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A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,

AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. IX. No. 453.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1858.

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THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

IF the Reform fire does not burn brightly it will not be for want of fuel or attention. At Smithfield and Sunderland, at Islington and Edinburgh, at Oldham, Huddersfield, Rugby, and elsewhere during the week, the flame has been blown in right earnest. It certainly can no longer be said that there is anything like popular indifference on the subject of Reform; and at the present rate of progression, long before the Government Bill is laid upon the table of the House of Commons, it looks as if the country would come to an understanding with itself as to the limits of what it will demand, and of what it will accept. At present the demands are large: manhood suffrage, equal electoral districts, annual parliaments, and payment of members; but resolutions pledging meetings to support these demands are generally accompanied by others, as at the Oldham meeting, pledging the meetings to support any measure that shall ensure the enfranchisement of a majority of the people. At the Rugby meeting, Mr. Newdegate, while dealing with Mr. Bright's recent Reform speeches, opened up a view of the franchise question which suggests grave doubts of the coming Ministerial Bill, if that is to be founded upon the principles enunciated by Mr. Newdegate. According to his view it is an extension of the county franchise that is wanting to set matters right. Every single county member, he says, represents 66,012 of the population; whereas only 22,052 are represented by each borough member. But, as he shows, the anomaly goes even further; for many borough voters claim votes in counties. "Argal"—the requisite adjustment of the franchise will be, to give the counties as many more members as will equalise the representation between the borough and county constituencies. This claim of mere numbers he further supported by reference to the number of houses in towns and counties, the number being, in the country, 2,050,000 houses against 1,383,000 in the towns. But what is the conclusion to which Mr. Newdegate's figures—taking their accuracy for granted—point? Unquestionably to the enfranchisement of the rural and least-educated of the populations in preference to the more intelligent population of town artisans. Can it be possible that the Government measure is to be based on such a principle of "equalisation?"

Foremost in importance amongst the public meetings of the week is that of the North-country ship-owners, who assembled at North Shields on Monday afternoon for the purpose of devising remedies for the present depressed state of the British shipping interest. But the British ship-owners, whatever may be their difficulties, have not

made out a good case for themselves. The point upon which they dwell most feelingly is the absence of reciprocity in other countries, the trade of their own being free. Many minor grievances they put forth, as to the burdens imposed upon them in the shape of various dues, for which their vessels "receive no equivalent;" but these objections do not carry with them sufficient weight to warrant a demand for legislative assistance to alter the general laws. Nor can they show any good cause why other countries should be coerced into the adoption of a "reciprocating" system; "to ask Parliament to reverse their steps in the great question of free trade," as one of the principal speakers told the meeting, "is worse than useless." The evils under which the shipping interest are suffering are but the consequences of an unsound system of trading: the remedy, said the same speaker, the Conservative, Mr. Liddell, "is in the adoption of a healthier system, and is in the hands of the ship-owners themselves."

The recall of Lord Napier from Washington is to be regretted, seeing that he represented in America, more completely than any previous British Minister had done, that section of English opinion which is friendly towards America, and which desires to deal with the American in an open and cordial manner. At present, the motives for his recall are simply conjectural, unless we accept the semi-official assurance that it is only for promotion; but it occurs at a moment when the relations of England with America are apparently on the verge of being complicated, and when, therefore, a plain dealer like Lord Napier would be of most service—were honest work to be done.

In continental news, the trial and condemnation of Count Montalembert take precedence of all else in point of interest. In spite of all the precautions of the French Government, the English newspapers have been enabled to publish the very pith of all that was done and said at this amazing trial. The Count was tried for certain passages in his famous article, which disparaged France by contrasting it with England, constituting an offence under the law; but the Government prosecutor found he could make little of these passages, and therefore laboured for a condemnation on the ground of the tendency of the whole article, apostrophising Count Montalembert as a man who "had laid France prostrate at the feet of England," who had "struck France in the face—yes, struck her in the face—unworthily struck her in the face." The answer of M. Berryer was, that the prosecution was "unjust, unfounded, ill-advised, and—rash." What rashness, indeed, could go beyond the folly of giving M. Berryer opportunity to give this answer to the President, on being interrupted and threatened for the argument he was pursuing? "Have I lost my reason and conscience? Do I understand what the Court

means? Can it be that a counsel is construed as attacking the Government because he will not say that black is white? Why, it is the boast of the Government that it has bartered liberty for order—and it has done so, it says, with the consent of the French people; and that I am not here to deny. Yes, France has repudiated her own liberty. That is a fact which some people may, and others may not, regret; but it is not rational to hold it an offence in any one to state the simple fact that liberty does not now exist." The conviction of Count Montalembert is an outrage against the reason of the whole world, and it will provoke universal execration.

But while the panegyrist of English freedom goes to prison for the utterance of such an anti-imperial creed, the Emperor himself is in one way tying tighter the bonds of the alliance. An English and French fleet is gathered together in the Caribbean and Mexican seas for combined operations, much to the interest of America, and much to the uneasiness of those who want faith in the nearly worn-out system of secret diplomacy. At home the Emperor is putting in practice one of those pieces of social economy which only absolute kings can venture upon. A decree has been issued commanding the bakers of one hundred and sixty towns in France to lay in a reserve stock of breadstuff equal to three months' consumption: a measure that combines humanity with security against bread-riots, should the price of corn go up during the winter; and opens a very ample field for jobbery, for which the jobbers will be duly grateful.

There are some who fancy that this imperial forethought may have other ends in view, even that this forced provision of bread may have to do with warlike eventualities. The relations of the Emperor with the Pope are the reverse of improved by the Mortara affair, and these relations are likely to become still less cordial, if it is true, as reported, that the French Government has given permission to the Jews to prosecute the ultramontane *Univers* for its ferocious attacks upon the Jewish body. Probably matters will not run to such happy extremes as to induce the Emperor to withdraw his troops from Rome; but the idea of an Italian outbreak is by no means unreasonable. We have signs, indeed, at the present moment of the almost ripeness of the popular will. Political arrests have, within a few days, been made at Ancona; and, although the King of Sardinia may not have expressed himself openly before his soldiers at a review, as to the probability of the Piedmontese army being soon called to perform active service, the haste with which Austria is developing her new navy very plainly tells the uneasiness with which she regards the present condition of Italy, and her anxiety to be in readiness to guard her Italian coasts.

The proceedings of the new Government of

Prussia, even if they furnish no matter for surprise, will shock all those who looked for an amelioration of that system which under the disabled King grew up at the dictation of Russian influences. The Prince Regent stands plainly confessed as the defender of the past order of things against "hopes that overstep the limit of an exact appreciation of requirements and circumstances,"—to adopt the refined language of Herr Flottwell, the Minister of the Interior, writing to the Minister of Police to instruct him with regard to the conduct of the popular elections. "I invite," says the Minister to his coadjutor, "your serious attention to the necessity of opposing everywhere by legal means these erroneous opinions and pretensions." "The Government," he says further, "will repress all these tendencies and pretensions, and in general it neither can nor will be disposed in any way to permit any sort of trespass beyond the fixed limits." The Liberals of Prussia now know exactly the man and Government they have to deal with. The result of every election ought to be a practical protest against the mockery of a constitutional Government which has set itself up in Berlin.

The decision of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland in the case of the O'Malley children will give universal satisfaction, so exactly does it meet the justice of the case. They are to remain in the care of their Protestant aunt. It was impossible to take a fairer view of the circumstances under which those poor children were left by their departed parents; the whole course of their education had been Protestant, the determination of their mother, expressed at the bedside of their dying father, and with his approval, that no child of hers should ever fall into the hands of priest or nun, were incontrovertible proofs of the Protestantism of the influences under which the children had been bred and trained.

Lord Campbell, supported by Justices Wightman, Earle, and Hill, has decided to give the Rev. Alfred Poole power to call upon the Archbishop of Canterbury to show cause why he refused to hear Mr. Poole's complaint against the Bishop of London; and this decision is highly satisfactory both to the friends of Mr. Poole, who think he has been unjustly condemned, and to his opponents, who look now to have the matter of the "confessional" brought to an issue.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Thursday, a remarkable event took place: this was nothing less than the formal admission of a Mahometan to practise as an attorney. Lord Campbell decided that it was only necessary for Cumroodeen to take the oath of allegiance and the attorney's oath, thus avoiding the oath of abjuration, which contains the words, "on the faith of a Christian." This is an event of some importance, for if it be true that the law has strewn rocks ahead of this believer in the Koran, his case may be of service in helping to purge our laws and customs of some of the barbarism that clings to them with a strange vitality.

Home Intelligence.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND MR. LOCKE M.P.—The hon. members have addressed their constituents in Southwark. After a lengthy review of the last session, Sir Charles spoke of the national defences. He thought our means of defence were not sufficient, and he had thought so for years past, and they had now heard the Earl of Hardwicke's opinion to the same effect. He did not find fault with the Emperor of the French for increasing his defences and his navy, but our Government ought to take care that his ships and docks should not be dangerous to the liberty of the people of this country. Great exertions had been made lately in our dockyards—sailing ships had been cut down and made into screw ships, and he hoped they would now be useful again. Economical members would stand up and say, "How comes it that the navy expenses were increased to such a degree?" But those who asked the question were endeavouring to throw dust into the eyes of the people. A great change had been made of late years in the whole system of naval warfare, and the expense of the alterations which modern discoveries rendered necessary must be borne. He was the advocate of economy in our dockyards, but economy was not to be obtained by paying off a fleet in 1857 to reconstitute it in 1858. He trusted that the present Government would never allow

the navy to be in the state it was a short time ago. The French seeing our sluggishness, got ahead of us, and we had now to spend money to regain the position which we never should have lost. With regard to the French alliance, he thought it the best thing in the world, if it could be maintained, but he feared that an alliance could not long continue between a free people and a despotic power, and it was necessary for us to be provided against a rainy day. They had seen an illustration of the French policy in her conduct in reference to Portugal, which he thought was most unjustifiable in a strong nation towards a weak one. Mr. Locke said, with regard to the franchise, his view was that every man who had a home should have a vote. Well, this extension being effected, it was necessary that the voter should be protected, and he thought the ballot would do that.

MR. NEWDEGATE, M.P., AND MR. SPOONER, M.P.—At the anniversary meeting of the Rugby and Dunchurch Conservative Association, Mr. Newdegate said that it was with deep regret that he saw a great principle of the constitution infringed for the sake of admitting to the House of Commons a man of great wealth, and for aught he knew of great attainments, but a man who could not profess the true faith of a Christian. Of Mr. Bright, the subjects he mooted were well calculated to affect the minds of ignorant persons when he inveighed against the institutions of this great country. He (Mr. Newdegate) lamented that a man gifted with so much talent should have used his great powers in such a manner as to prove how bigoted and narrow-minded a politician he was. He denied that Mr. Bright was a true friend of the working classes, as he would have them to believe, instancing in proof of his assertion the conduct of that gentleman in reference to the Ten Hours Bill—when he opposed every measure for moderating the severity of manufacturing labour. Mr. Newdegate said he did not desire to see all the small boroughs abolished without a substitute, for there were men of the highest service to the Government who would not be returned by large constituencies. No greater misfortune could occur than a measure of reform which should not give the representation to the educated classes. Unless some means are adopted for securing the representation of such persons no reform bill would be perfect. The hon. gentleman concluded by saying he would still adhere to the Protestant principles he had always advocated. Mr. Spooner said:—The people of England were not inclined to do away with the aristocracy. Mr. Bright might be an exceedingly clever man, but he (Mr. Spooner) thought he would find the job he had undertaken somewhat too heavy. Our constitution was not a thing of yesterday; and he was of opinion that if these quack remedies for its defects, or presumed defects, were permitted, Mr. Bright would end by making the patient a great deal worse than he was before.

THE RIGHT HON. E. P. BOUVERIE, M.P.—Last week this gentleman addressed a meeting of his constituents at Kilmarnock. He said that one important and main part of any future Reform Bill must be an extension of the franchise. No bill without including that would deserve the name of Reform. The true theory of governing was to give the greatest amount possible of political liberty that was consistent with good order and just laws in society, and the franchise should only be restricted when its extension would interfere therewith. There was another point connected with the subject of Reform upon which he was not quite of the same opinion as was often entertained—he referred to what was called equal electoral districts. It was a favourite notion that there should be electoral equality in this country, that the number of representatives should be determined by the amount of the population. He was not in favour of that proposal. There were many small places that might justly be disfranchised and their members given to larger constituencies. That would be a good thing; and so far as he wanted a change in the electoral districts. But he was against settling the matter entirely by population. He did not know that it would be for the advantage of the kingdom if London, with its population equal to that of Scotland, returned as many members as the latter did, nor did he think that it would be advantageous to the Kilmarnock Burghs if Glasgow, with her 400,000 inhabitants, were permitted to represent her peculiar habits and pursuits and feelings by ten times as many as themselves.—The right hon. gentleman addressed another meeting at Rutherglen on Monday. Alluding to our relations with France he said, from time to time we had heard rumours of an invasion, and these alarms had a most injurious effect. We could not sympathise with the despot who restrained and destroyed everything like political liberty. But how was it that this man retained the power to which he had risen? how could a people like the French, with intelligence, with the highest position among the nations of the world in arts and arms, with everything among them that could adorn civilisation, submit to the iron despotism of one man? He thought the solution lay in the fact that the majority of the French nation, regarding the enjoyment of political liberty as incompatible with peace and good order, and security to life and property, were willing to sacrifice the privilege in order to secure these important objects. The French nation, dreading taxation and the evils of conscription, were as much indisposed to go to

war with us as we with them. While none of us would grudge what was necessary to keep up the defences of the country, still there must be a limit; and we must not be always increasing our forces.

MR. LABOUCHERE, M.P., AND MR. MILLS, M.P.—The members for the borough of Taunton met their constituents last week. Mr. Labouchere observed that it had been announced by her Majesty's Government that a new Reform Bill would be introduced in the next session of Parliament. Now he considered it would be his duty to consider that measure, not solely as regarded the constituency he had the honour to represent, but in reference to its bearing upon the great interests of the community. Of the nature and details of that bill he was profoundly ignorant. But he conceived that a measure which would affect the future generations of England should be regarded not as to whether this or that set of men should occupy the bench of office. And he should look upon it with every feeling of deference to the well-being of the country, and not as a question which pertains to a mere political partisan. He had no wish whatever to see the constituencies of England put up, as it were, to auction, to be obtained by the highest, or most unscrupulous, bidder. If the measure should appear to him calculated to improve, purify, strengthen, and to enlarge our representative system, that bill should have his support.—Mr. Mills said, things had come to such a pass in legislation, that there was never one bill announced for a certain object than they were sure to have another. Last session they had two India bills—he was not sure they had not three. Next session they were promised two Reform Bills, and there might be three. One thing in which reform was needed, was the "Parliamentary" Christmas-box system, which to his surprise and astonishment he had heard was one of the time-honoured institutions among the voters of Taunton.

MEETING IN SMITHFIELD.—On Monday a meeting to consider the Reform question was held in the open air, but the numbers clustered together amongst the cattle-pens in a remote corner of Smithfield did not exceed three hundred—a large number being spectators who attended through curiosity, and a still larger number being mere boys who drew near for diversion. Even in a meeting so collected and constituted, Mr. Bright's views were treated with consideration, and hostile remarks were more than counterbalanced by the declaration of the mover of the first resolution, that he believed Mr. Bright was anxious to introduce a satisfactory measure of Reform.

PROVINCIAL REFORM MOVEMENTS.—An association has been formed in Edinburgh on the basis of the London Parliamentary Reform Association. The meeting was attended by all the leading Reformers of Edinburgh, and a large sum was subscribed for active operations. It was agreed to hold a public meeting, and to invite the presence of Mr. Bright.—A Manhood Suffrage Association has been formed at Manchester, having Alderman Heywood for its president.—A public meeting was held at Oldham on Thursday. Manhood suffrage and the other "points" were adopted, and another resolution was also passed agreeing to support any measure that might be proposed which would enfranchise the majority of the people.—Leeds is also likely to make a demonstration.—At Grantham a meeting has been held to discuss the prospects of the movement, and to consider the desirability of a demonstration on the subject.—At King's Lynn, the Tory party of Norfolk are about to meet, with the view of asserting the claims of the "landed interest" in regard to the coming measure or measures to be submitted to Parliament.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The *Mercantile Advertiser* states that important changes in the Irish Government are in contemplation. Lord Naas is certainly to go to India as Governor of Madras, in place of Lord Harris. The *Evening Post* reports that Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald is to be Lord Naas's successor in the Irish Secretaryship. The *Morning Post* announces the recall of Lord Napier from the mission at Washington, the cause assigned being his Lordship's tendency to favour the Monroe doctrine, which claims for the United States Government exclusive influence on the American continent. That Lord Napier is about to remove from Washington to represent the Queen at some other Court is, no doubt, true; but the Derby Government have no reason whatever to be dissatisfied with the views of his Lordship.—The *Daily News* says it is understood that Lord Napier goes to Berlin as the successor of Lord Bloomfield, who retires on a pension. The ill effect of Ministerial disapprobation resolves itself into the merited promotion of a zealous and accomplished public servant.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—At a convocation held on Wednesday, the question of Parliamentary Reform was raised. A resolution was proposed demanding for that university the same representation as is enjoyed by Oxford and Cambridge, and appointing a committee to confer with the Government on the subject. This resolution was adopted.

MR. AKROYD, M.P.—A meeting of the electors of Huddersfield was held on Wednesday. Mr. Akroyd, referring to reform, agreed that the Reform Bill did not give the working classes that share of power which they had a right to expect. Next session they will have a number of Reform Bills. First, John Bright's, who

now seized upon the pillars of the constitution, to hurl them, with his giant strength, at the lords temporal and the lords spiritual. He advocated the municipal qualification. It might be thrown on one side. The first principle he (Mr. Akroyd) would adopt would be the 5s. rating franchise as one. The next was one to which no one would object; he was willing to transfer the 40s. franchise to boroughs. He alluded to the ballot and the duration of parliaments, and then came to the subject of electoral districts. He was in favour of that principle. Huddersfield had now one member, and great injustice was done them. He thought they should have two members, and at the same time, an extension of the borough.

ISLINGTON.—A Reform meeting was held on Thursday, with Mr. Cox, M.P., in the chair, and at which, as the custom now appears to be, the assembly appended manhood suffrage to their demand for Reform. Mr. Cox gave in his adherence to this principle, and was careful to explain that he had not become one of those who accepted the peace-at-any price doctrines.

THE EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.—On Monday evening a public meeting in promotion of the objects of the Droydsden Educational Institute was held. The Bishop of Manchester presided. The right rev. chairman said in dwelling upon the objects of this institution, he would entreat and implore the working men to be particularly careful and painstaking in mastering the elementary portions of instruction. It had been a mistake that could not be too much deprecated—a folly that could not be too much condemned—for the sake of mere transient applause, to delude the student by leading him into the Temple of Knowledge, without making him pause long enough to contemplate and to master its elements at its portals. Unless good reading and legible writing were acquired—without the beauty of being able to enunciate with fluency and expression the great thoughts of the great masters of thought, as handed down in their works—there was neglected one of the most choice parts of the superstructure upon which was afterwards to be erected the whole fabric of the reasoning powers. He would particularly recommend to students in that institution, the study of geometry, as a general rule, in preference to that of arithmetic. And for this reason: the study of geometry required, if properly carried on, that every step should be accurately depicted and represented in the mind of the learner. He could assure his hearers that none who rightly entered upon the study of geometry would ever be disappointed. These things (he said) brought out the reason as well as exercised the memory; and making the one ancillary to the other, it raised the possessor in the enjoyment not only of intellectual pleasures, but higher still in the reasoning powers and faculties. Why should not working men enjoy those things? They had like abilities, like interests at stake. These were points for which they ought to contend; and if they contended—as they were doing, and rightly—for an increased share in the political power of the country, they were bound—nay, they were traitors otherwise to their country—to contend for increased knowledge and power of opinion.

LORD WARD.—A meeting in connexion with the progress of industrial art was held at Worcester, on Monday, at which his lordship said, with regard to the Worcester school of design, that if he had any doubt of the excellence of the institution, he would, on visiting the schoolrooms, have been obliged to dismiss it, for he found there an atmosphere of art, and he considered it a fair model for the other schools of design in the kingdom. It was the artisan class these schools were intended to teach, and he was sure that they would not fail to value the benefit which had been done them in having their hands strengthened by that intellectual culture which enabled them to compete with foreign artificers in every branch of industry, and also made them better and more moral men. It was not the artisan only who was benefited by such teaching, for it told on the community in general. They were, in fact, doing the paramount work of the day, about which so much was said, but of which so little was done. They were providing for the education of the masses, and, as far as art was concerned, they hoped to be able to turn those who were now only lookers-on and consors into adherents and partisans. Entertaining these views, he hoped soon to see the School of Design self-supporting; but he would not part with the aid from Government, because he thought the Government inspection most valuable, as, were they left to themselves, they might be content with a lower standard of merit than would satisfy a stranger.

ECCLIASTICAL ITEMS.

LONDON DIOCESAN HOME MISSION.—This institution, which was spoken of so highly by the Bishop of London in his recent charge, is about to commence a series of Advent services for the working classes. Bethnal-green will be one of the fields of the society's operations. In that large parish there will be special services at intervals, during Advent, in the churches. In consequence of the strong recommendation of the Home Mission by

the Bishop, public attention has been very much directed to its operations, and it is anticipated that with an increased income its usefulness will be greatly extended in the thickly populated portions of the metropolis.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The consecration of the Rev. George Hills, the newly-appointed Bishop of British Columbia, will not take place before Christmas; he has announced his retirement from the ministry of St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth. Miss Burdett Coutts endowed this bishopric with 15,000*l.*, a munificent act which probably led to the erection of the see.

THE CONFESSORIAL.—A meeting has been held at Norwich to consider the propriety of forming an association to resist the introduction of the confessional and other Romanising practices into the Church of England. The names of one hundred gentlemen, lay and clerical, were enrolled.

ST. PAUL'S.—The Dean and Chapter propose to open the cathedral for special evening services, as an experiment, from Advent Sunday, November 28, to Easter in the following year. The service will commence at seven o'clock. The public will be admitted at the two western side doors from the area facing Ludgate-hill. The north door will be closed, in order to give a fair trial to the warming process, not yet completed. The south door will be open to the Lord Mayor and the authorities of the city, the clergy of the cathedral, and the committee with tickets.

THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION.—On Tuesday Dr. Lushington gave judgment in the case "Medland and Brown v. Payne," a suit instituted by the churchwardens of St. Neot's to enforce payment of a church rate which had been refused by one of the parishioners. The learned judge pointed out various informalities in the mode of assessing the rate in question, which he said was a difficult matter at all times, and though sorry to disturb a rate which had been approved of by a large majority, and which was small in proportion to the rental, he was compelled to pronounce against the claim of the churchwardens, with costs.

SCISSOR.—Some of the leading members of the Tractarian party have intimated their intention of withdrawing from the "London Union on Church Matters," on the ground that it "has not been sufficiently active in repelling the aggressions which have from time to time been made on the rights and liberties of the Church." A large amount of money was subscribed for the purposes of this "Union," but all its proceedings have been conducted with secrecy, and the rigid exclusion of the press has always been one of its fundamental rules. The new society which is to be established will adopt a more straightforward course, and will conduct their proceedings in the full light of day.

THE REV. ALFRED POOLE.—In the Court of Queen's Bench a motion has been made on behalf of this gentleman, who has been dismissed by the Bishop of London from the stipendiary curacy of St. Barnabas, in consequence of his confessional practices. The motion was for a rule nisi, calling upon the Archbishop of Canterbury to show cause why he refused to hear Mr. Poole's complaint against the Bishop of London, founded upon the Church Discipline Act of 1839. Mr. Bovill stated the case, amid bench interruptions, for Mr. Poole; and after referring to several authorities, it was decided that a rule should be granted. The Lord Chief Justice was present, supported by Justices Wightman, Earle, and Hill. Their determination appeared to have been unanimously formed, and without any difficulty.

TRIAL OF THE COMTE DE MONTALEMBERT.

THE trial of Comte de Montalembert and M. Douniol, of the *Correspondant*, charged with having published a seditious libel entitled "A Debate on India in the English Parliament," took place on Wednesday.

At five minutes before twelve, Comte de Montalembert entered the court, accompanied by the Duc de Broglie and M. Odilon Barrot.

The President, M. Berthelin, called on the defendant Douniol, who said merely that he was the responsible editor of the *Correspondant*, and that he had no observations to offer.

M. de Montalembert, after the usual preliminary questions, answered all the questions put to him with the greatest frankness and the most perfect sang-froid; never for a moment shrinking from the responsibility of anything he had said in his article, and never failing to detect the import of any insidious suggestion made by the President. He admitted that he admired the present political institutions of England, and regretted that France had lost them; but he denied that he had "attacked" French institutions in any sense forbidden by the law. He admitted that when he spoke of his joy at a temporary escape in England from "pestiferous miasma and corrupt atmosphere," he alluded to miasma and atmosphere in France, but he totally denied that he meant to say that he and his friends alone were honest men, and that the eight millions of Frenchmen who had voted for the Emperor were cowards.

The Procureur Impérial M. Cordouan's speech for the prosecution was weak beyond description. M. Chateaux d'Est-Ange, the "Procureur Général Impérial," looked vexed beyond measure at the poor exhibition

which his inferior officer made. M. Cordouan accused M. de Montalembert of having praised England for the express purpose of disparaging France by contrast. No Englishman, he said, would have been capable of drawing any such contrast to the disparagement of his own country. He indulged in a few common-places about parliamentary government having broken down in France, the immense popularity of the Emperor, and the necessity of a strong Government. No young dynasty had ever been so liberal, so moderate, so indulgent, as that of Napoleon III. France, although not parliamentary, had representative institutions, which constituted a free government. He concluded by apostrophising M. de Montalembert as a man having lost the feelings of a Frenchman, and said:—"You have laid France prostrate at the feet of England; you have struck France in the face; yes, struck her in the face—unworthily struck her in the face." This he repeated three times, "Vous l'avez frappée au visage, frappée au visage, indignement frappée au visage."

M. Berryer, who defended the Count, described the prosecution as "unjust, unfounded, ill-advised, and, he was going to say—rash." The spirit of the article, he said, was not an attack upon anything French, but a genuine admiration of English free institutions, produced by hearing a splendid debate in the English Parliament on one of the grandest questions which ever occupied a deliberative assembly. He here pronounced a most eloquent eulogium on the English Parliament and nation, and said that M. de Montalembert, whose whole life had been passed in parliamentary struggles for religion and liberty, as he understood them, must naturally look back with regret to institutions which France had but very recently lost.

On M. Berryer saying that to affirm that France did not now possess liberty was not an attack upon the Government, but merely the assertion of a notorious and undeniable fact, he was interrupted by the President, who said: "Maitre Berryer, you are now going too far; you are repeating at the bar the very offence with which M. de Montalembert stands charged; and that cannot be permitted."

M. Berryer.—"Must I then throw up my brief? Have I lost my reason and conscience? Do I understand what the court means? Can it be that a counsel is to be construed as attacking the Government because he will not say that black is white? Why, it is the boast of the Government that it has bartered liberty for order—and it has done so, it says, with the consent of the French people; and that I am not here to deny. Yes, France has repudiated her own liberty. It is not rational to hold it an offence in any one to state the simple fact that liberty does not now exist."

M. Berryer then examined the heads of the accusation, and argued that no one of them was borne out by the article. Coming to the most important count in the indictment, that of an attack on "the rights of the Emperor under the constitution and the principle of universal suffrage," he would prove to demonstration that there was no scrap of law to support it. This accusation was entirely based upon a law of 1849, passed to protect from attacks and insults the constitution of the republic with a president for four years. How could that law be applicable to the empire! In 1848 a law was passed for the protection of the constitution; and when, in 1849, the form of government was again changed, though not in any such radical manner as it was subsequently in 1852, another law was passed to meet the circumstance. If the present government had neglected to renew that law, it was their own fault; but that was no reason why they should dispense with all law, and, acting upon purely arbitrary principles, condemn a man merely because he was obnoxious. He concluded by a brilliant and impassioned peroration, and sat down amidst loud and simultaneous cries of "Bravo."

The Procureur Impérial's reply was even less effective than his opening speech. He scarcely touched the specific charges of the prosecution or the powerful answer that had been made to them. He reiterated his assertion that French institutions were better than English ones, and that it was anti-French to say the contrary.

M. Dufaure, after a few words of excuse for M. Douniol (a mere working tradesman, who was lately a compositor), on the ground of his good character and actual ignorance of the article for which he was responsible, severely reproved the Procureur Impérial for the levity and incompleteness of his speeches for the prosecution. He could find nothing in them seriously deserving of an answer. He recapitulated and reinforced with crushing logic the arguments of M. Berryer, showing that the law of 1849 could not be applicable to the present imperial constitution. He referred with humour to the capricious nature of universal suffrage, which in the course of a very few years had sanctioned a republic with a sovereign chamber, a republic with a chamber and a president for four years with concurrent powers, a modified republic with a president for ten years, and finally the present empire. He observed that there was not a word in the article contrary to the Emperor's policy as regards England. His regret that there was not a greater approach to similarity in the institutions of the two countries only showed that he wished to see the alliance established on a lasting basis. So far from his being anti-French, he

showed his love for his country when he expressed his belief that France was worthy to enjoy light, liberty, and freedom.

At six o'clock the judges retired to deliberate, and at seven returned into court and delivered their judgment, which sentences M. de Montalembert to six months' imprisonment and 3000fr. fine; while M. Douairol, the editor of the *Correspondant*, is sentenced to one month's imprisonment, and 1000fr. fine. It is said that M. de Montalembert has appealed against this sentence.

ADMIRAL LORD LYONS.

ANOTHER of England's bravest sons has passed away from amongst us. After a life nobly spent in the service of his country, in the ripe autumn of his years, Lord Lyons, the daring sailor, the accomplished diplomatist, the scholar and the gentleman, is dead, at the age of sixty-eight.

Edmund Lyons was born on the 21st of November, 1790, at White Hayes, Burton, near Christchurch, Hants, and was the second son of John Lyons, Esq., of Lyons, in Antigua, and of Lymington, Hants. At the early age of eleven years he joined the navy as a volunteer of the first class on board the Royal Charlotte yacht, and after seeing service in different vessels on various foreign stations, towards the end of 1807, being then barely seventeen, we find him on board the Monmouth, 64, on his way to the East Indies, where he remained for the next five years, and where he attained the rank of lieutenant.

Before he had reached his twentieth year his name had become honourably associated with some of the most gallant deeds of the day; and his dashing bravery had made him conspicuous amongst the crowd of naval heroes who then sustained the honour of our flag. In the storming of the Castle of Belgica, and in the capture of Fort Marrack, in Java, the young officer evinced a skill and intrepidity which gained for him at once the admiration of his comrades and of his country. The interval of peace which followed the close of the great European war in 1815 was not altogether barren of laurels to our hero. In 1828 we find him displaying all his earliest gallantry before the Castle of Morea, in the Peloponnesus, and exhibiting that tact and courtesy towards his French allies, and the Greeks in whose cause he was combating, which paved the way to the honourable positions he subsequently held at the Court of Greece, and as Commander of the Black Sea fleet in the late war with Russia. In 1840 his services were required in a new field. He became the British plenipotentiary at Athens, and there acquired the esteem and even the affection of all political parties. From thence he was called in the course of his diplomatic career to Berne and to Stockholm. From the latter he was summoned to take the place of second in command to Admiral Dundas before Sebastopol, and eventually to succeed him.

The part taken by Admiral Lyons in that recent struggle is fresh in our recollection. Not only in the matter of the transport of the troops, but also in every subsequent stage of the expedition, Sir Edmund Lyons gave the most valuable assistance to Lord Raglan and his successors. Having conveyed our soldiers to the Crimea, he saved them from being compelled to leave it—baffled, if not vanquished. A day or two after the battle of Balaklava Sir Edmund Lyons learnt, to his astonishment, that orders had been issued to the Naval Brigade to embark as many guns as possible, for Balaklava was to be evacuated at night—of course surrendering to the enemy the greater portion of the guns. On his own responsibility the Admiral at once put a stop to the execution of this order, and went in search of Lord Raglan. Sir Edmund pointed out that the engineers, by whose advice Lord Raglan was led, had been mistaken once, and might be wrong again; and clinched his argument by saying that he was entitled to pronounce an opinion as to the insufficiency of Kamiesch as a harbour for the allied armies; that this harbour was utterly inadequate; and that the abandonment of Balaklava meant the evacuation of the Crimea in a week. After some conversation Sir Edmund obtained leave to countermand the orders which had been issued; Balaklava was maintained as our base of operations, and the army was saved from what might have proved an inglorious defeat, if not a terrible disaster. This was perhaps the most important of all the services rendered by the Admiral, and he well deserved the peerage which it earned for him.

His personal appearance and bearing are thus described by a writer in the *Times*:—

"It was impossible even to look at Lord Lyons without being interested in him; he was so like Nelson, the hero whom more than all others we regard with a sort of personal attachment. He had the same features, the same complexion, the same profusion of gray inclining to white hair, the same eager and half melancholy look. No one could see him without being struck with this resemblance. Not only in appearance, but also in reality there was something of Nelson in Lord Lyons. He had the same devotion to his profession; he had the same activity in duty; he had the same free and frank bearing; he had the same art of winning the affection of associates and subordinates alike; he inspired a similar confidence in all with whom he came in contact."

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

A MAN named William Johnson was apprehended by the police on the 19th, when it was found that he had in his possession counterfeit coin to the amount of 140 shilling and twenty half-crown pieces. It would appear that he had brought them for the supply of his customers, as a number of persons known to be purchasers of base money were congregated at the house where he was taken into custody. The prisoner was committed for trial.

At the Court of Bankruptcy an adjournment of a dividend meeting was ordered in the case of L. Franghiadi, a merchant, of Gresham House, Old Broad-street, whose bankruptcy occurred some time ago. The question arose whether proof could be made against two estates of parties carrying on business at different places, and the decision would depend on the result of an appeal at present pending before the House of Lords; hence the adjournment.

A remarkable action for damages, arising out of a case of false imprisonment, has been tried in the Court of Exchequer. Mrs. Truss, the wife of a commission agent, was given into custody by one Smith, a fruiterer, at Deptford, on a charge of having attempted to pass at his shop a bad half-sovereign. The defendant's daughter, having applied it to "the tester," a piece of it broke off, and without any further examination of the coin the poor woman was given into custody. After her arrival at the police station the half-sovereign was sent out to be examined, and the result was that it was discovered to be a good one. The lady was therefore released, and Smith offered her a sovereign if she would let the matter drop. But Mrs. Truss determined to bring the case into a court of law, and the jury, in consideration of the great outrage she had suffered, and the week's illness which she subsequently endured, gave her damages to the amount of 20*l*. The judge, in summing up, said it was the duty of every policeman, under such circumstances, to go with the parties charged to persons to whom they referred, and ascertain if the representations were correct.

