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The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND

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

VOL. X. No. 459.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1859.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... FIVE PENCE
Stampd..... Sixpence.

PATENT FISH MANURE. THE AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS COMPANY

(Limited).
Capital 60,000*l.*, in 12,000 Shares of 5*l.* each, Limited.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Sir EDMUND H. K. LACON, Bart., Great Yarmouth,
Chairman.
E. B. Brown, Esq., merchant, 2, Adam's-court, Old Broad-
street.
David Coleman, Esq., merchant, Bantsha-house, Tipperary.
David B. Dobie, Esq. (Messrs. Hinks and Co.), Southwark.
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Baling.
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William Hurry Palmer, Esq., merchant, Great Yarmouth.
Solicitors—Messrs. Reynolds and Palmer, Great Yarmouth.
Bankers—The National Bank, 13, Old Broad-street, Lon-
don; Sir E. K. Lacon, Bart. (Lacons, Youell, and Co.),
Great Yarmouth.
Chemical Works, Globe wharf, Rotherhithe.
Offices, 38, King William-street, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been established to manufacture a valuable patent fish manure, proved to possess very superior fertilising properties, and also to manufacture other classes of fertilisers, superphosphate of lime, &c.

Viscount Palmerston, in a speech made at the Romsey Agricultural Society's Meeting, on the 9th of December, 1858, stated:—"There is one thing that I wish to press upon your attention: guano is a material of limited quantity, and the regions that produce it are not likely to be replenished when once their stock of guano is exhausted, because the birds from which guano is created are driven away: and, like coal, when it is once dug up you cannot expect to have it reproduced. . . . At all events, I think that the time is not very far distant when the foreign supply will cease, and when domestic guano will be the source to which the farmer must apply."

The annual importation of Peruvian guano now exceeds 250,000 tons, realising from 12*l.* to 15*l.* per ton. Fish being, to a certain extent, the source of this most valuable fertiliser (*i. e.* the excrement of the guano-bird, feeding upon fish), its manufacture into a manure has already led to some practical research; but, owing primarily to the neglect of economy in its reduction, and the complicated mechanical appliances experimentally used therein, those efforts were not attended with commercial success. This Company is now, however, in possession of a process whereby fish can be converted into a most valuable manure, by simple and inexpensive means.

The following is condensed from a report by Professor Way (of the Royal Agricultural Society of England) on fish manure:—"The manufacture of manure from fish offers the only available means of supplying the demand for additional ammoniacal manure, and will, if carried out on an adequate scale, be of essential benefit to the agriculture of this country."

The first station for the operations of this Company will be at Great Yarmouth, which annually affords many thousand tons of refuse and broken fish, although it is intended hereafter to establish depots at most of the principal fishing stations on the English and Irish coasts.

For evidence of the great value of the patent fish manure, the attention of the public is invited to the detailed prospectus of the Company, which contains copies of the certificates of five of the most eminent agricultural chemists of the day, the average of which yields a return of 9.84 per cent. of nitrogen, equal to 12.09 of ammonia.

Applications for shares or prospectuses may be made to Messrs. Reynolds and Palmer, solicitors, Great Yarmouth; or to the Secretary, at the Company's offices, 38, King William-street, London-bridge.

THE MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

27, Cannon-street, E.C., London.

Shares in this Company have been this day allotted to the full extent of the issue authorised by Government.

By order,
JOHN WESTWOOD, Secretary.

LOANS AND INVESTMENTS.

WELLINGTON LOAN & INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION

(Limited), 3, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London.

Deposits received at 6 per cent. Interest, payable half-yearly.

Loans granted at moderate rates
Particulars of CHARLES W. ROE, Secretary.
N.B. Agents required in town and country.

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE COAL MINING COMPANY

(Limited).

Capital 40,000*l.*, in 40,000 shares of 1*l.* each (with power to increase). Deposit 2*s.* 6*d.* per share. (To be incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Acts, 1856 and 1857, and liability limited to amount of subscription.)

DIRECTORS.

George Cavendish Bentinck, Esq., 43, Charles-street, Berkeley-square, London.
John Dunnington Fletcher, Esq., 12, Westbourne-terrace, London.
George Glennie, Esq., of 43, Upper Thames-street, London, and Blackheath.
James Lawrie, Esq., 33, Lombard-street, London.
John Romanes, Esq., of Hollymount, Blackheath.
Captain F. Stewart, of Surbiton, Surrey.
John W. Williamson, Esq., 4, Gloucester Villas, Hyde Park, London.

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Solicitor—Walter Federan Nokes, Esq., 11, George-yard, Lombard-street.

Bankers—The City Bank, Threadneedle-street, London; Branches of the National Provincial Bank of England; the National Bank of Scotland and Branches.

Brokers—Messrs. P. W. Thomas, Sons, and Co., 50, Threadneedle-street, London.

Consulting Engineer—Joseph J. W. Watson, Esq., C. and M.E., F.G.S., &c.

Secretary—George Grant, Esq.

Temporary Offices—72, Old Broad-street, London.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of purchasing and working the coal in the four grants from the Crown, comprising about 360 acres, on which four well-known collieries, called the True Blue, Newham Bottom, Woodside, and Birchen Grove Collieries are situated, immediately contiguous to the village of Ruardean, in the Forest of Dean; together with the railway, plant, steam-engines, tram wagons, pit carts, machinery tools, and all other necessary appliances which, at great expense, have been lately placed on these important properties.

These four grants adjoin each other, and contain about 2,000,000 tons of coal of first-class bituminous character, for which there is a large demand for household, gas, and smelting purposes, and especially for raising steam. The railway affords economical transit to all the towns on the Great Western and South Wales lines of railway, and the shipping ports on the Severn.

By a yield of 250 tons per day, a net profit of 718*l.* 5*s.* per annum is estimated to result, being equal to a dividend of upwards of 20 per cent. on a capital of 35,000*l.*, the amount proposed to be called up at first. The railway is a real property in itself, having a right to welage from all minerals passing over it.

Full prospectuses are contained in the *Times* and *Daily News* of 30th December.

Prospectuses, mining reports, forms of application for shares and of bankers' receipts for deposits, may be had of Messrs. P. W. Thomas, Sons, and Co., Threadneedle-street, London, brokers to the Company; of the solicitor; at the City Bank; at the various branches of the National Provincial Bank of England; at the National Bank of Scotland and branches; or the offices of the Company, 72, Old Broad-street, London, where plans of the properties may be seen and examined, and where every information as to the Company may be obtained.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

[When filled up by the Applicant, to be lodged, with Two Shillings and Sixpence, with the Company's Bankers.]

To the Directors of the Gloucestershire Coal Mining Company (Limited), 72, Old Broad-street, London.

Gentlemen,—Having paid into the hands of the Bank, the sum of £ to your credit, I request you will allot me shares of 1*l.* sterling each in the above-named company; and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me. And I hereby also authorise you to enter my name in the register of shareholders for the shares so allotted.

Name and Surname in full

Address in full

Dated the Description day of 1859.

DEPOSIT AND DISCOUNT BANK.

FIVE PER CENT. on sums for fixed periods or at seven days' notice, or Three per Cent. at CALL. The Right Hon. the Earl of DEVON, Chairman.

G. H. LAW, Manager.
Offices, 6, Cannon street West, E.C.

LAW PROPERTY & LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

30, Essex-street, Strand, London.

Capital, 250,000*l.*

DIRECTORS.

Ralph T. Brockman, Esq., Folkestone.
Edward Wm. Cox, Esq., 36, Russell-square.
George Frederick Fox, Esq., Bristol.
E. E. P. Kelsey, Esq., Salisbury.
J. Mead, Esq., 2, King's Bench-walk, Temple.
H. Paull, Esq., M.P., 33, Devonshire-place, Portland-place.

EIGHTY PER CENT. OF THE PROFITS divided among the Assured.

At the first division of profits in May, 1845, a bonus was declared, varying from Two to Eleven per cent. on the amount assured, and amounting, in many instances, to upwards of Fifty per cent. on the Premiums paid.

At the Second Division of Profits in 1858, an EQUAL PRO RATA BONUS was declared.

Next division of profits in 1861.
* * Every description of Life Assurance business transacted.
EDWARD S. BARNES, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS ARE OF DAILY OCCURRENCE.

Insurance data show that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly.

An Annual Payment of £3 secures

A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK

IN THE EVENT OF INJURY, OR

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, FROM

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

By a policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Which has already paid in compensation for Accidents £37,069.

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company.
Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

BANK OF DEPOSIT,

No. 3, Pall-mall East, London, S.W.

The WARRANTS for the HALF-YEARLY Interest, at the rate of 5 per Cent. per Annum, on Deposit Accounts, to the 30th instant, will be ready for delivery on and after the 10th proximo, and payable daily between the hours of 10 and 4.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

December, 1858.

Prospectuses and Forms sent free on application.

SANCTITY OF THE GRAVE COMBINED WITH ECONOMY OF CHARGE.

THE LONDON NECROPOLIS, or WORKING CEMETERY, is situated within an easy distance from town, by South-Western Railway, starting from the Company's private station in Westminster Bridge-road.

This Cemetery is of a dry sandstone formation, and so extensive that over-crowding or desecration of the dead by after removal is impossible in it. Indeed it is expressly stipulated by the act under which this Cemetery was established that a separate grave should be provided for each interment, which should not afterwards be reopened except at the expressed desire of the friends of the deceased, for the purpose of depositing the remains of another member of the family.

The London Necropolis Company undertake the most extensive arrangements connected with the interment of the dead at less than half the charges ordinarily required. They offer seven distinct scales of charges from which to select. Four of these vary from 17*l.* 4*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* including coffin, furniture, &c., and the complete performance of the duties from the house to the station, and thence to the Cemetery. The other three vary from 3*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 6*s.* but without coffin and all undertaking expenses, disbursements, and the funeral cortege from the house to the station, &c.

Chief Office, 2, Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C.

NEWSPAPER
PENNY

WINES FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

DENMAN,
INTRODUCER of the SOUTH AFRICAN
PORT, SHERRY, &c., 20s. per dozen, bottles included.
A PINT SAMPLE OF EACH FOR 24 STAMPS.

Wine in Cask forwarded to any Railway Station in England.
Extract from the *Lancet*, July 10th, 1858.

THE WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA.—"We have visited Mr. DENMAN'S Stores, selected in all eleven samples of wine, and have subjected them to careful analysis. Our examination has extended to an estimation of their bouquet and flavour, their acidity and sweetness, the amount of wine stone, the strength in alcohol, and particularly to their purity. We have to state that these Wines, though branded to a much less extent than sherrys, are yet on the average nearly as strong; that they are pure, wholesome, and perfectly free from adulteration. Indeed, considering the low price at which they are sold, their quality is remarkable."

EXCELSIOR BRANDY, Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 80s. per dozen.

Terms Cash. Country orders must contain a remittance Cross Cheques—"Bank of London." Priced Lists, with Dr. Hassall's Analysis, forwarded on application.—**JAMES L. DENMAN,** 65, Fenchurch-street, corner of Railway-place London.

ECONOMY.

A 10-gallon cask (equal to 5 dozens) of the finest **SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY**, for four guineas, or 20s. per dozen; best Port, 24s. per dozen. Cask or bottle, and case included. Three dozens carriage free. Cash.—**HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO.,** Importers, 22 and 23, High Holborn. Established 1831.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

INGHAM'S MARSALA, 24s. per dozen.
INGHAM'S VIRGIN MARSALA, 26s. per dozen.
Terms, cash, and delivered free within five miles.
WELLER and HUGHES, Importers, 27, Crutched-friars, Mark-lane, E.C.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

Our superior **SOUTH AFRICAN PORT, SHERRY, MADEIRA, &c.** in brilliant condition, 20s. per dozen.
"I find your wine to be pure and unadulterated."

"**Dr. LETHBY, M.D.,** London Hospital."
Pint Sample of either, Twelve Stamps. Terms—Cash or Reference. Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus.

The Analysis of Dr. Lethby sent free on application. Colonial Brandy, 15s. per Gallon. **WELLER and HUGHES,** Wholesale Wine and Spirit Importers, 27, Crutched-friars, Mark-lane, London, E.C.

WINE AT HALF DUTY.

QUALITY AND ECONOMY COMBINED.

South African Port and Sherry.... 20s. and 24s. per doz.
South African Madeira and Amontillado.... 24s. per doz.
Pure, full body, with fine aroma.

"Messrs. Brown and Brough's Wines prove, upon trial, that they are richer and finer-flavoured than much of the foreign wines."—*Vide John Bull*, Nov. 18, 1858.

"Chemical analysis has proved Messrs. Brown and Brough's Wines to be free from all adulteration, and experience attests them to be both salutary and agreeable to the palate."—*Vide Medical Circular*, Nov. 17, 1858.

Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus.
Terms Cash. Country Orders must contain a remittance.
BROWN and BROUGH, Wine and Spirit Importers, 29, Strand, W.C., and 24, Crutched-friars, City.

MALMSEY.

24s. per doz., Cash.—This delicious wine may be obtained at the above extraordinary low price, from the importers, **HARRINGTON, PARKER, and Co.,** 54, Pall-mall, S.W.

HENEKEYS' COGNAC,

A pure French Brandy, pale or brown, 20s. per gallon, 42s. per dozen. Packages to be returned within three months, or charged 1s. per gallon. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid.

HENEKEYS' LONDON BRANDY,

Pale or brown, 14s. per gallon, 80s. per dozen. Three dozens carriage free.

HENEKEYS' LONDON GIN,

As from the still, and the strongest allowed, sweet or dry, 12s. per gallon, 20s. per dozen. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid. Country orders must contain a remittance.

HENEKEYS' PRICES CURRENT OF WINES AND SPIRITS

Sent post free on application.—**HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO.,** Gray's Inn Distillery, 22 and 23, High Holborn, W.C. Established 1831.

CADIZ.

A PURE PALE SHERRY, of the Amontillado character, 38s. per dozen, Cash. We receive a regular and direct shipment of this fine Wine.

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

PURE BRANDY, 16s. PER GALLON.

Pale or Brown Eau-de-Vie, of exquisite flavour and great purity, identical indeed in every respect with those choice productions of the Cognac district, which are now difficult to procure at any price, 90s. per dozen, French bottles and case included; or 10s. per gallon.

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

WHISKIES—EQUALISATION OF DUTY.

The choicest Scotch and Irish from 14s. to 18s. per gallon. **OWEN and Co.,** 75, Lower Thames-street, London, E.C., opposite the Custom House. Shipping and the Trade supplied.

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.

HYAM and CO., 86, OXFORD-STREET, beg to acknowledge gratefully the encouraging success which has attended their trading operations during the year 1858. So great has been this success that the proprietors are led to augur favourably for the year 1859. **HYAM and Co.,** on a review of their past efforts, congratulate themselves on the assurance that they have extended the advantages of their business to the material benefit of the public. Nothing will be wanting on the part of the Proprietors to secure by merit a continuance of support during the year 1859.

CHILDREN, BOYS, AND YOUTHS..

HYAM and Co. respectfully invite the attention of parents and guardians to the superior Overcoats, Sleeve Caps, School Suits, &c., which they have now on stock. Style, Serviceableness, and Suitability being admirably combined in these matchless garments.

CHILDREN, BOYS, AND YOUTHS.

HYAM and Co. have contributed materially to the comfort and appearance of the Young in the design and make of their **DRESS and UNDERDRESS JACKETS** for Little Boys and Youths. A vast variety may now be selected from at the most economical prices.

CHILDREN, BOYS, AND YOUTHS.

HYAM and Co. are celebrated for the Elegance, Excellence, and Economy of the **HUSSARS and TUNICS** which they fashion, fabricate, and finish in the most approved style, and from the choicest patterns.

CHILDREN, BOYS, AND YOUTHS.

HYAM and Co. in their excellent and diversified **GARMENTS OF A-PIECE** for the Young, have provided what was long wanting in convenient and becoming Undress for Children and Boys. These conjoint Garments look exceedingly well, and serve to spare the wear and tear of other articles of attire.

SPECIAL CAUTION.

HYAM and Co. are not in any way connected with any other establishments than the following, viz.:—
LONDON—86, OXFORD STREET, WEST END.
BIRMINGHAM—23 and 24, NEW STREET.
LEELIS—42, BRIGGATE.

H. J. AND D. NICOLL'S PALETOT WARE-ROOMS

Are situate 114, 116, 118, 120, REGENT-STREET, W., and 22, CORNHILL, E.C., where clothing for gentlemen, of the best qualities, may be obtained, and at the moderate charges originating with this establishment, a circumstance the higher and middle classes who deal with Messrs. **NICOLL** or their agents have long since discovered and appreciated.

Messrs. **NICOLL**, for shaping and fitting garments, not only employ the best talent in England, or to be obtained from France and Germany, but they secure to their customers all those advantages which arise from there being no intermediate profit between manufacturer and consumer. The following may, for example, be chiefly referred to:—
NICOLL'S NEW REGISTERED PALETOTS are worn by professional men, who desire to avoid anything like singularity of dress, and to retain the appearance well-known to be afforded by this garment.

For those Gentlemen who prefer **NICOLL'S CAPE PALETOT**, a garment concealing but giving great freedom to the arm, a variety will always be ready for immediate use, and estimates as usual are submitted for Military Uniforms and for Servants' Liveries.

WARWICK HOUSE,

142 and 144, REGENT-STREET, W., is an Establishment also belonging to **H. J. and D. NICOLL**, in whose Show-rooms female attendants exhibit the Household Jacket, the rich seal fur Jacket, the popular Highland Cloak, Riding Habits, and Pantalons des Dames a Cheval.

Also in **WARWICK HOUSE**, but in another part of the premises, there may be seen every material adapted for the clothing of young gentlemen at school and for other purposes. The Kilted or Highland Costume, as worn by the Royal Princes, may also be inspected, with the Cap, Sporan, Scarf, Hose, and all the Ornaments proper for this Costume, now becoming so popular for youth under ten years of age.

VISIT THE CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT OF

LAWRENCE HYAM,

MERCHANT CLOTHIER AND MANUFACTURER,
CITY—30, Gracechurch-street,
WEST—189 and 190, Tottenham-court-road, } **LONDON.**

In the **READY-MADE DEPARTMENT**, such an immense assortment of **MEN'S, BOYS', and YOUTHS' CLOTHING**, consisting of garments of the most novel, durable, and elegant designs, can rarely be seen. The Public will effect a great saving, the prices being based on the most economical principles, consistent with sterling quality—the only test of cheapness.

BOYS' AND JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.—Nothing can exceed the variety and novelty of design in this department. For the winter season, such an immense assortment is provided as to exceed all **L. HYAM'S** former efforts. The prices, as usual, are framed upon the most economic scale, and have only to be seen to ensure that patronage which their intrinsic merits so well deserve.

The **ORDERED DEPARTMENT** contains a magnificent assortment of every novelty for the season. The Artists, who are celebrated for refined taste and style, are guaranteed for a good fit. Economy is the leading feature.

CLERICAL and PROFESSIONAL MEN are specially invited, the Black and Mixture Cloths being of a **FAST DYE**. An ordered Suit of Black for 87. 3s. Also the celebrated **SEVENTEEN SHILLING TROUSERS** in great variety.

L. HYAM marks every Garment in **PLAIN FIGURES**, from which no deviation is made; and no garment need be kept, when seen at home, if not satisfactory, but can be exchanged within any reasonable time, if returned in good condition.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR

OLENFELD PATENT STARCH,

SEE THAT YOU GET IT,

As inferior kinds are often substituted.

POPE AND PLANTE'S

WINTER HOSIERY of every description, knitted and woven. Underclothing for Family use and Invalids. Printed and Woven Flannels in great variety.—**POPE and PLANTE**, Manufacturers, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

POPE AND PLANTE'S

MILITARY SHIRT, constructed to fit the figure without creasing with peculiar accuracy.—**POPE and PLANTE**, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

POPE AND PLANTE'S

LADIES' ELASTIC SUPPORTING BANDS, for use before and after Accouchement, admirably adapted for giving efficient support, and **EXTREME LIGHTNESS**—a point little attended to in the comparatively clumsy contrivances and fabrics hitherto employed. Instructions for measurement, with prices, on application, and the articles sent by post from the manufacturers and inventors, **POPE and PLANTE**, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

MAPPIN'S DRESSING CASES AND TRAVELLING BAGS.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, London Bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK OF **DRESSING CASES**, and **Ladies' and Gentlemen's TRAVELLING BAGS** in the World, each Article being manufactured under their own superintendence.

MAPPIN'S Guinea **DRESSING CASE**, for Gentlemen.
MAPPIN'S Two Guinea **DRESSING CASE**, in solid Leather.

Ladies' TRAVELLING and DRESSING BAGS, from 27. 12s. to 1007. each.
Gentlemen's do. do., from 37. 12s. to 807.

Messrs. **MAPPIN** invite Inspection of their extensive Stock, which is complete with every Variety of Style and Price.

A costly Book of Engravings, with Prices attached, forwarded by post on receipt of 12 Stamps.

MAPPIN BROTHERS.

67 and 68, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.
Manufactory—**QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD.**

MAPPIN'S "SHILLING" RAZORS.

Warranted good by the Makers. Shave well for Twelve Months without Grinding.

MAPPIN'S 2s. **RAZORS** shave well for Three Years.
MAPPIN'S 3s. **RAZORS** (suitable for Hard or Soft Beards) Shave well for Ten Years.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 67, King William-street, City, London; where the largest Stock of Cutlery in the World is kept.

FENDERS, STOVES, AND FIRE-IRONS.

Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS**. They contain such an assortment of **FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, FIRE-IRONS, and GENERAL IRONMONGERY**, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright stoves, with ornate ornaments and high standards, 7s. to 57. 12s.; steel fenders, 27. 15s. to 147; ditto, with rich ornate ornaments, from 27. 15s. to 147; fire-irons, from 2s. 3d. the set to 47. 4s. **THE BURTON** and all other **PATENT STOVES**, with radiating hearth-plates.

BEDSTEADS, BATHS, and LAMPS.—**WILLIAM S. BURTON** has **SIX LARGE SHOW-ROOMS** devoted exclusively to the **SEPARATE DISPLAY** of Lamps, Baths, and Metallic Bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate to those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country.

Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to 207. 0s. each.
Shower Baths, from 8s. 0s. to 47. 0s. each.
Lamps (Moderateur), from 0s. 0s. to 77. 7s. each.

(All other kinds at the same rate.)
Pure Colza Oil 4s. 3d. per gallon.

CUTLERY, WARRANTED.—The most varied Assortment of **TABLE CUTLERY** in the world, all warranted, is **ON SALE** at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales. 34-inch Ivory-handled table knives, with high shoulders, 12s. 6d. per dozen; dessert to match, 10s.; if to balance, 6d. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. 3d. per pair; larger sizes, from 20s. to 27s. 6d. per dozen; extra fine Ivory, 33s.; if with silver ferrules, 40s. to 50s.; white bone table knives, 6s. per dozen; dessert, 5s.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; dessert, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table spoons, from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish carvers.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY CATALOGUE may be had gratis, and free by post. It contains upwards of 400 Illustrations of his limited Stock of Electro and Sheffield Plate, Nickel Silver and Britannia Metal goods, Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Chimney-pieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gas-lights, Tea Urns and Kettles, Tea Trays, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths and Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bed Hanging, &c. &c., with Lists of Prices, and Plans of the Sixteen large Show Rooms, at 30, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, Newman-street; and 4, 5, and 6, Perry's place, London.—**ESTABLISHED 1820.**

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES.

THEY ARE THE CHEAPEST IN THE END.
DEANE and Co.'s Priced Furnishing List may be had gratuitously on application, or forwarded by post, free. This list embraces the leading articles from all the various departments of their establishment, and is arranged to facilitate purchasers in the selection of their goods. It comprises Table Cutlery—Electro-plate—Lamps—Baths—Fenders and Fire Irons—Iron Bedsteads, and Bedding—Britannia Metal, Copper, Tin, and Brass Goods—Cutlery Utensils—Turnery—Brushes—Mats, &c.—**Deane and Co.** (opposite to the Monument), London Bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

SOME words addressed by the Emperor Napoleon to the Austrian Ambassador on New Year's-day have set the pulses of the continental nations dancing to a war-tune. The words are not in themselves remarkable, but, taken in connexion with various occurrences of the hour, they very naturally carry with them a weight sufficient to bear down the price of funds upon the Bourse, and to shake the balance on our own Stock-Exchange. "I regret," he is reported to have said to Baron Hübnér, "that our relations with your Government are not so good as they were; but I request you to tell the Emperor that my personal feelings for him are not changed." The *Moniteur* of Friday, which was looked for with great interest and anxiety, contains an announcement which is intended by the French Government to allay the spreading agitation; nothing in diplomatic relations, it says, authorises the fears that have been excited by the alarming reports that have been current of late. But it must appear that this announcement, though it may have the effect of repressing the rising alarm of the moment, does not carry with it the least assurance of continued tranquillity. The course of events in Italy, in fact, are not to be controlled by either France or Austria, and almost any hour may see France called upon to take the field against Austria. In spite of the denials given to exaggerated accounts of insurrectionary outbreaks in Milan, the fact remains that in Lombardy the spirit of revolt is as active as it was in 1848, and active under conditions infinitely more dangerous to Austria, namely, the unity of all classes. France, it is reported, has proposed to withdraw her troops from Rome, on condition that Austria will do the like with her troops in the Lombardo-Venetian States, and whether or not the report is well founded, it is calculated to raise unlimited hopes in Italy. The alarm of the King of Naples is manifest. It is only a few days ago that we heard of his adding 18,000 men to his army; this week we have him nervously shrinking from any connexion with Russia, the new friend of Sardinia. Russia has established herself in the Mediterranean, but the King of Naples will not hear of a "Russian coaling station" in the Adriatic, where Austria has lately been making extraordinary efforts to increase her naval power. Another significant fact has become known during the week; it is that Garibaldi, the Commander-in-Chief of the Roman troops in 1848, has been recalled from Nice to be consulted on the formation of a Sardinian National Guard, or Volunteer Corps. The conclusion seems irresistible that the words lately spoken by the King to his military officers, and afterwards repeated in spirit by Count Cavour in his lithographed

diplomatic circular, were spoken advisedly in anticipation of the commencement of the inevitable Italian struggle in the coming spring.

In the mean while, the Austrian military force in Italy is said to amount to 100,000 or 120,000 men, and the papers both of Vienna and Berlin speak confidently of her preparedness in every respect. A council of war is expected shortly to assemble in Venice to consider the state of affairs in Italy, and several officers of high rank, including Count F. Giulay, Commander-in-Chief of the 2nd *corps d'armée*, arrived in Venice at the end of last month. A few days back we heard of the projected movement of Austrian troops towards the Servian frontier, on account of the recent events in Belgrade, but the report has been contradicted, and it is probable that at the present moment every Austrian soldier that can be moved will have his face turned towards Italy—and France.

The Servian revolution makes progress. Preparations, according to the latest news, were being made in Belgrade for the solemn entry of Prince Milosch, who has accepted the offered throne in face of the demand made by the Porte that a Kai-makan, or viceroi, should be appointed. There is so much unanimity among the ascendant party that an easy solution of this part of the difficulty is looked for. The Servians have no present desire to anger the Sultan, but it appears that it has required the good offices of the foreign ambassadors, and particularly of Sir Henry Bulwer, to persuade him against acting upon the suggestion of the Austrian Ambassador, which was to dissolve the Skuptschina, or National Assembly.

From Constantinople the news is curious as well as interesting. There is no end to the troubles of those who administer the finances of the empire, for everything connected with the Turkish treasury is more or less complicated with wrong. A strange scene was lately enacted, the Sultan playing a new part. He was beset by a crowd of working people clamorous for arrears of pay, and—he was obliged to pay them! But a more important fact is, that those members of his family who lately fell under the ban of his passing displeasure have been re-instated in the Council—Ali Pasha, who had the credit of having caused them to be driven out, still holding his own. Stories are rife in Constantinople that there has been vast jobbery at work with the proceeds of the late loan; the Government, nevertheless, perseveres in its intention of buying up a large quantity of the paper money, although it is perplexed by the great number of forged notes in circulation.

Mr. Buchanan's offer to settle the Cuban difficulty by buying the island from Spain has led to a demonstration of virtuous indignation in the Spanish Cortes. Spain, speaking by the mouth of Marshal O'Donnell, expresses unlimited indignation

at the language used towards it in the President's last Message, and declares that it is prepared to defend its dignity and rights; and the Cortes resolve with very unwonted unanimity to support the Government in its defiant attitude. Cuba, however, is not a whit further removed from America by these loud words; and the American claims are not likely to be less vigorously urged in consequence of the bluster of Madrid.

The Ionians have left Mr. Gladstone no possible loophole by which he could escape from the conclusion that they desire of all things to be relieved from the friendly protection of England. They listen quietly to his answer that England cannot relieve them from the action of the bond, which was signed, sealed, and delivered by the Great Powers in 1816; they only reply that, if England will not give up the protectorate, they will appeal to the said Powers. Within a few hours, Government has received a report from Mr. Gladstone. The contents of this document have not yet come before the public, but at the very foundation of Mr. Gladstone's advice must be the apparently unalterable determination of the Ionians to cut their connexion with England.

The news from India by the Bombay mail is for the most part satisfactory. Lord Clyde has rapidly executed one part of his plan, which was to clear the country between the Goomtee and the Ganges. In accomplishing this, he has beaten Bainie Madhoo, and captured Ametie and Shunkerpoor. General Grant and Brigadier Smith have both gained victories over the flying rebels, the latter leader inflicting great slaughter upon them in Bundelcund. Tantia Topee continues his wonderful flight. Beaten whenever our officers have a chance of coming up with him, he is still unsubdued, still has a force to fight and to fly with. One item of the news will be received with universal regret—it is the announcement of the death of that extraordinary and admirable man General John Jacob; it is not too much to say that his loss is a national calamity.

At home, the political news of the week is scanty. One of the most noticeable facts in connexion with the progress of the Reform question is that Mr. Bright is, in self-defence, obliged to decline attending any more public meetings, with the exception of one at Bradford on the 17th instant, before Parliament assembles. Ministers are all out of town, but a Cabinet Council is to be assembled on Monday next, when the date on which Parliament will be opened is to be determined. Report speaks of Lord Derby's desire for an early opening.

Five more arrests have been made during the week in Kilkenny and Belfast. The real nature of the Phoenix Society, with its numerous branches, is coming out. Some of the objects of the confraternity are to collect money for the defence of pri-

soners, and to intimidate witnesses or jurors. The evidence of two of the approvers appears to warrant the decided measures taken by the Irish Executive. No doubt is left as to the existence of the Phoenix Club, with its machinery of illegal oaths, drilling, and the collection and manufacture of arms.

The accident at the Royal Polytechnic Institution, following so soon after the Victoria Theatre catastrophe, has given a sad memorability to the Christmas holiday amusements. As far as has been ascertained, the Polytechnic has been entirely accidental; the inquest, however, has been adjourned to admit of a more searching inquiry being made by architects appointed by the coroner. Up to the present time only one death has taken place.

ENGLAND'S POLICY IN ITALY.—If war breaks out in Italy, what is England to do? We think her course is plain. She could not think for a moment of actively aiding Austria, so long as the only question at issue was the freedom of Italy. As little could she think of taking a part in the war as an ally of France. We have had quite enough of alliances in which France reaps the glory, and we have to find the money and do the hard work. The notion, also, of England and France joining together to promote liberty is a chimera. If liberty in France means the Empire, we cannot help to spread abroad a liberty so unlike what we mean by liberty. Nor can we again join France as champions of international law and of the rights of nations. Louis Napoleon has chosen to trample on international law, and to violate the first rights of independent nations, by his conduct towards Portugal. What England must do is to stand strictly neutral. If the Austrians, as is possible, provided they are not threatened by Russia in their rear, succeed in holding their own in Italy, we shall pity the Italians most sincerely, but we shall have no call to intervene. If the Austrians are driven out of Italy, then will be the time for England to come on the stage, and to insist, in conjunction with Prussia, that the war shall not be carried into Germany, and also that Italy shall be left to her own princes and governments according to her unfettered choice, and that she shall not merely change her masters and become the tool of France instead of the slave of Austria. We most heartily wish that the struggle between Austria and the Italians could be delayed until France is free. We dread the effect of Imperialism on the Italians after they have assumed a nominal independence. But we cannot disguise from ourselves that it is hard for desperate men to wait with the patience of a long-sighted policy. The struggle may come sooner than the best friends of Italy could wish. If it does come it will be the part of those friends to counteract the evil effects of this precipitation to the utmost of their power.—*Continental Review.*

DIPHTHERIA.—This is a new-fangled name for an old-fashioned disease, malignant quinsy, says an M.D. writing to a contemporary, which in the days of our grandmothers was successfully treated by emetics and bark. It is a disease which is making great ravages at present, and much alarm prevails respecting it. How to prevent it, according to another M.D., is to see that all drains, water closets, and other sources of malaria are in good order. Also to endeavour to keep the general health in the best order by good living, and adequate out-of-door exercise. As a preliminary symptom of the disease, there is always some slight stiffness and uneasiness complained of. This ought to draw attention to the throat, when the peculiar appearance of the ulcer will at once determine its nature. The treatment recommended is, to give sesquicarbonate of ammonia dissolved in a little water and sweetened—from two grains to a baby of a year old to ten grains to an adult, repeating it every hour, together with as much nourishment of every kind as can possibly be got down. At the same time to rub the outside of the throat with a strong embrocation of camphor and ammonia. When this treatment is begun early and judiciously continued the diphtheria, or skin, from which it takes its name, is rarely seen. As to infection, there is reason to believe that the disease often arises from malaria.

JUVENILE ETYMOLOGY.—Mamma dear! Now isn't this called Kissmas Time, because Everybody kisses Everybody under the mistletoe? Ada says it isn't.—*Punch.*

THE NORTHERN HERRING TRADE.—Engagements still continue to be made with the fishermen at varying prices, say generally about 15s. per cran, and 20l. bounty. At these rates the fish cannot be safely sold under 27s. per barrel. There is, of course, nothing yet said as to contracts for next catch, though there is talk as to what may come to be the practice with respect to the 4d.—*Banff Journal.*

THE EXETER HALL SERVICES.—The Rev. Edward Garbett, incumbent of St. Bartholomew's Church, Gray's Inn-road, who was to have preached the sermon next Sunday evening at Exeter Hall, will be unable to fulfil his engagement on account of illness. The Rev. Thomas Nolan, minister of Regent-square Church, will supply his place. Mr. Garbett will, if possible, preach the last of the series of Exeter Hall sermons.

Home Intelligence.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The Ministers have all been summoned to return to town from their Christmas holidays for the 10th inst. Shortly after this date a preliminary cabinet will be held, at which the date for the meeting of Parliament will be fixed. This will be submitted to the Queen, and her Majesty will then hold a Privy Council, and give her formal sanction to the arrangement.—*Court Journal.*

THE RT. HON. E. CARDWELL, M.P., AND MR. LANGSTON, M.P.—At an annual meeting of the Loyal Order of Druids, held in the Town Hall, Oxford, on Monday evening, the members for the city were present. Mr. Langston said it appeared that all parties were now agreed that the time had arrived when the question of Reform ought to be fully and fairly considered. It was agreed upon all hands that a large extension of the suffrage should take place, and that many persons who were excluded by the first Reform Bill from a voice in the choice of their representatives should be admitted to the privilege. There were many small towns which now returned members to Parliament which ought to be disfranchised, and the members given to larger and more influential constituencies; but, at the same time, he thought that system might be carried a great deal too far, for he did not believe that the largest constituencies of the country always elected the best members. The measure brought forward by Lord John Russell several years ago sought to disfranchise certain small boroughs, and to add, in some cases, additional towns and villages to neighbouring boroughs; but that was an arrangement which he did not think would be found to work well in practice, and he would much rather disfranchise the place altogether than add a country population to it. Mr. Cardwell said, after some introductory remarks, "My friend has referred to a bill brought in four years ago by a Government of which I myself had the honour to be a member. It may be that subsequent experience may suggest to those whose anxious duty it will be to bring forward a Reform Bill, important amendments and changes in the details of this measure; but everybody who refers to that measure of Lord John Russell will see that, whether its details were right or wrong, at all events its object was to add those individuals to the constituency who corresponded to the test of intelligence and education. With regard to the redistribution of seats, disfranchisement was the order of that bill, for, if I recollect right, about sixty or seventy seats would have fallen to be taken from small places and re-apportioned to the great seats of industry and commerce. It may be that some other number is now more suited to the exigencies of the time, and we shall hear the reasons which dictate the change; but this I say, that if in the extension of the franchise there be no arbitrary rule, but a sincere desire to make the fitness of the elector the cause of this election regardless of consequences to party or to class—if, in the redistribution of seats the desire be to remove manifest defects and to give power to great combinations of industry and intelligence, to add strength to the institutions of this country, the bill, whether it correspond to the details of the bill of 1854, or differ from them, will deserve to be considered an ample bill and an honest bill, and come from whatever quarter it may, I trust it will receive the cordial and generous consideration of all independent persons, both within and without the walls of Parliament." The right honourable gentleman concluded by urging the importance of increasing the efficiency of the national defences.

VISCOUNT INCESTRE, M.P.—At a meeting at Stoke-upon-Trent, his lordship, in the course of a long speech, adverted to the importance of social science as a subject of discussion and earnest consideration. The day would come when the consideration of these subjects would be forced upon the Legislature. Without being political, he must say that they were of importance equal with, if not greater, than a new Reform Bill. Attempts had been made to excite the jealousy of the country against the class to which he belonged, but he did not believe that the people would be jealous of that class so long as the members of it discharged their duty to their country. They were as anxious as any class to give their attention to the subject of Reform. As an Englishman, he would protest against attempts which had recently been made to excite ill-feeling towards the class to which he belonged. He once looked on Mr. Bright as an honest man, but he looked on him now as a factious man—as a destroyer of the rights of property. He was a dangerous man, and the country ought to be on its guard against him. If the people of England valued their liberties, they would not entrust them to the keeping of Mr. Bright; and these remarks, he repeated, he did not make politically, but simply as an Englishman defending his own class and other men of property, who had been the subjects of wanton attacks. He believed the public had no sympathy with Mr. Bright, and that it would reject his leadership. Let them rather attempt to unite class with class in social meetings, and let the franchise be fairly extended; but let them not follow

the teaching of a gentleman who contradicted himself at one meeting, and forgot what he had said at a previous one.

MR. BRIGHT.—In reply to an invitation to attend a meeting at Bristol, the hon. member has replied:—"It is with reluctance that I write to say that I cannot undertake to attend any more meetings before the opening of the session of Parliament. I have engaged to be present at a meeting to be held at Bradford on the 17th of January, and beyond this I am unable to go."

PROVINCIAL MOVEMENTS.—On Friday last a meeting on the subject of Reform was held at Bonhill, near Dumbarton. Resolutions were adopted in favour of a large extension of the franchise, vote by ballot, &c., and a more equal apportionment of members to Parliament. A great meeting was held on Monday night at Durham. The meeting was both large and influential, and was attended by Mr. Atherton, one of the members for the borough, who expressed his sympathy with its objects. Resolutions in favour of a rating suffrage, a redistribution of seats, and the vote by ballot, were unanimously adopted. On Saturday a crowded meeting was held in Dewsbury, to take into consideration the propriety of memorialising Lord Derby on the subject of having Dewsbury enfranchised in the forthcoming Reform Bill, at which a resolution was carried, to the effect that a petition should be drawn, praying for the passing of a Reform Bill embracing extension of the suffrage; the readjustment of the House of Commons—the adoption of the ballot—and also that Dewsbury might be enfranchised in any new Reform Bill.—An important Reform meeting has been held at Merthyr Tydvil. Mr. Bright's leadership on the Reform question was accepted, and resolutions in support of the now well-known programme were unanimously adopted.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

On Monday the Central Criminal Court commenced its session. The Lord Mayor was present for the first time since his late severe indisposition. The Recorder said the cases that would be brought before the grand jury were not of a serious character.—William Glendinning was charged with forging a cheque on the Union Bank of London of 259l. The case was rather complicated, but the prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.—James Dell was found guilty of stealing seven hampers, containing boots and shoes, valued at 200l., the property of Charles Stanton, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.—Cases of forgery appear to be remarkably prevalent at the present time. No fewer than five persons were tried for this offence on Tuesday. In one of these cases, William Henry Cory, a clerk, pleaded guilty to two charges. He is a young man respectably connected, who had distinguished himself during the Crimean war, but has been carrying on a regular system of forgery since his return to this country. He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.—Lieutenant Higginson was tried for his assault upon Alderman Salomons. He kept the court the whole of the day in cross-examining witnesses, and reading his own defence, and nobody but himself could see the relevancy of anything he said. Nobody, and least of all Alderman Salomons, wished to be severe with him, and so he was liberated on entering into his own recognisances, and promising to appear for judgment whenever called upon. He promised never again to interfere with Alderman Salomons.—Kochanowsky, the soi-disant Russian noble, and his two confederates, were tried on Thursday on the charge of manufacturing forged plates of Russian promissory notes. They were convicted; Kochanowsky was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, and the others to five.—George Lelievre was tried for the manslaughter of Charles John Williams, by knocking him down, whereby his leg was broken, from the effects of which he died. The prisoner assaulted the deceased, who was passing through the street, because he refused to assist in picking up prisoner's friend, who, as well as himself, was intoxicated. The jury found him guilty, and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, without hard labour.—Roper, the Greenwich corn dealer, has also been tried on a charge of arson and fraud, the theory of the prosecution being that he had set fire to his own house, thereby causing the death of two of his children, and that he had inserted in his claim on the insurance company property which he had removed before the fire. The case occupied the whole of the day. The cross-examination of several of the witnesses for the prosecution gave a turn to the evidence favourable to the prisoner. Mr. Sergeant Ballantine delivered a very forcible address on behalf of the prisoner, and the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.—Gloucester Gale pleaded guilty to marrying six wives, and was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.—The three men charged with stealing a valuable bell from the mansion of Alderman Finnis, at Wandsworth, were discharged, owing to the evidence not being sufficient to convict them.

