

The Leader.

"THE one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—HUMBOLDT'S COSMOS.

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News of the Week.

THE royal classes of Europe appear to be engaged in trying to hush up German affairs, and to retighten the relaxed fastenings of their own interests; while they evade too vigilant a notice from the Peoples, whose voice and interests they still conspire to shut out from the national conferences. Frederick William of Prussia, whose vacillations occasionally inclined him to discern some community of interest with his People, seems to have been brought back by the other crowned heads to the true discipline of royalty. The sole spirit which princes acknowledge as domineering over their class is the same as that which has prevailed among the illuminati of Germany, the Thugs of India, the buccaneers of America, and the nobles of Venice—a spirit which exacts devotion to the interests of the class as paramount. Individual princes, whole nations, are sacrificed to it, as Ferdinand of Austria and Hungary were equally sacrificed to the interests of the class interests at stake in the Austrian Emperorship. The public servants who remain most faithful to the royal class, the diplomatists, have been active in an extraordinary degree. King Frederick William's most trusted Minister, General Radowitz, has been sent from Berlin to London, where he has been handsomely entertained by Prince Albert. Lord Palmerston sends the Tory Earl of Westmoreland, late Ambassador at Berlin, as English Ambassador at Vienna. Baron Mayendorff, late Russian Ambassador at Berlin, now Russian Ambassador at Vienna, has been on a trip from the Austrian capital to Olmütz, to assist at an interview between Prince Schwarzenburg and Baron Mauteuffel, the Prussian Prime Minister. It is reported that the result of this conference is a complete settlement of all questions that threatened trouble and war—satisfactory to Austria with all her dread of encroachments on her shattered imperial supremacy, her territory, or her thrice-bankrupt treasury, for Austrian Government paper is at a discount of some fifty per cent.—satisfactory to Prussia, with her rising pretensions, and her people somewhat too ready in obeying the royal summons to rise—satisfactory to Denmark, whose claim on Schleswig-Holstein is ratified—satisfactory to Russia, who has had the settling of all these things—satisfactory, we suppose, to England, who has meddled and does not complain. "England," we say, "Austria," and "Prussia," following the Royal diplomatic slang, which thus uses the names of states, when the things really designated are particular cliques of princes or professional politicians; for the countries or the Peoples inhabiting them have evidently been left out of the question, and purposely so left. The People of Holstein and Schleswig, for example, their wishes and interests are to be

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entirely overridden in favour of a particular man wearing the crown of Denmark, who is not in any relation of life a model of sagacity or good taste to his fellow-creatures. "Austria" means, not the Peoples collected under that "geographical expression," but Prince Schwarzenburg, the Russian Baron Mayendorff, and other Viceroy's over the young Emperor Francis Joseph. "England" means Lord Palmerston, whom rumour represents for the time as completely Austrianized; it does not at all mean the People of England, who, if they cared at all about the matter, would rather see justice done to the German Peoples, but not very creditably leaves it to Lord Palmerston to settle all these things at his own pleasure. The secrecy which princes and diplomatists are able to maintain, facilitates their success in arranging matters for their own convenience, and disposing of Peoples like sheep. The union which princes and their servants, the diplomatists, manage to keep up on the essential matters of their own class interests, enable them to maintain this overwhelming power against the Peoples; the Peoples not only find such union more difficult on account of their own multitudinousness, but they have not yet learned to appreciate its value, its absolute necessity. When the democrats of the several countries have learned to combine for the general interests of democracy, without sacrificing the spirit of nationality, the distinct sentiments or different objects of each race, then the Peoples of Europe will be strong against the Princes of Europe. Then, we should not see conspiracies like that at Olmütz, open in their resort, secret in their contrivings, dispose of nations with a word, a wink, or a stroke of the pen.

One good appears likely to come out of the general confusion; the elector of Hesse-Cassel has gone back, or has been sent back to make the best terms he can with his people; which is virtually leaving him to make his submission under the rigorous constitutionalism of his subjects. With unprecedented self-possession, throughout the contest with the Elector, the Hessians had managed to refrain from placing themselves in the wrong. To uphold the one stupid brawler against an entire state behaving with the most cool-headed legality, was an outrage on justice and common sense, too great for Austrian audacity, or even we suppose for Lord Palmerston, in spite of his practice in Sicily, Hungary, and Holstein.

The Committee of the French Assembly, on the extraordinary credit for the new army of observation on the Rhine, has made its report through Monsieur de Rémusat. The document is a highly moderated version, a safer form, of the Conservatism which reigned in the majority of the committee, and which had been blatant in the mouths of Count Molé, and the Marquis of Dalmatia, the latter had spoken of "putting down the German Democracy." The general drift of the report is to recommend that France should aid in main-

taining the state of Europe as it is against the progress of democracy in other countries! It insists on the necessity of maintaining peace, and by claiming the disposal of peace and war for the Assembly it deprives the President of that quasi-royal privilege. This is not to be understood as high democracy in the committee, but as a manœuvre to restrict Prince Louis Napoleon in the resources by which he might promote those separate personal objects to which he is supposed to be devoted. It proportionately strengthens the band of professional politicians who are struggling for power and place. The report is one among the many signs of the intense selfishness which rules the present councils of France, of the covert intrigues among the professional politicians which now distract the capital, divert the public servants from their duty, and threaten to deprive the people of all advantage derived from the revolution.

Among the French public, however, the report excites scarcely so much interest as the trial of Madame du Sablon—a case of criminal conversation piquantly blended with murder, attempted suicide, and dramatic failure. The story is, that the Abbé Gothland, curé of St. Germain, near Angoulême, enjoyed the favours of Madame du Sablon, wife of a physician in the town; that the ecclesiastic poisoned an old female servant who knew too much, and threatened an exposure, the poison having been stolen from the doctor's stores by the lady, and that, when the doctor learned the risk of public disgrace, he induced his wife to join in a family party, including their son, to inhale the fumes of charcoal, the doctor's own heart, however, failing him on seeing the struggles of his child, and he let in the fresh air. The lady walked to the trial leaning on her husband's arm, and the proceedings were enriched by reading some love letters of the Abbé to an elderly lady in another town. Altogether the case is what we call "very French," and it is much relished in Paris; in London, of course, not at all, for though all the papers print it, and everybody is manifestly *au fait* at all the details, we graver and more moral people feel no interest in such things.

We also read with avidity the particulars of the manner in which Mr. Sloane, an eminent special pleader of the Temple, beat and starved a miserable workhouse servant to the verge of death, and how he has been called to account for it before the magistrates; and we read how George Hacket escaped from Pentonville Prison, by force of the utmost ingenuity and audacity. But, of course, it is out of no love of excitement, out of no perverse pleasure at reading harrowing details, no sympathy with adventurous daring, that we devour these narratives; we should be very much ashamed of feelings of that sort, though somehow they seem to be inextinguishably human, and, perhaps, have their useful functions in the social economy; but our sole and exalted motive is public spirit, that we

may see police justice duly administered, and prison regulations improved.

With all these changes and adventures abroad and at home, we are not allowed to forget the no-Popery tumult, although the unceasing din, like that of a weaving-room in a factory, has half-deadened the public ear to the noise. Some new actor is continually coming on to the scene, to lend at least a personal novelty to stale avowals. This week, for example, we have the Archbishops and Bishops, all except Tractarian Exeter and Philosophical St. David's, joining in the clamour for some "measures." The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland is remarkable among Protestant agitators for the candid and temperate tone of its protests, and the definite suggestion of a parliamentary enquiry into the practical bearing of Roman Catholic regulations, socially and politically. The incorporated Law Society is as vague in its clamours as any set of untutored "laymen." On the other side, Sir Benjamin Hall seizes the occasion to write at the monstrous accumulations and distributions of Church property; and Mr. Roebuck indites a sarcastic letter to Lord John Russell, and exposes the mischievous futility of the excitement and panic, in his usual style of keen, cool sense. Although "the cry is still, they come," there are signs that the agitators begin to tire; the very multiplication of the clamours, without a single charge against the accused sect that is either substantiated or substantial, without a single hint to assist Ministers in gathering what practical measure they are to devise against an "aggression" of no substance, has exposed the utter futility of the outburst which Lord John Russell's letter invited; it must have helped to confirm Lord John's own difficulty in trying to think what he *can* put together to follow up his letter with decent propriety, and satisfy the multitude whom he has called forth. They say that he is already flinching under the difficulties of that hopeless task.

THE ANTI-POPERY MOVEMENT.

The Anti-Catholic meetings throughout the country this week have been so numerous that we find ourselves unable to give even a bare notice of them. We have noticed below a few of the more prominent ones, and also a few things springing out of the movement.

A protest against the Papal aggression, signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and most of the Bishops, has been presented to the Queen. They say they consider it their duty to record their united protest against "this attempt to subject our people to a spiritual tyranny from which they were freed at the Reformation;" and ask her Majesty "to discountenance by all constitutional means the claims and usurpations of the Church of Rome, by which religious divisions are fostered, and the labours of our clergy impeded in their endeavours to diffuse the light of true religion amongst the people committed to their charge."

Mr. Roebuck has addressed a letter to Lord J. Russell, "concerning the mischiefs which now threaten the peace of this empire:" and addressed to his lordship because "great principles are in danger," and to him "is attributable the eminent risk to which they are exposed." The "great principles" in question are those of Mr. Pitt, Lords Grenville, Wellesley, and Grey, Mr. Grattan, and Mr. Canning, to which the Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel gave reluctant recognition in 1829, and on which Lord J. Russell has laid the "superstructure of his policy." These principles he (Lord John) has now imperilled by raising "a wretched fanaticism," a spirit of "religious bigotry," of "detestable intolerance."

"Neither party rage, nor love of office, nor of praise," he is told, "could so have blinded you as to make the events of the last few weeks a surprise. If, indeed, they were not foreseen, then must you confess yourself a short-sighted politician. If, however, you did believe that such things might happen, your present indignation must be feigned, and put on to serve a purpose, or your past confidence was falsely assumed and equally intended to deceive." "Your unwise and unstatesmanlike letter has served as a trumpet to call into action the worst and fiercest and most dangerous passions that darken human reason and harden the human heart." "And now, my lord, I put the question which you, as a statesman, ought long since to have asked yourself—*How is Catholic Ireland to be governed?*" "To you, my lord, posterity will refer as the man who, just when the real difficulties were conquered, when, by the united and continuous labours of our greatest statesmen, the law had become just, and peace and good-will were about to be established, took advantage of your great position to rouse up the spirit of strife and hate among us, to quicken into active life the demon of persecution, and to rend asunder a great empire, which, but for your fatal interference, would soon have become firmly united, peaceful, and prosperous. A melancholy distinction this, my lord, for one who all his life has styled himself the friend of religious as well as civil freedom."

A letter has been addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury by Sir B. Hall, in which the honourable

baronet treats at considerable length of the causes of the Pope's late usurpation. If Puseyism be one of the causes, he asks why have the Bishops "been so careless and so indifferent as regards the welfare of our Church and the maintenance of Protestantism as to allow Puseyism to gain so great an ascendancy, by permitting those clergymen who are now designated as 'traitors to the Established Church' to continue ministers of the reformed religion of that Church?" After some observations on the Bishop of London and Mr. Bennett, he says—"I am, however, of opinion that the Pope has been induced to issue his last bull, not solely in consequence of the advances of the Puseyites, but of the general discontent with regard to the Established Church which exists in this country, arising from the very unequal, very unjust, and most improvident distribution and management of ecclesiastical preferment and ecclesiastical property." The honourable baronet contrasts the incomes of the French and English Bishops, enters into lengthened details of the proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commission, speaks in terms of strong animadversion on the state of the Collegiate establishments, and concludes by giving his opinion that if (as is the case in Scotland, Switzerland, Holland, Sweden, and the whole of Germany) the people in Great Britain were allowed a voice in the election of their pastors, such a course would speedily replace the Established Church on a basis too firm for any further cause of apprehension from the disciples of Pusey or the aggressions of Rome.