At the Central Criminal Court, it was arranged, on application, that the trial of Roper, for burning his house at Greenwich, should be postponed till next session.—Issac Hammond, who threw his wife out of window in Westminster some time ago, was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to penal servitude for life. The pensioner who attempted to murder Inspector Budd, at Woolwich, from motives of revenge, was also found guilty, and sentence of death was recorded against him.—William Lemon Oliver pleaded guilty to several indictments, charging him with having appropriated certain stock and securities, entrusted to him for a specific purpose, to his own use. He was then removed from the bar. He was brought up for sentence on Thursday, and condemned to twenty years' penal servitude.—The two foreigners, Hugon and Beverde, were tried for having attempted to make coins resembling the Turkish piastre for unlawful purposes. A most skillfully conducted conspiracy on the part of the prisoners acting in conjunction with one Boisserolle (not in custody) was laid bare. A great number of witnesses were examined and documents read, after which the learned judge charged the jury, telling them that they could not have any reasonable doubt that the prisoners were aware that they were engaged in an illegal transaction. The jury found them guilty, and the Court sentenced the first-named prisoner to six, and the latter to twelve months' imprisonment.—Lewis, a draper, was tried for feloniously omitting to surrender after having been declared a bankrupt, and also for having concealed and removed his books. The prisoner fled to New York, where he was captured by a detective officer.—Zucker, a jeweller of Oxford-street, was tried for having made false entries in his books. Both prisoners were convicted, and sentenced to six years' penal servitude.—Edward Attwood and John Regan were indicted for breaking into the dwelling-house of William Frederick Cook, and stealing his property. Regan pleaded guilty. The evidence against Attwood was clear, and the jury found him guilty. Attwood had been sentenced to four years' penal servitude in 1854, and he was now sentenced to the same punishment for the term of six years. Regan was condemned to twelve months' hard labour.—Thurgood, a surgeon, and Rikey, a commission agent, were tried on the charge of conspiring to defraud Mr. Christie, a Liverpool merchant, of a large quantity of whisky. The circumstances of the case were recently detailed. Both prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

At the Southwark police-court, the Rev. Henry Harrison was charged with having threatened to stab his wife, and to cut his daughter's throat. The evidence was of a very painful character, and appeared to indicate that the prisoner's misconduct was the result of intemperance. The magistrate required the prisoner to find one surety in 20*l*. to keep the peace for three months. This he declared he was unable to do, and he was accordingly locked up.

A fellow was charged at the Mansion House with being in the shop of Mr. Stevenson, commission agent, Cannon-street, on Wednesday morning, at five o'clock, where

he had goods to the value of about 230*l*. packed up ready for removal, when the entrance of the police interrupted his operations. His lordship committed the prisoner for trial.

Alexander Kochanowski, represented to be a Russian noble, Myers Goldberg, and Jacob Goldwater, were charged before the Lord Mayor on Saturday, with getting engraved certain plates for the purpose of forging Russian bank-notes. The discovery was made by the engraver employed communicating the fact to the police. His lordship remanded the prisoners for a week to allow of evidence being procured to complete the case against them.

The Lord Mayor has adopted a policy in regard to costermongers somewhat different to that which was pursued by his predecessor. Five persons of this class were brought before him on Monday, and in dismissing the charge he said that in all such cases he should require the police to bring an inhabitant of the district as a witness to the offence. This is as it should be.

At the Southwark Police-court, Dell, the cab proprietor, who stands charged with having stolen a large quantity of boots and shoes from a person called Staunton, who, however, admitted that his real name was Steddon, underwent another examination. The magistrate announced his intention to commit the prisoner for trial.

Captain Webb, of the Commodore Perry, from Calcutta, appeared at the Thames police-court to answer a charge of cruelty brought against him by the Lascar crew of his vessel during the homeward voyage. The magistrate intimated his intention to send the case for trial at the Old Bailey, as he considered it of too serious and complicated a nature to be decided in a police-court. The personal recognisances of the defendant were accepted for his appearance, and the seamen, fifty-four in number, are in the mean time to be boarded at the Strangers' Home, the captain paying something towards their maintenance, and the balance to be defrayed from the funds of the poor-box.

Cumroodeen Tyabjee, a native of India, appeared in the Bail Court in a magnificent turban, among the attorneys to be sworn. This gentleman had been regularly articulated to an attorney in London, and had gone through the usual examination, and now came to be admitted. A question arose as to the oath this gentleman should take, but he was eventually admitted by the Court of Queen's Bench. The court was of opinion that it was unnecessary for him to take the oath of abjuration ("on the faith of a Christian"), but only the oath of allegiance and the attorneys' oath. Cumroodeen was accordingly sworn on the Koran, in Mussulman fashion, and admitted. He received the Lord Chief Justice's express wishes for success in his profession.

The Court of Divorce was occupied during the greater part of the week in hearing the case of Mrs. Caroline Maria Marchmont, who petitions for a judicial separation from her husband on the ground of cruelty. The lady, who was the widow of an hotel-keeper named Locket, had 50,000*l*. in her own right when she became acquainted with the Rev. Henry Marchmont, an Independent minister, and ultimately married him. The petitioner was examined, and stated that Mr. Marchmont, shortly after marriage, extorted large sums of money from her by threats and violence, and even struck her on the forehead, for which he was bound over to keep the peace. Mrs. Davis, the sister of Mrs. Marchmont, was examined, and deposed to various acts of an offensive nature on the part of the defendant. Some servants corroborated several matters in the evidence of the petitioner and her sister. Mr. Walmsley, a merchant, and friend of the petitioner, spoke to several acts of violence committed by Mr. Marchmont. In her cross-examination, Mrs. Marchmont admitted enough to show that she indulged in continual petty annoyances against her husband, and that she called him a fortune-hunter, who cared only for her money. The Rev. Henry Marchmont, the respondent, was then examined. He stated that, so far from being a needy money-hunter, he had previous to their marriage, a chapel in Lower-street, Islington, which yielded him 300*l*. a year. He also made an income by his literary labours, having in one year realised 1200*l*, and the year before his marriage, 700*l*. In addition, he had about 400*l*. a year. It was by his wish that his wife's money was settled on her. The witness then entered into a narrative of a series of humiliating acts towards himself of which he alleged the petitioner had been guilty, and asserted that his wife's love of money was her absorbing passion; that she refused to allow a sufficient sum for the legitimate expenses of a respectable household; and that her unfounded jealousy with regard to him and other women was constant and unbearable. He further deposed to facts showing the violence of her temper; and while admitting himself to be occasionally hasty, and while admitting himself to be occasionally hasty, and denied having ill-used or struck her, or that he was guilty of foul language. Mrs. Marchmont, he said, insulted and swore at him in the presence of his little children and his servants. He believed her to be under the influence of relations, who had designs on her property. The case was then adjourned to this day (Saturday).

An accusation which, if substantiated, will demonstrate an amount of depravity almost incredible, has

been brought against a labouring man named Henry Rutledge. He is accused of violating his daughter Kate, a girl of fifteen years of age, living with her in a state of incest, and ultimately threatening to murder her. The evidence given by the girl and an aunt of her's went to show that the man's own wife, the step-mother of the girl, assisted him in using force; and it also appeared that the case would not have been brought to light at all had it not been for Rutledge's threats of violence. The facts, it is asserted, were known to several people, but no notice was taken. The man, who denied the charge, and said that it was trumped up because he had changed his religion, was remanded.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MURDER.—A horrible tragedy was enacted in the neighbourhood of Queen-square, Holborn, on Tuesday morning. A commercial traveller, named Toomes, went into a house in Gloucester-street, which he was accustomed to visit, and having walked down stairs into the kitchen, he there deliberately cut the throat of a printer named Cantly, nearly severing the head from the body. The deceased being a man in very weak health was unable to resist, and death was instantaneous. The prisoner and deceased were on intimate terms, but never had any quarrel. The prisoner was examined before the Clerkenwell police magistrate, when these and other facts were stated in evidence. Although the prisoner appeared to be perfectly cool and collected during the perpetration of the murder, as well as afterwards, he had previously acted with great eccentricity of manner. He without any hesitation confessed the commission of the crime, and treated the matter with supreme indifference. It is said by the neighbours that the murderer has been in a very excited state for some time past. The magistrate remanded him for a week.

MUTINY OF CONVICTS.—On Tuesday a gang of eighty convicts were removed from Millbank Prison to the South Western Railway, Waterloo-road, for Portland; but with the most fearful oaths they refused to go by the train. The prompt arrival, however, of the governor and an additional force of officers from Millbank Prison put an end to the insubordination, but not until a delay of two hours had been occasioned.

MYSTERIOUS ASSASSINATION.—Mr. William Parsons, of Andover, left his home on Monday last about ten o'clock, and did not return home all night. Between seven and eight o'clock in the morning some of his own shopmen were out for a walk, previous to the shop being opened, and as one of them was strolling along the road, half a mile from the town, his attention was suddenly attracted to the body of a man lying in a field close to the road, with his face to the ground and his clothes covered with frost, as though he had been there all night. On entering the field and approaching the body he discovered unmistakable evidence of a horrible murder having been perpetrated, and without ascertaining who the unfortunate victim was, he gave information to the police. It was evident that the deceased, who was found to be Mr. Parsons, had met with his untimely death from the hands of a murderer, from the nature of his wounds, and from the fact of an ash bludgeon of about the thickness of a child's arm lying close by the body, the big end bearing bloody evidence of the foul murder committed by its aid. The murder was not committed for the purpose of plunder, for the watch and purse of the deceased, containing 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, were found in his pockets. An inquest has been held. No clue has yet been obtained as to the guilty parties, although the police are actively engaged in tracing the murderers. The inquiry was adjourned.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.—Another game-law fatality has been brought to light. Near Newark, a tenant-farmer was out shooting on his own land by moonlight. He had a right to shoot on the land, but two game-watchers came up, and a quarrel of some kind arose. The farmer's gun went off, probably by accident, and it killed one of the watchers. The farmer has been sent to prison.

A JUDGE'S REMINISCENCES.

SIR JOHN COLERIDGE delivered a lecture to the Ottery Literary Society, a few evenings ago, on "Circuit Reminiscences." He commenced with his experience as a barrister, and amongst other traits of the long-robed gentlemen, he mentioned that in his time they were very particular in their choice of wine, and had their own cellars in different districts. Next he narrated his experience as Recorder of Exeter, and he recollected the first case of cholera which occurred in those parts. The patient was taken ill in a rural town, and was sent in a cart to Exeter for medical attendance. He died, it was said, owing to the removal, and certain persons were charged with causing his death. Many of the "faculty" were sworn, but none would say that the man would not have died if he had not been removed, and the accused persons were acquitted. He next spoke of his experience as a judge. He had once to try a young man for murder. The murdered person was found dead, and his watch was stolen, but not his purse. The crime was traced home to the young man in an extraordinary way. It appeared that he had met the murdered person, who

showed his watch to the young man, and the latter was seized with a passion to possess it. He followed the owner, murdered him with an instrument used to bleed calves with, and took the watch, which he hid in a pit. After nine months had elapsed, he dug up the watch, which proved defective, and took it to a man to repair it. He then exchanged it for another, and the dead man's watch passed away into another person's hands to be repaired. This person identified the watch, and remembered that it had belonged to the murdered man, and by this means the crime was brought home to the murderer, who suffered condign punishment. Sir John also stated some incidents connected with the trial of the Chartists, and remarked how well some of them defended themselves, showing that they had been less students of Tom Paine than Algernon Sydney. With regard to civil suits, one he mentioned, connected with the country, was of considerable interest. An attorney, not in very flourishing circumstances, had made an offer of matrimony to a young lady, whose friends, however, objected to the suit, and he withdrew. Disappointed in love, he removed to Liverpool, under an assumed name, became a coach proprietor, married, had children, and died. In the mean time he became heir-at-law to a large property in Devon, but as he had changed his name, he could not be traced, and his property devolved on his two sisters, who enjoyed it many years. By that time the deceased man's children found an old document in an ancient piece of furniture, which led them to believe that their father's name was assumed; they found his right name in his own handwriting; it was also attested by persons who had letters written by him in his early days, and the result of a lawsuit was, that the attorney's children succeeded to the disputed property.

IRELAND.

THE PROSELYTISERS.—Lord Chancellor Napier gave judgment on Saturday in the case of the O'Malley orphans. His Lordship made an order confirming the order of the 23rd of September, by which he appointed Jane Robinson guardian of the minors; directed the minors to be educated as Protestants, and to be given up into the custody of Jane Robinson.

THE MURDER OF MR. ELY.—The Government have offered 150*l.* for information to lead to a conviction of the murderer, and a reward of 50*l.* for information of those harbouring James Delany. There is now a large sum on his head, nearly 1500*l.* It is said that he is not many miles from his own house. There is a great extent of mountain there, in which he might range a distance of twenty miles in extent. The *Leinster Express* remarks that no stronger or more conclusive evidence of the existence of the Riband conspiracy could be adduced than the fact that another week has elapsed and the murderer is still, through the connivance and assistance of the neighbouring peasantry, enabled to elude the grasp of justice. Sir Charles Coote has pledged himself to visit with immediate removal from his estate, and the infliction of the severest punishment the law permits, every case where it may be proved that any tenant of his harboured or succoured Delany. Henceforward if any tenant shall countenance persons of bad or questionable character, be they members of his own family or otherwise, his tenure becomes forfeited, and he must seek some other more congenial locality. The several magistrates of Clondanagh and the adjoining baronies are determined to follow this laudable course, and thus guard that part of the Queen's County from the inroads of Ribandism. The *Dublin Gazette* notifies that the Lord-Lieutenant and Privy Council have issued a proclamation to the effect that the Peace Preservation Act shall apply to, and be in force in and for, the barony of Clondanagh, in the Queen's County.

KILLING IN JEST.—Mr. S. M. Going writes to the *Daily Express*, saying that there is not the slightest ground for the reported attempt upon the life of Mr. Samuel Murray Gason. The explanation of the *Express*, however, is perfectly satisfactory. "The report of the attack upon Mr. Gason," says the *Express*, "was given upon the authority of that gentleman himself."

THE BATTLE OF THE BANKS.—The Landed Estates Court was crowded on Tuesday, the public having been led to believe that Judge Longfield would deliver judgment in the matter of the Tipperary and London and County Banks. The settlement day, however, was postponed, and another fortnight must pass over before the judge can decide which of the contending parties is fairly entitled to the proceeds of John Sadleir's ill-gotten Irish estates.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

THE TYNE SHIPOWNERS.—A meeting took place on the 19th inst. at North Shields, "to take into consideration the present depressed state of the British shipping interest, and to devise means for the improvement of the same." The Hon. G. H. Liddell, M.P., said that to ask Parliament to reverse their steps in the great question of free trade was worse than useless. You want the Government to put into force that which the law enables them now to do—namely, that her Majesty in Privy Council shall call upon those nations with whom you trade, either to reciprocate those advantages which you extend to

them, or—not to close your ports against them, but—to reimpose upon them the differential duties which formerly existed, and which placed you and them upon the same footing. Now, I say it is not fair to call upon any Government to undertake that in the present state of feeling in this country—in the present state of the power of the manufacturing interest. If I may offer a bit of advice to this great meeting, it will be to approach the House of Commons itself and say:—"We have a grievance, give us a committee to inquire into the real working of the Navigation Laws, and we undertake to show you, by facts, statistics, and arguments, that that act is working ill for the great national interest which we represent." This is not so much as it appears to be a class question; in a national point of view it is unequalled in importance. One of the great problems of the present day is the manning of our navy. The more we extend our territory the more the necessity will exist for keeping up a standing navy; we know that the increase of foreign ships is drawing the very bones and marrow of our navy away from us—viz. our sailors. I believe at this moment I am correct in saying that there are a vast number of British seamen employed in the American navy, and likely to remain there for the rest of their lives. This is a very serious consideration. Resolutions to the following effect were then carried:—"1. That experience of the working of the present navigation laws shows their effect to be most pernicious to British shipping, foreign nations having refused to reciprocate. 2. Full time having been allowed for other countries to decide whether they will reciprocate or not, those who have not done so may be considered as having decided on not meeting our views. Therefore, the time has arrived when our Government should strongly appeal to other nations, and if they still persist in refusing fair play to our shipping, should then put in force the proviso in clause 324 of 16th and 17th Victoria, chap. 107. 3. British shipping, exposed to this unfair competition abroad, has also to contend with many burdens at home which press heavily. 4. That a deputation go to London to co-operate with the Shipowners' Society there in taking such steps as may be deemed proper."

THE GREENOCK SHIPOWNERS AND MR. DUNLOP, M.P.

—A memorial from shipowners and merchants of Greenock to the Earl of Derby, in favour of enforcing the reciprocity clauses of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1853, has received numerous and influential signatures. A deputation waited on Mr. Dunlop to entrust him with the memorial, to ask him to support its prayer, and to ascertain his views with regard to it. The honourable gentleman remarked, that although he agreed with the memorialists in regretting the conduct of those countries which availed themselves of the liberal measures of our Legislature in the repeal of the navigation laws, but still continue to deny us reciprocal advantages, yet he was not, in his present state of information, prepared to pledge himself to concur with the memorialists in demanding retaliation with reference to the non-reciprocating states. On general principles, and taking only an economic view of the question, free trade in the carriage of goods stood on the same footing with free trade in the goods themselves, and the shipping interest has in this view no stronger claims than those of the landed or other formerly protected interests, which had been justly disregarded. He had always, however, felt and acknowledged that another element entered into the question with reference to the navigation laws—namely, that of self-defence; for manning our navy efficiently in war, it was essential that our mercantile marine should be kept up, even, if necessary, at a sacrifice to the nation in an economic view. If, on further inquiry, he became convinced that recent legislation had the tendency alleged by shipowners of destroying the nursery for our navy, the question would in that case become a national one of the first importance, and he would not hesitate in supporting any measure whatever rendered necessary for preserving the means of manning the navy; looking, as he did, on national defence as of paramount importance to every other consideration.

GENERAL MEETING IN LONDON.—The meeting of shipowners in London is announced for the 15th proximo; when they are to take into consideration "the present ruinous condition of the Shipping Interest." It seems to be admitted generally that of all the great interests of the empire, the shipowning interest is at present amongst the least prosperous.

MR. H. FENWICK, M.P.—The member for Sunderland writes to the Secretary of the Shipowners' Society:—"I shall gladly co-operate in endeavouring to attain that complete reciprocity which was contemplated at the time of the abrogation of the old Navigation Laws. You are aware that many attempts have been made by negotiation to procure the system of reciprocity with foreign countries, and more particularly with France. These attempts, however, have failed. I can hardly hope for the assistance of her Majesty's present Government. In 1856, when Mr. Lowe introduced the bill which not only proposed to get rid of those exceptional privileges, but also to get rid of passing tolls, and to apply all moneys received from shipping to shipping purposes, the members of her Majesty's present Government gave it their determined, and, I regret to say, their successful opposition."

TELEGRAPHIC CABLES.

The following communication has been addressed to a morning contemporary by Captain Hall of the merchant navy, a relative of the renowned Captain Hall, R.N., and himself well known as a daring and scientific navigator and a shrewd thinker upon all matters in any way bearing upon his profession. As all suggestions from really practical men on the subject of submarine telegraphs are worth consideration, we extract Captain Hall's letter in full for the consideration, and perhaps benefit, of those whom it may concern:—

Sir,—Permit me to make a few remarks upon the construction of telegraphic cables. First: That gutta percha is not suitable for submarine purposes, because, when the temperature is low, the substance becomes somewhat brittle; the consequence is, that a cable constructed of gutta percha will break from the conducting wire when any extra strain is given it beyond that which the gutta percha coating can withstand; and it is a well known fact that gutta percha is a non-elastic gum, hence the objection to use it for submarine telegraphic purposes.

That gutta percha becomes perfectly pliable at 212 deg. Fahrenheit there can be no doubt, and any change in temperature seriously affects it when used for telegraphic cables.

I maintain, therefore, that all cables constructed of gutta percha, with spiral wire covering, as now used, cannot last for any great length of time.

There is no doubt on my mind that the Atlantic Cable is rendered inefficient by the elongation of the outer wires, which has caused the gutta percha to snap in various places. I think this will not be disputed by practical men. If it be, I shall be happy to explain myself more fully to those who are acquainted with telegraph engineering.

I would recommend that the Atlantic Telegraph Company should have a cable that will suit all the purposes required, before they consent to another being made of gutta percha.

It is undeniable that India rubber is far superior to gutta percha, and even when the latter is used the present mode of covering with wire is injurious to any cable, however well insulated.

I also object to the use of spun yarn saturated with tar, as it has a tendency to dissolve gutta percha or India rubber.

I believe there is in existence a far superior method of covering with wire than the one used for the Atlantic cable, and which would render the cable lighter and considerably stronger than if it were made by any other means employed for such purposes.

Yours respectfully,

WALTER HALL.

10, Pier-road, Erith, Nov. 25.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

CAPTAIN CAFE, 4TH PUNJAB INFANTRY.—The following heroic conduct ought to be fully made known:—On the attack on Rhodamon, on the 15th of April, commanded by Brigadier Walpole, in which that gallant soldier, the Hon. A. Hope met his death, Lieutenant Edward Willoughby sank mortally wounded on the glacis, and his body was not known to be missing until the recall of the attacking party, when Captain Cafe at once resolved to rescue it, if possible, and heading a little band of volunteers, consisting of two privates of the 42nd Highlanders (Edward Spence and Thompson), with two native officers, and two privates, of his own regiment, he succeeded, in spite of a terrific fire, in bringing the remains of young Willoughby into camp, but not without the loss of one of the Sikhs, and also of the gallant Edward Spence. Cafe, placing the body of young Willoughby in safety, returned, undaunted, to the scene of danger, in order that he might also rescue poor Spence from the enemy's grasp, but in this attempt, though successful, he was dangerously wounded.

COLONEL HELY HUTCHINSON.—A statement has been widely circulated in India to the effect that Colonel Hely Hutchinson, of the 35th Regiment, attended a parade, on which, notwithstanding the terrible heat, the men were buttoned up in great coats; that he was helped from his palkee, propped on sticks; that he hobbled into the centre of the square, and talked something about leading the men to victory. A letter has within the last few days been received from that officer, dated Dinapore, the 28th of September, declaring that the story is a vile libel in every respect, and we have his authority for contradicting every word of it.

HOLY-STONING.—Captain G. T. Gordon, of the Hannibal, 91, depôt of the steam fleet in reserve at Portsmouth, has made an alteration in the routine duties of the crew, which is most considerate and humane. It is the practice in the fleet to "rouse out" at four o'clock in the morning to holy-stone and scrub decks. This in the winter is work which may be considered equal to punishment, the cold water frequently freezing on the decks and keeping them damp all day. The crew must be a hardy and well-seasoned one on which such a system would not introduce a large quota of the sick bay. Captain Gordon has ordered the discontinuance altogether, for the winter months, of holy-stoning—substi-

tuting washing once a week with warm water from the boilers in lieu of cold from over the side, and the crew to turn out at half-past five o'clock instead of four.

FRENCH FLOATING BATTERIES.—The experiments in naval gunnery which have recently been tried at Portsmouth have attracted notice in France, and it is asserted that from the different construction of the French ships from that of the English floating batteries, the shot, which went right through the latter, would only produce a deflection of a few inches in the iron covering of the French vessels.

SELF-MUTILATION.—At Chatham, a private belonging to the 81st Regiment, named George Drower, fired a rifle bullet through his right leg, shattering it in a most fearful manner. The man was conveyed to the garrison hospital, where the shattered limb was amputated. His object in mutilating himself was to be discharged from the army. As soon as he is able to leave the hospital he will be brought to trial before a court-martial. A short time ago a soldier at Chatham chopped off one of his fingers to procure his discharge.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress are expected at the Tuileries on Dec. 2.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree for establishing a Caisse des Travaux de Paris. This bank will have the management of all financial business relating to the execution of public works in Paris, and will have a power of issuing credit-notes to meet the requirements of the service, but only within prescribed limits.

The Emperor has pardoned Gomez, Orsini's servant, altogether, and he is to be set at large on the Sardinian frontier.

The new administrative organisation of Algeria has been announced to its inhabitants by public proclamation. The proclamation says that Algeria has ceased to be a colony.

The *Leader* and *Saturday Review* were seized at the Paris Post-office on Sunday.

There is a French law which makes it obligatory on manufacturers to send to school all their factory children under twelve. The school is, of course, Catholic. Mr. Walker, an English lace manufacturer in St. Pierre, has been summoned for having two English children in his service without sending them to school. He pleaded that they were Protestants and the school was Catholic, but the plea did not avail, Mr. Walker was fined on the ground that the defendant's argument tended to create for foreign Protestants a position which would enable them to compete unfairly with Frenchmen.

The Paris newspapers are prohibited in future from touching not only the subject of the Jew boy Mortara, which has given rise to some controversy between the *Univers* and the Liberal press, but any question whatever that has reference to religion.

Baron Rothschild, of Paris, has sent 10,000 francs to the parents of the boy Mortara, so that they may take legal measures to obtain the release of their child.

It is asserted that an Anglo-French fleet will leave on the 19th December for the Gulf of Mexico. The French fleet will have on board a battery of artillery in order to oppose any enterprise of the filibusters against Central America.

The French Government candidates for seats in the Legislative Body in the departments of Ain, Nièvre, and the Meuse, have been elected without opposition.

The French Government has received advices from Jeddah of the 3rd. From these it would appear that the Porte shows shuffling respecting the indemnity, and that the principal movers in the late massacre are permitted to remain unmolested. From Alexandria, of Nov. 16, we learn that the Ottoman Commissioners not having reached Jeddah, M. Emerat had caused the arrest of ten of the principal merchants and the Cadi.

M. Boulay (de la Meurthe), formerly Vice-President of the French Republic, died on Wednesday. He met with an accident on entering his carriage a few days since, by which his leg was injured, and gangrene supervened.

M. Barrot has been appointed to replace M. de Turgot at Madrid.

The *Journal de la Corse* mentions some intolerant conduct of the clergy of Ajaccio in connexion with the death of a gentleman named Becq, who had arrived about a fortnight back in that town. On taking an inventory of his effects, there was found among other books a Bible printed in London, and that fact was sufficient to induce the clergy of Ajaccio to refuse the admission of the body into any of the churches of the town, or afford it the usual Christian burial.

SARDINIA.

The Sardinian Government is about to follow the example of France, and establish extensive depôts of corn and flour at Turin, Genoa, Alexandria, and Novara.

The journals have announced the opening of the Chambers for the 3rd of next month. Count Cavour is at Genoa; the Minister of Finance and the Minister of

Public Works have some business to settle there about a dock, which has been planned a long time, but the execution of which has, for various reasons, been continually postponed. Count Cavour is conducting a strict inquiry concerning all the charitable institutions, which in Genoa are numerous, ancient, and splendid, but very badly administered. The Premier is also desirous of introducing better regulations into the steam navigation service on the Mediterranean.

Two Russian vessels of war have arrived at Villafranca, and have taken possession of the buildings let to the Russian Steam Company.

The continental papers are discussing the possibility of a war between Sardinia and Austria. Disputes have arisen between Modena and Sardinia. A letter from Turin says:—"We must not forget that behind Modena stands Austria, behind Piedmont, France. Numbers here persist in believing that war is becoming more and more probable every day. We hear quotations from letters written in Paris, in which there are broad hints that the Imperial Government is making, as quietly and secretly as possible, strong military preparations. We in Piedmont hear that something of the same kind is going on here."

SPAIN.

The Spanish Government has ordered a survey to be made for ascertaining the most convenient spot on their Mediterranean shores for laying a telegraphic cable to place Spain in communication with the Canary Isles.

The Queen is to open the Cortes in person. A statement appears in the Ministerial Madrid journals, that the leaders of the Progresista and Moderado parties have agreed to co-operate to upset the Ministry.

The Spanish cruising squadron sent to Vera Cruz is not to attempt the seizure of the place, but is to confine itself to protecting the life and property of Spanish subjects in Mexico. A petition from Havre urges upon the French Government that it should do the same for French subjects.

One of the religious journals announces that a beautiful Jewess, daughter of wealthy parents, has been privately baptised after having been instructed by the Countess de Hurriane, one of the most influential members of the old aristocracy, and who is known for her zeal in the instruction of the poor.

Advices from Madrid state that church robberies, that were almost unknown in Spain fifty years ago, are becoming more frequent than ever. The latest instances given are the churches of Sotillo and Molinos, in the province of Soria, which had been rifled of everything of value.

Activity reigns in the Ordnance Department in Madrid, and the arsenals of the kingdom are being furnished with everything ready for an emergency.

The expedition to Cochinchina has not given satisfaction to Spain, judging from what the Madrid papers say. After Touran had been taken by the allied force of France and Spain, the town and the neighbouring district were taken possession of in the name of France only. Spain is naturally enough offended. She encounters the risk, she helps to pay the treasure, and she is ready for the sacrifice of the life of her subjects engaged in the expedition; but it appears that, in the hour of victory, France has no recollection of any services but those she has herself supplied.

Señor Ros d'Olano has been appointed Governor of Cuba. General Concha will remain in Havannah until the difficulties with Mexico are arranged.

The squadron destined to act against the Riff pirates left Cadiz on the 22nd.

The 19th being the Queen's fête, a grand drawing-room was held by her Majesty, and 60,000 reals were distributed to the various charitable establishments of the capital, but a grand review of the garrison, which had been projected, had to be postponed on account of the very unfavourable state of the weather.

At Cadiz, on the 11th, there was a slight shock of an earthquake. Some Englishmen were making purchases of merino sheep in Andalusia for export to Australia.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a Royal order granting permission to make a survey for a tramway from Gauda to Denia, in the province of Alicante. If this tramway should be made it will be available for transport to seventy-six well-peopled villages in the district, and it can be done at the expense of 4,000,000 of reals only.

TURKEY.

Letters from Constantinople state that an English steamer had arrived there with a portion of the specie for the Turkish loan contracted for in London, but that the Government having lost the bill of lading, the captain refused to deliver up the cash until it was produced, and threatened to return to England unless this was speedily done. It was said that telegraphic messages were to be sent to the shipper that orders might be given to the captain on the subject.

A letter from Belgrade, dated Nov. 16, states that the session of the Skouptschina is adjourned, although the Senate had fixed the period of its meeting at its sitting of the 10th of November.

PAPAL STATES.

The *Presse* publishes an article on the Pontifical finances, from which it appears that they are in a dilapidated condition, chiefly owing to the extravagant expenditure in the law courts in the city of Rome.

A letter from Ancona states that several mysterious arrests have been effected both at Ancona and in the Marches, in consequence of telegraphic orders received from Rome. The prisoners were immediately conveyed to Rome under strong escorts.

GREECE.

The *Esperance* of Athens states that the opening of the Legislative Chambers took place with the customary ceremonial. The Ministry expects to meet a more organised and more compact opposition in the Senate than attended at last session.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had left for Italy.

HANOVER.

The First Chamber of Hanover has rejected the Government bill on judicial organisation, and a Ministerial crisis was the immediate consequence of the vote. A French paper, the *Patrie*, congratulates Hanover on a return to parliamentary government.

NAPLES.

Advices from Naples are to the 10th inst. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, during his stay, remained in the bay on board the frigate, and did not visit the King. He has left for Rome.

An Englishman has lodged a protest, which is supported by the British Consul, against a domiciliary visit he had received.

The Neapolitan Government has issued a decree, prohibiting the employment of foreign labourers on the Tarento Railway, and containing other regulations which it will be found difficult to carry out.

AUSTRIA.

The festivities are over at Prague, and their Majesties are in Vienna again. The King and Crown Prince of Saxony visited the Emperor and Empress while they were in the capital of Bohemia, and returned to Dresden in the evening of the 16th inst.

The new law on recruitment in Lombardy causes a strong feeling of discontent throughout the whole country. The duration of service is increased from five years to seven, while the grounds of exemption have been much restricted.

The *Panorama*, a satirical journal published at Milan, has just been suspended for a year on account of certain articles alleged to be hostile to the Austrian Government.

A recent letter speaks of domiciliary visits and many arrests at Venice, and says that a force of 8000 Croats is on the march to reinforce the garrison of Milan.

Austria goes on increasing the budget for her young navy, which, in the estimate just made, has already reached the sum of half-a-million of pounds sterling. She is evidently preparing for another crisis in the East, and intends to protect her own interests on the coast of the Adriatic.

SWITZERLAND.

A third plan of a Cantonal Constitution has been submitted to the vote of the population of Neuchâtel, and sanctioned by 5730 votes against 3385, to the great mortification of the Radicals.

BELGIUM.

Lord Howard de Walden, British envoy at Brussels, was stung, a few days ago, by some venomous insect, and symptoms of carbuncle appeared; happily, energetic remedies were applied, and his Excellency is now free from danger.

DENMARK.

The King of Denmark announces that he has made his last concession to German claims, and that if any further demands are made he will stand on his rights, appealing to the patriotism of his people and the friendship of his allies.

PRUSSIA.

The secondary elections (elections of members) have taken place all over the Prussian monarchy. The result, which will not be ascertained for some time, nobody can foretell under present circumstances. The Government showed some symptoms of nervousness at the last minute, which will not serve its cause. The following are the names of the nine deputies elected at Berlin:—Kühne (Privy Councillor), Reimar (Common Councilman), Rev. Jonas Riedel, Veit (Publisher), Minister von Patow, Henry d'Arnim (formerly Minister for Foreign Affairs), Wentzel (President of Ratibor), Matthias (Privy Councillor.)

The King and Queen of Prussia arrived at Trieste on the 17th inst., and on the following morning continued their journey to Verona, where they will meet the Princess Alexandrine. Their Majesties are on their way to Nice, where they intend to pass a great part, if not the whole, of the winter. It is stated that King Victor Emmanuel has placed the palace which he has at Nice at the disposal of the Prussian monarch. On the 20th inst. the King of Wurtemberg will also leave for Nice.

PORTUGAL.

Since the earthquake which took place on the 11th instant telegraphic despatches have been received from the principal provincial towns which give good ground for hope that the damage and loss of life have not been so great as was anticipated from the violence and duration of the shocks. There can be no doubt it was the most violent shock experienced since the great earthquake of 1755, and very little more vibration could not have failed to produce most disastrous consequences.

Chimneys and walls were cracked and thrown down in Lisbon, but it appears that no building was destroyed, and that one death was alone caused by the falling of a wall half built at the Polytechnic School. The accounts from St. Ubes, about eight leagues from Lisbon, on the south of the Tagus, are the most distressing. A great number of houses were thrown down, and some of the inhabitants buried in the ruins, but no authentic account has yet been received of the number of deaths, though it is understood five bodies have already been taken out. None of the English residents appear to be included among the sufferers. This earthquake was preceded by two days of almost incessant heavy rain.

The Portuguese papers say that on the 15th inst. the Finance Minister stated that all the papers relating to the Charles-et-Georges affair would be submitted to the Chambers as soon as it could be done.

AMERICA.

By the Persia we have New York advices to the 10th instant.

Statements respecting Central American affairs occupy considerable space in the New York papers. It is asserted that Lord Napier had presented a joint note from England and France against filibustering, but it is also denied that his Lordship has done so. Walker was in Washington, endeavouring to persuade the President to withdraw or modify his recent proclamation.

Letters from Venezuela mention that the arrival of General Paez was anticipated with great satisfaction. It is stated that the United States Government had placed a vessel at his disposal.

The road to Termination-point, Niagara Falls, had fallen away.

A convention of slaveholders of the eastern shores of Maryland had been held at Cambridge. They complain that the free negroes among them are an idle and worthless set, and recommend the holding of a general State convention in Baltimore in June next, for the purpose of devising some means of remedying the evils under which they labour, and the passage of laws to render the free negroes a producing class.

The corn crop has never been so large in Kentucky as the present crop promises to be.

The steam yacht *Petrel* had burst her boilers in New York harbour, instantly killing three persons.

The ship *Isaac Bell* had arrived with the captain, mate, and four seamen, rescued from the British barque *Claude*, of Shoreham, which was wrecked at sea. Eight lives were lost on board the barque, including the captain's wife.

Yellow fever had ceased at New Orleans, but was prevailing with great virulence at Galveston, Texas.

The Tehuantepec route across the Isthmus is reported as clear of all obstructions.

California advices to the 11th of October had been received. The rainy season had just commenced, and its usual effects upon business were experienced. The first overland mail to San Francisco arrived there in twenty-four days. The emigration to the Fraser River gold-fields had almost entirely ceased.