The young woman, Annie Collyer, in custody on the charge of setting fire to the house of her master, at Wandsworth, has been re-examined. It will be remembered that previous to the total destruction of the dwelling five distinct fires were said to have broken out

on the morning in question. Several witnesses were heard, amongst whom was her master, who expressed his firm belief in the innocence of the girl. The magistrate ordered the case to stand over till Tuesday next.

Esther Greggs, living in East-street, Manchester-square, was examined at Marylebone, before Mr. Broughton. A policeman stated that, on his beat, he heard cries of "Save my child!" and immediately after an infant was dashed through a pane of glass from the first floor window into the street. The mother alleges that she was under the impression the house was on fire, and wished to save the life of her child. His worship remanded the mother until it was seen if the poor infant should survive.

James Saunders, described as of Loughborough-road, Brixton, with a number of aliases, both native and foreign, appeared on remand before Mr. Corrie, at Clerkenwell, charged with uttering a fictitious bill of exchange for the sum of 208*l.* 16*s.*, in order to defraud Mr. Whitmee, of St. John-street. A number of other charges were also mentioned, but the magistrate expressed his intention to commit the prisoner on the first charge, remanding him in the mean time.

On Alderman Humphery taking his seat on the bench at Guildhall on Monday, the chief clerk announced that there was not a single person in custody nor a single entry in the charge-sheet. The magistrate, in consequence, claimed the customary pair of white kid gloves.

George Gibson was again brought before Alderman Humphery, at the Guildhall, on Tuesday, charged with being concerned with three other men in the notorious burglary at Stamford-hill, in the summer of 1856. The prisoner, it appears, was liberated on a ticket of leave the same month of the robbery (April), and it still remains to ascertain the day of discharge, that the possibility of his being an accomplice may be established. In order to this another adjournment has taken place for a week.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, Mr. Commissioner Goulburn gave judgment on Wednesday in the case of Davidson and Gordon, the details of which have been before the public in many forms. The learned gentleman presented a lucid narrative of the facts of the case, and strongly animadverted on the share which Mr. D. B. Chapman had taken in the bankrupts' transactions. He refused the bankrupts their certificate, but with the consent of the assignees he granted them protection, on the ground of the extreme suffering which they had already endured.

At the Surrey Sessions, Thomas Turner Molyneux was indicted for stealing a cow, the property of the Rev. Stephen Terry. The prosecutor had advertised the sale of two cows, and received a letter from E. B. Somerset, York-road, Lambeth, requesting one of the cows to be sent to the railway terminus, when a cheque would be remitted to pay for it. The cow was sent as directed, and the prisoner took it away. The prosecutor could not get his money, however. The prisoner admitted that the letter was in his own handwriting, whereupon the judge said there was an end of the case, as it was a *bona fide* sale, and the prisoner was acquitted.

Thomas Birchmore, late the relieving officer for St. Pancras, surrendered for further examination on the charge of embezzlement. All that was done was to take, as a preliminary step, the depositions of a few persons who had paid small sums of money on behalf of friends living in the workhouse, and which had not been accounted for. It was contended by the counsel for the defence that as the defendant had not held the office of collector, he was only liable to a civil action. Mr. Tyrwhitt granted another remand, accepting bail.

At the Middlesex Sessions, Frederick Brewer was indicted for receiving thirty-three pennyweights of gold, the property of James Green, well knowing the same to have been stolen. The prisoner being undefended, the learned judge objected to the style of examination pursued by the counsel for the prosecution, whereupon the prisoner became very impudent, and, notwithstanding the judge's caution to him, he went on to cross-examine the witnesses as if he had been a lawyer. The prisoner was found guilty. He had incited the boy to rob his master of the gold, and the judge, in passing sentence, said it was one of the worst cases of receiving that ever came before him; the prisoner was a disgraceful wretch, and he would sentence him to seven years' penal servitude.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

HENRY REED, sentenced to death for the murder of his wife at Manchester, was executed in front of Kirkdale Gaol on Saturday morning. The wretched man made no confession of his guilt.

THE LATE GENERAL JACOB.

GENERAL JOHN JACOB, C.B., the creator and commander of the famous Scinde Irregular Horse, is dead. The permanent exigencies of our position in India, evoking latent ability in a measure unexampled in our own or any other history, have raised up to eminence as soldiers and administrators far too many men to permit us to speak of any individual as if he were indispensable to the

government of that country. Yet General Jacob's death must be lamented as a serious loss. He was one of those clear-headed, strong-willed men who seem born to cope with the elements of society in their most rudimentary state, and to mould them to order and usefulness. He was a complete soldier, and like Napoleon had mastered all the details and duties of his profession. The Scinde Horse, of which he was for so many years Commandant, are regarded as among the finest troops in the world. Whatever he undertook to perform he performed well, and whether we look upon him as a soldier, a general, an inventor, a philosopher, or a politician, we perceive only the highest and most brilliant qualities. His command on the North-Western frontier will some day supply the material for a brilliant chapter of our Indian history. Jacob found the British troops there shut up in forts, in the midst of desert, supplied by a distant commissariat in the absence of production and commerce, knowing nobody, unable to tell friend from foe, and threatened by wild marauders. On his arrival the forts were thrown down, incessant patrols and the steady pursuit and stern punishment of robber or insurgent bands, at once announced that a real power was established. Brigadier Jacob soon held Scinde and the entire frontier in his grasp. The wild tribes regarded him with mingled feelings of fear and superstition, and even the rudest of their chiefs respected his authority and obeyed his mandates. The country became habitable; the poor felt assured, and settled down under our protection; cultivation began, and now on the formerly desert border of Upper Scinde an army might obtain supplies, and on the site of the old mud fort of Khanghur is the large and flourishing town of Jacobabad, completely open and without the least attempt at any sort of defensive arrangement. The peace, quiet, industry, and plenty, with full protection for life and property, which have succeeded to rapine and disorder, are due entirely to the discipline and efficiency of that Irregular Horse, the reputation of which has spread over the world. This corps, consisting of 1600 men—gentlemen in the estimation of their native countrymen—proud of their profession, trained to be independent of extraneous assistance, devoted to their commander, and bound together by the reputation of their force, was always "ready to go anywhere, and do anything." To produce and maintain its discipline was the constant study and unceasing labour of Jacob; from the time he was appointed to its command, in 1841, he was never absent a single day from his duty. The late Major-General Sir Charles Napier declared that the discipline of Jacob's Horse was "perfection," and it is remarkable that a court-martial has never been held in the corps. It is, however, from the work to which all this military skill and assiduity was made tributary—the civilisation of barbaric tribes, the conversion of the desert into corn-fields, and of thousands of robbers into cultivators—that General Jacob's name will derive present lustre and lasting renown.

IRELAND.

FOURTEEN of the Belfast prisoners, charged with being members of an illegal society, &c., were committed for trial on Saturday last, and the presiding magistrate intimated that bail would not be taken for their appearance. Another man has been committed, but bail will be accepted in his case. The remaining two of the batch arrested have become approvers against their companions. Further arrests in Belfast and Kilkenny county exhibit the continued apprehensions and fears of the Irish Executive. On Monday five members of a secret society were arrested at Callan, one at Ballydonnell, and another at Kilkenny. The prisoners are severally described as leather merchant, publican, national school teacher, and two sailors. After investigation the presiding magistrate remanded them all. They are charged as being members of the Callan branch of the Phoenix Society.

The *Westmeath Independent* states:—We have just learned that a number of arrests have been made by the constabulary at Shannon Bridge of persons connected with a Phoenix Club some time established in that locality. Arrests have also been made at Carrabeg, in the same district.

Saunders' announcements, apparently on authority, that the venerable Baron Pennefather has at length placed his resignation in the hands of Government. The Solicitor-General (Mr. Hayes) or Mr. Browster, it is added, will most probably succeed to the vacancy, as it is considered certain that the Attorney-General will decline the pulisno judgeship.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

AN alarming accident took place on the North London Railway on Saturday. A passenger train came into collision with a hoffer which had strayed on to the line. The train was hurled down the embankment, but fortunately no injuries more serious than contusions and bruises were sustained by any of the passengers.

We have to record further deplorable accidents at places of public amusement. The Polytechnic Institution, in Regent-street, on Monday evening, was crowded with holiday makers; and when the people were leav-

ing, the staircase leading from the upper gallery gave way, and precipitated a great number of persons into the hall beneath. One death, that of a girl eight years old, is announced, besides which twenty-one persons have received injuries, some of which, it is feared, may terminate fatally. The directors of the institution have given instructions that every attention be paid the sufferers, some of whom are lying at Middlesex Hospital, and others who have been conveyed to their own homes. A coroner's inquest on the body of the poor girl who lost her life by the accident was opened on Thursday. Evidence as to the general facts of the accident was given, from which it appeared that the stone of the steps alone had given way, and that the main wall of the staircase was uninjured. Both coroner and jury agreed in the desirability of adjourning the inquiry, that the evidence of surveyors might be obtained. Two were appointed—one by the coroner, and the other by the jury, and the inquest was adjourned.

At Glasgow, on Saturday, while the audience were leaving the pit of the Queen's Theatre, on the Green, a number of children were severely injured by the crush, several being knocked down and trampled upon by the crowd, and one poor girl, of about fourteen years old, was killed by the effects of the pressure. No blame is said to attach to the owner of the theatre.

A terrible accident has to be reported at the Agecroft Colliery, Pendlebury, which occurred on Tuesday. On this occasion it was not an explosion of fire-damp, but some negligence with the machinery. The result is the violent death of seven persons—three men and four boys.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE following gentlemen cadets, having been favourably reported by the governor of the Royal Military Academy as efficient in the various branches of study, have been recommended by the Duke of Cambridge to receive commissions in the Artillery or Engineers:—Messrs. William J. Carroll, Charles Woodward, Adrian de M. Prior, Charles Bowen, William H. Mulloy, Francis G. Oldham, George W. Johnson, Henry A. Gun, Charles G. C. Bigsby, George Best, James O. Playfair, Clement W. Bellairs, Samuel Anderson, Robert J. Bond, Robert Y. Armstrong, Charles H. C. Halkett, Arthur K. Haslett, William R. Slacke, George H. L. Pole, George E. Grover, and Edward F. Wynne.

The annual return of the names, number of guns, and tonnage of the whole of the vessels in the navy has just been published. The British navy consists of 523 vessels, including screw steamers of every description, exclusive of which there are 167 gunboats. No less than 176 vessels are in commission and doing duty in every part of the globe. The vessels in commission are distributed as follows:—32 line-of-battle ships, frigates, and smaller vessels are attached to the East Indies and China station; 25 on the coast of Africa; 16 in the Mediterranean; 15 on the Pacific and on the Australia station; 15 on the North America and West India station; 7 on the south-east coast of America, and 5 at the Cape of Good Hope. The remaining 61 vessels are employed on particular service or attached as guardships to the principal ports of Great Britain and Ireland, including the Channel Squadron. In addition to the vessels in commission there is a powerful steam reserve in harbour at Chatham and Sheerness, consisting of 86 line-of-battle screw steamers, floating batteries, steam frigates, and other smaller vessels, all of which could be equipped for sea at the shortest possible notice, many of them having been launched during the last few years. There are also 11 line-of-battle screw steamers of from 80 to 181 guns each, building at the several royal dock-yards, together with 15 other screw steamers, all in various stages of progress. Of the list of steam gunboats given in the return nearly the whole are described as ready for service. The majority of them are of 60-horse power.

The *Times* Berlin correspondent gives the following particulars of the military forces of Prussia:—"The Prussian army consists of three portions—the standing army, the Landwehr, and the Landsturm. The standing army is composed of four regiments of Guards, of three battalions; one regiment of Guards, of two battalions; thirty-two regiments of Infantry, of three battalions; eight regiments of Infantry, of two battalions; amounting altogether to 126,000 men. The Cavalry, Artillery, Engineers, and Chasseurs number 54,000; total strength, 180,000. The Landwehr consists of the Landwehr of the first levy, which includes all the serviceable men from 25 to 32, and the Landwehr of the second levy, composed of all the fighting men between 32 and 40. The Landsturm is composed of all men capable of bearing arms from 17 to 50, who are neither in the standing army nor in the Landwehr. The Landwehr is bound in time of war to serve abroad as well as at home, but only in support of the army. The Landsturm is not required to cross the frontier.

A semi-official announcement has been received at Woolwich of the intention of the War Department to appoint a distinguished officer of the Royal Artillery as Governor-in-Chief of Woolwich Arsenal. The change, it is stated, will effect a most important economy in the expenditure of the Arsenal. The manufacturing departments will be directed and controlled, under the Go-

ernor, by civilians. Colonel Tulloch is mentioned as the future Governor, at a salary of 2000*l.* per annum.

Two courts-martial have been held at Sheerness on officers of H.M. steam-sloop *Alecto*, for alleged insolence to Commander James Hunt. The first case was that of the ship's surgeon, Dr. M'Shane, against whom it was alleged that "he did, on the 14th day of August, 1858, on board the said sloop, act in an insolent manner towards Commander James Hunt, by stating to him that if he had not got awnings he had better get them—such statement having reference to a representation made by the said Charles M'Shane to the said commander that sickness would occur on board the said sloop if awnings were not kept spread; and by turning his back in the face of the commander while the latter was addressing him." Dr. M'Shane's defence stated that he was only actuated by zeal for the service, to preserve the health of the crew and officers; the disrespectful conduct he denied. The decision of the Court was that the charges were proved; but, "in consequence of his excellent testimonials, and the high character given him by his present commander, the Court do only adjudge the prisoner to be reprimanded, and he is hereby reprimanded accordingly." Charles Frederick Puckett, late master of the vessel, was tried for using insubordinate language to Commander Hunt, by stating that he would make him prove his words with reference to a statement that he thought the said sloop was at the time thirty miles out of her position, contrary to the directions given by the said commander to the said C. F. Puckett; and by the said C. F. Puckett stating to the said commander that he the said commander gave him no course, which statement was untrue. The decision was that both charges were fully proved, and the prisoner was sentenced to lose six months' time, and to be severely reprimanded, and admonished to be more careful in future.

PASSING FOR A CORNET.

THERE was a young gallant, of strong martial bent,
A juvenile hero, on glory intent;
The blood of a warrior ran hot in his veins;
A full heart was his, but he bore empty brains.

This hero that would be, since now some twelve moons,
A Cornetcy sought in a troop of dragoons;
But he first had an examination to pass,
For now a horse-regiment can't let in an ass.

So what did our hero in such a hard strait,
Impassable quite with his ill-furnished pate?
He just went and borrowed another man's head,
A substitute hiring to pass in his stead.

The substitute stood the ordeal at once,
And passed in the name of our valiant young dunce,
Who obtained thus by proxy a first-class degree;
His commission he bought, and gazetted was he.

The knave he had been fool enough to suborn
Soon fixed in the young dragoon's saddle a thorn;
The threat of exposure hard bought off, and then
Renewed, and bought off, and repeated again.

Ten months of this life the bold stupid youth bore,
Until he could buy off the rascal no more,
Who, his avarice now sopped no longer with pay,
Peached forthwith on the dupe that had ceased to yield prey.

From head-quarters down word of question prompt
Speeds;
Fact can't be denied, and dismissal succeeds.

The price of Commission escheats to the Crown,
And the red coat is doffed, and the wearer done brown.

Oh, gallants, whose valour your wit doth excel,
There's no longer a chance for a dense dashing swell;
You must now learn and labour to furnish your brains,
Before you can have them blown out for your pains.

In the eating's the proof of the pudding, 'tis said;
Some think fighting the proof of your good pudding head;

The head that reflects like the pudding, when hot,
And is fit to supply food for powder and shot.

But trust we that boobies do not fight the best,
And scholars won't fail when they come to the test;
And though, ere in war they can venture their luck,
They must take a degree, will show no want of pluck.
—Punch.

THE OMNIBUS OPPOSITION NUISANCE.—The disputes between the London General and Saloon Omnibus Companies are now likely soon to reach a termination. At the last hearing of the charge of conspiracy at the Westminster police-court, on Thursday, the 28th ult., the case was adjourned until the 12th instant. Since that time a more amicable spirit has arisen between the representatives of each company, and Mr. Vining, the solicitor for the Saloon Company, drew up a draft of the proposed terms of reference, which has been submitted to, and, with slight alterations, approved of, by Messrs. Wilkinson and Stevens, the solicitors of the others, it being agreed that the question should be referred to Mr. Barstow, of the common law bar, his decision and award to be final.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

An Imperial decree, dated Dec. 18, ordains that the Abbey of St. Denis shall be the burying-place of the Emperors of the French. It is known to be the wish of the Emperor to remove the remains of his uncle from the Invalides to St. Denis; he thinks it would be more "dynastic" that his family should be buried among the ancient kings of France.

The *Presse* has reason to know that nothing has yet been decided with regard to a new meeting of the Paris Conference.

Galignani states that upwards of three thousand persons paid their respects to the Emperor and Empress at the Tuileries on New Year's-day.

No English paper, save the *Leader*, was seized on Sunday last.

Count Sercey, a retired staff colonel, has gone to Egypt on a secret mission.

The *Indépendance* says that the insurrectional movement in Algeria, which led to the sudden departure of General MacMahon, is more considerable than any that has taken place in that country for a long while. The most profound secrecy is observed in official circles as to the origin of this agitation.

The Shah of Persia has banished his late Sadr Azam, Mirza Aga Khan, from the Persian territory, with liberty to choose a residence in Western Europe. He has consequently chosen France for his residence.

The French Government is preparing to send magnificent presents to Foev-Tsigo, the new Emperor of Japan.

An attaché of the Minister of Foreign Affairs has left Paris for Serbia on a special mission.

There has been an extraordinary panic at the Bourse, in consequence of a rumour of something said by the Emperor to M. de Hubner on New Year's-day, from which it is inferred that the relations between France and Austria are in a very critical, not to say alarming, state. Some have suggested a similitude between that incident and the famous interview between the First Consul and Lord Whitworth in 1803, just previous to the rupture of the peace of Amiens. In the *Constitutionnel*, however, we find what purports to be the exact text of the words employed by the Emperor to M. Hubner, namely:—"I regret that our relations with your Government are not so good as they were, but I request you to tell the Emperor that my personal feelings for him are not changed."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—"The impression that we are on the eve of a general war gains ground immensely. A few days ago it was said—and said truly—in a Belgian journal that war was not believed in except in barracks. That exception had, perhaps, for importance than was generally attributed to it. I can now assure you beyond a doubt, that whatever turn events may subsequently take, the French "army of Italy" is at this moment ready to march "on paper." The commander-in-chief, the generals, the aides-de-camp, the staff, the regiments, the artillery, the engineering corps, are all fixed upon, and the telegraph might in half an hour send them on their way across the Alps to-morrow. Be well assured that I do not say this lightly. Notwithstanding all these symptoms, a great war is scarcely upon the cards. The Emperor is not strong enough internally to risk the tremendous discontent which would be engendered in France by the catastrophes, the desolation, which would be produced by a war of any long duration."

AUSTRIA.

The official *Oesterreichische Correspondenz*, of Wednesday, announces that reinforcements will go from Vienna to the army in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. It is expressly said that the troops are sent for the protection of the peaceful inhabitants of the kingdom against the revolutionary party.

People at Vienna are no less persuaded of an approaching war than at Turin. At Vienna they think the recent occurrences in Serbia were brought about through the instigation of France, with a view to compromise Austria.

It has also been reported at Vienna that a conspiracy has been discovered at Cracow, and that forty persons had been arrested, some of whom were Russian agents.

Disturbances took place on the 27th at Modena, which were directed against the lottery, because the lottery is one of the sources of the public revenue. On the 2nd the Duke of Modena left for Vienna, it is not said on what errand. The Austrian general officers of Italy are holding a military congress at Vienna, in which the commander of the troops in Parma takes a part.

A Milan correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"At Venice and Milan, as also in the provinces, the agitation is great, with a strong mixture of prudence and common sense in it notwithstanding. They are willing enough to have the affair of 1848 over again, but no more parillies, hectoring, and swaggering; no more silly braggadocio. They are organising themselves quietly and steadily, but solidly and with a will. The

Austrians seem bewildered, and are taking measures never heard of before, and which some think perfectly absurd. In 1848 you would meet with scores of people that upheld Austria's good right and her virtuous intentions, but you would not find now half a dozen in the whole Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. Every one is now convinced that if the Austrians were only once out of Italy, the King of Naples, the Pope, and all the petty princes of the peninsula would soon change their tone, and that a lasting peace might then become a possibility. No one dreams of a republic, no one hints at socialism. What Italians desire is, to have Italy governed rationally by native princes and native laws."

The *Patrie* publishes a letter from Milan of the 1st inst., which contains a statement to the effect that some bodies of the people passing by the barracks crying "*Viva l'Italia*," were responded to by the soldiers within the barracks with a similar cry. General Gyulai had returned to Milan.

SERBIA.

The petition of the National Assembly that the Sultan will be pleased to instal Prince Milosch as Hereditary Prince of Serbia, is already on its way to Constantinople. Milosch has arrived at Cernitz, in Wallachia, and there met the deputation sent to offer him the crown. He has accepted it for himself, and not for his son Michael. The Porte does not require that Prince Alexander should be restored. On the contrary, it is willing that the executive authority should repose in a magisterial council, composed of those who are Ministers. Then, this done, the election of a new Prince would proceed according to the wishes of the Servians, and in the way it was done at the fall of Prince Milosch in 1839.

SPAIN.

The committee of the Deputies had made its report on the authorisation demanded by the Government to levy and lay out the public revenue from January 1, 1859, according to the estimates. The report was favourable to the Government. An amendment on the bill was proposed by M. de la Vega, but it was rejected by 162 to 13. It appears that the Spanish debt amounts to the enormous sum of 14,000,000,000 reals.

The Spanish Government and Legislature have taken great offence at the way President Buchanan alluded, in his Message, to the probable purchase of Cuba. The supposition that Spain would sell Cuba is protested against as offensive. A resolution proposed to Congress in support of this declaration was agreed to.

The Spanish Government has been informed officially that complete satisfaction has been granted to Spain for the exactions of which the Spaniards had been the victims at Tampico, in conformity with the demands of the authorities of Cuba.

SARDINIA.

There is no relaxation in those preparations which seem to indicate the proximity of war. Besides extraordinary efforts for supplying the army with requisites, the workshops of the military arsenal are busy getting ready new field-batteries.

General Garibaldi has been summoned to Turin to be questioned upon two points:—First, how, in case of war, he would set to work to organise and mobilise a national guard? Secondly, how and in what space of time he could raise bodies of volunteers, so as to have ten thousand men ready for the field? Garibaldi has already returned to Nice, where he usually resides, and where he will wait for fresh orders.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The immense majority of the electors just chosen in Moldavia for exercising the trust of electing the Hospodar, are Conservatives in the Austro-Turkish sense; and, consequently, Michel Stourdza, the candidate of that party for the Hospodariate, has the greatest chance to become the future ruler.

NAPLES.

Lord Stratford has left Naples for Rome. His long visit has been solely in consequence of Lady Stratford's weak state of health. Lord Stratford has not meddled with the question of politics, and, least of all, with the politics of Naples, and he has scrupulously avoided any intercourse which could give rise to such an idea.

The Grand-Duke Constantine has left the Sardinian territories for Palermo. The French journals contain some further communications. The King of Naples is said to have flatly refused the request to erect a coaling station at Brindisi, on the ground that Russia is in friendship with Piedmont. His Majesty cannot understand how anybody can be his friend and the friend of Victor Emmanuel at the same time.

PORTUGAL.

The reply to the discourse from the throne has been passed by the Chamber of Deputies, and is now under discussion in the Upper House. The chief topic of interest has been that of the Charles-et-Georges. The proceedings of the English Parliament are anxiously awaited in Lisbon.

The Count de Vitzthum has been delegated by the King of Saxony to negotiate the preliminaries of the marriage between the Infanta Donna Maria Anna and Prince George.

The accounts of the late vintage are very satisfactory, and the yield of wine has been even more abundant than was at first anticipated.

ROME.

The Papal Government is endeavouring to form a native army in order not to be unprovided when the French and Austrian armies shall withdraw. After having organised the troops of the line Cardinal Antonelli is determined to place the corps of artillery on a better footing.

Since Mr. Lyons quitted Rome to arrange the difference with Naples, Great Britain has had no diplomatic agent at Rome. It is said that the son of Lord John Russell is going to reside there, with the title of Chargé d'Affaires.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has arrived at Rome; he lives very retired. His health appears to be seriously affected.

TURKEY.

The fact that the Sultan has reinstated his relatives as members of the Council, and yet has not deposed Aali Pasha, has created at Constantinople much surprise. Great jobbery seems already to have been practised with the sums received as proceeds of the loan. The greater number of forged notes issued of late prove no small hindrance to the repurchase of the paper money; yet the Government promise to persist in this measure. Riza Pasha, urged by the Russian Ambassador to satisfy some Russian creditors of the Ottoman State, has openly confessed that he does not yet see how he shall be able to make both ends meet.

There has been considerable excitement at Constantinople at the news of the Servian revolution. The Sultan, acting on the advice of the Austrian envoy, was at first inclined to oppose the patriotic resolves of the Skupstchina, but the insistence of the other ambassadors, and especially of Sir H. Bulwer, caused the Porte to change its intention.

Omer Pasha has met with some serious reverses, but Syria is quieter; the Maronites continue to demand the intervention of the European consuls, in the hope of having their grievances redressed.

Sefir Pasha has been sent on a mission to Candia, where the inhabitants are in an excited state, and only pay their arrears of taxes under protest of resistance in case any attempt should be made to disarm them.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Government is beginning to permit exiles to return without being exposed to imprisonment before trial, in such cases as admit or demand trial.

The latest accounts from Rome say that the King of Prussia has begun to show himself in public, and has already visited the principal churches in Rome. His health has evidently improved. He speaks with greater facility, and appears more gay.

Count de Hatzfeldt, the Prussian Minister at the Court of the Tuileries, is shortly, according to a letter from Berlin, expected in that city. In the present excited state of Europe it is natural to suppose that this departure from Paris must have some bearing on political events.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

Mr. Gladstone has sent home his report, and expects instructions before the opening of the Ionian Parliament. If England refuses her consent to the union of the Ionian Republic with Greece, the representatives of the people will communicate the wish of the nation to the Powers which signed the Paris Treaty.

RUSSIA.

M. de Boutenietz, Russian Ambassador at the Court of Constantinople, has arrived in St. Petersburg. His presence is said to be in connexion with the latest Servian events, which, of course, are looked upon in the light of no small triumph to Russian diplomacy. The papers have not yet been permitted to speak freely, and intone their jubilant strains at the deposition of the Karageorgewitch, but the capital is full of it.

The Emperor has just given his sanction to a proposal from the Governor of Siberia for building a town, to be called Sophiisk, at Djai, on the right bank of the Amoor.

By a ukase of the Emperor, British subjects resident or trading in the Russian empire are entitled to enjoy all the immunities which are granted to French, Greek, Belgian, and Dutch subjects.

INDIA.

The Bombay mail has arrived, bringing letters and newspapers to the 9th December. The amnesty is slowly but surely thinning the ranks of the rebels; and Beni Madho Sing, the great Oude chieftain who preferred to abandon his stronghold rather than acknowledge allegiance to the Queen, has been completely defeated by Lord Clyde in person. The enemy, it appears, on the approach of Lord Clyde, evacuated his stronghold, Sunkerpore, but was overtaken by Brigadier Eveleigh, and driven back towards the Ganges. Lord Clyde then combining with Brigadier Eveleigh, forced Beni Madho to action, and defeated him with heavy loss on the 20th. In half an hour the rebels were driven in confusion from the jungle which formed their defence. Cavalry and horse artillery pursued them for ten miles, capturing eight guns, and cutting down or driving into the Ganges some 1100 of the rebels. Beni Madho, who is reported to have been the first to quit the field, fled

down the river. Oomrao Sing, another leader, took the road to Cawnpore. The greater portion of the rebels threw away their arms, and dispersed among the ravines and lowlands of the adjoining country. This victory has cleared the portion of Oude on the right bank of the Ganges of the last body of rebels really formidable. On the 27th Lord Clyde entered Lucknow. The termination of the contest cannot be very remote, the victories of our troops and the merciful nature of the amnesty both tending to promote that much-to-be-desired event.

In the Khyrabad and trans-Gogra country the insurgents still muster in strong numbers, their principal leaders being Prince Feroze Shah and the Begum of Oude. The former has already been defeated, with considerable loss, by our troops, under Colonel Brind, and at the latest date was retiring from the Gogra, with a view of joining the Begum. The Commander-in-Chief himself, with the separate columns of Brigadiers Grant, Taylor, and Barker, was expected at once to commence operations against this foe.

In Central India, Tantia Topee still eludes a pursuit. In fact, whether from a bold stroke of policy or from hard pressure, he has carried the war, as it were, into our own territory. We now hear that he has crossed the Nerbudda, and marched into the province of Guzerat, and that in the course of his movements he has contrived to cut off some of the heavy baggage belonging to a British force on its way to Baroda. Previously to this, however, his force of 3000 men was completely defeated at Rajpore by Major Sutherland with a force of 250 Europeans and 150 native cavalry. On the 1st of December, Brigadier Parke intercepted and engaged Tantia Topee at Oodeypore, fifty miles east of Baroda. The rebels were completely dispersed and defeated, losing upwards of 300 men. Our loss was comparatively trifling. Brigadier Parke was, however, unable to follow up his victory, his force having marched upwards of 200 miles in eight days. Tantia's army is broken and disorganised, wearied and dispirited, and might be easily disposed of by local levies. No serious fears are entertained for the population of the Khandeish, and the only present result of his incursion is the burning and plundering of defenceless villages. But the mercantile community of Surat has been thrown into a panic by the near approach of this noted rebel, and every effort is being made by Sir Hugh Rose to effect his capture. Brigadier Smith overtook Maun Sing and about 2400 men on the 14th of November at Koondry, and killed 600. Maun Sing escaped with difficulty.

News has just reached Bombay, by electric telegraph, of the death of Brigadier-General John Jacob, of the Scinde Horse. This melancholy event took place on the 5th ult., at Jacobabad, Scinde, brain fever being the cause of death. A small insurrection has occurred in Burmah, at the village of Thorantay, distant about ten miles from Rangoon, which was temporarily in the hands of a band of insurgents, led by a fisherman, who announced himself subsequently as prince. During the affray the civil officer of the station and his nephew were wounded, the latter dying the day after. Two steamers were immediately despatched, with all the available troops, and in a couple of days fifty-three of the gang were secured. There was at first a difficulty in capturing the Burmese Masaniello, but the offer of a thousand rupees soon induced the villagers to give him up. He is now in gaol, awaiting only his trial and transfer to the gallows.

LORD CLYDE IN ACTION.

We quote from Mr. Russell's letter:—"The balls whistle sharply enough around the heads of the advance, and the soft sandy soil of the field is knocked up in all directions in little cloudy jets where the bullets strike. There is one solitary rising ground in this field, whither Lord Clyde, mounted on his tall white horse, dashes at once, and up on its top he at once gets, in order to reconnoitre the enemy's position. He instantly receives a volley from the hidden enemy, of which he appears as conscious as if it were fired at Aldershot. But our skirmishers have advanced to the wall of the field, and their rifles soon abate the zeal of the Sepoys in the trench. 'Bring up the guns!' to one aide-de-camp. 'Go to Colonel Eveleigh, sir, and tell him to bring forward his right,' to another. Now is the time to see the old soldier in his element; every sense alive, keen, energetic, self-reliant, calm, and courteous. He directs every movement, and points out the ground for the guns to take. We unlimber. Bang! bang! roar the enemy's guns in anticipation, and the round shot, flying over the heads of the advance with a harsh roar, strike into the earth behind. The answering voices are not long delayed. Gordon's guns are opened on the tiny lines of smoke and on the great puffs from the batteries. 'Press on the advance.' The Chief gallops on to the skirmishers. The guns limber up. The musketry is sharp on our right, mingled with the heavy reports of artillery. Clouds of dust rise near the bank of the river. 'They are flying! Up with the cavalry!' The guns to the front. Away in one great wave flash the Carabiniers to our left, where we can see the enemy streaming down by the river banks towards the south. It is a dust storm. In a few moments they are lost in the dense cloud which rises from their horses' hoofs. Our men rush on through the jungle; it is deserted by all but dead or dying men."

"Double! double! bring up the infantry at once! We behold a shifting outline on the horizon on our right. It is the enemy, flying through the island rushes. 'Horse artillery and cavalry, after them! Round come Bruce's guns—down the bank they go—slap through the narrow ford, throwing tiny cascade from their wheels. Round came the storm of cavalry native horse and a troop of Carabiniers. 'Keep you men with the guns, sir, and on no account leave them, is the parting order of the Commander-in-Chief to the officer before they dash into the ford. To the commander of the native cavalry his orders are different. 'You are to stick to them to the last; follow them close; don't give up the pursuit till to-morrow!'"

TANTIA TOPEE'S FOLLOWING:

The correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"Tantia's horsemen are said to be well mounted and well equipped. Report says that he is surrounded by three hundred mounted spearmen, encased in shirts of chain-mail, who have bound themselves, by the most solemn oaths, to cover him with their bodies, as was the case with the fourth James at Flodden, rather than that he should fall alive into the hands of the English. Devotion like this sounds very romantic; and it is just possible that the misguided men would act up to their obligations; but canister and shrapnel-shell make fearful havoc amongst their ranks, and their chain-mail would avail them but little when exposed to the deadly discharges of the Enfield rifle."

EGYPT.

SKODRALI MUSTAPHA PASHA, who has been named sheik ul-haram of the cities of Mecca and Medina, has arrived at Alexandria from Constantinople. His functions are both political and religious. He is the oldest grand dignitary of the empire, and was raised to the rank of pasha by Sultan Mahmoud in 1811.

Said Pasha, the new governor of the Hedjaz, embarked at Suez on the 19th, on his way to his post. The Viceroy promised to furnish a contingent sufficient to maintain order.

The last accounts received from Djeddah furnish little or no news. The inquiry into the murders was going on actively, and the arrests which have been made are likely to lead to important revelations.

The official inauguration of the Suez Railway took place in presence of the Viceroy and his family.

WEST INDIES.

The Atrato has arrived at Southampton with dates from Jamaica to the 11th December, and Hayannah of the 10th.

JAMAICA.

The Legislature was still in session, but efforts were being made to bring the session to a close before Christmas-day. The following bills had received the Governor's assent:—General Immigration, Immigration Fund, Chinese Immigration by Private Individuals, and Indenturing of Captured Africans. A bill for extending the jurisdiction of justices of the peace in petty sessions, was warmly contested at every stage. The bill was carried in the Assembly by a very narrow majority.

The Botanic Gardens, Bath, St. Thomas's-in-the-East, had been completely destroyed by the late floods.

It was feared that the poorer inhabitants of St. Andrew and St. David would suffer severely from the scarcity of native provisions, the floods having destroyed most of their provision fields.

HAYTI.

Advices from Dominica state that great indignation had been aroused there in consequence of a proposal of Soulouque to incorporate that republic with Hayti.

TRINIDAD.

A disastrous fire occurred on the night of the 4th ult., the loss sustained being estimated at 50,000 dols. It began at the corner of Frederick and King streets, and destroyed several properties.

BARBADOES.

The House of Assembly was in sitting on the 7th of December. The Education Bill was read a third time and passed, as was the bill for amending the act establishing the Waterworks Company. The House adjourned for a fortnight.

MARTINIQUE.

Since the commencement (in 1853) of immigration to the French islands, there have been introduced into Martinique 5872 coolies coming direct from India, 114 coolies from British colonies, 6 Chinese, and 697 Africans, making a total of 6689 immigrants. Guadeloupe received in the same period 4099 coolies and 1422 Africans, making 5521 immigrants. By a recent vote of the Council-General, provision has been made for the introduction of 18,000 more immigrants, of which number 7000 are to be Africans under the Rogis contract, and 11,000 Chinese, to be brought by a Bordeaux house.

CANADA.

A TELEGRAM from Toronto states that the Northern Railway had been pronounced unsafe by the Government Inspector, and that passenger trains had consequently been stopped upon it.

AMERICA.

THE Persia has brought New York news to the 22nd ult. The proceedings in Congress had been of no special importance. In the Senate, the Pacific Railroad Bill had been the principal topic of debate. A bill providing for the organisation of the territory of Dacotah had been read twice, and referred to the appropriate committee.

The *New York Herald* remarks:—"Members of Congress are decidedly rowdyish just at this time. On Friday, during a debate in the House, Mr. Shorter, of Alabama, called Mr. Washburne, of Wisconsin, a liar. On Saturday, Mr. English, of Indiana, saluted Mr. Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, on the avenue, when the latter replied that he didn't speak to puppies, whereupon Mr. English struck him a blow over the head with a cane, knocking him into the street. Montgomery, on rising, hurled a brick at English, but it did not hit him. The parties then separated."

It is stated that on the 20th the superintendent at Trinity Bay received some very good currents through the Atlantic Telegraph cable—the word "Henley" being distinctly recognised.

The Odeon Theatre, situated in the Bowery, New York, has been entirely destroyed by fire.

The trial of Messrs. Allibone and Newhall, of the Pennsylvania Bank, has resulted in their acquittal.

SOUTH AMERICAN STATES.

CHILE.

THE Chilean Congress opened an extraordinary session on the 7th of November to consider the budget and other measures; some warm debates took place.

A conflagration on the 13th of November destroyed a large part of the city of Valparaiso, causing damage to the amount of nearly 3,000,000 dols. The fire originated in the Union Club, about ten o'clock in the morning. Some of the firemen lost their lives, and a number of persons were also seriously injured.

PERU.

The bill authorising the President to raise 15,000 men to conduct the war against Ecuador, had passed, and the recruiting stations had been opened, but with little success, and the Government would, it was said, have to resort to conscription to raise the necessary number. The American ships that were seized by the Government at Patallion de Pira were being fitted up as transports to convey troops to Ecuador.

ECUADOR.

Ecuador continued blockaded by Peru, the mail steamers being the only vessels allowed to enter or clear from Guayaquil. No attempt at war had yet been made beyond blockading, although the Ecuadorians appeared to be rapidly raising an army to meet the forces of Peru.

AUSTRALIA.

LETTERS and papers of the 16th November from Melbourne, and of the 11th from Sydney, represent a generally prosperous condition of trade and finance.

The discovery of the Indigo diggings has acted as a set-off to the collapse of Port Curtis expectations. It is prophesied of Indigo that the place will soon rival Ballarat. Ararat, Pleasant Creek, and other diggings are doing well.

The state of the labour market remained without alteration. The several lines of railway are being vigorously proceeded with. Large numbers of men who had been unsuccessful at the diggings had betaken themselves to this more steady though less tempting employment. There had been no unemployed demonstrations of late, those persons who are really desirous of employment being enabled to obtain work if they choose. In fact, day after day, advertisements had appeared for railway labourers.

Mr. Haines, who preceded Mr. O'Shanassy in the post of Chief Secretary, has announced his intention of leaving for England with his family.

Captain MacMahon had resigned the Chief Commissionership of Police, in consequence of what he considered an act of arbitrary interference on the part of the Chief Secretary. The matter was brought before the Assembly, and a vote of censure moved. In the course of the debate the Chief Secretary threatened to go out of office if the Assembly should pass the vote. On a division, the motion was rejected by 24 votes against 19.

Our Sydney intelligence is of no very great interest; the following are the principal items:—

The electric telegraph from Sydney to Melbourne and Adelaide has been opened.

The Chinese Bill has been shelved for the present. The Electoral Reform Bill was sent back to the Assembly, and has since passed through the ordeal of a consideration in committee by the latter House. The result has been that the bill stands restored in the most material points to its original shape. In particular, the changes which the Legislative Council made in reference to the franchise have been all negatived. It is entirely as a consequence of this, that when the bill comes again before the Upper House it will be cast out, unless a batch of new members is sent there to carry it. There are already some rumours of such a step being in contemplation.

The arrival of the Austrian frigate Novara is an event of some importance, not only because she is the first Austrian man-of-war that has entered this port, but because she is engaged upon a scientific expedition. Various demonstrations of welcome to her officers are under discussion.

MEXICO.

THE advices from the city of Mexico are to the 6th, and from Vera Cruz to the 8th ult. The French Admiral Penaud had arrived at Vera Cruz. He is said to have been in active correspondence with the French Minister at the capital.

Alvarado had fallen into the hands of the Zuloagistas. There had been no fighting in the interior. General Robles was in the city of Mexico, and it was said that an intended movement in his favour had failed.

Remittances to Europe and the United States were made with great difficulty from the interior at 13 per cent. premium.

There was a rumour that the British Minister had demanded the dismissal of General Miramon, or his own passports, on account of fresh insults to British subjects in San Luis Potosi.

It was reported that Tampico was blockaded by the Spanish fleet, which would have fired on the town if Garcia had not promised to return the forced loan, and if he had not saluted the Spanish flag.

At Tampico were two Spanish steamers. At the island of Sacrificios, Vera Cruz, were the French frigate Cleopatra and two other French steamers, and three Spanish steamers. At Havannah were four Spanish frigates, two screw frigates, three paddle-wheel frigates, and three sloops, and more ships of war were expected daily from Spain.