The Reverend W. J. E. Bennett, of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, has just published a pamphlet, under the title of "A First Letter to the Right Honourable Lord John Russell, M.P., on the Present Persecution of a Certain Portion of the English Church," of which we only give a brief notice. Mr. Bennett addresses his lordship as "one of my chief parishioners, and as one, also, charged by our Sovereign Lady the Queen to administer the government of this kingdom." He gives a pathetic description of the proceedings on several successive Sundays at the Church of St. Barnabas—an "offshoot" from the congregation at St. Paul's—and of "the great trouble and distress" of mind consequent to the writer, his brother clergymen, and parishioners, particularly "the poor, the timid, and women and children." The church and parsonage, it is added, are "guarded night and day," "as though in a state of siege." It is then asked, What is the cause of all this? Who has done it? which is thus answered:—

"In walking through my parish but a few days since, I was met by a man offering to me for sale a slip of paper, purporting to be a letter from your lordship to the Bishop of Durham. And, shortly afterwards, I saw in a shop window the same letter advertized, with a great show of attraction, at price two shillings and sixpence per 100. Of course I could not but be attracted by seeing your lordship's name appended to a letter to the Bishop of Durham. Knowing the troubles which now beset our unhappy Church—its many schisms, wants, and infirmities—I might have been pardoned if I had imagined a letter to the Bishop of Durham, suggesting some healing medicine for our wounds, pointing out some stay and comfort in our troubles, promising some synod or convocation for deliberation on our distracted state; I might have imagined a scheme for additional bishops—some enlargement of the national education of the poor—something, in fact, to help us on and guide us to deeper unity and more fervent love among ourselves.

"But, my lord, what was my surprise when I found that your letter was no more or less than an attack upon the Bishop of Rome; that it was a manifesto full of anger and indignation against a power said to be feared now, though it had been for twenty-five years, or thereabouts, sedulously courted, cultivated, and nursed up into its present condition by no other than yourself? And what was my surprise, not unmixed with something deeper, to find that, although the Bishop of Rome was held up as a great source of danger to the mighty empire of Great Britain, at which I wondered, there was still a greater danger behind, at which I wondered more."

The concluding paragraph of Lord John's unfortunate letter is then quoted, and next the speeches at the Guildhall dinner are tartly noticed, and a slap administered to the Lord Chancellor:—

"I was somewhat struck by this novel remark of the Lord Chancellor as to the 'simplicity of Christian worship which our Lord adopted.' I had always thought that our blessed Saviour worshipped in the synagogue which was of the Jews, and in the Temple, under a most gorgeous, minute, and ceremonial ritual, concerning which his lordship might learn, if he had time to study in the books of the law of God; and I also thought that the disciples of our Lord were called 'Christians first at Antioch,' long after."

The conclusion is drawn that, from Lord John's known connection with St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, that and St. Barnabas were especially intended by his denunciation:—

"How, my lord, could we wonder any longer at what had taken place? Why, it would have been a perfect miracle had we escaped. You might as well have laid a train of gunpowder from Chesham-place, stretching along the streets to poor St. Barnabas' Church, and then put into the hands of your friends, 'the people,' a torch, and have said:—'Now you know where the mischief is;' and then have expected that the torch would not have been applied to the train."

Mr. Bennett takes the liberty of showing the

Premier that he has not only acted a most inconsistent part with regard to the Catholics, but that his theological dogmas and his practice are directly opposed to each other. He proceeds to condemn the rottenness and corruption in the English Church, which he attributes to the royal supremacy as administered by Lord John:—

"It is not the Queen's supremacy that we complain of—it is the Prime Minister's supremacy that we complain of—not the thing, but the abuse. Your lordship is very earnest in your cry for 'liberty of conscience.' Why will you not concede it to us the clergy, as well as all other of her Majesty's subjects? You cry out against us, that we are enslaving the souls of the people, we cry out against you that you are enslaving the souls of the clergy; that you are crippling, deforming, poisoning, the fountain of jurisdictions and the springs of the pure doctrines of the Catholic faith. If 'civil and religious liberty' means anything, we have a right to say this, and to act upon it, and that right we claim. It is your inconsistency that we would point out to the world, in fighting so bravely and enduring so much for a principle in yourself, and for yourselves, which you will not concede to another."

Lord John is reminded of what he has done in Ireland and the colonies for Popery; and asked how he judges the practices he now condemns to be forbidden by the Church, except on the opinion of the Bishop of London, who himself distinctly approved the furniture and ritual of St. Barnabas. "Therefore, my lord, you have done unjustly by St. Barnabas. You have traduced our clergy here by imputing false things to them. It cannot possibly be that we are leading the people step by step over the precipice. How can we, when the bishop led the way himself, in consecrating and blessing the church which you now see?" His lordship's own personal consistency is attacked. He has been regularly attending the Puseyite Church of St. Paul's, of which St. Barnabas is an offshoot, from 1843 up to Ash Wednesday, 1849, on which day he and Lady Russell were present and partook of the Sacrament. So late as last year Lord John engaged to take part in "the festivities" at St. Barnabas, with his colleague, Earl Carlisle, and wrote to say that a Cabinet Council prevented him. This did not look as if he were opposed to the mummeries of Puseyism. The reverend writer desires the Premier, as his parishioner, to "escape from the teaching of Dr. Cumming," and goes on at great length to express how deeply interested he was at witnessing, for so many years, the constant attendance of his lordship:—

"When I could not help seeing you, as I did, continually before me, subject to my teaching, hearing the elucidation of gospel truths and the Church's authority from my mouth, and joining in prayer and sacraments from time to time, a peculiar and awful sense of responsibility was felt to be kindled within. It seemed as if great things might have been depending on the rightness of my teaching, and that the Church, in her real beauty, and magnificence, and truth, might be lost or not lost by some mistake or want of judgment on my part. I knew your temptations and dangers. I felt for you in the awful responsibilities of your high office as the chief ruler of our country. I feared for you, and I prayed for you. I would never have told this, as I now do, but for the special and awful crisis which has, through your principal instrumentality, been brought about. But this now I will tell, known before only to God, that frequently, very frequently, in the lone night, and when you have been labouring in the House of Commons, I have been in the Church where you worshipped, and by name (of course with others of my flock according to their needs) have invoked the Almighty God of nations that he would vouchsafe to guide your policy for our country's welfare and our Church's blessing. Yes, often have I prayed specially in your behalf—often have I specially sought of God that I might have grace in preaching, to win you to the deeper truths of our most holy faith. I say this now, because at such a time it was—I mean in the year 1849, so late as Ash Wednesday, 1849—I find a note in my journal thus:—'Lord and Lady John Russell at the Holy Communion this day. This looks well. Oh, that we could make them love the Church!' I give you, my lord, the genuine, simple words of my private journal, such words, of course, never expecting to see the light. But there they are, and I give them to you to show you how I felt them, and how rejoiced I was, on such a day, at such a time, to see the testimony of your faith, your repentance, and your love."

Not a little interest was excited, on Sunday, amongst the congregation of St. James's Catholic Church, Spanish-place, in consequence of its being announced that the Right Reverend Dr. Hughes, Archbishop of New York, was to preach the sermon during the high mass. At the appointed time his lordship ascended the steps of the altar, and commenced by reading the fourth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. After saying that he had arrived only on Friday at the port of Liverpool, and was but a pilgrim passing through this country on his way to the Eternal City of Rome, and that he had, entirely unprepared, acceded to a request to address them, he expressed how utterly astonished he was to find the state of excitement which now prevailed in England. He concluded his address by exhorting his audience to bear with patience the insults that were being cast upon them; to have charity for those who through ignorance thus acted with regard to them; to love their holy religion the more, and the illustrious prelates that presided over

it; and to pray more earnestly for their beloved, yet erring, country. The church was crowded, and the preacher was listened to with marked attention.

A large public meeting of the laity of the Established Church was held on Thursday afternoon, at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of addressing her Majesty on the subject of the recent Popish aggression. The meeting was convened for one o'clock, but long before that hour the large room of the tavern was densely thronged, while the galleries were filled with well-dressed ladies. The chair was taken shortly after one o'clock, by the Right Honourable Lord Ashley, M.P. The requisition and advertisement calling the meeting having been read, the chairman addressed the meeting. He denounced in strong terms the insulting attempt to force an obnoxious hierarchy upon the people of England. They must petition her Majesty to put the constitutional law of the land in force to cleanse the Church of her insidious enemies, and he trusted that the meeting would be unanimous in attaining this end. Captain Sir William Parry, who then addressed the meeting, said "they had been called together to tell the Pope that, whether at St. Peter's or St. Barnabas, they would not have Popery in England." The second resolution, which strongly condemned the semi-Romish practices in the Church of England, was moved by Mr. Childers, M.P., who said:—

"He had always been a friend of toleration; but resisting oppression was not an act of intolerance. The Tractarians had good cause to cry 'Heaven save me from my friends;' for the shining forth of the Roman sun had brought to light a crouching or hidden viper that lurked in the Established Church, and he for one hoped shortly to see cast out. The Tractarians were now beginning to be held in contempt by even those whom they looked upon as their friends, and nothing would more clearly prove this than a *bon mot* he heard the other day. A Roman Catholic priest was asked if he had been to St. Barnabas, and his reply was very significant. He said he did not like mock turtle. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

The officiating minister at St. Barnabas, on Sunday, was the Reverend Mr. De Gex, who in the course of his sermon said he was afraid that many in that church had come merely out of curiosity, and had no thought of worshipping their Creator and Saviour. At this point a few hisses were given by some of those standing in the middle aisle, which were soon silenced by those near saying, "Shame, shame!" He (the preacher) hoped he was wrong in supposing that many who had attended that morning had come to disturb the rest. Many persons in different parts of the church here commenced coughing, which was continued for some time, but the sermon was brought to a conclusion without any formidable obstruction. Upon the congregation dispersing they found a crowd of nearly three hundred in front of the church, and several persons made an attempt to enter the building. The police, however, kept a space clear for the congregation to pass through, and at the same time prevented the crowd from forcing an entrance. Many of those who found themselves prevented from entering the edifice amused themselves by crying out as they walked to and fro, "No wafer gods!" "No Pope in London!" "The Queen, and no surrender!" One man, who was rather more loyal than the rest, proposed that they should sing in the street, as the parties were leaving the church, "God save the Queen!" but the motion was not seconded.

The freeholders of Dorsetshire assembled on Friday to consider the recent aggression of the Church of Rome. The meeting was held in the County Hall, which was crowded to excess. Among those present were the three county members—Messrs. Bankes, Seymour, and Floyer, Colonel Freestun, M.P., several magistrates, and the Archdeacon of Dorset, and upwards of fifty clergymen. The High Sheriff having opened the meeting, Mr. H. Ker Seymour proposed the first resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Porcher. The Reverend William Casey, Catholic priest, of Marnhull, then moved, as an amendment, "That this meeting is unanimous in the expression of its unshaken loyalty to our beloved Queen, and is of opinion that any interference with the doctrines and discipline of any other of her gracious Majesty's subjects would be a violation of the rights of conscience, against which this meeting protests." This was seconded by Mr. Cooper, an Unitarian minister, but only two hands were held up for it. Mr. Bankes moved an address to the Queen, which was seconded by Mr. Floyer, and unanimously carried.

