation among the public.

MR. BERNARD has been lecturing at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the present political condition of France. was very well received.

THE RECENT DIVISION ON THE BALLOT.—The Ballot Act has put forth the subjoined as an analysis of the division on Mr. Berkeley's annual motion:—Ayes, 197; pairs, 23; tellers, 2: total, 222; Noes, 294; pairs, 23; tellers, 2: total, 319. Majority against the motion, 97. Total number of votes both sides, 541. Baron Rothschild, favourable, but unable to vote, 1; Speaker, 1; absent Liberals, 29; absent Conservatives, 8; absent opponents, 60; absent nds, 14: total, 654.

ALL OF ROCK AT LLANBERIS.—On Tuesday night, a very thunderstorm occurred in the vicinity of Snowdon, and it is supposed that the lightning must have struck one of the mountain masses in the Pass of Llanberis, as, about three miles up the pass, immense heaps of rock block up the road and render it completely impassable. The disjointed rocks, riven from the heights above, must amount to many hundreds of tons.

DESTRUCTION OF OLD ROCHESTER-BRIDGE.—The destruction of the remaining arches of old Rochester-bridge was successfully accomplished on Thursday afternoon, under the general direction of Colonel H. Sandham, E., Director of the Royal Engineer establishment atatham, by the troops of the Royal and East India Company's Engineers, in the presence of a large number of Engineer officers and other spectators, who crowded the banks of the Medway.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The population of London appears to be in a very healthy condition. In a tropic which in a few years more will be able to support its third million of inhabitants, the deaths in a week do not often fall below a thousand; for a reduction of the weekly deaths below this point occurred only a few times in 1857, though the total mortality of that year was less than the average. At this season of the year, the mortality has been observed to be least; in last week, ending June 12, the deaths which had been about 1100, fell to 963. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in weeks corresponding with last week was 982; but, the present return is for a population which has usually increased, for the purpose of comparison the average should be raised in proportion to this increase, and it will appear then that the deaths of last week were less by 117 than would have occurred under the average rate of mortality for the early part of the year. Eighteen persons died of diarrhoea last week, which is just the average for this season; and of cholera. With one exception, the cases of cholera occurred to children not above seven years of age, and are described as "English cholera." It is stated that frequent cases of fever have occurred in Highbury-vale, and that they are supposed to owe their origin to a large open sewer which runs near the dwellings, and to which public attention has been repeatedly called, but hitherto without effect. The nuisance is not to be abated till it can be included in the general drainage of the north of London.—Last week, the births were 854 boys and 772 girls, in all 1626 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57 the average number was 1507.—*from the Registrar General's Weekly Return.*

THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION.—This has been Commemoration week at Oxford. The noblemen and gentlemen honoured with the degree of D.C.L. were Lord Ratford de Redcliffe; Viscount Eversley, late Speaker of the House of Commons; the Right Hon. Sir Laurence Kelly, late Chief Justice of Bengal; Sir John Shaw Sefton, K.C.B.; Major-General Inglis, the hero of Inkerman; Mr. Thomas Dyke Acland, M.A.; and Mr. Justice Haliburton.

CAPTAIN GRANT'S (ARMY) KITCHENS.—Several

official papers on the working of Captain Grant's kitchens now in use at Aldershot and Woolwich were lately printed for general circulation. The report of a board of officers appointed by the Commander-in-Chief is very favourable to the invention of Captain Grant, as being decidedly superior to the present apparatus for cooking. But, although the general principle is approved, there are "many points of minor detail" which are objectionable, and might be improved.

A RARE BIRD.—A bird of the eagle species, from Costa Rica, was landed at Southampton from the royal mail steamer *Atrato* a few days since. It is a comparatively small bird, with a powerful beak. Its name in Central America denotes the king of the eagles. All other birds retire from where it feeds, through fear of its disposition and prowess.

DESTRUCTION OF THE BARQUE HENRY JONES BY FIRE.—A report was received at Lloyd's on Thursday, from the receiver of wrecks at Southampton, of the loss of the barque *Henry Jones*, of Caernarvon, by fire, while on her voyage from Liverpool to Coquimbó, with a cargo of 530 tons of patent fuel. The cause appears clearly to have been spontaneous combustion.

BURNING PAPER MONEY.—The amount of the Russian paper currency just publicly burnt at St. Petersburg is twelve millions of silver roubles.

MR. HODGE, of Glastonbury, Somersetshire, Orsini's testamentary executor, has left Genoa for England, by the long sea route, on board the British steamer *Tenriff*.

THE FARES TO MANCHESTER.—The London and North-Western Company announce that, "from and after the 21st of June," their fares between London, Liverpool, and Manchester, will be assimilated to the Great Northern.

NEW SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—The Jersey papers announce that the arrangements for laying down the submarine telegraph cable between Portland and the Channel Islands are completed, and that a telegraphic communication between England and those islands will be established in the course of a month.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, it is stated, has issued an order, declaring that, having regard to the present state of the business in the Liverpool District Court of Bankruptcy, the vacancy occasioned by the death of Commissioner Stevenson ought not, in his opinion, to be filled up, and directing that it shall not be filled up until further order.

GORED TO DEATH BY A BULL.—On Tuesday an inquest was held at the Salisbury Infirmary, before Mr. R. M. Wilson, on the body of John Wingrove. The deceased, who was about sixty-five years of age, was attacked on the previous Friday by a bull belonging to Mr. Selfe, of Woodford. Some of his ribs were fractured, and he was bruised on the right shoulder. The poor man was removed to the infirmary, where he died. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death." The bull had always been considered to be a very quiet animal.

PRIZES.—The gold medals founded by the late Sir Robert Blane, to be presented to the naval surgeon whose diary shall possess the greatest merit, have just been awarded by the President of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy to Messrs. William Richard Edwin Smart, M.D., of her Majesty's ship *Diamond* (1855), and Alexander Eugene Mackay, of her Majesty's ship *Fantome*.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 19th.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE INDIA BILL.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE asked whether the resolutions on the subject of the Government of India, which had passed the House of Commons, would be brought before their Lordships previously to the bill coming before them.—The Earl of Malmesbury said that Lord Derby was still unable to be in his place, and asked for a repetition of the question on Monday.—A long discussion took place with regard to the mode of conducting private business in Parliament.

Several bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at half-past seven.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW WRIT.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for East Norfolk, in the room of Sir Edward Buxton, deceased.

THE GERMAN LEGION AT THE CAPE.

Sir DE LACY EVANS begged to ask the Secretary of State for War, from what fund the German Legion at the Cape of Good Hope have been paid during the last year the field allowances and full pay which the governor of that colony is stated to have issued to them.—General

PEEL said they were paid out of the Commissariat chest, by order of the governor; orders had been given that no further payments of the kind should be made.

KISSING A LADY.

Mr. FITZROY, begged to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether his attention has been called to a case which has recently occurred before the Wareham Petty Sessions, when a carpenter of the name of Craft was sentenced, under the Aggravated Assaults Act, to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for kissing the daughter of the Reverend H. C. Collins, of Farringdon Rectory, Devon, on landing from a steamer between Poole and Swanage.—Mr. WALPOLE said his attention had not been called to the case, but if the facts were laid before him he would look into it and see if the Act of Parliament did not require amendment.

CHINA.

Mr. HORSEFALL, begged to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether there is any truth in the reports which appear in the French papers of an arrangement restricting the discretionary powers of the Plenipotentiaries in China, and ordering them to negotiate at Canton, Peking, or elsewhere.—Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD said there was no truth in the report.

THE MILITIA.

Colonel FRENCH begged to ask the Secretary of State for War if it is his intention to recommend the disembodiment of any additional regiments of Militia, and if he will inform the House on what principle the sixteen regiments lately disembodied were selected. He complained of the manner in which his regiment—the Roscommon—had been treated.—General PEEL said it was not the intention of the Government to disembody any more regiments, and no more would be embodied. The sixteen regiments in question were selected on the ground that they did not give their quota of men to the Line.

THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.

Mr. STIRLING begged to ask the Chief Commissioner of Works if it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to order any one of the prize designs for the Wellington monument, now exhibited in the Conference Room, to be executed for St. Paul's; and, if not, whether he will state the course which the Government proposes to adopt with regard to the design and construction of the monument.

THE THAMES.

Mr. ROSS DONNELLY MANGLES begged to ask the Chief Commissioner of Works what steps he has taken, or proposes to take, to preserve the health of the members of the two Houses of Parliament from being destroyed by the present pestilential condition of the River Thames.—In reference to Mr. Mangles's question, Mr. Alderman CURRIE defended the Metropolitan Board of Works, stating that they had been required to do an impracticable work, and in which they were thwarted by the late Chief Commissioner of Works.—Mr. WARREN urged the inability of the Metropolitan Board of Works to prevent the sewage of London flowing into the Thames. He asked Sir Benjamin Hall if he was satisfied with that strange body.—Lord JOHN MANNERS, answering the above questions, said, that with reference to the Wellington monument, he had come to the conclusion to select one design which had been mentioned by the authority of Mr. Pearson. It was the design numbered 18. With reference to the state of the river, he could only say that he had no power or jurisdiction to interfere. He daily received reports from Mr. Goldsmith Gurney as to what he proposed to do with regard to permanently cleansing the river, which amounted to a statement that he could do nothing; but he could place contrivances against the windows of the Houses of Parliament to keep out the stench, and he was also throwing quantities of lime into the mud of the river.—Sir BENJAMIN HALL said that he had exercised his right, as Chief Commissioner of Works, in rejecting the plans submitted to him by the Metropolitan Board of Works for draining the river Thames, because they were contrary to the Act of Parliament. He thought it would be best for the Government to take the matter in their own hands.—After some further discussion, the subject dropped.

THE MURDER OF MR. ELLIS.

In answer to THE O'DONOGHUE, Mr. WHITESIDE entered into a statement of the facts connected with the murder of Mr. Ellis, in Tipperary, and the circumstances connected with the trial of the murderer, denying that the trial was not a fair one. He declined to state where the witnesses were whose evidence had obtained the conviction of the murderer.

THE CONFESSIONAL IN BELGRAVIA.

Mr. BUTLER begged to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to take any steps in consequence of the practices alleged to have taken place at the Confessional in the district of St. Barnabas, Piccadilly; and the statements that similar practices are being continued by other ministers of our Church in that neighbourhood; and whether her Majesty's Government is in communication with the proper ecclesiastical authority, in order to the punishment of all who may have taken part in such practices.—Mr. WALPOLE answered the question an

said that, on behalf of the Government, if these practices had taken place, they should be put an end to; but, as there was a denial of the fact, and the matter would come under judicial cognizance, the less the Government interfered the better.

Mr. BRIGHT brought forward the subject of the proceedings of the British squadron engaged in the suppression of the slave trade, and our relations with the United States.—Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD pointed out the conciliatory course which has been taken by the Government. It was under consideration whether the squadron would not be withdrawn.—Mr. ROBBUCK, Lord J. RUSSELL, and Lord PALMERSTON having spoken, the subject dropped.

The FUNDED DEBT BILL was read a second time without discussion.

The House then went into Committee on the SALE AND TRANSFER OF LAND (IRELAND) BILL, which occupied the greater part of the remainder of the sitting.

THE CONTINENT.

An armistice has been concluded between the Candiot insurgents and the Turkish authorities, and the Christians have agreed to entrust their interests to commissioners, who have been appointed to examine their grievances.

"Sardinia has claimed from Naples," says the *Morning Star* of to-day, "an indemnity for its subjects who were imprisoned at Naples in consequence of the capture of the Cagliari, and who have now been liberated. She likewise insists upon the proprietors of the Cagliari being indemnified. The King of Naples has declared that he yielded only to force, being unable to resist the power of England; most probably, therefore, he will not be found so yielding in the case of Sardinia. It is said that he has made a counter demand of indemnification for the damage done by the Cagliari at Ponza, as well as on the coast. Thus this disagreeable affair still clouds the horizon of Italy. In addition, it is stated from Paris that the French Government as yet sees no reason for resuming diplomatic relations with Naples."

THE CAGLIARI CASE.

The official correspondence with Naples, on the subject of the Cagliari and the two English engineers, was published yesterday. In Lord Malmesbury's ultimatum (May 25th), we read:—

"I have had the honour of stating to your Excellency [Commendatore Carafa], in my previous note, the amount of the indemnity which her Majesty's Government demands of the Neapolitan Government for the two English engineers, and I explained to you the reasons and the motives why my Government thinks that the Neapolitan Government will see fit to change the decision expressed in your Excellency's note of the 6th inst.

"But should the Neapolitan Government persist altogether in its refusal to make the reparation required, her Majesty's Government, strong in the conviction of its right, would be fully justified in treating the matter seriously, and in obtaining by force the accomplishment of its demand. It might immediately adopt some measures, such as decrees of any embargo, or reprisals, which would secure the recovery of the indemnity demanded, and which would, moreover, be entirely in accordance with precedents.