Every place in Mexico was held by the Liberal party except the city of Mexico. Garcia, the Governor of Tampico, admitted the authority of the Governor of Vera Cruz.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* says:—"Reliable intelligence has reached this city that Captain Topete, in command of the Spanish fleet of Tampico, has notified to the Spanish Consul at that place that war now exists between Spain and Mexico, and that troops would arrive from Cuba about the 10th of December, to prosecute hostile operations on the land."

ABYSSINIA.

THE Emperor Theodore has gained a decisive victory over the partisans of Oubie and neighbouring king, and was continuing his march towards the East, with the view of uniting under his authority the three kingdoms into which Abyssinia is divided.

PERSIA.

THE correspondent of a contemporary writes:—"Daoud Khan has been nominated Persian Ambassador to the Austrian Court, and Hussein Ali Khan representative of the Shah at both Paris and London. The latter is ordered to take up his abode at Paris, and pay only occasional visits to the Court of Queen Victoria. The prolonged residence of Feruk Khan at Paris, and the present stay of a numerous French embassy at Teheran, seem to have produced a powerful and, to the English, by no means desirable impression on the minds of the Persians. Whatever Europe may think of the genuineness of the Anglo-French alliance, it is certain these Orientals entertain no doubt as to the real state of the case. In bowing before Louis Napoleon, they are simply sheltering their heads in Paris against the fears of any more British storms bursting over their cowardly pates."

THE RIVER PLATE.

THE Tyne has arrived with news from Buenos Ayres to 27th November, and Monte Video to the 30th.

The Federal Government of Parana and Buenos Ayres are still at variance, and seem likely so to remain. A new tariff of differential duties for import goods will come into operation on the 1st of January.

Troops are en route for the province of San Juan, sent by the Parana Government. The murder of Benavides is attributed to the San Juan authorities by the former, Buenos Ayres not being without suspicion of complicity. Urquiza is at Entre Rios, the Government being carried on (*pro tem.*) by the vice-president.

Part of the American squadron have made their appearance at Monte Video, and are now awaiting the arrival of more vessels. It is expected they will leave here in the course of a few weeks to seek redress at the hands of the Paraguayan Government.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—On New Year's-eve her Majesty had a dinner and evening party. On Saturday the Queen's annual distribution of food and clothing to about seven hundred poor persons of the Windsor and Clewer parishes took place in the Riding-house of the Castle, in the presence of her Majesty, the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge. In the evening

there was a grand concert in St. George's Hall, conducted by Mr. Anderson; the principal English vocalists assisted, and an orchestra of one hundred and fifty performers. A large number of the nobility and gentry were present. Among the visitors to the Castle this week have been the Duchess and Princess Mary of Cambridge, the Duke of Cambridge; and the Spanish Ambassador, the Duke of Wellington, Viscounts Hardinge and Palmerston and their ladies.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Royal Highness is about to make a tour on the Continent for some months, and will then go direct to Rome, where it is understood he will reside for some time to enable him to study the antiquities and objects of classical and artistic interest. He will travel *incognito*, and be accompanied by his Governor, Colonel Bruce; Captain Grey, Equerry in Waiting; the Rev. C. Tarver (Chaplain and Superintendent of the Prince's Studies), and Dr. T. Chambers. The Queen of Spain having conferred the Order of the Golden Fleece on the Prince of Wales, the Prince has been invested at Windsor Castle.

PRINCE ALFRED.—The Prince would sail from Malta, it was expected, on the 30th ult., for Tunis, and, after visiting the principal Mediterranean ports, return to England, "preparatory to undertaking the circumnavigation of the globe." It is to be hoped that he will be put somewhat more in the way of learning the duties of his profession than appears to be the case at present.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—According to the return of the Registrar-General, there was not much change in the condition of the health of the metropolis in the past week. The deaths were 1494, being 48 above the average rate. The mortality from scarlatina continues at a high rate, being again fatal in 135 cases. There were 1994 births during the week.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH CHINA.—Without anticipating the time when we shall have an abstract of last night's *North China Herald* hung up in our news-rooms, we may at least venture to hope that the day is not far distant when we shall receive a message from our friends in China, and return an answer in twenty-four hours. If the people of this country are ever expected to feel any particular interest in the leading events of China and Japan, they must have it fresh and sparkling from the forge. News six weeks old has a certain degree of staleness about it which is anything but pleasant to us, or agreeable to our friends in the East; it is more particularly so to an English palate accustomed to feed on last night's debates. To most people in England, China is a myth. News from that country is like news from another world, and until the recent treaties called the attention of the public to that country and Japan, it required an effort of mind to look upon news so old as to really affect the people of England. This feeling the telegraph would at once dispel, and we should begin to look upon these nations as a part and parcel of the English community. China and Japan would be within talking distance. Their customs, laws, and interest, would become living realities instead of imaginary fables. An act of oppression in Peking would excite almost as much interest as an obnoxious bill in the House of Commons; and the movements of the Russians on the River Amoor would excite nearly as much attention as the diplomatic changes at Berlin and Paris. Commercially speaking, the advantages are the same as those now resulting from the use of continental telegraphs; and as our mercantile transactions with the East increase, the value of our uninterrupted line of telegraph will be more and more felt.—*China Telegraph.*

THE LAW OF SLAVEHOLDING.—There is a curious case shortly to come before the Federal Courts. A negro slave invented a machine, and applied for a patent. It was denied him, as a matter of course. His master now insists on its being granted to him; inasmuch as he owns the inventor, he owns the invention. But he is not the inventor, the patent office hesitates, and he talks of a mandamus. What curious legal complications are raised by chattels having faculties!—*New York Letter.*

SPURGEON.—The Young Men's Christian Association meeting on Tuesday, at Exeter Hall, was packed with a dense mass of human beings, this great popular entertainer being the attraction. Mr. Spurgeon's topic was *De Propaganda Fide*, illustrated with his usual vigour. The subject was treated in his peculiarly facetious manner, and, in concluding, he made some remarks condemnatory of the doctrine that an entrance effected into a country by warlike means was an opening provided by Divine Providence for the introduction of the Gospel.

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.—A contract has been signed for building a new East India House in Downing-street, to occupy the large open space next to the Foreign-office. The extent of the surface occupied will afford ample accommodation for the vast establishment it is intended to receive. By the terms of the contract the building must be completed within two years.—*Home News.*

THE INDIAN COUNCIL.—Captain Shepherd has been compelled to resign his seat in the Council of India, in consequence of ill-health.

LITIGATION.—Mr. Ernest Jones has brought an action for libel against Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., has been retained on behalf of Mr. Jones; and the case is expected to come on in Hilary term.

THE FIELD-LANE REFUGE.—The graphic description given a few days since in the columns of our contemporary, the *Times*, of the Field-lane Refuge for the Destitute—of the awful sufferings of the houseless poor—of the harrowing histories of the wretched guests at that caravan of sorrow—and of the judicious and truly Samaritan relief administered to their necessities—has deservedly created a very considerable amount of excitement among the public, and elicited a corresponding amount of material sympathy in the shape of money contributions towards the funds of the Refuge itself. We cannot wonder at this prompt response returned to an appeal to public generosity, made more especially at a season of the year when the hearts of men should be directed by a thousand associations towards charity and mercy. For days following the publication of the article to which we allude, a considerable portion of our contemporary's space has been occupied by serried files of announcements of subscriptions received by Mr. Tawell, the secretary to the Refuge. From our nobles and merchant princes, who send their fifty pounds apiece; from the "Countess de Morella," with ten guineas, and the splendid donation of a hundred pounds from the Crystal Palace Company, to the twenty-five shillings and sixpence from a "child's money box," to the modest three shillings of "Anonymous," and the half-guinea sent by some eccentric philanthropist, who chooses to adopt the pseudonym of the blackest ruffian living—"Nana Sahib"—we can form an idea of the extent to which the moving recital of the writer in the *Times* has permeated through all ranks and conditions of men, and cease to wonder at the stream of benevolence that has flowed into the coffers of a most deserving institution.

THE PREMIER AND MR. T. S. DUNCOMBE.—Between Lord Derby and Mr. Duncombe there has been a correspondence that relates to the character of the former in matters military. In a correspondence previously published between Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson and the hon. member for Finsbury, the latter employed an expression which Lord Derby imputes to himself, and which Mr. Duncombe does not deny was intended to refer to the Premier, though he declares he had no wish to inflict pain. The imputation reads that no officer was "safe when a Commission of Inquiry was screened by the favoured influences of Grosvenor and St. James's squares." Lord Derby shows that he knew nothing whatever of what had occurred to Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson, until he saw the published letters between the Colonel and Mr. Duncombe. The latter feels the force of this remark, and has sent a copy of his correspondence with Lord Derby to all the daily journals, so that his lordship's justification may be published.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. J. S. MILL.—The officers in the Examiner's Department, in the India House, have presented this gentleman with a silver inkstand, as a mark of their respect and regard on the occasion of his retirement.

POOR BUT PROUD.—A highwayman undertook to rob Major Jones. He met Jones in a wood over in Jersey. He asked Jones for his pocket-book. Jones refused to yield. Highwayman took Jones by the neck, and undertook to choke him. Jones made fight, and kept it up for half an hour. At the expiration of that time Jones caved, and the highwayman commenced rifling his pockets. The contents amounted to eighteen cents. "Is that all you've got?" "Every cent." "What made you fight so long?" "Didn't want to be exposed. Bad enough to have only eighteen cents; a great deal worse to have the whole world know it."—*Weekly Council's Bluff's Bugle*.

COSAS DE ESPAÑA.—Now we turn off seaward to the right, down a sort of court, and come to a porticoed barn they call the Custom House. We English passengers—the florid redundantly good-natured Yankee-Irish wine merchant, the bagman all whiskers, with the red suffering face, the man who swears by Murray, and compares every place to Constantinople, where he has never been, and who dresses in a gamekeeping sort of way, which he thinks marks the veteran traveller—we are all there, grumbling, puffing, swearing, chafing, seeking comfort in cigars, and in preparing ostentatiously our bunches of keys. A little army of Atlas porters, with red rope sashes round their waists, follow us, and condole and encourage us with timid looks of defiance east towards the entrance gate. Cosas de España! Nothing is ready. The officer is not come; he may be five minutes, or an hour; he is a Government officer not to be hurried; he is cheapening red mullet, or at mass, or out riding, or at his chocolate. Quien sabe! Dios sabe! Who knows? In Spain, the only thing ever ready is unreadiness. Storm a Spanish fort at a dash, says Ford, and you will find the guns unloaded, and the gunners at their sleats. Over the door of the custom-house room is a scaffold, on which a negro mason stands plastering in a lazy, lotos-eating way, that, after the chronic fever of London workers, is calming and grateful to see. In England, by mutual fretting, we chafe each other into feverish action; every day, with us, seems the last day: only faded, worn-out traditions talk of yesterday: we live in to-day. But in Spain men grow lazy by sympathetic idleness: they live in the morrow. To-morrow is their God! They never do to-day what they can leave till to-morrow. So worked this mason,

till, trying to make room for the porters to pass, he let the plank he worked on fall, and all but killed a covey of us; who, however, with a little benediction of white-wash, escaped. At last, down the hot white lane, slowly strolls the officer, swinging his keys upon his brown forefinger. He greets us with a stolid official look, and goes slowly to work. He cannot understand hurry, and goes no quicker, though a dozen portmanteaus, red and green-bagged, are opened round him, as if the owners were showing him samples. Some mariners kneel down, and slip their hands between shirts and under-coats, smile, nod their heads, and say, "Bueno—basta!" and hand you your keys; but, if you have a pomatum-pot that will not open, or a tooth-powder-box that is screwed tight, woe betide you. All right! We are good! And so off we go, following the moving carpet-bag mountaineers to Blanco's.—*Household Words*.

THE AUSTRIAN VICEROY IN MILAN.—With increased watchfulness and suspicion, and preparations for the worst, the importance of the Archduke Maximilian, who is identified with a conciliatory system, naturally dwindles, since it becomes evident that his mission has failed, and that his occupation is in some degree gone. He must assuredly feel much aggrieved at the failure of his generous and well-intended efforts. He has recently made a change in his personal habits. A short time ago, as I told you, he went abroad very little; now, on the contrary, he shows himself a great deal, and walks unattended in the streets. He is everywhere allowed to pass unsaluted and seemingly unrecognised. Although the Lombards generally do justice to his character and kindly intentions, it is a question whether it be not temerity on his part, in the present exasperated state of the public mind, to trust thus entirely for his protection to the esteem that may be entertained for him personally. The detestable Mazzinian faction, although discredited and weakened, is not extinct, and the hand of a single desperate fanatic might suffice for a deed which, were it perpetrated, would be as injurious to the Italian cause as it assuredly would be deeply deplored by that large and increasing Moderate Italian party which would fain pursue by rightful paths the emancipation and regeneration of their country.—*Times Correspondent*.

PAROCHIAL EDUCATION—ST. MARY-LE-STRAND.—From a pastoral letter sent by the rector of this parish, the Rev. J. F. Denham, to his parishioners at this season, it appears that there are no less than six schools in the parish, containing 2517 souls, besides other institutions for the benefit of the labouring classes. Four of these schools are wholly maintained by voluntary contributions, and all of them are out of debt, although "the funds are very low." It is pleasing to contemplate this instance of a parish provided with means for the religious and secular education of its poor children fully commensurate with its requirements.

DISSENTERS IN BERLIN.—Roman Catholics in Prussia are not dissidents, the Evangelical and Catholic Churches being equally established with parity of rights. The Dissenters are—1. The Evangelical Lutherans, 1900 adherents and one church. 2. The Moravian (or Bohemian) Brothers, introduced into Berlin as far back as 1744, now reduced to 264 members, and one meeting-house. These two denominations are recognised by the law as dissenting bodies, and possess corporation rights. The following are unrecognised:—3. The Baptists, 350 members, one meeting-house; 4. The Irvingites, 400 members; 5. The Christian Catholics, 300 members; 6. The Christian Catholics of the Leipzig Confession, 2000; 7. Jews, 12,700. There are besides three churches where service is performed in French, for about 5000 of French descent or tongue. The English residents have a chapel of their own in the Palace Montbijou, and there is Greek service in the Russian Embassy.

OYSTERS.—Besides their valuable digestive qualities, oysters supply a recipe not to be despised in the liquor they contain. It is produced by the sea-water they have swallowed, but which, having been digested, has lost that peculiar bitterness of salt water. The oyster water is limpid, and slightly saline in taste. Far from being purgative, like sea-water, it promotes digestion. Some physicians have endowed it with a multitude of extraordinary properties, none of which it possesses, however. It has been compared to the waters of Vichy and Plombières; but this is chimerical. The only thing certain is that the water in the oysters keeps them fresh, prolongs their life for some time, until it is destroyed in our stomachs, or until the oyster has been transformed into a portion of ourselves. As for the condiments to be eaten with oysters, tastes differ; true amateurs eat them as nature has made them, for they fear the loss of their exquisite flavour. Some persons, however, prefer a little pepper and lemon juice, which destroys any purgative effect they may possess, and which some highly susceptible stomachs suffer from. It is a moot point whether milk promotes the digestibility of oysters; at any rate it does not require a beggar's stomach to digest the mollusk. Still our author knew a gouty person who cured his disease, as far as it could be cured, by an abundant use of oysters and milk; but, as the latter might have produced the effect alone, the fact is not conclusive. Another point is, whether it is necessary to drink wine with oysters, and if white is preferable to red. As Mr. Addison sagely remarked to Sir Richard de

Coverley, "There is much to be said on both sides."—*Bentley's Miscellany*.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.—The press of Canada now numbers 20 daily newspapers, 156 weekly, and 33 issued tri-weekly and semi-weekly, making a total of 209 public journals in Canada, East and West. These are distributed over 88 cities, towns, and villages. The smallest amount of population in these places, enjoying the luxury of a newspaper, range from 200 upwards. The greatest circulation of a daily journal is 5000 copies, and of the weekly journals 75,000 is the highest issue. The newspapers of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward's Island, not included in the above, number from 40 to 50, and are chiefly weekly publications.—*Canadian News*.

HOT WATER WITH AMERICA.—Another serious complication with America is unfortunately to be apprehended. Yesterday an individual arrayed in an ample coat of broad cloth, with brass buttons, a buff waistcoat, and drab breeches, his legs encased in top boots, his upper story surmounted with a broad-brimmed hat, his hands in his pockets, and a cudgel under his arm, calling himself John Bull, was conveyed to the police-office on a charge of swindling. In his pockets were found abundant evidence that his real name was Obadiah Brum, of Brumville, N. Y.; on the manifestation of which fact he "cut up rough," and declared that the British constabulary officials had in his person violated the privileges of an American citizen by exercising the right of search. Correspondence on the subject has taken place between Mr. Dallas and Lord Malmesbury.—*Punch*.

DUTCH THE LANGUAGE OF THE JAPANESE COURT.—The *Javasche Courant* contains a detailed account of the last voyage of the Netherlands Commissioner to the Japanese Court at Jeddo. For the first time the commissioner was received by the Emperor of Japan in person. His Majesty, who was seated upon a magnificent throne, condescended to address a few remarks to the envoy without the interposition of an interpreter. His Majesty speaks Dutch "with a pure accent." The *Javasche Courant* adds that Dutch has been for some time the language of the Court, of the savants, and of the diplomatists of Japan, and that Dutch literature is held in high esteem.

DRAMATIC READINGS AT BOMBAY.—The Bombay papers state that Mr. Edward Macready, son of the eminent tragedian, purposes giving a short series of poetical and dramatic readings at Bombay, where he resides, and also of including in his list of entertainments the five Christmas stories by Charles Dickens.

OUR JURY SYSTEM.—Q. What foreign institution does starving a jury approach the nearest to?—A. The Diet of Hungary.—*Punch*.

CITY BENEFICES.—A meeting of City incumbents was held at Sion College on Tuesday. After an animated discussion it was resolved that a committee be appointed to consider whether a further union of benefices would be desirable. A resolution declaring definitely that such a change would be desirable, was defeated.

INDUSTRIOUS STUDENTS.—The practice of taking down sermons in short-hand notes had reached such a height in Frankfurt that the consistories both of the Calvinistic and the Lutheran bodies have thought it necessary to prohibit it for the future. "The church," says the ordinance, "is not a lecture-room, but a house of prayer."

MADAME DUDEVANT.—Georges Sand lately caused M. Breuillard, a provincial schoolmaster, to be prosecuted before the Tribunal of Correctional Police of Auxerre, for libel, in having, in a speech delivered to his pupils in a distribution of prizes, in August last, said:—"What could we not say of the impudent boldness and cynicism of Georges Sand! It was reserved to this woman, old and worn out by all the debaucheries of mind and body, to represent in a novel a species of love against nature, which was alone capable of reawakening for an instant a heart and senses used up by other passions! It was further reserved to this woman, possessed of fine talents, to crown a life full of scandals by a still greater scandal, the 'Histoire de Ma Vie,' a production not less wearisome than it is immoral!" Not content with delivering this speech, M. Breuillard had it printed and circulated. The tribunal decided that his language was libellous, and it condemned him to 100fr. fine and 50fr. damages. It also authorised Madame Dudevant to seize all the copies of the speech she could find, and to have the text of the judgment inserted in a certain number of newspapers.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.—Distinctly we believe that every member of Parliament ought to receive a handsome salary—5000l. a year at least, perhaps 10000l.—and be bound to give the nation his undivided energies. The law still subsists by which he may claim wages from his constituents, but with modern notions this cannot easily or generally be resuscitated. To be paid by them would be thought degrading; to be paid from the Queen's Treasury is an honour.—*Westminster Review*.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—It is said that the Government purpose to transfer the library and museum at the East India House to the British Museum, though it is not stated what rooms are assignable for the reception of these treasures.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

LITERARY CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK.

THERE is something approaching the ludicrous in the dolorous tone with which the last number of the *Publishers' Circular* bewails the rarity of new books of importance. It is strange how prone men are to become spoilt by the apparent advantages of the times. We recollect hearing an old and staunch Conservative describe Machinery as "a permitted evil rather than a positive good," and although there was much of obstructiveness in the sentiment, we cannot but admit that Literature at least has not gained by the "fatal facility" of production which modern mechanism and an extended system of publishing offer to the scribblers of the age. Here is the organ of the booksellers complaining because forsooth a month passes without the appearance of any "great books." Why, the time was when the reading public was satisfied if one or two "great books" were added in the year to the standard literature of the country. And here is a thing to be reflected upon,—with all our superior mechanism, our populous Paternoster-row, and scarcely less important outlying strongholds of bookdom, we do not get as many really great books as readers did when the whole publishing trade was divided between some two or three houses around "Paul's." *En revanche*, we get plenty of books, ephemera, books of the day, written for the day, and likely to last no longer. These make the round of the circulating libraries, speedily sink to half-price, soon far below that, and in six months you may see your guinea-book ticketed up on the book-stalls behind St. Mary-le-Strand for a fourth or a fifth of its publishing price. But of great standard works, things that will be remembered twenty, fifty, a hundred years hence, how many do we get? This past year perhaps one—Thomas Carlyle's story of the Great Frederick; the year before perhaps another—Macaulay's new volumes. Great works! Why, who are we, and what is our generation, that we should cry for great works, when all the ages of the world have scarcely produced a thousand volumes of them.

But the truth is, and no doubt it is in obedience to the ruling spirit of the age, letters are now falling into a trade, like any other, and are gradually ceasing to be an art. The inhabitants of Grub-street have turned upholsterers, and because they make tables and chairs, flatter themselves that they are creating works of art. There is another more fatal mistake than even this, and that is, to think that they are better than their predecessors, who worked for the hire of fame, and not the hire of money. Let not the present dwellers of Grub-street, richer though they be than the threadbare giants of old, sleeker by reason of their tradesmanlike habits, and the regularity both of their books and proceedings, fancy for one moment that they are doing the world as good service as the creative artists whom they affect to despise, all beggared and insolvent as they were. These, however, are wide questions of literary metaphysics, and it is time that we descended from such stellar speculations to deal with the matters of fact of the day.

But the greatest piece of news of the week is that Mr. Bentley's new *Quarterly Review*, so long talked of and so much speculated upon, is to appear at the beginning of February. Rumour says that Mr. Bentley has spared neither labour nor expense to secure the best pens, and it is expected that the new comer will assume a lighter and less dogmatic tone than the Delphic oracles of Edinburgh and London have done for some time past. This will certainly be an improvement, so far as the readability of the new magazine goes; but we question very much, with due deference to Mr. Bentley, whether the age for *Quarterly Reviews* is not past. We get over the ground very quickly in these times, and, generally speaking, the question of approval or damnation is definitively settled before the *Quarterlies* give forth the deep bellow of their blank cartridges. Nine times out of ten a book has become second-hand before these elephants of literature come into action—the riflemen and light artillery of literature have settled the matter long ago. All success, however, to Mr. Bentley and his *Review*, and to the cradite Dr. Doran as well, whom

we hear confidently spoken of as the future editor, in himself a sufficient guarantee against dulness and fogginess.

For the past week, the only notable issues are a "History of British Journalism, from the Foundation of the Newspaper Press in England to the Repeal of the Stamp Act in 1855," by Alexander Andrews, an old press-man, and contributor to the *New Monthly* and other magazines, in which much of the contents of this volume originally appeared. With so much experience Mr. Andrews ought to be more accurate than to speak of the Stamp Act as repealed, which it is not. The book is, however, full of interesting matter, and will be eagerly perused by those who like to get a peep behind the scenes of that awful mystery, the Press. Messrs. Edmonston, of Edinburgh, have also published a well-selected volume of tales from the Norse, with an essay upon tales in general by the editor, Mr. Dasent. Messrs. Longmans have published a valuable work on the human voice and the art of curing stammering, by Mr. Hunt, whose father acquired great celebrity in that art, and who has himself relieved many a nervous sufferer from that fearful clog upon worldly progress. Messrs. Hurst and Blackett have published an agreeable collection of papers, in two volumes, by the accomplished editor of *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, Mr. Leitch Ritchie. These appear to be the most noteworthy issues of the week. One or two productions, belonging rather to the department of art than of literature, should not, however, be left unmentioned. First, there is a volume consisting of some forty etchings of the Junior Etching Club, illustrative of Thomas Hood's poems, and got up with great taste and expense; secondly, a splendid work, published by Mr. Maclean, of the Haymarket, upon the gardens of England, illustrated by glowing chromolithographs, and dedicated to the Duchess of Sutherland.

The American news betokens rather a falling off in the activity of bookselling trade there. There were plenty of Christmas-books, and gift-books, but for the most part of English manufacture, not only as regards the matter in the books, but also the paper and type on and with which they have been printed. "The uninitiated American publisher," says a sarcastic correspondent, "doubtless congratulates himself on the improved state of art and bookcraft in this country, which can produce such beautiful specimens as these." The *American Notes and Queries* states that Mr. Charles Lamman, of Washington, has undertaken a monster work,—no less than a Dictionary of Congress from the earliest times to the present. We wish him joy of his task; but it will be useful as a work of reference whenever finished. To sum up our items of American news, it may be noted that the American papers are "down upon" Mr. Thackeray for some blunders perpetrated in "The Virginians." The *Pittsburg Gazette* points out that the troops are on the wrong side of the Monongahela River, and the *New York Post* is very severe upon him for making maple sugar in the autumn. "This," says our Transatlantic contemporary, "will be news to the makers of maple sugar, who, so far as we have observed, do their work in the spring."

A graceful compliment has been paid to a distinguished philosopher by the presentation, the other day, of a splendid testimonial to John Stuart Mill, Esq. The presenters were the gentlemen in the office of examiners of Indian correspondence in the India House, over which he, until lately, presided. Nor was the gift rendered less precious by the addition of a warm and cordial expression of admiration, affection, and good wishes. May the historian of British India, the great logician and political economist, long live to enjoy his testimonial in dignified retirement, and to write for us many more books that will endure. *Senectus non impedit quominus litterarum studia teneamus usque ad ultimum tempus senectutis.*

In another quarter, honour has been done to a great man, though dead. The benchers of the Temple have resolved to call the building in which Johnson's old chambers stood after his name. It is not that such a "brave old Sam" need brick or marble to perpetuate their memories, but the compliment is well meant.

Lord Brougham, active as ever, accepts every honour and every office thrust upon him. There is to be a great dinner to him at Edinburgh in the spring, and now he has accepted the post of Honorary President of the Associated Societies of the University, and he writes to say that as soon as he has disposed of the opening of Parliament he will be ready to deliver his opening address. Wonderful old man, in an age of wonderful men! For who shall dare to speak of human strength degenerating when we can point to such a row of Nestors as Brougham, Lyndhurst, Lansdowne, Campbell, and St. Leonards? Such men truly verify the old Roman adage that "Weakness is more frequently found in youth than in age."

An ancient gentleman has gone from among us—a novelist and a courtier—to where bows and silver sticks are of little use, and the most terrible fictions of small avail. Sir Thomas Isaac Horsley Curties, for thirty-five years a member of the royal household, has died at the age of eighty-one years. Sir Thomas Curties donned the royal livery in the reign of George III., and served all his successors as Exon of the Yeomen of the Guard until 1839, when he retired upon a knighthood and a pension. Sir Thomas's claim to have his death recorded here is based upon his authorship of the "Watch Tower," "Monk of Udolpho," "Sable Mask," and other novels, once devoured by the worshippers of the Minerva Press, but now passed away, with the once renowned institution that gave them birth.

WHAT WILL HE DO WITH IT?

What will he do with it? By Pisistratus Caxton. 4 vols. Blackwood and Sons.

A NEW novel by Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer Lytton, novelist, dramatist, poet, and Minister of State, would at any time command attention; a novel in four volumes, when reputation and honours are at their culminating point, must be especially an attraction. But the edge of curiosity has been somewhat blunted by the piecemeal publication in *Blackwood* of "What will he do with it?" it is, therefore, only to that class of readers who have not seen it in the Scottish serial, and who have wisely waited until the work was in a finished form, that our notice will have the interest of novelty.

The story opens with a couple of personages, Frederick Vance, an artist, and Lionel Haughton, a young sentimental gentleman, who plays the principal second rôle in the future story. They are at a country fair, which is described somewhat *à la Boz*; and here they first make the acquaintance of "Gentleman Waife," a comic actor, whose antecedents are under a cloud; and Sophy, a beautiful child, his granddaughter. Very soon after this, one Merle, who combines the anomalies of cobbler, cockney, and astrologer, makes his appearance. Lionel Haughton falls as much in love with Sophy as a young man of twenty can be supposed to do with a child of twelve. The reader very soon begins to see daylight, and to feel quite sure that Lionel and Sophy somehow or other are at the end destined to form the most prominent characters in a hymeneal procession. Lionel Haughton is penniless, but well educated, amiable, and somewhat ambitious; he finds himself abruptly summoned to the house of Guy Darrel, his relative and benefactor, in order to hear the future prospect chalked out for him. This Guy Darrel is the real hero of the novel. All the strength of the author has been put forth to make this character striking, original, and attractive. Guy Darrel is depicted as a man somewhat advanced in years, but of magnificent presence, and of high, rare, and peculiar mental qualifications. He had commenced life with prospects no brighter than Lionel Haughton's. He had chosen the bar as the fittest arena for the exertion of his abilities; he had succeeded thoroughly, and had made himself first in reputation as well as first among the prominent in pecuniary gains. A rich relative dies and leaves him in possession of wealth "beyond the dreams of avarice"—and now commences his reverses. The wife he married when poor proves to be too frivolous and flighty for such a high-minded husband. She dies just in time to save her reputation, but not to save her husband's, from the

sharp pangs of indignant jealousy. Two children are the fruit of the ill-assorted union: the boy is drowned—fortunately for his future career—as he had already proved himself while at school to be worthless and cruel; indeed, his death was the result of an act of barbarity towards a younger schoolfellow, thus indicating that the calamity he experienced was a just retribution. The daughter elopes with a stranger, one Jasper Losely, a large-limbed, handsome-visaged, needy adventurer, who eventually is found associating as captain with a kind of Jonathan Wild, and with a band of untransported felons, and winding up with a burglary at Guy Darrel's mansion. A young girl, Caroline Lyndsay, "beautiful exceedingly," who was educated with his daughter, attracts Guy Darrel's attention. He falls desperately in love, he inspires reciprocal sentiments, not then developed in their ultimate fixity and intensity, because Caroline is much too youthful at the time. This love and prospective union are nipped in the bud by Caroline's mother, aided by Jasper Losely and a clique of abandoned personages, with whom Jasper Losely had intimately connected himself. Jasper Losely's co-operation is secured, because he believes if Guy Darrel, married Caroline Lyndsay, the prospect of his wife, Darrel's daughter, inheriting her father's prodigious wealth would be impaired. Caroline, beset on all sides, misled by false reports, finding no one at hand to aid her with counsel or solace, succumbs to the pressure brought to bear upon her resolution, consents to wed the young Marquis of Montford, her distant relative, and to exchange the love of a noble heart for the princely splendour of station, coupled with the drawback of a narrow-minded, cold-blooded husband, who early takes a rooted aversion to her on finding that she had been affianced to another, and that an alliance with his noble self had not wiped out the recollection of her first love. Guy Darrel, whose besetting sin is pride—personal and ancestral—who wished to comply with a father's dying request to perpetuate the name of Darrel, worthily finding all his prosperity summarily blighted, his family hopes utterly defeated, his heart aspirations ruthlessly mocked and laid hopelessly waste, withdraws from the world at the very moment when his name, fame, and wealth stand highest. He withdraws from society, he becomes misanthropic; but his noble qualities are only lying dormant, they are not extinguished. While in this mood, Lionel Haughton, his protégé, is introduced to him at his own desire. The amiable qualities of Lionel win upon Guy Darrel, and partly succeed in drawing him from his reclusive life and habits. While these matters are progressing, "Gentleman Waife," who is Jasper Losely's father, and also a convict—he having taken upon himself the consequences and punishment of a robbery perpetrated by his son Jasper, because anxious to screen that son from justice—after shaking himself loose from an engagement for himself and grandchild with one Rugge, the manager of a company of strolling players, first cousin, at least, to Dickens's "Crummles," is suddenly deprived of his grandchild by the aid of one Arabella Crane, a kind of benignant female Mephistopheles to Jasper Losely, who in early youth affianced herself to her, but who in mature manhood falsified his vows and married her pupil, Matilda, Guy Darrel's daughter.

We have next some good political scenes in reference to the "House of Vipont's" political manoeuvres. We are brought acquainted with Mr. Carr Vipont, who adroitly manages the family political influences, and Lady Selina, his equally adroit wife. There is a crisis in the affairs of the "House of Vipont," a new Ministry having been formed without considering it necessary to its constitution to have a "Vipont" in it. Plans are laid to avert the crisis, and as Darrel is also a distant branch of the "House," lures are held out to entice him back into the arena of political life and party warfare. Guy Darrel resists these overtures, and continues in his resolution to abstain from senatorial life, but he changes his original plan of living unmarried and secluded, and in deference to the wishes of his departed parent, he determines to marry again. He looks out for a wife, but after inspecting and rejecting many an eligible *parti*, he finally gives up his idea, on finding that his love for Caroline Lyndsay, now Marchioness of Montford, was as strong as ever. After a lapse of several years, and various adventures and changes of situation, Sophy, sometimes entrapped by her unscrupulous father Jasper Losely, again recovered by her grandfather Waife, is at last taken into the family of Lady Montford, who is informed that she is

Darrel's daughter, but that Guy Darrel, in consequence of his indomitable pride of name and ancestry, has refused to see or assist her—she being, as he then believes, the daughter of a swindler, and the granddaughter of a convicted felon. Lionel and Sophy, with Lady Montford's sanction, renew their acquaintance when they have arrived at man's and woman's estate, and become irrevocably attached to each other. Guy Darrel is appealed to, and he peremptorily refuses his assent to the union. After some further adventures, in which Jasper Losely and Arabella Crane play the most conspicuous part, Guy Darrel, through the assistance of his old friend Colonel Morley, finds out that Lady Montford, now a widow, has never forgotten her first and only love, and that Sophy is not his daughter's child, but the child of an artist, a brother of Frederick Vance, of whom we had a glimpse in the opening chapters. Explanations are given; mysteries and misapprehensions cleared up on all sides. Lionel and Sophy are eventually made one flesh. So are Guy Darrel and Lady Montford. There are many other minor personages introduced:—Fairthorne, a humble and devoted follower of Guy Darrel; Mr. Hartopp, a worthy mayor of a county town; Mrs. Haughton, Lionel's mother; Cutts, a compound of thief and thief-taker—and though they agreeably relieve the reader's attention, they have no very forcible or necessary action on the main incidents.

It will be seen from this brief sketch of the incidents and leading actors in the four volumes that the plan and personages will not present any very startling novelty to the ordinary novel reader; that much of the action is extravagant and improbable, and many of the incidents and situations are rather too melodramatic for real life. Even the principal character, Guy Darrel, which is finished with the most care by the author, contains much that is improbable; his high-mindedness is, to some extent, but arrant selfishness in disguise, and his wrongs, when we come impartially to analyse them, are too feeble and petty to warrant the heavy sacrifices which he voluntarily imposes on himself. So with Lionel Haughton and Sophy Vance, the amiabilities of the work; they are somewhat common-place, and moulded after the stereotyped pattern of heroes and heroines of modern romance writers. Arabella Crane is also a character rather out of nature, and Jasper Losely has nothing, that we can see, to redeem his character from thorough-paced scoundrelism, certainly nothing to justify an educated lady like Arabella Crane in following him so perseveringly, and shielding him with such undying affection from the consequences of his own vices and villainies.

The materials, then, of which this long story is composed, are of a common order; but it must not be inferred that the work is of a common kind. No greater mistake could possibly be made. It is the masterly manner in which these materials have been worked up by the author which stamps the novel with an impress of genius that will always place it in the first rank of English novels, and will secure it, if not the first place among the productions of the writer, certainly one of the first places in public estimation. There is so much profound philosophy in the garb of playful episode, so much fine and manly feeling quietly developed in the dialogue, so much that is true in life, domestic and political, scattered throughout the pages, so much that is tender, true, and beautiful in character, that, in spite of faults—and they are many—the reader will become fascinated at the very outset, and will read on, spell-bound, to the very end.

A SOLDIER'S LIFE IN INDIA.

Twelve Years of a Soldier's Life in India; being Extracts from the Letters of the late Major W. S. R. Hodson, B.A., Commandant of Hodson's Horse. Edited by his Brother, the Rev. George H. Hodson, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. J. W. Parker and Son.

THE career of William Hodson, who perished in the flower of his age before Lucknow, is so pregnant with instruction as well as interest, that the excellent record of it before us, compiled from his own papers, deserves immediate and somewhat serious notice. An athlete at school and college; gifted as a man with heart of lion, eye of eagle, will of iron; an educated gentleman, and a sagacious man of business; Hodson bid fair—nay, was certain—had his life been spared him, to have achieved, sooner or later, the highest of earthly honours a grateful country could bestow. He was one of those rare and unrivalled squadron leaders that our Indian

service occasionally develops, and who are seized upon by the native intelligence as the impersonation of British character and British power. His adventurous and chequered progress seems in truth "to transport one back from the prosaic nineteenth century to the ages of romance and chivalry; and to show a glimpse, now of a paladin of old; now of a knightly hero *sans peur et sans reproche*; now of a Northern chieftain, 'riding on border foray'; now of a captain of free lances,—yet all dissolving into a Christian soldier of our own day."

There is, perhaps, something contagious in the loving enthusiasm of him whose words we have just quoted; but, truly, the letters of and about Hodson go far to justify the language used. On this head none may decide but those who peruse them *in extenso*; no extracts we could make would be sufficient material for judgment. But we, who have devoured them, are prepared to say that *Twelve Years of a Soldier's Life* contains matter so engaging, so spirit-stirring, and withal so instructive, that in some form or other it should take a place among our classics. If it be still desirable to spread among our youth the renown of true British worthies, and to foster admiration of their gallant deeds, Hodson's Life—somewhat abridged, perhaps—should, to our thinking, rank upon the shelf with Southey's Nelson in every school-house in the land.

After an education at Rugby and Cambridge, and two years of nominal soldiering in the Guernsey Militia, our hero proceeded as a Company's cadet to Agra, where he found a family friend in Mr. Thomason, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces. He joined the 2nd Grenadiers without delay, and within six weeks was engaged in four of the great Scinde actions.

He threw himself with such ardour into his profession, that we find him within a week or two writing seriously about the want of discipline among the Sepoys. After Sobraon, he recrossed the Sutlej, having made acquaintance with Major (since Sir H.) Lawrence, then the new Resident at Lahore. This connexion proved invaluable, and within a few months he was adopted by Lawrence into his service as friend and resident protégé, an adoption which stood him in good stead while the patron lived. That admirable man taught his pupil the "political" business, languages, and surveying, made him Secretary of the Lawrence Asylum, and at last, towards the end of 1847, started him before, by strict rule of service, he was entitled, to take charge of a company of Sepoys, as second in command to Lieutenant Lumsden in the "Corps of Guides," then recently organised for service in the Punjab. In May, 1848, he joined Lumsden and the dust-coloured swarthy levy, and for months earned the thanks he received from the Governor-General for his activity, energy, and intelligence in the peculiar military warfare and civil functions with which he was invested upon the frontier.

In 1849 the Punjab became a British province, and Hodson's connexion with the civil department naturally terminated. He had been two years in political charge of an immense tract of country; held a detached command, and cleared it of the enemy with but 120 men at his back; collected the revenues of the disturbed districts; and paid 15,000*l.* into the treasury, the proceeds of property taken from the rebels. He, as naturally, therefore, disliked what he termed the notion of dropping from Minister to Serjeant-Major, and we accordingly find that his untiring backer, Lawrence, procured him full soon an assistant-commissionership, and took him on a long tour of inspection into Cashmere and Thibet. After some interesting travel, he returned to Simla, where he was warmly received and much honoured by Lord Dalhousie and Sir Charles Napier, and he was shortly attached to Mr. Edmonstone's Cis-Sutlej district. He was very rapidly growing into favour, advancement, and income as a political agent, when two remarkable incidents occurred to him: his marriage, in January, 1852, and his appointment in the autumn to the command of the "Guides," vacant by the departure of Lumsden for England. This he accounted good fortune—"a most honourable and arduous command—an almost unprecedented position after only seven years' service."

His corps numbered 850, and at its head he spent two years in frontier warfare. He became esteemed by the most competent of his superiors as a bold and able soldier and as a worthy gentleman. By many a deed of daring in the Punjab, by many a successful stratagem and midnight surprise, by many a desperate contest, he taught the Sikhs first to dread him as an enemy,

and then to idolise him as a leader. Happy in his marriage and with one darling child, he describes himself as the most fortunate and the happiest man in India. But with the winter of 1855 came a chilling frost upon his prospects. His appointment to the "Guides" had raised up enemies against him, and the biographer hints that Lawrence's removal from the Punjab being due to intrigue, and the Anglo-Indians being pretty good haters, the fall of the outspoken confidant became an object with those who had compassed that of the superior. To avoid a long story, a series of charges were concocted against Hodson, of which the only substantial one was the irregularity of his regimental accounts. A court of inquiry sat upon this, and closed on the 15th of January, 1855; but Hodson's enemies having official mechanism at command, its report was not submitted to the Governor-General for six months, the victim being meanwhile superseded. At length an examiner was appointed, who reported in his favour; but this also was suppressed, or, to speak more guardedly, delayed *in transitu*. Hodson was on the point of starting for Calcutta to appeal in person to the then new Governor-General, Lord Canning, when the rebellion broke out. The emergency superseding all routine considerations, General Anson, who felt kindly towards him, at once cut the knot of his troubles, and secured his sabre for his country. He received orders to raise and command a new regiment of Irregular Horse, and in less than three weeks was before Delhi as head of the Intelligence Department, and Assistant Quartermaster-General. He thus had his hands full, but he was ever foremost in the field, seemingly gifted with ubiquity and a charmed life. He was described by a brother officer as "sitting on his horse before the Moree Bastion on the day of the assault like a man carved in stone, and apparently as unconcerned as the sentries at the Horse Guards, the balls flying as thick as hail."