A numerous meeting of Church schoolmasters resident in London and the vicinity was held on Saturday, at the second City of London Schoolroom, Shoe-lane, for the purpose of considering the propriety of addressing the Queen on the recent aggression of the Bishop of Rome.

A lecture on "Canterbury and Rome" was delivered by Mr. Ernest Jones, at the Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, on Monday evening, to a large audience of working-men. The lecturer forcibly described the nature and history of the two Churches, contrasted both with Christianity, and exhorted his audience, amidst tremendous applause, not to meddle between the rival hierarchies till the time came to get back Church property for the people.

One of the largest and most influential meetings ever held in Durham assembled at the Town Hall on Monday evening to address the Queen, and petition Parliament on the late Papal aggression, and also to address Lord John Russell and the Bishop of Durham, expressing their concurrence in the Protestant principles advanced by their lordships. There was a good deal of opposition, chiefly from Catholics and Puseyites, but the resolutions were carried. It was thought proper by the University officers to forbid the attendance of the students in the Town Hall, for fear of disturbances there, but the young

men assembled on the Castle-terrace, which overlooks the town, and sang "God save the Queen" with hearty good will.

The Incorporated Law Society met on Tuesday at Chancery-lane, and carried an address, under protest from a number of Roman Catholic members of the society.

A meeting, convened by the Mayor of Stafford, took place in the Shire-hill, on Tuesday evening, at which an address to the Queen against the Papal aggression, and a vote of thanks to Lord John Russell, were unanimously agreed to. At the close of the proceedings "God save the Queen" was sung.

An Essex county meeting was held at Chelmsford on Tuesday. The members and leading gentlemen were present. Mr. Havens, of Colchester, proposed a "religious liberty" amendment, which was not seconded; and Mr. Hardcastle, M.P., another, denouncing Puseyism, which was supported by Sir E. Buxton, and added to the address.

The large room of the Corn Exchange, Preston, was densely crowded on Tuesday evening, on the occasion of a meeting of the Protestant Nonconformists, for the purpose of expressing their condemnation of the recent appointment of a Papal hierarchy in this country. All the resolutions were carried, and the proceedings terminated with three cheers for the Queen.

A crowded public meeting was held on Tuesday evening, in the Cutlers'-hall, Sheffield, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken in reference to the late arrogant assumption of the Bishop of Rome. A resolution expressing indignation at the recent bold and unwarrantable aggression of the Bishop of Rome upon her Majesty's prerogative was carried with only one dissentient. A vote of thanks to Lord John Russell for his letter to the Bishop of Durham, moved by the Reverend G. A. Jacobs, and seconded by Mr. James Montgomery (the poet), after much discussion was carried by a small majority.

A public meeting of the county of Flint was held on Wednesday to protest against the Papal aggression. The requisition, which was signed by the Marquis of Westminster, Lord Dungannon, Lord Kenyon, Lord Dinorben, Lord Bagot, Lord Mostyn, and nearly 1000 freeholders, called upon Lord Feilding, the high sheriff, to convene a meeting of the county, "for the purpose of addressing a memorial to the Queen expressive of their astonishment and indignation at the late ecclesiastical appointments by the Pope in these dominions." Lord Feilding, however, instead of adopting the language and object of the requisitionists, convened the meeting "to consider the effect of the late ecclesiastical arrangements of the Catholic Church in this country, and, if thought necessary, to address her Majesty on the subject." This attempt to dictate to the county gave great umbrage to the requisitionists. It was also remarked, that in the notice convening the meeting Lord Feilding claimed for the adherents of the Papal creed the title of the "Catholic" Church, an assumption which did not go down very well with the men of Flintshire. The meeting was held in the County Hall at Mold, which was crammed. In the absence of Lord Feilding, who, as high sheriff, ought to have presided, Lord Mostyn took the chair. An address to the Queen was moved by the county members and carried unanimously.

A numerous meeting of the Dissenters of Liverpool was held on Wednesday, to determine on the course they should take with respect to the recent aggression of Rome. The Reverend Dr. Raffles occupied the chair, and was supported by the ministers of the various dissenting denominations of the town. A declaration was unanimously agreed to, condemning the Pope's act in unqualified terms, but expressing an opinion that it had been caused by the spread of Tractarianism in the Church of England.

A motion having been brought forward in the Oxford Town Council to address the Queen, protesting against the Papal aggression, an anti-Puseyite amendment was proposed and rejected by a large majority.

The Unitarian congregation at Cheltenham have presented an address to the Roman Catholics of that town, as "brethren and fellow-Christians," condoling with them on the injury done to their place of worship in the late riot there, and earnestly disavowing sympathy with the spirit of the prevalent agitation.

George Bacon, Esq., of Lamcote House, near Nottingham, a "Dissenter of the Independent sect," has written a letter to the Roman Catholic priest at St. Barnabas, Nottingham, presenting a painting of "Christ in the outer Court, crowned with Thorns," by Gaspar Crayer, for an "altar-piece to his chapel, as a proof that he is not one of those whose mind is contracted in matters of Church discipline;" and that he "would be the last to enslave the consciences of others who do not see with the same eyes as himself." The painting is valued at 200 guineas.

The Reverend E. F. Browne, the Roman Catholic clergyman at Birkenhead, has published a statement in the *Liverpool Chronicle* with reference to the late riot, of which the following is a summary in his own words:—"It is clear the police were the aggressors, and the disturbance a collision between them and those they had abused. Beyond this, not one act of aggression, or even insult to any other person can be brought forward. Great parade has been made of the police wounded, but little is said of the poor creatures who were in the first instance so wantonly maltreated. Eight, I am informed, of those wounded in the attack made by the police at half-past eleven were dressed by one doctor—D. Robertson, of Hamilton-square. I have been accused of exciting the people to this disturbance; let my conduct be my answer. The greatest desire of myself and the gentlemen accompanying me was to secure peace. We sought only a fair and impartial hearing. It was our duty to attend a meeting which was called public, and the decision of which, without our protest, would have gone forth as that of the entire people of Birkenhead. We attended

to show that there was a large portion of those people who do not concur in the sentiments expressed on the placard calling the meeting."

Archdeacon Manning has, we understand, resigned the archdeaconry of Chichester, in consequence, it is supposed, of difficulties about the present position of the Established Church.—*Morning Chronicle.*

It is stated that the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin has had conferred upon him for some years the "Cardinal's hat," but that for certain reasons his grace kept the conferred honour a profound secret.

We believe we are justified in stating that, as it would be a glaring anomaly to recognize the right of the Church of Rome to have a hierarchy in one part of the United Kingdom while that right is denied to her in another, it is the intention of Ministers, in the ensuing session of Parliament, to bring in a bill for the abolition of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in the sister country. We have further reason to believe that, though some of Lord John Russell's colleagues were, in the first instance, opposed to the contemplated measure, they have now given way—regarding it as the only practicable mode of getting rid of the anomaly as refusing to recognize Popish prelates in England while they are acknowledged in Ireland.—*Morning Advertiser.*

We have reason to believe that an individual of considerable wealth, but who has hitherto taken no considerable part in public affairs, and who resides in the north of England, has resolved upon instituting a prosecution against one of the newly-created Roman Catholic Bishops for a misdemeanour. The legal question will thus be brought to issue without the direct intervention of the Government. An eminent Queen's counsel, and a gentleman with large practice below the bar, have been retained to draw and settle the indictment.—*Legal Observer.*

Rumour has been making a free and painful use of several noble and fashionable names in connection with that downward course from Tractarianism to Romanism which has of late been so frequently trod by members of the higher lay and ecclesiastical classes; and, as the reports proceeded from Roman Catholic sources usually well informed of such descents, it behoves the noble personages themselves or their friends to contradict the statements if susceptible of denial. Without, then, mentioning the names referred to, whilst uncertainty and hope exist, it will, perhaps, suffice to add that a gentle lord and lady, an Irish peer having considerable property in Wales, and another member of the aristocracy, are included in the list. A distinguished commoner, or his brother, is also spoken of.—*Daily News.*

A CATHOLIC JUBILEE.

A document, issued by Cardinal Wiseman, appointing a jubilee and granting plenary indulgences, was read on Sunday, previous to the sermon, at all the Roman Catholic chapels in the metropolis. An application from the reporters at one chapel to be allowed to make a report of it was met with a peremptory, but courteous, refusal, the priest stating that "his Eminence" had desired that no one should be allowed to copy it. A shorthand writer had, however, anticipated this refusal, and taken such notes of the missive as enabled him to publish a tolerably correct copy of it. The document commences thus:—

"Nicholas, by the divine mercy, of the holy Roman Church, by the title of St. Pudenciana Cardinal Priest, Archbishop of Westminster, and Administrator Apostolic of the Diocese of Southwark.

"To our dearly beloved in Christ, the clergy secular and regular, and the faithful of the said archdiocese and diocese.

"Health and benediction in the Lord:—

"Upon the 23rd of July last his Holiness graciously bestowed upon the Bishops of the Church the power to publish an extraordinary jubilee within the current year.

"It has been the practice of the Church for many centuries to proclaim a great year of jubilee every twenty-five years, at which period multitudes repair to the shrines of the blessed Apostles in Rome, in order to partake of the spiritual benefits which there abound."

He then goes on to describe what ought to be done by all true Catholics in a period of jubilee, and fixes the date of it, commencing on Sunday (to-morrow), and ending on Sunday, the 22nd. Among other duties, all good Catholics are enjoined to "pray earnestly for the prosperity of this empire, and the stability of the constitution by which it is governed, and especially for the life, health, and prosperity of our beloved Sovereign."

END OF THE GERMAN MELO-DRAMA.

A sudden and unlooked-for conclusion appears to have been put to the German question by a circular note of Lord Palmerston's, declaring that England will never consent to recognize the Diet, and strongly exhorting all parties to peace. In consequence of this, it is supposed, Manteuffell despatched a message to Prince Schwarzenburg, desiring to meet him at Odenburg, and the Prince consented to the interview at Olmutz. At that conference it was decided that the Bundestag troops should evacuate Hesse-Cassel, provided those of Prussia did the same.

The evacuation, however, does not take place without securing to the Hessians the *status quo* before the commencement of their quarrel with the Elector and Hassenpflug. The Elector is to return in a day or two to Cassel, accompanied by two Hessian regiments, which are to be reconstructed for the purpose. The Hessian Landtag is to be reassembled at once,

and the constitution is to be maintained intact. Hasenpflug, it is expected, will be dismissed, and so the settlement of all disputes facilitated. Schleswig-Holstein and its affairs are to remain an open question until the free conferences have met. These are to meet immediately, and the place of meeting is to be named by Prussia. The funds have risen under this pacific aspect of affairs, and it is expected the Chambers will be prorogued.