"But her Majesty's Government is desirous of giving to all civilized nations an evident proof of its moderation and of its constant adhesion to the principles consecrated by the protocol of the Conference of Paris of the 14th of April, 1856, to which the Neapolitan Government itself gave its adhesion in the month of June following."

Sweden is therefore suggested as a mediating power. The Commendatore Carafa, in his reply, intimating the submission of the King of Naples, says:—

"In reply to the letter, which your Excellency has done me the honour of addressing to me, under date of the 25th of May last, I hasten to acquaint you that the Government of the King, my august master, has never imagined, or been able to imagine, that it could find means to oppose the forces which the Government of her Britannic Majesty has at its disposal!"

EXTENSIVE FORGERIES ON THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.—William Wilmshurst, a clerk, living in Weymouth-street, Hackney, was brought before the Lord Mayor at the Mansion-house yesterday, charged with having uttered at Tenterden, in Kent, two forged cheques, one for 457l. 10s., and the other for 1500l., with intent to defraud the London and County Bank, Lombard-street. He was remanded.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—A fatal accident occurred on Thursday on the London and North-Western Railway. A passenger train was in a cutting on that line, near Huddersfield, when some heavy lumber waggons got loose from a siding, rushed down an incline, and smashed the end carriages of the train. Three persons were killed, and nine or ten others were wounded.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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. 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. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 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.

SETTLEMENT OF THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.

COMMON sense has been so far successful in our differences with the United States that the point of danger seems to have been passed. There is still a good deal to be done, not only for the rectification of past errors, but for the prevention of others, into which our present relations render us extremely likely to fall. Although the facts of the case at present in dispute are only becoming gradually understood, they are becoming understood, and common sense and common justice will have fair play. For, as we have always held, when the two countries are really well informed as to the facts of any question, there cannot be misunderstanding or conflict. Indeed, danger can only exist where officers and statesmen conceal the facts, and hasten to outrages or misrepresentations. We do not level this remark at either side. Among Americans will be found men who make statements as erroneous as any. In the course of last week, Viscount GODERICH drew attention to some remarks ascribed to Mr. MASON, the United States Minister at Paris, which remarks were calculated to lead to most erroneous conclusions. Mr. MASON's statement was to the effect that, in the course of some communication which had taken place between the English and French Governments on the subject of the French scheme of "free emigration," her Majesty's Government "had informed Count WALEWSKI that they would not object to the French scheme for that purpose, while the wants of the British colonies were being supplied by the Coolie trade." The full and complete denial of Mr. FITZGERALD showed that, as he said, "grave misapprehension must have existed as to the facts on the part of Mr. MASON." So far from such an arrangement having been suggested, Mr. FITZGERALD said, "During the whole course of those communications they were, on our side, rather expressions of regret that such a scheme should have been originated, and still more that it should have been persisted in, and certainly no concessions were at any time made such as were described by Mr. MASON, nor any admission that such a course would be proper." Unfortunately, misstatements and perversions of facts cannot always be so directly and immediately set right; hence the danger of all diplomatic dealings that are not fundamentally simple and ingenuous.

When the subject of the recent "outrages" came up lately, our Ministers, and some of our journalists, tried to ignore it; we, however, insisted, as we have always done; that, however noble it might be in us to give up our slaves, to buy up the slavery of the West

Indies, we were not quite wise in the manner of doing it; and the condition of our West Indian possessions is still a painful comment on our haste and our imperfect measures. But whether we have acted wisely or not in our own case, we cannot force our sense of right on other nations, make our navy the police of their seas and commercial marine, and carry on searches in their vessels. We have sufficiently described the character of the recent outrages. We have, we think, shown that the very nature of our self-imposed task is such as to lead to vexatious and even criminal excesses of duty and authority, even if the service were performed with the sanction of the American and other Governments concerned in the controversy. With satisfaction we see that our views have been accepted as just, and our conclusions adopted by journals that have not sustained the same opinions quite so long.

It is a strong proof that English feeling has at last taken a healthy course, trusting to facts instead of fancies, when the *Times* comes out as it has throughout this recent question. "For states, as for private men," it says, in a late article, "the first rule of honour is to be in the right, and 'rather to suffer than to do a wrong,' nor is it possible in the conduct of affairs to separate the cause of the public safety from the vindication of the credit of the country." It goes on to say:—

"Irresponsible triflers may denounce the cowardice of considering either legal right or national expediency when there is an opportunity of appealing to the prejudices which have long been connected with the Anti-Slavery crusade; but in the presence of a grave danger all who have the means of influencing the policy of the country are bound to inquire whether the course which has been pursued is prudent, and especially whether it is justified by the principles of international law." * * * "The vindication of that Slave Trade policy which has long been condemned by all thoughtful politicians is, in fact, wholly irrelevant to the present question. The dangerous irritation which prevails throughout the Union arises from a belief that the English cruisers have been guilty of a gross violation of the freedom of the seas, and the wildest philanthropist will scarcely venture to maintain that the duty of enforcing the Spanish treaties carries with it the right of violating the immunity of the American flag. If there is a particle of truth in the repeated complaints which have been brought forward, the English cruisers must, under some unaccountable misapprehension, have attempted to exercise a superintendence over American vessels, and such a pretension is as untenable as if it were a claim to land a file of soldiers for the purpose of controlling the Irish immigrants on the quays of New York."

And it thus concludes its arguments:—

"No English diplomatist would pretend that the American statute which condemns the slave trade as piratical can have the effect of bringing the crime, as piracy, under the jurisdiction of foreign authorities. The protests against the right of search during time of peace are directed against a claim which has been abandoned since the conclusion of the treaty of 1842, and the English Government can hardly be said to yield to menace pretensions which have never been put forward."

A further, and perhaps stronger, proof of the healthful change of feeling which is shown in the discussion of this question, is given by the organ of stout anti-slavery views, the *Daily News*. After stating the case of the French vessel *Le Louis*, which was captured by an English vessel of war on the coast of Africa, after resisting the assumed right of the British commander to visit and search, the *Daily News* says:—

"She [*Le Louis*] was carried into Sierra Leone and condemned. On appeal to our Court of Admiralty, then presided over by Lord Stowell, the sentence was reversed, and it was judicially decided that 'the right of visitation and search on the high seas did not exist in time of peace.' If it belonged to one nation, it must be held to belong equally to all, and those claims would lead to gigantic mischief and universal war. 'No one nation,' remarked Lord Stowell, in his emphatic style, 'has a right to force its way to the liberation of Africa by trampling on the independence of other states; or to procure an eminent good by means that are unlawful; or to press forward to a great principle by breaking through other great principles that stand in the way.' This is the clear dictate of justice and good

sense. A greater crime, or a greater folly, could not be committed, than that of imperiling a war with the United States by the Quixotic assertion of a fancied right, the existence of which has been thus denied in terms, by the greatest, and certainly not the least tenacious, of the English exponents of international law."

And it concludes an article, written entirely in this spirit, by saying:—

"There are few things which could be more satisfactory to rational politicians on both sides of the Atlantic, than to receive authentic assurance that Great Britain has finally consented to waive the exercise of a power which cannot be claimed without a violent stretch of authority, nor asserted without a constant risk of war."

These manifestations are sufficient to show that English opinion is as strong as American against the outrages perpetrated by English cruisers. It is the fact that Americans have considerable confidence in the present Government, and generally in Tory Governments, which, they say, are more friendly to America than Liberal Governments; and the estimate is confirmed in the present case. We believe we shall not be wrong if we express our belief that the question will be found to have been settled to the satisfaction of both Governments.

SIGNS AND WARNINGS.

For now nearly a half-year the public has heard, from various directions and with constantly increasing vehemence, anxious warnings that France is preparing, actively and steadily, to set her military strength on some particular occasion face to face with ours, and provoke, at any rate, a comparison which it believes will be favourable to itself. These warnings, it is now shown, were not the mere random utterances of alarmists. They began to circulate just at the moment when the French Emperor conceived he had just cause of personal offence against us; and so far may be considered to have been rather conjectural than positive. But they have been reiterated after the most attentive consideration has been given to the question, and must now be admitted to be worthy of serious notice.

The French armaments appear to be of two different kinds. They are permanently endeavouring to raise their naval force to a level with our own, or rather, to a position of superiority; and at the same time they are pushing forward naval and military preparations, as if for an immediate expedition. The inauguration of Cherbourg, which was not to have been finished till next year, has been hurried forward as an excuse for the concentration of a large force in the Channel; the arsenals of Toulon and Brest have been exhibiting remarkable activity during the whole season; and there is now actually a powerful fleet, consisting of nine sail of the line and three frigates, at large in the Atlantic, and nobody is sure whither it is going, or what amount of troops it has on board.

If we had no cause of quarrel with France, or rather if the French Government did not think it had a cause of quarrel with us, we might be content to watch these movements with no more than an ordinary amount of vigilance; but under present circumstances, it would certainly be most culpable neglect on the part both of the public press and the Ministry to proceed on the supposition that friendly assurances should exonerate us from the duty of making the most ample defensive arrangements. We know with whom we have to deal. It has always been the habit of the French Emperor to proceed by surprises. Setting aside the great act of perjury, which excludes him from honourable society, he has always been accustomed to prepare for a strong act by making innumerable little pledges in the opposite direction. This tendency has been so remarked, that diplomats are beginning to be always alarmed for the success of a cause which has his Majesty's especial patronage, or which receives the support of his press. His promises and his explanations are almost universally considered by the public as mere formalities. Never, perhaps, was sovereign of a state more painfully humiliated than he has been this last week by the quiet incredulity with which the "denial" in the *Moniteur* was received.

We must not, however, be led away to suppose that, because France is getting ready for war, and is particularly earnest in saying that such is not the case, we are certainly to expect a piratical attack.

Such does not appear to be the policy of the Emperor. At least, we are willing to believe, until absolute proof be given, that he is not positively insane. Of course, if he were to conceive and carry out a landing without a declaration of war, as our Government does not seem to have been alarmed in time, he could do us infinite damage. There can be no doubt about it. Unless Hodge were to rise *en masse*, we might see French bayonets twinkling somewhere in the neighbourhood of London; and some party of bold mounted Chasseurs might dash forward and bathe their moustaches gratis in the ale of the Elephant and Castle. But that castle, the only one it appears in a proper state of defence they would find on their way, would probably be the limit of the supposed military excursion. Although our "roughs" are not heroes, it would require something more than a corps sent over by surprise to occupy London. We might be disgraced by the affair, but we should not be much injured; and, at any rate, the advantages of the expedition would be so doubtful, and would render a long and bloody struggle with England so inevitable—a struggle that could only be ended by the extinction of the Emperor, that it is not to be supposed that he is dreaming of any such abnormal act.

The warnings, however, which have been circulated do not all point to such extremities as these. The best-informed persons believe that the object of the Emperor is rather to humiliate us without fighting by the display of an overwhelming force than to indulge in the barren pleasure of an attack upon our ill-defended shores. He has great objects to carry out in Europe. He wishes to be acknowledged once more, as he was tacitly acknowledged until the grenades of Orsini were flung, and lighted up the ruinous condition of the pedestal on which he had been raised to be the arbiter of peace and war—the real chief of this Western seat of exhausted civilization. We are the only impediments to the realization of his ideas. We have still the reputation of being able, at least, to obstruct any plans of aggrandizement which France may entertain. It is his object to show that he is able to meet us on our own element, and, perhaps, force his way to our shores. Already the announcements that have been made of his preparations and of the weak, though amiable confidence of our Ministers, have given him many diplomatic advantages. Public opinion has been affected. It is said abroad that we feel incompetent any longer, drained as we are supposed to be by the necessities of India, to uphold the position of a first power in Europe. The most comical humility is sometimes attributed to us. This turn in opinion is justified by many small circumstances which may be great in their consequences. The indifference with which we have beheld the commencement of the military occupation of Egypt by the landing of a body of French gendarmes to act as police, is a striking proof that we are somewhat bewildered by the crowd of our responsibilities. A few years ago the Press and the Parliament would have rung with complaints on the subject. Now, no one seems to know or care about it. We are allowing the French to resume the slave trade, and to pursue everywhere a policy not only independent of us, but hostile to us. All this is because we will not pay for a Channel fleet. Next month we shall, perhaps, be convinced that the conspiracy against our prestige has been well laid; and we may endeavour to repair our mistake in a blundering hurry. But there are advantages that can never be recovered.

SPIRITUAL LORETTES IN BELGRAVIA.