A fire at Jamestown, California, had destroyed twenty-seven buildings, involving a loss of a quarter of a million dollars.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* announces that some agents of the United States have been endeavouring to persuade Denmark to sell the Isles of St. John and St. Thomas, in the Antilles. It is inquired whether this is a step towards the annexation of Cuba.

The Pacific arrived at Galway on Tuesday, with news to the 18th, from New York. Among her passengers is Madame Lola Montes.

In New Mexico the Navajo Indians were again defeated. The Mohawk Indians attacked an emigrants' train and killed nine and wounded sixteen. The Indian war in Oregon is ended.

Advices from Washington state that the Secretary of the Treasury will recommend a tax on tea and coffee. The Governorship of Kansas had been offered to Samuel Reding. General Walker and Henningsen were reconciled.

At Greensburg, Kentucky, the mob had broken into a gaol, and hanged two murderers.

CANADA.

The *New Brunswick* denies the report that Lord Bury's mission to America is connected with the projected union of the British provinces, and says that his visit is solely on the business of the Great Intercolonial Railway from Halifax to Quebec, of which his Lordship has been from the outset one of the most zealous supporters.

WEST INDIES.

CUBA.

THE dates from Havannah are to the 30th October. The Spanish frigate *Benguela* had returned to Havannah from Tampico, to which port she had been despatched to interfere for the protection of Spanish merchants who had been pillaged by the Mexican Commander Gonzo, but nothing respecting the result of her visit had been made public.

In view of a possible complication of affairs in the

Gulf of Mexico, a new Cuban revolutionary junta has been formed at New Orleans, and is preparing its plan in conjunction with parties in Cuba.

BARBADOES.

The crops have suffered severely from the great deficiency of rain this season; it is generally believed that the sugar crop will amount to but little more than half of the last year's produce. The planters generally have a very high sense of the advantages to be derived from the aids that science now places at the disposal of agriculture, but no very clear idea of the means by which her ends are accomplished, and, although the island in this respect may not be very far in the rear of improvements, yet, as chemistry and geology have no resident representatives on the spot to stimulate their inquiry, their progress, as compared with European States, will necessarily be retarded.

There is to be an Industrial Exhibition at Bridgetown, including an Agricultural Show (the first of the kind), towards the middle of December.

MEXICO.

News has been received in New York from Mexico to the effect that Colonel Salindas, with four hundred troops from Oaxaca, entered Tehuantepec on the 20th, without having dispersed the forces of Zuloaga. General Vidaurri had resigned the command of the Liberal army, on account of alleged treachery in his camp, and the command had devolved on Colonel Zaragoza. Previous to his resignation, Vidaurri issued a proclamation calling on merchants along the frontier to pay various sums annexed to their names, amounting in the aggregate to 150,000 dols., or to remove with their goods from the country. Many of the American and other merchants were preparing to remove when the decree was revoked, and Vidaurri left. Colonel Zaragoza was making active efforts to reorganise the Liberal forces.

NEW GRANADA.

THE northern States of this republic are in a very distressing condition, in consequence of its political troubles. Partial anarchy prevails, and must become general, unless more power is vested in the President, who is a talented and resolute man, and one of the few able to govern his country in peace. The Federation is satisfactory in the United States. The capital (Bogotá) is tranquil, its inhabitants beholding with indifference the depredations committed in the neighbouring States; and when they hear of the most atrocious murder, their reply is, it is a *delito politico*, and, as a matter of course, the assassin is set at liberty, and in a few weeks becomes again a useful member of society. Such a state of things is truly appalling in a country where they boast of its civilisation. The trade throughout the country is dull, without prospects of reaction.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Daily News* asserts that the remarks of the *Presse* of Paris relative to a contemplated sale of this principality to Russia are totally unfounded, and it is equally fabulous that "a rumour respecting that sale is current in Turin, Nice, and Villafranca." The principality of Monaco is not in the market, and its present ruler, Charles III., has no more the intention of disposing of his sovereign rights, such as they are, than had his more distinguished ancestor Honoré V. This prince—the most illustrious of these retail dealers in despotism—was visited by a diplomatic mission from the Court of Turin. The envoys, after beating about the bush in true diplomatic style, offered the Prince three million francs for the cession of his dominions to their master, the King of Sardinia. Honoré expressed his thanks for the offer of his neighbour, which was, he admitted, truly generous, and more than he could have fairly expected. The envoys, on hearing this, saw splendid visions of stars and other courtly honours which would reward the success of their mission. "But," continued the Prince, "we cannot accept the generous proposal of our cousin, for not all his treasures could repay the loss of our position as an independent sovereign of Europe." The mission returned to Turin disconsolate.

The reigning Prince is equally impressed with the value of that position, and is not disposed to sell it by public auction. Perhaps he is unwise, for the next grand convulsion in France or Italy will prove fatal to his position, and Monaco will be absorbed by Sardinia, unless it falls with willing Nice into the hands of France. Not only would Russia not derive the faintest advantage from the possession of this pretty little orangery, but the mere conception of such an acquisition would be a political error, and would result in a diplomatic repulse. The rights of the Prince of Monaco are guaranteed by the Treaty of Vienna, and he could not forfeit them without the consent of the contracting powers. Apart from the general and invincible opposition which the presence of Russia on this coast would encounter from the Mediterranean powers, it may be asserted that the Foreign-offices of Turin and Paris entertain such fervent hopes of obtaining by the force of circumstances possession of this petty territory that the fox with all his cunning would stand no chance in the struggle between the lion and the tiger, even if tempted by the disputed spoils.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty will leave Windsor Castle next week for Osborne. The Queen will be accompanied by all her family. Among the visitors at Windsor this week have been the Duke and Duchess of Aumale, the Comte de Paris, the Duc de Chartres, the Lord Chancellor, and the gallant hero of Lucknow, General Inglis. On Monday the Queen honoured with her presence a ball which she gave to the servants of the household in celebration of the Princess Royal's birthday. The *Canadian News* says—"We have undoubted authority for stating that, although her Majesty finds it will be impossible for her to pay a visit to her loyal subjects in Canada, a short interval only will elapse before one of the young Princes will go there."

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Royal Highness arrived in Berlin on Saturday, where he will stay for three weeks. The *Gazette* announces that the Queen has appointed Colonel the Hon. Robert Bruce to be Governor to the Prince of Wales. To be Equerries to his Royal Highness: Major Lindsay, Fusilier Guards; Major Teesdale, C.B., Royal Artillery; Captain Grey, Rifle Brigade. Extra Equerry: Viscount Valletort. Marlborough House is to be repaired and redecorated for the Prince's residence on attaining his majority.

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM.—A Berlin letter of the 21st inst. says that the birthday of the Princess Frederick William of Prussia was celebrated there with extraordinary rejoicings. Her Royal Highness looked remarkably animated and happy. During the day she received a number of costly presents, and a large bouquet of English roses and other choice flowers grown for the occasion. The Princess anticipates her confinement very early in the ensuing year.

THE ORDER OF THE BATH.—On Monday her Majesty invested the following with the insignia of Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, having previously conferred upon them the honour of knighthood:—Major-General J. E. W. Inglis, Major-General E. Lugard; Dr. A. Smith, Mr. R. M. Bromley, and Mr. T. T. Grant (Civil); Rear-Admiral Sir H. J. Leeke also was invested with the insignia of a Knight Commander. The following received the decoration of Companions of the Bath:—Colonel C. Steuart, 14th Light Dragoons, Lieut.-Colonel T. C. Kelly, 38th Regiment, Colonel C. Franklyn, 84th Regiment, Lieut.-Colonel E. Maberley, Royal Artillery, Captain G. W. Freedy, R.N. (Civil), the Hon. F. W. A. Bruce (Civil), Deputy Commissary-General W. J. T. Power, and Mr. S. Petrie, Director of the Commissariat.

"GENERAL" ORGONI.—We read in a Paris letter that a short time ago this adventurer having solicited an interview with Lord Stanley, was received by his lordship at the India House. On this occasion the general stated that several persons, mistaken for him, had recently been arrested by the English authorities in India, that he wished to do away with the impression that he had ever been a "systematic" enemy of the English, that he was now returning to Burmah with purely commercial views, and that he would be glad to receive Lord Stanley's assurance that he might cross English territory without being molested. Lord Stanley, it appears, thought it right to listen to all that the adventurer had to say, but without making him any reply whatever. The latter complains to his friends that all his assurances of his innocuous intentions, and all his arguments tending to show that his own interest would prompt him to be friendly with the English, and that he could not, if he would, do any serious injury to English power in India, only drew from the English minister the stiff phrase, twice repeated, *Je n'ai rien de plus à vous dire*, he having said nothing to him whatever during the whole course of the interview.

DECEASED NOBLEMEN.—The Earl of Courtown, while attending a meeting of poor-law guardians of Gorey, on Saturday, was attacked with apoplexy, and died soon after.—We have also to record the death of Lord Proby, heir to the earldom of Carysfort, in his 85th year.

ENGLAND'S FOREIGN POLICY.—On one side, the legitimate resentments excited by the imprudent and illogical policy of England in her relations with other States, on the other the horror and spite with which the spectacle of her enduring and prosperous liberty fills servile souls, have created in Europe a common ground of animosity against her. It will be easy for any one who may wish it to turn to good account this animosity, and to profit by it for the purpose of engaging England in some conflict, out of which she runs a great risk of issuing either vanquished or diminished. It is then that the masses, wounded in their national pride by unforeseen reverses, may raise a storm of which nothing in her history up to this can give an idea. To prevent this catastrophe, it concerns her not to blind herself any longer as to the nature and extent of her resources. Her military strength, and above all, the acquirements in military science of her generals and officers, are evidently unequal to her mission. Her naval strength may be, if not surpassed, at least equalled, as it once was by our own under Louis XIV. and Louis XVI., as it will again, if our honour and our interest should require it. She confides too much in the glory of her past, in the natural courage of her sons. Inasmuch as she is essentially warlike, she considers herself, wrongly, on a level with modern progress in the art of

war, and in a position to resist superiority in numbers, in discipline, and camp experience. Because in 1848 the bravest and best disciplined armies did not save the great continental monarchies from a sudden and shameful fall before an internal enemy, she chooses to doubt that a good and numerous army constitutes the first condition of safety against an enemy from without. For the very reason that she is free she believes, and wrongly, that she has nothing to fear from the enemies of liberty. No! her institutions are not an impregnable bulwark, as Mr. Roebuck unreflectingly termed them on his return from Cherbourg. Alas! all experience of ancient and modern times proves that free nations may succumb, like others, and even more rapidly than others. Liberty is the most precious of treasures, but, like every other treasure, it excites the envy, the covetousness, the hatred of those men, especially, who do not wish that others should possess an advantage which they themselves have neither known how nor wished to possess. Like every other treasure—beauty, truth, virtue itself—liberty requires to be watched over and defended with a tender solicitude and an indefatigable vigilance. All the inventions of which modern science is so proud are as useful to despotism as to liberty, and even more so. Electricity and steam will ever lend more force to strong battalions than to good reasons. By substituting mechanical contrivances for the mainspring of morality, man's individual energy, the former invite and second the establishment of the empire of might over right. This is what the friends of England and of liberty ought never to lose sight of.—*Comte de Montalembert.*

CLERICAL AMUSEMENTS.—If a clergyman hunts one or two days in the week, he is called a "hunting parson," as if he had no other way of spending his time in summer as well as winter; so with cricket, and fishing, and archery, and shooting, or whatever be the relaxation adopted by the clergy. Men (or rather let us say *old women*) speak of them as if their whole time and attention were devoted to amusement; whereas these recreations are often the very means and instruments by which the hard-working clergy are enabled to fulfil the duties of their profession. And then, for fear of "offending the weaker consciences of the brethren," by the breach of their self-imposed restraint, these men recommend total abstinence from all amusements. With them *abusus tollit usum*. Every pleasure and recreation becomes "a snare," or "an entanglement," or "a stone of stumbling," or some such cant phrase; and so, instead of showing their brethren how to set to work to reduce their indulgences within proper limits, and so becoming an example "of moderation to all men," they recommend the cowardly and slothful method of total abstinence from these good things, which they have not the courage to use aright. Why, what is this but the spirit of monachism and seclusion, which made the old hermits, and monks, and nuns shut themselves up away from a world which they had not the courage to face, and desert the post assigned to them in the great battle of life? What is this but the total abstinence principle of the teetotaler, who declares all wines and liquors that are made to gladden the heart of man "pernicious poisons"—because he cannot restrain himself from the abuse of them? And then these gentry must make a virtue of their necessity, and set up their total abstinence as saints and model parsons.—*The Field.*

THE RIVER MEDWAY.—The condition of the river Medway, owing to the filling up the bed of the river, has been getting worse for several years past; and steps are now being taken to adopt measures to counteract the increasing evil; it is alleged that the very existence of the large naval establishment at Chatham Dockyard is seriously imperilled. At Chatham, a meeting was held on Thursday, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of adopting vigorous and energetic measures to prevent the continuous accumulations. After some discussion the meeting was adjourned for a fortnight to enable the promoters of the meeting to decide on the plan to be proposed for improving the river.

THE GARRISON OF LUCKNOW.—On Tuesday last, being the anniversary of the final rescue of the Lucknow garrison, the whole of the surviving members of General Inglis's little band now in England dined together, to commemorate the event, at the London Tavern. After the cloth had been removed, General Inglis said—"Comrades, we have met here to-night to commemorate the events of the past in a perfectly private manner, but there is one toast, and one only, which I must call on you to drink in solemn silence before we part—'The Memory of Henry Lawrence,' but for whom every man here would also be sleeping in a bloody grave; with 'The Memory of Henry Havelock,' who, in the emphatic language of Scripture, 'laid down his life for his friends,' and 'The Memory of all the honoured Brave who fell beside us in the Defence of Lucknow.' In solemn silence, all standing, comrades and friends." When the silence occasioned by this affecting appeal had been somewhat broken, the gallant General said—"Comrades and friends, I have received the thanks of Parliament; I have been invested with the insignia of the Bath by the gracious hand of her Majesty; I have received the thanks of the Government of India; I have received the thanks of Nova Scotia, my native country, and have been presented with a sword by that body. All

these great honours and distinctions I owe to no merit of my own; I owe them all to the matchless courage and endurance of those I see around me, and not to them only, but to our surviving comrades now serving in the East, and to those who fell in the struggle. And for this and for all my honours I thank you from my heart, my friends and comrades." Major Dinning, the senior military officer present, said—"On the part of the garrison I feel bound to disclaim the merit which General Inglis, with that rare self-abnegation which always characterised him, attributes to them, and not to himself. Every man here knows that to the incessant and untiring personal supervision of General Inglis is to be attributed the final success of the defence; and to him, therefore, as much as to any other man he has named, those present are indebted for their lives." We understand that the gallant General returns to the East by the steamer of the 4th of December.

THE FRENCH PRESS.—A Paris letter says:—"The press is rapidly approaching the complete quietism of Figaro's *Journal Inutile*, and, like it, may not even then escape suppression. 'Pourvu que je ne parle pas en mes écrits ni de l'autorité, ni du culte, ni de la politique, ni de la morale, ni des gens en place, ni des corps en crédit, ni de l'Opéra, ni des autres spectacles, ni de personne qui tiennent à quelque chose, je puis tout imprimer librement, sous l'inspection de deux ou trois censeurs.' It is difficult to point out any one of the above topics which can now be treated. Authority?—Out of the question. Morals?—Why, there are few of the great personages of the day who would not interpret the praise of morality as the bitterest censure on themselves—witness M. de Montalembert's case. People in office?—Not even by implication, as the *Revue des Deux Mondes* and others can tell. Of great bodies in credit?—The 'great bodies' do not, I suppose, mean the sun, moon, planets, or fixed stars, or anything else than the Senate, Legislative Body, and Council of State. The proceedings of neither of them are made public; of course, censure is not to be thought of. Of the Opera and other theatrical representations?—Matters may come to that point before long. The Opera and certain other theatres are subsidised by the Government, are under the control of the Minister of State, and may, I suppose, be officially protected from criticism. So that you see Figaro's programme wants but little to be complete."

A STRANGE STORY.—The following is from the *Peninsular Correspondence*:—"We are sorry to announce that Mr. Morphy, one of the most gifted members of the Spanish bar, has just died under circumstances somewhat singular. Mr. Morphy was celebrated for his knowledge of gastronomy, and was, perhaps, on account of this scientific appreciation of the *chefs d'œuvre* of the diplomatic kitchen, as well as his convivial talents and his powers as a conversation-man, a frequent guest of the former and present English Ambassadors, who, among other essential professional qualifications, are *au fait* in the arts of hospitality. It appears that some six or seven days ago the unfortunate gentleman went to dine with Mr. Buchanan, the English Minister. He had put on a pair of boots tight beyond the usual powers of endurance, and sat chatting with his host, who little dreamt of the voluntary martyrdom to which his witty guest had subjected himself. Violent inflammation supervened, followed by gangrene, which carried the unfortunate gentleman to his grave."

FINSBURY PARK.—On Monday evening a public meeting was held at Pentonville, to consider the propriety of urging the Metropolitan Board of Works to take immediate steps to carry into effect the Act of Parliament authorising the formation of a park for Finsbury. A memorial to the Board of Works, embodying the views of the meeting, was adopted.

CITY SEWERS.—On Tuesday a court was held for the despatch of business. Dr. Letheby presented his weekly report on the sanitary state of the City. Some discussion took place as to a plan to improve Holborn-hill, but it led to no result. The court then took into consideration a precept which the Chamberlain had received from the Metropolitan Board of Works for the payment by the City of 15,700*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* as its share towards the metropolis main drainage rate. The matter was referred to the general purposes committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—With the increasing cold there has been an increase in the mortality in the metropolis. According to the Registrar-General's return there were 1487 deaths in London last week, whereas in the third week of October the number was only 1118; the excess over the average being as high as 800. Scarletina is slightly on the decrease. 1683 children were born during the week. In the City the number of deaths was 65, being as near the average as possible.

A PATHETIC BALLAD.—Perhaps Madame's great and crowning strength lay in pieces of another order. Perhaps in those little melting histories—at which old men cry, and in which the events of a life are concentrated within the compass of three short stanzas—which narrate how the youth of prepossessing manners, to which unluckily his worldly endowments do not correspond, has gained the affections of a young person under age, and without the sanction of her lawful guardian. "But," says Madame Fiquette, dropping her arms pensively, and entering on the burden, "'tis the old story! L'amour sans bien n'est rien, n'est rien! sans bien, sans bien—n'est rien—rien—n'est rien—rien!" which, ending the first

verse happily enough, melts into reflective-symphony, touched delicately by husband at the piano. Still suffering from that impecuniosity, as Doctor Samuel Johnson has it, which is the sharpest stone on his lover's walk, the youth finds himself necessitated to go abroad and fight his country's battles. Vows are interchanged at parting. The music slackens. "I go," says the youth, "forget me not." "But," says Madame, in mournful and desponding accents, "love, without wealth, is nought, is nought!" Then comes halting, dirge-like symphonies from the husband, in favour of the pie-crust quality of lovers' promises, and hinting at the extreme likelihood of such foolish talk being forgotten with the lapse of time. "But years go by," Madame continues, taking up the measure in a vigorous and even noisy manner. "There is gaiety abroad, and the marriage-bells are sounding (happy imitation of bells on the top notes of the piano). But for whom? She will wed a proud and wealthy milord. But there is the clatter of a steed upon the hills (galloping rumble among bass notes). He comes! He comes! (startling chord). Mon Dieu! too late! too late!" (staccato chord.) Then recurs, heartrendingly and mournfully, the burden: this time conveying a world of reproach, sorrow, and despairing adhesion to the eternal truth, "Car l'amour sans bien—sans bi-en—n'est rien! n'est Ri—i—i—iii—EN!!!" Dead March in Saul Symphony from husband, who seems utterly overcome. The old men present weep hysterically. — *Dickens's "Household Words."*

GREAT LOSS OF SHIPPING IN THE CHINA SEAS.—We subjoin a list of the British ships reported lost:—The brig Anonyme, the brig Glendower, the schooner Gazelle, the barque Hong-Kong, the ship Shapscoote, the ship Kinaldi, the barque Louisa Baillie, the barque Louisa, the barque Moulton, the brig Pantaloon, and the ship North Star. The following are on shore at Swatow:—The ship Alfred the Great, the barque Beverley, the ship Dennis Hill, the barque Harvest Home, and the barque William Frederick.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—The *Traveller* Chronicle says:—"Nothing of importance occurred since my last until Friday, when the weather was so fine that no further pretext could be advanced for not proceeding with the laying down of the shore end of the cable. The vessels accordingly proceeded to sea, and succeeded in submerging the few miles of shore cable, and in making a splice with the deep sea portion about five miles off Douglas Head. I am not aware that the shore cable has been tested, since it was laid down, nor is there any person of sufficient experience here to do so, and when we recollect that some of the most eminent practical electricians of the day have differed materially in the manner and result of their testing, we must have very little reliance on the opinion of others of far less scientific experience. Nothing is, therefore, known of the present condition of the cable, or whether the laying down of the portion of shore end has materially improved its condition, as the office has been shut up since the 1st inst., and the staff, with one exception, discharged—not removed to London, as has been asserted."

THE CAMDEN-TOWN BURIAL-GROUND.—At a meeting held in the Court-house, Camden-town, on Thursday, it was announced, amid loud expressions of satisfaction, that a decree had been issued by the judge of the Consistory Court calling in the license or faculty granted on the 23rd of June last, which authorises the removal of dead bodies in the Camden-town Cemetery, and further calling on the rector and churchwardens to show cause why they should not reinter the bodies already removed.

DE MONTALEMBERT'S JUDGES.—A Paris letter says:—"One of the foremost men in France is to be tried to-morrow, for an alleged political libel, by a tribunal composed of three persons, whose united salaries are less than the pay of a county court judge. The president of the tribunal will be M. Berthelin, one of the vice-presidents of the Inferior Court, called the *Tribunal de Première Instance*. He will be assisted by M. Benoît, a puisne judge of the same court, and by M. Nacquart, a supplementary judge (*juge suppléant*). Unless these gentlemen are angels rather than men no man prosecuted by the Government can reasonably expect to receive justice at their hands. The salary of Mr. Vice-President Berthelin is 280*l.* a year; that of his colleague, M. Benoît, is 240*l.*; and the *juge suppléant*, M. Nacquart, is an apprentice judge, who receives no pay whatever. If Count de Montalembert should be acquitted, M. Berthelin, who possibly may be a middle-aged man with a large family, knows well that he can never expect to be promoted to the bench of the 'Imperial Court.' M. Benoît also must either concur in a verdict of guilty, or resign himself to remain all his life an inferior judge with 240*l.* a year, and M. Nacquart, the aspirant, may try his 'prentice hand' at administering justice till he grows grey, without ever tasting the sweets of quarter-day. Such is the constitution of the tribunal invented by the Government of the *coup d'état* for securing the condemnation of all obnoxious writers in the press. Probably the sentence will not be heavy. The forms of the society in which they move will prevent the judges from being very severe. They doubtless feel a sympathy for the man, but, as Peachum says to Looket, 'they must provide for their families.'"

JUDICIAL.—Mr. Serjeant Wells, of the Norfolk Cir-

cuit, has accepted the appointment of Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court at Calcutta, vacated by the retirement of Sir Arthur Buller.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Wednesday a discussion took place on the question of the proposed county rate for the City Paupers' Lunatic Asylum. Various memorials having been read, the Lord Mayor gave a summary of the history of the question, from which it appeared that in his judgment there was no alternative but to impose a county rate. A resolution was proposed, rescinding the previous resolution of the court sanctioning the rate. This gave rise to some discussion, and the debate was adjourned.

THE BEST WIRE TRAP.—Since Lord Mayor Wire is so fond of laying traps to catch people, why does he not originate a Reform meeting in the City? London is about the only large town that has not yet spoken out on the subject. Even Manchester, that of late years has been a political mute, so far as Liberal sentiments were concerned, is about to have its say. Now, it is full time, we think, that the metropolitan members spoke out about Reform, though, instead of being the last, they should have been, properly speaking, the first to speak. If only Lord J. Russell falls into the trap, it will be well worth setting. We are curious to know what his lordship has to say for himself in connexion with Reform. Will Lord Mayor Wire oblige us by catching him at his earliest convenience?—*Punch.*

OPIMUM.—A deputation from the Anti-Opium Association had an interview on Wednesday with Lord Stanley. They presented him with a memorial, which, portraying the frightful effects of the use of the drug, prayed for the entire prohibition of its cultivation in India. Lord Stanley admitted the evils produced by the opium traffic, and expressed his general sympathy with the anti-opium philanthropic movement, but could not consent to the proposed prohibition of cultivation. There were, however, two other courses which might be taken—a heavy export duty might be imposed, or an excise duty levied at the place of production. He promised that the Government would lend no support or countenance to the traffic.

THE CEMETERY QUESTION.—The question as to the future arrangements for the burial accommodation of this great metropolis will not be disposed of in the single case of the Camden-town Cemetery. The so-called suburban cemeteries one day "must all be closed," so declares the report of the General Board of Health, addressed to the Crown in 1850, and then a new movement must be made further into the country. The railway offers the ready and economic means of reaching any such rural site; and this mode of transit has been already adopted in respect of the London Necropolis, at Woking Cemetery, and with complete success. Nor has the example so set remained without imitators. The Burial-Ground Committee of the Birmingham Town Council having recently sent a deputation to inspect the arrangements of the Necropolis establishment, were so satisfied with them that they recommended the adoption of a similar plan for that borough, a recommendation which was unanimously agreed to. The committee, in their report, say of this system of railway funeral transit, that, "already extensively used in the interment of the dead in the metropolis, it will soon become the universal and only means by which the spirit of the Burial Acts can be satisfactorily complied with by the burial boards of large towns, and their dead conveyed cheaply and decently to their last home, at such a distance from the habitations of the living as not to endanger the public health."

NEW EGYPTIAN LOAN.—It is said that negotiations have been set on foot in London for an Egyptian Loan, but the amount wanted has not transpired. Hitherto the financial requirements of the Viceroy in our market have usually been met through the instrumentality of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company.

CONTINENTAL TELEGRAPH.—Posts are now being carried on between Norwich and London for the purpose of connecting some of the Submarine Telegraph Company's continental lines with the metropolis. The existing telegraphic communication between Norwich and London is *via* the Eastern Counties Railway, and is worked by the Electric and International Telegraph Company; but it is understood that a new and independent route is now being carried out by the Submarine Company, which has lately submerged two lines to Hanover and Holland from the Norfolk and Suffolk coast.

SUNDERLAND.—A crowded meeting was held in this town on Tuesday night, the Mayor presiding. The burden of the whole of the speeches was manhood suffrage, as forming the only really satisfactory basis of a new Reform Bill. Mr. Cowen and Mr. Reed attended as a deputation from the Northern Reform Union. The resolutions, which included the adoption of a petition, were unanimously carried.

MR. DICKENS AND THE GLASGOW STUDENTS.—We (*Glasgow Morning Journal*) have seen a letter from Mr. Charles Dickens, in which he repudiates strongly his nomination to the Lord Rectorship, and says that the movement of a section of the students was not only without his sanction, but was expressly opposed by him.

A STIFF NECK—OF LAND.—By advices from the Levant we learn that "the scheme of M. Ferdinand de

Lesseps has received a terrible and severe blow through the retirement of M. Barthélemy de St. Hilaire from the office of Secretary to the Company of the Suez Canal." The severity of the blow which the scheme has received is owing to the high scientific reputation of M. de St. Hilaire; since his abandonment of the Suez speculation implies that he thinks it no go. Besides being an adept in science generally, M. de St. Hilaire is, we believe, a great hippophagist; and if he can manage a horse-steak, but feels a difficulty about getting through the Isthmus of Suez, we may be pretty sure that the latter is a tough job.—*Punch.*

THE MURDER IN BLOOMSBURY.—After the adjournment of the inquest yesterday, the jury agreed upon a memorial to the Home Secretary, requesting him to cause Edward Tombs to be produced before them at the adjourned inquest, on Tuesday, the 30th inst. This document the coroner forwarded, with a note stating that in case the Home Secretary should see fit to comply with the request of the jury, he (the coroner) undertook that Edward Tombs should not be discharged from the custody of the police, and that he should be sent from the adjourned inquest to appear at the police-court at the time stated in the warrant for his remand.

LIGHTING UP ST. PAUL'S.—The whole of the many thousand jets or nipples attached to the pipes leading from the monster meter in the cathedral of St. Paul, for the accommodation of the congregation attending Divine service in that edifice, were lighted, to test their safety and general effect. They were all pronounced to be perfectly correct, and not the least fear of an explosion may now be entertained.

LIABILITY OF RAILWAY COMPANIES.—An important decision in reference to articles left in the charge of servants of railway companies has just been given at Leeds. At a recent sitting of the County Court there a person named Berwick sued the Great Northern Railway Company for the sum of 3*l.* 3*s.*, the value of a silk dress which the plaintiff alleged had been taken from a parcel left by his wife in the cloak-room at the Doncaster station. After the evidence for the plaintiff, Mr. Blandshard, barrister, for the defendants, submitted that as the person who packed the parcel had not been called, the robe might not have been placed therein, and contended that as no felony had been proved against any servant of the company, nor any complaint made by the plaintiff's wife at the time she took away the parcel, the defendants were entitled to a verdict. His Honour, however, gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount sought.

FRENCH CORN TRADE.—The *Echo Agricole* gives a table of the imports and exports of grain for the ten first months of the year 1858, from which it appears that, notwithstanding extraordinary arrivals into Marseilles, probably owing to the return of the sliding scale, the exports have exceeded the imports by about 800,000 hectolitres, equal to about 270,000 quarters. And this difference, the *Echo* says, is more in reality, because in the importations figure this year large quantities of oats, barley, and rye; whilst in the exports, on the contrary, if the wheat flour was reduced into an equivalent quantity of wheat, it would cause the latter to amount to a much larger number of hectolitres. A very large proportion of all these exports have been directed to Great Britain and Ireland, and have, no doubt, exercised an important influence on prices there. The arrivals at Marseilles during the month of November have sensibly diminished. It is therefore probable that at the end of the present month the excess of exports will have still further increased to a considerable extent.

THE LESSEPS SCHEME.—The *Progreso de Egitto* (a semi-official organ of the Viceroy of Egypt) gives a quiet warning to some of M. de Lessep's friends:—"It becomes necessary, therefore, to declare that in no way has the Egyptian government any interest in the financial composition of the company; and that, whether it be in regard to the contribution or to the reimbursement of capital, the government is under no guarantee, nor does it assume any responsibility whatsoever towards the shareholders."

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return for six days ending Friday, November 26th, 1858:—Number admitted, including Season Ticket holders, 12,660.

DUNLOP ON LIQUOR.—On Thursday a deputation from the Temperance Reformers of Greenock, had an interview with A. M. Dunlop, Esq., M.P., in reference to the Forbes Mackenzie Act, and the proposed permissive bill for the suppression of the liquor traffic. The deputation, after thanking Mr. Dunlop for his successful exertions in the House of Commons, in defence of the Forbes Mackenzie Act, suggested that in the apparently inevitable appointment of a committee of inquiry, it would be important that it should sit in Scotland, and not in London, and that it should have power to suggest improvements in the act. They afterwards referred to the permissive bill, and the canvass with reference to it which had just taken place, the result being extremely favourable to the measure. Mr. Dunlop approved of the suggestions made as to the Mackenzie Act, and expressed his surprise that such an immense majority had been found in Greenock favourable to the permissive bill. He did not approve of an absolute Maine law, but he had a great leaning towards the permissive bill, which placed the matter in the hands of the people.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

SIR HUMPHRY DAVY'S REMAINS.

Fragmentary Remains, Literary and Scientific, of Sir Humphry Davy, with a Sketch of his Life, and Selections from his Correspondence. Edited by his Brother, John Davy, M.D., F.R.S. John Churchill.

Two Lives of Sir Humphry Davy have already come before the public, one by Dr. Paris, published in 1831, the other by his brother, in 1839. The present volume is supplemental to these, and contains materials which have gradually come into the author's hands, on the decease of such of Sir Humphry's early friends as Southey, Coleridge, and his friend Cottle, the Bristol bookseller, who had been his cherished correspondents through his life. We gladly hail the opportunity once more to refresh our own and our readers' memories by travelling over again the life of so great and good a man. We ought to add that no inconsiderable part of the interest of the volume attaches to those parts of it for the opportunity of the publication of which Dr. Davy expresses his acknowledgments to the relatives and executors of the witty and agreeable Lady Davy, whose *réunions* were till a few years ago a leading feature in the literary society of the metropolis.

We need not detain our readers with any recapitulation of the details of Davy's early life; his birth at Penzance, of respectable middle-class parents, in 1778, his obligations to the friend of his youth, Mr. John Tonkin, who received him into his house, provided for his education, and artied him to the profession, in whose studies he laid the groundwork of his chemical proficiency. It is enough to say that the facts adduced in this volume, and in the previous biographies which lie before us, fully justify what his brother says in his former Life of Sir Humphry at this early stage of his life:—"There belonged to his mind, it cannot be doubted, the genuine quality of genius, or that power of intellect which exalts its possessor above the crowd, and which, by its own energies and native vigour, grows and expands, and comes to maturity, aided indeed, and modified by circumstances, but in no wise created by them." The sequel proves that these "circumstances" were not so unfavourable as to entitle Davy to a place in the meritorious band of patient heroes whom Mr. Craik has grouped together in the noble gallery of those who have, *par excellence*, pursued knowledge under difficulties, yet not fortunately and accidentally propitious, but occurring at each stage just at the time when Davy's merits made each advancing step, while creditable to the discrimination of those who helped him on, in no degree to be placed to the account of their pure disinterestedness. This applies in some measure to his almost adoption by Mr. Tonkin, and thoroughly to his appointment, at the age of twenty, to the care of the Pneumatic Institution at Bath, and his subsequent removal to the Royal Institution in its then humble establishment in Albemarle-street.

The volume throws considerable light on his early "self-education," that most interesting part of the histories of those who rise to greatness. From a note-book, with the date of the year of his apprenticeship on its fly-leaf, we gain this comprehensive plan chalked out by him for study:—"1. Theology or Religion, Ethics or Moral Virtues taught by Nature and by Revelation; 2. Geography; 3. My Profession: *a*, Botany; *b*, Pharmacy; *c*, Nosology; *d*, Anatomy; *e*, Surgery; *f*, Chemistry; 4. Logic; 5. Language, &c." A sufficiently wide laying of timbers for the handicraft of a life to complete; interesting especially as demonstrating that as yet he had not appeared to have developed the bent of his future life. Southey, indeed, evidently endorsing the untenable *dictum* of Dr. Johnson, that genius is but the direction of an original strength and activity of mind to an object accidentally determined, explicitly expresses the opinion that in other fields, such even as poetry (here he judges from early and unfulfilled promise, and his judgment doubtless warped by the pardonable partiality of friendship), Davy would have gained as enduring laurels as those he plucked from his batteries and crucibles. To drawing and painting he early devoted his attention, and his brother believes that it was the mixture of pigments that first attracted and evoked his native predilection

for chemistry and the wondrous and exciting combinations of the laboratory of Nature and of Nature's pupil and enlightened follower, experimental natural science. So early as 1798 he was in correspondence with Dr. Beddoes, on the subjects of heat and light, and had indicated those future important discoveries in this department, which paved the way for the final result at which such men as Arago and Davy's great pupil Faraday have arrived, that heat, light, magnetism, and electricity are the same force under different aspects and conditions. Our scientific readers need not be informed by us that the absolute identity of these four, although received as certain, awaits, for full and final confirmation, if not explanation, the results of those further researches in this field in which Faraday is understood to be patiently engaged.