The address of the Second Chamber to the King contains the following paragraph relating to the German question:—"We regret very much that your efforts have not succeeded in giving to the German nation a constitution conformable to its necessities. We hope that ulterior efforts energetically continued in the path fixed by the alliance of the 26th of May will procure for Germany a constitution which shall guarantee her exterior dignity and her interior liberty, and in which Prussia, after having entered Germany with her whole power, could not occupy the second place. The restoration of the German Confederation, which was dissolved by universal consent, would be quite incompatible with this idea." The paragraph concerning the question of the Duchies is thus conceived:—"We hope, if the existing dispute cannot be terminated by foreign intervention, that the Governments of all the States of the Germanic Confederation will succeed in obtaining a solution which shall guarantee all recognized legitimate rights." The address is silent as to the law on the press.

Accounts from Berlin of the 2nd stated that the King's sanction had been obtained to the arrangement entered into at Olmutz between Baron Manteuffel and Prince Schwarzenberg; and advices from Vienna of the same date stated that the Austrian Government had also accepted the arrangement of Olmutz. But a telegraphic despatch from Berlin on the 4th leaves affairs in confusion once more. It states that "the Lower House has assumed a hostile attitude, that the committee on the address has agreed on a new draught condemnatory of the Olmutz arrangements, 18 of the committee having voted for the Opposition and only 4 for the Cabinet. A Cabinet Council has been held, and the King has adjourned Parliament to the 3rd of January, 1851."

No change has taken place in the state of affairs in Electoral Hesse.

THE EARLY CLOSING ASSOCIATION.

A reunion of the members and friends of the early closing movement was held in the Exeter-hall Hotel, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of promoting the objects of the association, which are to effect an abridgement of the hours of business in all trades, with a view to the moral, intellectual, and physical improvement of assistants generally. There was a numerous attendance. After tea the chair was taken by Mr. John Thwaites, who congratulated the meeting upon the triumph which this cause was gradually achieving. He remarked that at the commencement of this movement they had to contend on the one hand against prejudice on the part of employers, and upon the other against an evil habit on the part of the public of making their purchases late in the evening. But they had enlisted the sympathies of the public and the hearty coöperation of a large body of employers, though there were still formidable obstacles to overcome before the ultimate objects of the association could be accomplished. He must in all faithfulness mention that one of the greatest impediments to success was to be found in the employed themselves. Practically speaking, more sympathy had been shown by employers with this cause than had yet been manifested by the employed.

Mr. Lillwall (Secretary) wished to make a few observations. He said he feared that the affairs of the society had reached a crisis, and that if not better supported during this winter it must certainly go down. (*Hear, hear.*) The society had already done much good, having led to very general early closing. (*Hear, hear.*) When the society came first into existence the general hours for closing were nine, ten, eleven, and in summer the young men seldom went to bed at all on Sunday morning, but went off to bathe. (*Hear.*) Now things were very different. Nine was considered a late hour, while many closed at eight and seven, and one great establishment, that of Mr. Hitchcock—a name that should never be mentioned without honour—(*loud cheers*)—closes each evening at six o'clock. (*Hear, hear.*) Improvements had also been effected in the relations between employers and their young men. Formerly employers treated their assistants as if they were an inferior race; but now they took them by the hand, attended their meetings, and showed every anxiety to assist in their improvement. (*Hear, hear.*) A further result of the early closing movement had been the establishment of several religious and educational institutions for the benefit of young men. In fact, there was everything to encourage effort on the part of the association, except the apathy of the young men themselves. The great question then was, whether it should go on; and on this subject he remarked that the religious young men of London had not done their duty by the association, otherwise it would have received a larger amount of support at their hands. Several gentlemen, employers as well as assistants,

then addressed the meeting, taking an encouraging tone, from whose remarks it appeared that vigorous efforts are contemplated to rouse the class of assistants from their indifference, which it was felt was more apparent than real. The toast or sentiment of "Success to the Early Closing Association" was received with much applause. Several others were given; and the proceedings, which occupied about four hours, terminated, the spirit of the meeting having given great hopes of ultimate success.

THE NATIONAL CHARTER AND SOCIAL REFORM UNION.

On Sunday afternoon, December 1, the Democratic Conference held its adjourned meeting (from November 3), at the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square; Mr. D. W. Ruffy in the chair. The attendance of delegates was comparatively small; Mr. Thornton Hunt and Mr. G. J. Harney were prevented from attending by illness, and Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds declining to attend any meetings until after Christmas, in consequence of the recent death in his family.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, and the report of the Committee appointed to draw up an address having been laid before the Conference, letters were read from the Democratic Tract Society of Edinburgh, approving of the policy of the Conference; from the Edinburgh League of Progress; the Limehouse Chartist Locality; the Friends of Social and Democratic Progressive Reform at Norwich, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Bradford (Yorkshire), Royton, and from Hull, to the same effect.

Mr. W. Walter Cooper had received a letter from the Progress League of Manchester, and Mr. Ivory letters from the Social Reformers of Paisley, Bradford, Halifax, Stockport, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Yarmouth, Shelton, and Brighton, approving of the formation of a National Charter and Social Reform Union.

Mr. G. J. Holyoake stated that he had lately made a tour through Lancashire, Yorkshire, &c., and found the opinions of social reformers generally favourable to the new union.

Mr. Arnott read a letter from the National Charter Association to the effect that as only a few localities had at present given in a unanimous adhesion to the proposed fusion, they for the present declined to act.

Mr. Pettie read a resolution from the Fraternal Democrats agreeing to the fusion, but resolving to keep their association whole and entire until fully satisfied that the union as proposed can be effectually carried out.

Messrs. Bate and Browett stated that the Trades' Association which they represented, were generally favourable, but did not agree to merge entirely in the movement.

Mr. Pettie suggested, and Mr. Le Blond, who had lately visited Birmingham, West Bromwich, Bromsgrove, Manchester, Stockport, Bolton, and Preston, and found much anxiety exist upon the subject, moved, "That in the opinion of this Conference it is not advisable to finally dissolve. Resolved, therefore, that this meeting, at its rising, stand adjourned till the first Sunday in January." Mr. Fussell cordially seconded, and Mr. Holyoake supported the resolution, assuring the Conference that he might, in his recent tour, have opened many branches in connexion with the new union, had he possessed proper authority to do so. He thought that a fairer opportunity than the present for laying the foundation of a democratic union would never be enjoyed.

Mr. Milne, Mr. W. Cooper, Mr. Swift, Mr. Pettie, and the Chairman having spoken in support of the resolution, it was agreed to unanimously. Mr. Le Blond proposed to appoint twenty persons as a committee of observation, with power to address and receive correspondence, and manage the business of the National Charter and Social Reform Union.

Mr. Fussell seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. The committee appointed were, Messrs. Swift, G. J. Holyoake, Arnott, Fussell, Milne, W. Cooper, Harney, G. W. M. Reynolds, Bate, Hunt, Ruffy, Ivory, Pettie, Shute, Stalwood, Wilson, Hooper, Le Blond, Utting, and G. Massey. The conference adjourned till the first Sunday in January.

POLISH ANNIVERSARY.

The Polish Democrats held a meeting at Mr. Pedretti's Tavern, Dorrington-street, Leather-lane, yesterday evening week, to commemorate the nineteenth anniversary of the outbreak of their revolution in 1830, against Russian despotism. The chair was taken at seven o'clock by Mr. S. Worrell, member of the Central Committee of the Polish Democratic Society. Mr. Worrell opened the meeting by an eloquent speech, in which, viewing the present epoch as a transitory one only, he urged the necessity of being always ready for any emergency. To be ready is to be strongly organized, united, and disciplined, especially as the troops of the coal-seed enemies have already taken the field, have overflowed all Germany under the pretext of dissension amongst the German Princes, but in reality awaiting the given signal from St. Petersburg to crush the re-

volutionary spirit both in Germany and France. The chairman thus concluded his speech:—"The future movement will be but the continuation of the revolution which began twenty years ago, but it will be developed and completed. We have the right, and it is our duty to celebrate that initiative of a future movement, but it must be appropriately celebrated, viz., in close ranks, in concord, and in an able battle array. Thus only shall we, either through the open gates, or by storm, return to our beloved fatherland, and thus only, when once within its walls, shall we vanquish the enemy's garrison, and on the ruins of the citadel of Warsaw implant our triumphant banner, bearing the inscription: 'The Democratic Republic of Poland.'"

The chairman was followed by Mr. Milkowski, a member of the Polish Legion in Hungary, who mentioned that two years ago the Polish Legion celebrated the same anniversary on the banks of the Theiss.

The second and last speaker after the chairman was Mr. E. Staniewicz. "During the last seventy years," he said, amongst other things, "which have elapsed since the revolution whose anniversary we are celebrating, Poland, whilst other nations were calmly developing the elements of their future social transformation—Poland, though fettered by a triple chain, has not been inactive: she has shown by her innumerable victims groaning in the mines of Siberia, by so many heroes gloriously terminating their earthly career on the scaffold,—by so many martyrs breathing their last in the subterranean prisons of her Muscovite and German spoilers,—that she has never ceased to serve that sacred cause." Continuing, he said:—"This is a truth which all the nations whom the spirit of liberty in 1848 awakened from their lethargy has duly acknowledged: for the first cry which every one of them uttered was a sympathizing voice for Poland. A new era, an era of a definite emancipation of all mankind, which began with the first years of Christianity, is rapidly approaching; but, alas! it will not dawn upon us without fighting out the great battle of mankind, for, as long as one tyrant only remains, Humanity will never enjoy real peace or liberty! It is, therefore, important that we should be prepared for that unavoidable emergency. Poland has already enforced the democratic principle as the basis of her future existence. As to the secondary details of that principle, she will develop and improve them, when she will have reconquered that existence. Hence, whosoever relaxes by trifling disputation about new, untried theories, the unity of tendency of those who are working for the future life of their country:—whosoever, by self-conceit, by a desire for command, or personal enmity, tears asunder the fraternal tie which now more than ever ought to bind all honest Democrats—delays the settlement of the cause of Humanity, and is a traitor to the militant society. Let us, therefore, be united, and ever ready to rally around the standard of Freedom; for Freedom, whose reign preceded that of Kings, will and must again, and for ever, resume its throne, in spite of its being so heavily enchained by King- and priest-craft!"

THE DISTURBANCES AT ALEPPO.

A letter from Constantinople, dated the 20th ultimo, gives some additional particulars of the disturbances at Aleppo of the signal chastisement bestowed on the fanatical insurgents; and also of the insurrection in Bosnia:—

"On the evening of the 7th of December, Kerim Pacha, military commandant of Aleppo, informed the rebel chiefs that he wished to speak to them. The latter, persuaded that they would be respected from fear of a fresh outbreak, went to the interview. Kerim Pacha arrested them. As soon as this act of rigour was known in the town, the insurgents rose again, and, to the number of 10,000, demanded, with arms in their hands, that their leaders should be set at liberty. Kerim Pacha was already prepared, and in place of answering, he fell upon them at the head of 4000 of the Sultan's troops. The carnage was frightful, and lasted twenty-four hours; 1800 rebels remained on the field of battle. Three quarters of the town, which were the focus of the insurrection—Karlek, Bab-Coussa, and El Bab-Neizab—have been almost entirely destroyed. The inhabitants and insurgents whom death has spared have taken to flight. The cavalry is in pursuit of them. Not a single Christian has had to suffer during this sanguinary conflict. All the property of the insurgents has been confiscated to indemnify the losses suffered by the Christians, to rebuild the churches destroyed, and to ensure the means of living to the families of the thirteen Christians who lost their lives on the 15th and 16th. The Sovereign has shown to Europe by this blow how much he has at heart the interests of his Christian subjects. Accounts received yesterday from Omer Pacha announce the complete defeat of the Bosnian insurgents, in two battles at Bozovina and at Zwornik. In that province the authority of the Sultan had been set at defiance by the beys, who wished to preserve their feudal rights, which had been abolished by the Tanzimat."