THE Scarlet Lady is said to have taken up her lodging in Belgravia, living under a veil of incognito so thin that no one can be deceived any more than by the *alias* of travelling royalty. The secret, like all other illustrious secrets, gets whispered abroad, and spiritual Whigs are scandalized. A zealot of this order gets some information which enables him to ferret out a telling scandal against a gentleman who is said to be a favourite master of the ceremonies to the Scarlet Lady; and he sets to work. We only state the facts as we find them.

The Hon. and Rev. Frederick Baring abominates Rome and all her ecceteras, and he goes about seeking whom he may devour. In his pious pursuit he falls in with six women, who are debtors to the spiritual friends of the Rev. Alfred Poole for sundry groceries and other charitable helps; and have thus been qualified to bear witness against their neighbour. The women are of divers ages, ranging between nineteen and fifty. They have something to

tell. It is very scandalous, but proportionably available for Protestant purposes. Their story amounts to a categorical accusation against the Rev. Mr. Poole, not only of using Popish ceremonies, but of practising the confessional, and of pushing its inquiries beyond the verge of decorum. In their details the whole six cases strongly resemble each other. There are, it appears, in the district of St. Barnabas, Pimlico, certain "lady-visitors," among whom is a Miss Joy. This lady, according to the representations of several of the women, pressed them to wait upon the Rev. Mr. Poole for the purpose of auricular confession; and to some extent she coerced them by the threat that, if they did not confess to Mr. Poole, certain small charities in the shape of grocery would be withheld from them. It is a sort of infinitesimal rack, undergone optionally within an optional Inquisition! The women state that they were conducted into a dark or darkened room in the parsonage, and there subjected to a series of questions calculated not only to draw forth, in detail, their conjugal relations, but also their aberrations in thought as well as in fact, and any conceivable improprieties of which they might have been guilty. In possession of this valuable information, the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Baring carries it—to what authority? To a public meeting in St. James's Hall; and there, in an *ex parte* statement, obtains a verdict from Judge Lynch.

Now, what is the state of the facts? In the first place, Mr. Poole has already been arraigned before a competent tribunal—the Bishop to wit. Secondly, he has undergone judgment, and a sort of deprivation, namely, of his curacy. Thirdly, the proceedings in this court have not been reported, but there is good reason to believe that Mr. Poole has been found guilty, *not* of the proceedings charged by the women, but upon certain admissions made by himself, with reference to his opinions and conduct in the practice of the confessional. And fourthly, Mr. Poole has appealed to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

It is in *this* stage, pending an appeal, that Baring—there is no bearing this Baring—*tolerans a non tolerando*—brings forward the evidence of the half-dozen willing women before a public meeting, "a Shaftesbury aiding and abetting." It is a strong example of the extremes to which men will be carried by the *odium theologicum*. The Hon. and Rev. Mr. Baring is a respectable man, no doubt; yet we find him associated with a set of women who, on their own showing, subjected themselves, for the sake of a few pence worth of tea and sugar, to an ordeal that women with the least self-respect or decency of mind would shrink from with unconquerable disgust; and we find him taking their evil report against a brother clergyman, and hastening before regular judgment to snatch, on one-sided evidence, a judgment from Judge Lynch.

The Hon. and Rev. Mr. Baring and the party with whom he is acting—although he denies that he has any connexion with any party—are spoiling a good cause. No church ever made its ground good by making alliance with scandal, or embezzling the rights of the judgment-seat. Appeal should be made, not to a public meeting collected by the exciting advertisement that "only gentlemen are expected to attend," the disclosures, of course, being "unfit for publication," but on the much broader ground of public opinion—on the merits of the question at issue. Pseudo-Papacy in Belgravia is clearly in a false position; it is trying to buy itself in by donations of tea and sugar; making converts of a few stray sheep; and equivocating between England and Rome. It will never get much forwarder, while left to its own means and contrivances; but when Protestant zeal makes common cause with scandal, and resorts to measures such as drove the *Age* and *Stetivist* newspapers into the world of extinct monsters, it rouses English feeling against Protestantism to the defence of injured and aspersed Papacy.

THE THAMES PESTILENCE.

A GIGANTIC flood of poison swells daily and nightly in the metropolis. The Mississippi is the Father of Waters—the Thames is the Mother of Stench. Putrid and noisome, our river rolls the filth of London to within a few miles of the sea; the sea drives it back in an aggravated stage of decomposition, and here the abomination floats between the Thames Tunnel and Battersea, hourly blackening, rotting, and steaming with vast escapes of contagion. Members of Parliament and mudlarks, porters on piers and passengers by steamboats, sicken

under the loathsome influence; city physicians and surgeons find the numbers of their patients increased; something only a few degrees removed from cholera makes its appearance, and the Board of Works deliberates upon the necessity of "doing something." What they in their wisdom devise, is to carry to the centre of the stream the double line of tributaries which accumulate, under the noses and mouths of three millions of people, the sewage and suppuration of the London basin. That is to say, instead of being voided upon the river beach, so as to crawl across a broad and oozy surface in the light of the sun at low water, it is proposed to extend the arched outfalls so that their discharge may at times be concealed. If we are professionally told that the evil will thus be diminished, it is with gratitude we accept the suggestion; but, at the best, this will only be a partial and tampering process. The Thames will still be our main drain—our huge receptacle of dead animals, decayed vegetables, ordure, putrescence, and all else that should be carried far from the habitations of men. It will still be a body of murky, cloudy, dense, and stinking liquid, with the consistency of Warren's blacking, the smell of assafoetida, and the colour of the cuttlefish's secretions. With a hundred fountains, fed by the latrines, urinals, and other deleterious sources playing into its bed, it will remain the great Plague of London—a perpetual nuisance and pollution. Legislators in the library of the Commons express themselves with profane emphasis when the gross vapour rises to their nostrils. Ticket collectors on the piers threaten to throw up their situations. Even old watermen make oath and say that the Thames has become unbearable. No crocodile or hippopotamus, we are sure, would live for an hour in these foul and hideous waters. Birds, we believe, seldom fly across this Avernus except from sheer necessity. The swans keep far above the bridges. And the Lord Mayor has abolished the procession of state-barges on the 9th of November. Moreover, we can assure the steam-boat companies that the river traffic is seriously depressed by the noxious exhalations that sicken every passenger, and render omnibus tumult preferable to a passage through the Italian Hell of Stenches. The summer, which blesses the land, curses the water—at least in the London valley. The slimy putrefaction of the Thames simmers in the heat, and from every bubble breaks a discharge of insufferable miasma. Well, then, as we have said, the Board of Works intends to move; but the City Commissioners of Sewers must be consulted, and these gentlemen haggle over expenditure. They are asked to sanction two schemes—one for carrying to a distance below low-water mark the London Bridge sewer, and another for constructing similar works at Dowgate Dock. Who is to bear the cost? becomes the question, and a paltry argument is stated to this effect: Is the City to pay for the improvements, although other than citizens may benefit by them? Is the City to pay the Lord Mayor's allowance, though country cousins may enjoy a sight of his scarlet, and think him a mighty man? Is the City to poison itself, because other wise persons, not citizens, may be bettered in health? We can only say that, with our Boards of Health, our Sanitary Commissioners, our Sewage Commissioners, and our Board of Works, it is infamous that the Thames should continue to be an unwholesome ditch, overflowing with the original and patent elements of typhus. We will none of us have open sewers under our houses, but we have one of immense proportions intersecting our capital city, and the revolting acum is deposited in front of a double line of wharfs and buildings several miles in length, with scores of steamers struggling against the heavy flux and reflux of filth, and with every tide leaving at its recession hillocks of that which Dr. Letheby calls "putrid squash"—the oozings of graveyards, the refuse of unhealthy manufactures, the lees and sediment of humanity—all that is nameless and polluting.

The public is not extravagant in its demands. It does not ask that the river-side, instead of being the ugliest and dirtiest in the world, shall be adorned with quays, and lighted with regular rows of lamps. It does not insist upon the granite walls that contain the clear flow of the Neva; it does not care for an architectural perspective, traversed by bridges, like that of the Seine. But it understands, in spite of economical Boards and the squabbles of engineers, that the sewage of London might safely, easily, and profitably be carried away, purifying the river, and relieving the capital from the presence of an inter-

minable cesspool and an incessant pest. Until then, the Board of Works should be compelled to deliberate, as emperors have done, upon a floating platform, and that platform moored between Blackwall and Putney.

THE PRESS PROSECUTIONS.

It is something almost incredible that the Government should persist in its prosecution of the two booksellers accused of publishing libels against the French Emperor. These indictments are what Mr. Bright called "the verminous rags" left by Lord Palmerston in Downing-street. Why not be generous and politic, and abandon them? They taint the hands of the Minister. There is neither common sense nor common honesty in the whole proceeding. The prosecutions are dishonest, because they are occasional and partial; and they are absurd, because they bring the law into contempt, and result in the establishment of no principle whatever. The doctrine of tyrannicide, and the theoretical assassins, who talk of daggers but use none, may safely be left to the healthy action of public opinion. If not, the Courts at all events are not competent to abate the evil. They may punish Mr. Truelove and the poor Polish bookseller—if they can get an English jury to convict—but after this show of deference to Louis Napoleon, the matter will stand where it did. Libellers will only become more ingenious, and persons who believe in the virtue of sudden pistol-shots will learn to keep the law at arm's length without their meaning being less clear or less deadly. Let a publisher be imprisoned to-day for advocating the assassination of Louis Napoleon, and it would be perfectly safe for any one else to do the same to-morrow. The only difference would be, that the argument must be necessarily more sedate and seductive. Therefore, the approaching trials will be mere burlesques of justice. But they are more. They revolt the feelings of every Englishman. Sir William Peel said of the Conspiracy Bill, that, reason or no reason, it ought never to have been introduced. From that point of view, also, these press prosecutions are disgraceful. We know what to understand by them. They are apologies to France. They are measures of "policy," not of judgment. They are concessions to the French colonels and to M. Walowski. If a verdict could be obtained it would be telegraphed to Paris, and Lord Malmesbury would rely, with additional confidence, upon the pacific tendencies and the moderation of his august and gracious friend. But, in this instance, the pretext is the most empty hypocrisy. We have all of us admired assassins, if not advocated the use of the dagger, at some period of our lives. Scævola and Brutus have been our heroes. With Mr. Disraeli we have blessed the hand "that dares to wield the regicidal steel." We have forgiven Fenton and wished there had been Roman Ravallacs to smite the Cæsars of the Lower Empire. This is one among the inevitable fine frenzies of youth. If, however, a man is pleased to abide by the doctrine of the dagger, confute him, hold him up to ridicule, execrate his ideas, prove them monstrous and unnatural, but do not go to the Queen's Bench and ask the judge and jury to fine and imprison him. When he comes out—if he be the real offender—he will substitute Napoleon I. for Napoleon III., and who shall then prevent him from invoking all the Pianoris and Orsinis, past, present, and to come? The infamous prosecutions now pending assail, however, not the writers themselves, but their publishers, and while Mr. Truelove takes his trial, Mr. Adams, or any one else, is at perfect liberty to sigh (in print, price one penny) for the swords of Harmodius and Aristogiton.

We hope no jurymen will lend themselves to this miserable attempt upon the liberty of unlicensed printing. If they acquit Mr. Truelove and the implicated Pole, they will be "mute Miltons" indeed, but not inglorious, for they will assert the same principle as that in defence of which was composed one of the finest arguments in the language. They are not called upon to vindicate the classical propriety of the doctrine of assassination, but to deny the right of the Crown officers to establish a precedent of persecution against the press. Let them remember that, in a well-ordered society, any publication, however objectionable, will die of its own discredit far easier than under the strokes of a State persecution. When the public have no ears for ribaldry, ribaldry will have no tongue.

THE SETTLEMENT WITH NAPLES.

THE settlement with Naples is one which we must regard with moderate satisfaction. In the first place, the award of fifteen hundred pounds sterling to each of the English engineers is a mitigated atonement to them for the outrages and injuries they had endured. Imprisoned during the greater part of a year, subjected to loathsome maltreatment, reduced to a bed of sickness, and half bereft of reason, will fifteen hundred pounds sterling compensate the more unfortunate of the two sufferers; and is it worthy of a State, admittedly in the wrong, to redeem itself by a concession of this character? If China had been the offending power, and if Mr. Watt and Mr. Parkes had been confined for ten months in the dungeons of Canton, a waggon-load of Sycee silver would have been demanded. But Lord Malmesbury has an aptitude for making small money bargains in vindication of *Civis Romanus*. We will not assert, however, that he was bound to refuse the Neapolitan offer. There were circumstances which rendered it expedient, perhaps, to patch up the quarrel, so as to give no possible advantage to the abettors of certain schemes now in rapid action, the results of which will be known when they are known. However, the Government can claim no particular triumph in the case of the engineers. Still less in the case of the Cagliari. Sardinia recovers her steamer and crew, but what is to be her compensation or that of the officers and men? What of the maritime principles involved? The difficulty has been smothered away by private arrangement between the Cabinets of London and Naples, with an *ex post facto*—and it is now said partial—sanction from Turin; and it may again be said that nothing was more desirable than that, considering the political liabilities of Italy, everything should be prevented that might strengthen the hands of the Muratist conspirators. What Lord Malmesbury has accomplished amounts, therefore, to this: he has successfully compromised the litigation between Great Britain and Sardinia and Naples, and has obtained the consent of the parties concerned. But he has written a despatch which will certainly improve his reputation.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

VI.