We have space for neither his sparkling narrative of the siege, nor for the vivid narratives by different hands of the capture of the King of Delhi. It appears that Hodson, with difficulty, extorted permission to start upon and perform this wonderful exploit: how he accomplished it is now a matter of history. The editor has mustered ample proofs that the old King's life was guaranteed before, not after, his capture, in order to effect that capture—otherwise impossible—and in compliance with the prudent orders of the general. The prompt extermination of the three princes was also admitted by good judges to be a necessity in the presence of a surging mob of 6000 Mahomedans. That deed alone enabled the little band to reach Delhi with their royal prize; but what infinite satisfaction it must have afforded him who felt himself the minister of Heaven's justice, may be gathered from his remark three weeks before. "If I get into the palace, the house of Timur will not be worth five minutes' purchase."

After the fall of Delhi, Hodson, now a Captain, learned officially that his conduct never required justification, and after a flying visit to his wife he joined Shower's Brigade with his regiment of horse, now 1000 strong. They were employed in clearing the country south-west of Delhi, and in collecting supplies. That there was sometimes an *embarras de richesses* in this line, appears from the following anecdote, which shows that our hero's composition, so rich in the elements of Crichton, was not without a spice of Rob Roy:—

On one occasion upwards of 1700 head of cattle had been taken. When they were brought in, Showers exclaimed, "Hang me! what in the world am I to do with them? It would take half my force to convey them back to Delhi. I can't take them." On this Captain Hodson said, "Well, sir, will you sell them to me, and let me take my chance?" "Willingly," said the Brigadier; so the bargain was struck for two rupees a head. Captain Hodson sent them off, under charge of their drivers, and two or three of his own sowars, to Delhi, where they arrived safely, and were of course sold at a large profit. The speculation turned out a good one, but the chances were against it. No one else, probably, under the circumstances, would have run the risk, and the cattle would have been left behind. Shortly afterwards he invested part of the proceeds in a house at Umballa, which happened to be then put up for a forced sale at a great depreciation. This, consequently, went among his friends by the name of the "cow-house."

In December, the "Horse" joined Seaton's column, in charge of a train of supplies for Sir O. Campbell, which covered fifteen miles of road. The escort was but 2000 strong; yet three actions were fought, twenty-five guns, with vast stores of

ammunition, taken, and Captain Hodson, with his favourite lieutenant Macdowell, accomplished an unescorted ride of more than a hundred miles through the enemy's country with despatches. We have no room for the details of this adventure, but must lead our reader at once to Shamshabad (where poor Macdowell was killed and Hodson wounded), and lastly to Lucknow. Under the walls of that city he threw away his life. Having mounted a breach *en amateur* beside his friend General Napier, whom he playfully insisted on accompanying, he peered into a dark room in search of hidden Sepoys. A shot was fired from within, and he fell pierced through the chest. The next morning saw the end of one whom, to use his brother's words, "the Commander-in-Chief pronounced the most brilliant soldier under his command, whom all ranks of the army in India reckoned amongst their bravest and most skilful leaders, whom the popular voice has already enrolled among the heroes of the nation, whose name was known, either in love or fear, by every native from Calcutta to Cabul."

The reverend editor has well shown, as he set out to do, what military life in India may be; how vast a field it sometimes opens for the exercise of high and noble qualities; and how such qualities were displayed by his brother. In his affection for his hero, he appears rather to ignore other celebrated "Irregular" leaders whom we cannot forget; but this venial and common error among biographers is one the reader will not fall into. Neither will the reading public altogether endorse his condemnation of the Government for affording Hodson "no mark of his Sovereign's approbation—no recognition of gallant services and deeds of daring." We are no votaries of this or that department, but we cannot help remarking evidence throughout these letters that the writer was a highly successful man. He was ever watched by friendly eyes, and his interest supported by powerful hands. We have his repeated avowal of what is true, that his services were appreciated and rewarded beyond his hopes. He was upheld by strong arms at a time when men less favoured but as pure might have been maddened to suicide, and, in violation of etiquette, without knowing what influences had wrought for him, he was rescued by the well-timed sagacity of General Anson from the thick darkness that had for a time obscured him. The biographer perhaps regards all this as mere scant justice, but how many thousands are there who must have deemed it Fortune's favour to a pet child. Again, we read with sorrow that Hodson's wondrous exploit at the Tomb of Humayoon was as good as suppressed by his superior at Delhi; and that he had perished before the official news of his equally daring night ride could well have reached this country. But yet the biographer of one who so despised newspaper reports could hardly claim honours for Hodson's memory upon the strength of his own communications to the *Times*. On the other hand, though promotion be now impossible, the honour of Lord Clyde at least demands that the hardly-earned Victoria Cross he promised should pass as an heirloom to the family of the departed hero. There is yet time for the right to be done; but if it be denied, are not the admiration and sympathy of England, unattainable as yet by fools and flunkies, something soothing to repose upon?

BARTHOLOMEW FAIR.

Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair. By Henry Morley. With Fac-simile Drawings, Engraved upon Wood by the Brothers Dalziel. Chapman and Hall.

"AN unwritten portion of the story of the people," as the compiler of these *Memoirs* styles his work, which has been got up with all the artistic effect that typographic skill and bibliopolic art can suggest or afford, while the wood *sculptures* advertised in the title-page aid the general embellishment of this handsome volume. Mr. Morley is evidently sensible that the subject of his book, which forcibly reminds us of Mr. George Daniel's *Merry England in the Olden Time*, is insufficient in the eyes of many to command that attention he considers it deserves, and therefore some introductory as well as correlative subjects have been, and that with considerable judgment and tact, embodied, Mr. Morley giving us the early history of the priory and convent of St. Bartholomew, the original grantees of Bartholomew Fair, first placing vividly before our eyes the degrading superstition of the time of Henry I. and his successors, and next enabling us to view an "adumbration" of the ancient topographical peculiarities

of Smithfield, Halffield, Halfmarsh, adjoining the great moor through which flowed the River of Wells, in still earlier times an outer protection to the City Wall, and subsequently developing the gradual extension of buildings upon the reclaimed marsh of old, thus endeavouring to supply the *lacuna* of three centuries that exist between the curt notices of Fitzstephen and the methodical description of Stow. These remarks, with some observations upon the ancient marts or fairs, those ambulatory resorts of ancient commerce, constitute an agreeable and well-timed induction to the Fair itself, with its minor accompaniments; and here Ben Jonson's *Bartholomew Fair* affords Mr. Morley an opportunity of displaying his well-conceived illustrations of the characters in that comedy, but here we must, as a subject of regret, remark that, as he proceeds in his volume, Mr. Morley frequently digresses into a one-sided political history of the seventeenth century in order to laud the Roundheads and Puritans and disparage Charles I. and the Cavaliers, forgetting that Puritanism was accused of rebellion, although the times of Charles I. are associated with higher notions of prerogative than our present constitution, as settled by the Bill of Rights, will allow. The motions and puppet-shows of old *Bartholomew* are exquisitely described. Every one in those days crowded to witness the performance of a Droll. "On the 29th August, 1668, Mr. Pepys having found poor entertainment at the playhouse, was dull," and therefore desired to relieve his mind by the sight of some broad farce, where the "unities" were not so strictly preserved as in legitimate drama. "So I out, and met my wife in a coach, and stopped my wife going thither to meet me; and took her and Mercer and Deb. to Bartholomew Fair, and did there see a ridiculous obscene little stage play, called *Merry Audrey*, a foolish thing, but seen by everybody." Bartholomew Fair was, indeed, a place for sight-seeing and show-peeping, and a long account have we given us of the grimaces, jack-puddings, and merry-andrews of bygone times, together with the more recent wonders of learned pigs, spotted boys, monsters, deformities, and extraordinary, that formerly gluted vulgar curiosity; at the same time the pleasant vices of old Bartholomew, as related by the author, demonstrate that the Smithfield Saturnalia, even when restricted to three days, were a nursery for debauchery and riot; the leading events of old *Bartholomew* certainly do not impress upon the reader any favourable comparisons of the past with the present. Even in the memory of ourselves the quiet of night was disturbed by the tumultuous orgies of "Lady Holland's Mob," a collection of drunk and disorderly journeymen tailors, who were accustomed to sally forth from the tap-rooms of Cloth-fair, and at twelve o'clock on the night of that which witnessed the civic state of the Lord Mayor's proclamation of the next day at noon, to make a mock proclamation. The origin of this Mob, remembered only by bruised pates, broken windows, and other accompaniments of supper and "distemp'ring draughts," is thus stated by Mr. Morley, who thinks nothing too minute or too local, so long as it can be rendered subservient to the illustration of Bartholomew Fair, viz.:—

In Oliver's day, there was much secret connivance at dramatic entertainments, private performances were held now at one place now at another a few miles from town, sometimes at noblemen's houses; and among noble patrons there was none so prominent as the one in whose family part of Bartholomew Fair was an inheritance. Of the secret performances at Holland House there is especial recollection. At such meetings the performers were paid by a collection made among those present. At the great festival times of Christmas and Bartholomew Fair, it was found possible to bribe the officer who commanded at Whitehall and to open the theatre in St. John's-street, the Red Bull, which, from its vicinity to Smithfield, was especially the Bartholomew Fair playhouse, for a few performances. Even then, however, they were disturbed sometimes by the soldiery. Remembrance is here due to Robert Cox, a good comedian, who, during the suppression of the playhouses, wrote drolls or farces which were acted under the disguise of rope-dancing, he himself usually taking the chief character. He represented thus the living drama in the fair; and it is said that by his performance of the part of Simpleton the Smith at a country fair, he so impressed a blacksmith who was present with his genius for smith's work, that he offered him the post of journeyman at twelve pence a week extra wages.

At the Restoration, the old actors who survived were formed into a company that performed at several of the old playhouses, including the Red Bull, until the

new theatres were built, for the erection of which Killigrew and Davenant had, in 1660, each received a patent.

Lady Holland's Mob is an institution of the Fair which seems to have been founded in the time of the Commonwealth. It is a Mob without a literature, which has no account to give of itself; nevertheless the date of its beginning is not hard to guess. We remember that the suppressed players had, under the Commonwealth, a special gathering-place for secret performances in Holland House. The ladies of the family after the coalescing of the peerages were Lady Warwicks. The first Lady Holland, as we have seen, was that heiress of Sir Walter Cope, who brought the Kensington Estate into the family, wife of the Earl who was beheaded by the Parliament in the same year with King Charles I. She it is who, in the days of the Commonwealth, was Mistress of Holland House, and her son's wife was the only other Lady Holland. It was this energetic Lady who set builders to work on the house, and entertained the condemned players. She, therefore, must have been the Lady Holland of the Mob.

There is also much else that is entertaining in Mr. Morley's essays upon what may be styled the *low* drama of the time, when Bartholomew Fair was in its high and palmy estate; his observations show that he is not unacquainted with the works of the best dramatists of that time, and, consequently, that he is able to justly appreciate the efforts of the composers of the broad farce embodied in a *Droll*. Indeed, we have in Mr. Morley's pages a critique upon the plays of Elkanah Settle, the City Poet, who at last turned actor in Bartlemy Fair, "and played the Dragon in a green case of his own invention." The "Daw, you must do it," of Coleman, the younger, is the only parallel we recollect of Elkanah Settle's down-taking. To sum up, the very mention of Bartholomew Fair, to dramatic minds, brings back a redolent whiff of that racy adoration of *Doll Tear-sheet* to the fat *Knight*, Thou whoreson little tidy Bartholomew boar-pig, and of the comparative intellectuality of

the chaos—
Not that of pasteboard which men shew
For groats at Fair of Bartholomew—

(*Hudibras*, canto i.)

about which latter "motion" we should have been glad if Mr. Morley could have afforded us a notice in his entertaining commentary upon the bygone vulgarities of this civic festival, which were extended from century to century, to the times of our own youthful days, when we gazed upon the spangled Miss Gyngell, Miss Saunders, Master Saunders, and the little boy from Flanders, in the slack-wire dancing-booth, with wonder and delight.

To conclude, we can assure our readers that Mr. Morley has done his best to redeem the expiring memory of Bartholomew Fair from oblivion, and (to use a Johnsonian phrase) entitled to be distinguished from him who has done nothing, a pompous negation with which we shall not content ourselves, for there will always be a numerous class of readers to whom these *Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair* will always prove a source of genuine entertainment.

MILITARY HYGIENE.

The British Army in India: its Preservation by appropriate Clothing, Housing, Locating, recreative Employment, and hopeful Encouragement of the Troops. By Julius Jeffreys, F.R.S., formerly Staff Surgeon of Cawnpore. Longman and Co.

THE topics discussed in the eloquent work before us are, we hope, likely to engage the sympathy of many and influential readers, concerning as they do, not alone the Anglo-Indian army, but every citizen who has thought for his brethren afar, or for the husbandry of his own tax-paying powers. It is too true that, for years past, unnumbered lives, of which we have in the first instance purchased the disposal in a somewhat equivocal manner under our so-called free enlistment system, have been wasted through obstinate know-nothingism (not ignorance) of Military Hygiene. It cannot be alleged that no competent persons have lifted up the voice of warning. Even the much-abused Dr. Andrew Smith, at the outbreak of the war with Russia, propounded in a memorial to the then War Ministry some enlightened views upon the bearing of costume upon the soldier's health. But, if we remember right, one of his chiefs was too over-worked to attend to him, and the other, who lectures during these times of peace upon army management, as though he were an authority, struck work before the work had much more than commenced. Again, from the beginning till nearly the end of the Crimean campaign, the columns of a daily contemporary, distinguished above all others for its early

advocacy of necessary reforms, published from week to week, nay, almost from day to day, the views of a practical military officer of twelve years' standing upon the necessity of redressing the soldier's well-known grievances, consulting his comforts as well as perfecting his drill, adapting his dress to the conditions of his life, and, generally, of defending him as sedulously against fever, dysentery, rheumatism, and catarrh, as against gunshot and bayonet. That well-informed and conscientious writer, who was in due time echoed when he had roused the public by the Leviathan and the minnows of the press, proposed, in fact, that the soldier should be treated as a valuable chattel, costly to buy, more costly to maintain, and, most of all, costly to replace. His essays attracted attention. Officers who knew the strategic value of lives were very much inclined to adopt his views; others felt for the private soldier from sympathy; John Bull growled faintly as he thought of more impending income-taxes, but drowned reflection in drinking health to the legions as they went to death and misery; and the red-tapists cast a little oil upon the waters by the imposition upon us of those best of men in the best of places, Ramsay and Howell. What these people effected may be found in the death-rolls of the Crimean army and the records of the contract commissions. But now, happily, we have men in authority at the Horse Guards and at the India House, who, each conscientious, each full of practical knowledge in his own department, each rich in national esteem and strong in Parliamentary support, will not permit such shameful, cruel blunders as have immortalised the war administration of the two preceding Governments, and are not tied by party traditions to abhor and flout popular interference. We are not without hope that the industry and good sense of the General Commanding-in-Chief and of the President of the Indian Council will hereafter be so brought to bear upon the War Department that the health of our Indian armies, whose maintenance must draw largely upon our population, and perhaps finance, for years to come, may be really treated as a necessary element of their efficiency; and that, instead of mocking lamentation for regiments decimated by sun-stroke, fatigue, and pestilence, the adoption of prophylactics against those powerful causes of mortality may come to be recognised as an equally integral part of the routine official duty of our military authorities, as the preparation of rifle, bayonet, and cartridge. Let us, therefore, we say, go on in hope yet a little longer.

Mr. Jeffreys affirms—and, though we have no official figures before us, we are warranted by our recollection of facts in believing him—that if the British forces in India, caparisoned as they are, should have to keep the field continuously, and with little support from native troops, the casualties from climate alone, after the first year, which is seldom fatal to Europeans, may be estimated at 50 per cent. per annum at least, and that of these a large proportion would be traceable to nearly avoidable causes. The strength of the Madras Fusiliers was reduced, it is said, in six months, from 850 to 190 men; and it is but a few weeks since we had occasion to quote in these pages the trustworthy allegation of Mr. Wingrove Cook, that of 600 men who, while he was at Hong-Kong, formed the strength of H.M. 59th Foot, no less than 150 were in hospital, and that the same regiment had consumed 2000 men in eight years. Every mail from India brings home confirmation of our belief that the bullet and the bayonet are not the most deadly enemies that the plains of Hindostan raise up against the British soldier and the British taxpayer. Every mail brings desolation to hundreds of English hearths, for which the sufferers have to thank, not glorious war, but sneaking, miserable fashion. To pretend that the tailor-tormented soldier is slain for economy's sake is rank folly. Red tape and recklessness make his wretched shoddy coat and blotting-paper inexpressibles cost the country as much as broadcloth. Fashion and the amateur military tailors making a frightful guy of him by way of giving him a smart, neat, soldierly appearance, stretching their bursting misfits on his painful bones to dry and prepare him for the reception, sooner or later, of phthisis and rheumatism.

When fashion (says the author) is playing into the hands of death, and filling the grave with her victims, her despotism becomes insufferable. Conceding to the ordinary dress-caps, shakos, and helmets (saying that ingeniously faulty conceit, the bearskin cap) a suitability for our particular climate, we need not go further

southward than the Mediterranean stations for their deficiencies to tell upon the health of troops exposed to the sun. But when we approach the tropics, we have the atmosphere for six months ranging fifteen degrees on either side of blood heat. Being already charged with heat, it is little able to wash away by convection the sun's rays as they fall upon any surface; the inadequate thickness of all ordinary head-dress, even of the best in use, would be glaringly manifest to any one who could have witnessed the preservative power of one of adequate dimensions. As it is, the sudden or gradual destruction of life or health is viewed as somehow inevitable, or referred to various auxiliary causes, not wanting, indeed, in number and power, arising out of the imprudence and irregular habits of soldiers.

The following remarks on tropical virulence are full of sense and truth, and should be pondered over by those who are quieted, if not gulled from year to year, by the stereotyped official excuse for military mortality conveyed in those words, "the imprudence and irregular habits of the soldier."

In India, the British soldier on duty, surrounded by the atmosphere, with the sun over his head, and the ground under his feet, presents to our view the unfortunate subject of three hostile agencies. It is the influence of these agents upon him, both in their distinct and in their combined operation, which must be studied before we can successfully avail ourselves of the best means nature affords for insulating him so far as to enfeeble their power.

Confined as he is to the ground, his pulmonary and outer skins become assaulted, and too often carried, by malaria in its nascent and direst form. But subtle and baneful as are all forms of malaria, they may, to a considerable extent, be neutralised by various means, especially by combating, in the first instance, their powerful coadjutor, the sun's rays, and in the second, their great opportunity, atony in the cutaneous defences, manifested by a suppressed perspiration.

The sun then is the foe whose assaults we have first to ward off, and the author having philosophically considered its mode of action and the value of the protective agencies we at present oppose to it, ends, as might be imagined, in a total condemnation of every hat, forage cap, shako, and helmet now in use. He proves forcibly enough that the discomfort of soldiers' head gear, often erroneously attributed to their weight, is due, in fact, to imperfect poising, want of porosity and ventilation, and to tightness. He lays down with considerable force that the defensive principles to be employed in the contrivance of a tropical head-dress, are—

1. Reflexion; 2. Retarded conduction; 3. Correction; 4. Radiation; 5. Ventilation; 6. Evaporation; and he describes several contrivances of his own in which he has embodied them. The foremost of these are helmets of metal plate, or of metallised cloth, built on an ingenious wire-basket work, and likely to weigh from 2½ to 2¾ pounds. Then follows a neck curtain of many folds, and a radiative body dress, or surcoat, complete the list of suggestions for soldiers' tropical costume.

For the preservation of the men in barracks, Mr. Jeffreys is wisely no less solicitous. His proposed reticulation of wells and connecting galleries, to be placed near every barrack, for the absorption of heat in summer and for the warming of air in winter, is, on the face of it, so ingenious and so cheap, as to be well worth the notice of military engineers and authorities. He would construct such an equalising air reservoir, by piercing a block of ground 100 yards square and 50 feet deep, with 200 wells 7 yards apart, 40 feet deep, and 10 feet in periphery. He would connect them at one end with the atmosphere, at the other with the building to be ventilated, and also laterally; and he estimates that the entire tubular area thus obtained would amount to 100,000 square feet. The capacity would be 3,600,000 cubic feet, or 530,000,000 pounds, which, were the process to be in daily operation, would allow 20,000 pounds of new air per hour, or renew the atmosphere of a building 240 feet long, 60 feet wide, and 20 feet high. The cost of the wells would be as little as 20%, and although that of the connections and apparatus is not given, it seems clear that the system advocated could not, in the whole, be so costly as that of fatted, punkahs, and blast fans, while it is as evidently far more philosophical. We make no pretensions to the ability requisite for its critical examination, but we are satisfied we should be failing in our duty did we omit to do our part in attracting attention to the plans for the soldiers' benefit, of which an army surgeon of such long experience and such hearty zeal as Mr. Jeffreys has cast upon the waters of publicity.

Our author is no novice, we should observe, about Indian matters, for as long ago as 1824 he

was employed in studying the climate of the Indian hill countries, and claims with honest pride to have initiated, and, better still, to have been the acknowledged promoter of the movement in favour of sanitary hill stations, and was listened to upon other subjects he now treats of with great attention by Lord William Bentinck in 1834. Those, therefore, who will hear none but Anglo-Indians upon Indian topics will have farther excuse than our recommendation for perusing his energetic and feeling papers upon "The Location of British Troops in India," "The Recreative Employment of the Soldier," "The Preservation of his Child," and the most interesting and philanthropic essay upon his *Hopeful Encouragement while on Service*. This last it is our hope to meet again in some more popular form. The additional rays that a tropical pathologist, like our author casts upon the position of the wretched being whom we remove from home under the influences of the beer-pot to be used up in India, serve to show that, if England continues the attempt by such means, and without better treatment of her worn-out tools, to preserve and consolidate a new empire for government by our upper classes, and for the Bæotian happiness of the natives, she is committing a deplorable fraud.

POEMS.

Poems. By Joseph Truman. Longman and Co. To the poetry of action, the song of adventure by flood and field, has succeeded the poetry of meditation, contemplation, or speculation, in which the poet has delighted to show himself a theosophist or mystic of some kind, or to some degree. In different ways, with more or less of daring, more or less of elegance, in the form of rugged strength or that of well-polished art, Mr. Tennyson and Mr. Bailey have been accepted as the representative types of the modern tendency. In the poems of Mr. Truman, we have a pupil of the latter school, and a friend of the founder, to whom he fitly dedicates his little volume. He adopts too, we find, the universalist creed of Mr. Bailey, as well as the careless fashion of his metre. But his verse is freighted with so much thought, that we little note the superfluous feet, or the unequal rhythm. The sense is far above the sound; and though the latter be now defective, the practice of singing will correct the ear of the singer, and Mr. Truman may yet spin his lines as correctly as he now thinks strongly and speculates boldly.

Mr. Truman walks the earth erect, with his eyes raised to heaven, and guides his steps by the stars. There is, however, a human heart in his bosom, capable of loving humbly, as his soul is of daring highly. The fair young girl at the rustic stile, with the rare true-oval feature, the bloomy tinge on either cheek, eyes of dreamy blue, hair darkest brown,

Gathered with simple art, behind her ears, can attract not only his attention, but create a sentiment within him. Nay, from her converse, simple as she may be, and learned as he is, he will acknowledge to the receipt of more education than he bestows; deriving from her meek mind, and native woman's piety, "a tenderer spirit in his musing moods." This growth of an individual mind, passing out of the school into the fields, coming into the presence of beauty and simplicity, and gathering "unawares," from the contact with the merely impulsive and spontaneous, what Mr. Truman calls, in the spirit of his master,

annunciative sense
Of things more noble, wider, than the sphere
Of solitary intellectual aims,

becomes the more interesting to us from its felt truth, and the stamp which it evidently bears of its having been a fact of the author's experience. What follows upon the statement is in a vein of feeling, and illustrated by a simile, that without further proof would entitle him at once to a diploma from the guild of minstrels as one fitted for the practice of the art:—

And so the sweetness of her humbleness
Unwittingly did shame and subjugate
The scholar's human pride; and where as once
He tolled and panted beyond all to know,
Henceforward through all weariness of flesh,
And achings of the heart, and memories
Which wailed about his brain till he was wild,
And what remained of joyance, he passed on
Inspired to more unselfishness of life
By one sad, saintly memory, and yet soothed
By beautiful, divinest hope.

So much for the feeling. Now for the simile:—
Once thus

I watched a woodbine casually set
At foot of cedar, the grave stately growth
Of many generations, glancing timidly
Up all that towering altitude of gloom,
Afraid to weave its bright embraces there:
Anon the woodbine shoot took heart, and clasped
The cedar, and clung climbing on, until
The pillared pile of fibrous foliage dark,
From mossed foundations to the spire top,
Was festooned with the fragrant saffron flowers.

Manifest it is that for this true man all nature lives, and that he feels her heart pulsing in his own. We must make further acquaintance with him. As we turn over the pages, we find some noble lines on the subject of "Rizpah;" some sweet, delicate, childish fancies in a ballad-lyric called "The Wee Bit Birdie;" some deeper reflections still in "Love and Belief;" some powerful pleading in "A Question;" and something very original in the following five lines:—

Always imploring palms we raise toward heaven,
As though we drew the consecration down;
And miss the holy wells that gush hard by.
So men mistakingly look up for dew,
The while its blessed mist imbathes their feet.

And "beautiful exceedingly" are the lines to which these are the introduction:—

Therefore, if any flower shall breathe for thee
A fragrant message from its pencilled urn;
If Spring airs glad thee; if the sunset bring
Into thine eyes the tears of solemn joy;
If any radiant passion come to make
Existence beautiful and pure to thee;
If noblest music sway thee, like a dream;
If sorrow to a mournful moonlight turn
Thy noon; if something deepest in thee wake
To a dim sentiment of mystery;
If musing warm to worship; if the stars
Earnestly beckon to immortal life;
Ponder such ministrations, and be sure
Thou hast been touched by God, O human heart.

As we advance further in the book, we find the versification improve, but not that the poems increase in value. The metricist gains facility, but the mind struggling for expression, and deriving strength from the struggle, is lost in the ease and diffusion of the verse. But we must not criticise harshly a little book, evidently put forth with no other intent than to suggest to those who are favourably disposed to welcome a new singer, that the writer can sing—sing sometimes wisely, and sometimes well—sometimes thoughtfully, and sometimes melodiously—but always from and to the conscience, sincerely even when not skillfully.

There is also a completeness about one poem, unfortunately too long to quote, which is likely to satisfy the doubtful that the harpist to whom we are indebted for the "Parable"—(such is the title of the poem)—has already made considerable progress in his art, and bears about him the talisman of promise, that will hereafter enable him to speak in louder tones with the voice of one authorised to announce those verities in verse which prose is not privileged to utter. Our parting counsel to Mr. Truman is not to be in haste again to publish—not to be anxious to write a new volume—but to pause and wait until the genuine inspiration visit him, by night or day, resigning himself rather to occasional impulse, than seeking to show his fertility by any amount of taskwork, with whatever skill it may be produced.

LOGIC AND BANKING.

The Logic of Banking. A Familiar Exposition of the Principles of Reasoning, &c. By J. W. Gilbert, Esq., F.R.S. Longman and Co.

MR. GILBERT several years ago wrote a good book on banking, and later a book on logic which has attracted much attention. In the present work he has expounded the principles of logic, and has illustrated them by extracts from his work on banking. He has reproduced the best parts of the two works and united them into one. For the production of a work on logic he appears to have no peculiar qualities nor facilities; for the production of a work on banking he has the experience of a life engaged in the business, and accordingly his "observations on the science and art of banking" are greatly superior to his "exposition of the principles of reasoning." No writer has better explained the art, or more justly described the principles of the science of banking. In connexion with them he examines, as occasion serves, the influence and bearings of several laws on the practice of banking, and describes the several systems of banking which prevail in England, Scotland, Ireland, the United States, &c. &c. To statesmen, authors, and re-

viewers, who "often fall into mistakes when they attempt to describe the practical operations of banking," Mr. Gilbert thinks his book on the subject "may be particularly useful." We share his opinion, and are sorry to learn that years after it was published, and even very lately, several of our leading journalists and of our authorities have referred to "America to prove the evils of free trade in banking," in which such free trade has never existed. "Neither an individual nor a company," Mr. Gilbert justly states, "can carry on banking in America without the permission of the State. All the banks in America are chartered banks." This important fact is continually overlooked; and we readily embrace the opportunity to restate it, and declare that the persons who hereafter describe banking in America as free, are either deplorably ignorant or wilfully speak falsely. Mr. Gilbert's book on banking is a standard, and its worth will not be increased, though its circulation may, by its being made subservient to his book on logic.

CAMBRIDGE ESSAYS.

Cambridge Essays. Contributed by Members of the University. John W. Parker and Son.

THE present series concludes the publication of these half-amateur, half-prize-essay contributions to the periodical literature of the day.

The first article is written by A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.A., M.P., upon the subject of "Newspapers and their Writers." Though professedly belonging to the same party in politics as the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, he is diametrically opposed to this gentleman in his views upon the desirability of abolishing anonymous journalism. His principles are sound, though his style of enforcing them is diffuse and wordy. The whole question lies in a nutshell. Idle curiosity may cause a desire in individuals to know who wrote such and such an article, but there would be no more real public good produced by making this knowledge open to the world than by compelling Mr. McCabe, the eminent watchmaker, to put the name of each journeyman upon the pieces of workmanship which he guarantees. In departments of newspapers (such as that of dramatic criticism) where the anonymous character of the writing is in some measure destroyed by the knowledge of who is the accredited critic, the open system of journalism shows premonitory symptoms of weakness. It is not too much to say that this section of newspaper writing has lost its influence over the public mind, and chiefly from the general belief which exists that a man who is known cannot be so free as a man who is not known. The money article writers are peculiarly open to suspicions of interested advocacy, especially since the melancholy suicide of Mr. Alsager some years ago, and it is only the leading article writers who retain their power undiminished, simply because they work under the corporate title of the journal, and never lift the impenetrable veil which covers them in wholesome obscurity. Mr. Hope's aspirations for making journalism, even to its lowest members, one of the liberal professions, are well meant, but, to some extent, visionary. Journalists cannot be raised in crops, like barristers or clergymen; and with regard to their "social position," they are very happy as they are. Their independence and force would not be increased by a constant course of "simplering in gilded saloons," and if their profession is not genteel enough, at present, to attract those members of the aristocracy who feel a call to instruct mankind in the broad sheet of type, these latter must be content to confine themselves to those milder and more refined regions of literature, a specimen of whose products is before us in the present volume.

The second Essay, by R. A. Shafto Adair, M.A., upon "The National Defences and Organisation of the Militia," is a mixture of quotations and funk. It is the old, old story of a probable foreign invasion by our buccaneering cut-throat neighbours, the French. There is nothing like leather. The old admiral, coughing and promenading at Bath, suggests more ships; the contractor, looking at the war-profits made by his father before him, suggests more forts, embankments, and towers; while solemn oracles connected with the military profession are seen by their admirers to shake their heads, and heard to mutter in club-house corners, "more soldiers." The militia warrior may be a very patriotic individual, but he is very costly, as he is generally taken from labour which is three times more productive than that once followed by the regular recruits of the line. While he is being

embodied, the standing army is liberated, and what we, conscious of our own motives, call a defensive measure, is regarded by our neighbours as possibly aggressive. And so both nations go on strengthening their resources, as it is called, by wasting their capital, the real blood and sinews of their system, while the gods and the political economists look on with loud laughter or in silent contempt.

A literary paper upon "Sir Philip Sidney," a contribution upon "The Ancient Basha and the Cities of Og," another upon "Commissioners and Colleges," and a fourth upon "Hieratic Papyri," compose the six essays of the volume. They are creditable as University productions, though an atmosphere of amateur feebleness and scholastic heaviness hangs over all.

LAYS OF MIDDLE AGE.

Lays of Middle Age: and other Poems. By James Hedderwick. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

THESE are the productions of a mind that has reached its maturity, and the scope of which has consequently been ascertained. Among the poems are several which have been for some time in circulation in an anonymous form. The principal pieces—the "Lays" intended by the title—are a consecutive series of short poems (consisting, in fact, of twenty-seven lines, or three stanzas, each), which follow a train of feeling and thought in association with the public events of the day, and the development of the author's own character. They are all scholarly compositions, and indicate great refinement of taste, and mellowness of experience. There is, likewise, a severity of style, for which in these days, when diffuseness is so much encouraged, we cannot be sufficiently thankful. The lighter poems, though deficient in the marks of ripeness which make the value of the group of "Lays," are distinguished by delicacy and richness of fancy, and an elegance of touch, which justifies the comparative popularity that some of them in their anonymous state have attained. There is one of them, in which the linnets song is described and imitated, that is of great excellence and beauty, and there is none without some special merit or degree of interest.

The reader will, we are sure, be grateful for the poem of "The Linnets," and therefore with this we venture to conclude our brief notice of the book:—

THE LINNET.

Tuck, tuck, fear—from the green and growing leaves;
 Ic, ic, ic—from the little song-bird's throat;
 How the silver chorus weaves in the sun and 'neath the
 eaves,
 While from dewy clover fields comes the lowing of the
 heaves,
 And the Summer in the Heavens is afloat!
 Wye, wye, chir—'tis the little linnets sing;
 Weet, weet, weet—how his pipy treble trills!
 In his bill and on his wings what a joy the linnets bring,
 As over all the sunny earth his merry lay he flings,
 Giving gladness to the music of the hills!
 Ic, ic, ir—from a happy heart unbound;
 Lug, lug, jee—from the dawn till close of day!
 There is rapture in the sound, as it fills the sunshine
 round,
 Till the ploughman's careless whistle and the shepherd's
 pipe are drown'd,
 And the mower sings unheeded 'mong the hay.
 Jug, jug, joey—oh, how sweet the linnets' theme!
 Peu, peu, poy—is he wooing all the while?
 Does he dream he is in heaven, and is telling now his
 dream,
 To soothe the heart of simple maiden sighing by the
 stream,
 Or waiting for her lover at the stile?
 Pipe, pipe, chow—will the linnets never weary?
 Bel, bel, tyr—is he pouring forth his vows?
 The maiden lone and eerie may feel her heart less dreary,
 Yet none may know the linnets' bliss except his love so
 cheery,
 With her little household nestled 'mong the boughs.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A LITERARY LIFE.

*Recollections of a Literary Life; and Selections from my
 Favourite Poets and Prose Writers.* By Mary Russell
 Mitford. New Edition. Richard Bentley.

THIS is a charming book for those who have leisure to dwell on its pages dreamily and enjoy communion with the writer's mind, sharing in her tastes, and partaking in the delight of that beauty which, for her, invests the common day with a peculiar radiance. It is no formal biography that we meet with in these light and airy pages, but a retracing of those mental associations by which the writer is

ideally united to those great authors by the study of whom she has grown to intellectual maturity. Miss Mitford recalls for us our impressions of the Percy Reliques, with which she rightly commences the history of modern poetry. To them the most original minds of the century resorted for fresh draughts from the springs of nature, which, in that ballad collection, continually greeted the poetic pilgrim as the eye wandered from page to page and wooed him to take pleasure in simplicity and childhood feelings. As one of her great favourites she quotes "the fine ballad of 'Kyng Estmere.'" From rhyming lore of this sort she passes on to the Irish lyrics, particularly Thomas Davis, whose "Sack of Baltimore" she cites as an extraordinary composition, with a specimen or two from the *Nation*; not forgetting to celebrate John Banim as the founder of the truly national Irish novel, as well as the writer of peasant songs, and the tragedy of *Damon and Pythias*. Nor is she slow to express a wonder that the lovers of the true lyric have always felt, that "with such ballads as these of John Banim, Thomas Davis, and Gerald Griffin before us, Mr. Moore, that great and undoubted wit, should pass in the highest English circles for the only song-writer of Ireland?" Ay, to the right reason, this is strange enough; yet, in experience such errors are so common, that the strangeness is not apparent. Miss Mitford asks a significant question on the point, which it is our duty to enforce. "Do people really prefer flowers made of silk and cambric, of gum and wire, the work of human hands, however perfect, to such as Mother Earth sends forth in the gushing spring-time, full of sap and odour, sparkling with sunshine, and dripping with dew?" Yes, we must answer. In an artificial state of society like ours, the artificial will ever appear more natural than the real, until found out by those few minds whose unsophisticated tastes are destined eventually to correct the vulgar errors that are always in the first instance preferred to the truths they substitute. We have to earn the appreciation of good, and require time for the process.

Mr. Noel, too, the author of *Rhymes and Roundelays*, and of the well-known ballad, "The Pauper's Drive," is a favourite with our reminiscence. So is Anstey, the author of *The Pleader's Guide*; so is Longfellow, the American Darwin; so is Præd; so is John Clare; so is Oliver Wendell Holmes, the American Dryden; so is W. C. Bennett, George Darley, and William Motherwell. Of John Clare, and poets of his class, Miss Mitford makes good account, and gives seasonable admonition, which it becomes needful more and more to repeat. She lauds his genius, she laments his lunacy, she would restore him to society.

We cannot (she says) do too much for John Clare; he has a claim to it as a man of genius suffering under the severest visitation of Providence. But let us beware of indulging ourselves by encouraging the class of pseudo-peasant poets who spring up on every side, and are amongst the most pitiable objects in creation. One knows them by sight upon the pathway, from their appearance of vagrant misery—an appearance arising from the sense of injustice and of oppression under which they suffer, the powerless feeling that they have claims which the whole world refuses to acknowledge, a perpetual and growing sense of injury.

It is a worse insanity than John Clare's, and one for which there is no asylum. Victims to their day-dreams are they. They have heard of Burns and of Chatterton; they have a certain knack of rhyming, although even that is by no means necessary to such a delusion; they find an audience whom their intense faith in their own power conspires to delude; and their quiet, their content, their every prospect is ruined for ever. It is this honest and unconquerable persuasion of their own genius that makes it impossible to reason with or convince them. Their faith in their own powers, their racking sense of the injustice of all about them, makes one's heart ache. It is impossible for the sternest or the sturdiest teller of painful truths to disenchant them, and the consequence is as obvious as it is miserable. For that shadow every substance is foregone. They believe poetry to be their work, and they will do no other. Then comes utter poverty. They haunt the alehouse, they drink, they sicken, they starve. I have known many such.

The importance of this extract is its best apology. There is a warning voice indeed. In these days particularly, let it be well heeded. Turn we from such prospects, and disport awhile, in the company of our authoress, with the Old Masters of the divine art, who with their singing robes put on the Scholar's; with Cowley, Herrick, Wither, Sir Philip Sydney, Webster, Jonson, Milton, Andrew Marvell, Bacon and Jeremy Taylor; men

who, whether in verse or prose, were poets, profound thinkers, and had studied nature "with a learned spirit of human dealing."

Miss Mitford, as a dramatist, sympathises strongly with the drama, and is indignant with the impediments which the modern arrangements of the stage throw in the way of original production. She laments the fate of Tobin, Griffin, Darley, and others who have more or less recently shown dramatic genius without sufficient recognition. Part of the evil complained of has been done away with, by the extension of the arena; but another still continues. Modern actors have grown up in the study of drawing-room plays, chiefly taken from the French, and are disinclined to engage in the sterner contests of the poetic drama. They consult their own ease rather than the public good; but an opinion is growing which will, we trust, provide a remedy, and again right the balance.

Miss Mitford has been remarkably successful in her poetical specimens: some of them are of a rare description, both in regard to excellence and vogue. One we must cite, as a specimen. It is a sonnet by the late Mr. Blanco White:—

TO NIGHT.

Mysterious Night! when our first Parent knew
 Thee from report divine, and heard thy name,
 Did he not tremble for this lovely frame,
 This glorious canopy of light and blue?
 Yet 'neath a curtain of translucent dew,
 Bathed in the rays of the great setting flame,
 Hesperus with the host of Heaven came,
 And, lo! creation widened in man's view.
 Who could have thought such darkness lay concealed
 Within thy beams, O Sun! or who could find,
 Whilst fly and leaf and insect stood revealed,
 That to such countless orbs thou mad'st us blind?
 Why do we then shun death with anxious strife?
 If Light can thus deceive, wherefore not Life?
 This sonnet was declared by Coleridge to be the finest in our language. The beauty of the execution is equal to the grandeur of the thought. Most remarkable, however, is the fact, that its author was born and educated in Spain, and wrote English very imperfectly until he was turned of thirty. Such is the taste with which Miss Mitford's selections have been made.

MAGAZINES.

BLACKWOOD.—We have had to criticise better and worse numbers than the one now before us. Bulwer Lytton's four-volume novel "What will he do with it?" comes to a conclusion, and, as we have elsewhere reviewed it, we shall make no comment here. "Burmah and Burmese" is interesting reading. "A Cruise in the Japanese Waters" is full of pleasant information. "How to boil Peas" is a dreary specimen of Scottish humour. "An Angling Saunter in Sutherland" is readable. "Popular Literature—the Periodical Press" would make an excellent and instructive article in experienced hands, but we feel tolerably sure that the writer of this article has very scant practical information on the subject. The "Royal Proclamation in India" finishes the number.