We can hardly choose whither to give most prominence, in our necessarily meagre summary, to the interesting mass of correspondence from men of letters which the volume contains, or to Davy's great discoveries as indicated by the new facts concerning their progress and completion now afforded to us. Perhaps our best course will be to consult varied tests by giving a few sentences to each theme. One or two letters are given to and from Gregory, the son of James Watt, who was early cut down, but not till he had given promise of worthily maintaining his father's name in science and its useful applications. Both are eager, as their letters show, to discover new minerals. Imagination might indulge in the conjecture that if Watt had lived, he too might have given to chemistry his contributions of new metals, yet to be discovered, as against Davy's Sodium Potassium, and the like. Southey writes from his various temporary residences in the west of England, announcing the progress of his poems, and his projects for many never executed by him, and criticising Davy's own contributions to Cottle's annual *Anthology*. His sense of Davy's poetic taste is best proved by this fact: When asked by a mutual friend, after Sir Humphry's death, "Might he have been a poet?" he replied, "Davy was a most extraordinary man. He had all the elements of a poet; he only wanted the art. I have read beautiful verses of his; when I went to Portugal I left it to Davy to revise and publish my poem of *Thalaba*."

To attempt to prove, as we believe, that the imagination of all discoverer in science is akin in its grandeur and fertility to the poetic fervour, would lead us away into a tempting but devious by-way. But it will not be denied that if of any man this similarity could be established, Davy was that man. With the high gifts of nature which men denominate genius he combined, like all poets who have made themselves as great as God gave them the power of being great, industry and zeal of research and accuracy of finish. Bold and high-soaring, Davy at once, as if by intuition, rose to the loftiest flight. And, however, high he rose, his eye, if not quickly, at all events surely, swept the horizon. His imagination, fertile and inventive generally, was specially directed—and hence most of his discoveries—to the perception of conjectural analogies, which became to him the light gleaming, as to Bunyan's Pilgrim, from the bright battlements of the city he was seeking, and to which, irradiated by the light his own soul had evoked, he worked up his way by slow and irrefragable induction: of Inductive Logic he had mastered the spirit, and clothed with warm flesh the bare skeleton of its letter. Not only, with it as a guide, did he classify facts of limited importance, in his hands it developed laws applicable to natural phenomena almost universal. His inspiration and incitement ever was a sense of the beauty and harmony with which God has clothed the perfect chemistry of Nature.

Besides the other substantial grounds on which England, so ungrateful in his lifetime, ought to revere the memory of Dr. Priestley, it will be recollected that his scientific discoveries place him in a niche second in honour to few English chemists. He was the first to discover oxygen gas, as also the part performed by vegetables in their growth under the influence of the sun's rays, in decomposing carbonic acid, and, whilst assimilating the carbon, throwing off the oxygen, thereby salubriously compensating the danger of the atmosphere

being vitiated by the respiration of animals. One letter from Priestley to Davy is given. It is dated Northumberland (U.S.), October 31, 1801. He gracefully recognises the services Sir Humphry had already rendered to science, especially in his discovery of the anæsthetic and other influences of the gaseous vapour of nitrous oxide, now popularly known as laughing-gas. Although Dr. Davy does not profess to rewrite his brother's life, the new matter presented is linked together by a sufficient and most unobtrusive chain of narrative. When he comes to Davy's removal to the Royal Institution, he summarises the objects to which he directed the first researches which he made with the aid of its ample laboratory. The usefulness of his researches, and the immediate applicability of his discoveries to arts and avocations, are fairly urged and dwelt on. The trade of tanning owes to him much of its economy and efficiency; and his lectures on agricultural chemistry have perhaps been only less serviceable to the farmer than the writings and predilections of Liebig. By the aid of voltaic electricity he performed the great feat of decomposing the fixed alkalis, adding to the number of the metals, and causing a complete and fruitful rearrangement of the whole nomenclature of chemistry.

Letters to brother *savans*, and to illustrious literary friends, all of them breathing the warmth of personal regard, as well as enriched by the enthusiasm of common studies and sympathies, are cold in comparison with the specimens we have of his home correspondence to his mother, sisters, and his brother and biographer. Over his brother's professional studies, and equally over his character and conduct, he watches with the grave solicitude of a father on the equal footing of a brother. To his little sisters he wrote as children of the same age might have written them; and his letters home often tell you of the souvenirs contained in them to be bestowed on humble friends and old family servants.

We pass over without comment the pleasing piscatorial and venatorial episodes narrated by Dr. Davy and chronicled in Sir Humphry's letters; and also—what we must confess we had rather the book had wanted, considering the sanctity of domestic life, not without undeniably sufficient cause to be invaded, and the obligations under which the author is indirectly placed for much of his materials to the late Lady Davy—some allusions to a want of the full happiness of domestic life to which Sir Humphry's childlessness and the highly nervous temperament and delicate health of his wife contributed. His love letters are stately and methodical, though warm; and the staple of their contents is literary, psychological, and geographical small talk!

Ill health, produced by a too great devotion to the duties of the laboratory, and an excessive readiness to experimentalise on himself with chemical simples and compounds, carry him for relaxation to the Continent more than once. Thither his biographer leads us with him; in this, as in other parts of the sketch, wisely leaving Sir Humphry's notebooks and letters to tell their own story. He turns up again, near Ultima Thule, living at Dunrobin Castle, eagerly stalking, shooting wild fowl, and extending his angling practice from par and grayling to the strong salmon of northern streams. Wherever we discover him, whether amid the ruins of Pæstum, by Avon side, or in the deep gorges of Highland brooks, we find him hunting for health with the thorough zest of a hearty son of nature, open to every enlivening influence of grand or sweet scenery, and never for one day ceasing to experimentalise, in practice or in husbanded intent.

The discovery of the safety-lamp, already in its details before the public and therefore quickly dismissed by our author, is soon followed by his baronetcy and his elevation to the chair of the Royal Society. His labours directed to electro-magnetism and electro-chemistry are alluded to, and also his device for the preservation of the copper-sheathing of vessels. The comparative failure of the latter, however, is not stated. Honours, addresses, letters, medals, flow in; but neither these nor "Consolations in Travel" will save the "Philosopher" from "Last Days." At last

we reach the common goal to which all biographies, whencesoever they start, conduct their students. The body returns helplessly to the all-embracing bosom of that Nature into so many of whose arcana he had found or fabricated the key; the soul, to answer to God for the employment of those talents which he used to explain the mysteries of His creative power and government.

This book, with no assumption of pretentious literary merit, is a truthful, brotherly record. It tells much that is new and else untold, and what is old in it is well worthy of reiteration.

A SUMMER AND WINTER IN THE TWO SICILIES.

A Summer and Winter in the Two Sicilies. By Julia Kavanagh. Hurst and Blackett.

WE had rather have new books on Italy from feminine than from the rougher hands of our own sex. We are delighted to welcome Miss Kavanagh's *impressions de voyage*, though in respect to male travellers we agree, to a great extent, with Dean Berkeley, from whom she differs. Writing to Pope from Naples, so long ago as 1717, that dignitary held that his silence was excusable when he had nothing to write about but the exhausted subject of Italy. He was certainly premature. The Prince of Elbœuf had not yet struck upon Herculanum in quarrying stone for his villa at Portici. Pompeii had not unveiled its streets of tombs, its house of Arius Diomedes, or its Forum; nor were the cities of Etruria dreamed of. The Dean was probably—like many cliquists of his time—a humbug, and, to be in the fashion, perhaps pretended to ignore features of Italy that must have been new and strange in his day, because he was too lazy to study or record them. But since him, so many plodding as well as imaginative persons have so diligently wrought in the vein of Italian travel, turning and twisting into a hundred marketable forms each grain of metal they could find, that unless we were allowed to pick our authors, we must confess we had rather be bored with no more masculine lucubrations about Venice, Rome, the Campagna, Florence, Milan, Turin, the Lakes, and Naples. All these taste forbids men-travellers—unless under special circumstances—to touch; for they have been hand-booked to death, and so worked out that a fallow is needed. But though we may differ from the worthy Dean as to the exhaustion of Italy a hundred and thirty-one years ago, and at the same time deprecate heartily the piles of yet unwritten travel-books of which our present authoress has visions, we yet welcome for a while the new sparkles of fact which it is open to female penetration to strike out, and the new lights which female intelligence may reflect upon well-known objects.

Sorrento is one of the most delightful of the Italian watering-places; and in one of the few small, seedily-furnished villas that perch amidst orange-groves on the verge of the precipitous cliffs overhanging the sea, Miss Kavanagh and her family party passed their summer and winter. East and west of them stretched the arms of the bay. Vesuvius, Naples, and Ischia were opposite them; below and all around were orchards of fig, olive, orange, and lemon trees, interlaced with vines.

No wonder, then, that a penetrating lady-traveller, familiar with the use of the pen, should give us so much charming word-painting of the scenery and of the figures that peopled it, that we are embarrassed how to select from the many passages of varying intensity and value which her pages place at our disposal.

The beauty of the bay, the no less striking beauty of the people, "eternal and avenging dower of poor plundered Italy, of which the barbarous nations may not rob her," are ever-inspiring themes; and Miss Kavanagh makes much of them.

When on an excursion to Pæstum, by way of Castellamare, the party encountered King Bomba's brother:—

On the road we met his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, a fat, good-humoured looking prince, who has a handsome villa in Sorrento. He was riding in a public carriage like our own, with two men, in cotton jackets, on the box. Outriders, equerries, lacqueys, postillions, were absent. There is no country like this for ease. This brother of a king, and descendant of the Bourbons, is fond of the mountains. He regularly goes off to them, and passes under our windows, riding on his donkey, and preceded in Eastern style by six fiddlers, all blind of one eye. On the present occasion he leaned back, lazily smoking a cigar; and as usual, he neither received nor gave any token of recognition.

The landscape beauties of La Cava, favoured haunt of English and German artists; of Amalfi, with its lovely valley of the paper mills, where "steep mountains, Swiss in height, Italian in their grace, rise on mountains yet more steep;" and of Capri, the miniature Gibraltar, with its antiquities and the indescribably lovely Grot' Azura, are all cleverly sketched, and peopled with animated figures.

But its women are, after all, the most beautiful piece of antiquity which Capri possesses; truly the blood of the Greek has come down to them undefiled. I never saw in all Italy such lovely creatures. They are tall and stately, yet exquisitely graceful, with pure oval faces, dark eyes, soft and downcast, and a sweet dignity in their aspect and their bearing that made them look to me like so many virgin queens. I could not think with patience of the comments I had heard on the so-called *mésalliance* of the two English gentlemen who married Capri girls. Women like those we saw are ladies, for their beauty is not mere beauty of form and colour, it is the perfection of womanhood. They may be peasants, they may be ignorant, but rude or vulgar they cannot be with such noble, intellectual faces. Was Nausica the less a princess for washing her father's linen? For my part, I looked at them, and became a sudden convert to the theory of races. I had already seen, two years before, Agrippina, Faustina, Messalina, and other Roman empresses revived under the aspect of Roman girls; but these before me were the daughters of an earlier and a nobler race than the Roman. Theseus, Ajax, Agamemnon, the most heroic of men, Helen, Briseis, the loveliest of women, were the progenitors of the women of Capri. Carmela was, like us, lost in admiration. "Belle donne," she kept repeating, "belle donne;" and when a pretty girl like Carmela praises women whose beauty throws her in the shade, who can doubt the praise?

Not without a pang, yet loth to brave the enchanting influence of spring, which might have made it hard to start at all, our traveller left Sorrento for Naples, the scenes and people of which she sketches with a free and skilful hand. A trip to lethargic Palermo and its picturesque environs occupies the first portion of the second volume. The following sketch of a floating improvisatore may be novel to many of our readers:—

There were very few passengers on board. These few were now gathered at one end of the deck, looking at the little boy who escorts every steamer in or out of Naples. He is a lad of nine at the utmost—small, supple, brown as a berry, with a quick Italian face, such a face as out of Italy you never see with a child. He comes in a little four-oared boat, and on this floating stage, he will dance the Tarentella, act the buffoon, sing an aria, fight an invisible foe, stab himself at the feet of a faithless lady, and, turning up the whites of his eyes, die in the bottom of his boat as gracefully as the ancient gladiator, from whom he is most probably descended. Having lain there long enough to impress the audience, he starts to his feet—bare, of course—doffs the cloth cap that covers his little curly head, and generally reaps a plentiful harvest of coppers and silver pieces. Of the coins that are thrown to him whilst he is acting, he takes no notice—they may roll in the bottom of the boat, and fall into the sea, for all it matters to the little Improvisatore.

The sights of Palermo were soon "done," and having seen enough of Etna to corroborate the criticism, by some attributed to Leigh Hunt, that the mountain is "a big impostor, a hollow and miserable delusion," Miss Kavanagh returned to Naples, where the twelvemonth was easily made out by a survey of the city itself, and of the classic Baia, Herculanum, and Pompeii. It may be said we ought to blush at thus plundering our gifted and entertaining authoress, but so abounding a store of sweet and pleasant passages do these two volumes comprise, that we must plead the old schoolboy's excuse, that "out of such a lot" what we have taken will never be missed. We will, therefore, once more lay the *Summer and Winter* under contribution for a sketch of an infant Bourbon at play in the Villa Reale, or marine shrubbery at Naples, by way of pendant to that of her uncle, above extracted:—

There is a little princess of seven or eight, who wears a pink silk skirt, flounced to her waist, and sticking out from her diminutive person in the most approved style, who runs about trundling her hoop with great zeal. We met her the other day in one of the arbours, where she was sulking in a very ill-humour. A little balloon had got lodged in a tree, and could not be got down. Without it, she would not go; and all the scolding of her governess could not make her royal highness leave the arbour without it. Her arm was irreverently pulled, but she sullenly laid down on the stone bench, evidently prepared to resist to the last. We went on; and what extremities were resorted to in this difficult matter, is more than I know. A soldier guarded the entrance of the arbour against intruders—a wise precaution, for the

Neapolitans are not a ceremonious people, and would not have minded looking on.

Here, indeed, we must perforce draw the line. We might quote and quote all day from the sweet and sparkling pages of the gifted authoress, but alas! we have no space left to stow more plunder.

SUPERB CHRISTMAS GIFT BOOK.

The Merry Days of England. By Edward M'Dermott. W. Kent and Co.

THERE is something very taking in the title of this book. The same may be said of its typography and its glorious crimson and gold housing. Nor has Mr. M'Dermott failed to render its inside well worthy of both the title and the outer splendour. We are glad to be reminded of the "merry days." There is little enough of merriment about the old country now. If it ever were a land of Arcadian happiness for the peasant, and of "joyance" for the lord, those characteristics had fled before our time. The English of to-day are a fast-living people,—all rising early, late taking rest, and eating bread of carefulness. All burn the brief candle of life at both ends; all draw upon nature's bank as though it were inexhaustible. It is a grave, wrinkle-browed, crow's-footed old country now-a-days, as far as we know of it; and if its merriment is not precisely a myth, it is at least an old-fashioned bygone, a reverend piece of antiquity, coeval with caps and bells, Andra Ferraras, mayings, pageants, and pots of sack. We are grateful to the ingenious Dryasdust who will dig it up carefully, furbish it lovingly, and lay it before us at Christmas-tide, when we chew our annual cud—all of us—of sweet and bitter fancies.

A short but happy sketch, in Mr. M'Dermott's best manner, of village life and all its "secret sweetness," is followed by one of "May." Here our author calls in aid the lyre of Herrick and Spenser, as well as the penicil of Nash and Thomas. "Harvest Home" introduces some beautiful lines by the brother of the present Laureate. The essay on "Sports and Pastimes" bristles with long-bows and cross-bows, clothyard shafts and popinjays, and is enriched with extracts from the old Robin Hood ballads and "Robin's last Farewell." The dramatic chapter on "Plays and Mysteries" popularises knowledge hitherto confined to a limited circle. A drawing of the "Noah's Ark" which adorned old Bartholomew Fair illustrates this chapter. The work comprises, in all, nineteen chapters. These are illustrated by twenty wood engravings of the very highest class by Evans, Linton, Harral, Thomas, Wimperis, Green, Measom, Palmer, and Cooper, after designs by the artists we have mentioned, and by Messrs. Birket Foster and Edward Corbould. It is a beautiful specimen of its class; for all engaged upon it seem to have wrought *con amore*, and we have no hesitation in saying it will warm the heart as well as glad the eyes of all who love the manners, customs, sports, and martial feats of our ancestors.

POETRY.

Ionica. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Poems. By Ada Trevanion. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Poems. By Henry Cecil. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Pleasure. A Poem. In Seven Books. By Nicholas Tegg and Co.
Michell.

MODERN poetry, with a few brilliant exceptions, has dwindled into a very innocent affair. If poetic "fire" is not very scorching, neither is poetic "dulness" below the mediocre level. A middle path has been found out, and it is fast being thronged with poetic perambulators. The quartett of productions which heads our article in no instance rises greatly above mediocrity; it is fair, however, to say that not one sinks below. The works are of different degrees of merit, but no surpassing difference is visible. *Ionica* is the reflex of a classic taste; Greek and Latin head-lines meet us everywhere, and classic themes are the subject of several of the pieces. The versification is smooth, sweet, and elegant, and we could select more than one passage in which the thought and expression would be not unworthy of Tennyson.

Poems, by Ada Trevanion, are mostly domestic in their tendency. Hemans, Tennyson, Landon, and that school of poets appear to have materially influenced this writer. But here and there we fancy we recognise an old acquaintance. For instance, in the piece entitled "Cathleen's Ghost," has not the writer closely copied—unconsciously,

we will admit—the words and thought of the forgotten but beautiful ballad “Mary’s Dream?”

Poems, by Henry Cecil, do not rise in some respects so high in the poetic scale as the preceding two; and yet it would not be very difficult to pick out stanzas to prove that the author has a touch of the true poet in him, and that he could do better things were he to trust to his own speciality and to forget his models.

Pleasure is a poem of more pretension than the preceding, being not only larger in bulk, but wider in scope. A work on *Pleasure*, in seven books, ought not to be dismissed in as many lines; but we are compelled to have regard to our space, and to the claims of the numerous works soliciting notice now strewn on our library-table. The aim of the author is to “trace the various sources whence, in the present life, we derive pleasure.” This is a tolerable task, and the author in his preface, from which we quote, begins by asking, “What is pleasure?” and then answers the query by admitting that as the solution is so difficult he declines to attempt it, and confines himself “to show rather why certain objects cause sensations of delight” than to consider at once “the pleasures themselves.” Hence in the seven books we have such subjects brought under poetic review as *The Lakes of Killarney*, *The Rainbow*, *The Falls of Niagara*, *America*, *Egypt*, *Venice*, *The Stoic*, *England*, *Painting*, *Ambition*, *Napoleon’s Retreat*, *Literature*, *Conquerors*, *Love*, *Temperance*, *Learning*, *The Gambler*, &c. Here is diversity enough to satisfy the wildest craving for variety. Some of the subjects at first sight do not appear in harmony with the title or with the professed purpose of the author, but from the point of view whence Mr. Michell has considered them, and the genuine ability with which he has linked them with his main object, we do not think any one will quarrel with him for the versatility of his genius in dealing so well with apparently incongruous topics. The versification is particularly flowing and rhythmical; it seems to us a judicious combination of the didactic stateliness of Pope with the level smoothness and simplicity of Goldsmith. We have no space for quotation, and we regret it.

A Memoir of James Stirling. (Scottish Temperance League, Glasgow.)—A work admirably adapted for Scotch tipplers. James Stirling was on the high road to become a confirmed drunkard. His good angel stepped in at the fortunate moment, he takes the pledge, reforms, becomes a model man, and leaves behind materials which have been skillfully worked up to serve as a guide and a warning to the intemperate.

The School for Fathers. By Talbot Gwynne. New Edition. (Smith, Elder, and Co.)—We noticed this work when it first appeared with strong approbation; and our opinion has been fully confirmed by the public having rapidly exhausted the first, and now called for a second edition.

Carpenter’s Vegetable Physiology. Edited by Dr. Edwin Lankester, F.R.S. (Bohn.)—The reputation of Dr. Lankester is confined to no narrow circle. The revision of Carpenter’s able and exhaustive work could not have fallen into more accomplished hands, and perhaps the best evidence we can produce of this fact is in the very handsome and cheap edition put forward by the spirited publishers.

Anecdotes of Dogs. By Edward Jesse. With Numerous Engravings. (Bohn.)—The dog has always been a favourite subject with anecdotal writers. Mr. Jesse has collected all the floating stories, and added a fund of new tales, so as to form a budget that will interest every class of readers. Several of the old anecdotes, we fear, are somewhat apocryphal. For instance, that in which the priest’s dog, after losing his master, and becoming Protestant property, adheres, in spite of beef and mutton temptations, to the “old faith,” by resolutely “refusing to touch meat on a Friday.” If this story, however, can be substantiated, we commend it to Cardinal Wiseman as a worthy addition to his budget of Roman Catholic miracles, and as a striking exemplification of the orthodoxy of Popery in contradistinction to Protestantism.

Christmas Plays for Children. By Theresa Pulzky, With Music by Professor L. Jansa, and Illustrations by Charles Armytage.—Three pleasant little plays suitable for the Christmas festivities, and likely to be warmly welcomed by Christmas actors and Christmas audiences.

The Headlong Career and Woeful Ending of “Precocious Piggy.” By the late Thomas Hood, Illustrated by his Son. (Griffith and Farran.)—We have laughed loud and long at the whimsicalities of admirable Tom Hood, and the no less pictorial whimsicalities of his son. If any one is inclined to think we romance, let him send for the book, and if his sides do not ache before he lays it down, then we say of such a Cassius-like sinner, “He’s fit for treason, stratagem, and spoils; Let no such man be trusted.”

Stories about Birds. By Mrs. Fairfield. (Hamilton, Adams, and Co.)—A nice little book for children. But why refer to a picture in an illustrated publication, representing the scene on the reception of the pigeon express bearing the news of the capture of Sebastopol at the capital of Ceylon, without giving a copy of it?

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Merrie Days of England and Sketches of the Olden Time. By Edward M. Dermott. 4to. Kent and Co. Knowledge is Power. By Charles Knight. A new edition. Post 8vo. John Murray.

Once upon a Time. By Charles Knight. A new edition. Post 8vo. John Murray.

A Financial History of England. By Thomas Doubleday. 8vo. Second Edition. Effingham Wilson.

Lectures and Addresses on Literary and Social Topics. By the late Rev. F. W. Robertson. Post 8vo. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The Poetical Works of Thomas Gray. 8vo. Illustrated. Sampson Low and Co.

L’Allegro. By John Milton. 8vo. Illustrated. Sampson Low and Co.

Variam. A Novel. Post 8vo. L. Booth.

A Lady’s Captivity with the Chinese. 8vo. Routledge and Co.

The Headlong Career and Woeful Ending of Precocious Piggy. By the late Thomas Hood. Illustrated by Thomas Hood the younger. Griffith and Farran.

The Triumphs of Steam; or, Stories from the Lives of Watt, Arkwright, &c. 12mo. Griffith and Farran.

Paul Blake. A Tale for Boys. Small 8vo. Griffith and Farran.

The Logic of Atheism. Three Lectures. By the Rev. H. Batchelor. 8vo. Judd and Glass.

Tales of Twilight. By Joseph Verey. 8vo. James Blackwood.

The Christmas Plays for Children. By Theresa Pulzky. 12mo. Griffith and Farran.

Mémoires de l’Impératrice Catherine II. Par M. Alexandre Herzen. Post 8vo. Trübner and Co.

Self-Made Men. By Charles B. Seymour. Post 8vo. Sampson Low and Co.

Stanford’s Maps of the Paths of the Comets. By James Breen. Edward Stanford.

Bigg’s Public Statutes of England, Victoria 21 and 22, 1858. Edited by James Bigg. 8vo. Simpkin and Marshall.

The Primæval World: a Treatise on the Relation of Geology and Theology. By the Rev. Paton J. Bloug. 12mo.

Favourite Pleasure Book for Young People. 16mo. Sampson Low and Co.

Christian Days and Thoughts. By the Rev. E. Peabody. Small 8vo. Sampson Low and Co.

Martin Rattler. A Tale. By R. M. Ballantyne. 12mo. Thomas Nelson and Sons.

COOKERY AS ONE OF THE FINE ARTS.—Among other rumours of works on the *chantier*, comes one of a volume which will not improbably make its appearance in the course of next year: a bibliographical, biographical, historical, serio-comical, practical, and anecdotal Memoir of the Art Culinary. The design is to review the entire history and progress of the art from the earliest ages to the present time—from Adam’s banquet in the garden to the last Lord Mayor’s dinner at Guildhall. It will mention and give an account of every known work on the art extant; and when it is remembered that there are more than three hundred cookery books in the English language, the magnitude of the task may be partly appreciated. Besides this, the great masters of the art will all be mentioned, in their turn, and some account of their lives and achievements will be given. The second part of the work will consist of a comprehensive review of the different schools of cookery, English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, and Oriental—not excluding even the Chinese; in fact, the *cuisine* of every civilised nation on the earth will be represented. From what has been said, it will be seen that the work will have a value greatly exceeding that of a mere manual of cookery. Its interest will be literary rather than practical, and it will have more charms for the bibliographer and the ethnologist than for either the gastronomer or the cook. In order to render it more attractive, it will be illustrated in the best style, and will be printed upon fine paper; thus rendering it a *livre de luxe* for the library or the drawing-room table, and not a text-book for the greasy thumbs of turnspits.—*From the Critic.*

A CUD FOR ITALIAN SYMPATHISERS.—We were crossing a street of Pompeii, when we witnessed a disgraceful scene, which I omitted mentioning in its place. A well-dressed man, an Italian, was upbraiding his coachman for having promised to make him dine in Pompeii, which is royal property, and will not permit such liberties; but not satisfied with reprimand, he raised his cane, and struck him severely. The unfortunate *vetturino* screamed and jumped with pain. Our guide frowned, and, looking at us, said, significantly, “Gentlemen wonder when they get a stab of the knife now and then.” There was the whole social system in the words. The insolent cane on the side of strength—the perfidious, revengeful knife on the side of the weak.—*Julia Kavanagh’s “Summer and Winter in the Two Sicilies.”*

Theatres and Entertainments.

PRINCESS’S THEATRE.

SHAKESPEARE’S elegant comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*, was produced at this theatre on Saturday last, with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean as *Benedick* and *Beatrice*, Mr. Ryder as *Leonato*, Messrs. F. Matthews and Meadows as *Dogberry* and *Verges*, Mr. Cathcart as *Claudio*, and Miss Heath as *Hero*. It is almost needless to say that the intelligence of the manager effected as complete a success as on the occasion of his former production of the play three years ago. All that rich and elaborately-studied costume, artistic scenery, and good music can add to the framework fashioned by the dramatist are brought to bear on this as on all others of Mr. Kean’s “revivals.” We were charmed with this gentleman’s own reading of *Benedick*, the self-deceiving, would-be misogynist, who falls so simply into the flimsy trap set for him by the match-making elders. No hyper-sentimental lecturer is he, who wearies us with his anti-matrimonial philosophy, but a free-spoken, plain-mannered, bachelor-inclined gentleman, blest with some wit, and a keen sense of the comical. His delivery of the soliloquies approaches, as near as may be, to perfection; and in the last scene of the second act, he ventures upon the hazardous step of communicating with the audience by mere facial play, but so admirably and successfully, as to produce unanimous satisfaction and a round of applause. Nor can we omit to notice the highly comic power and effect with which the artist depicted the bewilderment of *Benedick* on his receipt of the invitation through *Beatrice*. We are disposed, on the whole, to consider this as the most entirely satisfactory of Mr. Kean’s impersonations. In it, he disappoints—neither in physique, conception, nor elocution—the craving for super-excellence created by highly finished ensemble. We are more disposed on the strength of it to allot to him a first place among great actors, than on that of some of his more intense efforts in tragedy.

Mrs. Kean is seen to no less advantage as the sarcastic, strong-minded, but truly womanly *Beatrice*, who, with all her taste and talent for tormenting men, is no less ready than *Benedick* to stand and deliver at the first summons of Cupid. Mr. Frank Matthews makes a racy *Dogberry*. This capital actor’s version of the “Wise fellow, rich fellow, fellow that has had losses,—that hath two gowns and everything handsome about him,” is full-flavoured, but clear of all vulgarity. *The Verges* of Mr. Meadows is a mere trifle too senile. Mr. Ryder makes an admirable *Leonato*. Miss Heath made the most of *Hero*, an insignificant part upon the whole. Messrs. Cathcart and Graham are no less valuable auxiliaries in their several characters of *Claudio* and *Antonio*. Stevens’s sweet glee, “Sigh no more, ladies,” was so delicately sung in the garden scene, without accompaniment, as to be very heartily *encored*. The play was extremely well received by a full house, Mr. Kean being called—in vain though with much vigour—after the second act, and at the conclusion.

Mr. Madison Morton’s new farce, *Thirty-three Next Birthday*, produced on Monday, was a success. Its plot turns on that of a certain *Miss Haeoc* (Miss Murray), who having passed her thirty-second birthday without receipt of a business-like offer of marriage, resolves on obtaining at least a declaration of passion from some man, animal, or other, by assuming the part of a married lady. She procures an accomplice in the person of her uncle, *Major Haeoc* (Mr. Cooper), who passes for the husband, and in less than no time a brace of admirers, in Messrs. Benson (Mr. Everett) and *Cockleberry* (Mr. Frank Matthews). A great deal of amusement is created by the development of these gentlemen’s opposite characteristics: the one being shy and cautious, the other ardent and impetuous; one intending honourable matrimony, and the other merely flirtation, as a pastime, in the intervals of a genuine attachment to another lady. In time, however, the latter is Rarefied, and brought under complete control of his proper fair one, and the scrupulous *Cockleberry* is carried off in triumph by the heroine. The acting of all concerned is as good as the farce—which (*morale* apart) is unexceptionable.—Mr. F. Matthews especially keeping the audience in a roar by his delineation of Mr. *Cockleberry*’s many little peculiarities.

STRAND THEATRE.

A new farce by Mr. Madison Morton, an old hand, whose name—if it is not—was wont to be nine points of success, was produced here on Monday. *The Little Savage* is written to bring prominently forward the talents of some such naïve and saucy actress as Miss Marie Wilton, and the part being allotted to that young lady, she does the author and the piece every justice. “The little savage,” *Kate Dabynple*, is the niece and heiress of *Major Choker*, of Bagshot (Mr. James Bland). To seek her hand—each at the

bidding of a money-grubbing parent—come two suitors, one is *John Parker* (Mr. W. H. Swanborough), a "swell," correct as possible in get up, and incorrect *à la mode* in manners and morals. The other is his friend, *Lionel Larkins* (Mr. J. Clarke), a cockney snob, who, anxious for the match, has endeavoured, by spreading a false report that the heiress is a "little savage," to keep the coast clear for himself. But *Parker* arrives first, and though he rudely tramples on the corns of all their prejudices, contrives, just as he is turned out of the house by the Paterfamilias, to fascinate and to fall in love with little *Kate Larkins*, who succeeds him, has, therefore, an uphill game with the latter, though his servility makes way with the former and with pompous old *Lady Barbara Choker*. His efforts to make himself agreeable, and the pretty petulance of the ingenuous young heiress provoke some merriment, which is interrupted by the unexpected return of *Parker*, said to have fallen from his horse. The real intrigue now begins. *Parker* makes his rival the instrument of his own punishment. He posts *Kate* within hearing, and by feigned madness and cajolery draws from him a confession of his duplicity. The "little savage" herself completes his rout, and by a degree of hysterical hoydenism bordering upon the lunacy of *Distaffina*, first perplexes and then frightens him; and finally gives him the *coup de grace* by the information that not she but another *Miss Dalrymple* is to inherit the *Choker* property. He retires in dudgeon, disgust, and disgrace; and, as nature abhors a vacuum, his place is instantaneously supplied by *Mr. Parker*. The farce itself is all shreds and patches, tops and tails, beginnings and endings; presenting nothing for anybody to do except *Miss Wilton*, *Mr. Swanborough*, and *Mr. Turner*, who, as a provincial serving man, is allotted one stale, eternal reference to his better days. The principals, however, were so lively that they landed the author in safety, and are entitled to all praise and credit for the genuine applause that prevailed at the fall of the curtain. We are pleased to see that the energy, enterprise, and talent of the fair manageress are beginning to tell, and that really full and fashionable houses are nightly gathered by the many attractions of the Strand bill of fare. *Mr. Byron's Maid and Magpie* is alone enough to repay a visit to this theatre, even on a cold night, even from a long distance. The *Bonnie Fishwife*, with *Miss Oliver*, one of *Mr. Selby's* highly successful pieces, is also performed every night, and is a very pleasing pendant to the *Travestie*.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

Preparations are being made for the fitting of the *Pyne and Harrison* opera company from Drury Lane to this house. Among other arrangements that have come to our knowledge, the most interesting by far is that this spirited management have decided upon the total abolition of box-bookings fees, and the suppression, as far as possible, of boxkeeper's demands. If the public, who have ever complained of these extortions, will support the direction, by refraining from endeavours to obtain unfair advantages by furtive bribes, the experiment will, no doubt, be successful, and the public really be under great obligations to *Mr. Harrison*. The gratuitous distribution of play-bills would cost little, and be a very popular boon. We believe it has been under consideration, and should be pleased to hear it was decided upon.

Fine Arts.

SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.

THIS new Society has at length issued its programme in the shape of a four-page circular. The direction includes some good names, both as regards rank and influence, and connexion with art and letters. The Earl of Carlisle is president, and the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Ward, Lord Feversham, and the Rev. Sir F. Gore Ouseley, vice-presidents. The council includes Messrs. W. Beverley, W. Burnett, Francis S. Cary, Marshall Claxton, and J. W. Walton, painters; G. G. Adams, sculptor; John Gibson, architect; C. G. Lewis, engraver; Roger Fenton, photographer; and Messrs. Charles Mackay, LL.D., Henry Ottley, C. R. Wild, &c., for poetry and the literature of art.

The programme, which takes up extensive ground, is feelingly but modestly written. It commences by observing upon the taste for the fine arts which has sprung up in our age, and which pervades all classes of the community. "This tendency to elevated and ennobling themes," it is truly stated, "is not restricted to any one form of development. The arts of Music and Poetry, as well as those of Design, are equally cultivated, almost in association; and their profession, instead of the neglect and privation which in former times were their

common lot, now derive substantial reward, as well as glowing honours, from the suffrages of the public." This taste, however, left to itself, unimproved by education, would be but an instinct, seeking gratification in trivial and common-place subjects, and an ignoble mode of treatment, and art, which should minister to it, must abase itself to the same level. And then we are told, what we fear must be acknowledged as too true, that "as yet nothing has been done" to supply the sort of art-education required "to the general community," and that "even in respect of artists, very little and very sparingly has anything of the kind been attempted." It is to supply this desideratum that the Society is established; its primary object is "to create a true sympathy between artists and those to whom they minister; and to elevate the associations of both in the mutual relations so established." To this end there will be lectures and discussions upon art, classes for instruction, and two annual exhibitions of pictures, the one ancient the other modern, besides a permanent exhibition of engravings of all schools; these exhibitions to be open on certain days to the public free of charge. An important feature in the scheme of the Society will be the distribution of prizes:—"In order to give additional weight and authenticity to the declared opinions of this Society as a body on matters of living art, it is proposed to award prizes, medals of honour, and other testimonials, to the producers of works in painting, sculpture, engraving, architecture, music, and poetry," being the production of the year preceding the distribution. Local committees and honorary secretaries will be appointed, with whose co-operation meetings of the Society, with exhibition and a distribution of prizes, will be held in their respective districts. Distinguished foreign artists and connoisseurs will be invited to become honorary corresponding members of the Society. Finally, a new Art periodical, and occasional photographs from rare engravings, &c., are promised for distribution amongst the members. All this reads very well, and if the promises held forth be adequately realised, an important movement in art will be the result. An inaugural meeting of the Society is to take place early in December, at which, doubtless, the views of the promoters will be explained in more complete detail. Meantime we wish them all the success they deserve.