SETTING aside the humanity view of our soldier and his right to be included in the general progress of the community; forgetting for a moment, as is unfortunately too much the actual case, all our eternal obligations on the score of Waterloo, Inkermann, Lucknow, and a host of victories only less celebrated, because the destiny that hung upon the issue was not so momentous; and looking at the soldier simply as a fighting locomotive, he is a most valuable and costly machine. Every man is calculated to cost a hundred pounds, without a word about the outlay of bringing him into the field, and working him, which, as every one knows, is always a question of millions. So that to neglect him, to let him get out of order by bad housing or feeding or clothing, or to work him badly, and make a vain sacrifice of him by placing him in positions where injury and destruction are just as perfectly certain to fall upon him as they would be averted by ordinary foresight, is not only a lamentable folly, but a great failing in administrative skill. It is suffering the penny wise and pound foolish policy to be applied in a most mischievous way, and in a manner unjust both to the public and the soldier. It is not a grateful task to rake up old grievances, but the questions are practical, and not without future benefit, perhaps, of—How much of the 60,000,000^{l.} spent upon the late war is attributable to useless expenditure, not to say useless blunders? How many lives would have been saved if the sanitary measures at last adopted had been set to work at the outset of the campaign? Mr. Sidney Herbert asks Colonel Tulloch, "Suppose the rate of mortality could be reduced by proper sanitary precautions to the same amount as in civil life, would not that have a very considerable effect both on the expenses of recruiting and on pensioning? There is no doubt of it. In every way that you reduce the mortality on foreign stations, you diminish the expenses for recruiting, and for every man you save, you gain 20^{l.} or 30^{l.} at least." Dr. John Sutherland also says, "It has been demonstrated in civil life that the expense of all sanitary strictural improvements is repaid over and over again even within the short life of a man. Beyond all question it is the worst economy in the world to save money

when the object of spending it is to preserve health." It is certainly a most mortifying thing to find enormous grants of money expended in a manner very far from the best that could be devised for the health and accommodation of the troops. The barracks we have seen are all but universally extremely ill-constructed and deficient in the commonest requisites of a refuge for the destitute; but when we come to compare the huts of the camps of instruction with their cost and capabilities, we are fairly at a loss to explain such evidence as we find given by Colonel Tulloch, an officer of unquestionable experience, and whose knowledge of the whole subject gives his opinion the greatest weight. Asked by the President, "Do you see any remedies for these causes of disease?" he says, "One remedy is clear. If I were going to construct barracks, I should build them as detached houses to contain only ten men, and then put the troops in nearly the same condition as the agricultural population from which they are taken. The cost of the barracks at Aldershot is 140*l.* per man, including officers' quarters, chapel, schools, &c., or about 40*l.* per man without these items; and a house with eight or ten rooms would cost no more. The advantage of having one roof and a large building as being cheaper was urged against me in the committee of which I was a member for arranging the description of buildings to be erected at Aldershot. I was placed on that committee by Lord Hardinge when Aldershot was bought; and when I found there was abundance of gravel and sand, and a description of small wood which nobody would buy at Sandhurst, I proposed that small huts fitted for ten men should be put up with these materials by the soldiers themselves, as had been done at Maroon Town, when the accommodation cost only 25*l.* per hut, and lasted six or seven years; but that proposition was negatived, though I contended that twenty, or even ten, years might totally alter the state of the country, and render a different kind of accommodation necessary from the expensive permanent barracks which the rest of the committee contended for." Colonel Tulloch considers that, by this means, we should get free ventilation round each hut, and avoid the masses of men being formed. For our own part, we are disposed to think that this plan of small buildings is the best, the ventilation is more easy to obtain and more complete; besides which, there seems to be some morbid influence created by masses of living beings one upon the other, whether brutes or men, that is not to be removed by any modes of ventilation, and we suspect it to be this subtle cause that creates those terrible conditions which occasionally appear amongst the inmates of all large hospitals and dwellings—erysipelas, gangrene, malignant fevers, &c. Even were the regulation space of four hundred and fifty cubic feet per man strictly obeyed—which it is not—this is not the only desideratum, because the beds may be closely crowded together, and yet have the regulation space above them. It is this very packing together that is so injurious, and the effects of which cannot be remedied by any overhead ventilation. But it will astonish most people to find the Quartermaster-General of the army telling us that there is no regulation space between the beds, and that the medical authorities are never consulted about the site of barracks or the plan of constructing them—that only within the last three or four years have they been consulted respecting the site and construction of hospitals. The same officer pronounces our huts very imperfect: "They want ventilation; their whole construction has been bad, the material very flimsy, and the plan of nailing them is equally bad. They should be made of boards to slip into grooved upright-posts, so that four or five men could put up a hut in a very short time."

Mr. Rawlinson, the civil engineer sent out officially to the East, gives the same testimony: "When a hut is once up and nailed, it is simply firewood. I defy the sappers to take it down, and mark it so as to preserve it for use." And the timbers split with the nails, so that it warped the same as a piece of parchment before the fire. As to ventilation, "every hut was a cellar-dwelling of the worst description." The whole of this gentleman's evidence is most important in reference especially to the sanitary measures required in a camp like that before Sebastopol and at Balaklava. It is to be hoped that although the suggestions do not come from a military engineer, they will nevertheless have all the force which they really deserve. The most important points in it are the providing of portable

huts, paving them, or flooring them; if possible, the constant use of deodorizing and disinfecting agents, such as charcoal, in the privies; the protection of the water springs, and ensuring its purity by pipes, tanks, and taps. Above all, we gather from Mr. Rawlinson an important confirmation of the necessity for breaking through all routine when the exigencies of the position demand it. He illustrates this by what Admiral Boxer did: "With a few Jack Tars he made wharfs almost as fast as an old woman could walk, but a military engineer must do everything by rule and square, and it cost guineas where the old Admiral's work did not cost shillings, and under the circumstances one just as good as the other. I found the same at Sinope: an officer there—Captain Hibbert—made a cattle wharf in about two months by the aid of local labour and the rudest materials; it would have taken the engineers at Woolwich much longer, and have cost ten times the money. That is the fatality of routine, and I do not see how you are to get out of it unless rules are relaxed at such times, and commanding officers and other officers are encouraged to think and make the best of the men and material on the ground. All commanding officers should learn something of mechanics, road-making, well-sinking, timber converting, &c., so as to be ready at expedients in a new country and under difficulties."

All the defects described by the report in the barracks, are to be found, with even aggravated conditions, in the regimental hospitals—the same low-pitched rooms and insufficient ventilation. Rarely are there any water-closets, washing-rooms, or infectious wards. The garrison hospitals are not even what they should be; so that the Netley Hospital is not begun one day before it was wanted. While mentioning this new hospital—which will be on a scale of size and completeness superior to anything hitherto built—it may be as well, as the subject of the site has been discussed a good deal, to say, that the evidence shows that the site was chosen after considerable precaution taken in examining other sites by medical officers of great experience, and finally approved by the Director General of the Medical Department. It has one large main sewer, capable of draining a town of 30,000 inhabitants, which goes into the sea below low-water mark. It appears, also, that Miss Nightingale was called in, and made an important suggestion, which has been carried out. The large general hospitals at Portsmouth and Chatham are all confined, badly ventilated, and not constructed for the purpose. At Chatham, especially—which, being a sort of headquarters of the Medical Department, should set forth an example to the young surgeons entering the service—the hospitals are positively make-shifts—old barracks converted into hospitals, without any proper sanitary arrangements, and actually affording less than the proper allowance of air space to each patient. The sergeant in charge of one of the wards of the Invalid Depot speaks of always standing on one side when he opened the ward door in the morning "to let the whiff of foul air pass." Other evidence upon the Chatham hospitals shows the existence of a most disgusting and injurious proximity of the kitchens and latrines. Much pains, however, has now been taken, by sending a deputation—Dr. J. Sutherland, Dr. Mapleton, and Dr. Alexander—to examine the barracks and hospitals of France and Belgium. They report that they are not on the whole superior to our London hospitals, and in some respects not so good, as they have generally open latrines at the end of the wards. The air-space allowed is very much greater, being in the La Ribosière 1,860 foot for each bed. Ventilation is obtained, when the doors and windows are closed, by means of a large fan, which draws the fresh air down a shaft into the wards, whence the old air is removed by several shafts in the walls having openings between each bed; the same apparatus serving for warming in winter. The operation, however, does not satisfy our deputation; and the conclusion is, that natural ventilation by windows and doors, intelligently managed, is, after all, the most efficient. A very evident improvement in the La Ribosière is the coating the walls, ceiling, and floors with an impervious cement, the surface of which is polished and like marble, so that it admits of perfect cleanliness.

The commissioners recommend the immediate inspection of all barracks, and a revision of the allotment of men to rooms, with a practical application of sanitary science to the removal of the existing causes of excessive mortality.

The feeding of the soldier has, with a few late exceptions, been so clumsily and coarsely managed, that it must have been a source of ill-health, and that want of condition so favourable to the attacks of disease. The same boiled meat and potatoes before him every day, for twenty-one years! What a senseless method of keeping a fighting-man in condition! Would any man lay down such a dietary for his kennel or his stable; our felons in Portland Island are served with infinitely more neatness and comfort, and with more nutritious, palatable food; indeed, their kitchen can only be compared to the arrangements of a first-rate club. Many of our large manufacturers provide a cook, kitchen, and refreshment-room for their workpeople; but our soldier must do as well as he can, with no other means of cooking than the copper, and a comrade for cook.

ST. BARNABAS, PIMLICO.—This church was unusually crowded last Sunday, in expectation of some illusion being made to the meeting of the previous Friday, at St. James's Hall, to denounce the revival of the confessional by the Rev. Alfred Poole. It was the festival of St. Barnabas, and the church was more than usually decorated with flowers and with the initials S. B. Mr. Ingle, a clergyman from another parish, preached the sermon, which though founded on the text, "Thou shalt do no murder," had reference to the recent attack on the conduct of Mr. Poole. The preacher said that "the church of St. Barnabas more than ever demanded their support, as it was not merely the church of a district, but in some sense the church of the whole country, for from it went forth an influence which permeated the land. As long as St. Barnabas and its system remained, the battle with the wickedness and irreverence at the time would be fought throughout the country. The friends of God's holy Catholic truth looked on St. Barnabas as their centre and model. Let them take courage. Not men nor devils would be able to prevail against them. What they should do now was to subscribe generously, so as to obtain a permanent endowment, and to give St. Barnabas any incumbent whom it should be out of the power of any individual, however elevated, to remove." No disturbance took place; but a good deal of excitement prevailed in the vicinity of the church, which was guarded by two or three policemen.—A long letter from the Rev. Mr. Poole is published in the *Times* of Tuesday, and contains an emphatic denial of the statements made at the meeting on Friday week. The Bishop of London, it is said, has admitted that he disbelieves the worst of the statements, but he has suspended the rev. gentleman's license on account of certain admissions made by him in a conversation with his Lordship, relative to the practice of confession at St. Barnabas. This conversation occurred several weeks before Mr. Poole had any reason to suppose that it was intended to take proceedings against him. The "admissions" were taken down in writing by the Bishop; but Mr. Poole has again and again applied in vain for a copy of them. The Bishop has also refused to allow Mr. Poole to confront his accusers, or to let him have an inquiry under the Church Discipline Act. Mr. Poole now resolves to appeal to the law-courts for the vindication of his character; and he exhorts the Rev. Mr. Baring, his accuser, to remove any technical obstacle that may stand in the way of a full and free inquiry. An appeal has also been made from the Bishop to the Archbishop.