AN EXTRAORDINARY POISONING CASE.

The trial of the Abbé Gothland, curé of Saint Germain, near Angoulême, and of Madame du Sablon, wife of a physician, of the same place, for having poisoned the widow Deguisal, servant of the

former, commenced on Thursday week, before the Court of Assizes of the department. The case excited the most intense interest, and the court was crowded to excess, a vast crowd assembling in the streets to see the prisoners pass from the prison. The family of the female prisoner had solicited that she should be allowed to go in a carriage, but this was refused. Madame du Sablon walked first, elegantly dressed in black, and wearing a long veil; she leaned on her husband's arm, and was accompanied by her sister and brother-in-law. The curé walked alone, but was followed by groups of his parishioners. Both were in custody of policemen and gendarmes. They were placed side by side in the dock, and the male prisoner stated his name to be Laurent Gothland, his age twenty-nine, and his profession that of a priest. The female said that her name was Marie Laure du Sablon, and her age thirty. Madame du Sablon's features were thinned by a long sickness and anxiety, but were delicately beautiful. The curé is a short thick-set man, with rather a sensual cast of face. He was dressed in plain black clothes.

The indictment stated that the widow Deguisal died at the house of the curé of Saint Germain, on the 21st of December, after an illness of six days. At six o'clock the next morning the curé went to the mayor to demand an authorization to bury her at once, as he said the body was in a state of putrefaction. The authorization was granted, and the curé caused the body to be interred on the same day. On his return from the ceremony he wrote to the deceased's son to say that she had died of congestion of the brain. Surprised at the sudden death and hasty burial of his mother, the son, Edmund Deguisal, suspected that there had been some foul work, and on the 28th he communicated his suspicions to the Procureur of the Republic at Angoulême. That functionary went the next day to St. Germain, and had the body taken up. On examination by chemists arsenic was discovered, and it thus became evident that deceased had either committed suicide or been poisoned. But there were not the slightest grounds for supposing that she had committed suicide, and therefore the conclusion was that she had been murdered. But by whom? Evidently only by the curé Gothland and Madame du Sablon, for they alone had approached her in the sickness of which she had died, and they alone had interest in her death. The honour of both was in her hands, she having discovered that an adulterous connection existed between them. Gothland, it appeared, had at first been curate at Sémur, but had been interdicted by the Bishop of Autun, on account of immoral conduct. On the prayer of the superior of the seminary, the bishop consented to appoint him to the cure of Charolles; but he there caused such scandal by his relations with a Madame Allier that he was expelled. After a while he presented himself to the Bishop of Angoulême, and having deceived that prelate as to his past conduct, was appointed by him curé of the parish of St. Germain. At St. Germain Madame du Sablon was his nearest neighbour, and they soon became very intimate. This lady was of rather light conduct, and it appeared that some time before she had sent some licentious verses to a young man of nineteen. A criminal connection having been established between them, it appeared that almost every day they indulged their passions at the parsonage, and besides, they constantly exchanged letters. The widow Deguisal suspected what was going on, but to convince herself she enlarged a hole which happened to be in the ceiling of the curé's bed-room, and placed herself in the garret above. Peeping through the hole, she distinctly saw enough to satisfy her as to the guilt of the parties. Greatly shocked, she notified to her son her intention of leaving the curé's service, but he told her to take no notice. After a while she had a quarrel with the curé, and he threatened to beat her. "Take care, Monsieur le curé," said she, "I know something." "What do you know?" cried he, "tell me." "Well, then, I know that you carry on a criminal connection with Madame du Sablon? Through that hole I saw you!" On this the curé became calm; he offered her money, which she refused; and he then wrote to her son to say how pleased he was with her, and that he had increased her wages. Whilst he was thus engaged with Madame du Sablon, he kept up his correspondence with Madame Allier at Charolles, and he protested to her that he loved her better than he did Madame du Sablon, and that he had to resist the advances of the latter. He once, on pretence of visiting his family, went to Charolles, and for fifteen days was secreted by Madame Allier in her house. During his absence Madame du Sablon was jealous, and opened letters which arrived for him. On the 16th of December the widow Deguisal was suddenly seized with violent vomitings after dinner, and these continued on the following days. Madame du Sablon sent her broths and medicines from her own house; the curé prepared her sugared wine, and sat up with her. She took nothing except what passed through their hands; and during five days they kept administering poisoned food. The way in which the poison was procured was this: Dr. du Sablon had a collection of medicines in his house, in his professional

capacity; among them was a phial containing sixty grammes of arsenic; of these fourteen had been employed in killing rats. When the phial was examined by the magistrates only twenty-five grammes remained; consequently twenty-one were missing; and they could, it is asserted, only have been taken by the female prisoner, as she alone had the key of the chest in which her husband kept the poison. The indictment dwelt on the fact that the accused had the strongest possible interest in getting rid of the deceased, inasmuch as a word from her would have caused the former to be ignominiously expelled from the Church, and the latter to be dishonoured as a wife and mother.

Gothland, in reply to the questions put to him, maintained that he had not been dismissed from Sémur and Charolles on account of ill-conduct, but because he had from different causes excited the ill-will of the curé, to whom he was assistant. He attempted to explain away his intimate relations with Madame Allier by stating that they were of a mere friendly kind, such as she maintained with fifteen or twenty other priests. He also observed that her age was forty-eight when he first knew her, and fifty-three now; but his letters to her, of which several were read, were decidedly of an amatory character. He gave a general denial to the charge of having been too intimate with Madame du Sablon, and declared that he had refused little presents which she had wished to make him. He said that he had resolved to dismiss his servant on account of her violent conduct. He denies that he alone had attended her after she had become indisposed, and said she first became ill after eating the same dinner as he had done. Dr. du Sablon, on seeing her ill, recommended her to take tea, and he sent her some drops of laudanum. He admitted having given her some sugared wine. He said that just before she died "he heard her pronounce the holy names of Jesus and of Mary, that that was a great consolation to him, and that he immediately administered the sacraments." He added that Madame du Sablon and her husband had come to the bed-side of the deceased.

Madame du Sablon, in answer to the judge's questions, said:—She had been married eleven years, and had a son. She admitted that she had sent some songs to a young man, and also that she had known the curé Bissette, the predecessor of Gothland. She had visited the latter sometimes, but never alone. Had never been at parties with him. On the arrival of Gothland, her husband forbade her ever to enter his house; but that did not cause her to reflect on the causes for which Bissette had left the parish; neither did she know for what cause he had left. Although her husband had forbidden her to visit Gothland, she had taken him for her confessor. She had gone to the parsonage when the curé's servant was ill, but on other occasions had always been accompanied by her husband. It was not true that she had opened any letter of Gothland's; as to the little presents which had been referred to, she had sent them with the knowledge of her husband. She did not know that her husband had arsenic in his possession. He did not leave his keys with her, though he sometimes left her medicines to be distributed to his patients. She had, however, seen a phial containing arsenic. It was her servant, not she herself, who waited on and prepared things for the deceased.

When Dr. du Sablon heard that his wife was accused of the double crime of murder and adultery, he proposed that both should commit suicide, and that their child should be made to die with them. They all three fastened themselves in a room with pans of charcoal, and would have died, had not the husband's courage failed him on seeing his son struggling in the agonies of death.

The case was proceeding on Monday when the report came away.

ADDRESS OF THE COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER AND SOCIAL REFORM UNION.

TO THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

FRIENDS,—Most of you are aware of the fact of the Executive of the Chartist body having, in conjunction with the leaders of the Chartists generally, called together a Conference to discuss whether a fusion of the Democratic bodies was advisable, and, if so, to devise measures to bring about so desirable a confirmation.

That Conference, composed of equal portions of the various London Chartists and Social Reform bodies, with a delegation from the United Trades, and a number of invited friends of standing in the Democratic cause, have met, and have decided that it is most desirable this fusion should be at once attempted.

The Conference observed with pain that, for some unexplained reasons, those persons who have been loud in suggesting their own projects for union, kept entirely aloof from its meetings, but, conscious of the integrity of its members, and confident of the adhesion of the millions, if they did but exhibit a determination really to attempt an actual union of all classes of Democrats, the Conference have opposed all attempts that have been made to cause its dissolution, and have appointed the present Committee

of Observation during its adjournment, until the first Sunday in January, 1851.

The programme of this proposed union is now before the People of the United Kingdom, and is it the earnest hope of the Conference that during its recess all persons individually and collectively, who have the cause of Democracy at heart, will transmit to the Committee of Observation their sentiments and wishes on the subject, with a view to future action, and by the instruction thus received the Conference will be prepared to act.

On one subject the Committee feels called upon to express a most decided opinion, which is, the absolute necessity of this or some other plan of union that, by a concentration of the scattered elements of Democracy, will enable any Executive you may hereafter appoint to bring the united force of a compact and determined mass of action to bear upon our present Legislature.

We say, then, in conclusion, to the men of Great Britain and Ireland—now is the time for an universal expression of opinion. Let it no longer be said that we clamour for the possession of abstract rights, while as a body we always neglect to use and exercise those we already possess. Anxiously awaiting your addresses on the subject, We are, your faithful friends,

Edward Swift, George J. Holyoake, J. I. J. Fussell, John Milne, Walter Cooper, George J. Harney, George W. M. Reynolds, Arthur Bate, Thornton Hunt, Daniel W. Ruffy, Henry A. Ivory, John Pettie, William Shute, Edmund Stallwood, George Hooper, Isaac Wilson, Robert Leblond, Charles Utting, T. Gerald Massey, John Arnott, Secretary, to whom all letters are requested to be sent, at 14, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

A REMARKABLE ESCAPE FROM PRISON.