LEGGATT'S NEW CITY GALLERY.

In 'Change-alley, in the midst of stockbrokers and sharebrokers, Messrs. Leggatt and Co., of Cornhill, have established a very handsome and well-lighted gallery for the exhibition of pictures, and *Mr. L. V. Floton* has stocked it with a very fair collection of works of the most eminent modern artists, which are intended for sale to whoever may choose to buy them. Though avowedly, therefore, a commercial transaction, the undertaking, we think, is one which will prove of advantage to the interests of art, by keeping a large quantity of the works of our living artists constantly before the eye of the public; their prices and their merits being open to a more general and critical scrutiny than they generally meet with in the rooms of the ordinary picture-dealer. The collection at present comprises some two hundred pictures, all of a popular class, and many of the choice specimens of the respective artists. Conspicuous on entering the room is *Philip and Ansdell's* "The Fair at Seville," an admirable composition, full of character and life, and solidly and brilliantly coloured. By *Philip* also, we admire "The Sunbeam," exhibited, we believe, in 1852, and which has since found an imitator on the walls of the Royal Academy. *Poole's* "The Bower of Bliss," is classically conceived, much in the character of *Poussin*, and executed with a warm, clear, golden brush. Near at hand is a *Constable*, "The Loach on the Stour, Suffolk," a picture of his middle period, rich and cool in tone, and without the spot-tiness which disfigured his later productions. "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," by *Frith*, is a wonderful study of an old man's head, painted with fine chiaroscuro. Bright, one of our most genuine and pleasing landscapists, who has for some years been prevented by indisposition from pursuing his profession, is now again before us with some charming bits of natural scenery, treated with true poetic feeling. "Humble Fare" is a little group of donkey, and child feeding it, on Hampstead-heath, the animal portion by *J. J. Hill* and *Earl*; "An old Welsh Flannel Mill," and a View in Norfolk" are in a different style, but

perfect in their way. *G. Lance's* "Sumptuous Repast" is certainly one of the most gorgeously and carefully painted fruit pieces that ever came from the hand of the artist. *J. Linnell, senior's*, "A Clearing-off Shower near Hampstead-heath" is fresh, cool, full of air, and less lurid in hue than is too often the case with this school. *Hook's* "The Ship Boy's Letter" is a touching episode of rural domestic life: a fond father and mother, while at work in the fields, reading a letter just arrived from their absent son, two of their younger progeny being seated on the ground beside them. The little family story is quietly but effectively told. A fine picture, of a somewhat similar class, as far as the thought is concerned, is *T. S. Cooper's* "Home," exhibited last year at the Royal Academy, representing a view of Canterbury, taken from the fields, in which are sheep, women, &c., and two soldiers, just landed from foreign service, asking about "Home." *Knell's* two battle pictures, "The Nile" and "Trafalgar," are vigorously and honestly painted. *Johnston's* "Trial of Archbishop Laud," though somewhat heavy, is interesting in an historical point of view. An engraving from it has just been published by Messrs. H. Graves and Co. Amongst the other contributors we may mention the names of *Sir E. Landseer*, *Sir C. Eastlake*, *A. Elmore*, *F. R. Pickersgill*, *Maclise*, *Etty*, *Stanfield*, *Goodall*, *Baxter*, *Provis*, *Woolmer*, *Faen*, and *Niemann*. We may add that at Messrs. Leggatt's establishment, close by, *Frith's* famous "Derby Day" is on view, previous to being put into the hands of the engraver. It has been considerably touched and improved by the artist since it left the walls of the Royal Academy.

THE NEW SCHOOLMASTER.

What, boys, what, boys, I thought you knew
This sort of thing invites the birch;
You'll find what *Punch* has told you true—
You must not bring your toys to church.
If all your silly little games—
Cross, censers, flowers—delight you so,
Keep them, but give them schoolboy names,
They're quite apart from church, you know.

Barney, attend to what I say;
Those Christmas candles red and green,
Use them, and welcome, at your play,
But never let them here be seen.
You foolish Lyddy, you have brought
Those crosses, eh? My little dear,
Learn to be serious, as you ought.
We'll have no oughts and crosses here.

What's that you mutter? "Mr. Pope
Allows his lads to have their toys."
You don't compare yourselves, I hope,
To those bad, cunning, vicious boys?
Pope's boys are trained to lie, nor care
How much—what models, boys, for you!
Provided that he gets his share,
Pope never questions what they do.

You boy, with hair that never curls,
What's that you say, with look awry?
"We bring the toys to please the girls."
For shame, you little coward, fie!
To screen behind that base pretence,
And charge on girls your breach of rules:
Besides, it's false, all girls of sense
And spirit call you childish fools.

Now mark me well. My name is Tait,
And here's my rod. Each mother's son
Beware, lest he should feel its weight:
These are my words, to every one.
"Your Mother, boy, has trusted me,
I will not leave her in the lurch;
But flog you soundly if I see
You ever bring your toys to church."—*Punch*.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—A crowded meeting of this Society was held on Monday evening, at Burlington House, *Sir Roderick I. Murchison*, president, in the chair. The papers read were:—1. "Notes, Geographical and Commercial, on the Gulf of Poehell and the Pelho River," by *Captain Sherard Osborn*, R.N., F.R.G.S., her Majesty's ship *Furious*. The second paper read was "On the Search of *Leichhardt* and the Australian Desert," by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, of Sydney, F.R.G.S. The meeting adjourned to the 13th of December.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—*Mr. George Earle Gray* has been appointed chief accountant of the Bank of England in place of *Mr. Smeo*, lately deceased. With regard to the latter gentleman, a resolution was passed at the Court of Directors to record the high sense it entertains of his long and faithful services, the high integrity of his character, and his indefatigable exertions in the discharge of his duty.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager.)
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, MACBETH.
Tuesday and Saturday, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.
Thursday, KING JOHN.
Preceded every evening by A FARCE.

NOTICE.

Ever since the use of the Government stamp to newspapers became optional, and two prices have been necessary, it does not seem to be clearly understood that unstamped papers can be delivered to regular subscribers in the great provincial cities with a very trifling addition, and in some cases at the same price as charged in London. In order that the *Leader* may in no instance be charged more than Sixpence, cash or prepaid, the proprietors have determined to settle the prices, on and after this date, as follows:—

Unstamped, FIVEPENCE.

Stamped, Sixpence.

Quarterly, unstamped..... £0 5s. 5d.

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Yearly (prepaid), stamped 1 6 0

Unstamped, per year, prepaid,

Arrangements will be made with present Subscribers.

These terms, it is hoped, will meet the approbation of the large class of Traders and General Readers, to which the **LEADER** (greatly increased in size) appeals by its special attention to **COMMERCIAL** as well as to **LITERARY** and **POLITICAL AFFAIRS**.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 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.

TRIAL AND SENTENCE OF M. DE MONTALEMBERT.

WHEREVER freedom of thought is cherished, or the value of its unfettered utterance is felt and known, the recent proceedings against M. de Montalembert will excite mingled sentiments of wonder and indignation. That in a civilised country like France—a country which, under various forms of rule, has long enjoyed the freedom of historical and speculative discussion—a statesman and a scholar should be summoned before a police-court, tried summarily on a charge of constructive treason, and condemned by its removable judges to pecuniary fine and imprisonment for the period of six months, sounds in the ears of a free people like an incredible tale.

Two hundred years ago there were trials in England for political offences, where the highest and best men in the land were involved. Many of the charges against them were trumpery and baseless, and many of the proceedings were harsh, oppressive, and unfair. England was still without a settled constitution. The Crown and the aristocracy had alternately borne sway; but an educated and enfranchised people could not be said to exist. Bill of Rights there was none; irremovability of judges there was none; supremacy of the power of Parliament there was none; and public schools and public journalism were undreamed of at the time. Yet even in the days of the Stuarts such a mockery of a trial as that which took place on Wednesday last in Paris would have been impossible. When Hampden, and Sidney, and Russell stood at the bar for compassing and contriving the overthrow of arbitrary government, the bar at which they were arraigned was that of a court of the highest jurisdiction; the judges who presided there, whatever may have been their failings, were the highest judicial functionaries in the realm; the guilt or innocence of the accused was determined by the verdict of a jury; and, above all, the trial was conducted with

every circumstance of publicity. But what have we now? In the midst of the nineteenth century, in the centre of Paris, with the eyes of all Europe fastened on the illustrious accused, we behold one of the most accomplished, most eloquent, most conservative, and most religious men in France summoned, like a pickpocket or a cut-throat, before a divisional police-court, whose very size precludes all notion of publicity, and admission to which, for the few who can gain it, is conditional upon their rigid abstinence from all intents to publish what transpires therein; and then, after a few hours' investigation, during which an inferior agent of criminal justice briefly recapitulates the charge, and in which not a tittle of evidence is given of guilty intention or guilty tendency, without the intervention of a jury, the accused is condemned, and sentenced to incarceration. It is indeed a mournful, and we fear we must add a monitory, aggravation of the horror and disgust such a spectacle is calculated to produce, that the abominable law under which M. de Montalembert was indicted originated in an Assembly chosen by universal suffrage. It was meant, no doubt, by its authors as a dagger for self-defence in case the chief magistrate of the republic should suddenly be assailed; but however meant, it was an unworthy and a fatal weapon, and it has now been wrested by the destroyer of all liberty to his own vindictive purpose.

We think little, we confess, of the special pleas set up by MM. Berryer and Dufaure, upon the ground that not having been re-enacted under the Empire, the law of 1849 must be considered as having expired. An advocate is bound to raise every point his ingenuity can suggest on behalf of his client; we are far from impeaching, therefore, the discretion which raised the quibble in question. But quibble, after all, it must be held to be. If no law is binding on society but that which has been formally re-enacted on the last change of dynasty, the best part of legal security to property, liberty, and life would, in nearly all old countries, disappear. The implied covenant which every new Government accepts, is to respect all the laws and usages it finds previously existing, and which have not been specifically and distinctly annulled. The converse of this proposition is anarchy *sous le masque*. But, admitting frankly that the short-sighted and arbitrary law of 1849 was, and is still, in full force and effect, the world will unhesitatingly brand the judgment of Louis Napoleon's subordinate and removable police magistrates with the stigma of illegality and injustice. Stupid and blind as the law of 1849 may be deemed by us, it was notoriously aimed at unlawful conspiracy against the chief of the State. It was directed against the surreptitious use of means which, if used openly, would not have been dangerous, and against the attempt to subvert by the public misuse of ordinary means the guarantees for order and law. And this law was passed when thought and speech were free, when a National Assembly were sitting, and an executive ruler was elected by the people and responsible to them. Nothing that M. de Montalembert has said or written would, in the opinion of a free jury, bring him within the purview of this bad and blundering law. As well might they convict him of Protestantism because he has rebuked the slavish and superstitious bigotry of the *Univers*; as well might they indict him as an anarchist because he bewails the loss of peaceful and well-ordered liberty. The universal sense of Christendom will declare the verdict of the 24th of November wrong in point of law, unrighteous in point of equity, and utterly unsusceptible of defence in point of argument.

Our sense of the injustice of these proceedings, however, is absorbed in that of their impolicy. Hitherto, Napoleon III. has laboured hard to persuade the world of his discernment in the exercise of despotism, and his moderation in the use of unlimited power. He would fain pass for a wise and benevolent physician who, having to deal with a patient not quite right in his head, was obliged to remind him now and then that he possessed irresistible means of restraining him, but whose only object was thereby to accustom him to habits of reasonable self-restraint, and to fit him for the enjoyment ultimately of more lenient laws. How little faith ought ever to have been placed in such delusive prettexts for absolutism. Louis Napoleon has now made clear. There is nothing which bears the semblance of reason or necessity in the prosecution of a distinguished politician and essayist because he has indulged in sparkling and pungent irony at the expense of the

restored Empire. His real offence is not that he has praised English freedom, or shed burning tears over the cenotaph of French liberty, or muttered half-articulate prayers to its invisible spirit; his true crime was committed on the day when he repudiated all official connexion with the imperial administration, under which he had consented to act as a senator during the first year of its existence. He renounced that position, in spite of earnest remonstrance, when the private property of the house of Orleans was confiscated. The offence has never been forgiven or forgotten, and it is now avenged. What will Lords Clarendon and Palmerston now say of their august and enlightened friend? How will they acquit themselves in the judgment of England for their recent closetings and confidential conferences with him? Will they venture to say that they counselled him not to proceed with the trial; and that they are now begging of him to remit the penalty? It may be so, but they are entitled to credit and consideration for neither; and Louis Napoleon cannot be such a fool as to be swayed in the desperate course he has entered on by advisers whom he has so recently found incapable of estimating rightly the sentiments of their own country and legislature. For their own sakes, Lords Clarendon and Palmerston would be only too glad to get rid of the popular odium that will attach to all for many a day who are suspected of having been the confidants of M. de Montalembert's persecutor. But they will not be able to save themselves so easily by throwing overboard their imperial friend and patron.

ANGLO-FRENCH CONSPIRACY IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

WITHOUT further explanation, ample and substantial, the recal of Lord Napier is an event which must be viewed without distrust; and since, until the meeting of Parliament, we are not likely to have any explanation, the course of events must be watched with an eye to the apparent tendencies of the movement. It is made at a time when, according to report, some other movements are made that certainly the public opinion of this country would not altogether sanction.

President Buchanan has lately shown the sincerity of his government in reference to Central America by his proclamation against General Walker, the so-called President of some Central American republic. It seems very doubtful whether Walker can rally more than a minority of any state which he may enter with his adventurers, though in that respect it is probable that he is not worse off than many popular leaders in the same disordered and melodramatic quarter. The constitution of the United States is unfavourable to enforcing a very strict control over any persons who may be seeking to leave the frontiers with somewhat irregular intention. The several states are each sovereign within their own limits, and seldom take cognisance of foreign affairs, except in the indulgence of some local caprice. If South Carolina or Florida took any exception to Walker's proceedings, either the state Government might interfere, or more probably the people would show such practical discouragement of the adventurer that he would find it convenient to leave the place. On the other hand, irresponsible with reference to foreign connexions, South Carolina or Florida may decline to take any notice of Mr. Walker's proceedings, may abstain from withholding any conveniences that he requires in the way of shipping, and may, without any formal public step, afford him the requisite number of volunteers to rally under his flag. When the federal Government interposes, therefore, it sometimes, by the very constitution of the country, is impeded either by local indifference, or by local oppugnance. In the present state of the union, the South is wont to regard any interference from the North, or from the central district, as an encroachment upon the interests not less than the authority of the South. Mr. Buchanan might at this time be supposed willing to conciliate the general support of the entire Union as the first half of his term has expired, and already speculations are rife with regard to the next presidential election. Nevertheless, disregarding personal motives, which, we must confess, few English Ministers would disregard—keeping in view the policy which the Union has inherited from its ablest statesmen since the time of Jefferson—looking forward to the maintenance of that position which America's best sons have chalked out for them in the future, Mr. Buchanan has taken the decisive course of proclaiming Walker,

in so far as he is presumptive President of some foreign State, to be an alien to the United States with orders that any irregular musters for foreign expeditions shall be checked by requiring that all persons proceeding from the ports of the United States for Nicaragua or Costa Rica shall only be permitted to depart on showing the proper passports. We have been at the pains to recal these circumstances to the reader, because they sufficiently define the position of Mr. Buchanan.

It is true that other questions remain. The Clayton-Bulwer Treaty can scarcely be said to have been so completely buried but what some questions may arise, even as to its vitality, much more as to the actual position in which the United Kingdom and the United States are left, should the treaty have been practically abrogated. It will be remembered that the treaty refers to the neutrality of the passage across the isthmus, and to the actual *de facto* sovereignty over certain territories within the bounds of the Central American States. There could be no difficulty in settling either of those questions, if it were referred to the public of this country; each being determined by such plain matters of common sense and fact, with reference to the local authorities and the geography of the parts, that the people of the United Kingdom could determine the question as well as any authority in the world. But it is not referred to them.

Lord Napier attained to his present position by the zeal and ability with which he has served the public interests of this country. It has been said, months past, before even the present Ministry came into power, that Lord Napier could not accommodate himself to the shifting councils which prevail in Downing-street, and could not disguise the fact that he agreed with many of the representations made by the American Government on some points; considering those representations, and the action taken upon them, sufficient for justice, for public law, and for the interests of England. It is undoubtedly the fact that Lord Napier is popular in the Union, and that he commands a complete respect on the part of the Government at Washington. It is under these circumstances that, veiled as the matter may be under some form of "promotion" or other, Lord Napier is removed from that part of the world precisely where he would be most useful to his own country, and carried away to some other place.

By whom is he to be succeeded? By the present Lord Lyons, who has at this moment obtained his title by inheritance? Far be it from us to say a word in disparagement of the Admiral just departed, who was one of the most distinguished men of his time; but no one will deny that amongst the traits of his character was a very strong disposition to side with the ascendant party in this country, and to follow very eagerly in the footsteps of the late Government, whose hostility to the United States more than once perilled the interests of this commercial nation. The present Lord Lyons is unknown to the public excepting as a man of remarkable ability, partaking many of his father's characteristics, and distinguished by much personal success in that service which is not generally considered to be inspired by the usual political feelings of the country—the diplomatic. Undoubtedly he is a very able diplomatist, and if he had been sent to Berlin he would probably have turned out a diplomat-statesman of that colour which would be peculiarly suited to the meridian of the Prussian capital—not too liberal to be of actual service in the complicated state of parties there. But it is Lord Lyons who is sent to Washington, where an ordinary diplomat is not of much value; and it is Lord Napier, the statesman who thoroughly understands American affairs, and has proved himself in more than ordinary sympathy with the feeling of this country, who is sent to Berlin, where, perhaps, his peculiar temperament and abilities may be less valued. Such is very apt to be the distribution of the country's representatives under our present system!

While there are these incomprehensible shiftings of our representative at Washington, there are very ugly reports that Lord Malmesbury has entered into some kind of alliance, at present perfectly unexplained, with the Government of the Emperor Napoleon on the subject of Central America. Far be it from us to prejudice the course taken by Lord Derby's Ministry in that part of the world; it may be the best that could be adopted. It will not, however, be considered that France is the champion of national independence, seeing that within the memory of man she has made attempts to encroach upon the independence of Belgium, has threatened

Switzerland, maintains a force in Rome to the detriment of Italian independence, and has extorted a concession from Portugal; our old ally remaining undefended by our Government. It is said, indeed, that this misprision of treason on the part of our Government is the price of French support in Central America; but there is another ugly circumstance which makes us doubt whether we are not about to be diplomatically jockeyed by our Imperial ally. In Central America, lately, has been figuring a gentleman who is a sort of French Walker, a M. Belly. We have called him a French Walker, bearing in mind the peculiar aspect of a certain class of French adventurers at the present moment—men who unite to the reckless lawlessness of a Walker all the qualities of the lowest class of stock-jobbers and share-jobbers. This M. Belly, whose trading connexions in Central America appear to be peculiar, has entered into some compact alliance with parties in Costa Rica, and has figured before the world as the chief promoter of certain allied movements with the officers of Central American Governments as the mere countersigners of his autocratic decrees. The report of a new alliance between France and England, for some special proceeding in Central America, is contemporaneous with another report that the Emperor's Government is decidedly supporting the movement of M. Belly in Central America, just as it did the movement of M. Rouxel in Mozambique, and we suspect with about as much equity.

It would be only just if unreserved and practical explanation were given to the public on this subject. The Government may be right, but the worst of it is, that in such cases the mischief is all done—the influence of this country is diverted to bad uses, the Government is plunged into hostilities for which the people have to pay, ducks and drakes are made with commercial property—before the public could interfere; although if we knew the circumstances beforehand, public opinion would be quite sufficient to arrest the proceedings of our stray officials. Here in Central America we have too much reason to suspect that serious mischief is brewing, and the public ought to know what the Government is about.

LIFE ASSURANCE IN INDIA.

OF the many Indian topics which have recently engaged public attention, not the least important, in a social and prudential point of view, is the manner in which the revolt has affected the Provident Funds of the Indian army and the Life Assurance institutions transacting business in our Eastern possessions.

At the meeting of the Medical Invalid and General Life Assurance Society—a body which, under the auspices of the most distinguished statistical and actuarial talent, has attained a highly respectable position in the United Kingdom—a point was raised, not merely of peculiar interest to life assurance offices, but we may even say of national importance, in so far as it affects the very numerous body of Anglo-Indians who, in one shape or other, are interested in life assurance.

This important class was for generations one of those practically excluded from the benefits of assurance, a form of providence of which it would be superfluous for us to enter into the advantages as concerns intertropical residents. How to extend these benefits to them on any comprehensive scale was a problem long deemed by many difficult, and by not a few, impossible. Its solution was reserved for the society of which we speak; whose operations had attained important breadth and exhibited considerable profits both to proprietors and to policyholders, when the disastrous revolt in India put extension of business and division of profits for the present out of the question?

We gather from the lucid report presented to the shareholders on Thursday, that out of the treasury of this assurance office a very large sum has been paid to the widows and orphans of Indian employes, slain by the Indian fellow-servants of the state sworn and armed to defend them. It can be no matter of surprise, then, that the bonus fund of the institution has been necessarily treasured upon, by a calamity so wide-spread as to be not merely local, but national and political. The managing body have, therefore, in the exercise of a wise and honourable discretion, abandoned all present thought of bonus, and it is exceedingly satisfactory to know from the reports read at the meeting, that, large as the unexpected outlay has been, it in no way inconveniences or interferes with the stability of this admirable institution.

It must be admitted, without question, by all inquirers of candour and liberality, that a calamity so wholesale and so anomalous could never have been included in an actuary's calculation of probabilities. To have charged a premium for assurance against a revolt of the Sepoy army, and its atrocious results, would have been regarded a few years since as a lunatic provision on the part of directors, or as an unwarrantable extortion. But it may be fairly asked whether the losses of the society by this revolt are not justly chargeable upon the public exchequer or the revenues of India. Had a parallel chain of events occurred at our own doors, can any doubt for one moment exist that ample restitution would have been obtainable from the State? And, can it be imagined just, then, because it is a far cry to Lucknow and Delhi, to Meerut and Cawnpore, where these outbreaks arose against the commonwealth, and where damages accrued to its members, that those members, whether individuals or co-partners, should be deserted by the community for which they have suffered and will still suffer?

The logical and respectful letter of the Company in question to the commissioners for investigating Indian claims, and adopted, it is to be presumed, by all others interested, contains the following paragraph:—

The directors submit that the policy already initiated by Sir John Lawrence should be adopted all over India, and that each district should be made to pay for losses arising therein. The penalty of a pecuniary fine as the price of blood is a primal law and custom among Eastern nations. The infliction of such a fine on a town or a tribe would at once be recognised by all nations of India as a just and proper punishment in the place where such a crime as murder had been perpetrated. On the other hand, if, while the insurgent districts are suffered to remain untaxed, the provident subscribers to this and similar institutions in this country are compelled to pay for misdeeds committed therein, then it is no exaggeration to say that for the future a premium will be offered to the murder of Englishmen in India, and a penalty inflicted on their industry and frugality.

This appeal demands more than ordinary attention at the hands of the authorities; for not on sentimental or equitable grounds alone should the Government of India entertain this question.

Sound policy demands of them to recognise their liabilities promptly and efficiently. The State cannot honestly leave upon the shoulders of offices losses that were never contemplated in the contracts between those bodies, and individuals, for which no extra premiums were ever paid or received, and to avoid which no premium at all was ever paid by the State itself. And were even the foregoing arguments of no avail, it must be remembered that life assurance has now become so great a necessity to the Anglo-Indian that any blow struck at the stability of the insurance interest, and any discredit thrown upon it, will be felt throughout the peninsula. Unless Indian officials can insure—insure with confidence, and insure at reasonable "peace" rates—the maintenance of both services at their present high level in point of education and social standing will be found a difficulty, unless Government itself either undertakes the business of assurance, or increases official salaries *pari passu* with excessive and increasing premiums. In one or other shape, the rejection of these claims, as they arise, will surely entail anxiety upon the authorities who assume such a responsibility, and upon the Anglo-Indian community who will find themselves debarred, or, at all events, interfered with, in the enjoyment of one of the commonest advantages of civilised life. So important does this matter appear, that we shall watch its progress with much interest.

FAMILY DISUNION.

It is high time that justice should be done to one of the most misrepresented teachers of the human race. Ages have passed away since Procrustes expounded his doctrines, and enforced their practice on the Attic banks of the river Cephissus. In the symbolic language of legendary lore, that great silent prophet possessed one bed, and one bed alone, on which he compelled all passers-by to repose symmetrically. The area of the bed was constant: the dimensions of the travellers various. One bed must suit all bodies. This was the fundamental article of the Procrustean code. Given the bed, to make anybody suit it was the problem he proposed to solve. Like all great discoveries, his solution was eminently simple: all travellers who were too short were protracted to the requisite dimensions by the application of the rack; all who were

too tall had their superfluous limbs lopped off till they were brought down to the conventional standard. With the common fate of prophets, Procrustes had no honour in his own age and country. He fell, indeed, a sacrifice to the force of popular ignorance embodied in the form of Theseus. The faith, however, has survived the teacher. The doctrine expressed by the allegorical symbol of the Procrustean bed has gained strength and flourished. The other gods and heroes of heathendom are in exile and deposed, their faith discarded, their temples overthrown, and their worshippers dispersed; old faiths have died out, new creeds have arisen, but the worship of Procrustes abides for ever. Theory is greater than fact, the form is more than the substance—such is the interpretation of his creed. To the present hour that creed reigns supreme. In art, in politics, and in religion we proclaim his doctrine and enforce his practice. We have one bed, and ill-luck to those who are too tall or too short to suit its dimensions. Great indeed is our god Procrustes, and marvellous are his works!

It is, however, upon our matrimonial system that the stamp of the Procrustean creed is branded most indelibly. "Matrimony," says the ritual of the Church of England, "was ordained for the mutual society, help, and comfort of husband and wife that the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and in adversity." The doctrine is a beautiful one, and when fact and theory are coincident, the practice is most excellent. Unfortunately the theory is at times not only inconsistent with, but antagonistic to, the facts. There are cases—not few nor far between—when the society of husband and of wife, instead of being a mutual comfort and help, is a mutual misery and a mutual degradation. For them, prosperity has no common source of pleasure, adversity has no common bond of suffering. What is to happen then? To this question there is no answer in our matrimonial law. The teaching of Procrustes has prevailed. If the bed does not suit, the sleeper must be made to suit it. Society has decided in its wisdom that the contract made void in the spirit shall be performed in the letter. When the spirit is dead the letter shall keep alive. Those whom God hath joined let not man put asunder. We have reversed the law, and assert that those whom God's law of truth and fact have put asunder, man's law shall keep united.

We have no wish to deny the popular belief. We are orthodox believers in the Procrustean creed. There are times, however, when our orthodoxy is sorely tried. The case of Marchmont v. Marchmont, which throughout this week has filled the columns of the daily press, is we admit an obstacle in the path of implicit and undoubting faith. Into the details of that singular illustration of conjugal and domestic felicity we have no wish to enter. The rights and wrongs of the Protestant husband and the Roman Catholic wife, the respective grounds of complaint between Mr. and Mrs. Marchmont, the question which of the pair was more sinned against than sinning, are all matters for legal decision. The interest that the case possesses for us consists in the curious light thrown by it upon our social life and in the singular illustration it affords of the manifold disadvantages of our marriage system. The facts with which we are concerned are unfortunately simple and commonplace enough. Mr. Marchmont was a dissenting minister of some little reputation. Whether through the fault of the shepherd or the stinginess of his flock, the ministry of Mr. Marchmont does not appear to have been profitable in the worldly sense of the word. The minister supplied the deficiencies of the chapel by labours of a literary character. Commercially speaking, writing would appear to have been a better trade than preaching; but still, after all, the ministry and the press are but precarious sources of permanent income. Mr. Marchmont, too, was a widower, with four children. Such being the state of his temporal affairs, the Independent pastor appears to have come across a certain Mrs. Locket, the widow of a publican, the owner of fifty thousand pounds settled on herself, and a member of the Roman Catholic persuasion. There was some difference of age between the two—there was also some difference of fortune. With all respect for literature and the ministry—it is not often that fifty thousand pounds sterling settled in the funds is realised by either—Mr. Marchmont became enamoured of the widow, and wooed and won her. Hard-hearted, indeed, must have been the woman who could resist a lover who, on being asked for a candid opinion of their respective

characters, informed her that she was kind, truthful, loving, &c. &c., while he was unkind, harsh, and unfaithful—the virtues in her case being counterbalanced by the corresponding vices in his. The honeymoon was scarcely begun before the dream of connubial bliss had vanished. Though Mr. Marchmont had pleaded guilty to every defect, and endowed his future wife with every merit, he was still of opinion that he was more competent than herself to manage their pecuniary concerns. Mrs. Marchmont, unfortunately, did not share in this impression—she refused to part with the disposal of her own funds. This was the real point at issue. Given these facts and the position of the parties, any reader with a knowledge of the world can predict the result without referring to the reports. There were demands on the one side, and reproaches on the other—the husband was irritable, and the wife was exacting. Disputes led to ill blood, and ill blood led to violence, until the Marchmont household resembled that state of things which is described, graphically as well as poetically, as a hell on earth. Both parties longed for a separation, but could not agree as to terms: the husband wanted 25,000*l.* as the price of his absence; the wife considered that, great as was the nuisance of his presence, 10,000*l.* was a long price to pay for this negative consideration. At last things have gone to such a length that Mrs. Marchmont has had to apply for a judicial separation in the courts of law.

The immediate question, whether or not Mrs. Marchmont shall be allowed to live apart from her husband, concerns few except the parties to the case. For our own part we are unable to feel much sympathy for either plaintiff or defendant—for the prudent widow or the pastoral widower. The broad question for the public is, whether such cases are not a scandal and a shame? What conceivable object, either human or divine, is accomplished by two persons in the position of Mr. and Mrs. Marchmont remaining united by the name of matrimony? No power on earth can make them either love or respect each other. As Thackeray words it:—"How can you love what is not lovable, or admire what is not admirable?" On whichever side the fault may be, there is no human possibility that this ill-starred partnership should ever be productive of aught but misery. Why then should you declare it indissoluble by law?

We shall, doubtless, be told that the interest of the children demands the indissolubility of the marriage union. As far as the moral interests of the children are concerned, what course of education can possibly be worse than the daily spectacle of domestic discord, than the life of such a home as that of the Marchmonts? For their temporal interests, the law can and ought to make provisions. We are no advocates for a system of voluntary divorce. Matrimony is the most solemn of all partnerships, and should not be dissolved without due notice and compensation. Divorce is at all times an evil, and no power can turn an evil into good. But of all evils, the most monstrous to our eyes is, that those who are separated in mind, and heart, and soul, should be kept together by the force of law. The adherents of the Procrustean faith should bear in mind the fate of their teacher.

THOUGHTS, FACTS, AND SUGGESTIONS

ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

No. III.

THREE proposals may be said to be fairly before the country for the extension of the franchise. In the measure of the Coalition Government introduced by Lord John Russell in March, 1854, a 6*l.* rating was made the test of qualification in cities and towns; the noble lord and those who were then his colleagues have never since intimated any change of opinion on this point, and as between a 5*l.* and a 6*l.* test of fitness there would be no difference of principle, and but a slight difference of degree, it is not worth while to dwell on the distinction between them. This may be termed Bidding No. 1.

The next proposal is that which was first made many years ago at the instance or under the auspices of Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, in the hope of obviating some of the objections entertained by the upper classes to what was called the Charter. Chartism was founded on the demand for universal suffrage, and instead thereof Mr. Sturge proposed to substitute registered manhood suffrage. The Northern Union, having its head-quarters at New-

castle-upon-Tyne, has recently given a certain prominence in public discussion to this proposal. Large meetings, chiefly, but not exclusively composed of the working classes, have been held in several northern towns to petition for its adoption, and it cannot be doubted that in every portion of the kingdom it has many advocates. This may be called Bidding No. 2.

A third proposition is that which amounts in fact to a revival under another name of household suffrage. Why the original term has been abandoned, and that of a ratepaying suffrage substituted in its place, it is not very easy to say. There was great merit and meaning in the older phrase. It contained in itself the strongest of all arguments—one that spoke to the common sense and universal feeling of the community. No idea is more thoroughly identified in national sentiment with the whole train of associations that make up the notion of responsibility and respectability, in the plain, every-day sense of those terms, than that of "householder." It may be natural and reasonable enough that some legal incidents should be specified, in order to determine, in case of dispute, who is a householder and who is not; and liability to the payment of rates is one of the easiest and fairest, no doubt, which could be applied. But a name is a name for all that; and "household suffrage," when inscribed, as it was in 1836, on the standard of further Reform raised by Lord Durham and his friends, evoked a response throughout the hives of English industry such as we have not heard since then. Before the death of the late Mr. Hume, he more than once endeavoured to impress the justice and expediency of adopting the ratepaying franchise, as he termed it, on the House of Commons. Still more recently it has been adopted as the basis of organisation by the Reform Committee, of which Mr. Roebuck, Mr. S. Morley, Mr. Bright, Mr. Clay, and other well known Reformers, are prominent members. This may be called Bidding No. 3.

Of the comparative merits of these three Biddings there is little need to speak. Could the present House of Commons come to a decision by way of ballot regarding them, it is certain that its decision would be by a great preponderance of opinion in favour of the first, simply because the present House of Commons is at heart intensely Conservative, and thoroughly averse to any material change whatever. Nothing but the conviction that some change is now inevitable, and that it would fare ill at the hustings with any man who openly opposed all reform, would in reality induce two-thirds of the present Parliament to entertain the question at all. In this mood it is obvious, therefore, that without the application of considerable moral pressure from without, a majority both of Whigs and Tories will eagerly seize the opportunity of what they call settling the account on the easiest terms. But will the account be settled by the enactment of a 6% rating franchise? In London and its immediate vicinity, and in some half-dozen large towns like Brighton, Cheltenham, and the like, there may not, indeed, be any great number of householders excluded from electoral rights thereby. But in the greater number of country towns, and in several of the older cities, a very considerable body would still remain unenfranchised, quite enough to keep alive a jealous and angry feeling of disaffection to the modified order of things. Is it wise, when we are about to make a change in the greatest and noblest of our institutions, to spoil the moral effect of it in this way? Were Lord Derby and his colleagues fully alive to the consequences of leaving such a controversy open in a country like ours, they would, in a true spirit of conservatism, make up their minds to go a step further than their Whig and Peelite rivals did in 1854, and they would thereby efface much of the distrust which still attaches to them as a party and an administration.

The abstract reasoning on which the claim of manhood suffrage rests has seemed to many wise and benevolent men irrefragable. But as a practical question, it were waste of time to enter on its discussion. No Minister in the present condition of things could obtain the permission of the Crown to submit a bill embodying such a proposal to Parliament. No Minister would have the support of twenty peers in the Upper House who did so. And, finally, no Minister would be able to obtain a serious or deliberate hearing from the House of Commons, as now constituted, who hinted at such a proposal. Manhood suffrage is the universal suffrage of America and of France. In America it grew up in most of the states spontaneously, because there was neither a court nor an aristocracy to oppose it: in

France it was the offspring of revolution. Neither precedent, therefore, is in point. As things now stand, manhood suffrage is as wholly unattainable as it would be to impose sufficient taxes to pay off the national debt.