AUTOGRAPH OF SHAKESPEARE.—An autograph signature of Shakspeare, affixed to the mortgage deed of a house in Blackfriars, dated March 11, 1612-13, said to be the finest specimen known, was sold by auction, on Monday, by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson for 315*l.* It was purchased by Mr. Boone for the British Museum, after much spirited competition, and will ever form an attractive feature among the treasures of the national collection. There were sold at the same time some choice quarto editions of the plays of Shakspeare, which brought high prices. Among them occurred an undated edition of *Hamlet*, which produced 24*l.* 10*s.*; the second edition of the *Merchant of Venice*, 14*l.* 15*s.*; the second edition of the *Comedy of Sir John Falstaffe and the Merry Wives of Windsor*, 13*l.* 13*s.* A fine copy of Shakspeare's Sonnets, 1609, 154*l.* 7*s.* The *Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*, 1609, 86*l.*

BANQUET AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, on Tuesday, entertained the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops, the Canons of St. Paul's, the Canons of Gloucester, a number of distinguished clergy of the metropolis, several members of the House of Commons, and private friends. Covers were laid in the Egyptian-hall for two hundred and eighty, and the band of the Hon. Artillery Company performed in the saloon during the reception; and in the Egyptian-hall during the dinner.

ROYAL PARDON.—The Marshal of the Queen's Prison has received a warrant from the Home Office, granting the Royal pardon to Mr. Owen, who was at once liberated. Information has also been received by the prison authorities that the sentence passed upon Mr. ex-Alderman Kennedy would be reduced from nine to four months, which will expire on the 26th inst.

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*.

Various philosophical treatises lie on our table for notice, but how is it possible to study philosophy in such weather as we have had during the week? With the thermometer at 90 deg. in the shade, we are naturally content to leave the problems of the higher metaphysics, or to believe that they are radically insoluble. The ascent from psychology to ontology is too steep and arduous to be undertaken in a blaze of winking heat. If indeed, like that of Mont Blanc, it promised to refresh the adventurous traveller with snow-water by the way, and reward him with illimitable ices on the summit, there might be some inducement to make the effort. Perhaps it may be said that philosophy does this speculatively at least, heat and cold being in theory merely subjective facts, phenomena not of the external world but simply of our own minds. It may be so. There may be no reason why a philosopher should ever be too hot or too cold. He may hold fire in his hand "by thinking on the frosty Caucasus," or

Wallow-naked in December's snow,
By thinking of fantastic summer's heat.

Unfortunately, however, this view is, for the world in general, a very speculative one, quite incapable of being reduced to practice. The contemplation of frozen seas and floating icebergs was utterly useless on Monday, or rather far worse than useless, intensifying the sulphurous heat of the oven-like wind that moved in mockery amongst the quivering leaves, and smote like the sirocco the parched faces of the passers-by. The only relief was to get into the shade, and this could only be effectually secured under the trees in the park. Accordingly, in the early part of the week, all London seemed to turn westward by an instinct of self-preservation. The parks were crowded during the whole of Sunday, as they have continued to be during the afternoon and evening throughout the week. It has been an animated sight to see the brick-pent citizens of high and low degree, parents and children, resting themselves under the trees, or scattered in happy groups over the rich green sward. Fortunately, too, there is now plenty of grass to luxuriate on, the iron barriers of Whig exclusion having been recently removed. What we should have done had the late Government continued in office up to the present week, it is difficult to imagine. Sir BENJAMIN HALL was evidently bent on enclosing every blade of grass in the Park within iron bars. Of late the iron network had spread with alarming rapidity, threatening to exclude the people utterly from the turf, and confine them rigidly within the long lines of sandy pathway. Character comes out in little things, and this passion for shrubberies and fences was a very natural manifestation of Whig formality and exclusiveness. The shrubbery mania, though it had not extended very far, has done some damage; but as the change is small in extent, and more permanent in its nature, the trees must, we suppose, remain for the present. The fences, however, were easily removable, and we are delighted to see they have all been taken away. The citizens have thus got their own again, and are able to enjoy the park once more. This is a touch of sympathy with the people—a trace of Young Englandism, perhaps—for which we have reason to be grateful to Lord JOHN MANNERS. No doubt there is policy as well as principle in the change. These little things are not to be neglected by a Ministry that would be really popular, especially a Ministry sorely in need of popular support like the present. Care for the health, social comfort, and recreation of the people had always a prominent place in the "Coningsby" programme, and it ought not to be lost sight of by the DERBY Ministry.

The present Ministry, too, have always taken to themselves special credit as the promoters of science and art. There is plenty of scope for their exertions in both directions just now. The Board of Works allows the Thames to remain a black and poisoned tide, diffusing deadly vapours along its crowded banks; and the Museum authorities are scrubbing the Elgin marbles. Big Ben has returned to Palace-yard; is there any provision made against a second fracture before he reaches his destination in the Clock Tower? When are the lions to mount guard on the Nelson Monument? Nothing has yet been done about the Wellington Monument. Are we to have a new National Gallery? What is to become of the Turner Collection? Is the British Museum to be broken up, by its splendid Natural History collections being dispersed to the four winds? These are questions that require to be considered and answered. From the debate this week on the bill for dissolving the partnership between the Government and the Exhibition Commissioners, there seems, however, little to hope for in the direction of art from the zeal or intelligence of Parliament. Mr. DRUMMOND, who intrepidly undertakes to dogmatize on any subject, was allowed to state that "in art nothing was capable of demonstration," and to intimate that art was of no use or interest to the country. Evidently whatever is done must be done by the Government, aided by the few members who understand something about science and art, and take a practical interest in their progress amongst the people.

British authors who have reserved the "right of translation" will be fortunate indeed if they secure such an interpreter as M. EMILE FORGUES. We have lately received a French version of *The Dead Secret*, translated by

M. FORGUES, and published under the title of *Un Secret* ("Dead Secret" has no precise equivalent in French) by the eminent house of MM. HACHETTE et Co. The felicity with which M. FORGUES has reproduced not only the pathos but the humour of the original story is absolutely marvellous, and certainly deserves the English author's thanks. *Un Secret* retains all the force and freshness of an original work.

The death of M. ARY SCHEFFER deprives France not only of a great artist but of a great example. Of his career and works as a painter it may here suffice to say that in these, as well as in his personal life and character, the same nobleness of soul, the same elevation of thought, the same single-mindedness, the same true-heartedness, were always present, and always felt. But of his technical merits and deficiencies as an artist there may be as many opinions as critics; of his life and character there can be but one; and this is not the time in which we can suffer such a man to pass away without a word of sorrowing respect.

LEGENDS AND LYRICS.

Legends and Lyrics. A Book of Verses. By Adelaide Anne Procter.

Bell and Daldy.

This volume, modestly called "a Book of Verses," is the production of a daughter of the poet, whose assumed name of "Barry Cornwall" has for some time past been giving way to the real one which his readers have learnt to prize. Some of the daughter's verses, "here republished with corrections," have been anonymous favourites with the public in the columns of Mr. Dickens's *Household Words*, in which have first appeared several poems of writers destined to be distinguished; and the volume itself is not only qualified to confirm this regard in point of ability, but is remarkable for an unmistakable personal truthfulness that carries it still more out of the category of works of ordinary poetical pretension, and will particularly interest readers who are truthful themselves. We wish we could add, on that account, that what may be called its prevailing complexional character were that of cheerfulness instead of melancholy. Coleridge, moved with surprise at the glowing sympathy with William Tell evinced in her ode on that patriot by the famous beauty of a past generation, Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire (mother of the late munificent patron of all that was beautiful in Art and Nature), exclaimed, in his charming numbers:—

"O lady, nurs'd in pomp and pleasure,
Where gat you that heroic measure?"

So, of a poet's daughter, brought up in refined life, and saved from the ordinary cares that beset many delicate minds less fortunately conditioned, one might be tempted to ask, what has made her so sorrowful. But in proportion sometimes to the very advantages which they may enjoy in other respects, minds given to idealisms, however willing to make the best of what is inferior to themselves, and even to love it and to ignore the inferiority, are struck with invincible disgust at differences between ideal and real; and in our ignorance of the causes of the melancholy, which in spite of the natural resources of genius, and of her own many livelier and happier moments, certainly pervades upon the whole this young lady's book, we can only account in this manner for what has not a little affected our critical sympathies, used as we are to life and its trials; so touchingly sweet is the way in which she sings of them, and such unaffected refuge (for she does not parade it) she appears to have sought in certain religious opinions, which, however attractive and consolatory in their first appearances, and to favoured individuals, contain matter upon inspection, which cannot, we think, leave final satisfaction to any such hearts as thoroughly sympathize with all who are to live hereafter.

The human mind however has a wonderful, and if we consider its needs in the course of progress and perplexity, affecting power, of reconciling the most imperative dogmas with lurking and ignoring doubts; and quitting this point for the poetry that is more immediately our subject, we should say, that Miss Procter's poetry, whatever may be its tendencies otherwise to the ideal, lies not so much in idealisms for their own sake, in the power of imaginative expression, or in what may be called the accumulative display of thoughts and images (an ambition, by the way, carried to excess in these days, and that will assuredly stifle many a poetical young lady and gentleman, and elders among them too, in their own roses), as in seizing the finest points both of thought and feeling, and knowing how to express them with a simplicity worthy of their truth. She does not encumber, or render them doubtful, with ostentatious loads of addition and ornament. The defect on the simple side of writing is want of force;—suffering the verse to slide into negligence and weakness, and the thought to consider anything worth simple utterance that can be simply uttered. Nor is it to be denied that Miss Procter is so far from being without this defect, that as there are many things in her volume worthy of extracting, particularly in passages, and we have no doubt that whole poems will be taken from it for "Specimens of British Poetesses" to come, there are many that show she might have studied the art as well as nature of her poetical gift to more advantage. And we earnestly exhort her to do so; believing that she is qualified to write a volume at once much smaller and much fuller; and such as the lovers of some of the compactest of her predecessors would not be unwilling to carry about in their pockets, as they do them. Here is a whole short poem, for instance, which contains the three great secrets of durability in respect of style;—proper words in proper places, and not one of them superfluous or such as could be wished away. And in thought and feeling it is altogether noble and beautiful:—

A CROWN OF SORROW.

A Sorrow, wet with early tears
Yet bitter, had been long with me
I wearied of this weight of years,
And would be free.

I tore my Sorrow from my heart,
I cast it far away in scorn;
Right joyful that we two could part,
Yet most forlorn.
I sought (to take my Sorrow's place)
Over the world for flower or gem,—
But she had had an ancient grace,
Unknown to them!
I took once more with strange delight
My slighted Sorrow. Proudly now,
I wear it, set with stars of light,
Upon my brow!

Another whole poem almost as perfect in the composition is the one which is called "Treasures;" meaning sorrows turned to account; another is "Judge not," an admirably worded piece of advice on that admirable text; and a third is entitled "A Love Token." This, to be sure, is a "conceit;" but it is a conceit of the first water; say rather, a fancy rich with feeling, such as would have graced the page of any poet; and the epigrammatic turn at the conclusion is at once a satirical surprise wholly unlooked for from the general character of the book, and furnishing a fine warning for romantic bestowers of hearts upon the heartless:—

A LOVE TOKEN.

Do you grieve no costly offering
To the lady you can make?
One there is, and gifts less worthy
Queens have stoop'd to take.
Take a heart of virgin silver,
Fashion it with heavy blows,
Cast it then in Love's hot furnace,
When it fiercest glows.
With Pain's sharpest point transfix it,
And then carve in letters fair
Tender dreams and quaint devices,
Fancies strange and rare.
Set within it Hope's blue sapphire,
Many changing opal fears,
Blood-red ruby-stones of daring,
Mixed with pearly tears.
And when you have wrought and labour'd
Till the gift is all complete,
You may humbly lay your offering
At the Lady's feet.
Should her mood perchance be gracious,—
With disdainful-smiling pride
She will place it with the trinkets
Glittering at her side.

Satire however, able as she here shows herself to inflict it, is very rare with our sensitive and thoughtful poetess. She is too sympathetic for it; too charitable; too wise; has little faith in its use or its beauty, and a great deal in the good of thinking the best, and in encouraging people's best qualities, instead of exasperating their bad ones.

We had marked a number of passages to quote from the "Angel's Story," "My Picture," "One by One," "A Knight Errant," "Homeward Bound" (a terrible story), "The Tomb in Ghent" (beautifully descriptive, but with a morbid foundation), "The Wayside Inn" (note the lady on horseback—

Her sunny ringlets round her
A golden cloud had made,
While her large hat was keeping
Her calm blue eyes in shade);

"The Dark Side" (a lovely rebuke to the evil-seeking), "Incompleteness" (a Platonic argument, most wise, for completeness hereafter), "Words" (showing the might of them), "A Tryst with Death" (very melancholy), "The Sailor Boy" (a story of a wedded wife apparently unloving by nature, owing to a hapless first love), "Grief," "Home-Sickness" (most true, though for a home most sorrowful), "Hush!" (a story of sick waiting and listening, till the heart is broken), and lastly, "Unexpressed," a charming variation upon a line passage in Marlowe, showing that no artist can ever thoroughly express what he wishes, to his own satisfaction. He is forced to

Bow beneath a noble discontent.

Things of time have voices: speak and perish.
Art and love speak—but their words must be
Like sighings of illimitable forests,
And waves of an unfathomable sea.