A convict, named George Hacket, who has attained considerable notoriety amongst the police in the metropolis, and who succeeded in getting out of a cell at the Marlborough-street police court a short time since, contrived on Sunday evening to escape from the Model Prison at Pentonville, under circumstances which render his flight an extraordinary exploit. Hacket is the son of a streetkeeper in Dowgate ward. He commenced his career of crime by smuggling, and some dozen convictions are recorded against him at the Mansion-house and Thames police offices. He then attached himself to a gang of marauders, and the amount of depredations they committed was enormous. Possessing themselves of a light chaise cart and swift horses, they drove about the principal streets of the metropolis, and their respectable appearance, along with the tradesmanlike appearance of the vehicle, disarmed all suspicion. Hacket was first discovered to be connected with this gang in the latter part of 1847, when he was caught in the act of stealing a chest of tea from a shop in Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square. He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment. At the termination of his sentence he again joined the gang, and was known to have been concerned in several burglaries which subsequently took place, particularly that committed on the morning of the 27th of last March, on the premises of Messrs. Hardy, New Bond-street, when property to the amount of £300 was stolen. On that occasion he got clear off with the plunder, but was stopped by one of the city force a few weeks afterwards, and would have been taken into custody had he not made a murderous attack on the police officer with a life preserver, and thereby effected his escape. A few nights after he was seen by another policeman, who apprehended him. He was lodged in one of the cells at Marlborough-street police-office, but managed to effect his escape by bribing a turnkey. Nothing more was heard of him until the 29th of May, when the officer Storey, who was passing over London-bridge, saw him lying at the bottom of a cart, which was also proceeding over the bridge. The officer stopped the vehicle, and called upon Hacket to surrender; but the latter jumped out of the cart and endeavoured to get away. The officer overtook him in Thames-street, and a desperate struggle ensued. Hacket drew a formidable life-preserver, and by beating the constable over the head nearly murdered him. The bystanders fortunately secured the fellow, and on being examined at the Mansion-house he was committed to Newgate for trial for attempting to murder Storey. He was tried before Baron Alderson, found guilty, and sentenced to fifteen years' transportation. While in Newgate he made preparations to effect an escape, but his plan being discovered he was placed in a cell of greater security. From Newgate he was conveyed to the Model Prison at Pentonville, and after two attempts has succeeded in getting out of the gaol under circumstances that have led the authorities to suspect that some of the turnkeys had been tampered with. On Sunday evening Hacket attended service in the chapel, commencing at half-past six o'clock and concluding at eight. Service being finished, the usual mustering of the convicts took place, when it was found that Hacket was missing. Search was made, and on examining the walls of the prison it was ascertained that he had escaped and had got clear. At first it was a matter of great surprise how he could have got out of the chapel unobserved, having been distinctly seen in his seat, and it was only by finding the sheets of his bed, a rope, and his clothing on the parapet wall that his mode of escape was detected. It appears that by some means he managed to wrest off the spring of the door of his cell, which he formed into a "jemmy," and contemplating some hazardous task, he concealed about him a weight and the sheets and rope of his bed, which he must have wrapped round his body under his clothes. As soon as he was conducted to his seat he must have slipped down off his seat on to the flooring, and by the "jemmy" and

weight forced out the boarding. Having got under the gallery he met a serious obstacle in the shape of a zinc ventilator, but this soon gave way, thus enabling him to descend to a small closet beneath. A window with trifling protection afforded him access to the parapet wall some few feet below. Gaining it, he proceeded along it to one of the main walls, fifty or sixty feet long, communicating to the governor's house, on the north side of the prison. Reaching the end he by some means must have got on to the roof of the house, a height of more than six feet from the wall. Having obtained this point all obstacles were apparently at an end. He divested himself of the prison clothing, save his trousers and blue shirt, and with the "jemmy," rope, sheets, &c., left them on the roof, and by sliding down one of the gable-end walls got clear of the gaol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Court Circular* of last week contains nothing remarkable. The royal family still remains at Windsor Castle; the Queen walks every morning on the slopes, when the weather is fine, the younger branches take such pedestrian and pony exercise as is meet for them, and Prince Albert generally goes out shooting in the morning, attended by Colonel Bouverie. On Monday Prince Albert went to the Town-hall, and presided at a meeting of the Royal Association for the Encouragement of Industry and Cleanliness in the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes, and on the same day Lord and Lady Palmerston arrived at the castle on a visit to the Queen. The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, accompanied by the City Remembrancer, had an audience of the Queen at the Castle, on Tuesday, to receive her Majesty's pleasure relative to the day for the reception by her Majesty of the address from the Corporation of the City of London on the papal aggression. Alderman Salomons and some of the members of the Court of Lieutenancy of the City of London also attended to receive her Majesty's pleasure on the same subject, which is fixed for Tuesday next.

Prince Albert arrived at the building erecting for the Exhibition of 1851, in Hyde-park, on Thursday, at eleven, and inspected the works. At twelve o'clock he presided at a meeting of the royal commission for the promotion of the Exhibition, which lasted till twenty minutes past three o'clock. The workmen employed on the building assembled at the entrance; and, on Prince Albert taking his departure, greeted him with loud and enthusiastic cheers.

The London correspondent of the *Wexford Independent* says, "There are two appointments decided on, but kept very close, for reasons of state policy—that of Lord Normanby to the most lucrative office in the gift of the Crown, the Governor-Generalship of India; and that of the Right Honourable Mr. Redington, Under Secretary for Ireland, to the Governorship of the island of Malta, to succeed Mr. More O'Ferrall."

It is understood that the Earl of Chichester, a nobleman no less distinguished for sound common sense than for his unblemished and honourable character and his entire freedom from party feeling, will be proposed as the successor of Lord Shaftesbury in the chairmanship of the House of Lords.—*Globe*.

The *Globe* says, "It is generally understood in legal circles that the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Mr. Welsby are actively engaged in preparing an Act of Parliament to meet the recent aggression on the part of the Roman Catholic bishops."

The committee of subscribers to the monument to the memory of the late Lord Jeffrey met last week to decide whether the memorial should be a work of sculpture or of architecture. The decision was in favour of sculpture.

We have heard with great satisfaction of a munificent offer made by Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer at the close of some dramatic entertainments which he has been giving at Knebworth—the performers consisting of the company of amateurs who usually play under the managerial direction of Mr. Dickens. Sir Edward proposes to write a play, to be acted by that company at various places in the United Kingdom: the proceeds to form the germ of a fund for a certain number of houses to be further endowed for literary men and artists,—and the play itself, if we understand rightly, to be afterwards disposed of for the added benefit of the fund. Sir Edward will likewise give in fee ground on his estate in Hertford for the erection of such asylum, rest, retreat, or whatever else it may be determined to call the residence in question. The actors—to whom a conspicuous share in this good work will be due—hope, we understand, to take the field in the spring of next year.—*Athenaeum*.

M. Drouyn de L'Huys (the French ambassador) arrived at the French Embassy, in Belgrave-square, on Friday evening, from Paris, after a temporary absence, occasioned by the death of his father.

Mr. Jacob Bell, chemist, of Langham-place, has issued an address to the electors of St. Albans, soliciting the representation of the borough. He declared himself a Free-trader, a decided but moderate Liberal, a supporter of the general principles of Government, and a firm opponent of Papal aggression.

Mr. Bromley, the lately elected M.P. for South Nottinghamshire, has declared his intention of retiring from Parliament, on account of continued ill-health, and a growing desire on the part of his constituency to be more efficiently represented. Lord Newark, and Mr. Barrow, of Southwell, are talked of as likely to become rival candidates, the latter being favoured by the county gentry and tenant-farmers, and the former by the local aristocracy.

The election caused by the elevation of Mr. Baron Martin to the judicial bench is not likely to be contested in Pontefract. The present candidate is the Honourable Beilby R. Lawley, son of Lord Wenlock. A few days ago a party of the electors, wishing for a representative of more liberal principles, solicited Thomas Greenwood

Clayton, Esq., of Bierley, Bradford, to become a candidate. That gentleman has just forwarded a reply, in which he, "for the present," waives his pretensions.

The place of Deputy Ranger of Windsor Park, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Fremantle, has been conferred on Captain F. H. Seymour, one of the Equerries in Waiting to Prince Albert.

William Forster, Josiah Forster, and George Stacy, of the religious Society of Friends, had an interview with Sir George Grey at the Home-office, on Tuesday, to present an address on the subject of the slave trade and slavery.

The *Essex Herald* states that overtures have been made to Mr. Halford for the purchase of Prime Minister, his Derby crack, and that only last week the very large sum of £9000 was offered for him, with Mr. Merryman and Harriot thrown in.

Of the sixteen Turkish and Arab youths who have lately been sent to Europe for their education as medical men, five have been sent to England, five to Germany, five to Italy, and only one to France. The inference is, that France has lost favour with the Viceroy, owing to the connivance by the French consulate at the flight of Artin Bey.

M. Guizot, as director of the French Academy, and conformably to the usages of that body, was received on Saturday by the President of the Republic, to whom he was charged to announce the election of M. Nisard, and to demand the approval of the President of the election. M. Guizot is said to have remained for some time in conversation with Louis Napoleon, and to have been greatly pleased with his reception.

The action for defamation instituted by M. Charles Bonaparte, Prince de Canino, against the Viscount d'Arincourt, for having published a defamatory note against the former in his new work, was tried this week, before the Court of Correctional Police. The interest attached to the proceedings, and the talent of the eminent counsel employed attracted a numerous auditory. After eloquent speeches from MM. Berryer and Chaix-d'Est-Ange, and a speech from the Prince de Canino himself, the tribunal condemned M. d'Arincourt to a fine of 300f., with costs, and the insertion of the judgment in a certain number of journals.

We learn from Paris that there is every probability of the Minister of War withdrawing his demand for the extraordinary credit of 8,400,000f., the aspect of affairs in Germany being of so pacific a character as to render an increase in the French army unnecessary.

—A strong effort is about to be made by the objectors to the French law of the press, to have it so modified that the principal responsibility of libels shall rest upon their authors, and not upon the editors or proprietors of the journals giving them publicity.

Workmen are now occupied by the city of Paris in planting trees along the inner and outer boulevards, in the Champs Elysées, and along all the double line of quays from Bercy to Passy. The quay along the poultry market is now planted for the first time.

The ceremony of presenting the Cardinal's hat to Monseigneur d'Astros, Archbishop of Toulouse, took place in the chapel of the Archbishop's palace in that city, on Thursday week. Monseigneur Appolini, the Pope's Alegate, and Monseigneur Doney, Archbishop of Bordeaux, presided at the ceremony, at which the Prefect and the principal authorities of the place were present.

The *Risorgimento* of Turin, of the 29th, publishes a letter from Cagliari (in the island of Sardinia), of the 25th ultimo, which states that the insurrection at Sedillo has been completely put down. The populace having returned to order, a portion of the troops which were sent to Sedillo had returned to their cantonments.

The Austrian troops who assist Pio Nono to keep down his people are paid out of the taxes levied by the spiritual head of the Catholic Church from his grumbling subjects. The French troops whom Louis Napoleon lends his Holiness for the same pious purpose are supported out of taxes raised by the people of France. The Pope naturally prefers the French mode of doing business, and, therefore, he is endeavouring to get the whole of his execrable police work done—on the cheap system—by what Michelet calls "the holy bayonets of France."

The *Araldo*, weekly journal of Naples, announces the fact that the Neapolitan Government has prohibited the sale of the works of the following authors:—Shakspeare, Schiller, Molière, Lamartine, Lucretius, Lucian, Sophocles, Sismondi, Thiers, and Humboldt. Amongst the works of the latter especial prohibitive mention is made of the *Cosmos*.

Bravo Murillo, the Spanish Minister of Finance, tendered his resignation to the Queen on the 27th ultimo. The reason assigned for this step is the extravagant expenditure of Narvaez and his colleagues, which has produced an enormous deficit, ten times as great, in fact, as the deficit represented to the public, which is thirty millions of reals. Queen Christina protects Bravo Murillo, who will go into opposition at the head of a party of seventy deputies.

Complaints have arrived from the frontiers of Bohemia that the Croats stationed in the neighbourhood come over the boundaries and infest the Prussian villages by begging. The Austrian armament is vigorously continued; 20,000 men are to be collected at Cracow, while Lemberg will be garrisoned with 27,000 Russians.

Accounts from the Hague state that MM. Nedermeyer Van Rosenthal, Lucas, and Van Spingler, Ministers of Justice, Marine, and War, having felt offended at some proceedings in the Second Chamber with regard to them, have tendered their resignations.

The first sod of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway was turned on the 31st October, in presence of the officials and a few other gentlemen. The contract for the Sion embankment has been given to Mr. J. Balston; the line may probably be opened by the year 1855. The Calcutta contract has been disposed of to an English house, but the work has not yet commenced.