But what is safely and peacefully attainable, and what would secure the enfranchisement of the great bulk of those who now lack the rights of citizenship, is household or ratepaying suffrage. There were in England and Wales, when the last census was taken, 3,278,039 inhabited houses. More than one family occupy many of these houses; and where the occupations are so distinct as to enable the occupants to be separately rated, the head of each family would of course be entitled to claim as a *bonâ fide* householder. If on account of the class thus indicated we add 350,000, we shall probably be above the mark. This, however, would give the gross total of 3,628,039; and if from these be deducted one-sixth for tenements occupied by women, we shall in round numbers have three millions of electors in England and Wales. Auxiliary franchises, founded upon the possession of property, or of educated skill in some particular avocation, would, of course, materially add to this number. But when it is considered that the total number of families is but 3,712,290, and that the total number of adult males does not much exceed 5,000,000, it is obvious that by the method proposed a great and beneficial change in the right direction would be accomplished, and that for all practical purposes the labour, skill, and industry of the country would be brought within the pale of active citizenship. This is, then, the thing to go for while yet there is time. That which falls short of this will fail to bridge the chasm which is daily widening between wealth and poverty, capital and labour, privilege and moody discontent. On the other hand, theories, however fair in seeming, if pressed beyond prudential bounds, can only serve the ends of those reactionaries who are watching for pretexts to create social and political alarm.

BIOGRAPHIES OF GERMAN PRINCES.

No. III.

MAXIMILIAN, KING, AND LOUIS, EX-KING, OF BAVARIA.

In speaking of the "King of Bavaria" we are involved in the necessity of giving the biography of two royal personages, viz. of the ruler *de facto*, Maximilian Joseph, and of the ex-King Louis, who, though forced to abdicate in 1848, still considers himself a *de jure* sovereign. The two Kings stand in the close relation of father and son. However, the mutual affection they entertain for each other is very much of the cat-and-dog order. The one—the ex-sovereign—has not yet been able to reconcile himself to his abrupt removal from the head of governmental affairs, which he cannot be brought to believe was accomplished by any other means than a pure palace intrigue on the part of his son. Eccentric, and almost demented as he is, the ex-King Louis appears still to cherish the hope of being one day able to punish and overthrow the faithless Absalom of his house. In this expectation he holds aloof from the Royal Court of Munich, brooding over, in company with a few *dilettante* as hairbrained as himself, the probabilities of a turn in the political wheel.

To many of our readers, no doubt, old King Louis is known as the man of taste, the originator of the Walhalla, and the founder of those numerous museums of art, rejoicing in the names of Glyptothek, Pinakothek, Odeon, and so forth. The character of the crazy old Prince would, however, remain a long way from being properly understood, if his predilections for Hellenic antiquity were the sole traits taken into consideration. A more varied *mixtum compositum* than that which constitutes the nature of that ex-sovereign who has so long riveted the attention of all Germany could scarcely be conceived. In him every epoch of history, every characteristic age of literature, has found a sympathetic chord—albeit, the sound issuing therefrom may have been more a burlesque than a faithful rendering of the original strain. By turns, King Louis has figured on the stage as an enthusiast for Athenian art; a zealot for the monkish darkness of middle ages; a Mæcenas of rooco and renaissance in the approved fashion of any Bourbon of the days preceding the great Revolution; then, again, he has been found capering as the friend of free science, and—hey, presto!—a persecutor of any expressions savouring of liberal ideas; again, fond

ling the idea of German unity, and, at the next moment, stickling most pertinaciously for every inch of prerogative of his own petty dynastic sovereignty; an upholder of national glory, seeking to invoke the shades of all the departed heroes of the fatherland in one great Walhalla, and anon the trembling slave of the priests, who even shuts the doors of that Pan-Hellenism of Germany to the statue of Luther; a King who boasted of having initiated an era of freedom, and who all the while filled the prisons with political captives, forcing his opponents to do penance on their knees before his image; a ruler whose first principle in government was not simply economy, but downright parsimony—nevertheless spending millions to carry out his artistic cravings, or to gratify those more objectionable amatory predilections of which the Lola Montes affair was such a notorious example.

Who has not heard of the pseudo-Andalusian, the lady of the castanets and the horsewhip, whose liberal display of ankles and pugnacious habits gained for her at Munich the dignity of a Countess of Landsfeld? It was a pleasant time, truly, for the citizens of Bavaria when Herodias swayed the councils of the kingdom, and ministers held office by favour of her historical horsewhip. Europe had seen nothing like such gay and lively times since the days of the Pompadour and the other hours of Versailles; and it was all the more droll, being, as such things were, so utterly at variance with the sedate habits of the Bavarian people. It is true, in the end, the sprightly game came to a sudden conclusion; for although the "old Bavarians" may not be very quick in perceiving when affairs are going wrong, still they have only to be once thoroughly convinced of where lies the fault to be dealt with, and their anger is as difficult to restrain as the foam from their own famous beer when uncorked. Thus, one fine morning, before the outbreak of the Paris movement of February, 1848, there was a sudden stir at Munich that seemed to brood real danger to the King. The cry went abroad that the country was sick to loathing of the shameless life of the old *roué*; that the fortunes of Bavaria were no longer to be in a harlot's keeping. All parties joined in this outcry. The Liberals took it up from hatred to the despot who had destroyed the liberty of the press; extended the principles of priestcraft; covered the country with cloisters peopled with brothers and sisters, black, brown, and grey; emasculated the rights of the Legislature; and, in short, undermined the foundation of constitutional government. A portion of the ultra-Conservatives even made common cause with the people, some of their leaders having been mortally offended by the incredible audacity of the Spanish courtesan. This was the first sound that announced to King Louis his approaching downfall.

When the revolutionary movement spread through Germany, after the establishment of the French Republic, a new attack was made against King Louis's throne. Barricades sprang up in his capital—an armed struggle for his overthrow seemed imminent—the whole population rose in fury against him. In this momentous crisis some Conservative-Liberals, who feared the entire destruction of royalty, hastened, fresh from the scene of the popular turmoil, to the Castle, and made their way through the craven crowd of courtiers to the King, entreating him to save the monarchy by an abdication. They entered the royal closet, as may be conceived, in no drawing-room attire, coming, as they did, from streets filled with an angry and excited multitude. On seeing the messengers of evil tidings, the first exclamation of the petulant tyrant was: "Dirty boots! dirty boots! how dare you present yourselves before your King in such a condition?" "Your Majesty!" replied the deputation, "the dirty boots are in possession of the city, and we pray you not to deliberate too long about an abdication, or the crown of the House of Wittelsbach may be in the mud before our boots are cleaned."

With a sorrowing heart and unwilling hand did the King sign that act of abdication. His son Maximilian Joseph thereupon assumed the reins of government.

The tastes of the latter are less eccentric; less given to squander the public property of Bavaria for artistic purposes—purposes for which the population at large have but little inclination; less open to reproach in his private life, but, as regards his policy, equally an enemy to popular freedom. No wonder, therefore, that under him, in 1849, the

Palatinate—that is, Rhenish Bavaria—rose in insurrection and altogether threw off royal authority, establishing a provisional government on a republican basis. The intervention of the Prince of Prussia, who marched with a large army against the Palatinate and Baden, made an end to this promising popular movement. Fortunately, almost all the leaders found means to escape the wrath of reaction. A few only were captured, and these met with the severest fate. One of them, a Count Fugger, colonel in the Bavarian army, and a member of the millionaire family of that name at Augsburg, was sentenced to death by court-martial. It is said his father was asked by some humane men of the Conservative party whether he did not intend to implore the mercy of the Crown. The father, an ultra-reactionist himself, replied, "No! let justice have its course!" Young Fugger was afterwards shot according to the sentence.

This is not the only instance of the severity of the present King's government. In order to give our readers a correct picture of his administration, we need only say that, a few years ago, in Rhenish Bavaria, at one sitting of the High Tribunal, no less than three hundred and thirty sentences of death were pronounced against absent democratic exiles, and that all these sentences, up to this day, remain uncancelled. Happily for humanity, the intended victims are out of the clutches of "justice." But can we wonder, under such circumstances, that the population of Rhenish Bavaria has fearfully diminished, and is still on the decrease? What avails it, in presence of such facts, that King Maximilian should play the condescending towards a certain species of sycophant Court literati, whom he treats on an apparently equal footing in his cigar divan? These mockeries of royal simplicity of manners can only corrupt those who are already worthless—but will never mitigate the absolutistic nature of the King's government.

In more recent times, the King of Bavaria has seemed inclined somewhat to forego these literary acquaintances, and to cultivate with greater zeal the priestly element. His social manners are becoming constrained; his policy grows more and more unscrupulous. A few weeks ago he summarily dissolved the Legislature before it had held a single sitting, merely because it was known that a certain moderate Liberal would be elected its president. The *Munich Court Gazette* tried to palliate this measure, by declaring that "an aristocratic-republican conspiracy had been concocted, calculated to introduce into Bavaria a parliamentary government like that of England, where in reality republicanism rules supreme, while the Crown is but a cypher." With such bombastic nonsense the King endeavours to mask the despotic measures with which he now pursues, not only democrats, but even the most loyal constitutional Liberals.

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.—Last week the debate between Mr. Baxter Langley, of the Sunday League, and Mr. Robert Court, of the Protestant Laymen's Association, was concluded in the City Hall, Glasgow, where upwards of three thousand persons attended. Mr. Langley opened by a disquisition on the necessity of the culture of the whole of man's nature, if we could make him a religious being, and went on to show that the study of nature was absolutely necessary to complete education, and that the opening of museums, &c., on the Sunday afternoon should be regarded as an accessory to religious teaching in the church and school. Mr. Court replied that any recreation or instruction, except in the chapel or sabbath school, was immoral. Mr. Langley showed that drunkenness and sabbatarianism went hand in hand, that in sabbath-keeping Scotland immorality attained its maximum in Europe, and that unmixed good had everywhere resulted from the rational use of Sunday. The proceedings were concluded with votes of thanks to the chairmen.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S CORRESPONDENCE.—An advertisement in the Dublin papers states that the correspondence of the late Duke of Wellington from September, 1806, to April, 1807, is missing. His Grace was of opinion that he had deposited these papers somewhere in Dublin, on assuming, in 1807, the office of Chief Secretary of Ireland. They are supposed to be in boxes in some public store, or bank, or in some private house in Dublin. Any information that may lead to the discovery of these papers will be liberally rewarded by the present Duke.

SPANISH PURITY.—*Les Lionnes Pauvres*, a play of the *Dame aux Camélias* class, which had a great run at the Vaudeville theatre in Paris some months ago, has been prohibited at Madrid. "A lesson of morality from Madrid!" remarks *Galignani*. The *Entr'acte* exclaims, "Il y a donc encore des Pyrénées?"

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6½ P.M.

THE *Leader* was stopped in the post again last week, not, I am informed, for anything it contained, but because such was the *bon plaisir* of some officious underling in the police department, especially charged with the honourable office of dry-nursing the press. It is no more than fair to remark that the Post-office authorities have nothing to do with these despotic and ridiculous measures, which proceed from the police, but for which, nevertheless, they are held responsible in public opinion. In the different reclamations I have from time to time had occasion to make, I have invariably found among the chiefs of the Post-office most courteous attention and a praiseworthy desire to promote the public service. To politics, in the discharge of their duties, they are as much strangers as the gentlemen in St. Martin's-le-Grand, and from M. Sturm, the Postmaster-General, down to the sorters, there is not one who, if left to his own free will, would open a letter or withhold a newspaper. A gentleman, holding a high and important position under Government, said the other day, in reply to my inquiry what could be the motive or reason for stopping papers in this way, "There is no reason, *c'est de l'arbitraire*." There can be no doubt that he is perfectly right, for, independently of his being in a position to know the why and the wherefore, the conduct of the press police clearly proves the absence of all reason. There is an Englishman here who is connected with the London press, and who receives, among other English papers, the *Leader*. His copy of your journal which contained my letter, in which mention was made of Mr. Bright's exhibition at Birmingham, and of the fact that certain London papers were subventioned by the French Government, and inspired by the French Foreign-office, is quite a curiosity. When he received it from the Post-office, he found it cut open and two paragraphs marked on the side with pencil and certain expressions therein underscored with red chalk. The first was the expression "heaven-born Bonaparte," which is no more than a fair translation of the epithet repeatedly applied to the Emperor by his most zealous courtiers. In Brittany his Majesty was called "l'homme du doigt de Dieu," and "le prince envoyé par la Providence." There could, consequently, be nothing discourteous nor offensive in my phrase. If I am to be rebuked for it, surely the archbishops, priests, prefects, and mayors who used it before me, and from whom I borrowed, ought not to be allowed to go unpunished. The second phrase that had the honour to be scored was that which referred to the English journals receiving foreign subventions. The fact is too notorious to be contradicted; and the shame does certainly not rest upon the French Government. Queen Elizabeth, when she said "I love the treason, but despise the traitor," settled that point, and I fear no Government has progressed beyond this peculiar morality, and learned to despise both treason and traitor. There was nothing in the two sentences to excite the apprehension and indignation of the police, and I must say that such also was the opinion of the authorities, for your journal was delivered in due course, although after the other papers. For the information of the police here, whose attention will of course be called to the preceding observations next Sunday, I beg to state that they totally misapprehend the duties and disposition of the correspondents of English newspapers. In the first place, they are gentlemen by social position and education, which the police authorities very seldom are. Next, the correspondents of English journals have but one object in view—to render, independently of all personal bias, faithful accounts of facts that come within their notice; and if they do sometimes err, it is not from any hostility to the authorities, but from the difficulty of obtaining accurate information through the ordinary and legitimate channels. With a press fettered, and spies established in private life, occurrences can only be whispered, and there is nothing surprising that they should thus become distorted or misrepresented. The only wonder is that, with all these obstacles in their path, the correspondents of the London papers should be so singularly accurate and guarded in their information. It is absurd for the police to suppose that English journalists here have personal ill-will or enmity against the head of the State and his Government. To them, individually, and in their literary character, it is a matter of perfect indifference who is in power, or in whose name public business may be carried on. Certainly we should (or, at least, some of us) be better pleased to live under a more liberal régime. If our letters were delivered regularly, if our papers were not stopped in the post, if we were not registered at the police-office, and if we could talk freely in public company with the certainty that our neighbours or acquaintances were not *mouchards*, it would be infinitely more agreeable to report the gradual development of liberty and self-government in France, the contentment of her inhabitants, and the moderation of the authorities, than to be compelled to do the contrary. The trial of M. de Montalembert came on yesterday.

It is needless to say that admission was refused to the recognised representatives of the press. No notes were allowed to be taken except by the Government shorthand writer, whose version of what took place may perhaps be published after public interest has subsided, and after the report has been subjected to correction and emendation. I say perhaps, for it is very doubtful whether anything will be allowed to appear beyond what has been supplied by the Government to the papers, and a translation of which I subjoin. The case was tried before M. Berthelin, vice-president, and in the sixth chamber of Correctional Police. The charge against M. de Montalembert as author, and against M. Douniol as editor, was "exciting to hatred and contempt of the Government; attacking the principle of universal suffrage and the rights which the chief of the State holds from the constitution; attacking the respect due to the laws; and exciting the hatred of citizens one towards another." These offences are by law qualified misdemeanours. The court was opened at twelve o'clock, but long before then all who were fortunate enough to secure tickets of admission were in attendance, some at seven o'clock, and nearly all before nine. M. Cordouan, Procureur Impérial in some provincial town, I believe, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Government. It is a significant fact that recourse had to be had to a comparatively unknown advocate. Can it be possible that M. Chaix d'Est-Ange and other leading crown lawyers in Paris can have had any scruples, and have refused to degrade themselves by appearing in such a cause? M. Berryer defended M. de Montalembert, and M. Dufaure defended M. Douniol. The judge, who, as I stated on a previous occasion, always plays the part of a public prosecutor, opened proceedings by interrogating M. Douniol and then M. de Montalembert. I am not aware that M. Berthelin exceeded the ordinary licence indulged in by French judges. It is said that he kept as far as possible within the limits of moderation; for, although being desirous to keep his seat and salary by doing the work of the present Government, he has too much experience of the kaleidoscope of French politics not to know that it is quite within the range of probability for M. de Montalembert and his friends to have it within their power at some future, and perhaps not very distant, day to disperse the leaves and fishes of judicial administration. It is, therefore, very likely that M. Berthelin sought to please all parties—*en nageant entre deux eaux*. After the interrogatory, which consisted mainly, I believe, in formalities as to name, age, birth, and profession, and as to the responsibility of the two gentlemen for the authorship and publication of the article attacked, the Government prosecutor, M. Cordouan, who by his name would seem to be a Bas-Breton, made a speech—and a most dismal dreary, lamentable affair it was—stupidly ferocious, and still more stupidly servile. The measure of the man was taken before he had been speaking five minutes, and after the opening specimens of his dull platitudes and fulsome adulation of power no one listened to him. M. Berryer followed with the defence of M. de Montalembert. His speech, I am told, was a masterpiece of eloquence, a noble and dignified protest against despotism and the tyranny of the press, an energetic vindication of liberty, and a sweeping denunciation of the manufacture of laws for personal and special ends. But the palm is given by all reports to M. Dufaure, who followed the reply of the Procureur Impérial to M. Berryer, for the soundness of his logic and the consummate ability with which he demolished the propositions of the Government, and made manifest the total illegality of the proceedings. The eloquence and argument were of course entirely lost, for the last Council of State held at Compiègne, it is said, had decided what verdict should be given and what punishment awarded. Nevertheless, the judge and his assistant, after the pleadings were terminated, retired to *deliberate*, (?) and to wine and biscuits. Some time afterwards they re-entered the court, and amid breathless silence M. Berthelin read the following judgment, or verdict:—

"Whereas, in the review called the *Correspondant* has appeared, on the 25th October, 1858, an article entitled 'A Debate on India in the English Parliament';

"Seeing that the Comte de Montalembert avows himself to be the author of that article; that he authorised its publication; that Douniol admits its publication;

"Whereas, that in the course of this article, written in a spirit of systematic disparagement, the author, by the continual contrast which he is pleased to make stand out between the institutions that France has given to herself and those of a power allied to France, makes it his duty to pour out irony and outrage upon the political laws, the men, and the acts of the Government;

"That three misdemeanours—1. The inciting to hatred and contempt of the Government; 2. The misdemeanour of attack against the principle of universal suffrage, and the rights and authority which the chief of the State holds from the constitution; and, 3. The misdemeanour of attack against the respect due to the laws, and the inviolability of the rights which they confer—result from the whole of the said article, and particularly from the passages beginning with these words, 'When my ears tingle,' page 205; 'I coincide,' page 206; 'In Canada,' page 209; 'We have not only,'

page 215; 'I was for my part,' page 252; 'In a word, the force,' page 260; 'During that these reflections,' page 261; 'I have already indicated,' page 266; 'With respect to the fourth misdemeanour imputed to the accused:

"Whereas, if in the incriminated passages are to be met with passages which ought never to fall from the pen of a writer who respects himself, and if these expressions are of a character to sow disunion and excitement among citizens, they do not manifest sufficiently in the part of the author the intention to disturb the public peace; that this last misdemeanour is not therefore found to be completely characterised;

"That the Comte de Montalembert and Douniol remain convicted of having committed the three misdemeanours above charged against them;

"Misdemeanours provided against and punished by the Articles 1 and 4 of the decree of the 11th August, 1848, 1 and 3 of the law of the 27th July, 1849;

"Whereas, in case of conviction of several misdemeanours, the greatest punishment ought alone to be applied; that the severest punishment is imposed by the first article of the law of the 29th July, 1849; that this article, which has for object to protect from culpable attacks the chief of the State, sprung from universal suffrage, has not been abrogated;

"Making of the said articles application to the accused;

"Whereas there exists in respect to Douniol extenuating circumstances, and the dispositions of Article 463 of the Penal Code are, by terms of the decree of the 11th August, 1848, applicable in matter of misdemeanour of the press;

"Seeing the article 463;

"Condemns the Comte de Montalembert to six months' imprisonment and 3000 francs fine;

"Douniol to one month's imprisonment and 1000 francs fine;

"Declares that they will be severally and collectively held responsible for the said fines;

"Discharges them from the remaining heads of accusation;

"Condemns them jointly and severally to pay the expenses, and fixes for one year the duration of constraint by body." [Term of imprisonment if the expenses be not paid.]

I have given you above as literal a translation as possible of the judgment, for it is a melancholy curiosity. I know not where you are to look for its parallel, unless it be in the annals of the Terror or in the records of the Bloody Assize. The punishment inflicted at those epochs may have been more cruel and more sanguinary, but that they were more unjust is impossible. Never in the most dismal periods of history was justice so flagrantly and scandalously violated as yesterday in what it will be henceforth a mockery to call the *Palais de Justice*. Never was the law so despotically and infamously perverted to the elevation of ignorance above intelligence, and to screen men of ignoble character from that which all honest men award. Who are the "men of the Government" that M. de Montalembert is punished for having excited public contempt for? Does not that contempt envelop them and cling to them, despite their writhings and their contortions? No verdict of judge, nor abject flattery of mercenary advocate, can make the world forget that many of these men are the fruits of adultery, and that at former periods of their lives they were maintained by women, and too often by the wages of hideous vice; that they were, in short, what is called in police reports "fancy men." It is to gratify the bilious spite of such things as these that a man of irreproachable private life, an eloquent orator, an able writer, a member of the first literary body in Europe—the Institute of France—a great statesman, a peer of the realm, is to be cast for six months in a felon's gaol! But let M. Montalembert take heart—

"Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage."
All honourable men in France, all admirers of political honesty, and the votaries of freedom throughout the world, will respect his nobility and integrity of purpose. They would infinitely prefer his prison fate to the gilded palaces and sensual enjoyments of a De Moray or a Walowski; and the most ennobling document that he can bequeath to his posterity will be the record of his condemnation yesterday, when he stood up well-nigh alone, in the presence of the greatest despotism that ever weighed down a nation, to accept and bear the responsibility of his sympathy with free Englishmen, for that, and that only, was his offence.

GERMANY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

November 24.

I DARE say your readers are beginning to think that Germany means Prussia, for this country has been the subject of all discussion these months past, and indeed, for the time, Prussia is Germany, and Germany Prussia. Except Austria, the other countries of the Germanic Confederation offer rarely anything of far-reaching interest, and just now they appear all agape, waiting for the results of the elections in Prussia and the meeting of the Landtag. Official documents issued by

this state and that state are flying about, but which are, to my mind, utterly devoid of any interest or tendency. In spite of its monotony, Prussia is the only theme that affords a correspondent matter to write about. We must console ourselves that acts of the Prince and his Minister will become matters of history, and may lead to consequences which no one can be certain of, but many may and do anticipate. I noticed in my last that the Swiss journal the *Bund* had been seized by the Prussian police; since then we hear that the police authorities have refused to allow the German Catholics, the disciples of Dr. Ronge, the free exercise of their religious worship. This sect had been forbidden by the late Ministry to hold prayer meetings in company with their wives and children, but imagining, like all the rest of their countrymen, that a new era had been inaugurated in Prussia by the accession of the liberal-minded Prince of Prussia to power, they met on Sunday, the 7th instant, for the purpose of public worship, having first craved permission from the police. At the hour appointed for prayer, however, a police official appeared with a notification that prayer meetings could not be tolerated, and that therefore they must disperse and return home, which they did instantly and quietly—evidence of a remarkably meek and Christian spirit or great respect for the law, or that coercive means which passes under that term in Prussia, and all Germany, excepting perhaps the Hanse Towns, Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck, where freedom still glimmers in spite of the despots around. It must be admitted that the Prince—he must not be permitted with hereditary kingcraft to shuffle off his responsibility—has seized the earliest opportunity to throw cold water upon the enthusiasm of the people, who believed that his advent to power would be the signal for freedom of the press and legitimate freedom of action. Those who relied upon his oft-repeated declarations, or at least the declarations attributed to him, are now in a state of collapse. No other expression that I can think of will impart a conception of the utter astonishment and dismay of the lately so jubilant constitutional Liberals. I fancy they expected from the Prince more than he could perform. If, however, he had the wish to encourage a liberal system of government, which most probably, judging by his antecedents, he has not, yet it would be a difficult thing to overthrow by a dash of his pen that system of police-rule, called by custom Government, which has always existed in Prussia, and is thoroughly interwoven with its social life. The measures taken against the German Catholics may be regarded as a sign that the old element of the Prussian monarchy is to-day just what it has ever been. The Prussians under the present Government will not be one whit less in bondage than they were under the late Ministry. The Prince is loth to *octroyer*, and the people loth to move; any change must come from abroad—they will have it so.

On the 10th inst., M. Flottwell, who seems to have a weakness for writing edicts or ordinances, published one in which he called upon the country magistrates and other officials to check, as much as lay in their power, "extreme or exclusive political tendencies," alluding to the exertions of the *Kreuz Zeitungs* party. But to show himself quite impartial, on the 17th another edict was issued, in which the steps recommended against the Democratic candidates were equal to a prohibition to vote for them.

A good deal of surprise has been excited by certain "instructions" addressed by a Landrath von Brandt, at Lyck, to the superintendent of police and the gendarmes, in which he declares — "It must be your task by all legal means—and these are manifold—to bring your whole influence to bear upon the electors in such a manner that none but Conservatives (not in the English sense) be returned." This affords an idea how M. Flottwell's edicts are obeyed, and how ready the officials are to obey. Yesterday was the election day for the representatives. The large towns, as usual, have returned mostly Liberals; Berlin all Liberals, as it ever does.

The so-called Democratic—that is, very liberal—party have declined offering any candidates. They have been induced to take this resolution by the cry which has been raised in reactionary circles to alarm the shopkeepers and dealers. They have thus closed the mouth of the Feudalists—there will be no democrats at all in the Diet, and the shopkeepers, and the aristocrats need not fear a recurrence of the scenes of 1848.

There are bad reports as to the state of trade in different parts of Austria. A great number of factories are closed, more especially in Carinthia, and the workmen emigrating by thousands.

The following announcement is making the round of the German journals:—"Director L'Arronge has entered into an arrangement with the *troupe* of Sadler's Wells Theatre in London, according to which the said company will appear among us next March, and give representations in all the chief towns. The manager of the company is Mr. Samuel Phelps, who is considered to be at present the best actor of Shakespearean characters in England, and who has continually striven to maintain the genius of Shakspeare. His greatest rival in the same field is Mr. Charles Kean. As to the merits of these two artists, public opinion in England is divided."

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Night, November 26th.

FRANCE.

A LETTER from Paris says:—"At the conclusion of the Montalembert trial, it was a moot point at the Palais de Justice whether it would be more advisable to appeal against the sentence, to the Court of Appeal, or to carry the case at once before the Court of Cassation to have it quashed for irregularity, apparent upon the face of judgment. The present intention of M. de Montalembert's advisers is to resort to the Court of Appeal."

It is rumoured to-day in the "ante-chambers" of which M. de Montalembert speaks, that all the foreign journals, English, Belgian, German, Italian, &c., which give any report of the proceedings of his trial will be seized and confiscated in the French Post-office.

M. C. Brainne, a writer in the *Presse*, who has been distinguished for his enthusiastic loyalty to the Emperor was lately sentenced by a court of justice to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 300fr. for a libel upon a receiver-general in the Maine-et-Loire. He has just received a free pardon from the Emperor.

The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* says, that a fresh number of *Le Correspondant* is about to issue, with another article from the pen of Montalembert. The topic selected by the eloquent writer is apparently non-political, being about "the monks of the Western Church," but inuendo is a powerful weapon. The ex-Minister, Comte de Falloux, is about adding to this issue another article, which from its freedom in speaking of absolute governments will probably bring down a prosecution on him also.

PRUSSIA.

A letter dated Berlin, Nov. 24, says:—"The definitive election of the Deputies to the Chamber came off yesterday. The contest lay, not between Conservative and Liberal, but turned upon a number of secondary considerations. No Conservative (Manteuffelite) candidate was so much as thought of for Berlin. That Berlin has selected the nine most distinguished, or most able men, out of the fifty or sixty candidates with which they commenced their deliberations, cannot be affirmed. But they have chosen nine men, every one of whom is very well fitted for their purpose, and for the present juncture. What was required was, independence of character, without extreme political tenets. They have endeavoured to get men who would support, without being subservient to, the present Ministry; men who had political knowledge without theories of politics. And what the electors sought it must be admitted that they have found."

AUSTRIA.

The discontent in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces is very great, and disturbances are expected. Count Gyulai, the Commander of the Austrian forces in Italy, is still here, and it is now generally known that he and the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian are at variance. Some of the foreign papers have spoken of serious misunderstandings between the Governor-General of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom and the Imperial Government, but there is a great deal of exaggeration in the reports. There is a rumour of the death of Prince Metternich, but the truth of it is doubted. He is eighty-five years of age, and was indisposed a few days ago.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

News has been received from Athens, dated November 18. The news of Mr. Gladstone's mission to the Ionian Islands had created much excitement in diplomatic circles. The King had sent for the Russian Ambassador, and a Cabinet Council was held, to take into consideration the relations of the Ionian Greeks with their countrymen of the continent, in conjunction with the published despatches of Sir J. Young, suggesting that the British Government should retain only the islands of Corfu and Paxos. It seems to be understood by the King and Court, that if England withdraws from the other islands they will of necessity be annexed to Greece. It was proposed to modify the existing Ministry, and to take in some Liberals known to be favourable to England and constitutional rule in Greece. The Russian Ambassador is said to favour this move on the part of the Court, as in point of fact the islands from which we should retire would, annexed to Greece, fall under Russian influence.

SWITZERLAND.

The affair of Mgr. Marilley, Bishop of Friburg, is, it is said, about to be brought formally before the Swiss Chambers. The Government of Berne objected to that prelate exercising his pastoral functions in the capital of the Confederation, and the Papal nuncio remonstrated. The executive council, in reply, pointed to the provisions of the Concordat of October, 1848, which interdicts the residence of the Bishop on the territories of Berne, Friburg, Neuchâtel, and Geneva, on the ground that his presence was incompatible with the maintenance of public tranquillity.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

THE INDIAN AND AUSTRALIAN SANITARIA.

THE *Times* a few weeks ago contained some letters, by Captain Mangles and friends, advocating the removal of our invalid English soldiers in India to Western Australia, on account of its attested value as a sanitarium. To these assertions no representations on behalf of the Indian Sanitaria were allowed to appear, but on their arrival in India great indignation has been expressed at proposing to send invalids to Australia, a long sea voyage, instead of the healthy regions of the Indian hills, which from some points are within a few hours' journey. The *Bombay Standard*, in the course of some able articles on the improvement of the condition of the English army, observes that as to sanitary stations Southern India is blessed with abundance of lofty mountains with a semi-European climate, and capable of being rendered easily accessible from the plains, and we may further remark that Northern India has mountains with a thorough European climate equally capable of being made accessible. On each of these there should be accommodation, which the *Standard* says, according to the present regulations for English soldiers, the economist would consider palatial. Towards each there should be a line of railway, which might be stopped short where the ascent becomes so steep as to threaten a heavy expenditure or a long time in construction, and which might be postponed. As much of India is a table-land it has, been proposed by many authorities to lay down cheap single lines in the plains, leaving the hill regions for the present to shift for themselves, the ascent of the hills being made by ponies or the ordinary mode of transit, as the hills rise suddenly and steeply from the plains. The local railways in Bombay, it is remarked, including the passage of the Ghauts, cost about 7000*l.* per mile, but omitting such heavy works as those for the Ghauts, it is estimated single lines might be laid down for 3000*l.* a mile, along which the traffic would flow, and which would do well enough till the traffic increased so much as to require double lines in the plains and branch lines in the hills.

The Sanitaria, or hill towns, which have railway communication at present, are Matheran, Khanda, Poonah, and the places above Poonah in Bombay. A branch is in progress from Madras to the Neigherries. In Bengal, the main line of the East Indian Railway is being brought within two hundred miles of Darjeeling, but the Northern Bengal connecting line has not yet received its guarantee. A line is projected from the East Indian and Punjab railways to Simla, but that is all. As yet the railways have not been administered by the Government of India with reference to the hill towns, as, until lately, English settlement was not considered so important, and till the Government had determined to place English troops in the hills, the necessity for improved communications was not so great.

ROMAN TYPE IN INDIA.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I beg to submit for your consideration the following points in reference to your recent able and interesting article on the application of the Roman character to the languages of India:—

1. In expressing Oriental languages in the Roman character, literary and scientific men throughout the civilised world have, after the example of Sir William Jones, adopted that application of the Roman letters which comes nearest to their powers in Latin and the languages derived from it.

2. The Roman letters, according to the same application of them, have become firmly established as the missionary and Christian character of Upper India, as will be seen in detail from the accompanying letter from the Rev. R. C. Mather, of the London Missionary Society.

3. The Roman consonants have the same power, according to this application of them, in the Oriental languages as in English—the exceptional sound which some of them have, in addition to their ordinary use, being distinguished by a diacritical mark; and—

4. As the five Roman vowels are applied to the English language in an extremely irregular manner, so that the same letter often represents several

different sounds, any attempt to follow the English practice, in this part of the system, would have tended rather to mislead than to assist.

The consonants, therefore, are substantially identical; while, although the vowels represent only one of the different powers of the same letter in English, and that not always the most usual, yet, having been adjusted to the symmetrical scale common to Sanscrit and Latin and their derivatives, they can never be confused, in their application to the Oriental languages, with any of their various conventional uses in English; and the superior compactness, cheapness, and distinctness of the Roman letters, the various sizes and forms of type, the capital letters, italics, stops, and other aids to modern printing, equally apply to vowels and consonants. This intrinsic superiority of the Roman character, and the facilities it affords of bringing all the languages and dialects of Asia into a closer relation with each other and with the languages of Europe, constitute the essence of the change which was commenced twenty-five years ago at Calcutta.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Yours, very faithfully,

C. E. TREVELYAN.

London, 22nd November, 1858.

[We shall resume the subject to which Sir Charles Trevelyan refers at an early period, for it is one of the most important subjects connected with the advancement of civilisation in India.—Ed. Leader.]

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

We have only fragmentary intelligence from the sanataria and hill towns.

From Darjeeling, it is reported that Dr. Archibald Campbell, the superintendent, under direction of the Bengal Government, is taking measures to protect that important station against any possible attack of Jung Bahadoor and the Nepalese. The Jilla-pahar, the military station near the town, is being converted into a stronghold, and it is the opinion of those locally conversant that it could be held for any length of time against a large force, provided the provisions do not fail. Dr. Campbell is getting together a large stock of provisions. His object is to be able to hold the Jilla-pahar in case of an inroad, until he can receive aid from the Bengal Government, but he is very weak in guns and men. Had more invalids been sent up, as they ought to have been by this time, they would have picked up strength and been converted from troublesome encumbrances into useful soldiers, much to the advantage of the state. In case the Government of India cannot spare two or three English regiments, as has been asked, it has been urged by some that all the invalids of the English regiments in Bengal should be sent up there.

For the time, a European guard with guns had been posted in the centre of the station; but this is only of use against insubordination of the local Ghoorkas, as in case of an attack all the property about the station would be destroyed, and the communication with the plains would be cut off.

By some late news from Sylhet the first report of the Sylhet mission has been received. That mission has now been established since 1850, and although it met with great discouragement at first, the number of children in the schools has risen from three to two hundred and forty in the town schools, besides those in the country districts. They find a great field of labour among the hill tribes. The Khasces are found in the neighbourhood of the hill town of Cherrapoonjee, where a mission had been established for eighteen years. Among the Munipoorees a native teacher has been employed, but a missionary has been sent thither. To the Cacharees a native teacher is to be sent in the course of the year. Among the people of Tipperah only missionary visits have been made.

At Sylhet the mission has, besides the boys' schools, an orphan asylum, and a girls' school.

Sylhet is a country of great resources, but little developed. It supplies the important articles of coal and lime, which can be shipped to the lower districts. Linseed, tea, oranges, and potatoes are products that can be very profitably raised. At present the few Europeans are unable to compass the field of labour open to them. The coal company and the companies languish for want of capital and of good roads and other communications. A country of large area and great resources is left dependent on the Bengal Government for the casual grant of a few pounds, and cannot raise a local loan, as an Australian colony would do.