FRASER—begins the new year with vigour. The opening article is entitled "Holmby House: a Tale of Old Northamptonshire," by G. J. Whyte Melville, in which we are treated to a prospect of some scenes and adventures in the stirring period of Cavaliers and Roundheads. There are four chapters, and they seem to promise that the work will not only keep up, but add to the reputation of the writer. "Concerning the Art of Putting Things" will be found suggestive, and quite worthy of attentive reading. "Schloss Eislhausen: a Mystery in Three Parts," of which Part the First is only vouchsafed, will awaken attention, and compel the reader to look forward impatiently for the next number of the magazine. "Mr. Gladstone on Homer," by the Rev. Barham Zincke, is the production of a learned and impartial thinker. "Dramatic Treasure Trove" is full of curious incident. "Mushrooms" is a rambling and readable article, "sicklied over with learning" on certain edible fungi, which we are apt to despise or to reject as poisonous. "Furniture Books," "Hints for Vagabonds," and "How Queen Victoria was Proclaimed at Peshawur," severally contribute their quota of information or amusement.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY—steps boldly into the foremost rank among these serials. The articles are varied in character, and evidently from no unpractised pens. We have read nothing better or more just in respect to Dr. Arnold's position as a teacher, who made a pretty strong mark on the age in which he lived, and his general literary abilities and status, than the article with which the number opens. The critique on Carlyle's *Frederick the Great* is equally good. Lever continues his "Gerald Fitzgerald," and there are ten more articles all good in themselves. The pressure on our limited space at

this particular period prevents us from being more detailed in our notice.

TITAN.—A very good number. "What Helps to Cause the Degeneracy of the Youth of France" is an analysis of four popular French productions, *La Vie à Vingt Ans*, of Michel Lévy; *La Jeunesse*, a comedy by E. Augier; *Le Fils Naturel*, by A. Dumas fils; and *Francis*, by Ernest Jerret. The youth of France are judged, not by rules and standards of our own, but by the statements, disclosures, and principles openly avowed by these French writers themselves. The article, though severe, contains much truth, and is worth studying. "Two Christmas Times" is a story of sentiment. "A Chapter on Recent Poetry" is able and just. "Human Hair and its Restoratives" will interest the wigged and unwigged. "Behind the Scenes in Paris" is continued in seven chapters, and the "reviews," including a special and elaborate notice of *Philip Paternoster*, are all very well and fairly done.

TAIT'S MAGAZINE. No. 301.—This number contains the usual variety of articles, as well as the "Literary Register" and "Political Narrative." The chief articles are one on Reform and another upon Cash and Credit. The rest are reviews and tales.

JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE. No. 28.—This monthly may be termed the record of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane. It contains the Reports of Lunatic Asylums published during 1857 and 1858, and other papers on the subject of insanity, which must be interesting to those professionally engaged in such matters.

ENGLISH WOMAN'S MAGAZINE. No. 11.—This is an interesting number, containing a biography of Johanna Kinkel, and a smart article entitled "The Reviewer Reviewed," besides other articles of average merit.

LE FOLLET. No. 148.—This very pretty and tasteful magazine contains the last vagaries of fashion. We regret to see no signs of diminished crinoline, but, on the contrary, rather an extension. The bonnets seem, however, to be an inch or so more rational, and the cloaks seem as if they were intended for warmth as well as show. The plates are as numerous and as good as ever.

THE ART JOURNAL. No. 49.—The plates are after Maclise's "Gil Blas at Penaflore," and Landseer's "Marmosettes;" there is also a beautiful engraving of Miller's bas-relief of "Emily and her White Doe." The wood-cuts, which are numerous and good, illustrate chiefly the works of Louis Haghe.

CRUIKSHANK'S ILLUSTRATIONS OF TIME.—Messrs. Kent have reissued these admirable etchings, rightly considering they must at this season of the year add to the enjoyment and mirth. They are familiar to many of the falling, but must be novel to all the rising generation; and their truth and character prevent their ever getting old and obsolete.

THE BRITISH WORKMAN.—Yearly Part—deserves notice, not only from the excellence of its aim and principle, but as being a collection of very admirable woodcuts, and a collection of interesting facts, tales, and anecdotes.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ALMANACK FOR 1859.—This is a new and excellent calendar, containing a great deal of information valuable to the hotel-proprietor and the tavern and inn-keepers. It has been very carefully compiled, and is an excellent idea well carried out. The calendar portion is filled up with valuable receipts, and, in addition, it has a hundred pages filled with miscellaneous information, including a brief history of the London Breweries and Taverns; an account of the admirable charities belonging to the Licensed Victuallers' Associations; the laws affecting Innkeepers, &c.

ROUTLEDGE'S SHAKESPEARE.—This 38th Part contains the *Tempest*, and is marked by the same moderate but judicious commentary that characterises this edition by W. Staunton. We have the completed second volume (never having received the first) before us, and intend to enter into a more extensive examination of this handsome and popular edition of the works of the great dramatist.

THE VIRGINIANS. No. 15.—Mr. George Warington, Hero No. 2, is brought more prominently forward in this number; and we have pictures of a Royal drawing-room at Kensington, and a peep at an early performance of Mr. Horne's popular tragedy of *Douglas*.

DAVENPORT DUNN. No. 19.—This spirited story is so near an end that it is superfluous to dilate upon it. The reader will soon have an opportunity of reading it in its entirety, the only proper way of perusing a well-constructed novel.

HISTORY OF ENGLAND. O. Knight. No. 36. (Bradbury and Evans.)—This number brings the history down to the conclusion of the Darien expedition, and is embellished with portraits of Bolingbroke, Oxford, and Atterbury, and many excellent woodcuts.

SONGS OF A SONG-WRITER.

Songs of a Song-Writer First Hundred. By W. C. Bennett. Chapman and Hall.

MR. W. C. BENNETT has been well advised to collect his various songs. The only difficulty that could lie in his way was their number. He has endeavoured to solve this by experimenting first of all with a specimen of his quality. He has selected from his large store a hundred; and here they are in a handsome volume, which ought immediately to become popular.

We find here many old acquaintances and some new faces; but everywhere the same grace, melody, and Saxon purity of language. A little more accuracy and finish, and Mr. Bennett might rank as the Béranger of England. Here we find the sweet song of "Baby's Shoes," on which Miss Mitford bestows such high commendation, and which has been so frequently quoted with enthusiastic recognition; and that Béranger-like "London Lyric, From a Garret," which so rationally and heroically moralises the distinction between true and false riches, and defies poverty altogether. To this we would add "The Dressmaker's Thrush." Fine, too, is the song inscribed "To the Memory of Robert Burns," a just tribute from one whose own writings reflect so much of the influence derived from those of the Scottish bard. It is one of the most ambitious poems in the collection.

Other poems of Mr. Bennett's show, in lyrical form, a fine degree of political shrewdness, and a scorn of mere partial prejudices, whether national or social. Witness those capital "friendly hints to Transatlantic friends," which he has headed with "God save the Queen." The shrewdness of those hints must bite, like a frost, our cousin Jonathan; in truth, we know how he has "winced," like "the galled jade," under their application. Nevertheless, justice is impartially administered; the faults of England are as unsparingly exposed, and "our own withers" go not "unwrung." Yet, the poet's patriotism is undoubted; for, by simply giving the second place in each stanza to his own country, he secures her triumph.

For the most part, Mr. Bennett's songs deal with facts, the stern, hard facts of the Mammon-ridden world; but there are, nevertheless, some most delicious fancies scattered between. Mr. Bennett has borrowed largely from our old poets, and sometimes indulges freely in their wildest conceits. His mind is not simply a mirror purely reflecting nature and society; but he has coloured it with innumerable associations, both ancient and modern, so that his subjects always derive some attributes from the media through which he perceives them. Though a self-taught, he is a highly educated writer, and to some extent, therefore, his treatment of his themes is artificial; there is, however, always a basis of originality in all he writes, for he is not a mere mocking-bird, but a genuine poet.

KELLY'S RAILWAY GUIDE.

Kelly's Railway Guide for January, 1859. Kelly and Co. This is a well-printed Guide, on the alphabetical principle. The great advantage of this kind of work is its clear and correct printing, and in these particulars it is excellent. It has a capital map, and the advertisements—which in themselves give much information—are interspersed with lively reading, and altogether it is worthy of the patronage of all railway travellers.

LESSONS ON MIND.

Introductory Lessons on Mind. By the Author of "Lessons on Reasoning." J. W. Parker and Son.

There is much shrewd remark in this little work, not unuseful nor unskillfully arranged, but its dicta should not be accepted with implicit confidence. The author prefers a physiological view of mind, and evidently inclines to a phrenological classification and definition of the mental faculties and powers. He compares the mind "to the eye, which sees other objects but does not see itself." Of course, he cannot expect the metaphysician to concur in such an illustration—we mean the metaphysician, properly so called, who necessarily assumes that the mind is a self-conscious subject. The whole of this little treatise is written in the spirit of this analogy. The mind is treated as an object, not as a self-intelligence. Yet the writer appears, and no doubt is, desirous to avoid materialism, to which, he says, the usual definition of the faculties has a tendency unconsciously to lead. The terms employed are metaphors borrowed from physical relations, which it requires great care to distinguish from the psychological

conditions which they are employed to express. As this book is evidently intended for the instruction of youth, we could have well wished that it had been written on a broader plan and a more satisfactory theory. But the half view which it presents is carefully wrought out, and so far it will aid the student who seeks for information.

JULIUS HALL'S INDICATOR.

Julius Hall's Indicator and Almanack for 1859.

J. Hall.

THIS is one of the best contrivances for indicating the day of the week, month, and year at a glance. The usual modes require too much shifting, so that they often mislead. The present one merely requires the turn of a couple of buttons, and the indications are made in prominent red letters. The almanack is concise, and contains all the requisite information of a calendar.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Evening, January 7th.
FRANCE.

THE *Moniteur* of this day has the following:—"For some days public opinion has been agitated by alarming reports, to which it is the duty of the Government to put an end, in declaring that nothing in our diplomatic affairs authorises the fears which these rumours tend to create."

Punch and the *Sun* were seized on Thursday.

A Paris letter in the *Indépendance*, says:—"At the reception at the Tuileries on New Year's-day, Prince Napoleon, in the course of a long conversation with Lord Cowley, is stated to have announced that the Imperial Government was ready to abandon the existing system of immigration provided Great Britain would frankly undertake to assist France in obtaining coolies from the English possessions for her colonies. His imperial highness is even said to have proposed to Lord Cowley to allow England in return to make engagements of coolies in the French ports in India, and to have added that the operations of both countries should be subjected to all the control that could be required. Lord Cowley naturally received with respectful attention the overtures of the Prince, and said that he would transmit them to his Government."

The 5th of May next, the anniversary of the death of Napoleon I., is fixed on for the transfer of the imperial coffin to St. Denis.

AUSTRIA.

Nothing more is said of the Cracow conspiracy, but there is reason to believe that it has ramifications in Posen and in Russian Poland.

A day or two ago an accident happened on the Vienna-Linz Railway. The train which left this city in the morning got off the rails near the Loosdorf station, and a part of it slipped off an embankment which is about five feet high. None of the passengers were injured, but a porter was killed, and one of the guards wounded.

There is now no difficulty in obtaining silver for banknotes, and the confidence of the public in the solvency of the Bank is fast returning. During the last two days the demand for the new one-florin notes has been very great, but private persons have almost ceased to apply to the Bank for silver.

The *Journal de Francfort*, an organ of Count Buol, has the following:—

"Austria is strong enough in Italy to meet any eventuality, and showed it in 1848; nor has she lost anything of her strength, as backing her is all Germany and Prussia at its head. Yes, Prussia at its head. Neither journals nor events will belie this assertion. That power neither wishes nor can wish a remodelling of Italy, out of which a general war must rise, in which Germany itself would have to be remodelled—our common country. It was Prussia's King who addressed the first thanks to Radetzki for defending the cause of order, European equilibrium, and the integrity of Germany, which cannot be upheld on the Rhine if abandoned on the banks of the Po."

LOMBARDY.

Letters from Milan, of January 8, speak of the agitation in that city as being continually on the increase. Many families are leaving Milan. The Archduke Maximilian, who was to have accompanied the Archduchess Charlotte to Trieste, to meet the Bavarian princess who is to be the future Duchess of Calabria, did not think it right to leave the seat of his Government.

SARDINIA.

The *Times* correspondent at Turin writes:—"Either there is to be war between France and Austria, or Napoleon III. is duping the Sardinian Government, or this Government has taken leave of its senses. It is quite evident to everybody here that this Government desires war, means war, and is confident that war is at hand. The Ministerial party, the intimate friends and daily companions of the Ministers, make no secret of this

From all I can learn, I should think that the Austrians could now at any time muster, within two or three days, 100,000 men within the limits of their Italian dominions. The number at present within those limits may, however, be much short of this. I have heard it estimated that there are now 100,000 and even 120,000 men in Lombardo-Venetia, but this I incline to think great exaggeration. The garrison of Milan is at the present time 15,000 strong. The fortifications at the Tosa gate of Milan, which were intended as precautions against an enemy within the city, are being (or about to be) pulled down, and I am told that the materials are already advertised for sale. It is also stated that the Government is selling the barracks and different Government buildings in Milan, and will afterwards rent them from the purchasers, the object being to have as little Government property as possible in the Lombard capital.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

POULTRY SHOW.

The Great WINTER SHOW of POULTRY and PIGEONS will take place on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 8th, 10th, 11th, and 12th January, 1859, in the North Wing, adjoining the Tropical Department.

The laughable shadows in the Central Transept, causing much gratification, will be continued, and the Palace, including the Alhambra Court will be lighted at dusk during the Poultry Show.

Admission, including all the attractions of the Palace, Saturday, Half-a-crown; Children under 12, One Shilling; Other days, One Shilling; Children, Sixpence.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

Arrangements for the Week ending Saturday, January 15: Monday, open at 9. Tuesday and Wednesday, open at 10. Great Poultry Show. Thursday and Friday, open at 10. Admission, One Shilling; Children under Twelve, Sixpence. Saturday, open at 10. Seventh Winter Concert, at 2.30. Admission Half-a-Crown; Children, One Shilling. During the Poultry Show, Mr. Pepper will lecture in the Concert Room on "Breadmaking" by machinery.

On Sunday, open from 1.30 till sunset, to shareholders gratuitously by ticket.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA,

COVENT GARDEN.

(Under the sole management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.)

A Morning Performance of the Pantomime on Monday, at Two o'clock.

On Monday evening, and until further notice, Balfe's highly successful opera, SATANELLA, OR THE POWER OF LOVE. Characters by Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Miss Susan Pyne, Mr. George Honey, Mr. A. St. Albyn, Mr. H. Corri, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. W. Harrison. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. Concluding with the New Pantomime, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD. Messrs. W. H. Payne, Frederick Payne, Henry Payne, Flexmore, Barnes, Miss Clara Morgan, Mesdames Morlacchi and Pasquale. Doors open at Half-past Six. Commence at Seven. Private Boxes, 1l. 1s. to 3l. 3s.; Orchestra Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 2s. and 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

Box-office open daily from 10 till 5, under the superintendence of Mr. J. Parsons, where places may be secured without any fee for booking.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

(Lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith.)

Reduced prices as usual.—Box-office open daily from 10 to 6.

For the convenience of the patrons of this theatre arrangements have been made by the Lessee that the Pantomime terminates at 11 o'clock. The grand, gorgeous, and effective Scenery of the Pantomime by BEVERLEY.

Glorious success of those popular and celebrated artistes Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams, the original Irish Boy and Yankee Girl, who will appear on Monday, and during the week, in their celebrated characters of Phil Mulligan and Widow Sprouts in the laughable piece entitled LATEST FROM NEW YORK. With double Irish Jig and Irish and Yankee Songs.

After which will be produced, on a scale of unusual magnitude and magnificence, a new grand Pantomime, entitled ROBIN HOOD, OR, HARLEQUIN PRIAR TUCK AND THE MERRY MEN OF SHERRWOOD FOREST. Harlequins, Signori Milano and St. Mayo; Pantaloon, Messrs. G. Tanner and Delevanti; Clowns, Harry Boleno and Delevanti; Columbines, Madame Boleno and Miss F. Brown; Harlequina, Miss Julia Lamb; Juvenile Harlequin, Clown, and Pantaloon, Master S. Lauri and Masters Delevanti; Columbine, Miss F. Lauri; Principal Danseuses, Mesdames Ferro and Magnay.

Stage Manager, Mr. Robert Roxby.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

(Lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith.)

GRAND MORNING PERFORMANCE of the most successful PANTOMIME of the Season on WEDNESDAY NEXT, January 5, and every Wednesday, at Two o'clock, till further notice.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Lessee—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)

Monday, and during the week, the performances will commence with the comedieta entitled LADIES BEWACKED. Characters by Messrs. G. Vining and G. Cooke; Mesdames Wyndham and W. S. Emden.

After which, the New Extravaganza founded on Lord Byron's Poem of MAREPPA. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, F. Charles, M. Cooper, F. Howard, and L. Ball; Mesdames Wyndham, Hughes, Marston, Cotterell, Bromley, and W. S. Emden.

To conclude with AN OLBEC OF INTEREST. Characters by Messrs. G. Cooke, F. Charles, J. Howard, Mesdames Leigh Murray, Cotterell, and W. S. Emden. Commence at Half-past Seven.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

The Pantomime Every Evening. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to commence at Seven, with THE LOVE CHASE, in which Miss Amy Sedgwick will make her first appearance this season in the character of Constance; the Widow Green, Mrs. Wilkins; Lydia, Mrs. C. Fitzwilliam; Sir William Fondlove, Mr. Chippendale; Wildrake, Mr. W. Farren. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, the Comedy of THE BUSY BODY. Miranda, Miss Reynolds. Every evening, after the comedies, the Pantomime of UNDINE; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE SPIRIT OF THE WATERS, in which those unrivalled pantomimists Arthur Leclercq, Charles Leclercq, Herr Cole, Louisa Leclercq, Mrs. Leclercq, and Fanny Wright, will appear. The magnificent Scenery by Mr. Frederick Fenton. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, the Pantomime will conclude immediately after Eleven o'clock. The second Morning Performance of the Pantomime will take place on Thursday next, January 13th, and every Thursday during the present month. Doors open at half-past One, commence at Two, and conclude by a quarter past Four.

Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. Edmund Falconer.)

Immense success of the New Drama, MARION DE LORME.

Continued Success of the New Burlesque, with its unequalled cast and gorgeous scenery.

Monday, January 10th, and (under permission) during the week, the New and Original Drama, entitled MARION DE LORME; OR, THE CRADLE OF STEAM. Madame Celeste, Miss Portman, Messrs. Emery and Vandenhoff, &c. To be followed every evening by THE SIEGE OF TROY. Mrs. Keeley, Miss J. S. George, Mrs. Weston, Miss Talbot, Mrs. Portman, Miss K. Saxon, Miss E. Komer, Miss Bosina Wright, Messrs. C. Young, Emery, J. Rogers, Ellerton Barrett, G. Murray, Fitzjames, J. Neville, &c. &c. To conclude with the Comic Pantomime of HARLEQUIN TOY HORSE. The Harlequinade by the Lauri family.

Prices—Private Boxes, 2l. 2s., 1l. 11s. 6d., 1l. 1s.; Dress Boxes, 4s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Stalls, 5s. Half Price at Nine o'clock.

Doors open at Half-past Six, to commence at Seven precisely. Box-office open from Eleven to Five daily.

A Morning Performance of the Burlesque and Pantomime, on Saturday next, January 15, to commence at Two o'clock. Doors to open at Half-past One.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager.)

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NO. 18, CATHERINE-STREET,
STRAND, W.C.,

The commodious premises formerly occupied by the MORNING HERALD.

The
Leader.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1859.

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.

POSITION OF AUSTRIA.

THE great central despotism of Europe stands at bay. As yet its power of endurance and resistance remains untouched. In the judgment of many, competent to form an accurate opinion, its strength is relatively greater than it has been at any period during the present century. Numerically, the Austrian army exceeds that of France or Russia, and its state of discipline is said to be excellent. Financially, great efforts have successfully been made during the last two years to place matters on a sounder footing than they were previously, and owing to the courage and skill of Baron Brück and Count Buol, these efforts have been in an eminent degree successful. In Germany the ascendancy of the Court of Vienna has, ever since 1849, been gradually but steadily on the increase; while that of Prussia continued, under the government of the lately superseded sovereign, continually to decline. In this respect a counteractive tendency will probably become felt ere long; but as regards the immediate dangers wherewith Austria is menaced, Prussia is understood to be as well disposed to play the part of a friend, if not of an ally, as Bavaria or Hesse. Of the various and dissimilar provinces that make up the empire, Lombardy alone threatens revolt. Hungary is tranquil; the party of legislative independence is broken, scattered, and disheartened; and the peasantry have been propitiated by some concessions recently made by which their condition as serfs has been ameliorated. Bohemia and Galicia are mute, if not conciliated; and Austria Proper, together with the Tyrol, may be set down as loyally affected to the dynasty, if not bound by any strong sentiment of attachment, to the régime, under which they live. The system of rule has become of late more vigorous in the sense of absolutism by the greater completeness of its centralisation. The extension of railways and the establishment of the electric telegraph, has incalculably enhanced the power of Government, and increased the facility and cheapness of working it in peaceable times. The territorial aristocracy north of the Alps are universally attached to the stability of the imperial throne; and in an empire inhabited almost exclusively by Catholics, it has been considered of vast importance to bind indissolubly the powers of the Church to those of the State by means of a stringent concordat. This is the favourable side of the picture; but there is another.

Throughout the empire there is traceable the want of individual energy and the absence of all local life, which in free countries is the essence of their strength, and which, even in ill-governed states, may long and usefully co-exist with much that is repressive, exigent, and arbitrary, in an imperfectly-developed centralisation. Added to this, there is everywhere to be found silent but

profound discontent on the part of the thinking and educated middle ranks of society at the religious and intellectual vassalage to which all are indiscriminately reduced. Means of public remonstrance or discussion with their priestly and police tormentors they have none. Toleration, as asserted by Maria Theresa and established by Joseph II. is extinct. The souls of the people have been bargained and sold to the Church, as their bodies are claimed inexorably for military service, and their purses for irresponsible taxation. There are few symptoms of writhing or resistance permitted to appear; but it is impossible to believe that beneath the surface, could we penetrate it, there are not innumerable festering and cankerous discontents. The state of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom is too well known. It is a magazine of national hatred which any spark may cause to explode. Railways and electric telegraphs would avail nothing after the first few days of general revolt, as they would need whole armies to protect them from being temporarily interrupted. For police purposes they are perfection, so long as the régime of police endures; for military purposes in a hostile country, they are good for nothing. On the other hand, these great inventions would remain in full force and operation in those countries whence attack is to be apprehended by Austria.

At comparatively trifling cost, and at a few hours' notice, Napoleon III. could launch a whole army on the plains which it took his uncle months of preparation, weeks of perilous toil, and countless treasure to bring within sight of his antagonists. The same observation applies to every detail of reinforcement. There is not a barrack in any department of France where the summons for succour, in case of a reverse, would not be communicable, from the banks of the Adige or the Mincio, between dawn and dusk of a summer's day; and allowing for the time necessary to transport supplementary corps from Toulon or Marseilles to Spezzia or Genoa, it is certain that in the space of a very few days reinforcements unfatigued, and in the best condition, could be sent to repair any loss that their compatriots or Piedmontese allies might sustain. Very different would be the condition of an Austrian army if defeated on the banks of the Po. Their whole line of communication between Mantua or Verona and the foot of the Alps would be beset by the enemy. The passes they would no doubt spare no pains to hold; but the blunder of Charles Albert, who left the entrance to them open on the Italian side, would hardly be repeated by French generals; and if these could be sealed for even a short time, the Austrian eagle would be caged within the bastions of an isolated fortress. Long sieges and obstinate defences are just what her soldiers are best fitted for; but the fate of his dominion south of the Alps would be sealed irrevocably were it once made a question how many months' provisions her imprisoned troops had in store.

Looking at all the circumstances of the case, we cannot help feeling that the odds are enormously against her. That she thinks so herself, is betrayed by the hesitation evident in sending an army of occupation into Servia. Time was when the Court of Vienna would not have endured the notion of standing by while her puppet despot was deposed by a revolutionary decree in a neighbouring state, and another, known to be in the interest of a jealous rival, seated in his stead. Bodies of troops were, in point of fact, gathered on the frontiers some weeks ago, preparatory to an armed occupation. But the peremptory veto of France, and probably also of Russia, was interposed, and the perilous step has been suspended, if not abandoned.

THE MORALITY OF TRADE.

Of late the morality of trade has excited much attention, and it is generally referred to as exceptional and low, especially less worthy than the morality of politics, law, and religion. That it is different in some measure from some of the practices and principles prevalent in these other great branches of society, and in so far exceptional, must be admitted; but the great cardinal principles of morality—honesty, justice, truth, respect for the rights of others—are common to them all. The great distinction between it and them is that it is avowedly founded on selfishness, while they all rest on the opposite principle. Whatever may be its immediate or ultimate effects, it makes no claim to be philanthropic, charitable, or patriotic, while they all professedly promote the general welfare, rather than the welfare of statesmen, lawyers, and

priests. To trade for the public benefit, or for any other purpose than to enrich the individual trader, is decried as hypocritical, and denounced as mischievous, by all the accredited writers on trade. Theoretically, it is far less beautiful than they, but, like many a harsh-featured face, it may be an index to more sterling virtues than a softer and more smiling countenance.

It is a striking testimony in favour of trade that all the statesmen of the civilised world think it their duty to promote it. They make many laws, if not successful, for this purpose. They even make war to attain it; and, with the general approbation, trample under foot all the principles taught by religion incorporated into law and professed by all statesmen, to secure the opening of new channels of trade. Equally striking, too, is the fact that, as trade has extended, the morality of mankind, as well as their material condition, is on the whole improved, and is most improved where trade is most extensive. It is not, for example, to be questioned that the morality of Europe, and especially of England, and more especially of this great metropolis—where life and property are now enjoyed in a security utterly unknown in the middle ages, and scarcely recognised in the days of the three first Georges—has improved as trade has become a larger portion of society. Bad as we may think the morality of our cousins in Boston, New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago, where all the people are traders, it is much superior to the morality of Milan, Naples, Vienna, and Rome, where all but a small portion of the people are priests, lawyers, and politicians.

If we justly reproach the Americans with continuing slavery, we ought not to forget that this is exceptional to them, and was, to a late period, universal in Europe. Moreover, Europe began the African slave trade, left it as an heritage to America, and America has abolished it. That trade has gone hand in hand with civilisation, and that by common consent it is now encouraged as a means of civilisation, assures us that it cannot be immoral. In a general sense, its advantages, moral and physical, are never denied; and it is only in detail and in individual cases, when examples of unfair dealing or fraud turn up, that the morality of trade is sneered at as low. Morality, however, is the law of life in society—the rule for the performance of duties by which the welfare of all is promoted—and it is incongruous to suppose that a branch of society so influential, great, and growing as trade, can be conducted on principles adverse to morality and inimical to social welfare.

It is not, however, trade in general, or trade in the abstract, which is now especially condemned, but certain aberrations from the true principles on which trade ought to be conducted. Lately, trade has become of increased importance to society. Its great value is recognised, the large fortunes to which trade has conducted some individuals, the new channels opened for it, have attracted into trade much of the floating and permanent dishonesty of society, and trade has had to bear all the blame of the knavery which its name has been assumed to cover. Thus every attempt to swindle by a bank, or a board of railway directors, or an individual merchant, has been called trade, and the villany of the individuals has been ascribed to the occupation. As well accense all mankind of felony because there are some felons, and all the priesthood of immorality because some members of the order are drunkards and adulterers. Trade, as the rule, is one of the newest portions of society; every trading enterprise is something new, speculative, and hazardous, the results are often affected by changes in the laws of different countries, as well as by unexpected changes in the weather and the seasons; almost every failure, consequently, is classed with trade and remembered to its dishonour, while every successful enterprise is unnoticed and perhaps unknown.

Just now the country is recovering from a collapse of credit; there was a wide extended exertion to obtain a share of the new wealth which had been discovered in the lands of the Pacific. Eagerness overshot its mark. There were many failures, and credit, speculation, and trade are all denounced. Credit is only another name for trust and confidence which man must place in man. Society cannot exist without credit or confidence. A clerk cannot be entrusted with a cheque, nor a carrier with goods, without confidence. The shoemaker cannot confine himself to his last unless he believes that the tailor will ply his needle and the baker knead his dough while he makes only shoes. Lending money or lending securities is only one form of credit or confidence, which is a necessary

part of society. Two or more persons are always concerned in it. To every lending and borrowing there are two parties, and if the lender, eager for gain, hand over his money or his securities to another person, of whom he has no knowledge, and without proving his integrity, he acts unwarrantably. Trust without knowledge is very likely to be deceived, and the man who so trusts, whether he be a poor or a rich man, whether he lends his all or a mere mite of his wealth, is not justified in complaining. Particularly if he be eager to trust in order to share the reputed gains of an enterprising man, be he a banker or a railway engineer, he is as blamable as a confident man who trusts in Fortune and draws from her lottery a great blank.

Mr. Black, who, by his late lecture at Glasgow, has drawn attention to the subject, throws all the blame on the borrower, and has not a word of censure for the eager, unthinking lender. He puts the case of a man borrowing money to invest it in sugar, on the chance of a rise in the price, and concludes that by doing so without consulting the lender, he is guilty of a breach of faith and a reckless misuse of the money. To us this seems a misunderstanding and a misrepresentation of the case. The money is lent on faith in the man, and implies unreserved confidence in his mode of using it. To suppose that his creditors are to be informed how he is to deal with the money, and control it after it is in his hand, is to make them not lenders but partners, and takes the whole question out of the category of credit. Credit is implicit confidence, and all that the creditor is concerned with is to get back his money. How it may be employed, unless he make some stipulation to this effect, is no concern of his; and whatever the speculation, if it be successful, he gets back his money. He is only not paid when the speculation is a failure. For him and for Mr. Black the speculation is only illegitimate when it is a failure. To deny the utility of credit—to deny the necessity of speculation—is impossible; and success or failure is the only difference in all credit and all speculation. Throughout 1856 and the greater part of 1857 speculation was carried on to an extraordinary degree, and no moralist said a word against it. At the latter end of 1857 many speculations were proved to be failures, and immediately a voice of reprobation, echoed and repeated by Mr. Black, rises from all the eager, trusting creditors, expecting to get rich by the exertions of their debtors, and of society.

Let us be understood as denouncing in as strong terms as Mr. Black every deviation from the strict line of honesty, every departure from fair dealing, but we cannot, therefore, go with him in throwing exclusively the disasters of 1857 on the debtor, the speculating and the enterprising portion of society. Closely examined, it will be found that the debtor here was the creditor in America or some other country, and that debtor and creditor are so interwoven throughout society, that to blame one is to blame the other. Society generally, however, may be described as consisting of two classes—the Have-gots, and the Want-to-gots; between them there has been a contention time out of mind, and the imputations on the morality of trade are a continuation of the quarrel. Neither party can do without the other, yet each is jealous of the other. As long as the Have-gots got more, and the Want-to-gots got something, all went smoothly, but when the latter were unable, from what causes we will not now inquire, but not exclusively from their mismanagement, to give all that they had promised to the former, the old contention was revived, and the struggling, enterprising portion of society is denounced as guided by a low morality. For us this seems a very one-sided view of the question, but it is quite consistent with the conduct of the Have-gots in every age, who have always at once struggled to get more, and denounced or thwarted those who, having nothing, have wanted to get. In both classes honesty is to be commended and dishonesty denounced, in both classes a too great eagerness to get is reprehensible; but it is not more reprehensible, as Mr. Black's teaching would imply, in one than in the other.

The trader produces actually nothing himself; he is the intermediary between the manufacturer and the farmer, or one producer and another. But by removing a commodity from where it is of little value to where it is of much value, he produces utility as well as they. He means, as they mean by their exertions, to benefit himself, and he offers his commodities freely to others. Competition—open competition—is the soul of trade. It knows nothing

of compulsion. The wish to sell is equal to the wish to buy, and each party to the bargain having for his object to induce the other to come in to his terms, tempts him by the offer of all possible advantages. Hence trade is not only mutually beneficial, it is founded and promoted by the desire of one, in benefiting himself, to benefit another. Accordingly, it is found that as trade is extensive the enjoyments of all are promoted. Production is rendered facile by division of labour; there can be no division of labour without exchange, and it is great as exchange is extensive. Where trade is extensive, the enjoyments of every individual are indefinitely greater than could be obtained by the individual without trade, even if society could exist without it; and that which promotes the enjoyments of all cannot be meaner or more despicable than any other part of society. England is now the greatest trading nation of the world, and by her trade, far from depriving other people of a single enjoyment, supplies them with useful clothing and instruments, stimulates their industry to purchase her productions, and spreads a knowledge of her arts, her inventions, and her improvements over the globe. Her merchants trade only to benefit themselves, but the trade they have carried on with other individuals and countries—a mutual exchange of benefits—has enriched all. The morality of trade is based on mutual service, and no men have, nor can have, a more ennobling motive for their general conduct. It would be well if other businesses and other professions acted on a motive equally beneficial.

THE LINDSAY LETTER.

THE "Memorials of the Lindsays," in its next edition, will require a fresh chapter: therein it will be told how in these latter days the last Lord Lindsay, like a sort of aristocratic David, went forth, unarmed and uncommissioned, to do battle with the Goliath of democracy; how with puny hand he slung forth his feeble pebble; and how the Manchester giant ought to have fallen, only he did not. We fear, indeed, that the Scotch Quixote will meet with but scant gratitude from his self-constituted clients. Talleyrand, it is said, went to church to pray God to preserve him from his friends. The English aristocracy should offer up supplications to be delivered from Lord Lindsay.

In plain truth, the British peerage requires no defender—they are strong in their position, strong in their prestige, strong, too, in their peculiar privileges. While they have got possession why should they trouble themselves about their title? If they are weak in theory, they are strong in fact. Let them be content with that. Whatever may be the private opinion of Mr. Bright, the British public have no wish to deprive them of their authority. When, however, we are told that not only do the aristocracy rule us, but that it is right and meet they should so rule; that, in fact, they are invested with a kind of divine right of government, why then the blood, plebeian though it be, of the Browns, Joneses, and Robinsons revolts against the supposition, and, in the name of common sense, they protest against the cant of birth. The theory of an aristocracy is a grand and a noble one. From the days of Plato, downwards, the ideal dream of philosophers has been that of a state ruled by a collection of its best and wisest inhabitants. It is probable that this dream never has been realised in any age or country—it is possible that it never may be realised save in the realms of Utopia or Prester John—it is certain that it is not realised by the aristocracy of England. Will any man in his senses be found to assert that, as a body, the English peerage are distinguished by valour, or virtue, or wisdom superior to that of common men? We have no wish to join in a tirade against a "bloated aristocracy," our scepticism, alas! is as negative as our faith. The peerage excites in our minds neither indignation nor enthusiasm. Even a Lindsay exercises no peculiar influence upon our degenerate feelings.

Unromantic as the confession may appear, the power of the English aristocracy consists in the simple fact that, as a body, they represent wealth. A poor Peer is an abomination in our eyes. The whole of our social system—the practice of entails—the rule of primogeniture—the custom of wealthy marriages, of a Lindsay with a Loyd—are all calculated to preserve the hereditary fortunes of the peerage in one constant succession. The great end

is attained, the peerage is rich and ought to be rich; the moment it ceases to be rich it becomes a sham and an imposture. We find, in consequence, that, as a class, the Peers possess the virtues and the failings of the rich. If they are not fond of exertion, they are not much given to interfere. If their learning is somewhat shallow, it is also pretty general; and if their lives are dissipated, they are, at any rate, decently decorous. They are ornamental if not useful. About their career there is a marvellous uniformity. They toil not, neither do they spin. Whether their resemblance to the lilies of the valley extends further is an open question. They sow their wild oats at college or in the Guards, and take their seats in the House of Lords, marry heiresses and beget children, and are buried in the family vault, having fulfilled the whole duty of a Peer.

It is told of an old Dean of Trinity College, Cambridge, that he was in the habit of translating the motto of that ancient institution, "Virtus vera nobilitas," in a twofold manner, according to the rank of his auditor; to the fellow-commoner he rendered it, Virtue is the only nobility; to the sizar he paraphrased it by the words, Nobility is the only virtue. Lord Lindsay has arrived at the conviction that these two versions are substantially identical. His process of reasoning is concise, if not conclusive. Virtue is the only nobility—virtue resides in the nobility alone—therefore, nobility is the only virtue. To the question of Job, "Where shall wisdom be found, and where is the place of understanding?" Lord Lindsay has his answer pat and ready—In the House of Lords, and amongst the aristocracy of England. Now, what are the real facts of the case? Amongst the whole five hundred members of the House of Lords, are there a dozen men of more than average intellect or merit? The names of Brougham, Lyndhurst, Macaulay, Clyde, or St. Leonards, cannot be cited as cases in point. The architects of their own fortunes, they owe their rank to no hereditary nobility of blood. Lord Ellenborough and Lord Canning, whatever may be their merits, have no claim to ancestral dignity. Of the representatives of our old families, who is there but Lord Derby whose talents render him superior to his rank? Amongst the members of the aristocracy who grace the House of Commons with their presence, Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell are about the only men of eminent ability. The plain English of the matter is, that the aristocracy contains about the same proportion of talent as any other equal number of educated Englishmen—neither more nor less. There, as elsewhere, stupidity is the rule, and ability the rare exception. Whatever may be the inward working of aristocratic blood, its outward manifestation is not discernible to the vulgar eye.

We are disciples of the Shandean doctrine, that every man should be allowed to ride his own hobby-horse in peace. If the Lindsay hobby were as innocuous as it is absurd, we should be the last to dismount the rider. Unfortunately, the external capabilities of the dogma for evil are in an inverse ratio to its internal merits. As long as this mysterious "blood and birth" worship is confined to antiquated dowagers, to sentimental novelists, and romantic youths, we can afford to let it pass unheeded. The votaries of a creed whose Bible is the Red-book, whose prophets are Bulwer Lytton and Mrs. Gore, and whose hierarchy of saints is the goodly host of earls, and dukes, and marquises, are not likely to revolutionise the world. The whole fabric, however, of our aristocratic system of government rests upon the tacit assumption that the aristocracy have some peculiar and especial power of statesmanship. Once upset this fallacy, once look the truth in the face, once admit the plain, unsentimental fact that the peerage are neither better nor worse, wiser nor more foolish, than ordinary men, that given the wealth and position, a clever Jones would be marvellously like a clever Stanley, and at once the folly of the system, by which the government of the country is passed like a shuttlecock from one lord to another, is exposed and condemned. It is on this ground alone that the Lindsay apology for the aristocracy of England requires especial notice. Whatever Mr. Bright's faults may be, he is strong enough to bear unmoved the weight of Lord Lindsay's indignation. A "man of letters" is not necessarily a man of parts. "Oh, that mine enemy would write a book!" Such was the prayer of Solomon. The member for Birmingham may paraphrase the supplication by the expression of his earnest wish that Lord Lindsay may write daily to the *Times*, and that his letters may be inserted.

STATE HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS.

THE attention of the metropolis has been officially directed to the fact that it has within its bounds, especially about this season of the year, multitudes of homeless poor. There is a place called the Field-lane Night Refuge for the Homeless Poor, an institution which opens its doors to the absolutely destitute, gives them at night a roof under which to hide their heads, and supplies them with a supper of bread—in some cases, with coffee added to it. It is a painful spectacle the interior of that building, which, as the night closes in, is filled with strange objects of misery; aged men, drabish women, boys prematurely old, brickmakers, labourers out of work, sempstresses not out of work but too poor to have a home, trampers, tumbler, human beings fading away with old age, carrying on a life of half idiocy, or losing life almost before it burns in the fever and consumption of born disease. But the appalling assembly which munches its allotted loaf in hasty silence, joins in prayer with a touching decorum, and crouches down for its night's rest under its allotted rug, has its foil. There is the same kind of crowd which comes too late, finds no room, and must spend the night in the streets whatever may be the weather; and the Londoner who knows his own district at all hours of the night is familiar with the forms which assemble round doors of the Refuge in vain;—those faint, limp, listless forms which are so dingy that they can scarcely be distinguished from the wall or the pavement. The numbers of this multitude have perhaps not been accurately ascertained, but that they are very considerable we may learn from the collateral fact, that in the vagrant wards of fifteen workhouses during the year ending on the 21st of May, 1857, 66,000 admissions were given for a night's lodging. In the same year, 54,600 were given at the charitable refuge in Playhouse-yard. Some thousands, therefore, are wandering about London at night without a home.

Amongst the peculiarities of the class is the caprice with which it distributes itself. There is reason to suppose that multitudes who are too much corrupted, or who are by nature too feeble in mind and body to understand their true position in life, come wandering up to London in order to find some kind of fortune in things in general. They go to no particular district, but simply seek London. Yet they distribute themselves with such inequality, that, whereas some 13,000 will go to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, or St. George the Martyr, 10,000 or 11,000 to St. Margaret's, Westminster, and St. Pancras, only 178 go to poor Chelsea, only 348 to wealthy Marylebone, more than 4000 to well-to-do Kensington, a little more than 1000 to Bethnal-green.

There are two incidents in this invasion which constitute very embarrassing difficulties. The burdens we have seen fall with great inequality upon the various districts. It would be difficult to say that St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, does anything which should subject it to a larger burden than Bethnal-green; yet the burden it has, and by the existing arrangement there is nothing that can equalise the pressure upon the two districts.