The currency of Runjeet Singh is being fast called in, and the East India Company's coin is substituted; a bulk of silver, valued at thirty-five lacks of rupees, or £350,000, weighing upwards of seventy tons, is now on its way down to Bombay for the purpose of being re-coined in our Mint; the treasure is guarded by the Fifty-second regiment Bengal Native Infantry.

A court-martial assembled at Barrackpore, on the 18th of October, for the trial of Major J. Bartleman, of the 14th N.I., for scandalous and infamous conduct, in having, under the cloak of an almost paternal authority, with which he had been entrusted by her father, endeavoured to seduce the affections of the wife of Lieutenant Shelton, of the 33rd N.I. Having been forbidden by Lieutenant Shelton all communication with Mrs. Shelton, Major Bartleman entered the house with the express purpose of speaking with the lady in her husband's presence: he there beat the husband, and afterwards returned with his commanding officer to hold further conversation with the wife. Finally, he sought to justify his proceedings by producing before the court of enquiry a note received from Mrs. Shelton, intimating that his attentions were not offensive. The result of the trial is not yet known.

It turns out that the disturbances which recently occurred in India, along the Punjab frontier, were the result of our own mismanagement, in suddenly increasing the irregular troops stationed at the salt mines, whereby the jealousy and fears of the hill men were not unreasonably excited, and a tribe called the Khuttucks joined the Wuzerees, to make common cause in repelling any further advance or encroachment upon their territories. Lieutenant Pollock having been despatched with a reinforcement detached from the Kohat garrison, for the purpose of relieving the guard at the Khel salt-works, he discovered that the cause of disturbance was exclusively attributable to our own irregulars, whose irregularity had occasioned the demonstration on the part of the mountaineers.

The proposed constitution for the Cape of Good Hope sent out by Earl Grey, does not seem to grow in favour with the colonists. The presidency of the First Chamber, proposed by Earl Grey to be in her Majesty, is rejected even by the Government Commission, and by the municipal authorities totally repudiated. The Government proposals, almost in every article, are far short of the requirements and intelligence of the colony. The inhabitants, as on the convict question, have deliberately made up their minds; rejection of their suggestions is sure to evoke an irresistible opposition. A constitution for the Cape will never be graciously received unless it thoroughly embodies the English representative principle.

Disturbances have again broken out on the Kaffir frontier of the Cape of Good Hope, the native tribes being the aggressors. It does not seem that the malcontents were very formidable in numbers, but still appearances were sufficiently menacing to induce his Excellency the Governor General (Sir H. Smith) to repair without delay to the scene of strife, in order to ascertain the cause and extent of the outbreak, and to adopt such measures as he might deem necessary for its speedy suppression.

There is some distress in the manufacturing districts of New England. More than 300,000 spindles have been recently stopped in the cotton manufactories at Lowell and elsewhere in Massachusetts, and they do say 700,000 spindles in all the Northern States. About half the Maryland cotton factories have suspended, but in Pennsylvania very few have stopped, if any. The manufacturers attribute all this to the tariff of 1846; but the very high price of the raw material, and the introduction of cotton mills in the South, are probably the principal causes of the depression.

According to the report of the chief of the police in New York, there were more than 10,000 persons arrested for misdemeanours and felonies in that city during the past three months, where there are also 4267 licensed drinking-houses, and 718 unlicensed ditto.

The custom imported into America by German immigrants of locking up considerable sums of gold and silver in boxes in their own houses, instead of depositing such sums in a bank for safety, has frequently led to horrid crimes lately. Two weeks ago a Swede named Carnal murdered M. Rousseau from Belgium, and nearly murdered two sons of M. Rousseau in Dey-street, New York, because he knew that the old gentleman, who was a boarding-housekeeper, had 300 dollars locked up in a box, where he constantly kept his money. Some hopes are entertained of the recovery of the two sons. The monster had to fly before he could obtain the money, and, in escaping, he jumped over a wall into a stone area, broke his arm, and was otherwise terribly bruised. He has been fully committed for trial.

A deputation of members of Parliament, and representatives of the metropolitan parochial boards and members of provincial poor-law unions, waited upon Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey, at the Home Office, Downing-street, on Wednesday, for the purpose of drawing the attention of Government to the necessity of introducing some measure, during the ensuing session of Parliament, whereby the representative principle might regulate the boards comptrolling and administering the county rates. Mr. Roberts, of Rochdale, having read the prayers of several of the memorials adopted by the boards of guardians, Mr. Hume said it was now incumbent on the Government to make the question a Cabinet one, and bring it to a successful issue. In the country districts a very strong feeling prevailed, especially among members of boards of guardians, and farmers in particular, who, from being peculiarly circumstanced could not at all times "speak out;" but who were most desirous that some legislative enactment should be passed whereby some control might be had over the expenditure of the county rates charged upon and taken out of the poor's rate. Several other members of Parliament urged the same view of the subject. Lord John Russell said that although he concurred in

the opinion so very generally expressed, that ratepayers of counties should be placed on the same footing as the ratepayers of boroughs by the Municipal Act, which was on the principle of taxation and representation, yet it did not appear to him that any particular "movement" had been made excepting in Lancashire. Lord Dudley Stuart assured his lordship that after such an expression a "movement" would be made in the metropolitan parishes, and that the House of Commons during the next session of Parliament, would be inundated with petitions.

An influential and interesting meeting of the general council of the National Public School Association was held on Wednesday evening, at Manchester; Mr. Schwabe presided; and among the gentlemen present were Mr. Richard Cobden, M.P., and others. A very lengthy conversation on the principal business which the council had assembled for resulted in the adoption of the following resolution (moved by Mr. M'Kerrow, seconded by Mr. Cobden) as the basis of the National Public School Association:—

"The National Public School Association is formed to promote the establishment by law in England and Wales of a system of free schools, which, supported by local rates and managed by local committees, specially elected for that purpose by the ratepayers, shall impart secular instruction only, leaving to parents, guardians, and religious teachers the inculcation of doctrinal religion, to afford opportunities for which the schools shall be closed at stated times in each week."

The council sanctioned a code of rules for the government of the association, and the executive committee was requested to continue in office till the first meeting of the general council in next year.

A most gratifying demonstration, in honour of Mr. Joseph Hume took place at Southampton on Monday evening. Advantage was taken of Mr. Hume's temporary visit to the town (to witness the departure of his son by the West India steamer) to invite him to a public dinner, which Mr. Hume accepted, and the banquet took place at the Victoria-rooms. Although the arrangements had been only a few days in progress, four hundred persons were present, including men of all classes—from the borough magistrate down to the humblest working man. Mr. Hume, in the course of a long speech, said:—

"No country in the world had more reason to be proud of her institutions than England, if they were only properly carried out. No man was more anxious than he was to see the abuses which had crept into them removed—none more anxious to preserve the good and destroy the bad. ('Hear' and cheers.) And therefore he had, in the two last sessions of Parliament, introduced a measure to give the people a registered suffrage, the ballot, the abolition of the property qualification for members of Parliament, equal electoral districts, and triennial Parliaments. [On each of which several points Mr. Hume dilated at some length.] He had great confidence in the future; and, although he did not expect to live to see them all carried out, he believed the day was not far distant which would witness the advent of many great and wise changes. He highly complimented Lord John Russell for the services he had rendered in past days to the cause of civil and religious liberty; and, although he lamented the noble Lord's more recent conduct on questions of reform, he looked upon him as a victim to the present state of things, and believed that, with a better House of Commons, they would find Lord John Russell a better man."

A jury was summoned for yesterday afternoon week to meet at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, for the purpose of adjudicating on a claim for compensation made by "Mr. Payne v. the Commissioners of Woods and Forests," in respect to some lands at Battersea-fields about to be appropriated for the purpose of a park in that locality. Mr. Laws attended on behalf of the Woods and Forests, and Mr. Bodill on the part of the claimant. Mr. Bodill, before the jury was sworn, claimed a sum of £94,800 as a fair compensation for the value of the land about to be appropriated from his client. He subsequently consented to reduce it to £60,000, and finally consented to take £35,000, subject, however, to the adjudication of Mr. Tite, the architect.

The greatest activity was observable on the part of the Parliamentary agents on Saturday; and the official gentlemen of the Private Bill-office were engaged from an early hour in the morning up to eight o'clock in the evening in receiving and engrossing the portentous documents. Saturday being the final day allowed to parties for the deposit of plans for proposed railway, water, gas, and other schemes requiring the sanction of Parliament. Out of about 300 notices in the *Gazette* for applications to Parliament, plans were deposited for 104 only; the greater number, however, of those gazetted are of that class which require no plans, such as bills to raise additional capital for existing schemes, to alter and amend powers and provisions.

The first of a series of great temperance meetings was held on Monday evening in Exeter Hall. Samuel Bowley, Esq., of Gloucester, in the chair. A. Prentice, Esq., of Manchester, and G. Cruikshank, Esq., were the principal speakers.

Parliamentary reform meetings were held on Monday evening at Islington and Kingsland. At the former, Mr. E. Clarke, of Walthamstow, presided.

An enormous blue book was issued on Saturday, containing the evidence taken before the select committee appointed last session to enquire into the expenditure on account of the army and ordnance. The committee accompany the evidence by a report that they had not had time to give the subject full consideration. They therefore recommend the appointment of the committee at an early period of the next session.

Isaac Buchanan, a prominent Canadian politician, is pushing forward a scheme for getting up a line of steamers to run between Montreal and Glasgow. Stock is being subscribed for this purpose in various parts of Canada. The proposed enterprise does not appear yet to have awakened a great deal of enthusiasm. It is, however, precisely one of those enterprises for which British capital would be readily obtainable whenever it shall be demonstrated that it would pay.

A further strike of the glaziers took place at the building in Hyde Park, on Saturday evening. The men

assembled at the Ennismore Arms, New Kensington, and passed resolutions expressive of their inability to comply with the demands of the contractors, namely, for each man to put in 58 panes, or 200 feet of glass, daily. They contended that a fair day's work was from 35 to 40 squares. It was, therefore, resolved to make an appeal to the public.

Mr. Holloway, the proprietor of the celebrated ointment and pills, has obtained an injunction to prevent a party bearing the same name from vending a spurious article, but which he sought to pass as genuine, under cover of the name. The case came on for hearing before the Master of the Rolls in London, on the 9th ultimo, and, after argument of counsel, the Master (Lord Langdale) pronounced judgment in favour of Mr. Thomas Holloway.

In the Court of Common Pleas a case involving a question of legitimacy was brought to a conclusion, on Wednesday, after a trial which lasted three days. The question was whether John Robert Hargrave was the son of John and Mary Hargrave, who were married in 1816, but who lived separate for a number of years. The father of John Hargrave left property worth £5000 in trust for his son John for life, with remainder to the children of John, as tenants in common. John Hargrave died in 1840, leaving two sons—John Gosling and John Robert. The right of the latter to any share of the estate was denied, on the ground that he was not the son of John Hargrave, and, in consequence, the estate has been in Chancery ever since, so that very little of it remains. The evidence was of a very contradictory nature, but the Chief Justice, in summing up, said that the law always presumed legitimacy, and that the onus of proving the contrary was upon the defendant. The jury gave a verdict for the defendant.