Those are noble verses. Musical readers will have noticed the fine cadences and modulations of Miss Procter's verse. She inherits those lyrical graces of her father, which fortunately for a community which at length is learning to sing, have been more or less felt by all the world. Like him too she feels for the poor, and can sing of their rights; as he did long before he was followed in the same admirable direction by admirable Thomas Hood, the keynote having been given perhaps to both, by Charles Lamb, in his verses on the different funerals of rich and poor. We wish we could add, though the point, however superior on poetical grounds, is of inferior moral consequence, that the world could have been equally alive, in Mr. Procter's person, to the merits of a writer of plays, who was the first since the old poets to restore natural impulsive dialogue to the drama;—to say nothing of passages worthy of the same poets in point of beauty and grandeur. Corneille and Racine are famous for isolated phrases; nay, for one or two which critics are always repeating. In Mr. Procter's tragedy of *Mirandola* there is a phrase in the mouth of a long-suffering man, whose heart is fairly worn out—

I want to die—

which appears to us to be quotable by the side of the finest that ever were uttered.

MR. WIKOFF AND LORD PALMERSTON.

A New Yorker at the Foreign Office, and his Adventures in Paris. By Henry Wikoff. Trübner and Co.

The plain truth concerning Mr. Wikoff appears to be this: that he was employed by Lord Palmerston at a salary of 500*l.* sterling a year to keep up a good feeling, through the press, between England and America, that his agency was not found valuable, and that he was dismissed, after ample notice, with half a year's payment by way of gratuity. Judging from his own account of himself, we should say that those with whom he conversed must have found him, after the first few visits, an insufferable bore, and a twaddler into the bargain, with enormous self-conceit and an affectation of diplomatic art altogether ridiculous. The Foreign-office having parted with him, he entangled himself in some affair with which the public has nothing to do, and now he writes this curiously shameless book to revenge himself upon persons who had been civil to him. The effect will certainly be to create surprise that Lord Palmerston should ever have admitted Mr. Wikoff to his table, and that men of the Wikoff and Birch stamp should be engaged by Ministers of State to act upon opinion externally; but the writer will take nothing by his motion, unless, indeed, he will be satisfied with a little revival of notoriety, for his story is undoubtedly amusing. He arrived in Europe from America in 1849, and went to Paris, where, as is not surprising, he was personally known to Louis Napoleon. The President politely greeted his former intimate, who dined at the Elysée, played the part of Billy Barlow to perfection, took notes of the principal guests, which with impudent simplicity he prints, and thus describes a Bonaparte dinner:—

Conversation at table went on in an under-tone. The President quietly ate his dinner, occasionally dropping a comment upon some remark he chose to overhear. I fell into easy chat with Count Molé, who, fancying that I was deep in the confidence of the President, gave unreserved expression to his opinions on the strange events of the past, and the prospects just dawning. His astonishment was almost ludicrous when I proclaimed in reply the strong democratic notions that possessed me. I stated my belief that the time had come when something more than Parliamentary discussion was necessary to meet the desire of France for material progress, and that unless the Prince and his advisers gave heed to the national conviction, that, perhaps, the gulf of revolution was not finally closed. The ex-Minister of Louis Philippe really seemed not to comprehend me, for so absorbed was he in Parliamentary intrigues, and so embedded in routine, that plain common-sense sounded like the jargon of an unknown land. He stared at me for a moment, and then concluding that I was only employing *finesse* to conceal my real opinions, went on with his repast. The President, I could see, was not unconscious of what was going on, and, I fancied, was trying to conceal his amusement at the unexpected collision of a stannich Monarchist of the old school, like the Count Molé, with an American democrat, who looked at facts as they were, and at things as they ought to be.

About the middle of the banquet M. Thiers raised his voice, and gave strong utterance to his indignation against the intolerable licentiousness of the Press, which respected neither place nor person. He called attention to one of the morning papers that had outraged decency in its coarse vituperation of the President. The note was caught up till every one at table had joined in the chorus of anathema against peccant journalism. When the tide of sympathetic horror had fairly exhausted itself, every eye was turned upon the President, whose feelings, it was hoped, might be touched, and above all, whose opinion on this vital point it was thus artfully sought to extract. The silence was profound. The President seemed to reflect, when, draining his glass of the few drops it contained, he remarked—

"Every one, of course, has his own point of view. I can comprehend your dissatisfaction at the licence of the Press, and your anger at their violent attacks upon myself; but, Messieurs, shall I own the truth?" Every head converged towards the President.

"I read these diatribes," he continued, "each morning at breakfast, and assure you they afford me so much amusement, that I am kept in good humour for the rest of the day." It was with an effort that I suppressed my mirth at the blank disappointment I detected in every face around me.

Next year, Wikoff was introduced by a secretary of the Paris Embassy to Viscount Palmerston, who immediately asked him to dine and sleep at Broadlands. In the library he was met by the famous statesman, "a very pleasant gentleman of some fifty years, apparently, perfectly off-hand and unaffected in his demeanour, and singularly vivacious and playful in his remarks, which were accompanied with a sort of running chuckle." Then came the presentation to Lady Palmerston, "a tall, finely-formed woman, with a handsome countenance, very elegant manners, and apparently still in the prime of life." Dinner was announced, the stranger gave his arm to Lady Palmerston, and the affair "passed off delightfully, my Lord Palmerston talking, joking, and laughing" in a way which was supremely pleasant to the New Yorker:—

He related several anecdotes, full of point and admirably told. I could not for the life of me imagine I was in the presence of one of the leading men of Europe, who had been a member of the Cabinets that had ended the terrible war against Napoleon I., and begun that against the United States, in 1812, and that at this moment had more to do with the destinies of nations than any other man living.

I was not long in detecting, however, that the lively, facetious exterior of Lord Palmerston was but a mask assumed before the world, though always worn with dignity, and that underneath lay concealed that vast intellect, fearless character, and mighty energy, which had raised him, without connexion, interest, or wealth, and in the teeth of prejudice, to the position he then held, and which would likely carry him later into the Premiership of England.

After dinner, the Minister retired to his cabinet:—

I learnt afterwards that he was in the habit of retiring to his cabinet for an hour or more after dinner to glance over his despatches, flowing in upon him every day from all quarters of the world. He came in again about eleven o'clock, drank a cup of tea, chatted awhile in his pleasant way, and disappeared once more. He had returned, I found, to his study, where I was surprised to hear he frequently passed part of the night at work. I have since discovered that Lord Palmerston's capacity for labour is prodigious, and his energies, mental and bodily, never flag under any pressure of business. His intelligence, experience, and activity enable him to accomplish everything without appearance of haste or loss of time. Whether it be that his task is congenial, or that his nature demands constant occupation, certain it is that Lord Palmerston labours as incessantly as any operative or farmer's man in England. He requires no recreation, is never seen at places of amusement, and is free from all those fashionable vices so common amongst Statesmen and Diplomats of all countries.

Flattering, but impertinent. It would not be difficult to guess at the impression produced on the statesman's mind if he were ever to read these

chatterings. Mr. Wikoff proceeds to describe Broadlands—the park and gardens, the drawing-rooms, library, and billiard-rooms, the pictures and farms, and a walk he enjoyed with his host. Wikoff preferred this to a ride, hoping it would lead to a quiet and confidential conversation:—

Off we started at a rattling pace, which soon made me suspect I had gained little by the exchange. I was really astonished at the extraordinary bodily vigour of my noble host, which far exceeded mine, though some thirty years his junior, and in sound health.

At last comes the confidential moment:—

By this time we had reached a kind of Observatory on the grounds, which, on ascending, afforded a commanding view of the lovely landscape around. On returning to *terra firma*, we found a large congregation of peasants, of both sexes, just in from the harvest, and who had spied the Lord of the Manor across the field.

"Long live your Lordship," cried the boldest of the throng, and uproarious cheers followed this mannerly exclamation.

"Well, who's the treasurer amongst you," inquired his Lordship. A hat was instantly held up, when their generous landlord, throwing in a handsome *douceur*, passed rapidly on his way, leaving a roaring sea of enthusiasm behind.

The next morning at breakfast I announced my intention of leaving that afternoon for town, when her Ladyship was kind enough to express regret at my early departure. His Lordship walked with me from the breakfast-room into the library, when he remarked,

"In our conversation yesterday your views seemed to coincide singularly with mine, more especially as regards France and the United States; and if you have nothing better to do, what do you say to abiding me to keep the peace, for I hear that you are a good deal connected with the Press in both countries."

I was as much surprised as flattered at this frank and sudden proposition, which, however, embarrassed me not a little.

"If I thought I could, in my humble way, be of any use to your Lordship," I replied, "and especially to the great cause in question, I certainly should—" I stopped to reflect a moment.

"Well, think it over," said his Lordship, remarking my hesitation, "and let me know. As to compensation, I'll make that easy." With that the noble Secretary of State retired to his cabinet. I was struck with the business-like way he did things, and that he wanted no work he was not willing to pay for.

The result was, that Mr. Wikoff received 500*l.* a year for helping "to keep the peace," and had a final interview at Broadlands:—

I waited upon his Lordship before dinner, whom I found hard at work at a high desk, in a spacious room, surrounded by book-cases. He bid me be seated, and, saying that he had not had a moment during the day to glance at my lucubrations, begged me to give him a brief analysis of what I had written. I did so, when he simply remarked that I had gone over a wide ground, and that he was sure I had done justice to it. Though pleasant in his manner, his Lordship seemed indisposed to talk politics. I touched delicately on French affairs, to which he responded briefly. Without premeditation, I asked him what he thought of Louis Napoleon's chances. This was coming too close, I could see, for the noble Secretary turned abruptly round on his chair, got up, put his back to the fire, and then said, with great caution, "Well, he has made no mistake yet."

Mr. Addington froze Mr. Wikoff—understood him better, perhaps, than Lord Palmerston, or was pained by the necessity of coming in contact with an individual of that sort. Ultimately, the connexion came to an end, and Mr. Wikoff publishes this book in hopes that it may illustrate him as a martyr. It does nothing of the kind. It illustrates him as something else, and the worst it reveals of Lord Palmerston is, that he made the mistake not only of employing Mr. Wikoff, but of asking him to dinner.

ALEXANDER THE FIRST.

History of Alexander the First, Emperor of Russia. By Ivan Golovin. Newby.

GENERALLY interesting as a narrative, this volume possesses less value as a criticism upon history than the writer appears to claim for it. Mr. Golovin asserts himself with too much pretence, and parades researches which if extensive—as in a comparative sense they have probably been—have hardly been turned to the best account. When describing events he is crude and sketchy, and when weighing them flippant almost to pertness. The book, however, having been largely compiled from foreign sources, is sprinkled with a pleasant variety of anecdote, and is welcome as a contribution to Russian imperial biography. Perhaps the most entertaining chapter in it is that on the madness of Paul, which, according to one form of casuistry, almost justified his murder, it being argued that, as a dangerous lunatic with enormous powers, he might be humanely, and could certainly be wisely, put out of the way. The *Imperial Gazette* presents, at all events, ample evidence of his total imbecility. It contained, for instance, such notifications as the following:—"The Emperor has remarked that Prince Galitzin is afraid of rain. His Imperial Majesty would observe that it is unworthy of a soldier to be afraid of rain." One number degraded Souvaroff; the next created him a field-marshal. Men were compelled to get out of their carriages in the public squares and give place to their servants. Ladies were shaved and sent to convents for not prostrating themselves. From Paul, passing to Alexander, Mr. Golovin permits himself to indulge in this strain:—"Phrenologically speaking, a perfect head would be only fit for a man at the head of a state—for an Emperor." Then, after accounting phrenologically for the numerous blunders of Napoleon, he proceeds:—

There was a good deal of the philosopher about the head of Alexander I., great wonder and great secretiveness, which, however, cannot be called dissimulation. His projecting eyes indicated hypochondriacism. The cerebellum was large, and he became equally luxurious with his grandmother.

The following anecdote refers to an early period in Alexander's reign:—

Alexander now became an admirer of Napoleon. One day the Grand-Duke Nicholas, a mere boy at the time, taking his gun, acted the sentinel at the door of his brother.

"What are you doing there, my dear boy?" said the Czar.

"I am guarding the greatest man of our age."

"But the greatest man is not in Russia."

"Where then?"

"In France."

"What is his name?"

"Napoleon."

Mr. Golovin goes out of his way to remark upon the small stature of Lord John Russell, Thiers, and Raumer, adding sundry weak impertinences concerning the Whig historian and Lord Brougham. The Grand-Duke Constantine of that age was, according to Mr. Golovin, a second Paul:—

He used to say to his officers when angry with them: "I shall send you to where Macaire does not drive his calves;" or, "I will bury you in mud up to your ears." He was only to be spoken to when his fury was exhausted. His dissoluteness knew no bounds. He was sent away from Berlin for having used a court carriage in going to a house of bad fame, and for having killed a shoemaker whose wife he had seduced.