The other difficulty is still more perplexing. It may be said that the poor should go to the workhouse, where there are vagrant wards; if the poor feel an invincible repugnance to seek shelter in a workhouse, it may be answered that they must overcome a sentiment not justified by their position. Besides, there is reason to suppose that if some who have been unfortunate and sunk down to the lowest misery may be warranted by certain old associations in shrinking from the degrading influences of a workhouse, many scout that refuge simply because they hate the restraint, and love the opportunity of pilfering or drinking, though they must indulge their taste in the midst of mud and misery. There is, however, reason to apprehend that a part of the repugnance which is felt by the better portion of the homeless classes, is occasioned by a want of appropriate management in the house. Irritated by exasperating behaviour amongst the inmates, especially the casual poor, hardened by intercourse with many who scarcely deserve compassion, not over highly paid, but decidedly overworked, the officers of a parish workhouse grow somewhat dull in their sense of compassion for the wretched, and have scarcely the time or feeling left to discriminate between the simply wretched and the profligate. Moreover, the crowding of squalid and reckless beings in the same ward with the feeble and the inoffensive, has the effect of converting

nisery into vice, and of equalising the level of crime amidst the whole class. Many reasons, therefore, dictate the removal of the casual poor, the vagrants, the homeless, to some place where they can be treated at once with more leniency, more rigour, and more discrimination. Charitable societies have hitherto furnished the home under conditions which secured an effectual regulation; but charitable societies have no means of taxing the public; and even the Field-lane Refuge, one of the most valuable of the kind, has been languishing for want of funds. Now, short of a Chancellor of the Exchequer and a "committee of the whole," there is no taxing machine more powerful than the *Times*, which signified its will and pleasure that persons should subscribe to the Field-lane Refuge, and forthwith obtained the requisite supplies; but the necessities of the Refuge called attention to the existence of a class which is too numerous to be included within the walls of any charitable institution, and the Poor-law Commissioners put forth a document which proves that they have not been inattentive to the public want.

This is a circular letter written by Lord Courtenay, the Secretary of the Board of Guardians of the Metropolitan Districts, proposing an entirely new establishment. The plan is to divide the metropolis into six asylum districts, each to have an inexpensive building set apart for the reception of the homeless poor, the whole to be administered by officers specially appointed under a process of election by the several boards of guardians, the expenses to be defrayed by a rate levied upon the entire metropolis equally. The power to effect this arrangement is vested in the Poor-law Commissioners by the Act 7 and 8 Victoria, cap. 101, which authorises the board to combine several unions and parishes into one district for the relief of the homeless poor, to be managed as we have described. Undoubtedly this arrangement would meet some of the difficulties of the present case. It might draw forth a better attention to the particular wants which are to be met. We might have better management, and obviously additional funds would be provided. But we do not see how, in its nature, it would ensure any amendment upon some of the abuses now existing. For example, instead of introducing a better discrimination between the different species which form the whole genus of the homeless, it would, on the contrary, assemble under one roof the scourgings of a much larger district; would draw together a more clamorous herd of the reckless and the profligate; and would oppress the unfortunate and the feeble more severely than they are at present. Much, indeed, would depend upon the management and the system of dividing the prisoners, for such they seem likely to become; but how should we secure better management? Unless the officers of the new refuges were selected from a higher class, unless the offer of payment were such as to attract more efficient candidates for the post, we suspect that the refuges would become nothing more than outlying departments of the union work-houses, and it is to be feared that they might give rise to all the inconveniences which belong to divided establishments, while they would unquestionably originate a new impost. Beyond these objections it has been pointed out that the plan would effect a material innovation on the principle of local self-government.

THOUGHTS, FACTS, AND SUGGESTIONS ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM. No. IX.

An idea has been thrown out by certain speakers at recent public meetings, that we are not to press for any very decided change in our electoral system just now, because it is likely that the amended Reform Bill of 1859 will be followed, ere long, by another, which may be looked to for the supply of any omissions left in the measure of this year. In one sense this may be true. Finality has become an odious word in popular ears. We all know that the nation has not stopped growing; and we all feel that until it does, and until population and employment cease to shift from one district to another, it is idle to talk of a final and permanent settlement.

In a former chapter of the present series, the necessity has been pointed out of making provision for the gradual self-adjustment of the system to the fluctuating wants of successive periods; and it is hardly requisite to repeat in this place the reasons

for believing that the absence of some such machinery would be a great defect in the forthcoming measure. But it is quite another matter to ask us to lower the tone of our demands, in the present instance, respecting the suffrage, upon the ground that at some unknown and unnamed day hereafter the whole question may come to be reconsidered.

The equitable claim of industry, loyalty, intelligence, and liability to taxation, to be included in the benefits of active citizenship, does not in any way depend on those changes of population or property to which allusion has been made. If by some new discovery the woollen trade were to recover its ancient pre-eminence among our staple manufactures, and the currents of capital and labour were to set in towards the West Riding and Gloucestershire as strongly as they have done during the last twenty years towards Lancashire, that would not alter the great social and political question whether a weaver or a spinner who dwells in a rated house and contributes to the well-being and support of the state, ought or ought not to have the privilege of voting at elections. The monopolists of power are jealous of the cotton region just now beyond all others, because it contains the greatest concentration of manufacturing enterprise and skill. They will fight hard against giving many new seats to Lancashire, and they would fight just as hard against giving them to other districts were they to become in the course of trade equally populous and wealthy. But the basis of representative right, the elective franchise itself, is not affected by the raw material out of which a man earns 30s. or 2l. a week. Great improvements may be made in machinery during the next twenty years; new elements of industry may be discovered or developed whereby additional hands may to a large extent be employed without displacing those that are already engaged in the fabrication of articles of luxury or necessity; villages on whose tranquil green may now be heard the hum of the bee or the song of the bird, may have grown into busy towns; and towns now rarely visited by commercial traveller or tourist may expand into youthful cities. But justice to the working classes, whose toil, and thrift, and intelligence constitute the great element of all improvement and prosperity, will remain the same—the greatest of considerations that can occupy the minds of legislators or statesmen.

It is not desirable that this great question should be further evaded by our rulers. For them the season is peculiarly propitious for dealing with it wisely. There is no excuse of too great pressure from without. There is no irritation produced by defeat abroad, or distress at home, poisoning and warping the public mind. If Parliament will, it may approach the discussion in a temper of judicial calm, and a spirit of judicial impartiality. Even party feeling is unprecedentedly torpid, and the voice of factious violence is literally unheard. The obstinacy of Toryism is slackened by the exigencies of its official position; and the habits of courtiership into which the Whigs have fallen render them averse to rash biddings for popular favour. The Radical party in the House of Commons contains fewer men of influence out of doors or power in debate than at any former period within our recollection. The aristocracy have no decent pretext, therefore, for shirking the question. Will they try to do so? We have little doubt that all who advocate extreme measures hope they may. We have as little doubt that attempts will be made by some from party and personal motives to thwart and embarrass any scheme that may be proposed by Ministers, not with any view of obtaining a better bill next year, but in the hope that they may have a finger in the making of the *borough pie* and in the helping of it. But for the ruling class, as a class, there never was a clearer course or a plainer policy. To them it signifies comparatively little who is Premier, or which of a dozen duchesses is Mistress of the Robes. They dwell on the verge of a perilous chasm, and the consideration, which if they be wise ought to be uppermost in their legislative thoughts, is, how may the palpable and dangerous inequalities of the surface be lessened while the weather and time are favourable for undertaking such a work. There are depths they are not expected to fill up, and heights of power and station which nobody asks them to break down. But they are mad if they do not perceive that their actual position is every day becoming more and more anomalous and more and more indefensible. Some five or six hundred families engross the whole of one branch of the Legis-

lature, and more than one-half of the seats in the other. They keep amongst them nearly the entire profit and power of the civil and military administration; and they confessedly make use of both as class perquisites, out of which the opulent members of their order are systematically fed, clothed, housed, and otherwise provided for. A revenue of sixty-five millions a year is raised by taxes on the industry of the people at large, and expended by the Parliament, in which these few hundred families are paramount, as they think fit. Of the heads of households in the United Kingdom, which, by their unremitting toil, create this enormous annual sum and pay it over to the tax-gatherer, not one man in five has a voice in the election of the minority in Parliament, who are nominally the guardians of the purse of the nation. More than five millions of men are without vote or franchise, direct or indirect. Is this wise? Is this just? Can this last? Then, if not, the sooner the subject is dealt with the better.

BIOGRAPHIES OF GERMAN PRINCES.

No. IX.

JOHN-NEPOMUK-MARIA-JOSEPH, KING OF SAXONY.

THE Royal House of Saxony—a country pre-eminently Protestant, and whose fields served as the cradle of the Reformation—has belonged to the Church of Rome ever since the time of Frederick Augustus I., who changed his creed to enable him to acquire the Polish crown. Great and powerful has been the support given by the Saxon rulers to Popery from the day of that unfortunate connexion with Poland. The late King, who was killed, it will be remembered, a few years ago in the Tyrol, by the upsetting of his travelling-carriage, was a fine specimen of these crowned Jesuits. Accomplished as a scholar, a literary connoisseur, and an enthusiastic student of natural science, the botanical branch of which he had made his especial study, he yet, in spite of this versatility of intellect, forming such an exception among princes, was little better than an abject tool in the hands of the black-robed gentry. Year after year he continued in secret intercourse with such plotting Romanist gangs as, for instance, the "Fraternity of the Heart of Jesus." The commands they laid upon him he submitted to and faithfully obeyed. Sovereign over a people professing the Evangelical faith, he scrupled not to persecute every Protestant association that deviated in any minutiae from the recognised credos. Against the Neo-Catholic dissenter who ignored the supremacy of the Pontiff, he directed the most violent persecutions. Ay, he had no compunction even in spilling the blood of the citizens in order to prevent their forming Anti-Papal leagues. With the shaveling intriguers of the Swiss Sonderbund he was also detected in having rather intimate connexions. Wherever, in fact, Jesuit machinations were going on, some thread of the mesh might be followed till it reached the royal palace at Dresden.

The education and the whole life of the present Saxon King, who glories in the correct Catholic denomination of John-Nepomuk-Maria-Joseph, has been in perfect keeping with this Romanist sentiment of the Dresden Court. The King is the brother of the deceased sovereign, and the son of Prince Maximilian by the Princess of Parma. Born in 1801, he received his earliest impressions from a number of tutors, the majority of whom were deeply wedded to the Popish interest. He was initiated into the mysteries of the Church of Rome by those pillars of Catholicism, the Abbé de Sylvestre, the Father Löffler, and the since Bishop Manemann. Under their superintendence he acquired not only those cunning semi-religious, semi-political practices peculiar to the system, but also that smooth polish and classic taste which has not unfrequently distinguished the disciples of Loyola. A solid military instruction was also, as a matter of course, duly given him by Generals von Forell and von Watzdorf, by Lieutenant-Colonel Fleischer and Major von Eppendorf, who taught him how to make use of the grape-shot, a science the Prince afterwards displayed his proficiency in by employing it against the restive Protestants of Leipzig. The doctrines of public law—or, to speak, perhaps, more correctly, of royal privilege and right divine—were expounded to young John-Nepomuk by an Aulic Councillor of the orthodox school of Haller.

These were the rudiments of the right royal education he received. However, it must be said, he

did not confine himself to the pale of instruction assigned him. He worked to increase his store of knowledge in matters of history, language, and literature, cultivating at the same time with great zeal the gentle art of music. A journey to Italy, made in 1821, in company with his brother Clemens, had for its result a marked predilection for the Italian tongue; but also served to confirm him even more in his Romanist principles. One of the fruits of his dilettantism at this time was the translation into German, under the pseudonym of "Philalethes," of a portion of Dante's *Inferno*, which, of course, was rapturously received by his admiring courtiers. Those more independent critics, however, who have seen a copy of this princely labour, are not at all ecstatic in their admiration thereof. Still, emanating as it did from those exalted quarters which are not generally noted for originality of intellect or profundity of knowledge, it may pass as a tolerable performance. In later years, the Prince also published a translation of the *Divina Commedia*, which is considered, by some, an acceptable rendering of the text. Besides these Italian studies, John-Nepomuk indulged a taste for Hellenic literature. The events in Greece, which he regarded with a double interest in his capacity of phil-Hellene and of philo-Russian, formed the first inducement for him to devote attention to that tongue. Altogether, he made himself remarkable for years by his attachment to literary pursuits, showing himself in this, not a coarse Capuchin, but an elegant, smooth, artistic Jesuit of the rare old school, which is gradually dying out.

This occupation with classic attainments by no means, however, prevented the disciple of the Abbé de Sylvestre and of Father Löffler from pursuing in politics a very decided Conservative course. In political matters, Prince John-Nepomuk, from early manhood, followed the usual royalist track, scarcely even taking the trouble to give his conduct that peculiar hue of sham-liberalism generally observable in heirs-presumptive. After having taken his seat in the Upper Chamber of Saxony, he forthwith came out as the uncompromising champion of the interests of Rome. More than once, in the debates of the Legislature, he opposed himself with strenuous energy to the cause of religious liberty. More than once he strove to force laws upon the country which would have given immense advantages to the Catholic Church over the Protestant communities, though it is well known that the vast majority of the population belong to the latter. There were few topics referring to priestly hierarchy, or monarchic *bon plaisir*, on which the Prince was not found on the reactionary side. In matters of the administration of justice, too—which at one time he had studied with greater earnestness than is generally the case with princes—he resolutely set himself against the abolition of the most crying abuses. He fought desperately in the Upper Chamber against the introduction of a more equitable system of judicial procedures. Thus, whilst apparently abating, by an easy intercourse with literary men, the divisions hitherto existing between the Court and all those outside that "charmed circle," he, on the other hand, did his worst to prolong the life of those institutions which form the surest impediment to the progress of a nation. If we add that already in 1830 he had figured conspicuously at the head of the military force called the "Communal Guard," in repressing the dissatisfaction of the people, it may easily be imagined what he proved to be when an epoch of greater agitation arrived.

The true Jesuit character came out for the first time in all its hideousness in August, 1845, on the occasion of the Leipzig massacre. About that year a lively movement had sprung up in Saxony, not only among Catholics, who desired to establish a National German Church, independent of, and in opposition to, the Pope, but also among the Protestants of the country, who desired to reform their ecclesiastical organisation by means of the popular principle of election, in lieu of the despotic procedures of governmental appointment hitherto prevailing. The Court, chiefly urged on by Prince John, declared against this movement in a violent manifesto. The Ministers issued an ordinance in which, most unconstitutionally, all meetings, associations, and combinations undertaken for the purpose of placing ecclesiastical affairs on a freer basis, were declared illegal, and punishable with heavy penalties. The people were naturally deeply exasperated at this attack upon their "Protestant freedom." They refused to acknowledge the right of the Court to issue such multiordi-

nances without the sanction of the Legislature. Upon this, Prince John hastened to Leipzig, the centre of the movement, in order to overawe the population by a display of military force. Undaunted, however, by the threatening demonstration, the citizens of Leipzig continued in their protestations, and a number of the people even gave unmistakable signs of their dissatisfaction by interrupting the military review, and otherwise displaying their liberal sympathies. The tumult increased, and, in the midst of it, a stray stone chanced to break the glass in the window of the hotel whither the Prince had repaired with his staff. Scarcely had the shattered pane fallen, when the infuriated champion of Romanism, without deigning to summon the crowd to disperse, ordered the military to pour a volley into the dense mass before them—an order that was carried out with a savage alacrity only to be found in the faithful followers of the doctrine illustrated on the eve of St. Bartholomew.

An appalling spectacle ensued. The ground before the hotel was, in an instant, covered with the dead and dying. Men, women, and children lay motionless or writhing in their gore. Shrieks of fear and agony, cries of malediction against the sanguinary Prince, rent the air. The town of Leipzig was frantic with horror and indignation. Freiligrath has sung of this ghastly night in heart-stirring accents:—

Ich bin die Nacht, die Bartholomäus-Nacht—
mein Fuss ist blutig, und mein Haupt verschleiert;
es hat in Deutschland eine Fürstenmacht
zwölf Tage heuer mich zu früh gefeiert.

Prince John, the author of the crime, fled that very night from Leipzig. The military, in expectation of an insurrection, retired into the Pleissenburg. The murdered victims of tyranny were followed to the grave on the ensuing day by an immense multitude of sympathising mourners. Subsequently, a deputation of the people waited upon the King at Dresden, demanding redress, and guarantees for the future. But, instead of giving these, the King and Prince haughtily dismissed the deputation, and immediately garrisoned Leipzig with a strong force of foot, horse, and artillery, to keep down any attempt. At the same time, a Committee of Inquiry was despatched there, which gave the finishing touch to the horrors that had been perpetrated, by delivering many citizens to the sufferings of protracted imprisonment.

In this way, Prince John tried his hand against the aspirations for religious liberty in 1845. We need not say what were his sympathies and doings in 1848 and 1849, when Dresden, which had risen in democratic insurrection against the King, was re-subjected by the intervention of a Prussian army. We pass over the sanguinary horrors enacted at that time in the Saxon capital, and hasten to come to the year 1854, when Prince John assumed sovereign power in consequence of the sudden death of his brother, which had been brought about by the accident in Tyrol.

It had been fondly believed that King John, on ascending the throne, would issue, as had formerly been the custom in Germany, an amnesty for the numerous political prisoners. Nothing, however, of the kind happened; he continued keeping them in the dungeon of Waldheim, where they have remained since 1849, the majority of them condemned for life. One of the most distinguished of these captives, a former member of the Provisional Government of Dresden, died in consequence of his sufferings. Another, Heubner, a man of great learning, has his health shattered, and is in danger of succumbing to the effect of his punishment. In vain have been the supplications of the aged mother and of the wife and children of Heubner. The King remains inexorable. Nay, he has even had a law enacted stipulating that no man condemned for life should be allowed to beg for pardon! Fortunately, we may say that, even were there no such law, the exalted feeling of dignity prevailing among the prisoners would not permit them to descend to sue for mercy. A characteristic occurrence took place not long ago, which shows the tyranny of King John towards those captives in all its unworthy pettiness. A German translation of some English poets having been published from the pen of one of the accomplished men incarcerated at Waldheim, it was remarked by the authorities of King John that one of the poems so translated contained some allusions to Liberty. Immediately thereupon the King—who, be it remembered, prides himself on being a member of the "Republic of Letters"—gave orders for the suppression of the

book, as it "was not becoming that freedom should be alluded to in the work of one condemned for high treason."

In matters of foreign policy, the name of King John has obtained an unenviable notoriety both during and after the Russian war. It was his envoy, Baron von Seebach, who exerted himself in Paris in favour of the Czar, and at last succeeded in drawing over Louis Bonaparte to the Muscovite cause. Some censorious observers will have it that the fair Baronesse von Seebach was not altogether unconnected with these underhand manoeuvres. The interview between the French ruler and Alexander II., at Stuttgart—an interview pregnant with future European complications—is attributed also to the agency of the Dresden Court. In internal affairs, moreover, the rule of the King of Saxony has turned out one of the most reactionary in Germany. Saxony is the country where torture, *à l'opima forma*, is re-established; it being provided that "accused persons who persist in denying" the crimes they may be charged with, are to be flogged at the discretion of the authorities, until by such means the "truth" is elicited from them. So far for politics and justice. As to religious matters, the Romanist tendencies of the King—kept in unflagging zeal by his wife Amelia, a Bavarian princess—have of late found their expression in despicable concessions to Rome, and threaten to invade even further the policy of the Court. Thus the Government of King John—of that "aimable littérateur"—has proved, under every respect, to the full as great a plague in Saxony as could have been the rule of the most crass and unlearned despot.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6½ P.M.

THE EMPEROR AND M. HUBNER.

The year opens gloomily with rumours of war, which every day acquire greater consistency. The extraordinary observation addressed by the Emperor to the Austrian Ambassador upon New Year's-day—a festive occasion, when the corroding cares of politics might well be for the nonce forgotten—have filled the commercial classes with consternation, routed the *condottieri* of speculation, and disturbed the even tenor of all men's ways. Last year was not entitled to a red letter in the imperial calendar, for it was filled with a long succession of blunders, beginning with the terrorist panic which followed the *attentat* of Orsini. The hectoring of gentlemen who believed their mission was to go out coloneling on English soil insulted the national dignity of Englishmen, and showed how one-sided people here wished the alliance to be. The coercion inflicted on Belgium, Switzerland, and Piedmont offended all Europe; and the proceedings taken against M. de Montalembert closed the melancholy category of errors. To some men experience teaches nothing; and I doubt if a greater mistake could have been committed than to outrage the common forms of decency and good breeding by publicly insulting the representative of an allied power on the greatest festival of the year—upon the day when even the commonest in the land wishes happiness and prosperity to all he meets with. The commentary which was made this morning by a high functionary of the Government, was that the conduct of the Emperor was incomprehensible, and would give substance to the rumour that it was a preconcerted thing to "bear" the market and facilitate the Stock Exchange transactions of certain well-known individuals. The proceeding was so unusual and so uncalled for, that people seek for its cause in regions remote from politics. They cannot conceive that mere diplomatic disagreements would induce such an outburst of ill-temper and so complete an absence of *bienséances*. There must be some other reason, they affirm, and with the profound conviction that there is, deeply rooted in society generally, you can readily understand how great has been the blunder to encourage the belief that the foreign policy of France is shaped to serve the views of speculators on 'Change—that the language of the Empire is to day obsequious to Russia to sustain the Bulls, and almost brutal to Austria to-morrow to make the path easy for the "Bears." Of course I do not for one moment suppose that the Emperor had any such intention. He is surrounded with men—Ministers and adherents—who, if they are plastic in their natures and pliable to his will, for that very reason know how to serve their ends, which all have a marvellous resemblance—to feather their own nests, in vulgar parlance. It is a great mistake to represent the Emperor as a dark, unfathomable nature, always full of plots and schemes. He may have been so when he was a pretender, but now success has wonderfully softened and expanded his character. It is only by fits and starts that he is energetic and active.

Generally, he is fond of his race's ease, the *dolce far niente*. Ten years' uninterrupted enjoyment of the good things of this world would convert lean-sided Cassius into a well-rounded, good-natured fellow. No cur can be more harmless than a well-gorged lion.

M. DE WALEWSKI.

Among the Ministers of France whom the Emperor regards as a *bonne pâte d'homme*, one who will do his bidding without scruple or murmuring, is the Count Walewski. This individual has passed through a variety of grades since he made his first bow on the public stage as secretary to the Polish Revolutionary Committee of Warsaw. He has been a play writer whose compositions have sunk into oblivion. He was patronised by a celebrated actress, and owes his present position to that accident of birth which recommended Faulconbridge to Queen Eleanor, but he lacks both the bastard's courage and true devotion to his master. When I say master, I should say the nominal one, for the count having received back his Polish estates, is of course bound to his latest benefactor—the Czar. Between the Czar and the Kaiser there is bad blood and deadly hate. It does not suit the present views of Russia to go to war with Austria, for she has not yet recovered from her Crimean losses, but she would be very glad to see Austria plunged into a gigantic and expensive war, and if France serve as cat's-paw, Russia will look on, complacently waiting for the moment *de tirer les marrons du feu*. Should war be lighted up Russia will bide her opportunity. If the sympathies of Europe should lean to Austria, and France be on the point of being worsted, then she will throw her sword into the scale on the side of the Kaiser, and once more appear as the ally and liberator of Germany. Such a consummation would restore her prestige, make all the German sovereigns her vassals, and raise her to the rank of the first European power. She will, moreover, have the air of acting with rare charity in forgiving the "base ingratitude" of Austria. If, on the other hand, Europe stands aloof and French influence should preponderate, Russia will step in to offer to attack Austria and to share her spoils with France.

Such is the cue given by veteran diplomatists to the incident of New Year's-day. Pliable and plastic as the Count Walewski may seem to be, he contrives to attain his object and serve two masters; but whether it redounds to the credit of Louis Napoleon for discernment to suffer himself to be made the instrument of Russian vengeance and Russian aggrandisement, your readers must determine.

WAR WITH AUSTRIA.

Independently of the influence exercised on the Emperor of France by his Minister, there are certain personal reasons which render a war with Austria acceptable. It is impossible to conceal the deep-seated and wide-spread discontent which cankers France. When the dread of Red Republicanism and Communism were ever present to men's minds, they were willing to sacrifice their liberties for fancied security to life and property. They put on chains in the name of order. But experience has taught them that the reddest of republics could not more tyrannically dispose of what they prize than the Empire, and that in reality there was little difference between the two forms of government. To prevent this discontent festering to a head and breaking out into revolution, it is necessary to pre-occupy the public mind. Moreover the soldiery must be employed. Advancement is slow, and officers grumble. Enthusiasm for the Empire cools down as the measure of rewards is contracted, and fidelity is an exploded heresy. In the summer there was loud talk of war with the United States. "Their insolence must be chastised," was said by one of Marshal Vaillant's aides-de-camp; but as the war would have to be a naval one, and as England made no secret as to which side her sympathy, and probably something more substantial, would be given, the project was laid aside. To go to war with England is the last card, and no gambler, however desperate, would risk his sole remaining chance until every other had been exhausted. Besides, war with England might involve war with the United States, and with all men, save Frenchmen, who longed for liberty; and, in spite of the Indian rebellion, you are too well prepared. You have a numerous and well-disciplined army; immense stores of matériel; a contented and patriotic population; a Channel fleet and a steam reserve that could sweep the seas; abundant wealth, and more abundant credit. You have struck out roots over the surface of the earth, drawing up succour from three-quarters of the globe, and you are more formidable, more invincible, than ever, unless, indeed, you should beat down your own shield by adopting Mr. Bright's un-English policy.

Austria is the only power that affords a safe opportunity of flashing French swords: *indéfini*.

With the Government of the Kaiser it is impossible that Englishmen can have any sympathy whatsoever, and that might be excused if they rejoiced like Faulconbridge if the two sovereigns took up position so as "to shoot into each other's mouth." Italy, with her fatal dower of beauty, would be again the prize for which Gaul and Hun contend, for were France victorious, Italian nationality and independence would be more remote than ever. Austrian domination may be bad enough, but Heaven shield Italians from experi-

encing that lower depth of misery and degradation—French protection.

I have spoken of personal reasons which tend to make war with Austria desired by Louis Napoleon. The Emperor of France believes himself to possess all the qualities and genius of a great military commander, and burns for an opportunity to win his spurs. It was with the greatest difficulty, and solely on account of the insecurity of his throne, that he refrained from taking the command in the Crimea. The telegraph wires were carried into his apartments in the Tuileries to transmit orders for the campaign. Italy was the ground where the uncle first proved his skill, and may therefore be considered of good omen and propitious for the development of the military genius of the Bonapartes. Reviewing all these things, people here believe we are on the eve of war. To-morrow, or next day, the *Moniteur* is considered just as likely as not to contain a recapitulation of all the grievances against Austria, and an appeal to the French nation. What, you will ask, will become of Italy when the Austrians are expelled? I know not, unless it be to give the title of King of Rome to the young Prince Imperial.

INDIA.

[We are happy to be able to lay before our readers the following private letter, which, being from a gentleman of mercantile pursuits, of high position, and totally unconnected with the Government, or any political sect or party, may be thoroughly relied upon. We do not, however, endorse all our correspondent's opinions, though we value and rely on his interesting statements.]

Calcutta, Nov. 18, 1858.

I have just returned from my visit to the Upper Provinces, better in health and stronger than I have been for many years, and now furnish you with my views and opinions on the state of the country.

After leaving the railway at Raneegunge on the 4th of September, I travelled along the Trunk Road, through Shergotty, Benares, Allahabad, Futtelpore, Cawnpore, Allyghur, Bolundshuhur, to Meerut; thence I went through Rohileund to Moradabad, and up to the hill station of Nynce Tal, where I remained some little time, making excursions to Almorah and the neighbourhood. I then marched across the hills from Almorah to Mussoorie (about 180 miles), nearly all the way on foot, attended only by three native servants, none of whom I had seen before, and seeing only two Europeans on the whole distance. I had no arms whatever, except my gun, which I never loaded with anything but small shot for birds. From Mussoorie I came down the hills to Deyrah, Mozaffernagur, Meerut, and Delhi, and thence returned, by the same route I came, through Allyghur, Allahabad, &c.

The only external signs of the rebellion I saw were the gallows erected in each and every town, the ruined dawk, bungalows, or rest-houses on the road, and the blackened and deserted houses of Europeans in the cities and towns, particularly at Allahabad, Cawnpore, Delhi, Meerut, and Moradabad, where almost everything belonging to Europeans remained in the same state as when plundered, gutted, and burned.

The cultivation everywhere was abundant and perfect, the crops most luxuriant, and no appearance of distress or disturbance. In short, if the ruins of the houses were cleared away, there would be no outward signs or marks of the rebellion.

When I came to inquire into the state of feeling, I found, on the one hand, that the people were utterly cowed and prostrate, and that, on the other hand, the authorities in every district were exercising the unlimited special powers of life and death entrusted to them (from which there is no appeal), in the most rigorous manner.

There are European troops and numerous Sikh regiments of foot and horse in every town and place of importance, besides swarms of Irregular Cavalry, consisting of wild horsemen from all the tribes of Central Asia, so that I really believe a European could walk through our own provinces with his hands tied and a bag of money round his neck and no native would dare to touch him.

In Oude the state of affairs is different. There a proud and brave people, warriors by birth and profession, object to our rule and oppose it; but they will do so vainly, and must now submit to the overwhelming force brought against them. In Bengal and the Lower Provinces the occurrences in the North-West have struck terror, and if there are any disaffected they will never show it. All parties resident in our own provinces are now quite safe, and in a very short time Oude will be equally secure.

The present state of things, however, must engender a deep and lasting hatred on the part of the natives to Europeans—far worse, I believe, than even a massacre such as that of Nadir Shah at Delhi would have occasioned—and though I look upon it as impossible that there can be any rising

of the people for at least the next generation, still there is no doubt an element of difficulty and perhaps danger in the new native army into which we have drifted, that the Sikhs know well how much we are indebted to them for the preservation of the empire, and that they and the hordes of Irregular Horse and Foot, having once again indulged in their hereditary taste for blood and plunder, may not quietly settle down or be got rid of. Any disturbance, however, from this cause, could only be temporary, for they can have no guns, are without leaders, and the European force is overpowering.

There was not a voice in the Upper Provinces, from the highest to the lowest, which did not condemn Lord Canning as utterly unfit for the position and the time. He does not even yet get through the ordinary detail of work; allows no access to himself, goes nowhere, and, in short, does nothing.

Apparently there is no settled or comprehensive line of policy, and affairs are permitted to drift onwards as they best may. Sometimes an official is reproved and punished for excess of severity, or another removed for being too lenient; but, generally speaking, there has been little interference with those to whom authority has been delegated; and when it is remembered that out of the civilians in the North-West Provinces about twenty-five per cent. perished during the year, that there can scarcely be one who has not lost a relative, connexion, or friend, it may be assumed that leniency has not been the rule.

If anything can alter this deplorable state of things, the wise and gracious declaration in her Majesty's Proclamation should do so, but a change of men as well as of the measures proposed is necessary, and the present generation at least must pass away before Europeans, whether official or non-official, can look upon or deal with the natives of India in the benevolent and friendly way they have hitherto done previous to the rebellion.

It is impossible now to form an opinion as to the turn things many take with regard to Europeans in the lately disturbed districts. That there will be great changes in their habits and modes of life is certain, but in what direction it is not easy to guess. Perhaps few, if any, will for years venture to settle or reside at any distance from a town or station; perhaps recent events will make every one more anxious than ever to get away from the country and never return to it; whilst the impossibility of obtaining European stores and liquors has taught many new lessons of economy, and enabled them to dispense with many things formerly deemed necessities, so that there will be less indebtedness than previously, and it will unquestionably be some time before things settle down, and men have wives and families, and think of making provisions for them.

THE NIGHT MARCH IN INDIA.—Now, of all modes in which a human being can get from one place to another, I, having had experience of the Danish post-cart, the Eastern Counties Railway, the Dutch trekschuit, the French diligence (*à rotundo*), the Russian tarantasse, and the Scotch herring-boat, do aver and declare that the most utterly abominable is the night march with troops in India. It is very picturesque, no doubt, to see your tents struck by moonlight, the troops and natives moving about the watch-fires, and such matters; but "sleep it is a heavenly thing," and when it does not spread from poll to poll in camp, it makes men very ill-natured and spiteful, so that they rejoice exceedingly when their comrades fall into big holes in the dark, and resent very bitterly similar mishaps to themselves. The dust is most irritating, for you must keep close to the column and to the guides. Walls look like roads by moonlight, and deep water-courses have the singular property of resembling pathways. The rice-fields and grain crops are deep, fetlock encumbering, and in them lie in ambush wells of prodigious profundity. Insidious branches of trees are waiting to hit you on the head, and carry you off your horse. The quadruped itself, deprived of its natural rest, is sleepy, stumbling, and ill-disposed. The column straggles, baggage animals go astray; over and above all dominates abortive Morphous and struggling Somnus. The stars persuade you in vain to break your neck by a precipitate descent over your horse's shoulder, but the end is nearly achieved by the desperate stilt starts with which you recover your balance and avert the former catastrophe. However, "great is discipline," as one of the men said; "here's thousands of us want to stay here and go to sleep, and here's one old gentleman won't let us; and, because he's the only one that wants to go, we all go."—*W. H. Russell in the Times.*

NOT QUALIFIED.—James Gordon Bennett, editor of the *New York Herald*, having been announced in several papers as a candidate for Congress, thus gets the matter at rest:—"There is evidently a mistake in this. We can't be a candidate. We pay our debts; we never were indicted as an alderman for taking 100-dollar bribes. We don't visit low grog shops, nor chow tobacco, nor drink bad whisky, nor carry lobby fees of 10 dollars in our breeches pockets, as Greely did for Matheson. We are, in a word, not qualified for a seat in Congress."

Fine Arts.

A rumour has been in circulation that although the Trafalgar-square lions will be designed by Sir Edwin Landseer, they will be executed by Baron Marochetti. "We believe," says the *Art Journal*, "that the idea is without foundation, arising, perhaps, from the fact that the painter is working in the atelier of the baron."

Mr. Henry Cole, of the South Kensington Museum, continues at Rome, the state of his health not justifying the hope of his early return to England.

The *Critic* states that a plan has been devised for removing the pictures now at Marlborough-house—destined ere long to be the residence of the Prince of Wales—to "the old riding-school of George IV." in a *cul de sac* of Carlton-gardens, a place with the very existence of which we confess ourselves to have been unacquainted. "It has been condemned as unsafe as the repository of public records, principally because it was not fire-proof, and the records have been removed to the new building in Fetter-lane. It is now empty, and the stress of circumstances, it is said, has led Lord J. Manners to look upon it as a possible resting-place for the gifts of Vernon and Turner." Surely this design (if entertained) is too preposterous and altogether too glaringly unjust to admit of ever being put in execution.

The famous collection at Rome of the disgraced functionary the Marchese di Campagna will be dispersed, and may possibly in its entirety find its way to England. In the event of its being so, it will be probably consigned to Messrs. Phillips, of Cockspur-street, who will supply all requisite information on the subject, and show to any inquirer photographs of the principal objects.

A meeting of the friends and admirers of Stothard has been held, at which it was determined that steps should be taken for placing some simple and appropriate monument above his so-long undistinguished grave in Bunhill-fields. The character of the memorial will be regulated by the amount of subscriptions.

The *Art Journal* says:—"When the Royal Exchange was decorated by Sang, we foretold the total obfuscation of that thin and wiry ornament in a few years. This is now accomplished—Giulio Romano's naiads, with their vegetable continuations, are embalmied in City smoke. The authorities are embellishing the Mansion-house with sculpture at great cost; they may perhaps extend their cares to the Exchange, and decorate it with bas-reliefs presenting a history of British Commerce—the only kind of decoration that will resist the smoke-charged atmosphere of the City. This plan we proposed before Mr. Sang began his labours."

We are requested to state, that on and after the 15th January the public will be admitted to view the pictures of the National Portrait Gallery, at the temporary apartments, 29, Great George-street, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, by tickets, to be obtained (as in the case of the Dulwich Gallery) of either Messrs. Colnaghi, Pall Mall East; of Messrs. Graves, Pall Mall; or of Mr. John Smith, New Bond-street.

Messrs. Jennings are exhibiting at their gallery in Cheapside Sir George Hayter's historical picture of "Latimer preaching at St. Paul's Cross to the City Authorities."

We glean the following from our excellent contemporary, the *Critic*, which, in its improved form, deservedly takes a foremost rank amongst literary periodicals:—

Mr. Boxall, R.A., has presented a picture, by his own hand, to the National Gallery, which will be added to the collection of examples by British artists shortly.

F. P. Cockerell, Esq., will on Wednesday, the 19th inst., deliver a lecture at the South Kensington Museum, "On the Painting of the Ancients." Cards, issued by the committee of the Architectural Museum, may be obtained at Messrs. Chapman and Hall's, Piccadilly.

The exhibition of the Society of Female Artists, to be opened for the second season next month, will be held in the gallery next the Haymarket Theatre.

Pictures for the exhibition at the British Institution should be sent in during the next week.

The admired picture of "Home," by J. Noel Paton, representing the return of a Crimean soldier to his Highland cot, is on view at Messrs. Lloyd Brothers, printsellers, Gracechurch-street, City, by whom a mezzotint engraving of the painting will be shortly published.

Messrs. Fuller, of the Fine Arts Repository, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, have thrown open to visitors an excellent collection of water-colour drawings.

The new exterior of the United Service Club House in Waterloo-place is completed. The removal of the old pediment and columns on the west side is a nice improvement, and the alterations altogether give a more elegant and agreeable air to the building, as well as add to its apparent size and vastness. It now presents a

larger front than any of the surrounding clubs, without exhibiting baldness or vacancy.

Readers of Court news will have noticed that the President and Secretary of the Royal Academy had a private audience with her Majesty some days since. What was the great occasion for the use of this high privilege, granted to the Academy by George III., and never used but for serious purposes? Was it to seek a favour, or to accept one already accorded? We suspect the latter. But perhaps Davis, the pamphleteer, will write to the *Times* and inquire.

At a meeting of the Manchester City Council, the mayor presiding, a marble bust of the Prince Consort, presented through Mr. T. Fairbairn, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Art Treasures Exhibition, was unanimously accepted, and ordered to be placed beside that of her Majesty in the Town Hall. The new bust, like that of the Queen, was executed by Mr. M. Noble.

We have inspected a miscellaneous collection of paintings at Messrs. Christie and Manson's, which are to be sold on Saturday. The quality of the works was on the whole what coffee dealers call "good ordinary;" a number of decent copies, many third-rate originals, a few nice modern pictures by unknown painters, a Nasmyth utterly spoilt by restoring, a pretentious large picture by Guido—"The Death of Sophonisba"—so entirely repainted by some French hand as to be more like a modern work than a Guido, which, nevertheless, perhaps it was originally. It looks well enough now as a picture. An early German triptych in good state was the best of all; but although we noted all the works we feel that it is a needless waste of words and paper to speak further of them. Some of the worst are sold as the property of W. S. Landor. Strange to us that such a man should have such things. "Speculative" is a fit word for such pictures, but where the speculation of those who examine them is to end is more than we can guess—we declare that the real nature or origin of some of these pictures must be utterly unfathomable.

PROPOSED GOVERNMENT OFFICES.—The views of the Government in respect of new public offices have undergone a change. Without professing to be quite exact in a matter which seems not yet to have reached the stage of exactness, we believe the present intention is that a building shall be erected in Downing-street, for the purposes of the Colonial Office and the East India Board; and that Mr. Scott and Mr. Digby Wyatt (the latter holding the appointment of architect to the East India Company) will be associated as architects.—*The Builder*.

Theatres and Entertainments.

We have but little to say under this head. The first week of the pantomimes was far from an encouraging one to managers generally. The attractions of and at the new houses of Covent-garden and the Adelphi served to fill them; but the diptheria panic, the miserable weather, and the occurrence of the accident at the Victoria, told prejudicially upon all the others, save, perhaps, the little Strand, where the most attractive company and the most amusing burlesque in town drew full audiences nightly. During the last few days, however, affairs have assumed a more favourable aspect. Frost seems to have gained a trifle upon fog: the weather-glass has been doggedly at "Fair," and the various pantomimes and entertainments having been pruned where requisite, and otherwise shaped into regular working order, are beginning to fill the treasuries. The novelty of the week has been the appearance of Madame Celeste at the Lyceum, in a new romantic three-act drama, said to have been written for her by M. Emile de la Roche, and entitled *Marion de Lorme, or the Cradle of Steam*.

The author has endeavoured to introduce this celebrated character, whose representative is Madame Celeste, in a favourable light, and to gain for her the sympathies of the audience by making her the avenger of her own peace and virtue upon one who had blasted both. Married in early life to M. Cinq Mars, she is supposed, for the purpose of the dramatist, to have been led astray by one D'Estignac (Mr. H. Vandenhoff), a villain of good society, who also brought her husband to the scaffold. The fixed object of her life became a vendetta; and in the first scene of the drama under notice she has the fortune to meet him in the salon of Cardinal Richelieu (Mr. E. Falconer). D'Estignac, who is a spy of Cardinal Mazarin upon Richelieu, has wormed himself into the secretaryship of the latter, and having formed a project against the virtue of Madame Bertha de Caux (Miss Portman), is scheming to immure her husband, Solomon de Caux (Mr. Emery), in the Bicêtre prison for lunatics. The impulsive Marion, at once comprehending the plot, conceives the generous resolve of protecting the unhappy De Caux, who, as his name imports, is a mechanician (reported, of course, mad by his friends and neighbours), busy upon an invention for utilising steam. The best passage in the play, to which Madame Celeste gave intense

force, was her unmasking of D'Estignac's villainy before Richelieu. To this scene, which exposes a powerful situation, our actress, who was dressed and looked superbly, applied some of her broadest and most forcible touches, and roused the audience to enthusiasm. After this, the second and third acts, which offered no situation of equal strength, seemed to flag. A great part of the climax had in fact been supplied too early, but though little room was left for artistical display, all that could be done was done. After the audience have been informed of the result, its development takes place. D'Estignac, having procured a *lettre de cachet*, proceeds to bury his man in Bicêtre. But Marion, having procured a revocation of it, and a spare one besides, at the end of the third act delivers Solomon from an abominable cage in that famous prison, saves poor Bertha from sacrificing her honour to procure her husband's release, and fills up the blank order with the name of the wicked D'Estignac. As for Solomon de Caux, who had so bored the Cardinal that he was not sorry to imprison him, and whose protestations were evidently received with as little favour by the public as those of inventors in general, Marion contrives to interest in his favour the English Marquis of Worcester, who is imported into the piece to adopt De Caux and his crotchets in a very few words, and thus to secure to England the honour, glory, and profit of being the nursing mother of steam. The eccentricity of the moody inventor was well conceived by Mr. Emery; but we object to the senility of Mr. Falconer's Richelieu, as well as to the Cardinal's costume he adopted. The ferocious attempt of De Caux, when in his prison cage, to rend and strangle his wife through the bars, is also a repulsive feature in the third act, and whether due to author or artist, would be better left out. The reception accorded by the audience to Madame Celeste, was of the most thoroughly cordial nature. She was called before the curtain at the end of each act, as well as at the close of the piece, the success of which was certainly due more to her power than its own.