There were, however, English enough in Sylhet to get up amateur theatricals in September.

Another new hill capital is proposed where the European magistrate, officials, and troops can be in safety. In the Punjab it is in contemplation to form a district with the hill of Sirkesan, 5000 feet high, as its head quarters, giving it, besides other pergunnahs, the subdivisions of Meeanwallce and Chooab, Sydan Shah in the Leia and Jhelum districts, other changes in the hill districts of the Punjab are in contemplation, and a bridge of boats is to be formed at Maree.

The bishop of Bombay has left Poonah for Mahabuleswar.

A communication of some importance has taken place between Mr. Halliday, the eminent Governor of Bengal, and the Indigo Planters' Association. A Mr. Tripp, of Bamundec, a planter, having been convicted for an illegal abduction, in defiance of the police, of certain timber, which was being carried down the Bhagaruttee, and for the illegal imprisonment of a native for three months for having given evidence against him, the Lieutenant-Governor caused the facts to be laid before the Indigo Association, that they might be heartily reprobated and condemned. The Association were unable to take this course, as it appeared that he was not a member; but they passed a vote of disapproval of such proceedings.

A hunting excursion had been made to the hill country of Hundes, in Thibet, of which we shall give an account next week. The country appears suitable for English occupation.

We regret that the great Thibet road, which is of so much importance for our trade with Central Asia, and which was devised by Lord Dalhousie to pass through the valley of the Sutlej, is now suspended for want of means on account of the revolt. It is always thus under the present system in India; that the most important works are dependent on the necessities of the Government. The road is very winding, and will require considerable outlay, but on the opening out of the Punjab Railway will become of great value.

The Khurrunnasa has been navigated by Government steamers for operations against the rebels, and we hope it will be navigated by steamers hereafter for commercial purposes.

Great excitement prevails at Fyzabad in expectation of the Government steamer sent up the Goomtee and which will be the first steamer which will have ever reached Fyzabad. Facts like these show what the rivers of India are, to how small an extent they have been occupied by steam, and what profitable branches of enterprise may be there carried on.

The first indigo in Jessore has fetched 25*l.* per maund, which is considered a good price.

In Patna district it is asserted English planters are not doing well, but a Frenchman, who is taking the law into his own hands and keeping a tight grasp of the natives, is making way.

The Great Eastern Steamship Company have under consideration a plan of transit with regard to India which, if carried out, will have a most material effect on the increase of English settlers and travellers throughout the East.

Assam Congou tea is now selling in Lower Bengal at 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. wholesale, a very good price.

Pearl Bibles are selling in the heart of India at 1*s.* each, and are sent by post for 1*s.* 3*d.*

A second call of 1*l.* 10*s.* per share has been made by the Dacca Public Rooms Company, limited, so that it is under way.

On Dr. Green, one of the municipal commissioners of Dacca, and founder of the Dacca Museum, leaving that city, we learn from the *Dacca News* that an address was presented to him by all classes, and a testimonial of the value of 170*l.*

The line of telegraph from Calcutta to Dacca is open, except the Pudda cable, so that it still takes eight hours to communicate between the two cities. The cable will require longer time. The works have been chiefly laid by Baboo Issur Chunder Leia, a native artificer, in a most satisfactory manner. No cables have been laid in the small rivers, but high masts of about sixty feet high have been put up, one on each side of the river, in order that the line might not be in any way obstructive to the boat navigating the river.

BELGIUM AND THE PRINCIPALITIES.—A Belgian company has just been formed at Bucharest, the object of which is to supply the Danubian Principalities with Belgian productions 80 per cent. cheaper than they can be obtained via Cronstadt. The Chamber of Commerce of Cronstadt, on being made aware of this fact, petitioned Prince Lichtenstein, pointing out the importance of having a railway constructed from Arad to Cronstadt with all possible speed.

COMMERCIAL.

ANTI-FREE-TRADE THOUGHTS AND LAWS.

THE Emperor of the French, who has recently been much praised for his sagacity by a Protectionist shipowner, has ordered all the bakers, in towns where the trade of a baker is regulated by ordinance, to lay in and keep by them a stock of flour or wheat equal to their consumption in three months. The population of the towns embraced by this decree is estimated at upwards of 7,000,000, and the money which will be required by the bakers to buy the three months' stock at 2,500,000*l.* Whether the bakers have the money or not, they must buy this stock, and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce kindly informs them that it will be a profitable speculation to borrow, and insinuates that capitalists will be wanting in patriotism who do not help the bakers and share with them the advantages to be derived from keeping so much grain or flour on hand. Fired with the noble ambition of always keeping a vast population provided with bread, the Emperor or his Minister, or the two together, propose to extend this scheme to all the chief towns of departments and arrondissements not included in the present ordinance, and so secure a permanent supply for three months in the possession of every baker in the empire. Adam Smith, about eighty years ago, demonstrated that no statesman was so unfit to direct the people how to employ their capital and labour as he who had the presumption to think he could do it; and now we have the Emperor and his Minister acting as if this truth had never been recognised. To suppose they can set at naught the laws which regulate the industry of society is like supposing they can despise gravity or see without light. A deficiency of capital is characteristic of France, and the sagacious Emperor and his wise Minister intend that some three or four millions shall be misapplied under their special control. They dictate how it is to be employed. At every period of the year, just before an abundant harvest, just after a very scanty one, whatever may be the condition of the new wheat or of the old, the poor bakers must have a three months' stock on their hands, and must be placed, by the compulsion to have it, at the mercy of the growers and importers. They must lose by the scheme, which is generally received with contempt and mockery by all reflecting persons.

By looking at ourselves by the light of their conduct it may be of some advantage to us. The *Times* has justly held up this emanation of imperial sagacity to the reprobation of its readers, and John Bull is no doubt delighted to find his neighbour so open to ridicule. If he look sharp at home he may find some of his own trade laws not much superior to those of the Emperor of the French. Our contemporary for many months has made himself conspicuous by advocating in leaders, and still more elaborately in his City intelligence, the Act of 1844, and nearly every word which he says against the Emperor's decree as to bakers may be applied to this wonderful piece of parliamentary wisdom. The *Times* says:—

Is the keeping of a reserve of corn and flour by every baker in one hundred and sixty towns of France, equal to three months' consumption for his interest as a private trader, or is it not? If it be, such a decree is a mere superfluity, just as much so as if the Emperor had commanded the bakers to buy their flour as cheap and sell their bread as dear as possible. In such a point of view it would be simply ridiculous. But if, as we apprehend, such a decree must be injurious to very considerable numbers among the bakers, then, we ask, on what principle is a particular class selected to bear a burden which is imposed on some notion, however erroneous, of obtaining a general benefit for all? What have the bakers done that Government should insist upon taking their trade out of their own hands, and forcing them by arbitrary decrees to carry it on on principles contrary to their own private interest?

Change the word baker in the paragraph for banker, and see how it will illustrate the Act of 1844. Is the keeping of a reserve of gold by every banker for his interest as a private trade or is it not? If it be, the Act of 1844 which compels him to keep a sum of gold proportionate to the notes he issues is a mere superfluity. If such a regulation

must be injurious to a considerable number of bankers, then we ask on what principle a particular class is selected to bear a burden—the expense of holding so much gold—imposed on some notion, however erroneous, of obtaining a general benefit for all? To the Banks of Scotland alone—the Act of 1845 which applies to Scotland the Act of 1844—this regulation costs at least 40,000*l.* a year. Their average circulation is about 4,200,000*l.*; prudent banking requires them to keep bullion to the amount of one-third of the sum, or 1,400,000*l.* They might with safety keep even less. The law, however, compels them to keep about 2,400,000*l.*, or 1,000,000*l.* more than is necessary. At 4 per cent., this gives 40,000*l.* per annum which the law wastes, and the cost of which falls eventually on the community or the customers of the banks. As the circulation of the English and Irish banks together is about 1,000,000*l.*, the total certain loss to the community by the regulations interfering with the business of bankers is at least 100,000*l.* a year, a sum far greater, we believe, than will be lost to the bankers and people of France by the silly decree of the Emperor. What have the bankers done that Government should insist on taking their trade out of their hands, and force them to carry it on on principles contrary to their own private interest? “The decree,” our contemporary continues, “obviously imposes a burden on the bakers (bankers), it tends to diminish or annihilate their profits; they must recompense themselves by raising the price. The direct effect of Government interference will therefore be to increase the price of bread (of money or credit) to the consumer.”

“Yet more,” says the *Times*; “there are in every civilised country a number of capitalists ready to buy up corn or other articles which happen to be cheap, and hold out a reasonable hope on a resale of obtaining a fair profit. Why should a French Government enter the lists against this class of persons?” In our country there are many capitalists of good character ready to become bankers were they allowed to manage their own business as they thought fit, and why should the Government enter the lists against this class of persons, give a monopoly to the existing issuers of notes, and prevent the extension of a most useful business? The decree about the bakers in France is absurd, and we rejoice to see the *Times* lash the scandalous interference with the business of individuals, but nearly every word it says against the Emperor's decree is strictly applicable, *mutatis mutandi*, to our own similar law concerning bankers and banking. As long as that scandalous infraction of free trade, passed by nominal free traders, remains on our statute book, it becomes every Englishman, whenever an act or decree is passed abroad which resembles it in principle or detail, to hang his head with shame that the sad example of his popular legislature, while professing free trade, should encourage and justify similar interference with freedom by the foolish despots of the Continent.

Bold as our contemporary is in exposing the anti-free trade follies of the Emperor and his Ministers, he is not wholly exempt from such follies in his own reasoning. One of the unexpected results to the protectionists of free trade is great pecuniary advantages to the farmers, shipowners, flock masters, silk manufacturers, &c., who most dreaded its effects. Truly estimating its spirit and effects one day, the *Times* says, in reference to our repeal of the navigation laws:—

What we have obtained is a really fair and free trade, the right for our merchants and passengers to obtain the conveyance of their goods or themselves by sea on the very cheapest terms which the market of the world can afford. What the Americans have retained is the power of limiting the competition of the carriers by sea from one part of their coast to the other, and, consequently, of enhancing the freight and raising the price of all consumable articles against themselves. The great advantage the Americans have secured is the power to tax themselves for the benefit of their shipping interest; and if there is anything unfair in this proceeding we must say that the unfairness is rather to the American consumer than to the English shipowner.

Yet in spite of these facts and this reasoning, which show that free trade is beneficial to all

who adopt it, the *Times* can encourage the folly of opposing free trade by declaring that “people have a strong pecuniary interest in attacking free trade.” They may erroneously suppose they have such an interest, but they never have; free trade is the law of nature, like the diffusion of air and sunlight, and is full of health, gladness, strength, and rejoicing for all. Defective thoughts and inconsistent writing flow from a want of faith in principles, and encourage inconsistent claims in shipowners, and others. They excite, too, the insertion of futile clauses in Acts of Parliament. In the very Act which repealed the old navigation laws, because these laws were injurious to the nation, a clause is inserted which implies, contrary to the whole tenor of the Act, that restriction is beneficial, and encourages the shipowners to demand that restriction be reimposed. They are taught by the law, in the teeth of all modern experience, that they can be enriched and benefited by procuring restrictions on their fellow-citizens because the ignorant American and French Governments impose restrictions on their people.

While we English are full of exultation at the great success which has followed our little improvement in commercial legislation, few or none of us are duly impressed with the great truth that all the benefits have flowed, not from any special law-making, but from the freedom which the abolition of restrictions, similar to those still imposed on banking, permitted to come into activity. Few, or none of us are duly impressed with the fact that this freedom is alike beneficial to each and all, is beneficial in its own nature, and confers only benefits on those who adopt it. The *laissez faire* which our contemporary now advocates is not limited to bakers, it is true of every art, of every business, and every science, and to comprehend it in all its magnitude might fill some of its nominal advocates with grief and despair.

TRADE OF TEN MONTHS.

INDIRECT TAXATION.

In the usual place the reader will find our complete abstract of the trade of ten months for the two years 1857-1858. From it he will learn the total quantities of all the articles imported from foreign countries and our colonies and re-exported, the value of all our manufactures and native productions exported, and the total quantity of shipping employed in our foreign trade, with the ports from and to which the vessels sailed. He will see also the total quantity of tonnage engaged in our coasting-trade, and on all these points may compare the trade of 1858 with that of 1857. He will see the total quantity of bullion imported and exported in the present year, but can make no comparison in this case with the previous year, because no such returns were made in 1857. One noticeable feature in the table is that the imports of silver have this year increased, as well as the imports of gold, above the exports, and the total imports of both above the exports is no less than 11,145,840*l.*, which compels an increase of almost double this amount in the quantity of legal money issued in obedience to our very absurd monetary laws. A close inspection of the whole tables in detail as published enables us to lay some additional items of information before our readers.

The quantities of the articles imported in the month, with the exception of animals, cocoa, metals, provisions, sugar, molasses, tea, are very generally considerably less than the quantities imported in the corresponding month of 1857, and the shipping entered inwards in the month is 817,520 tons, against 855,689 tons. Again, the value of the articles exported, with the quantities, generally decreased, was 10,268,707*l.*, against 10,985,789*l.* in the corresponding month of 1857; and the tonnage cleared was 788,760, against 949,049. Such facts serve in part to explain the complaints of our shipowners of decreased employment. The trade in October, 1858, and consequently the shipping required, was less, both import and export, than in October, 1857, and we may add than in October, 1856. Such a declension, the consequence of trade artificially stimulated, and of war occurring in conjunction with

trade so stimulated, requiring a greatly increased quantity of shipping for its purposes in addition to the purposes of trade, is to be much regretted. We may justly commiserate the shipowners who were, by political as well as mercantile causes, excited into unwonted exertions in 1845-6-7, but we must not think of assenting to their prayer for relief by re-imposing any restrictions whatever on our trade. These would only prolong the declension of trade, and add in the end to their sufferings.

A very important fact just now, when the customs revenue in France and in the United States is falling off, is that the consumption of almost every article, except corn, spirits, and timber, subject to our customs duties, has increased in October, 1858, as compared to October, 1857; and the consumption of articles subject to customs duties, with the exception of clocks and watches, provisions, spirits, timber, wine, &c., has increased through the whole ten months. According to a rough calculation, the increase of customs revenue from corn and flour, sugar and tea alone, in the ten months, from increased consumption, will not be less than 800,000*l*. The bulk of our customs duties, it must be remembered, are levied for revenue only—the idea of levying such duties for protection is given up, though the practice is still unhappily continued on many articles in a manner wholly indefensible—while the whole of the customs duties in the United States and many customs duties in France are levied solely on the principle of protection. Contrasting, therefore, the continued increase of our customs duties with the great falling off in these two other countries of customs duties, we see a strong bureaucratic reason, independently of the public welfare, why customs duties for protection should be given up. The state where they are levied cannot rely on them for a continuous and steady revenue. They subject the treasury to alternations of plethora and void, which involve the Government in a career of extravagance at one time and oppression at another.

According to the return of the French customs revenue for October, 1858, the yield is 1,450,782*fr*. less than on the corresponding month of 1857. In the ten months of 1858, the yield is 5,845,744*fr*. less than in the ten months of 1857, about 3½ per cent. In the United States also, the Federal income, raised almost wholly from indirect taxation, has fallen off so much, not less than 50 per cent., that the Government has run into debt, and now means, it is said, to levy taxes on tea and coffee. These facts suggest an additional doubt, in spite of our own increasing revenue, of the propriety of still relying on indirect taxation. In flourishing periods, the large income induces Government to embark in numberless schemes of amelioration or supposed improvements. It rebuilds cities, it makes grants to learned bodies, it gives bounties on mail steamers, it enlarges profusely postage accommodation, it increases its own functions and its own rewards, it is lavish of the public money, in order to make the expenditure—on a too well-known principle of all Governments and all spendthrifts—equal to the income; and when a time of depression comes, its expenses cannot be diminished, and it is loudly proclaimed that the necessities—the absolute necessities—of the Government require additional taxes. So indirect taxation, by encouraging extravagance, in the end imposes additional and unnecessary burdens on the community. Incorrectly does the *Times*, one of the advocates of wanton expenditure, say, "Reduction of taxation has been carried to such an extent in the United States, that the revenue begins to cry out." Some alterations have within a year or two been made in the American tariff, but no reductions of taxation of any importance, since the revenue was amply sufficient for the purposes of the Government. It could not expend it all, though its expenditure was much increased. Not reduction of taxation, but extravagant expenditure when the customs revenue from trade was double its present amount, is the cause of the present difficulties of the Government of the United States. To us its dilemma ought to be a warning. Let us reduce our outgoings in good time.

The value of the principal imports we must further remark, as enumerated up to the end of September, was 95,378,609*l*. as against 109,959,688*l*. to the end of September, 1857. On the nine months this is an average decline of about 1,500,000*l*. per month. In the month of September itself, however, the value of the imports was 12,275,648*l*. as against 12,076,215*l*. It was therefore in excess in September, 1858. This confirms the statement we

have frequently made, that our imports declined more in value than in quantities, and now that the decline in value has ceased, they are found to be as great or greater than in 1857. We must add, to guard ourselves from the chance of error being imputed to us, that the trade tables contain two returns of the computed value of imports to the end of September, but one is of all merchandise imported, and the other of the principal articles imported. The former gives 114,799,194*l*. as the value, and the latter 95,378,609*l*. We have used the latter because it is accompanied by a return of the value in the month, which the other is not. The great difference between the two amounts surprises us, and shows how little dependence can be placed on one of the returns as a representation of the trade of the country. We must further add, to show the continual general prosperity of the people in conjunction with the increase of our customs revenue, that the excise returns for nine months, now published, show, in spite of the credit convulsion, only a small decrease in the quantities of malt, spirits, and paper consumed in 1858, as compared to 1857. The reduction in the quantity of paper is partly due to the general use of paper of a less substantial character, which reduces the number of pounds reported to the excise, while the number of sheets used is probably much greater.

The distribution of our trade to different countries which these returns enable us to describe, will furnish an appropriate article for our next number.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

On Tuesday a meeting of the shareholders in the Midland Railway Company who are not interested in the Little North-Western Company, was held at Leeds to consider the proposed lease of the line to the latter. It was resolved not to lease the Little North-Western Railway, but continue to work the line for the next seven years, in accordance with the agreement in 1852.

An agreement has been signed by the London and North-Western and the Great Western Railway Companies respectively, which will have the effect of placing as large a sum as 80,000*l*. at the disposal of the latter company on the 1st of January next. The joint occupancy by these two companies of the high level railway station at Wolverhampton will then cease. The Great Western will hand over to the London and North-Western Company a goods shed, with its appliances, erected near the passenger station, by the use of which the latter company will, after erecting an iron girder bridge, and making extensive additions and alterations, be able to carry on their goods and their passenger traffic almost upon the same spot, instead of the two departments being conducted apart; and the Great Western Company, by extending their goods station at the Victoria Basin, will be able to concentrate at that point the energies divided between three goods stations at Wolverhampton.

It is understood that, in a short time, subscriptions will be invited for the construction of the railway from Lisbon to Oporto, the concession of which has been obtained by Sir Morton Peto. The capital will be about 3,500,000*l*., and it is said the Portuguese Government guarantees a minimum dividend of 6 per cent.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway, held on Wednesday, resolutions were passed reducing the capital to 250,000*l*., being the amount on which interest at 5 per cent. is to be guaranteed by the Government of India. It was stated that the shareholders who have paid their calls will have a preference in the redistribution of the shares, and that the unregistered scripholders will be only dealt with as a matter of grace.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Scottish North-Eastern Company was held on Thursday, to consider an agreement proposed to be entered into for the perpetual leasing of the Dundee and Arbroath Railway. A resolution to that effect having been put by the chairman, and lost, he said another meeting would be held, and the opinion of the whole body of shareholders in the company would be taken. The directors were unanimously in favour of the measure. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Reeth, the secretary, for his long services, and a testimonial of 250*l*. was presented to him on the occasion of leaving the service of the company.

A prospectus for the extension of the East Somerset line to Wells has just been issued. The additional line is only about five miles in length, and would be the means of affording direct communication between the important towns of Frome, Shepton Mallet, Glastonbury, Bridgewater, Taunton, &c.

DANUBE AND BLACK SEA RAILWAY.—A report

just issued of this company describes the progress thus far to have been satisfactory. Sufficient labour is obtainable, and the necessary lands have been secured at small cost. The expense of the line is to be 230,000*l*. and it is hoped to be completed so as to commence traffic in the spring of 1860.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE RAILWAY COMPANY.—Dr. Robert Dymond, chairman of the company, suddenly expired on Monday. Dr. Dymond has been connected with the South Yorkshire Railway since its commencement. He was for several years vice-chairman of the company, and on the death of the late Earl Fitzwilliam, he was appointed chairman. The present vice-chairman is Mr. G. H. Packe, M.P., who is also deputy-chairman of the Great Northern Railway Company.

MOVEMENT IN THE EASTERN COUNTIES.—The East Suffolk Company will apply for powers in the ensuing session to construct an extension to Aldborough. The proposed line is to commence at Leiston, and, if carried out, will there form a junction with the company's Leiston branch. The Spalding and Holbeach line, which has been a very long time on hand, has been at last opened for traffic.

FRENCH RAILWAYS.—It is said that the directors of the various French railway companies have held a conference, at which it was resolved to establish a uniformity in their fares.

SARDINIAN RAILWAYS.—The merchants of Genoa are now regarding with favour two railway projects—one being for a line along the coast, the other the Luck-manier. It appears to have been resolved that the latter shall be a mixed system of rail and ordinary high roads. Mr. Brassey has placed himself at the head of the undertaking, and is endeavouring to gain over to the cause the chief shareholders of the Swiss Central Railway. Unfortunately for him, however, Rothschild and Fould are both of them extensively mixed up with the Swiss line, and their interest lies in another direction, so that they favour the French route between Marseilles and Paris.

NEW EXPRESS DESPATCH STEAMERS FOR THE GALWAY LINE.—The directors of this company intimate that they are so satisfied with the present state of affairs that they have completed a contract with the eminent iron steam shipbuilders, Messrs. Palmer Brothers and Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, for the immediate construction of three new express despatch steamers. Messrs. Palmer and Co. have contracted that these vessels shall exceed in speed any ocean steamers that have yet been launched. They have guaranteed a minimum speed of twenty statute miles an hour. While they will thus be considerably faster than the fastest despatch steamer at present running, they are also guaranteed to require less than half the coal. They are to carry 200 first-class saloon passengers, and 300 second-class. The plans, models, and specifications will be submitted for Government inspection this week. The distance from Galway to St. John's, Newfoundland, being 1661 miles, these vessels, at fourteen knots an hour, will run from port to port within five days. An opportunity will then be afforded, through the company's arrangements, of telegraphing from all parts of Europe to all parts of America within six days at a cost of twenty shillings for twenty words. Thus America will be reached in a shorter time than has ever yet been accomplished, and the Galway line, pending the final success of the electric cable, will become the golden link of intercourse between the Old and the New World. Information has arrived by the Pacific that satisfactory arrangements are in progress whereby a mail subsidy will be secured from the United States Government by the negotiations of Lord Bury, one of the directors of the company.

COLONIAL TIMBER.—For certain purposes in shipbuilding North American timber is as good as foreign, besides being much cheaper. We have no idea of the annual cost of the wood, or what contracts are made; but when we find from the evidence before the Ordnance Commissioners that the wood supplied to the Ordnance department is little less than 50,000*l*. a year for waggons, carts, &c., we may estimate the Admiralty contracts at about 1,000,000*l*. Now, this amount spent in Canada and New Brunswick would give enormous employment to our lumberers, who take so much of our manufactures, instead of sending it to Prussia, Russia, or other foreign countries which take so little from us. Our shipping would be also benefited. Some idea of the vastness of the timber trade on the Ottawa and Trent may be had from the quantity made for shipment last spring:—Ottawa, 14,500,000 cubic feet of white pine; Trent, 1,855,000 cubic feet of ditto; Ottawa, 895,000 cubic feet of red pine, 555,000 cubic feet of elm, and 100,000 cubic feet of tamarac; besides large quantities of these woods from other districts of Canada West and East, with black walnut, birch, &c. From New Brunswick the shipments are nearly as great as from Canada. When the wood is so much prized and used by our private shipbuilders, it appears odd that there is scarcely any used in the construction of our men-of-war.—*Dublin Evening Mail*.

TRADE OF TEN MONTHS.

(From the Board of Trade Monthly Returns ended October 31, 1858.)

I.—IMPORTS.			II.—EXPORTS.			IV.—SHIPPING—Entered Inwards.			
Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.			Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.			Entered Inwards.			
Principal Articles.			Principal Articles.			Countries whence Arrived.			
						</			

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

At Mark-lane to-day the market for wheat was dull, and oats were something cheaper. It is noticed as a curious circumstance that malting barley is now as dear as wheat.

The corn market has been firm in the week, quite in accordance with our statement last week, that the price of wheat had probably reached the lowest point. This is important, because as soon as the markets begin to acquire an upward tendency, and not before, as the rule, speculative action commences. The change will be neither sudden nor great, but if prices have really reached the lowest, the tide will now turn, and the flood, with what velocity we cannot say, will begin. Under this aspect, it is worth noticing that the crop of wheat in the United States, which was not great per acre in 1857, though a large breadth of land was sown, is damaged and poor in 1858. According to the latest advices from New York, the grain and flour markets were on the rise, though the export of flour and wheat to our markets was, from September 1 to November 5, considerably less than last year, 60,773 barrels flour, and 293,064 bushels wheat, against 189,152 barrels flour in 1857, and 1,534,797 bushels wheat, while the quantities exported were still larger in 1856. The States have therefore sent and are sending us a much smaller quantity than in either of the two previous years, and at the same time the markets of New York are now on the rise. Consistently with this, we notice that the quantity of wheat brought by canals, &c. to New York in 1858, was 1,200,000 bushels less than in 1857, and 1,700,000 bushels less than in 1856. In 1856, however, the quantity arriving in New York was much increased by the demand from England, and the quantity arriving in 1857 and the early part of 1858, was diminished by the speculative convulsion, which affected all the cities of the seaboard. The condition of the corn markets in the United States is further worth noticing, because it supplies a proof how much commerce may be deranged all over the world by political events, and how excusable merchants ought to be in the eyes of politicians if they do not immediately comprehend all that is delusive in momentary flushes of prosperity. "The Crimean war," says the *New York Tribune* of the 6th instant, "created, in conjunction with short crops in Europe, a great and sudden demand for our grains and provisions. We were blessed with prosperous seasons, and were able to supply this need of our European neighbours. We exported vast quantities of provisions, and were paid for them at a generous price. We were rapidly growing rich; and all sorts of speculations, railroads, western towns and cities, and the purchase and sale of western lands, were entered upon and prosecuted upon the basis of the perpetuity and even growth of this provision trade with Europe."

But Europe has ceased to waste and destroy by war, and the crops having been good, the Americans now export not half so much as a year and a half ago, and for what they export they do not get half so much money. There is no prospect either that the European demand should again increase to what it was in 1856. The interior of the States is bare of goods; but it is still more bare of money, and until there is a revival of prosperity in the States equal to that of 1856 and previous years, we cannot expect a revival there of the great demand which formerly existed for our goods. We see, therefore, that the great demand formerly occasioned by the war in Europe helped to erect in the United States that vast speculation from the falling of which we all suffered. From these circumstances we conclude that the interior of the States, which was swept as bare as possible in 1856; and in 1857, if we recollect right, was obliged to carry back some of its own agricultural produce, has now but little, if any, more than usual to send forward, and that prices are more likely to continue to look upwards than tend further downwards in the States. At the same time we learn from Smyrna, of the 3rd instant, that the harvests of Asia Minor were very poor this year; that cereals generally were short at Smyrna; that wheat was in demand, and a rise in price anticipated. As in other countries, population and consumption have there increased. This is true of every part of Europe; and as the increase began with extended traffic, and was shown most distinctly in towns and cities, there is more reason to look everywhere for a rise than a further fall in the price of food, and, as consequence, of other commodities.

Notwithstanding the large consumption of sugar, tea, &c., recorded in the trade tables, the Mincing-lane markets are not active. Prices are not bad, consumption is large, but there is none of the speculative demand which gives life to the market. Such a state of things is very advantageous to the planter, who finds a ready sale for his produce, and has been lately doing very well; but to the middle man or agent, who finds his advantages in a rising market,

it is not so beneficial. In the week a good business has been done, and the markets are firm. For rice there has been a demand, and the price has rather advanced, which corresponds with the general firmness of the grain market. It is noticed as a curious fact, and indicative of the comparatively well-being of the people, that the consumption of treacle is not at present great, though the price is only 11s. per cwt. The lower classes, which used to be great consumers of this article, now prefer and use butter, though it is considerably dearer.

Altogether the trade of the week has been very satisfactory. No large amount of business is reported from any of the manufacturing districts, but a fair demand for most of our staple manufactures has prevailed generally, though in one or two instances this has not been the case. Manchester has been tolerably busy. The orders from Bombay have helped trade considerably. Liverpool has not been so brisk in her cotton sales compared with last week, but the advance which was then obtained has not disappeared. From Birmingham we learn that the iron trade is in a satisfactory condition, particularly so when trade now is compared with the condition in which it was thrown at the same period last year. One cheering feature is that the leading masters are known not to have any very large stocks on hand, and as a good many orders from America are held over for the present, it is not unlikely that more than ordinary activity will prevail in the spring. Indeed, we shall be pretty sure of having a brisk demand from America for some time to come, unless, indeed, prices are forced up to that high scale which will compel the Americans to exert themselves and to pay additional attention to their own inexhaustible mineral resources. From the north and other coal districts our advices report that the quantity of coals brought to the pit's mouth, notwithstanding the strikes, is very good. The coal trade, generally, is showing every day a greater degree of briskness, and further improvement it is expected would speedily take place if the men on the strike would listen to the dictates of common sense and their own interests. There are agents—principally disaffected colliers—going about in the coal districts, endeavouring to induce the weak-minded to join in the strikes, and to agitate for an advance of wages. We understand it is the determination of the principal masters to resist all attempts at dictation and intimidation. They consider that the present price of coals will not admit of an increase in the rate of wages, and this, they hold, justifies them in taking every lawful means to check combination and to keep wages as they are. Leicester appears to be doing a good amount of business in all kinds of goods suitable for the season. In other districts the hosiery trade is reported to be in a flourishing condition. Many large orders for shipping are in course of execution. The accounts from Nottingham are not so encouraging. The lace trade, it is said, continues to be very much depressed, but better times are expected. In Leeds, Huddersfield, and Bradford, business is steady but not very large. The wool trade, for foreign and English wools, is active.

The Board of Trade returns show a large falling off compared with the imports and exports of last year, which may be described as the year of "accommodation-bill" trading. With the collapse of the paper-capital firms, of course, an end came to the kind of trade, both import and export, which they carried on. The difference between the trade returns now and of the same period last year may be assumed to be represented by the amount of trade done by those collapsed firms, coupled with the diminished business which legitimate traders would only feel inclined to transact immediately after such a crisis as has just passed away. With reference to the large falling off in American exports, iron in particular, it is well known that large orders from America are on hand unexecuted. We have little doubt, when confidence in the stability of railway and other firms in the United States is fully restored, that we shall see this branch of trade resume its original activity and extent. Trade generally in the metropolis is dull; but this is the season when dullness is expected.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 26.—COTTON.—The market for the week has been steady, and prices unchanged. Surat, 5½d. to 6d.; Egyptian, 7½d. to 8d.; Pernam, 8d.; Bahia, 7½d. to 7¾d.; American, 5d. to 8½d.

MANCHESTER, Nov. 23.—The market retains the symptoms of improvement reported last week, and we have had a good general market for cloths suited to Calcutta and Bombay. In some instances cloths for these markets are realising a slight advance (some reports say 1½d. per piece), and a disposition is evinced to give out orders for some months forward. The home trade are not buying much at this season, but there is sufficient business to keep prices very firm. T-cloths and printers are in some demand for the Levant. The yarn market is also very firm, and for descriptions required for Germany and Holland a slight advance (about ¼d. per lb.) is obtainable for immediate delivery. From 16's to 28's warps and

20's to 30's weft may be included as commanding this advance. The market is regarded as firm and healthy.

LEEDS, Nov. 26.—WOOLLEN.—We have had but a moderate attendance of merchants in the halls owing to the thick weather. Business has been limited. Stocks are, however, very low, and have been well picked over, leaving very little choice at present.

LEICESTER, Nov. 26.—There was a good amount of business doing in the warehouses in all goods suitable for the season, and the present severe weather is all in favour of the demand. Superior classes of wools are very dear. In yarns no material change.

NOTTINGHAM, Nov. 26.—The lace trade continues exceedingly depressed. Stock-taking is near at hand, and very little has been doing in the warehouses during the last few days. Nearly all branches continue to participate in the dullness. A steady trade in the staple department of our manufacture is expected to continue for some time. Material is without much change.

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

THE markets have undergone very little change since last week. Arrivals are still retarded by contrary winds, and the supplies on offer have therefore been upon the same limited scale as of late. Purchases continue to be made only as compelled by immediate requirements, which in one or two instances have been of sufficient magnitude to establish a further enhancement in current values, but as a general rule trade is as inactive as it usually is at this period of the year, and prices are free from any material fluctuation.

CORN.—The supplies of English wheat at Mark-lane have been very moderate, and the demand having somewhat revived, full prices were obtained in the general transactions, whilst choice samples were 1s. per qr. dearer. Good and prime white qualities made 46s. to 50s.; prime heavy red, 44s. to 45s.; runs, 42s. to 43s.; common, 40s. to 41s. Foreign was also in moderate supply, and were firmly held, Dantzic at 51s. to 56s.; Louvain 47s. to 49s.; red, 44s. to 45s.; French red, 43s. to 44s.; and fine St. Petersburg, 42s. Flour has been purchased to a fair extent, and prices are rather firmer than otherwise. Town made, 50s.; town households, 34s. to 35s.; country households, 30s. to 34s.; Norfolk, 29s. to 30s. per sack; French brought 34s. to 37s. per sack, and American 25s. to 26s. per barrel. The arrivals by Eastern Counties Railway were 11,712 sacks, and the deliveries 11,479 sacks. Grinding descriptions of barley are taken off freely at 26s. to 27s.; choice malting qualities command 45s. to 46s. readily, medium. The market is now pretty well cleared of old qualities, of which prices are merely nominal; new malt is firm at 60s. to 69s., according to quality; 7874 qrs. arrived by Eastern Counties, against 8064 qrs. delivered. Beans have found a tolerably ready sale at late rates. Peas have been more in demand, the cold weather having stimulated consumption. The supply of oats has moderated, the market is firmer, and with a fair amount of business, prices are 6d. higher for all good corn. The floating trade has been dull, as buyers reserve their orders in the expectation of increased arrivals with a change of wind.

LONDON AVERAGES.

	Qrs.	s.	d.
Wheat.....	1251	at	43 1
Barley.....	1275	"	37 1
Malt	—	"	—
Oats	1307	"	25 4
Beans	219	"	37 3
Peas	102	"	48 9

CORN ARRIVALS.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	5989	—	9377
Barley.....	2059	—	4851
Malt	10,062	—	—
Beans	860	—	10
Peas	330	—	23,575
Oats	1852	—	2683
Flour,	17,267	—	—
Ditto	—	—	—

SEEDS.—Arrivals being kept out by easterly winds, and the stocks consequently reduced, prices have advanced. Bombay linseed brings 56s., and Calcutta, 52s. to 54s. Two cargoes Taganrog, off the coast, have sold at 50s.; 51s. deliverable U.K. Rapeseed is without material change in value; Calcutta brings 58s. to 58s. 6d.; fine Bombay, 62s. 6d. to 63s.; inferior to middling, 48s. to 55s. Linseed cakes have been more firmly held, but higher prices have been hardly obtainable.