The character drawn of Alexander is far from admirable; but we are not justified in accepting all the anecdotes in this volume as authentic. For example, whence did Mr. Golovin derive this?—

Once, when the Czar was about to visit Orenburg, the military chief having made choice of an ordinance, took great care to teach the brute the answers he would have to make, in case the Emperor should ask him certain questions. He supposed those questions would be: "How old are you?" "Twenty-three years." "How long have you been in the ranks?" "Five years." "Are you satisfied with the service?" "Either," i. e. "Yes and not."

It so happened that the first question the Czar asked, was: "How long is it since you entered the service?" "Twenty-three years," was the answer. "How old are you now?" "Five years." "Are you stupid or am I deaf?" "Either, your Imperial Majesty." The Czar said to one of his suite: "This is the first man that has told me truth." (He was really a little deaf.)

What is an "ordinance," and who was "the brute." The story does not belong to Russia. It was originally told—at least before Alexander reigned—of Frederick William I. of Prussia and a foreigner admitted into the ranks of his "big guard," contrary to regulations.

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

William the Conqueror. An Historical Romance. By General Sir Charles Napier, G.C.B. Posthumous Work. Edited by Lieut.-General Sir William Napier, K.C.B. Routledge and Co.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER wrote this book in retirement and disgust. He was, apparently, in Normandy, inspired by Bayeux traditions, and wincing under the behaviour of Sir Frederick Adam. In this state of mind he composed a story which the editor believes to be rich in political satire, but the general tone is far more tragic than ironical. No doubt, if we had been admitted into the author's confidence, it might be possible to recognize, under the mail and drapery of his personages, men and institutions of the present day. There is probably a bitter personality in the delineation of Pecquigny, and some little self-glorification, perhaps, in the autobiography of Sir William Mallet, while the paragraphs intended to crush "bugs" and the denunciations of treason are sufficiently characteristic to show that Sir Charles Napier, twenty years ago, thought himself encircled by a conspiracy of ruffians, liars, and scoundrels. The Val, upon the "creation" of which so much elaboration is bestowed, may have been designed as a typification of the Horse Guards—an unapproachable stronghold, inhabited by a malignant spirit, guarded by dwarfs and dog-headed beings, and hung with the skeletons of those who have failed to penetrate its mysteries or share its treasures. All this may at least be imagined as of a political purport; but the satire is not very obvious, and if the work recommends itself at all it must be as a story. As a story, then, it is not likely to be popular. It will be read with curiosity rather than with interest. Written in 1837, it is very unlike the fashions of 1858, and we must say the change has been for the better. Romances of Norman and Saxon chivalry, with huge knights thundering challenges, castellans shouting welcome from their ramparts, fair damsels rescued by gauntleted hands from foul ravishers, magical bags tenanted by lightning-blasted towers, mystical dreams of prophecy, and all ending with the battle of Hastings, belong altogether to another day. Besides, the story of Harold and William has already been converted to the uses of the novelist by Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, and, though Sir William Napier claims priority of design and execution for his kinsman, and even hints a charge of plagiarism in a case in which plagiarism would be robbery—from a manuscript—we think the public has made its choice, and will scarcely be attracted by this new version. There is ability in the book; Sir Charles had a powerful invective faculty, and always wrote with a swift vigour, hurling solid and heavy masses of language whenever an object of vituperation fell in his way. He has, moreover, painted broadly and with effect the times and institutions of the Conquest, exalting in a soldierly spirit the manners of chivalry, and describing battles with epigrammatic brilliance and animation. Nevertheless, a perusal of *William the Conqueror* would be a burden upon the patience of most readers.

The story opens at a period in Norman history some years prior to the conquest of England, and the illustrations of the earlier chapters appear to have been closely studied from the annals of the times. Gradually, as Harold and his future queen are developed in contrast with Duke William, it becomes evident that the writer's purpose is to surround these personages with such romantic circumstances as tradition and invention will supply, and to follow their fortunes until the blood streams from the forehead of the Saxon king at Hastings. This last scene is described with wonderful effect, the originality of the rapid narrative making up for its exaggeration. It is one of the few exciting episodes in the tale, but the General, as a novelist, knew not when to hold his hand, and waxed so fierce at Hastings that, what with the Norman charges and the Saxon volleys, the Homeric stumblings of knights—who, falling, closed their eyes in black death—the suicide of the martial sorceress, and the search of Editha for the body of Harold—that subject of a thousand pictures—even the battle verges upon the sublime as hypothetical at the East End. Still, bad as a story, and wild in conception, *William the Conqueror* bears traces of the hand that wrote it, and burns at times with the genius of the pen that wrote the despatch from the field of Mearne.

NEW NOVELS.

The Ladies of Bever Hollow. A Tale of English Country Life. By the author of "Mary Powell." 2 vols. (Bentley).—The best of the author's excellent manner is exhibited in this new tale of the ladies of Bever Hollow. A picture of English country life, with a quiet romance passing across the scene and several portrayals of character altogether pre-Raphaelite in their warm blending of natural details. Mansions, farm-houses, and villages occupy the foreground, landscapes and gardens are in the rear, and the most conspicuous among the personages of the story are the ladies of the house—thoroughly human contrasts, and so true to life that we may well give them to have been studied from models. Scarcely less real and more fascinating are the younger heroines, in whose fortunes the reader is immediately interested. *Pleasant* is the word that accurately describes the last book by the author of "Mary Powell."

The Gilberts and their Guests. A Story of Homely English Life. By a Day. 3 vols. (Newby).—Here we have a book in three volumes which is, as it professes to be, a homely story of homely life. It is easily and gracefully written, and will amuse many readers. The author has evidently seen much of town and country manners, and turns her knowledge to excellent purpose. An amiable feeling is prevalent throughout, in spite of occasional interludes of satire, and Miss Julia Day, after skillfully aging her drama so as to reserve the delightful denouement for the last page, certainly advances her reputation more than a step beyond which she acquired as author of *The Engagement*.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

MRS. SMITH AND ELDER have published a new and cheap edition of that old and touching story, *A Lost Love*, by Ashford Owen. It is but an hour's reading, but the hour is one of rare and memorable pleasure. From Mr. John Chapman we have a curious book—*The Confessions of a Pious Priest*. It professes to be an authentic autobiography, and among confessions many are accompanied by apologies. Though there is a touch of reality in the tone, the narrative itself is probable enough, considering that perverted priests and patriots in exile belong to a vagrant and adventurous race. The writer—now dead—had much to say against the order which he once belonged to, and if we are really to accept this volume as a table book of confessions, it certainly contains some remarkable illustrations of life and character.

Reaching, Proving, and Puseyism: with other Peas of the Pod. By Feltham Whaley. (Hope).—This odd book is at least timely. It is the work of a clever and, apparently, young man, who has read much, thinks strongly, and writes with unlimited confidence in himself.

Mr. Tanswell's long-announced work, *The History and Antiquities of Lamsay* (published by Mr. Pickton), has at length appeared, with numerous illustrations and a goodly list of subscribers. We reserve it for further notice.

The Arts.

"MERCHANT OF VENICE" AT THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

The revival of *The Merchant of Venice* at the PRINCESS'S THEATRE surpasses, in every respect, all the preceding marvels of Mr. KEAN's managerial reign: in the variety and elegance of scenic illustration, and in the felicitous employment of the resources of mechanical illusion. The conventional framework of a play, stiffened with the traditions of our greatest actors is entirely superseded, and replaced by a series of highly finished pictures, which even to the eye of a L. VERONESE, or a CANALETTO would present the rare combination of equal splendour and fidelity. This is high praise, but it is the praise which Mr. KEAN peculiarly deserves. It may be easy to sack Wardour-street and to go every NATHAN in the town for "dresses and decorations;" but the result will be a tawdry and incongruous magnificence which only groundlings and the gods applaud, and from which the judicious, with shuddering laughter and disgust. Now, to Mr. KEAN be the credit of having redeemed the stage from this conventional rant and tawdriness, which (if an excessive realism be a sign of decadence) certainly not an evidence of respect for the poet's creation; and it is in going to bear upon the representation of dramas, in which every character is an eternal type, and not merely a passing sketch, all the capabilities of pictorial and mechanical skill, regulated and controlled by a masterly discrimina-

tion and a rare research, and animated by a fine perception of the picturesque that Mr. KEAN has won for himself a lasting reputation in the annals of our national stage. So far from making the poet a mere vehicle for the scene-painter and the machinist, he makes them the poet's ministers and interpreters, and we may well believe that SHAKESPEARE himself would desire to be represented before a nineteenth century audience with all the means and appliances which the art, learning, and science of the nineteenth century can furnish. If the speaking actors of his plays are not always worthy of these mute interpreters, if the figures in the foreground are not so true as the "still life" of the scene, surely Messrs. GRIEVE and TELBIN are not to blame, nor is Mr. KEAN to be censured for permitting those eminent artists to assert their superiority. The difficulty of an adequate personation of SHAKESPEARE's plays lies in the number of characters, each of a distinct relative importance, each demanding the voice, presence, and manners of an educated gentleman, which are unavoidably committed to the tender mercies of such actors as SHAKESPEARE (by the mouth of Hamlet) has too faithfully described. In a romantic play such as *The Merchant of Venice*, in which the tone is always that of high-bred elegance and exquisite refinement, the painful incongruity to which we have alluded occasions a continual discord, and obscures the beauty of the poet's design. With every disposition to indulgence, we cannot honestly profess that the noble Venetians who surround Antonio at the PRINCESS'S THEATRE bear even a faint resemblance to what is called "good company," and whether they are lounging in practicable gondolas, or chatting in the public square, we are compelled to acknowledge that they look strangely out of place. Not so, however, the ladies: it would be difficult to conceive a nobler womanly grace, a more perfect union of dignity and sweetness, than Mrs. KEAN's Portia. In the scene of the caskets, her manner is instinct with suppressed emotion and passionate reserve; in the scene of the trial, in the robes of the young and learned doctor, she mingles with an assumed austerity of demeanour the touching candour and persuasiveness of one accustomed to reason with the heart, and the playful archness and disguised tenderness in the scene of the rings are infinitely charming. She is well seconded by Miss CARLOTTA LECLERCQ, who, as *Nerissa*, takes all eyes and hearts by storm with the bewitching undulations of her attitudes, and the irresistible provocations of voice and eye, while Miss CHAPMAN, notwithstanding the stage fright of a debutante, wins our sympathy by the timorous gentleness and caressing melody of a fresh voice and artless air which render *Jessica* doubly interesting. *Shylock* is certainly one of Mr. CHARLES KEAN's finest parts; profoundly studied, elaborately finished, lit up with flashes of his father's genius. It is a peculiarity of Mr. CHARLES KEAN's *Shylock* that it has nothing of the sordid violence of a vulgar usurer; it is the type of a detested and persecuted race, grasping, rapacious, and vindictive, but whose rapacity has something awful and pathetic in its loneliness, and whose vindictiveness has something of the grandeur of a national revenge. When *Shylock* leaves the court discomfited, bereft at once of his ducats and his daughter, we rejoice no doubt at the safety of Antonio, but we revolt at Gratiano's insults, and we cannot escape a pang of pity for the Jew. Mr. KEAN's make-up (an admirable picture in itself, in which every detail, even to the colours of the ancient kings on the sash, attests the preoccupation of the artist) contributes perhaps, in some degree, to this impression.

Of the other characters in the play, Antonio is by far the best personation in the cast at the PRINCESS'S. Mr. GRAHAM looks the merchant well, and his elocution (but for a little unnecessary vehemence once or twice) is marked with intelligence and propriety. Mr. RYDER's Bassanio is a sad mistake; Mr. WALTER LACY's Gratiano is indifferently vivacious; but Mr. J. F. CATHART speaks those beautiful lines in the fifth act, beginning, "Look how the floor of heaven," far better than we could have expected. As to the scenery, we need only repeat that the Place of St. Mark, the scene of the Canals and Gondolas, the Rialto, and the Council Chamber of the Doge's Palace are almost too real; they scarcely leave enough to the imagination of the spectator.

THE OPERAS.