The many richly humorous passages in Mr. Robert Brough's burlesque, *The Siege of Troy*, have now been drawn more closely together, and the piece is consequently beginning to tell. Shouts of laughter attend Hector's (Mrs. Keely's) admirable illustration of the Rarey process; Mr. James Rogers's (as *Patroclus*) quaint sayings, singings, and doings; the dreadfully whimsical combat, attended with all the minutiae of the P.R., between Hector and Ajax (Mr. Charles Young); and the appearance of that monstrous horridum the Trojan horse, fully forty hands high. Miss Julia St. George, as *Cupid*, charms all her hearers by her artless and pleasing delivery of the popular song, "Ever of thee;" and the ballet (otherwise tedious) gives scope for some really good dancing by Misses M. Charles and Rosina Wright.

THE DRAMATIC COLLEGE.—An important meeting of the committee was held on Saturday. A report was presented to the meeting, which stated that Mr. Dodd, the eminent dust contractor who offered to present a piece of land on which the college might be erected, wished to hamper his gift with so many conditions that it was considered inexpedient to accept it. The report was adopted. As several other offers of land have been made, it is anticipated that there will be no difficulty in obtaining an eligible site.

THE ACCIDENT AT THE POLYTECHNIC.—Our contemporary the *Builder* informs us that "the steps are of Portland stone, feather-edged, and were put up twenty years ago, under the direction of Mr. James Thomson, the architect of the building. Not long ago, the treads having become worn, open iron-work, the interstices filled in with cement, was let in on the face of them, and it has been urged by some that cutting into the steps for this purpose has led to the calamity. The iron facing on each step weighs about 1 cwt. Each step probably weighs 2½ cwt. On the other hand, it is stated that the fall commenced at the upper landing, and that it has been found that the joggle here was not soundly made. The appearance presented by the staircase is most extraordinary, every step being broken sharply off about 4 inches from the wall. The accident will not fail to inspire the gravest considerations." And we beg especially to draw to it the attention of the proprietors of the Equestrian Circus, Leicester-square. It has been stated that the slender supports of the galleries there have been certified "strong enough" by competent surveyors; but we confess to a sense of their insecurity whenever we contemplate them.

THE CENTENARY OF BURNS.—The Caledonian Society will commemorate this event by a festival at the London Tavern on the 25th instant; their arrangements are of a superior character. Miss Lizzy Stuart, of Scottish song celebrity, has been engaged to sing some of the poet's finest songs. They certainly could not have chosen a more fitting exponent of Scotch minstrelsy than this lady, who has so successfully identified herself with that class of music, and also with the literature of Burns and other song writers of Scotland.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

We think it necessary to contradict a statement, which appeared some few days ago, to the effect that the Government had determined on granting no more guarantees for public works for some time. The Government are exercising the greatest caution in the amount of guarantees and the nature of the undertakings guaranteed, but so far from such a step being taken as the peremptory refusal of guarantees, various important undertakings are now under the examination of the local governments.

Although the alarm as to Nepal has subsided, at Darjeeling Dr. Campbell, the superintendent, continues his preparations for strengthening the Jilapahar and the European cantonments for the expected increase of force.

The alarm as to Jung Bahadoor is, however, only transferred to other districts, and the Tirhoot people, who were already alarmed, are becoming none the less anxious because Jung Bahadoor, whose designs on the province are notorious, proposes to make a pilgrimage to Hajepore with one thousand men. Private letters speak strongly of the feeling of the planters, who complain that the Government has left them without protection. It is affirmed Jung Bahadoor proposed to bring with him ten thousand men. A great quantity of baggage had already reached Hajepore. There are several places of this name, but the one in question may be considered a suburb of Patna, being opposite to the ferry over the Ganges to that great city, and at the confluence of the Gunduck. Patna is ominous for the massacre of 200 English prisoners in 1763 by the German Sumroo, under orders of Cossim Ali.

At Darjeeling, a branch has been formed of the Society for Promoting English Settlement and English Progress in India, and efforts are being made to form a branch in Calcutta. The Darjeeling people intend to petition Parliament in the next session, and are collecting evidence as to the resources of their settlement.

The *Friend of India* says of emigration, that "the design is excellent, provided the proprietors offer to every emigrant distinct specified advantages, and keep their pens from the vague promises which produce such misery."

At Simla, the Proclamation-day was accompanied by a grand ceremony, as the Commissioner, Lord W. M. Hay, conferred promotions and rewards on a number of the subsidiary princes. The following was created a Rajah: the Keonthal Ranah; the following were created Ranahs: the Thakoors of Kotee, Ghoond, Theog, and Bulsun. Rewards were conferred on the Rajahs of Kihloor and Sirmoor, and the Kihloor Wuzer; the Ranahs of Joobul, Bhogul, Dhamee, Budgee, and Kooner; the Thakoors of Koomharsain, Turoch, Durcottee, and Kohhar; the Vakeels of Bissahir and Puttialla, and Jye-Sing. Dr. Ross, Civil Surgeon, has been appointed an *ex-officio* Municipal Commissioner for Simla.

Leave has been given for Simla to Lieut.-Col. N. D. Barton in extension, to Lieut. G. N. Money, Col. G. Congreve, C.B., in extension, Lieut. G. A. A. Baker, Ensign J. B. Whitla, and Major C. P. Johnson in extension.

At Mussoorie, Assistant-Surgeon M. B. Lamb has been appointed to the medical charge of the depôt and various establishments.

Leave to Mussoorie has been given to Lieut. F. T. Bainbridge in extension, to Capt. G. Forrest, and Lieut. and Adjutant G. C. Kelly.

Leave to the Deyrah district has been given to Major S. J. Browne.

In October, 2 officers, 86 restored English invalids, and 50 Sowars marched from Nynee Tal, and their place was supplied by Lieut. Fisher of the 82nd Foot with 48 English sick, and an escort of 50 of the Irregular Cavalry.

For Nynee Tal, leave has been given to Lieut.-Col. C. Herbert, C.B., and Ensign J. E. D. Campbell.

In Sylhet, Mr. J. B. Shadwell has been appointed deputy magistrate and deputy collector.

Leave for Landour has been given to Ensign H. W. Fielden in extension, to Capt. S. M. Clarke in extension, and Ensign A. Dixon.

At Almora, in Kumaon, a regimental depôt of the 66th, or Ghoorka Regiment, is directed to be formed, and Lieut. R. S. Graves is appointed to the command.

It is satisfactory to find the attention of the Government is still given to the Hindostan and Thibet road, of which Lieut. G. A. F. Houchen is appointed to temporary charge during the absence of Capt. Briggs, the superintendent.

Considerable interruption is caused to the hill trade by Jung Bahadoor having stopped the cutting of timber in all parts of the Terai within the territory of Nepal.

As an example of the advantages which can be placed within the reach of the English soldier in India, we may observe that on the 8th of November fourteen officers and five hundred and ten soldiers arrived at Bombay, and on the evening of the 10th they disembarked and proceeded by rail to Poona, on the high

table-land above the Ghauts, thus avoiding the unfavourable effects of the low country. If therefore judiciously distributed in the higher stations, they will be kept in good health and effective for immediate service.

The provision which is now afforded for Bombay can, on the extension of the railway system, be given to the other stations. Troops landed at Madras will be at once conveyed to the Neilgherries, those at Calcutta or Port Muthah to Darjeeling, and the Kurrachee troops to the Scinde sanatoria.

At Kurrachee, the collector is making great exertions to kill snakes. Some natives can earn 4s. a day at snake-killing.

The Indian Government was about to ship ten thousand tons of Sindh salt from Kurrachee.

Leave for Dhurmsala has been given to Lieutenant the Hon. G. H. W. Clive and Ensign G. R. Wilberforce, 52nd Foot, in extension.

Leave for Murree has been given to Major W. H. Kirkby.

Leave for Dugshaie has been given to Colonel U. Williamson.

A strong effort is being made by some parties in Dharwar to draw attention to it as the true sanitarium of that part of Western India. The *Bombay Gazette* affirms that Dharwar links Belgaum to Bellary, Bellary to Goa, Belgaum to Hurryhur, Kulladghee to Coomta, and the coast with Hyderabad. The Europeans have not had a fatal case in seven months, and the weather is cool all the year round. Temporary barracks are in course of erection, but the Dharwar people claim that the place shall be made a station for two or three regiments.

The collectorate of Dharwar is on high ground connected with the western side of the Western Ghauts, and is famous as a cattle district. The town is within a hundred miles of the grand line of railway between Bombay and Madras, and the works on the Bombay southern line are moving towards it. Coomta, on the Malabar coast, is used as its port.

Leave to the Neilgherries has been given to Lieutenant E. Faunce for twelve months, Ensign R. C. Whitlock for eight months, Major A. E. Saunders, Brigadier W. H. Miller in extension, Major J. Babington in extension, and Captain C. W. Moore in extension.

Leave to Mahableshwur is given to Lieutenant J. Nodding.

The injudicious measure of introducing that band of scoundrels, the German Legion, into India does not escape without censure. After the trouble we have had from Sumroo and other Germans, and the numerous French officers in the Punjab and the local courts for about a century, with French and German officers pressing the War Ministers for leave to proceed to India and join the revolters, the step of introducing such elements of discord admits of no excuse. The Germans are generally unprincipled, but the Legion consists of the scum of the country. It was bad enough sending them to the Cape to sympathise with the Boers and Africans, and in India we shall have more than Germans enough in the emigrants, who will rush thither with the progress of the settlement movement. The Germans in India, although a small body, are increasing now.

The scheme for a Eurasian regiment to be raised in Bombay has failed, as the Portuguese prefer to be Government clerks or waiters at better pay than that of the private soldier.

The situation of parties in India is beginning to attract attention. The old Conservative, or un-English, party is that which has possession of most of the offices, but the English party is gaining ground in India and at home, and even in the Supreme Council of India it is supposed to have three members, and is strong in the subordinate Governments. The *Friend of India* observes that the general current of feeling is decidedly towards the English party, some of the very ablest Indians having passed over to the opposition, and many more being engaged in weeding their minds. "The effect of the Conservative Committee has been almost incalculable, and the next session will, we believe," says that able journal, "witness a struggle which, nominally for a system of administration, will be really for the introduction of a principle."

The old leaven is, however, so strong, that out of twenty-five deputy magistrates lately appointed fifteen are Hindoos, two are Mussulmans, and eight Christians—we suppose most of them half-caste. Just at that time the police magistrate of Calcutta had been dismissed for what may be called want of knowledge of the bounds between justice and injustice.

The Governor-General has declined to authorise at present the transmission of the wives and families of the rebels to the Andamans, but an accession of free population to the new colony will be obtained. Dr. Walker is making strenuous exertions that the settlement may be permanent.

The *Friend of India* has been paying some attention

to the small colony of Chinese in Calcutta, who are found, as usual, secretly banded together against the community and the police. They take Portuguese wives, but do not nationalise the children, so that the colony does not greatly increase. When Chinese immigration sets in, as it will through the Burrampooter valley, some important influences will be brought to bear on India.

The Government of Ceylon has appointed emigration agents to collect coolies in India, who are to be conveyed in steamers.

We are sorry that an expedition of 2000 men, sent out from Sarawak under Captain Brooks to punish some of the Sarabas pirates, has not been successful, as, after driving them up into the country, they could not be further got at.

The Ceylon pearl fishery is again in operation.

The Government is turning to account the powerful organisation of labour, instituted by the railway contractors, to obtain the clearance of the jungles in the rebel districts. Messrs. Burn and Co. are hard at work on the Jugdespore jungle, in Oude. This is twenty-two miles long, by three broad, but including fields and open spaces.

The flax cultivation in India is having the stimulus of English enterprise applied to it. The Punjab is particularly suitable for this plant.

The heavy prices of provisions for Europeans in Calcutta are attracting notice in consequence of some evidence on a trial; saddle and legs of mutton, 17s.; saddle, 10s.; leg of mutton, 5s.; fore-quarter of mutton, 4s.; roasting fowls, 1s.; curry chicken, 3d.; goose, 3s.; duck, 7d.; pigeon, 2d.; turkey, 12s. It is hoped that when the hill districts have railway communication, meat, vegetables, and fruits of the temperate climates will be supplied cheaply and in good condition.

A tree, valuable for wood engraving, has been made known at Calcutta, being equally close-grained with box. It is found in the South jungles, and called "purparool." Wood engraving is making such progress in India that it is an important instrument of native education, and the material for it a matter of importance, as boxwood is getting dear.

The Government have ordered a diving-bell to be supplied to the port of Madras, after about two years' correspondence, and the diving-bell has yet to be got.

The quicksilver lode in Cannanore is as yet found to be very scantily disseminated in Laterite.

The Home Government are sending out to Calcutta four iron barges, constructed by Messrs. M. Pearse and Co., at Stockton-on-Tees, and which contain about 450 tons of iron.

Mr. Le Mesurier, of the East India Railway Company, has been despatched to the Sutlej to survey and make arrangements for the proposed viaduct and the extension across that river.

Great efforts are being made in Calcutta as elsewhere to induce the Government to give up printing, and restore the half-caste and native writers, who have so long pressed on the Government establishments. It is alleged printing will be much dearer, but the Council for India may learn better, if they will take the opinion of large firms at home.

The works on the Ceylon Railway are going on well. Labour is sufficient, and the coolies are taking to the wheelbarrow, a grand lesson in the art of progress, marked by the local observers as a great advance in civilisation.

The arrangements for the telegraph line were at the last advices in progress in Nagpore under the direction of Inspector W. J. Grinnal.

The captive King of Delhi has made part of his journey to Calcutta by the East India Railway. It is said that accidents by fire are common on this railway, in consequence of wood being burned in the locomotives as in the American system.

On the 26th October, the works on the Lahore and Umritsar Railway were commenced. The line will, it is expected, be completed in eighteen months.

The improvement of Lucknow is making a great change in that city. Many buildings have been pulled down and broad roads laid out. The enemy's mud forts have been erased, and most marks of the ravages of the war have been removed. Only a few of the large buildings still exhibit shot holes.

The Government have directed 8000*l.* to be appropriated from the city tax for the erection of an English church at Lucknow. Captain Hutchinson is appointed architect.

An English paper is to be started in Allahabad; the new capital of the North-West Provinces. Mr. S. Blanchard is the proprietor and editor.

Mr. N. G. Steele has been appointed to the charge of the Umritsar drainage works.

The Calcutta drainage scheme is as lingering as the metropolitan main drainage. The plan has been sent home to Messrs. Rendel, and they have not yet been able to report.

COMMERCIAL.

THE REVENUES OF 1858.

THE revenue accounts for 1858 open up cheering prospects for the country. They are proofs of the continuance and increase of the national prosperity. On two or three occasions, in describing the progress of our trade, we have informed our readers of the fact that the customs revenue was increasing, and our inference from the Board of Trade tables is now amply confirmed. In 1858 the customs revenue was 24,092,000*l.* against 22,464,352*l.* in 1857—an increase of no less than 1,627,648*l.*, though customs duties to the amount of 1,628,532*l.* were abolished in 1857. So true it is that the customs arithmetic differs from all other arithmetic, and in it very often the result of addition is a less, and of subtraction a greater, sum.

The excise follows the customs, but not at an equal pace. The revenue from it was, in 1856, 18,073,778*l.*, and in that year the war malt tax was repealed, estimated to yield 2,200,000*l.* Accordingly, the excise revenue declined in 1857 to 17,472,000*l.* In 1858, however, it rose to 17,966,000*l.*, or only 107,778*l.* less than in 1856, though 2,200,000*l.* had been given up. This augmentation of customs and excise revenue consequent on a reduction of taxation is a great encouragement for all financial reformers to insist on further reduction. It permits the expansion of industry and the augmentation of national wealth to such a degree that a smaller per-centage on the increased mass yields a larger revenue.

The total revenue for 1858 is 66,286,995*l.*; for 1857 it was 70,390,342*l.*; but the decline is not half the amount of the sum of taxation reduced. In 1857, besides the reduction of the customs duties mentioned, a portion of the property and income-tax, yielding 9,125,000*l.*, was reduced. Some arrears of the tax might have swollen the revenue of the present year, but as these arrears must have been collected chiefly in the past quarter, and the whole produce of the tax in that quarter was only 3,390,000*l.*, while the total decline in the year was 1,600,000*l.* less than the estimated decline, it is pretty certain that the commercial convulsion has not on the whole very seriously diminished the tax-paying incomes of the commercial classes. The best test, however, of the increasing prosperity of the people is, that the total revenue in 1858 is only 4,103,347*l.* less than in 1857; while in 1857 the amount of taxes reduced was no less than 10,753,582*l.* This informs us very distinctly that the resources of the country have increased much beyond the calculations of our financiers. If such a progress has ensued in 1858, when our commerce has been convulsed, when the work in our factories was for a time suspended, what may we not expect in 1859, when our trade is fully restored to health, and every branch of the national industry in full and profitable activity? As our supplies of raw materials are large, as food is abundant, and population everywhere increasing, urging forward increased production and increased consumption, we anticipate augmented trade and great additional revenue. We trust in the continuance of peace, and cannot believe that the old wars of Europe for the advantages or whims of monarchs will be now revived.

We must not, however, fall into the error of supposing that the increase of the revenue is an index to some merit in the Government. The Derby Ministry has had no more to do with the success of trade, with the increasing means and increasing consumption of the increasing population, than it had with the commercial convulsion. Freely exonerating Government from all blame for that, we must as freely assert that it can claim no merit for our present, nor will it have any merit for future, prosperity. At the very best it only permits, by the abolition of restrictions and taxation, free play to individual energies, and has no positive and active power to increase or direct them, or augment their produce. The revenue returns amply confirm all that we have told our readers of the great commercial convulsion being a mere adjustment of accounts between speculative

debtors and creditors and dealers, and that it had left all the real sources of our national wealth uninjured. They amply confirm the most sanguine expectations of the advocates of free trade, and demonstrate that as restrictions are abolished not only does trade enlarge, but it becomes regular and less liable to injurious vacillations. When free, it can bear the diseases with which ignorance and speculation inoculate it, and has strength to cast them out and flourish by its own vigour. Only when enfeebled by legislative bondage does trade perish from such trifling disorders. So manifest are now the advantages of freedom that we are every day more and more surprised at the acquiescence of mankind in the continuance of restrictions. Were a tithe of the advantages of freedom supposed to belong to some belief in the Unknown, we should have crowds of missionaries eager to preach it to all nations. But it concerns only the welfare of man on the earth, which can be achieved by each individual for himself—which he is already too much disposed to attend to—and the great social benefits of the exertions of individuals in freedom are more eagerly denied, and the knowledge of them obscured or hidden, than proclaimed. The senses and the intellect cannot, however, be chained, and their operation will infallibly make the advantages of freedom, as demonstrated by our success, known to all, and, in due time, secure its supremacy.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

THE holiday festivities have not yet wholly disappeared from the manufacturing districts, but the active course of business in several branches of manufacture has not been interfered with perceptibly, as the wholesale houses are too full of orders, and too desirous of getting them completed, to allow of any prolonged delay through the operation of Christmas holidays. Our last notice of the condition of trade stated that the prospects for the present year open well.

A review of the transactions of the year just closed, and a careful consideration of the existing state of business in the centres of our manufactures, confirm the opinion we have already expressed, that, provided no unforeseen event, no foreign wars or complications come upon the surface, we are pretty sure to have a good year, and a year of augmented profits. We are not only busy just now in various directions, but the wholesale houses, manufacturers, and operatives in most of the leading trades are getting higher prices, and it may therefore be fairly assumed higher profits. The activity which has prevailed has led here and there to demands on the part of workmen which their employers have hesitated to grant. Strikes and threats of strikes have ensued, but, as far as our inquiries extend, we have reason to believe that matters have been accommodated, and that employers and employed go on comfortably together.

LIVERPOOL.—There has been a quiet but steady market for cotton. The sales have not been large, but they have been quite equal to what may be expected at this period of the year.

MANCHESTER.—The activity which manifested itself during the last month has experienced no abatement. The buoyancy which was so prominent last week and the preceding week, has not diminished in the least, and the tendency of prices is still upwards. Yarns for India and China have again been in active demand, and the consequence is, that prices have advanced 4*d.* to 6*d.* per lb. Cop and reel yarns for manufacturers are 4*d.* to 4½*d.* higher. The demand is not confined to yarns, it is equally brisk in all the markets, and the greatest difficulty is felt by buyers in getting the spinners to take more orders. The spinners are already fully engaged for the next month at least, and they, therefore, will not readily take more orders, except at a further advance, which is not as yet conceded. Cloths are in active request, and at the highest rates asked during the last week. A good many orders are still issued, although it is impossible to guarantee an early supply of goods. Of course we refer to cloths for India; the home trade, though good, is not quite so active. The demand for other foreign markets has been very fair, and still continues so; but it cannot be doubted that the Indian orders have carried off nearly three-fourths of the goods that have been produced. To show the pressure on the spinners, we need only refer to the fact that, although the orders unexecuted were larger than known for some considerable period, and were being continually added to, the

exports were less in amount in December than in November. The truth is, the demand was greater than the supply, and the goods required for the India and China markets could not be procured. Even for this month it is expected that the supplies will fall very far short of what is required. To show the rise in prices that has occurred during the last month, we give the following extract from Messrs. Fraser's Trade Circular:—"1½*d.* per piece in 7-8ths printers, 3*d.* in India qualities of madapollams, and 3*d.* per piece in Brazil qualities, 2*d.* to 3*d.* in 9-8ths printers, 3*d.* to 4½*d.* per piece in 9-8ths shirtings, 6*d.* per piece in India shirtings up to 7 lbs., and 7½*d.* to 9*d.* per piece in 8 to 8½ lb. shirtings, 4½*d.* per piece in 36 in., and 3*d.* per piece in 39 in. figured shirtings, 2*d.* to 3*d.* per piece in Indian jaconets, 1½*d.* to 3*d.* per piece in T-cloths and long-cloths, and about 1-16*d.* (and in some cases ½*d.*) per yard in domestics. Yarns are also dearer by ½*d.* to 1*d.* per lb., the shirtings suitable for India commanding a preferential sale over all others, as by the latest accounts they still show a very large profit upon our current prices. The stocks of these are light, and favourite kinds of them are pre-engaged into February, and some of them into March. There has been a good demand for prints, from the leading foreign markets, and owing to the dearth of cloth, prices have advanced 3*d.* per piece. All our print works appear to be well engaged." As far, then, as our export trade to India, China, and the Continent is concerned, it may be considered as extremely good. The only drawback is, that fears are entertained that the markets will be over supplied, and that then we shall have a reaction in prices and a cessation in demand, which will partially neutralise the good that has been effected.

NOTTINGHAM.—We wish we could report that more activity was visible in the lace trade. The market still continues extremely quiet, but makers are looking forward with confidence to a reaction as the spring advances. There has been more doing in Mechlin and plain nets, and some little business has been done in fancy goods, but buyers have made purchases very sparingly. The hosiery trade still continues animated. The manufactories are full of orders, which it is expected will keep them fully employed for weeks to come. The prospects of business appear to be very cheering. Business is not only brisk in Nottingham as far as the hosiery trade is concerned, but in the surrounding districts also.

LEICESTER.—The hosiery trade is likely to continue brisk for some time longer. In all seasonable branches a very good business is doing, and it would not create surprise were this activity to be shortly augmented. At Loughborough, Hinckley, and other hosiery districts, the same satisfactory state of business prevails. Good workmen are employed at good wages; and yarns and wools are moving upwards in price.

BIRMINGHAM.—The makers are not very busy, but there is a very fair business doing generally. In the iron districts a good deal of activity prevails. The Welsh iron masters are mostly well supplied with foreign orders.

THE COAL MINES are in active work. Some miners still stand out, but the majority of malcontents have given up futile opposition.

WOOLLEN TRADE.—The reports from Leeds, Huddersfield, Bradford, and Rochdale, concur in stating that the year opens with a brisk trade in the local wool market. Fine qualities of wool obtain higher prices, and stocks are generally low. Worsted yarns for home trade in good demand, and for desirable goods a fair demand exists. Foreign orders are rather scarce, because exporters are holding back. Buyers appear to be looking after job lots, but sellers are firm, and refuse to sell except on good terms. Black doeskin and fancy trousers for the spring find ready sales, and at advanced prices. Canadian buyers are in the markets looking after vestings. Stocks generally are very low.

THE SILK TRADE.—The past year has been generally satisfactory to all concerned in the silk trade; it opened under rather gloomy auspices (the losses of the previous year being severely felt), but confidence was soon restored, and the moderate rates which ruled induced a very active demand, causing prices to advance during January fully 8*s.* per lb. The market subsequently became depressed, and it was found that a lower scale of prices was necessary to enable the trade to work up to advantage the large stocks then in existence. In September and the early part of October continued accounts of short exports from China produced a considerable rise, and No. 8 Tsatlee (new silk) reached 21*s.* 6*d.* per lb., when a pause took place. The subsequent advices of large settlements in China caused a rapid reaction, and in a few weeks prices had receded some 2*s.* per lb., since which we have had an active demand, and latterly have again advanced to within a fraction of the highest quotations of October. The year closes with a stock about one-third of that existing on the 1st January, 1858, and good silk almost exhausted; it is, however, satisfactory to know that ample supplies are close at hand.

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Friday Evening.

BUSINESS was resumed throughout the markets on Tuesday, and the first operations of the new year have been characterised by those features which have been most commended as contributing in no small degree to the healthy progression of trade in the year preceding. Both the buying and selling have been regulated solely by actual demand and supply, and current values, as usual under the circumstances, graduate to their legitimate level, without any of those wide fluctuations that are always against the general interest of the *bond fide* trader. With matters in this sound and healthy position, the political influences which have acted so powerfully in some quarters have had little effect here. As, however, the peace of Europe is necessarily an essential requisite in the full development of trade, it can scarcely be even menaced for any lengthened period without being ultimately felt. The aspect of the political horizon is therefore viewed with considerable interest, and not without anxiety, although the generally expressed opinion leans to the more hopeful side.

CORN.—The market opened on Monday with the usual limited supply of English wheat, and the demand being decidedly more general, a ready clearance was effected at prices establishing an advance of 1s. to 2s. per quarter, an improvement that has been fully sustained in subsequent markets. Prime old white brought 50s. to 52s.; select new, 48s. to 50s.; good runs, 46s. to 47s.; choice old red, 45s. to 46s.; prime new, 44s. to 45s.; runs, 41s. to 43s.; common, 39s. to 40s. per qr. Foreign, of which the imports were also moderate, were held with increased firmness: the prime Dantzic, 55s. to 56s.; good, 51s. to 53s.; Brabant and Louvain white, 45s. to 47s.; red, 44s. to 45s.; French red, 41s. to 43s.; St. Petersburg, 41s. to 42s.; Stamboul, 35s. to 36s. Flour has met a good steady demand at fully late rates: town made, 40s.; households, 32s. to 34s.; seconds, 29s. to 30s.; Norfolks, 28s. to 29s. per sack. The value of French is still well supported, the quantity offering being limited. American brands range from 22s. to 25s.; sour, 20s. to 21s. per barrel. Grinding barley is easier to buy, in consequence of the recent large import from the Black Sea; 23s. is the top price of good qualities. Malting barley is, however, steady in value, and the quantity of fine on offer somewhat short. No quotable change has taken place in the value of malt, in which a fair amount of business is passing. The better qualities of beans have sold rather more readily. Peas are still dull of sale, partly in consequence of the mild weather. Oats are in steady demand, and choice sweet corn is the turn dealer.

SEEDS.—The quantity of linseed on offer has been much reduced, and prices are steady, but the week's business has been upon a moderate scale only. Black Sea seed is worth 52s. 6d. on the spot, and Calcutta 51s. 6d., cost freight and insurance. Bombay seeds bring 45s. for fine. Clover-seed is firm, with only moderate supplies.

POTATOES.—The markets have been fairly supplied, and trade steady, at the quotations. York regents, 80s. to 100s.; Scotch, 70s. to 80s.; cups, 50s. to 60s.; Belgian, 60s. to 70s.; Dutch, 50s. to 60s.; French, 45s. to 60s. per ton.

LIVE STOCK.—Trade for every description has been more active, and quotations are generally 2d. to 4d. per stone higher. The following were the numbers at market and the current prices:—

MONDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
3,005	18,950	110	300
3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.	3s. 10d. to 5s. 2d.	3s. 6d. to 4s. 3d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.

THURSDAY.			
850	3,550	125	150
3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.	3s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.	3s. 0d. to 4s. 3d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.

PROVISIONS.—The dead-meat markets have not been overstocked, and both beef and mutton have realised somewhat better prices. Veal and pork remain as before. To-day's quotations were—for beef, 2s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; mutton, 2s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per stone.

SUGAR.—Good strong refining qualities have met a steady demand at fully 6d. per cwt. advance, but growing Madras and Benares sugars have declined 6d. to 1s. per cwt. The general position of the market remains unaltered. Consumption progresses satisfactorily, and stocks are not excessive, nor are anticipated supplies greater than expected requirements. The production of Louisiana, which was estimated some time ago at 400,000 to 450,000 hds., is not now calculated at over 800,000 hds. Porto Rico and Havannah are set down at last year's average. From the East Indies an excess of 20,000 tons is looked for, but the British West Indies will, it is thought, fall short 20,000 tons. The future course of prices has, therefore, every appearance of stability. The principal transactions this week have comprised 2800 hds. West India; Barbadoes, low to fine yellow, at 89s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; 13,600 bgs. Madras, good middling to super-

rior grainy, 44s. to 48s. 6d.; grocery, 41s. 6d. to 43s.; 13,000 bgs. Bengal, low to good mid yellow Gurrattah date, 37s. 6d. to 40s. 6d.; white Benares, 45s. to 48s. 6d.; Grainy, 45s. to 48s. 6d.; 1250 bgs. Penang, 39s. to 40s.; 700 hds. 200 brls. Cuba, Muscovadoe, 39s. to 44s. 6d.; 1270 bxs. Havannah, low soft to good strong yellow, 39s. to 44s. 6d.; white 50s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. 5500 bgs. cloyed Manilla at 32s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; and two floating cargoes Havannah, together 2775 bxs., Nos. 10 and 12 at 27s. 3d. and 28s. for the United Kingdom.

TEA.—There has been little doing all the week, but the public sales to-day evidenced a good current demand, and of 8400 pkgs. put up, 4300 were sold, inclusive of 2500 printed "without reserve." Black leaf congous were in many cases 1d. per lb. dearer, and all other descriptions brought full prices.

SPICES.—No change has occurred beyond a slight improvement in the value of black pepper, in which a good business has been done at 3½d. to 3¾d. for good Sumatra.

COFFEE.—Prices have advanced 1s. to 2s. per cwt., and the market is firm at the rise. The public sales have offered a fair supply, consisting principally of fine marks, and desirable qualities generally. Plantation Ceylon has realised 69s. 6d. to 82s. 6d.; for low middling small to good bold blue, and 66s. to 68s. 6d. for fine ord. to fine fine ord.; native Ceylon, fine ord. to superior bold, picked, 54s. to 56s.; good, and very good ord., 50s. to 52s.; long berry mocha, 92s. to 92s. 6d.; Bahia fine ord. pale, 47s. to 48s.; crushed, 52s. The statistical position of the market is regarded as favourable to holders, stocks being light and the consumption large, and prices moderate.

COCOA.—The market is still dull, but sales are not pressed in the absence of demand, and quotations are therefore tolerably steady.

RICE.—Soft grain descriptions have been purchased to a fair extent at fully late rates to 8d. advance, but in other qualities but little is doing. The market in general is, however, firm.

SALTPETRE.—Increased supplies having been brought to public sale, prices have declined 1s. per cwt. Refraction 16½ to 4½, sold at 36s. to 40s. per cwt.

COCHINEAL.—The public sales have been somewhat numerous, but do not appear to have exceeded the demand, and quotations are advanced 1d. to 2d. per lb. The buying is, however, induced more by the anticipation of deficient crops than by any immediate extension of consumption.

SAFFLOWER, with which the market has been better furnished, has sold with some unevenness, but current quotations are unaltered.

JUTE.—About 7000 bales have sold this week at the full value of 15½ 7s. 6d. for common short, to 20½ 2s. 6d. for good bright.

COTTON.—The markets are dull both here and at Liverpool, and prices are slightly in the buyer's favour. In the former market the week's transactions are merely nominal, large supplies in public sale being chiefly bought in for want of demand. At Liverpool the week's sales are 34,500 bales.

HEMP.—Both East Indian and Russian are in limited request at former prices.

METALS.—Manufactured iron is unaltered, but Scotch pig has declined to 53s. 9d. An increased business is, however, reported from Glasgow, at the reduction. Copper firm. Burra Burra, 118½ to 114½. Lead more saleable. British pig, 22½ 5s. to 22½ 10s.; W. B. 28½ per ton. Spelter is easier to buy, and sales made at 28½ for arrival. Foreign tin has advanced to 130½ for Banca, and 128½ for Straits, and now a further rise of 20s. is asked on the latter. The stock in London is 970 tons. Plates are not altered.

OILS.—Beyond a continual demand for sperm, which has made 92½ in public sale, no new feature has occurred in this market.

TALLOW.—After a long and unfortunate stagnation in our general export trade, there is every appearance of a coming large demand for British manufactures, and this day's intimation of the pacific views of the French Government strengthens the idea. Our stocks of tallow being moderate, not more than equal to our wants, we may fairly expect steady prices for the next three, or perhaps four, months; for our foreign supply up to that period is set down at less than it was last year. We cannot attempt to show how much the speculative contracts open for March may influence the price; neither is it our duty to touch upon the various circumstances which may affect the market during the next summer and autumn, as these latter matters altogether belong to another state of things, and do not interest either the present holders or consumers. Within the past few days there has been a good deal of business doing both for forward delivery, settlements, &c., and for consumption, and the price has risen a trifle. We leave off firm at 52s. to 52s. 8d. spot; 52s. Jan. to March buyers; 52s. 6d. March alone; 51s. 8d. to 51s. 0d. April to June; 51s. 8d. to 51s. 6d. Oct. to Dec. The accounts from St. Petersburg quote a trifle less for August, 165 10 down. Exchange, 36½. The public sales yesterday went off briskly at full prices. South American, 53s. to 58s. 6d.; extra fine, 55s. to 56s. 6d.; Australian, 50s. to 51s.; town tallow, 54s. 8d.; rough fat, 2s. 10d.; melted stuff, 88s. 6d.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE Great Western Railway Company have issued a notice that they have "made arrangements for the daily conveyance of goods by rail throughout to and from Manchester." It is rumoured that this Company will be in a position, with the aid of the balance brought forward from the last half-year, to pay a dividend at the rate of 2½ or 3 per cent. per annum.

The half-yearly meeting of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company is called for the 27th inst. The retiring directors offer themselves for re-election.

The attendance at the special meeting of shareholders in the Great Luxembourg Company, held at Brussels on the 20th ult., having been insufficient to empower the directors to issue obligations to the amount of 320,000l., another special meeting is called for the 24th inst. in that city.

A call of 2½ per share (being the fourth), and making, with the deposit, 9½ per share paid, has been made by the directors of the Ottoman Railway from Smyrna to Aidin. It is to be paid on the 19th inst. After that date six per cent. interest will be charged.

The North Eastern company have proposed to complete the purchase of the Hull and Selby Railway, giving the shareholders the option of accepting North Eastern 4 per cent. stock in exchange for their shares in the Hull and Selby, at the rate of 112½ 10s. of such stock for every 50l. share in the Hull and Selby, or that amount in money.

At the meeting of shareholders in the Illinois Central Railway Company it was announced that Mr. Osborn, the President, has tendered his resignation. A resolution accepting it was withdrawn, after some discussion, action in the matter being left to the committee. A sum of about 150,000l. is required to meet the obligations of the company during the present year. The proceedings included an interesting speech from Mr. Richard Cobden, who took a favourable view of the prospects of the undertaking. The report of Mr. James Caird is highly satisfactory.

BRIGHTON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAYS.—The dispute between these two companies came formally before the Vice-Chancellors' Court on Friday, when Mr. Rolt, upon the application of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, obtained an injunction, restraining the South-Western Company from running over the disputed portion of their railway until the arbitrator, Mr. Harrison, has decided upon the terms on which the traffic from the Godalming and Havant Railway is to be allowed to pass into Portsmouth.

FRENCH RAILWAYS.—The works of the branch line from Lisleux to St. Lo, on the line from Caen to Cherbourg, are continued with great activity. The rock through which the road is cut, opposite the Castle of Agneaux, is being reduced by degrees, and the passage is nearly complete. The construction of the bridge over the Vire has been interrupted by the water of the river having made its way into the foundations. The works are more advanced at Pont-Hébert than in the neighbourhood of St. Lo. A new bridge has been built a short distance below Pont-Hébert. There are about 400 men employed at the work. The directors of the Northern Railway have prepared the plan of the new station which is to be built next spring at St. Quentin. It is said that it will be a grand monument, three times larger than the Strasburg Railway terminus. The works of the railway which is to connect St. Quentin with Rouen, through Amiens, have been commenced. The railway from Paris to Nevers is likewise in progress of execution. The works are considerably advanced at the two extremities, Nevers and Fontainebleau.

LIABILITY OF RAILWAY COMPANIES.—At the Small Debts Court last week the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company were sued for breach of contract:—A boy, residing at Milliken-park, had purchased a second-class season ticket to enable him to attend school at Glasgow, and travelled thither by a particular train. The company withdrew the second-class carriage from that train, and insisted that he should travel in a third-class carriage, or pay the difference between the second and first-class fare to ride in a first-class carriage. The company pleaded that they were entitled, by their regulations, to make what alterations they pleased in their trains. The Sheriff said that, although the company might alter the hour of the train, or even withdraw it altogether, they could not, as in this case, continue the train and withdraw the class of carriages running at the time the contract was made.

RAILWAY RATING.—An appeal by the South-Eastern Railway Company against a poor rate made for the parish of Battle on the 1st of July, 1858, was heard before the Lower magistrates at the Quarter Sessions on Tuesday last. After hearing counsel on both sides, the rate was quashed, and the parish adjudged to pay the costs of the company.

MAIRIILLES AND TOULON RAILWAY.—The Minister of Public Works has informed the contractors for the construction of the railway that he desires it may be finished by the end of April next, and that it may be opened to the public in the beginning of May.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK-EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

THE usual monthly adjustment of commercial engagements on the 4th inst. may be reported to have been a satisfactory one; but the week opened with a marked degree of uneasiness on the subject of Austro-Italian politics. The admission (possibly volunteered) of the French Emperor to the Austrian Ambassador, at a recent diplomatic reception, that the relations of the two countries were not the most cordial in the world, caused, or was made to cause, a very strong sensation on the Paris Bourse, which was perceptibly reflected on our own Exchange on Tuesday. On Wednesday the feeling of insecurity became more intense; considerable fluctuations took place, and symptoms of panic seemed impending. In spite of large purchases for money on the part of the public, which contributed to support the market, considerable operations for a fall were undertaken on the Exchanges of both capitals. Yesterday morning a considerable revival was experienced owing to the telegraphed announcement that a tranquillising note was to be expected in the *Moniteur*, the only avowed organ of the French Government; but it having transpired in the course of the day that the appearance of the article in question had been followed by a relapse on the Bourse, a corresponding effect was produced here. Consols were quoted at the close of business 96 to 96½.

The rate of discount rules from 2¼ to 2½ per cent. per annum, and the foreign exchanges are all very firm. It is now understood that the appearance of the Russian loan on the market is not to be looked for, for the present at all events.

A leading feature of the week has been the considerable depression which has taken place in Turkish securities, due to the supposition that the bulk of the new loan is still unissued, and that much of that which has been taken up is in weak hands. It is therefore presumed that, in the event of any complication in European politics, these securities will be immediately and especially affected.

The complexion of the traffic returns from several trunk lines is satisfactory, considering the recent unfavourable weather. The London and North-Western exhibits an increment for the week ending January 2nd of 61792. But for the recent disturbing causes, a brisk demand would have been noticeable on the market for this and other leading stocks and shares.

It is understood that 560,000l. of the Victoria Railway loan has been taken up at the minimum price of 107 per cent. The remainder (of the 1,000,000l.) will, in the first instance, be again offered at that price to the various unsuccessful tenderers, and, in the event of their declining the option, to the general public.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Bank of New South Wales, held at Sydney on the 27th of October last, a dividend was declared after the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, with 15,000l. carried to the reserved fund.