HOPS.—Fine qualities continue in request at full prices, but all other descriptions are very dull of sale, and prices next to nominal.

PROVISIONS.—Newgate and Leadenhall are glutted with meat of all descriptions, and the change in the weather being against trade, prices are lower. Mutton is more especially depressed. Beef ranges from 2s. to 4s.; mutton, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 8d., a few very choice may make 3s. 10d.; veal, 8s. 4d. to 4s.; and pork, 3s. to 4s. per 8 lbs. by the carcase. Butters dull of sale, and fine Friesland, 2s. lower. Bacon of the primest cures, not quotable over 52s.

LIVE STOCK.—At Monday's market there was a good demand for beef, and there being but a small supply, prices advanced 2d. per stone; but on Thursday trade was again dull, and the advance was lost. Sheep have been in slow demand throughout, and prices have been in the buyer's favour. Veal and pork, although not very saleable, remained about as last quoted. The following were the numbers at market, and prices quoted:—

MONDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
4,360	22,900	99	280
3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 0d. to 4s. 8d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 10d.

THURSDAY.			
1,433	3,850	130	170
3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.	4s. 0d. to 4s. 8d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 10d.

COALS.—With increased supplies, house coals declined 6d. to 1s. per ton on Monday, but have since sold steadily at the decline for best, seconds having partially recovered. Hetton's, 19s.; Stewart's, 18s. 9d.; Lambton's, 18s. 6d. To-day the weather checked the demand.

SUGAR.—Refiners and exporters have purchased somewhat freely, and with very moderate supplies offering, suitable descriptions are 6d. to 1s. dearer. Grocers still lend very little support to the market, and sugars from 41s. and upwards can hardly be quoted higher. In consequence of the continued restriction of arrivals stocks show a further material declension, and are now 60,000 tons, being about 500 tons less than at this time last year. The principal transactions of the week have comprised 2279 hds. West India, including Barbadoes, at 37s. 6d. to 46s. 6d. for brown to fine grocery; Tobago at 38s. 6d. to 41s., and other imports 37s. to 44s. 6d.; 5000 bgs. Mauritius, low to good mid. yellow, 40s. 6d. to 43s.; low to good brown, 38s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; 10,000 bgs. Bengal, chiefly for exports, at 32s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; the remainder for consumption; Cossipore at 47s. to 47s. 6d.; syrups, 46s. to 46s. 6d.; Yellow Gurrattah, 39s. to 43s. 6d.; Benares, common to good white, 46s. 6d. to 49s.; 2000 bgs. Madras at 32s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. for low to middling date; 5000 bxs. Havannah at 42s. 6d. to 46s. for low to fine yellow; 1000 bgs. brown Pernambuco at 38s. 6d.; 1000 hds. of Cuba Muscovado at 37s. 6d. to 39s. for brown, and 40s. to 44s. 6d. for yellow; 1200 bgs. Balicre at 40s. 6d. to 46s.; and two floating cargoes Havannah, the one, No. 11, at 29s., for Plymouth, the other, No. 10, at 10, at 28s. 6d., for a near port.

COFFEE.—With continued short arrivals, the stock is further reduced to 7690 tons, being 1200 tons less than that of 1857 at the same date. The better qualities of Brazil have been more inquired for, but there is very little to be had. The few parcels brought to public sale have sold very unevenly. Plantation Ceylon at 69s. to 73s. for middling to good bold colony; Tellicherry at 50s. 6d. to 51s. for fine ord. mixed; Naidobatum at 78s. 6d. to 87s. for good and fine; Malabar, 55s. per cwt. Some small lots of Native Ceylon have sold at 49s. 6d. to 51s. 6d. per cwt. A floating cargo of good and superior firsts Rio sold for a near port at 45s. 6d. per cwt.

RICE.—A good steady demand has prevailed at about the rates current in the previous week. The sales amount to 45,000 bgs., principally of the soft descriptions. Necrauzio, 7s. 8d. to 7s. 6d.; low Rangoon, 5s. 9d.; Madras, 7s. 8d.; Bengal, 8s. to 9s. 6d. for low to middling white, and Mouline for the Continent, at 7s. 9d. floating conditions. The deliveries keep up to the average of 1200 to 1300 tons weekly.

SALTPEPER.—The stock is now only 2700 tons, and is firmly held, but purchases are made sparingly. The week's business is about 4000 bgs. on the spot at 42s. 6d. for 9 to 18 per cents., and 43s. 6d. for 6½, and about 200 tons for arrival at 42s. to 42s. 6d., according to periods of shipment. Refined advanced 1s. per cwt.

SPICES.—Ginger meets a ready sale at full prices. Jamaica, common to middling, 70s. to 88s.; Calicut small, 78s. to 78s. 6d.; middling 88s. to 84s., bold 87s. to 90s., duty paid; rough Bengal, 15s. to 16s. 6d. in bond. Cassia Lignea is dull of sale, a large consignment being close at hand; 400 bgs. in auction, were chiefly bought in at 98s. to 100s. for seconds, and 102s. to 105s. for mid. to fair firsts. Small sales of Malabar pepper made at 4s. 4d. for fair heavy. The little white pepper available is held at high prices, but arrivals being expected, the trade buy only for the most pressing orders. In other spices nothing of moment has transpired.

OILS.—Linseed advanced to 29s. 6d. on the spot, and 30s. for monthly deliveries from January to June. Rape sells at rather easier prices. English brown, 41s. to 41s. 10s.; foreign, 48s.; foreign refined, 48s. 10s.; Bombay ground nut and gingelly, 34s. to 34s. 10s.; Madras, 88s. to 88s. 10s. Olive is again dearer. Gallipoli, 50s.; Corfu, 41s.; Mogadore, 40s. Many holders are not sellers at these prices. Cocoa-nut sells steadily at 38s. for Ceylon, and 40s. to 41s. for Coolin. Fine palm

scarce, and 41s. readily paid. Sperm in better demand, and sales of American made at 85s. Pale seal offers at 37s.; pale southern, 35s.; cod, 31s. to 31s. 10s.

WHALE-FINS.—The only parcel of Polar here is held above current rates. Davis Straits offers at 550s., but buyers offer only 540s.

TURPENTINE.—10s. 6d. is the nearest quotation for rough, of which there have been no arrivals. Spirits sell at 39s. 6d. to 40s. for American, and 38s. 6d. to 39s. for English.

COCOA.—Small lots Guayaquil have sold at 56s. A Government contract for 100 tons is announced for tender on the 22nd proximo.

TEA.—The China telegrams of a further defect in shipments have strengthened the markets. Blackish leaf kinds have been more in request, and common Congous are reported to have sold at 10½d. At public sales of 12,000 packages, 7000 sold at full prices.

FRUITS.—Fine currants scarce, and 52s. paid. Valencia raisins in limited demand, 38s. Figs scarce, and making low prices.

DYES.—Cochineal has further declined 1d. per lb., arrivals having increased. Safflower firm but quiet. Redwood and limewood realise steady prices.

GAMBIER is rather easier to buy; fair sold at 15s. 3d. Cutch is 1s. lower; fair quality sold at 31s. to 32s. 6d.; really fine is, however, scarce.

INDIA-RUBBER has further advanced to 11d. for East India, and 1s. 10d. for fine Para.

METALS.—Manufactured iron is steady in value. Scotch pig rather firmer, bars made 53s. 6d. to 53s. 9d. Copper has been advanced 4½ 10s. Tile is now 102½ 10s. per ton. Sheet, 11½d. per lb.; fine foreign, 108½ to 109½. Lead unaltered. Spelter easier in price, 100 tons sold at 22½ 15s. for small plate, but common ore not more than 22½ 7s. 6d. to 22½ 10s.; 100 tons spring shipment, sold at 22½ 7s. 6d. Foreign tin is again higher, Banca realising 124½; a rise in British is consequently expected.

COTTON.—At Liverpool prices have been steady, and the week's business adds up 39,890 bales. In London, 2300 bales Surat have sold at the full value of 5d. to 5½d. for ord. to fully fair, and 400 bales Madras at 6d. to 6½d. for fair to good fair Tinnevely, being in the latter case a decline of ¼d. from the late highest point.

TALLOW.—The trade have purchased less freely during the present week, and the market has been flat, at a trifling reduction in consequence; but it seems to be acknowledged that the home supply is still short, and that it is doubtful whether any increase can take place till after March, the Christmas week excepted, autumn and winter fodder being scarce. Under this impression, it is fair to conclude that the present stock will have been exhausted before the next import from St. Petersburg; and it is with this stock only we have now to deal, the prospect and price of tallow next summer being of small moment to the present consumer. The supplies from the Continent and other places, in the early part of 1858, must be less than they were in the like period of 1859, the deficit in the shipment from St. Petersburg to France and Germany being 12,700 cks; there seems, therefore, to be little cause for alarm either to present holders or consumers. Sales close flat at 50s. 6d. to 50s. 3d. spot; 50s. to 49s. 9d. all year; 50s. 3d. spring; 51s. March; 50s. April, June, and 50s. Oct., Dec., 1859. The public sales to-day were small; but Australian sold freely at 48s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 54s. 3d.; rough fat, 2s. 10d.; melted stuff, 37s. 6d.

SOUTH AMERICAN MINES.—The recent advices from the River Plate regarding the gold discoveries were wrong in describing them as situated in the province of Buenos Ayres. They are in the province of San Luis, which is one of the States that constitute the Argentine Confederation, and have been worked by the natives in an imperfect manner for several years. There seems little doubt that they are of great extent, and might be very productive, and also that from the proximity of San Luis to Buenos Ayres their development would greatly benefit the latter province. The inhabited portion of San Luis consists of two grand divisions, the first to the north of the capital. This district is alternately flat and mountainous, containing woods, lakes, and rivers, and the soil is much varied, having mines of gold, copper, silver, lead, iron, &c. The second division is to the south and south-east of the city of San Luis, approaching from the river Quinto, and is mostly an immense prairie, which is again beginning to be re-peopled with establishments for herds. To the north stretch the mountains of Carolina which have given their names to the gold mines. The richest valleys are Ronda, Arenilla, and Duranzo. About 600 persons are employed in seeking for gold, but they are totally without energy, and use only the most imperfect means. At certain seasons they dig up the earth and wash it in wooden bowls, and in this feeble and desultory manner annually find from 4500 to 5000 ounces; they hardly take the trouble to find enough for their maintenance and clothing. The copper and silver lead mines of San Luis have been worked ever since the Spanish domination, and have recently undergone exploration. Those of San Barboz and San Francisco are said to give from 15 to 80 per cent. of copper, and those of San Juan from 10 to 15 marcos of silver per 5000lb. of mineral.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

MONEY continues to be very abundant. The best bills are discounted at 2¼ per cent., and some money-holders, anxious to do business, have even discounted at 2. A greater want of confidence seems to prevail than last week. It is felt that the Emperor of the French is the keystone of the great political arch that now over-spans Europe, and his late proceedings have not tended to make people believe in its security. Obviously he owes her dignity to his own intellectual power, it has no other basis; and every sign of erroneous judgment or weakness in him alarms the moneyed men. As trade does not rapidly improve, money finds no additional employment.

All kinds of funds and securities are dull. There is no money coming into the Stock Exchange. Consols were to-day a shade better than yesterday, but the tendency of the market in the week has been downwards. Railway shares are improving, the accounts of the traffic being favourable. From Paris to-day the alteration of price brought by the telegraph was unimportant. As activity is the normal condition of all business, we may conclude that the present inactivity must soon come to an end; and if it do not discontent will ensue.

As the long-headed money classes here seem little disposed to encourage M. de Lesseps in forming a canal betwixt the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, he must feel great satisfaction in knowing, as announced in his journal *L'Isthme de Suez*, of the 25th inst., that all the rest of Europe responds heartily to his project, and that the subscriptions will far exceed the sum of 200,000,000 francs, at which the capital of the company is fixed.

A loan to Chili was brought in the market yesterday by Messrs. Baring, Brothers, and Co. The sum is to be 1,554,800s. in 4½ per cent. bonds at 92, with dividend from the 1st of December, and the instalments are to be monthly, extending to the 13th of May next, with an allowance at the rate of 3 per cent. for prepayment. "The home debt of Chili is about 486,910s., chiefly bearing 3 per cent. interest, and in course of reduction by a sinking fund. The foreign debt consists of 575,400s. in 6 per cent. bonds, also in course of liquidation. The revenue of the State in 1857 amounted to 6,419,142 dollars." The additional loan now to be raised is for the completion of railroads, and although governments are not the most successful engineers and workmen of the money to be so applied, it may be turned to a profitable account. In general, however, loans to Governments merely serve to encourage waste, and end to the general disadvantage, including loss to the capitalists who negotiate them.

The Bank of Frankfurt has reduced its rate of discount from 5 to 4 per cent.

An Egyptian loan of about 2,000,000s. is announced, but nothing sufficiently definite is known concerning it to enable us to form any opinion as to its feasibility.

The Bank returns, as will be seen below, show a small increase of bullion, about 140,000s., an increase of public deposits of nearly 800,000s.; a slight increase of private deposits, and a further augmentation of the reserve to the extent of upwards of 600,000s.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 24th day of November, 1858.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£32,000,480
Government debt..	11,015,100
Other securities...	3,450,000
Gold coin and bullion	18,134,480
Silver bullion	£32,000,480
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' capital 14,563,000	
Reserve	3,163,368
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts)...	7,071,700
Other deposits	12,820,861
Seven Day & other Bills	830,217
	£30,020,215
	M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.
	Dated the 25th day of November, 1858.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

Name of Company.				London.			Name of Company.				London.		
No. of shares	Amount of shares	Amount paid up.		T.	F.		No. of shares	Amount of shares	Amount paid up.		T.	F.	
84543	12	10	Ambergate, &c.	68	68	Stock	100	100	100	Chester and Holyhead, 5½ per ct.	115	115	
Stock	100	100	Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	68	68	Stock	100	100	100	Cork and Bandon, 5½ per cent.	115	115	
Stock	100	100	Cheshire Junction	94	94	Stock	100	100	100	East Anglian, Class A, 5 and 7 p. c.	115	115	
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter	864	864	Stock	100	100	100	Class B, 6 per cent.	113	113	
Stock	100	100	Caledonian	37	37	Stock	100	100	100	Class C, 7 per cent.	116	116	
Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead	17	17	Stock	100	100	100	Eastern Counties Extension, 5 per	116	116	
Stock	100	100	East Anglian	63	63	Stock	100	100	100	cent., No. 1.	114	114	
Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties	46	46	Stock	100	100	100	No. 2.	131	131	
Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, class A	31	31	Stock	100	100	100	New 6 per cent.	84	84	
Stock	100	100	class B	12	12	Stock	100	100	100	Eastern Union, 4 per cent.	122	122	
28000	25	25	East Kent	95	95	Stock	100	100	100	Great Northern, 5 per cent.	114	114	
Stock	100	100	East Lancashire	65	65	Stock	100	100	100	5 per cent. Redeemable at	106	106	
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh and Glasgow	27	27	Stock	100	100	100	10 per cent. pm.	114	114	
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee	107	107	Stock	100	100	100	4½ per cent. do.	106	106	
Stock	100	100	Great Northern	95	95	Stock	100	100	100	Great Southern and Western	50000	10	
Stock	100	100	A stock	132	132	Stock	100	100	100	(Ireland), 4 per cent.	42500	5	
Stock	100	100	B stock	104	104	Stock	100	100	100	Great Western, red. 5 per cent.	82939	20	
Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western (I.)	54	54	Stock	100	100	100	con. red. 4½ per cent.	500000	20	
18000	50	50	Great Western	88	88	Stock	100	100	100	irred. 4 per cent.	100000	20	
18000	16	15	Lancashire and Carlisle	112	112	Stock	100	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire, 6 per	144	144	
24000	16	15	Thirds	112	112	Stock	100	100	100	cent.	113392	4	
24000	16	15	New Thirds	98	98	Stock	100	100	100	London and Brighton, New, guar.	26595	20	
Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	98	98	Stock	100	100	100	6 per cent.	400000	16	
4844	16	6	F. 162.	103	103	Stock	100	100	100	London and S.W., late Third.	265000	20	
47500	9	7	98. shares	103	103	Stock	100	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln,	300000	20	
11900	11	11	London and Blackwall	112	112	Stock	100	100	100	3½ per cent.	27000	20	
Stock	100	100	London, Brighton, and South C.	91	91	Stock	100	100	100	62.	3333	5	
Stock	100	100	London and North-Western	91	91	Stock	100	100	100	Midland Consolidated, 6 p. ct. Stk.	31000	20	
24400	12	7	Eighths	91	91	Stock	100	100	100	Bristol and Birm., 6 per cent.	104	105	
Stock	100	100	London and South-Western	94	94	Stock	100	100	100	4½ per cent. pref.	110	110	
Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	304	304	Stock	100	100	100	Norfolk Extension, 5 per cent.	26757	8	
50000	10	3	Metropolitan	98	98	Stock	100	100	100	North British	300000	20	
Stock	100	100	Midland	71	70	Stock	100	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick, 4 per	100	100	
Stock	100	100	Birmingham and Derby	143393	17	8	8	8	cent. pref.	par	par		
20900	50	50	Midland Great Western (I.)	13	13	60872	25	10	York, H. and S. purchase	24	24		
22220	25	25	Newport, Abr., and Hereford	65	65	58300	20	20	North Staffordshire	122	122		
Stock	100	100	Norfolk	43	43	Stock	100	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolver-	350	1000	
60000	50	34	Northern Counties Union	50	50	Stock	100	100	100	hampton 6 per cent.	6000	50	
Stock	100	100	North British	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	Scottish North-Eastern Aberdeen	3261	20	
Stock	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	guaranteed 6 per cent.	11739	20	
61115	25	16	G. N. E. Purchase	47	47	Stock	100	100	100	7 per cent. Pref. Stock	8915	100	
Stock	100	100	Leeds	76	76	Stock	100	100	100	3½ per cent. Pref. Stock	200000	5	
Stock	100	100	York	103	103	Stock	100	100	100	South Devon, Annuities 10s.	34000	5	
Stock	100	100	North London	103	103	Stock	100	100	100	South Eastern 4½ per cent. pref.	34364	9	
168500	20	17	North Staffordshire	112	112	Stock	100	100	100	South Yorkshire, 4 per cent. guar.	80000	20	
Stock	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolvn.	99	99	Stock	100	100	100		70000	St. 100	
Stock	100	100	Scottish Central	28	27	Stock	100	100	100		40000	1	
Stock	100	100	Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	85	85	Stock	100	100	100		70000	5	
Stock	100	100	Scottish Midland Stock	34	34	Stock	100	100	100		20000	15	
Stock	100	100	Shropshire Union	75	75	Stock	100	100	100		50000	20	
Stock	100	100	South Devon	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		200000	4	
Stock	100	100	South Eastern	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		300000	10	
Stock	100	100	South Wales	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		12000	10	
Stock	100	100	South Yorkshire and River Dun.	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		30000	25	
27582	20	20	Do	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		188676	1	
3273	20	18	Vale of Neath	74	74	Stock	100	100	100		25000	20	
Stock	100	100		74	74	Stock	100	100	100		50000	1	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		10000	15	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		15000	60	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		200000	1	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		14200	25	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		75000	1	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		75000	1	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		50000	20	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		10000	20	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		400000	St. 100	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		20000	20	
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				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		20000	20	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		20000	20	
				74	74	Stock	100	100	100		20000	20	
				74	74								

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. Now.

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. Now.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.
			£	£ s. d.					£	£ s. d.	
22500	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Australasia	40	40	0 0	20000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	National Bank	50	25	0 0
10000	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Bank of Egypt	25	25	0 0	25000	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	New South Wales	20	20	0 0
6000	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50	0 0	50000	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25	0 0
20000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	British North American	80	50	0 0	25000		Ottoman Bank	20	20	0 0
32200	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	20	10	0 0	20000	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25	0 0
4500	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	City Bank	100	50	0 0	4000	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Ditto New	10	10	0 0
20000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Colonial	100	25	0 0	12000	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25	0 0
25000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20	0 0	12000		South Australia	25	25	0 0
25000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20	0 0	4000		Ditto New	25	12	10 0
35000	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20	0 0	32000	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Union of Australia	25	10	0 0
20000	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	London and County	50	20	0 0	8000	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Ditto New	15	3	0 0
30000	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10	0 0	100000		Union of Hamburg	50	10	0 0
50000	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20	0 0	60000	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Union of London	100	50	0 0
10000	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	35	0 0	3000	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	50	0 0
25000	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Ditto New	20	10	0 0	4000	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Western of London	100	50	0 0

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, November 23.

BANKRUPTS.

EDMUND CONNOR, Brooke-street, Holborn, wholesale boot and shoe warehouseman.
 THOMAS FISHER and WILLIAM FISHER, Northampton, and Harlestone, Northamptonshire, carpenters.
 WILLIAM HOLTAWAY, Park-terrace, Hammersmith, ink dealer.
 JAMES DALY, Shacklewell, licensed victualler.
 GEORGE PLUMBIDGE, Crown-row, Walworth-road, grocer.
 FRANCIS INGHAM, High Holborn, grocer.
 ROBERT SLEMMING, Portsea, Southampton, boot and shoe maker.
 JOHN MURRAY, Sheerness, Kent, ironmonger.
 THOMAS HARRISON, Whitehorse-yard, High Holborn, fringe and trimming manufacturer.
 SAMUEL HANKS, Birmingham, coal dealer.
 MAEY GEORGE, Bryn-mawr, Breconshire, druggist.
 THOMAS JENNINGS, Truro, dealer in iron ore.
 THOMAS PICKWORTH and ROBERT WALKER, Sheffield, builders.
 GEORGE WOODMANCY, Glamford Briggs, Lincolnshire, corn merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ROBERT M'NAIR, Edinburgh, warehouseman.
 ALEXANDER MILNE, Glasgow, draper.

Friday, November 26.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

GEORGE WHIELDON, Wincanton, Dorsetshire, brick-maker.

BANKRUPTS.

ROBERT PIGG, North Tuddenham, Norfolk, grocer.
 JOSEPH ELLIOT, Devonport, grocer.
 JOHN BRADLEY, Manchester, starch dealer.
 JAMES BEESON, Derby, ironfounder.
 WILLIAM WOOLLATT, Nottingham, lace manufacturer.
 STEPHEN COX, Bristol, chemical manufacturer.
 THOMAS HAYNES, Chiddingstone, Kent, farmer.
 EDWARD BUTTON, Gravesend, butcher.
 JOHN PERKINS, Sandwich, Kent, shipowner.
 JOSEPH COOPER, Birmingham, licensed victualler.
 GEORGE BATTISON HAINES and JOHN METCALF, Birmingham, electroplaters.
 WILLIAM GODDARD, Leicester, shoe manufacturer.
 GEORGE TAYLOR, Swinderby, Lincolnshire, licensed victualler.
 WILLIAM WHITTINGTON MORRIS, late of Sise-lane City, chemical merchant.

THE GREAT SHIP AND HER COMPANIES.—The owners of the great ship, if we are not mistaken, will yet, as far as English commerce is concerned, render unnecessary the labour of that Isthmian gamester, M. F. de Lesseps. They have spent 640,000*l.* in and about the construction of their leviathan; but until lately there seemed a lamentable prospect that she might continue for ages to obstruct the navigation of the Thames, and to be a mark for the scorner. The 640,000*l.* had exhausted the share capital. Lenders shook their heads at the security of an unfinished vessel. There were no takers of shares at par; and had there been, there was no room for them on the register. The original company, therefore—and there were only 300 of them—boldly faced, as was their only chance, their difficulties. They met, confessed their errors, and resolved to be jolly under the circumstances. As a half-loaf was better than no bread, they determined to sell their 640,000*l.* worth of dead money for 160,000*l.* worth of shares in a new capital of 330,000*l.* To get 170,000*l.*, therefore, of cash available for the completion of their enterprise, they cast to the winds fifteen shillings out of every pound they have spent; and each new shareholder joining their new company will reap, *pari passu* with themselves, the benefit of experience purchased at this enormous sacrifice of 480,000*l.* It was a lasting reflection upon the enterprise of our rich community if this financial scheme were to fail. 330,000*l.* is the entire capital of the new Great Ship Company; of which the 160,000*l.* (mostly taken out in new shares) will purchase the vessel; 130,000*l.* will fit her for sea; and the other 40,000*l.* will pay her working cost. Her first trips will be Transatlantic, but her freight-earning power will be greater in the Eastern trade; and this we believe to be her future. If investors were forthcoming in bad times to believe that the former speculation would pay interest on 500,000*l.*, it is hard, when money is cheap, if public confidence is denied to a similar adventure fully furnished with experience, having more than equal chances of revenue, and with only half that capital to divide the profits.

TRADE AND RESOURCES OF PORTUGAL.—It is shown by Mr. Paget, our diplomatic agent at Lisbon, that the exports to England from Oporto amount to 5,712,581 milreis, and the imports from England into Oporto to 5,475,769 milreis. The exports from Lisbon to England amount to 1,009,050 milreis, and the imports from England into Lisbon to 4,138,522 milreis. These figures show that the trade of Portugal with England is more than double the whole of her trade with the rest of the world. The Portuguese tariff taxes very highly both manufactured goods and the raw material. The

manufactories of Portugal are prosperous and on the increase, and the result must be highly injurious to the English trade with that country. But it is thought by Mr. Paget that Portugal should content herself with being an agricultural country, and supplying the markets of the world with grain and wine. The system of Government monopolies is rife, and is of course productive of the worst effects. The Portuguese agriculturists are incorrigibly stupid. They will only act according to "custom," they disdain the wisest counsels, and censure those who attempt to make innovations. There are districts in which vile wine is made from good grapes, although much better wines might be produced with less trouble. There is no wine of any kind, or anywhere obtainable, that may not be grown in Portugal, yet more than half the land is uncultivated, and all modern improvements are carefully eschewed. This sad state of things is chiefly attributable to the want of roads. Whatever the Government do not undertake remains undone. A source of immense wealth exists in the Portuguese mines; quicksilver and copper are known to be plentiful, but the mines are only slightly worked. Mr. Paget observes that every work of improvement and progress finds the most strenuous support in the present intelligent sovereign of the country. As regards port wine, it is a fallacy to suppose that "pure" port wine exists, as it is invariably mixed with brandy at Villa Nova.

ENGLISH BANKRUPTS AND SCOTTISH SEQUESTRATIONS.—Another case of an English bankrupt without effects in Scotland taking out sequestration has been heard in the Court of Session. The bankrupt, Mr. Legh, from 1827 to 1846 carried on business in Regent-street, London, as a wine-merchant. In 1832 he was left an estate in Kent, where he lived, though he occasionally slept in Regent-street. In 1846 he retired from business. Subsequently he became a shareholder and director of the London and County Assurance Company, went for two years to Boulogne, came back in March, and came down to Gourock in July. On the 16th of September he applied for sequestration under the designation of "Edward Legh, some time residing and carrying on business as a wine-merchant at No. 95, Regent-street, Westminster, London, and presently residing at No. 7, Ashton, Gourock, in the county of Renfrew." The concurring creditor was Mr. Espin, his family solicitor; and, as the bankrupt had neither estates nor debts in Scotland, the first meeting of creditors was composed of Mr. Espin's mandatory, Mr. A. M'Callum, writer, Port-Glasgow. This Mr. M'Callum (as constituting in himself the meeting of creditors fore-said) voted himself (1) preses; (2) appointed his clerk clerk; (3) named a trustee; (4) a commissioner, "no other creditor having claimed on the estate;" and, finally, Mr. M'Callum resolved that the bankrupt's personal protection be renewed for twelve months. A petition was now presented for recall of sequestration by Mr. M'Creight, of the London and County Assurance Company, now in course of being wound up, the recall being prayed for on the ground that the bankrupt could not be said to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Scotch courts. The Lord Ordinary thought that the further arguments should be postponed till the result of the "Tobermory Case" was known.

SALT TRADE TO CHINA.—With reference to the admission of English salt into the ports of China, we append the copy of a letter written after Lord Malmesbury had been made acquainted with the fact of Chinese solar salt being freely admitted at Calcutta on the same terms as that from England:—"Foreign-office, Nov. 17. Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, respecting the admission of British salt into China, and I am to state to you in reply, that as the Earl of Elgin will, according to all probability, have left China before any instructions founded on your letter could reach his Excellency, Lord Malmesbury considers it best to defer the issue of such instructions until the departure of an ambassador who will be sent out to Peking from this country, and whose attention will then be directed to the subject.—E. HAMMOND."—*Liverpool Albion.*

CHEQUES ON COUNTRY BANKERS.—On Monday, 22nd inst., the London bankers commenced a clearing for country cheques. The process adopted is, that each London banker sends a clerk to the clearing-house at twelve o'clock with such cheques on country bankers as may have been left with him to be collected; these cheques are delivered to the respective agents of the country bankers, by whom they are forwarded to their several destinations, and upon receipt of advice of payment, the balances are settled in the London clearing. By this mode, time, labour, and expense of postage are economised, and so soon as the country bankers shall generally have given in their adhesion to the plan, the system will be very complete. We understand its adoption is proceeding very satisfactorily.

RED SEA AND INDIA TELEGRAPH.—The contract with this company has been signed by the Lords of the Treasury, and the manufacture of the submarine cable is in rapid progress. It is hoped that the section from Suez to Aden will be laid in the spring, and an expectation is entertained that a call, not exceeding 8*l.* per share, will be necessary next month, and another of like amount in January.

THE SHIP INDIAN EMPIRE.—This Galway steamer which left New York for Ireland exactly a month ago is still overdue. The rate of 25 guineas per cent. has been paid for insurances, the regular charge being from 15*s.* to 20*s.* only. The Indian Empire is the last of the overdue American steamers, the Edinburgh having arrived on Wednesday. The Atlantic Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company have since received the following telegram:—"The Indian Empire was at Halifax by our last advices undergoing repair of damages caused by a brig running foul of her."

THE FRENCH RENTES.—Paris letters revive the report of an intention on the part of the Government of the Emperor to convert the Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Rentes into Three per Cents. They remind us that the time is peculiarly favourable for such an operation, as the empire is at profound peace, its foreign relations eminently satisfactory, and the population perfectly contented, whatever may be said about the feelings of certain classes in Paris. The only doubtful point is, the time at which the conversion will be officially announced; meanwhile, it is positively asserted the scheme has been provisionally elaborated by M. Fould, and referred by the Emperor to M. Magne for his opinion.

ECONOMY IN FUEL.—The waste of coals arising from the use of badly constructed fireplaces in most families is truly enormous. The desirable objects of effecting a great saving and adding to the comfort of apartments are obtained by the use of the following grates:—1. Improved Smokeless Fire Grates, now made from 20*s.* each. These grates burn little fuel, give much heat, will burn for hours without attention, and accumulate so little soot that chimney-sweeping is almost superseded. 2. Improved Grates, with Stourbridge fire-brick backs, from 24*s.* each, complete. Any one who has experienced the superiority of fire brick over iron for retaining heat and radiating it into an apartment would never consent to have grates with iron backs, which conduct the heat away. 3. Improved Grates with Stourbridge fire-brick backs and porcelain sides from 35*s.* each, complete. The advantages of porcelain for ornament over iron or steel arise from its cleanliness, saving of trouble in cleaning, and from its beauty not being impaired by lapse of time. Illustrated prospectuses forwarded on application. Also

STOVES FOR ENTRANCE HALLS, SCHOOL ROOMS, CHURCHES, &c., Of the best construction.

These Stoves burn little fuel, require very little attention, may be had with or without open fire, and will burn night and day in severe weather, or throughout the season if required, whilst they are entirely free from the objection found to so many stoves, that of a liability to become overheated and to render the atmosphere offensive. Illustrated prospectuses forwarded. Manufacturers of Edwards's Smokeless Kitchen Range, which alone obtained a first-class medal at the Paris Exhibition of 1855.—F. EDWARDS, SON, and Co., General Stove and Kitchen Range Manufacturers, 42, Poland-street, Oxford-street, W.

SOHO LOOKING-GLASS MANUFACTORY.—26, Soho-square, London.—Established 20 years.—The Proprietor begs to call the attention of the public to the following very reduced List of Prices for LOOKING-GLASSES, of superior quality, fitted in carefully manufactured carved and gilt frames:—

Size of Glass.	Outside Measure of Frame.	Price.
40 by 30 in.	51 in. wide by 39 in. high from	3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> each.
46 by 36 in.	48 in. wide by 53 in. high from	5 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> each.
50 by 40 in.	52 in. wide by 60 in. high from	6 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> each.
53 by 43 in.	55 in. wide by 65 in. high from	7 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> each.
56 by 46 in.	59 in. wide by 69 in. high from	8 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> each.
60 by 48 in.	62 in. wide by 74 in. high from	10 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> each.
70 by 50 in.	64 in. wide by 84 in. high from	12 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> each.

Mahogany dressing and cheval glasses, gilt cornices, girandoles, picture frames, &c., at equally moderate prices. Merchants and shippers supplied by special contract.

THE VERY FINEST COLZA OIL

For moderator lamps, selected from choice parcels direct from Lille, 4*s.* 6*d.* per gallon. Tallow Store Dips, 7*d.* per lb.; ditto Moulds, 8*s.* per dozen lbs., stored in March last especially for family use. Household Soaps, 40*s.*, 44*s.*, 48*s.*, and 48*s.* per cwt. Delivered free to any part of, or within five miles of, town, and orders of 5*l.* value railway free to any part of England. WHITMORE and CRADDOCK, 16, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C. London, old servants of, and City Agents to, Price's Patent Candle Company.

BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK.

To avoid disappointment from the substitution of counterfeits, be careful to ask for the genuine Bond's Marking Ink; and further to distinguish it, observe that no SIX-PENNY SIZE is, or has at any time been prepared by him, the Inventor and Proprietor.

N.B.—The general and ORIGINAL BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK bears the address on the label, 28 LONG-LANE, WEST SMITHFIELD, CITY.

EPPS'S COCOA.—Epps, homœopathic chemist, London.—1*lb.* and 4*lb.* packets, 1*s.* 6*d.* and 9*d.*—This excellent production, originally prepared for the special use of homœopathic patients, having been adopted by the general public, can now be had of the principal grocers. Each packet is labelled James Epps, homœopathic chemist, London.

CAUTION to Household, Bankers, Merchants, and Public Offices. The Patent NATIONAL and DEFENCE LOCKS can be had only of F. LUCK, RIDGE, 52, Strand, near Charing-cross. These Locks are important for their security against burglars and thieves, as evidenced in the fraudulent attempt to pick it at the Crystal Palace, in August, 1854, by John Cooper, foreman to Messrs. Chubb, for the REWARD of 200 Guineas. See Pamphlet and Description, to be had gratis. Fire and Thief proof Iron Safes, Plate and Jewel Chests, Dead Cash, and Despatch Boxes, Embossing Dies, &c. Warranted Street-Door Latches, 17*s.* 6*d.* each.

THIS old-established Herbal Preparation has a miraculous effect in all Scorbute Complaints, quickly eradicated all impurities from the blood. Indeed, a fine, pure, and healthy blood cannot well be conceived, the pale, sallow complexion speedily being converted to this preparation of health. Ladies should have recourse to this preparation, instead of using the dangerous cosmetics now so much in vogue. Price 2s. 6d. and 11s. a bottle. Wholesale Agents—Barclay and Sons, 55, Farringdon-street; Hanny and Co., 33, Oxford-street. Any London or country medicine dealer will procure the above for any customer.

132 REGENT-STREET W.
NEW TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT
 for the Nobility and Gentry. Naval, Military, and Clerical Tailor and Outfitter.
 132, REGENT-STREET, W.
 WM. CLARK, from H. J. and D. NICOLL.

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NEW TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT
 for the Professional and Commercial Public, Clerical, Legal, and Court Robe Maker.
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