THERE are now three Italian Opera-houses in full activity in this metropolis, besides a corps of Italian comedians, under the direction of Madame RISTORI, at St. JAMES'S THEATRE. At the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, *Fra Diavolo*, with the inimitable cast of last year, has been produced; and for next week Flotow's *Martha* is announced. At HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, Mademoiselle TITIENS has appeared as *Lucrezia Borgia*, but her fine presence, energetic declamation, and brilliant audacity in attacking extraordinary difficulties of vocalization, are not likely to efface the reputation of GRISI, who still remains the only *Lucrezia*; nor is GIUGLINI likely to eclipse the recollection of MARIO in the part of *Gennaro*, although his dying scene exceeded our expectations. On the other hand, ALBONI's *Maffeo Orsini* stands alone and unapproachable; and her singing in the prologue and in the last act recalled the glorious season of 1847 at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, when this transcendent singer all unheralded came, sang, and conquered. Mademoiselle TITIENS has only four more nights to sing in England, being summoned to Vienna by the Imperial Theatre, of which she is the ornament.

FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP.—An encounter took place on Tuesday, between Thomas Paddock and Thomas Sayers, for 400*l*. A great many persons were present, large sums of money were betted on the issue. Twenty-one rounds were fought, occupying one hour and five minutes, when Paddock was vanquished. Sayers, therefore, remains the champion of England.

THE CROPS.—The magnificent weather, which has prevailed for some weeks, has brought on the crops very favourably, and it is universally anticipated that the harvest this autumn will be remarkably fine. Cereals, consequently, have been depressed in the great markets.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

GRAVE.—June 13, at the Rectory, North Kilworth, a wife of the Rev. C. Belgrave: a daughter.

MER.—June 15, at Hafod, Caernarvonshire, the wife of P. Hamer, Esq.: a son and heir.

SMYTH.—June 14, at Spring-grove, Middlesex, the wife of C. J. Smyth, Esq.: a daughter.

RUSDEN.—June 15, at Bowdon Vale, Cheshire, the wife of D. Rusden, Esq.: a son.

MARRIAGES.

WES-THOMAS.—June 15, at All Souls', Langham.

place, by the Rev. J. H. Gurney, M. Jones, Esq., of Penylan, Cardiganshire, to Sarah Frances, daughter of R. G. Thomas, Esq., of Llanon and Iscoed, Caermarthenshire.

PARSONS-COMPSON.—June 14, at St. James's, Westminster, by the Rev. J. Beames, C. Parsons, Esq., of Presteign, Radnorshire, to Sarah, relict of the late G. J. Compson, Esq., of Cleobury Mortimer, Salop.

DEATHS.

BENYON.—June 15, at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, in her 49th year, Sarah, widow of Henry B. Benyon Esq., of Roundhay Lodge, near Leeds.

BUNTING.—June 16, at Myddelton-square, the Rev. J. Bunting, aged 80.

CROKER.—June 14, at Lavenham Rectory, Suffolk, J. D. Croker, Esq., aged 70.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, June 18.

ALL our markets are lower, more particularly the heavy railway shares. The spirit of enterprise seems dead in every market. Money remains at 2½ to 3 per cent., but in no great demand. The American difficulty and the silent preparations for war of our sinister Imperial neighbour makes one anxious. The markets for all kinds of produce continue very weak, and speculation so languid that the extra-

ordinary heat of the weather would seem to have affected our commercial atmosphere. Consols are below 98 ex dividend, and but few bargains are recorded. French shares are buoyant; an improved tone at Paris is strengthening the market for these securities here. The fall in all the heavy shares has been most remarkable. Caledonian are below 40*l* per share, or 80 per cent., and a steady decrease of 700*l* per week does not augur well for a large dividend; these shares have receded to 39½, 40. There has been a slight increased demand for Indian guaranteed shares this week, but the demand is languid. In miscellaneous shares—joint-stock banks—there is no business doing. The death of a very extensive mining proprietor in the west of England will unlock a good number of shares, it is supposed; these will be thus forced on the market. The general aspect of the market is not encouraging; money is still easy at 3 per cent., but it is understood a very small demand would absorb all the supply.

Blackburn, 94, 104; Caledonian, 79½, 80; Chester and Holyhead, 33, 35; Eastern Counties, 60, 61; Great Northern, 101, 102; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 103, 105; Great Western, 40, 40½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 89, 89½; London and Blackwall, 51, 51½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 107, 109; London and North-Western, 90, 90½; London and South-Western, 92½, 93½; Midland, 91, 91½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 89½, 90½; South-Eastern, (Dover), 67, 68; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 51, 51½; Dutch (Lombard), 51, 44 dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 25½, 25½; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 7½, 7½; Northern of France, 37½, 38; Paris and Lyons, 30½, 31; Royal Danish, —; Royal Swedish —; Sambre and Meuse, 7½, 7½.

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

| | Sat. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Frid. |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Bank Stock | 219½ | 221 | 221 | 221 | 219½ | 219½ |
| 3 per Cent. Red. | 90½ | 90½ | 90½ | 90½ | 90½ | 90½ |
| 3 per Cent. Con. An. | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ |
| Consols for Account | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ |
| New 3 per Cent. An. | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ |
| New 2½ per Cent. | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ |
| Long Ans. 1885 | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ | 96½ |
| India Stock | 222 | 222 | 222 | 222 | 222 | 222 |
| Ditto Bonds, £1000 | 15 p. | 17 p. | 17 p. | 17 p. | 17 p. | 17 p. |
| Ditto, under £1000 | 36s. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 35 p. |
| Ex. Bills, £1000 | 36s. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 35 p. |
| Ditto, £500 | 36 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 35 p. |
| Ditto, Small | 36 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 32 p. | 35 p. | 35 p. |

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

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Brazilian Bonds | Portuguese 4 per Cents. |
| Buenos Ayres 3 per Cents. | Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents. |
| Chilian 3 per Cents. | Russian 4½ per Cents. |
| Dutch 2½ per Cents. | Spanish |
| Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. | Spanish Committee Certif. |
| Equador Bonds | of Coup. not fun. |
| Mexican Account | Turkish 6 per Cents. |
| Peruvian 4½ per Cents. | Turkish New, 4 ditto. |
| Portuguese 3 per Cents. | Venezuela 4½ per Cents. |

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, June 18.

THERE has been a fair average supply of English wheat during the week; but the demand has ruled inactive. More than 14,000 qrs. of foreign wheat have come in, and selected samples were mostly held at full quotations; inferior kinds lower to purchase. Barley dull at late quotations. Malt barely remaining at stationary prices. The oat trade has ruled healthy at previous rates. Beans and peas sold at full quotations, but the value of flour was barely supported.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 15.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JACOB ISAAC DE JONGE, Mark-lane, merchant.

BANKRUPT.—ROBERT CUMBERLAND, Addle-street, Wood-street, fancy goods manufacturer—CHARLES GARLICK, Guildford, ironmonger—THOMAS ROLFE, Regent-street, and Marshall-street, Golden-square, pianoforte maker—JOHN COWEN, Newcastle-under-Lyme, travelling draper—GEORGE HUBBARD RIMMINGTON, Wymondham, Leicestershire, grocer—JOHN LOCKWOOD, Kirkheaton, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—JOHN WILLIAM HOLDENESS, Kingston-upon-Hull, timber merchant—ROBERT EDWARDS, Mold, Flintshire, joiner—JOHN WALL, late of Southport, Lancashire, carpenter.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—A. RIGG, W. ALEXANDER, and J. FAULDS, New Cumnock, coalmasters—T. WHEE, Fort William, Inverness—G. CHRISTIE, Aberdeen, grocer—J. GALLOWAY, Glasgow, mason—D. CAMPBELL, Glasgow, provision merchant—D. and W. SMITH, Edinburgh, grocers.

Friday, June 18.

BANKRUPTS.—THOMAS JOSEPH CLARKSON, Liverpool, publican—JOHN MOREWOOD, Atherstone, Warwickshire, grocer—ALEXANDER WENTWORTH LAIDLAW, St. Mary Axe, City, dealer in cigars—JOSEPH ALFRED BERGER, Queen's-head-Passage, Newgate-street, bookseller—GEORGE HUBBARD RIMMINGTON, Wymondham, Leicestershire, grocer—WILLIAM PARROTT, Leicester-square, London, boot and shoemaker—WM. FAUNTLEROY STREET, Austin Friars, City, insurance broker—FRANCIS HENRY MAIR and ROBERT HENRY MAIR, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, publishers—JAMES GREENALGH, High-street, Bow, gas-fitter—BENJAMIN ROWLEY, Wakefield, Yorkshire, maltster—JOHN ETRIDGE WILKINSON and MARY MARVEL, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, innkeepers—WILLIAM COUCHE, Manchester, commission agent—JOHN GEORGE BAILEY, Halifax, dealer in small wares—EDWARD BURKINSHAW and WM. HUDSON, Knaresborough and Wetherby, curriers.

THE FIRST EXHIBITION OF ART MANUFACTURES designed or executed by Students of the Schools of Art, will be open daily at the South Kensington Museum on and after Monday, the 21st June, 1858. Admission free on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, and by payment of 6d. on Wednesdays.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL MUSEUM, 3, Tichborne-street, opposite the Haymarket. Open daily. Admission, One Shilling.
Lectures by DR. KAHN at Three and Eight.
Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free on receipt of 12 Stamps.

BURGESS'S celebrated Bandoline for fixing Ladies' Hair or Gentlemen's Whiskers and Moustaches, without drying, not being a liquid as most others. In bottles from 1s. to 30s. 6d. Prepared at R. BURGESS'S Hair-Cutting and Brushing Establishment: Head Washing on the approved Ovi-Lavatory system.
Nos. 14, 15, and 16, Royal Opera Arcade, Charles-street, Haymarket, S. W. Agents, Birch, Molesworth-street, Dublin; Peagam, King-street, Jersey; Apothecaries' Hall, Glasgow; and Ludvig, 38, Charlotten-Strassen, Berlin.

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 6d. per box.

THIS preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for during the first twenty years of the present century to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

These Pills require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors. See the name of "THOMAS PROUT, 229, Strand, London," on the Government Stamp.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.
MADEMOISELLE TITIENS' LAST APPEARANCES.

The Imperial Theatre, Vienna, having refused to grant any extension of her Congé, it is respectfully announced that Mademoiselle Titien cannot appear after Saturday, the 26th.

The following arrangements have been made:
On Monday, June 21, GRAND MORNING CONCERT.
On Tuesday, June 22, IL TROVATORE. Madlle. Titien's last appearance but two.

On Thursday, June 24, Extra Night, LUOREZIA BORGIA. Madlle. Titien's last appearance but one.

On Saturday, June 26, a favourite OPERA, in which Madlle. Titien will appear, being her last appearance.

Verdi's Opera of LUISA MILLER will be repeated on Tuesday, June 29.

Applications to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre.

MISS KEMBLE has the honour to announce

that, by the kind permission of the Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere, her MORNING CONCERT will take place in the Gallery of Bridgewater House, on WEDNESDAY, June 30, on which occasion she will be assisted by the following eminent artists:—Madame Viardot Garcia, Mr. Santley, Signor Mario (his only appearance at any concert this season), Mr. Chas. Hallé, Signor Piatti, and Herr Joachim. Tickets, One Guinea each, to be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the principal Music-sellers.

MADAME SZARVADY (Wilhelmina Clauss)

will have the honour of giving her THIRD and LAST MATINEE MUSICALE, on FRIDAY, June 25, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, assisted by Herr Molique, violin, and Signor Piatti, violoncello. To commence at Three o'clock, precisely. Reserved and numbered seats, 10s. 6d.; unreserved seats, 7s. To be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and the principal libraries and music-sellers.

SUMMER BEVERAGES.—A tablespoonful

of either of S. SAINSBURY'S FRUIT ESSENCES (prepared from choice fruits, and containing no chemical flavouring whatever), mixed with an ordinary tumblerful of spring water, will form a delicious beverage.—178 and 177, Strand.

PURE BRANDY, 16s. PER GALLON.—

Pale or Brown EAU-DE-VIE of exquisite flavour and great purity, identical, indeed, in every respect with those choice productions of the Cognac district which are now difficult to procure at any price, 35s. per dozen, French bottles and case included, or 16s. per gallon.

HENRY BRETT and Co., Old Fumival's Distillery, Holborn.

UNSOPHISTICATED GENEVA, of the true

juniper flavour, and precisely as it runs from the still, without the addition of sugar or any ingredient whatever. Imperial gallons 13s.; or in one dozen cases, 29s. each, package included.

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WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

PORT, SHERRY, MARSALA, MADIRA,

&c., TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN, imported by us from the Cape of Good Hope, and only charged half the usual duty by her Majesty's Customs.

"I find it to be pure and unadulterated, and I have no doubt of its being far more wholesome than the artificial mixtures too often sold for genuine Sherry."

"H. LETHBY, M.D., London Hospital."

A pint sample of either, 12 stamps. Terms, cash or reference. Packages charged and allowed for if returned. Delivered free to any of the London Terminals.

Brandy, Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon.

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CAPE WINES.—H. R. WILLIAMS,

112, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHIN.

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South African Amontillado ... 24s. "

South African Bucellas ... 24s. "

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