On Tuesday, at the half-yearly meeting of the London Dock Company, it was announced that every preparation was now made for extending the company's business and making head against the present strong competition. The dividend declared was after the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, being 1 per cent. less than customary. The stock has consequently declined nearly 8 per cent.

The Madras Irrigation Company (guaranteed) closed their subscription list on Wednesday. Little doubt is entertained that the whole capital has been applied for.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

At the half-yearly general meeting of the London Dock Company the accounts showed a decrease in the number of ships which entered the docks to the 30th November, the number being to that date 454 ships, measuring 177,479 tons, against the corresponding period of 1857 of 517 ships, measuring 207,923 tons. Earnings for the same period, 1858, 238,776l. 8s., and for the corresponding period of 1857, 200,407l. 0s. 7d. The falling off in the receipts was from the great diminution in the imports of tobacco and of wines. A dividend of 2 per cent., less the income-tax, was declared.

At the meeting of the Bank of New South Wales at Sydney, on the 11th of October, the report for the half-year ending the 30th of September, showed profits amounting to 61,874l., which, added to the previous

balance, made an available total of 66,327l. Out of this a dividend was declared at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, and 15,000l. was carried to the reserve fund (thus raised to 175,000l.), leaving 1327l. to be carried forward.

At the half-yearly meeting of the New South Wales Marine Assurance Company, held at Sydney, the usual dividend, at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum, has been declared. The Sydney Fire Assurance Company have also held their half-yearly meeting, at which a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year was agreed to.

The Ecuador Land Company will issue their prospectus in the course of the present month. The object of this association is to make available a portion of the lands assigned by Ecuador to the English bondholders. A beginning will be made at the port of the Pailon.

The half-yearly meeting of proprietors of the Colonial Bank was held on Wednesday. The business of the half-year has been very successful, the net profits amounting to 36,320l., which allows a dividend of four per cent. to be paid for the six months, and leaves 16,320l. to be carried to the reserve fund. This fund is consequently increased to 37,935l. The directors' report was agreed to.

The proposed dividend of the Union Bank of Australia for the past half-year is at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum.

At an extraordinary meeting of the European and American Steam Shipping Company, held on Thursday, a new board was elected, consisting of the following gentlemen, namely:—Colonel Holloway, Captain Shuttleworth, and Messrs. Lambert, Seward, Donaldson, Dawson, Stebbing, and Austen. It is understood that arbitration between Messrs. Croskey and Co. and the company will be recommended by the new board, as well as the cancellation of the existing agreement.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 5th day of January, 1859.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued.....	£33,043,250
Government debt.....	£11,015,100
Other securities.....	£3,459,900
Gold coin and bullion.....	£18,568,250
Silver bullion.....	£33,043,250

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' capital.....	£14,553,000
Reserve.....	£3,100,502
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts).....	£9,632,309
Other deposits.....	£13,580,106
Seven Day & other Bills.....	£21,705
	£41,754,072

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.
Dated the 6th day of January, 1859.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN MEXICO.

THE advices from Mexico confirm the worst accounts of the horrors in progress in that republic, and reiterate the surprise already expressed at the total apathy of the British Government as respects the protection of either the personal or commercial interests of our people, which at least quadruple those of any other country. Our pecuniary claims alone range between ten and fifteen millions sterling, and the outrages on our merchants have far exceeded those which any of the conflicting chiefs have dared to inflict on the citizens of other countries. A seizure of the richest mining provinces of the State has been recommended by the American President; three Spanish and four French ships of war have arrived off Vera Cruz, but, "unfortunately," it is added, "the Union Jack has not made its appearance." As the case stands at present, the only question is, is equal justice to be obtained by the several nations that have reclamations to make? Mr. Buchanan advises a seizure of territory, to be held as a material guarantee for the satisfaction of the demands of his countrymen,—a course, he observes, which would be sanctioned "by international law." But is each nation to do the same, or will America act as agent and trustee for all? If two or three provinces are to be taken in execution for the Washington bill of 3,000,000l., how many is England to seize for her 12,000,000l.? What, also, are to be the portions of France and Spain? Vera Cruz is the least that England could lay hold of, and France, perhaps, might be content with Tampico. Spain had better occupy the capital itself, where she will find the willing devotion of the priests. Will Lord Malmesbury state his policy, or is he afraid of the trouble of having one? There is no indisposition in England to see America assume her natural part as pacificator and regenerator of Mexico, but it should be upon understood principles. The sooner these are made known the better, because hitherto there have been symptoms in the New York press that the American policy is intended to cover something not reputable. There are two parties in

Europe accustomed to express opinions on this matter; one of them desires to see America opposed either by intrigue or a hostile combination; the other considers that if it can be managed without dishonour or cruelty it will be a happy thing to see Mexico at once placed under restraint by the superior race. But neither of these parties meet approval at New York, for their respective suggestions there is nothing but defiance or scorn. Have the Ministry taken a single step to ascertain the course actually contemplated. In a circular issued by the Mexican Committee, it is stated that while America, France, and Spain are using the most decided means to protect the lives and rights of their citizens and subjects to the extent of blockading ports and seizing territory, the British Government have countermanded even a gunboat that was sent to Tampico. Hence it seems that although British merchants are every now and then sentenced by one or other of the contending factions to supply a certain amount of dollars on pain of being shot or marched off to fight in the ranks, there is not a single English vessel on the coast.—*Times*.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, January 4.

BANKRUPTS.

JOHN PETERS and FREDERICK PEACOCK, fish merchants, Lowestoft.
WILLIAM SWAINE, miller, Stevenage, Herts.
ANN FOSTER, grocer, Eynsham, Oxfordshire.
THOMAS FITT BALLS, innkeeper, Brixton.
THOMAS DAVIDSON EVANS, merchant, late of Bush-lane, Cannon-street.
FREDERICK JAMES HOWARD, grocer, Chatham.
GEORGE NURSE, livery-stable keeper, Red Lion-yard, Old Cavendish-street.
GEORGE GALLIENNE, cutler, Goswell-street.
HENRY LOWE, fruiterer, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

DAVID DICKINSON, millwright, Dunee.
ANGUS FORSYTHE, draper, Ayton, Berwickshire.

Friday, January 7.

BANKRUPTS.

JOSEPH COOPER, Friar-street, Blackfriars-road, baker.
EDWARD ZULZER, Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-road, merchant.
ARTHUR McDONALD, Kingston-upon-Hull, victualler.
CARL BRENDON, Liverpool, licensed victualler.
WILLIAM MONK, Padimah, Lancashire, manufacturer.
DEMETRIUS PIETRO DEMETRIADI, Manchester, merchant.
THOMAS SUTHERS, Mytholmroyd, Halifax, reed maker.
THOMAS BREWIN FURNELL, Sheffield, draper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ANDREW CHRISTIE, Dunfermline, coalmaster.
WILLIAM KIRKWOOD STEWART, Glasgow, bedding and iron bedstead manufacturer.

THE MEDITERRANEAN EXTENSION TELEGRAPH.—The Company have despatched Mr. Frederick Webb to discover the break in their cable between Malta and Cagliari, and to take the necessary steps for its repair, the Elba steamer, now at Malta, having been chartered for the purpose.

THE AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS COMPANY, whose advertisement appears in another part of our impression, proposes, we are glad to observe, to embark in an industry which we have long desired to see at work. The prospectus issued gives, we regret to notice, but a faint idea of the national importance of a fish manure manufactory. The interest we ourselves have taken in the subject dates from 1852, when, having fully investigated it, as did our worthy contemporary, the *Daily News*, we are able to avouch the feasibility of such a project, and its consequences as well in an agricultural as in a national point of view. Some of our readers may remember the excitement caused among inventors and others by the issue of a certain derisive or foolish invitation in the year alluded to, by the Royal Agricultural Society. That worthy body offered, if our memory fails us not, a thousand-guinea prize to the inventor of a manure equal in fertilising properties to the best Peruvian guano, in inexhaustible supply, and at half the price of the said guano. The best and nearest approach to a substitute was discovered by Mr. Edwin Pettitt to be a preparation of fish; and though the prize was, of course, never decreed, that gentleman communicated to the Irish Agricultural Society, the Society of Arts, and other bodies, a mass of information for the use of the manufacturing community, of which they have not yet availed themselves properly. His processes and ideas have been, doubtless, much used in secret by private makers; but nobody has stepped forward to foster thus the fishing industry of Ireland and utilise the thousands of tons of fishy matter unrequired for human food. The waste of Billingsgate and other fish-markets is worked up, but no society of sufficient capital has set about procuring fish for manure, and manure only. Our experience, irrespective of the allegations of the prospectus before us, is that this can be done in England, Ireland, and France at an astonishingly low price; that native fish guano can be manufactured better and richer than the average

of foreign guanos; and, if care be taken, at such a price as to leave a good profit. Instead of making ridiculous propositions in Parliament to force Peru to sell her guano for less than it will fetch, we should like to see some agricultural members zealously adopt and direct in the right path of economy and truthfulness a project so evidently valuable to the farmer and the poverty-stricken Irish of the seaboard as would be a fishery-mature society on a large scale.

THE LESSERS SCHEME.—A Paris letter says:—"The unhappy Isthmus of Suez Company seems to be already in a worse state than might have been expected. A short time ago we were officially told that the number of applications for shares in France had been infinitely greater than could be allotted. It now appears that this is not the case. All that have been asked for will be granted, we are assured. Here we have the most convincing proof that the scheme has failed to enlist anything like general sympathy. It has evidently met with a certain amount of success in France; but only just enough to cover its failure in every other country. Sensible people see that in the reluctance of English capitalists to bury their money in the shifting sands of Egypt is the very best proof that the operation can lead to no good, by whoever performed. If the canal had been practicable as a commercial undertaking, England would not have waited for France to dig it, say they; and they speak wisely."

A NEW WARLIKE ENGINE.—We give the following on the authority of the *Times*:—"An American invention has just been brought to this country, with a view to its being disposed of either to this or any other European Government, and which, if it does one-half of what the patentee guarantees can be done with it, will make such a change in the mode of carrying on a naval war as will put steamers out of the question, and render of no avail the tremendous forts of Cronstadt or Cherbourg. It is nothing less than a submarine boat made only for working under water, in form much resembling the shape of a porpoise, but capable of being made large enough to contain 8, 10, or even 15 men, if necessary, with a proportionate quantity of explosives. The gentleman who has come over here with this invention, who is part proprietor of the patent, was instructed not to offer it to the British Government until it had first been offered to the Emperor of the French, from the notion which our Transatlantic cousins entertain of the red-tape system of the English Government, and their slowness to adopt any sudden or great improvements. The Secretary of the United States Navy merely wrote to the inventor to say that American ships were required on the water and never wanted to go under it. The proffer to the Emperor of the French received even less attention, as no answer was returned to the letter at all. When the invention was brought a few days since under the notice of the English Board of Admiralty it received full and prompt attention, and Sir Baldwin Walker has already had interviews with the gentleman to whose care the disposal of the patent is entrusted. Nothing definite has yet resulted from these audiences, though, as the cost of building the submarine boat is very small, we believe that one will eventually be constructed in this country, and if it only fulfil half what the patentee expects of it, the invention will be purchased by the British Government."

CHINESE EMIGRATION.—Arrangements are in progress for the introduction of 11,000 Chinese coolies on the sugar estates at the French Island of Martinique, West Indies. The British possessions of Demerara and Trinidad have subscribed about 60,000*l.* for a similar purpose, half of which has already been forwarded to China. The first instalment of coolies is expected in March, and authority has been given to their special agent to incur an extra expense as a bonus, or otherwise, in procuring women to accompany them to the extent of about 20 per cent.; this forms a leading distinction in this order as compared with those from Cuba: there is also another, viz., that the rate of wages is to be that current in the respective islands, a guarantee being given in China that, in any case, they are not to have less than five dollars (22*s.* 6*d.*) per month, and their food; a free passage back to China is also to be given at the expiration of six years, or a bonus equal to the cost of passage should the coolies decide on remaining. On their arrival, they will be appointed to the various estates, but will have the privilege of changing each year according to their fancies.—*China Telegraph.*

PORT OF LONDON.—The general business of the port continues inactive. The number of ships reported inward during the past week was 171, and those cleared outward amounted to 109, including 28 in ballast. Of those on the berth loading outwards, 55 are for the Australian colonies, 9 for China, 2 for San Francisco, and 2 for Vancouver's Island.

THE TRADE OF RUSSIA.—The Russian Government has published a report on Russian commerce in 1857, which shows a considerable increase over 1856. The exportation was—by the European frontier, 141,868,189 roubles in 1857, to 136,492,898 roubles in 1856; by the Asiatic frontier, 11,945,598 roubles in 1857, to 10,598,882 roubles in 1856; to Finland, 4,892,568 roubles, and 2,884,096 roubles respectively; and to Poland, 12,056,784 to 10,879,496. The total for 1857

was 169,688,134 roubles, whilst in 1856 it was 160,247,872 roubles. The importation by the European frontier was 117,941,761 roubles to 90,171,961; by the Asiatic frontier, 19,347,199 roubles to 17,002,189; from Finland, 564,022 roubles to 564,828; from Poland, 13,833,817 roubles to 14,823,461. In all, 151,686,799 roubles to 122,562,442. The increase in the exportation was 9,438,262 roubles, in the importation 29,124,357 roubles. Of gold and silver specie the import was 8,775,727 roubles, and of gold and silver ingots the export was 23,670,076 roubles. The exportation of grain diminished about 5,000,000 roubles, in consequence of the good crops obtained in foreign countries. The exportation of hemp, tallow, iron, copper, bristles, and linseed also diminished, but that of wood, skins, wool, and potash increased. The customs in 1857 yielded in Russia 33,522,491 roubles, being 5,059,998 more than in 1856; and in Poland, 2,276,090 roubles, or 88,458 more.

AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE IN FRANCE.—A philanthropic association is about to be established for assuring farmers against losses by fire, hail, frost, disease among their cattle, and inundations. This institution has been approved by the Council of State. The capital is fixed at a million francs, which has been subscribed by individuals holding a high position as politicians, financiers, and agriculturists. The subscribers advance their money gratuitously, and they do not intend to derive any benefit from their advance, which is to be returned to them without interest. The subscribers propose to establish a community of interest among the proprietors of landed property—the farmers and labourers throughout France, each of whom is to subscribe a sum in proportion to his means. Each branch of assurance will have a separate bank, and each bank will be provided with a reserve to meet every contingency.

STOCK EXCHANGE.—The following gentlemen have been elected members of the Committee for the administration of the Fund for decayed Members, for 1859:—Barber, J. E. E.; Brown, Charles John; Capel, James; Cohen, Louis; Corthorn, Charles; Flower, M.; Hoghton, A. A.; Paravicini, J. P. de; Peckett, George; Pember, J. E.; Pulley, S. H.; Raincock, G. D.; Salckeld, Joseph; Simon, L. M.; Tudor, Henry; Tyrie, David; Vardon, Arthur; Vile, Thomas; Williams, John; Bostock, Samuel; Jones, John; Mark, Henry; Paine, Hammon; Payne, J. N.; Samson, Louis; Slous, F. T.; Spurling, Stephen; Wagg, John; Wilkinson, Norman.

NEW RUSSIAN STEAM PACKET LINE.—At a general meeting held some weeks ago, the shareholders of the Great South Russian Society for Navigation and Commerce passed the resolution to emit a new series of 10,000 shares more, for the purpose of establishing a line of steamboat communication between Odessa, Leghorn, and London.

RUSSIAN IMPROVEMENTS.—A splendid iron bridge is to supersede the present clumsy wood construction over the Vistula at Warsaw. The works will commence early in the spring.

THE NAPOLEON DOCKS.—M. Emile de Girardin has accepted, without salary, the post of manager of the unfortunate Napoleon Docks, which he hopes to resuscitate. He proposes to buy the old shares of 125*fr.*, which have lately been fetching only 40*fr.* in the market, at 65*fr.* for money, or to give shares in the newly-organised company at the rate of 80*fr.*

FRENCH COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS.—The *Constitutionnel* publishes a long article on the present position of France, commercially and financially considered, as compared with that which was to be seen at the commencement of 1858. The object of the statements made is to show that the present year opens with infinitely better prospects than the last. It touches on one of the principal episodes of the year—the monetary crisis—which led to such heavy failures in many countries, but left France comparatively uninjured, and concludes thus:—"We begin the year 1859 under the most favourable auspices—with a great abundance of disposable capital, 300,000,000*fr.* more specie in the Bank, a rate of interest as low as it has ever been, bread cheap, a Treasury amply provided, and a surplus revenue of 75,000,000*fr.* over the estimates. These are certainly the best guarantees of a great and durable improvement. There is no exaggeration in saying that we are now entering upon a new era of prosperity."

PROGRESS OF RUSSIA IN ASIA.—A letter from St. Petersburg says:—"Those of your readers acquainted with the intimate connexion existing between the commercial progress and political extension of Russia in Central Asia, will be not a little interested to hear that the caravans despatched from Orenburg and Troitzk to Bokhara, between the dates of October 1st and November 18th, consisted of no fewer than 5000 camels and about 200 carriages. The value transported by these mercantile monster-processions amounted to about 90,000*l.*—an enormous sum, when we consider how large a quantity of their raw produce the inhabitants of Bokhara are compelled to give in exchange for the various articles of civilised life received from Russia. Owing to their being limited to this single market, the proud aboriginal Turks of Khlwa and Bokhara already feel how entirely dependent they are on the will of the Czar.

I may state it, indeed, as a decided fact, that these two principal tribes of the ancient Khantes of Turkestan are all but directly subjected to the rule of the insatiable Lord of the Serfs. But yesterday we had the news of a magnificent white elephant being sent as a tribute and demonstration of respect by the Khan of Bokhara to the Emperor."

TRADE IN FRANCE.—Business in Paris, to which the purchase of *étrennes* for the *Jour de l'An* invariably gives a great impetus, was during the past week much impeded by the unfavourable state of the weather, but on a change for the better it became very animated. One branch of industry still continues in a depressed state, that is the jewellery trade, and the sales made during the week will be but a slight relief to it. The accounts from the manufacturing districts continue satisfactory. At Rouen and Mulhausen there is still a good business doing in calicoes and yarns, and at fair prices. Printed goods have also found ready purchasers. At Lyons the looms are actively employed. The manufacturers at Roubaix, Amiens, and Rheims are busily engaged, particularly in mixed woven goods, which go off freely. The raw sugar market in Paris has been firm, and prices well maintained; refined sugar was in good demand, with improved quotations. There has been an increased demand for copper, and prices continue on the rise. Considerable speculation has taken place in colza oil, and the advance which had previously taken place has been maintained. A good business has been done in raw wool, which is firm in price. In the Paris corn market, during the last week of 1858, business was exceedingly restricted, both in flour and wheat. In the former the four marks were quoted at 45*fr.* 50*ct.* the sack of 157 kilogrammes. Wheat was held firmly at 25*fr.* first quality the 120 kilogrammes, and inferior kinds at prices down to 22*fr.* Perhaps, during the whole year, no week could boast of less business done.

TRADE OF SPAIN.—A second Blue-book, published on Thursday, contains further reports relative to the trade of various foreign countries. It includes some interesting papers on Spain and its colonies. The importation of merchandise under the (Spanish) national flag shows a sum (according to Mr. Otway, our Chargé d'Affaires in Madrid) of 989,895,986 reals (9,898,960*l.*), paying a duty of 1,576,316*l.* or 157,631,638 reals; under foreign flags to the value of 2,669,094*l.*, paying a duty of 224,000*l.*; and by land to the value of 473,627*l.*, yielding duty to the amount of 66,399*l.* All this gives a total of merchandise to the value of 13,041,680*l.*, the duties amount to 186,711,654 reals (1,867,116*l.*). This importation exceeds that of 1855 by 2,804,067*l.*, and has produced 204,877*l.* increase of duties compared with the average product of the last five years; the importation shows an increase to the extent of 5,014,960*l.*, and the duty an increase of 252,149*l.* The exportation is less than that of 1855 by 1,957,463*l.*, and presents an increase of duties to the amount of 457*l.* With respect to the average of the last five years, the increase of exportation is 2,330,221*l.*, and the duties have decreased by 515*l.* Turning to the island of Puerto Rico, it is found that British trade with that colony has increased considerably since 1842 (the first year for which returns were made). Yet, notwithstanding the great relative increase, Mr. Consul Hunt reports that our trade with Puerto Rico is in a very unsatisfactory position, and that the yearly amount of our imports is wholly insignificant in relation to the produce exported annually, the value of which varies between 1,000,000*l.* and 1,200,000*l.* The reason of this is the absurd restrictions imposed by the Colonial Government of Spain in the West Indies, the result being that there is no mercantile firm or branch house established in the island, nor any house receiving goods on commission direct from England. Were the restrictions modified, Mr. Hunt is convinced that the consumption of British goods would increase very rapidly in Puerto Rico. As an illustration of its inutility, as well as the absurdity of fiscal prohibitions, it is stated that beyond the imports of which we possess an exact knowledge, there is introduced annually, by way of contraband, fostered by the high tariff in force, an amount of goods fairly estimated as equal to 20 per cent. of the gross annual returns! Coffee and the cane are cultivated generally in the island, while cotton and tobacco are grown only in certain districts. There is no export duty except on timber. A more enlightened policy appears to be pursued in the Philippine Islands, the Governor of Manila informing Sir J. Bowring (in April, 1857) that he considered one of his principal duties on the assumption of office to be the development of the "rich resources" of the islands, the chief of which is the production and sale of the exquisite tobacco so thoroughly appreciated by smokers of the "cheroot." The Governor has ordered that no efforts shall be spared to improve the cultivation of the tobacco plant. There is a long report from Iloilo on the trade of the island of Panay. Returning to the mother country, it appears that in 1857 the imports into Seville were 1,785,720*l.*, and the exports 1,872,165*l.*; 146 English vessels of 15,300 tons entered the port, and 118 of 10,785 tons cleared out. The trade in British vessels at Alentejo has increased considerably since 1856, principally owing to the formation of a railway from Madrid to Almazan. The general trade of the district in 1857

was nearly double that of 1856. At Cadiz 356 British vessels entered in 1856; 28,430 tons of coal were imported from England, and 54,616 butts (or pipes) of sherry were shipped off during the year, being an increase of 11,227 compared with 1855. 56 American ships imported stores and tobacco, and exported salt, wine, cork, and liquorice. The Dutch, Belgian, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Prussian ships import coals from England, and export the same articles as the American vessels. The Russian, Hanoverian, and Hanseatic ships imported timber and deals, and exported salt, wine, and dry fruit.

THE FIRE AT VALPARAISO.—The following are the amounts for which it is understood the British offices are interested in the fire which occurred at Valparaíso on the 13th of November last:—Liverpool and London, 132,400*l.*; Royal of Liverpool, 54,000*l.*; Imperial, 31,000*l.*; London Corporation, 30,000*l.*; Northern, 27,000*l.*; Sun, 8000*l.*; making a total of 282,400*l.*—to which serious extent the exportation of gold to Chili consequent on the recent loan will be increased.

TRAINING SHIP FOR THE MERSEY.—Her Majesty's frigate Conway, twenty-six guns, which is about to be presented by the Admiralty to the Liverpool Mercantile Marine Service Association for the purpose of being moored permanently in the Mersey as a training ship, is being fitted at Government expense at Devonport, and will in all probability be taken to its destination at Liverpool at the latter end of the month. It will be moored in the Sloyne at the expense of the Admiralty authorities.

THE TURKISH LOAN.—On Monday next 450,000*l.* is due on the Turkish Loan, which will complete the first portion of that financial operation, amounting to 3,000,000*l.* On the following day an instalment is nominally payable on the second issue of 2,000,000*l.*; but it is generally understood that the majority of subscribers to this portion of the new loan will avail themselves of the option given them by the contractors to defer all the instalments until the 20th February, when the whole amount will have to be provided.

FRENCH ENCROACHMENTS.—The Newfoundland papers contain no further news as to the progress of the dispute in regard to the exclusive right of fishing demanded by the French on certain portions of the coast. Great distress already exists among the inhabitants of St. George's Bay, and a general despondency prevails under the threat of the French naval officers that they will next spring forcibly interpose to exclude British subjects, not only from the fishing ground, but from the use of the bays.—*Canadian News.*

THE SHIPPING QUESTION.—The Shipowners' Society of London have received a communication from the Home Office, announcing that her Majesty has graciously received the "loyal and dutiful" address adopted at the general meeting of shipowners on the 15th ult., and has been pleased to refer the same to the consideration of the Board of Trade.

THE MAIN DRAINAGE OF THE METROPOLIS.—The Directors of the Bank of England have made an offer to the Metropolitan Board of Works of the loan of the 3,000,000*l.* which will be required for the execution of the works for the main drainage of the metropolis. The terms are not so favourable as anticipated from the state of the money-market, and the proposal has been transmitted to the Lords of the Treasury for their consideration. The result of the inquiries respecting the competency of Mr. Moxon, who gave in the lowest tender for executing the works of the Northern High-Level Sewer, being of a most favourable nature, and the three gentlemen proposed by him as sureties having been ascertained to be most responsible persons, his tender has been finally accepted, and he only awaits the order of the engineer to commence the work, which will be given as soon as the financial arrangements of the Board are completed.

THE FARMING MANIA.—The demand for land to hire has seldom been so general. Any desirable farm has been eagerly sought after, and offers of rent made corresponding to the *furore*. There appears to be little calculation gone into by offerers. The excitement resembles somewhat that of the railway mania of 1844-6. The rents for land agreed upon within the year bear no relation to the prospects of the profession. The disastrous harvest of 1856-7 has operated seriously against the position of many farmers, and arrears of rent have arisen, showing the hazardous character of the profession of the tenant-farmer. Neither a cheaper system of cultivation nor a newly discovered source of cheap fertilisers has been presented to account for the rents offered.—*North British Agriculturist.*

CLAIM AGAINST A TELEGRAPH COMPANY FOR THE INCORRECT TRANSMISSION OF A MESSAGE.—In the Manchester County Court, on Monday, Mr. Brandt delivered judgment in the case of Horsfall and Arnold v. the Magnetic Telegraph Company, an action in which the plaintiffs sought to recover 10*l.*, as compensation for loss alleged to have been sustained by them in consequence of a message having been incorrectly transmitted by the defendants. The defendants rested their claim on the ground that the message was actually transmitted by them in the same form in which it had been received at their office, and they further pleaded that they were not responsible for any mistake in the message, inasmuch as the extra fee required for the repetition of

important messages had not been paid. It appeared that the word "four," in the original message, had been altered; and a question arose whether this had been done by the plaintiffs previously to their having left the document at the defendants' office, or whether it had been done by the defendants subsequently. Mr. Brandt said he had already come to the conclusion that it was not by the fault of the plaintiffs that the alteration appeared on the face of the document; and the only question remaining was whether, according to a case which had been cited, "*M'Andrew v. the Electric Telegraph Company*," the defendants were entitled to plead that the proper sum had not been paid—that is, the sum which was required for repeated messages. He must say he could not distinguish the present case from the one cited, and therefore the verdict must be given for the defendants. But inasmuch as the message was improperly delivered, and became of no value, the defendants were bound to return the fee which was paid to them for it. Mr. Sutton, who appeared for the plaintiffs, asked his honour whether he was satisfied that the alteration in the message had been made by the defendants. His honour said he had already expressed his opinion very decidedly upon that subject. A verdict was given for the defendants, an order being, however, made upon them for the repayment of the fee 1*s.* 6*d.*, and for the costs.—*Manchester Examiner.*

INDIAN RAILWAYS.—Foremost amongst the great works in India stand the railways, which are spreading their iron network over the land, and fast annihilating all those obstacles and annoyances which rendered travelling in India so expensive and wearying. In Western India the progress of railways is, perhaps, most remarkable. Of the Great Indian Peninsula lines, about 150 miles are already constructed, and in full working order, whilst the total length of line is to be 1128 miles, a large portion of which is now under construction. Indeed, it would seem that the progress made in railway works in India is as satisfactory as that made in them in England. There does not appear either to be the slightest difficulty in obtaining an abundant supply of workpeople. Notwithstanding the unsettled state of Kandeish, and other districts either within or in the neighbourhood of the Bombay Presidency, in 1856-7, the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company gave employment to 46,000 hands; but during the years 1857-8 that large number was increased to 70,000. This speaks well for the great resources of Western India for the supply of labour. Turning from the construction of the railway to the traffic we find a similar satisfactory progress has been made. The total number of passengers conveyed by the line in the year 1856 was 585,165, while in the first half of last year the number has risen to 436,618. Again, in the goods traffic a corresponding increase has taken place; in 1856 the amount conveyed was 70,925 tons, while in six months in 1858 it reached 64,941 tons. It is, however, right to state that these increases are due in some measure to the extension of the lines, but at the same time sufficient evidence exists to show that the natives are growing alive to the importance of railway communication. As a proof of this, we may cite the increase that has taken place in the number of third-class passengers, for while in the whole of 1856 the number of travellers who availed themselves of that class was 544,852, for the first six months of 1858 it was 412,075, thus giving an increase of something like 70 per cent. Curiously enough, on the other hand, but a slight increase has taken place in the number of travellers by the second class, the return for 1856 showing a total of 34,193, and for the first half of 1858 of only 18,418.—*Homeward Mail.*

TRADE OF SWEDEN.—Major Pringle's report on the trade of Stockholm in 1856 supplies the following information:—The crops were generally below an average in 18 counties, and in farms of the northern districts the crops were almost a total failure. Great distress existed among the poorer classes in the north, and they were reduced in many cases to grind the bark of pines and mix it with a small quantity of rye flour, as a substitute for bread. In 1856, 10,616,434 kanna of brandy (a kanna being equal to nearly 3½ English quarts) were distilled, value 3,538,811 rix dollars banco, or 294,000*l.* The produce of 18 cotton mills in different parts of Sweden is given for 1855 at 12,401,721*lbs.* of cotton yarn. Within a few years cotton has, in a great measure, superseded the use of linen, as being so much cheaper and warmer. Coals are now imported in large quantities from England, but, from the peculiar construction of the stoves used for heating the rooms, it is impossible to use them in private houses. The price of coals is from 18*s.* to 26*s.* per ton; the quantity imported in 1855 rose to 860,290 tons (Swedish) from 173,549 tons in 1845. The war with Russia in 1854 and 1855 was very profitable to the Stockholm merchants trading in the Gulf of Bothnia, and, in the hope that the war would continue, they gave very extensive orders for goods for 1856. The result of peace was that much of the gains of the two previous years was swallowed up in the failure of the speculation for 1856. The whole import and export trade of Sweden twenty years ago was not more than 84,147,000 banco, or 2,845,588*l.*;

in 1845 it had risen to 45,650,000 banco; and in 1855 exceeded 120,000,000 banco (about 10,000,000*l.*), being double what it was in the year 1852. In 1855 the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports by 611,416*l.* The value of grain exported in 1854 was 8,000,000 banco, or 666,666*l.*, while in 1855 it was nearly 18,000,000 banco, or 1,500,000*l.* Tan has largely increased as an item of the exports, while exportation of pitch, bones, bar-iron coffee, and steel has fallen off. 4,536,282 *lbs.* of white cotton yarns were imported from Great Britain in 1855, a large increase, owing to the lowering of the duty from 4*s.* to 3*s.* per *lb.* A greater importation of raw sugar has also taken place (from England) since the lowering of duties in 1853. The importation of machinery and coals from England continues to increase. The trade and general prosperity of Sweden have greatly increased during the last four years, partly owing to the advance made in agriculture, and the impulse given to the carrying trade by the beneficial change in our navigation laws.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, January 7th, 1859:—Number admitted, including season-ticket holders, 12,483.

MR. MAYER'S ANTIQUITIES.—In about a month from this time Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson will dispose, by sale, of the celebrated collection, formed by Mr. Hertz, and now the property of Mr. Mayer of Liverpool, of Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian, Greek, Etruscan, Roman, Indian, Peruvian, Mexican, and Chinese antiquities. Some idea of the magnitude of the collection may be formed, when we state that the sale will occupy no less than sixteen days. The catalogue forms a good-sized octavo volume of 213 pages, and is a work that will be sought for by artists, archaeologists, and antiquarians in all parts of the world.—*Literary Gazette.*

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Unprotected Females in Sicily, Calabria, and the Top of Mount Etna.* With Coloured Illustrations. Routledge and Co.
The London Review. No. XXII. January. Alexander Haylin.
The Westminster Review. No. XXIX. January. John Chapman.
Morgan Le Faye. A Play in Five Acts.
Poems. By Joseph Freeman. Longman and Co.
The British Quarterly Review. No. LVII. January. Jackson and Walford.
The History of British Journalism. By Alexander Andrews. Two Vols. R. Bentley.
Journal of my Life during the French Revolution. By Grace Dalrymple Elliott. R. Bentley.
Popular Tales from the Norse. By George Webb Dasent. Edinburgh: E. Douglass.
The Works of the Rev. Sydney Smith. Part I. Longman and Co.
A Song of Charity. By E. J. Chapman. 2nd Edition. Basil Montague Pickering.
Kelly's Railway Guide for January. Kelly and Co.
The Journal of Mental Science. Longman and Co.
Moore's Irish Melodies. No. 2. Longman and Co.
The National Review. No. XV. January. Chapman and Hall.
The Parent's Cabinet of Amusement and Instruction. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Tales of the Colonies; or, Adventures of an Emigrant. By Charles Roweroff, Esq. New Edition. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Social Innovations and their Schemes. By W. L. Sargent. Smith Elder, and Co.
The Verneys; or, Chaos Dispelled. By Miss Caroline Smith. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.
The Journal of Psychological Medicine and Mental Pathology. Edited by Forbes Winslow, M.D., D.C.L. New Series. No. XIII. John Churchill.
A Manual of the Philosophy of Voice and Speech. By James Hunt, P.H.D., F.S.A., M.R.S.L. Longman and Co.
The Licensed Victuallers' Almanack, 1859. W. Kent and Co.
The Literary Character; or, the History of Men of Genius. By Isaac D'Israeli. New Edition. Edited by the Right Hon. B. Disraeli. Routledge and Co.
Routledge's Shakespeare. Part XXXIII. Edited by H. Staunton. Routledge and Co.
A New Reformed System of National Education. A Pamphlet. James Nisbet and Co.
The National Debt financially considered. By Edward Capps. Groombridge and Sons.
London: Past, Present, and Future. By John Ashford. J. F. Hope.
A Legend of the Rhône. A Poem in Five Cantos. By M. P. B. J. F. Hope.
Traces of Primitive Truth in the Principal Nations of the World. By the Rev. J. L. Ross, M.A. J. F. Hope.
The Scottish Annual, 1859. Edited by C. R. Brown. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.
Solf. A Satire in Five Cantos. J. F. Hope.
The Scottish Secession of 1843. By the Rev. Alexander Turner. Edinburgh: Paton and Ritchie.
The Eclectic Review. January. Ward and Co.
History of the Kingdom of Naples, 1734-1825. By General Pietro Colotta. With a Supplement, 1825-1856. Two Vols. Edinburgh: T. Constable and Co.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

No. of shares.				Name of Company.				London.			
No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	
84543	12	10	Ambergate, &c	61	64	Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead, 5½ per ct.	48810	203
Stock	100	100	Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	68	69	Stock	100	100	Cork and Bandon, 5½ per ct.	100	all
			Cheshire Junction	95	96	Stock	100	100	East Anglian, Class A, 5 and 7 p. c.	103	103
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter	99	99	Stock	100	100	Class B, 6 per cent.	118	118
Stock	100	100	Caledonian	59	82	Stock	100	100	Class C, 7 per cent.	112	112
Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead	47	48	Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties Extension, 5 per	25000	20
Stock	100	100	East Anglian	17	17	Stock	100	100	cent. No. 1.	50000	20
Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties	63	63	Stock	100	100	No. 2.	50000	20
Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, class A	49	49	Stock	100	100	New 6 per cent.	25000	20
Stock	100	100	class B	33	33	Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, 4 per cent.	86	86
28000	25	25	East Kent	16	15	Stock	100	100	Great Northern, 5 per cent.	121	121
Stock	100	100	East Lancashire	97	97	Stock	100	100	5 per cent. Redeemable at	114	114
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh and Glasgow	69	70	Stock	100	100	10 per cent. pm.	108	108
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee	28	29	Stock	100	100	4½ per cent. do.	30000	10
Stock	100	100	Great Northern	108	106	Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western	50000	10
			A stock	93	92	Stock	100	100	(Ireland), 4 per cent.	42500	5
			B stock	135	135	Stock	100	100	Great Western, red. 5 per cent.	82939	20
Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western (I.)	103	103	Stock	100	100	con. red. 4½ per cent.	50000	20
Stock	100	100	Great Western	58	57	Stock	100	100	Irred. 4½ per cent.	100000	20
18000	50	50	Lancashire and Carlisle	90	90	Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire, 6 per	145	145
15000	163	143	— Thirds	113	113	Stock	100	100	cent.	113392	4
24000	163	15	— New Thirds	113	113	Stock	100	100	London and Brighton, New, guar.	20595	20
Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	99	98	Stock	100	100	6 per cent.	400000	16
48444	16	6	— F. 167.	d	par	Stock	100	100	London and S.W., late Third.	265000	20
87500	9	7	— 97. shares	par	d	Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln,	300000	20
11900	11	11	London and Blackwall	113	113	Stock	100	100	3½ per cent.	27000	20
Stock	100	100	London, Brighton, and South C.	98	97	Stock	100	100	Midland Consolidated, 6 p. ct. Stk.	83334	5
Stock	100	100	London and North-Western	d	d	Stock	100	100	— Bristol and Birm., 6 per ct.	31000	20
24000	124	7	— Eighthths	95	95	Stock	100	100	4½ per cent. pref.	10	10
Stock	100	100	London and South-Western	40	40	Stock	100	100	Norfolk Extension, 5 per cent.	20757	8
Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	103	103	Stock	100	100	North British	300000	20
50000	10	3	Metropolitan	78	79	Stock	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick, 4 per		
Stock	100	100	Midland	143393	17	83	— York, H. and S. purchase	244	244	20000	25
Stock	100	100	— Birmingham and Derby	124	124	60872	25	10	North Staffordshire	50000	10
20000	50	50	Midland Great Western (I.)	67	67	58500	20	20	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolver-	350	100
22220	25	25	Newport, Abr., and Hereford	67	67	58500	20	20	hampton 6 per cent.	6000	50
Stock	100	100	Norfolk	63	63	Stock	100	100	Scottish North-Eastern Aberdeen	3261	20
60000	50	3	Northern Counties Union	63	61	Stock	100	100	guaranteed 6 per cent.	11739	20
Stock	100	100	North British	95	94	Stock	100	100	— 7 per cent. Pref. Stock	8915	100
Stock	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick	d	d	Stock	100	100	— 3½ per cent. Pref. Stock	200000	5
64115	25	16	— G. N. E. Purchase	494	494	Stock	100	100	South Devon, Annuities 10s.	30000	5
Stock	100	100	— Leeds	77	78	Stock	100	100	South Eastern 4½ per cent. pref.	34364	9
Stock	100	100	— York	103	103	20000	10	10	South Yorkshire, 4 per cent. guar.	80000	20
Stock	100	100	North London	44	44	Stock	100	100		700000	St. 100
163500	20	17	North Staffordshire	32	32	20654	20	20		40000	1
Stock	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolvn.	115	115					70000	5
Stock	100	100	Scottish Central	294	29					20000	10
Stock	100	100	Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	66	88					20000	15
Stock	100	100	Scottish Midland Stock	47	47	27778	18	9		50000	20
Stock	100	100	Shropshire Union	38	38					30000	10
Stock	100	100	South Devon	76	75	27778	18	all		12000	10
Stock	100	100	South-Eastern	76	75	13889	18	6		188676	1
Stock	100	100	South Wales	14	14	20000	2	13		25000	20
27532	20	20	South Yorkshire and River Dun.			125000	100	100		50000	1
3273	20	18	Do							10000	50
Stock	100	100	Vale of Neath							10000	15
										15000	60
										200000	all
										14200	25
										75000	1
										50000	20
										10000	5
										10000	20
										400000	St. 100
										20000	20

* 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	20½ per cent.	Australasia	40	40 0 0	93	20000	4½ per cent.	National Bank	50	25 0 0	...
10000	7½ per cent.	Bank of Egypt	25	25 0 0	25	25000	20½ per cent.	New South Wales	20	20 0 0	...
6000	5½ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50 0 0	51	50400	12½ per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25 0 0	18½
20000	6½ per cent.	British North American	50	50 0 0	...	25000	..	Ottoman Bank	20	20 0 0	21
32200	5½ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	20	10 0 0	4½	20000	14½ per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25 0 0	...
4500	5½ per cent.	City Bank	100	50 0 0	65	4000	14½ per cent.	Ditto New	10	10 0 0	...
20000	6½ per cent.	Colonial	100	25 0 0	...	12000	5½ per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25 0 0	...
25000	6½ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20 0 0	7	12000	12½ per cent.	South Australia	25	25 0 0	...
25000	6½ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20 0 0	17	4000	..	Ditto New	25	12 10 0	...
35000	6½ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20 0 0	22	32000	19½ per cent.	Union of Australia	25	25 0 0	56½
20000	12½ per cent.	London and County	50	20 0 0	...	8000	20½ per cent.	Ditto New	15	3 0 0	...
30000	22½ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10 0 0	33½	100000	..	Union of Hamburg	15	10 0 0	...
50000	14½ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20 0 0	...	60000	15½ per cent.	Union of London	100	60 0 0	...
10000	10½ per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	55 0 0	...	3000	3½ per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	60 0 0	...
25000	16½ per cent.	Ditto New	20	10 0 0	...	4000	..	Western of London	100	60 0 0	418

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