An amusing novelty in advertising has been adopted by the exhibitors of the "Panorama of the Nile," now on view in Piccadilly. A balloon is sent up from the Egyptian Hall, from which small handbills are scattered through the air, bearing the following semi-scientific announcement:—

"This ticket is sent through the air to the finder by a balloon from 'the Nile.' The balloon was started from the 'Panorama of the Nile,' Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly. (Lat. 5 deg. 31 m. N. Long. 0 deg. 5 m. W.) And the finder of this ticket is courteously invited to bring it to the above address, when, if the place where it was found be written on the back, admission to the exhibition will be accorded at half the usual price."

A boiler explosion took place at Halifax, yesterday week, in the mill of Messrs. Firth and Son, while the hands were all at work. Nine persons were killed, and several others severely injured.

A destructive fire took place near Manchester, on Tuesday morning, at the Irwell Bleach Works, Douglas-green, Pendleton. The whole of the works have been burned to the ground. The loss, amounting to about £6000, is covered by insurance.

A railway collision took place at Birmingham on Tuesday afternoon. The South Staffordshire train from Walsall, due at thirty minutes past four in Birmingham, approached Vauxhall at its appointed time, but owing to a coke train "shunting" over the main line a collision took place. The fireman jumped from the engine, but came in contact with the next carriage and was killed instantly. Several persons were slightly injured. The Right Honourable Richard Lalor Shiel and his lady were passengers in the train, but escaped uninjured.

A lunatic, who was found wandering in an uninhabited island of the Indian Archipelago, has been brought home to this country by her Majesty's ship Albatross. His name is Walter Jenkins, and he is said to have been formerly a shepherd.

An inquest was held at Billericay, on Saturday, on the body of Robert Bamborough, a policeman, who had died from the effects of injuries received by him from a prisoner of the name of William Wood, a notorious poacher. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against William Wood, who is in custody in Chelmsford Jail on a charge of poaching.

The prisoners Dyson, Mahony, and Mitchell, charged with breaking into Mr. Holford's house in Regent's-park, were tried at the Central Criminal Court, on Saturday, and sentenced to transportation for life.

Mary Ann Doe, the girl who brought the charge against the Reverend R. A. Johnstone of having committed a criminal assault upon her, and who, on her second examination, contradicted every word of her first statement, was brought before the magistrates at Brentwood, on Monday, on a charge of perjury. The case was dismissed for want of sufficient evidence, but the chairman stated that the bench had "come to this decision with the less reluctance in consequence of their confident belief that subornation of perjury had been committed, and they are determined that the matter shall be fully investigated."

A woman, named Mrs. Hamilton, was murdered near Dumfries on the night of Wednesday week, by a man with whom she and her husband had been drinking. Hamilton had gone home, much intoxicated, leaving his wife to follow him, in company with a man named Laurie. Next morning she was found in the road in a state of insensibility, from which she never recovered. She died in a few hours. A medical examination of the body disclosed the fact of the perpetration of another capital offence, which must have been preceded by a fearful struggle and great resistance on the part of the unfortunate woman, and accompanied by the most brutal violence at the hands of her assailant.

Three convicts made their escape from Woolwich on Tuesday morning. They managed to let themselves down over the side of the Warrior convict-ship, at Woolwich dockyard, and, proceeding along the mud on the bank of the river without being perceived by the sentry or any of the guards on board the Warrior, succeeded in seizing a boat, at some distance from the ship, belonging to a waterman named Spurling, and, crossing the river in it, effected their escape through the North Woolwich marshes before their absence was discovered.

A shocking attempt to commit murder was lately made by a gentleman named Thomas Waters, while staying with his lady at the residence of her father at Wrington, Somerset. For some time Mr. Waters had been in a highly nervous and excited state; indeed at intervals his malady was so severe as to border closely on positive insanity. On Saturday week, having armed himself with a knife, and sharpened it deliberately on a stone, he went upstairs to a room in which Mrs. Waters was sitting. He then fastened the door, and having assured himself that it could not be opened from the outside, he made a desperate attempt to cut her throat. The unfortunate lady resisted as far as she could, and having the presence of mind to thrust her chin down into her bosom, she happily saved her life, but did not escape until she was frightfully mutilated, her bosom being deeply wounded, her hands shockingly cut, and the top of one of her fingers cut off. The unhappy lady's screams alarmed the family, and her father and brother burst open the door and secured her assailant, who was found to be quite mad, and was immediately removed to an asylum; but although every possible kindness and attention was shown him, he obstinately refused to take any kind of nourishment, and in a few days died from the effects of exhaustion, resulting from the intensely excited state in which he had been.

An over-driven ox, on its way from Smithfield, last Monday, suddenly entered the passage of a house in a court opposite the east end of St. Sepulchre's Church. Attracted, no doubt, by the savoury smell from the culinary region, it first made its way towards the kitchen stairs; they suddenly gave way, and the animal rolled into an outer kitchen, in the room adjoining to which Mrs. Harbottle, the occupant, was sitting at the time, while two children were in a closet against the door of which the ox was lying. The screams of the children soon brought several persons to their assistance, by whom they and Mrs. Harbottle were speedily rescued. Every effort was then made to remove the ox. A bricklayer who was consulted said the only means by which the ox could be extricated was by taking up the ironwork of the area, taking up the stonework in the court, and excavating for several feet across the court. A number of men were accordingly set to work, and ultimately, by means of planks and pulleys, they succeeded in getting the animal up.

The first meeting of the newly-elected town council of Dublin took place on Monday, when Mr. Benjamin Lee Guinness, the great brewer, was elected Mayor, on the motion of Alderman Roe, the eminent distiller, seconded by Mr. Darcy, an extensive brewer.

"The Hail" was formally rebaptized on Monday, under the new title of the "Loyal Catholic and Repeal Association," Mr. John O'Connell and Father Gilligan standing as sponsors at the interesting ceremony. In the course of the proceeding the former announced that the word "Catholic" was to remain as a prefix until the intended persecution of Lord John Russell and the bigots of England was effectually repelled. In a financial point of view, the additional cognomen of "Catholic" appears to have been, so far, a failure, the rent this week having declined from £14 odd shillings, the previous week's receipts, to £9 19s. 1d.

The estates coming into market in Ireland continue to present in general as large an amount of incumbrances as their predecessors. In the case of William Boswell, the yearly rental in Westmeath is £381, the incumbrances are £9450, besides interest and arrears of annuity as far as known, £6299, being nearly a total of £16,000 charged upon £381 per annum. Another encumbered property, that of Daniel Cronin Coltsman, in Kerry and Cork, is estimated at an annual profit rent of £2919, the incumbrances are set down, according to the petition, at £53,934, but the "interest or arrears of annuity not known." In the case of William Henry Magan, where Louisa, Baroness Von Reitzenstein, widow, is petitioner, the net annual value of the properties in Westmeath and Dublin is set down at £5898, the incumbrances are estimated at £105,791, but "interest not known."

A man named Bourke, in the employment of the Reverend Mr. Butson, of Clonfert, while on his death-bed, last week, made a full confession of all the circumstances relating to the murder of Mr. Butson's steward, which took place in September, 1845. From the statement made by Bourke it appears that the gun used belonged to Mr. Butson, and, after fulfilling its deadly purpose, was again replaced in the reverend gentleman's room. Suspicion had strongly attached to Christopher and John Coates (brothers to the former steward), and a man named Joseph Bergin, all in the employment, at the time, of the reverend gentleman. Those parties were arrested, but from insufficient evidence were liberated, and since then no clue could be discovered to the perpetrators of this dreadful murder. The confession made by this man will now bring the guilty parties to justice; there were several engaged in the conspiracy to deprive this man of life, nearly all of whom left Ireland for America after the tragedy was completed.

A highway robbery and attempt at assassination was committed near Litterkenny on Saturday morning on the person of James Johnston, Esq., of Woodlands, agent to Colonel Pratt, of Cabra Castle, who has an estate near that town. It appears that the robbers were aware that Mr. Johnston had received a considerable sum of rents the day before, and lay in wait for him as he rode home, with the intention, it is clear, of taking not only his money, but his life. Fortunately, however, the bullet missed the rider, but shot the horse, and the villains then plundered Mr. Johnston of all his money, and beat him in a shocking manner.

On Friday night week an outhouse in the town of Abbeybix, in which a poor woman and her child were allowed, for charity, to sleep for the night, caught fire by some accident, and both mother and child unhappily perished in the flames.

European Democracy, AND ITS OFFICIAL ACTS.

This page is accorded to an authentic Exposition of the Opinions and Acts of the Democracy of Europe: as such we do not impose any restraint on the utterance of opinion, and, therefore, limit our own responsibility to the authenticity of the statement.

We found ourselves unprepared, owing to unforeseen circumstances, with our usual amount of matter under this head last week; and by an error of the press our announcement to that effect did not appear. The address of the Italian National Committee to the French Assembly, which we subjoin, reached us too late for insertion; we, however, communicated it at once to the *Morning Herald* and other papers, and from that journal we now reprint it, together with its own leading article upon the address.

Our main object, it will be recollected, in these weekly pages is not to accomplish a propaganda of any peculiar political view, so much as to assist political thinkers in this country, whether sympathizing or not with Democratic tendencies in Europe, to appreciate them, and the parties who are their authorized exponents, fairly and accurately. There are two questions, however, affecting the Republican National Party in Italy on which it is really impossible that Englishmen, of whatever political creed, can arrive at opposite conclusions. Adopting the very words of the *Morning Herald* of Monday last, December 2—*The first is as to the necessity of doing away with the effete, the corrupt, and the abominable government of the Popes of Rome; and the second is as to the mischievousness, the impolicy, and the injustice of the French invasion and occupation of the Eternal City.*

In spite of the extreme difference of its own political views, we know of no journal in this country which has been more truly and eloquently just to the rights of the Roman Republic than the *Morning Herald*; and we feel that we cannot better occupy our space than by reproducing its leading article entire, as a sample of generous and true appreciation despite an extreme disparity of political convictions.

It is peculiarly appropriate also to the time; and suggests a ground of opposition to Papacy, more practical, and at the same time more elevated and just, than any that has yet been taken in recent discussions.

ADDRESS OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF FRANCE.

Gentlemen,—On the 2nd of July, 1849, after a resistance of two months, your troops took possession of Rome. The Government of the Republic was overthrown.

Your forces entered, you then said after victory—for you held different language before—to protect the Pope against the yoke of Austrian intervention. And now Austria is encamped in the Legations, and oppresses and murders at her pleasure. She occupies Bologna—she fortifies herself in Ancona.

Your forces entered to restore peace to the Roman States. Your peace is a military partition of territory, maintained by 25,000 or 30,000 foreign bayonets.

They entered to reestablish public order, disturbed by what you call a faction, to assure to the Roman population good government and true liberty. Such were your promises, attested in your latest despatches, repeated at the tribune, recorded in a dictatorial, almost menacing, letter of the President of France. And the very shadow of liberty has disappeared. Rome is in the hands of a despotic clerical government. Pius IX. has renewed the tradition of Gregory XVI.

We said to you then,—Gentlemen, you are deceived. The faction is Rome and the whole population. A faction is a minority seeking to seize upon power by intrigue or terror. To possess themselves of power, the Republicans of Rome awaited the almost unanimous manifestation of the People, legally convoked and represented. The Republic, proclaimed by a Constituent Assembly, was sanctioned by the spontaneous and pacific expression of adhesion of all the communes of the Roman States. Behold their addresses—verify them. You cannot avoid seeing that a system of terror at Rome would have been, not merely criminal, but impossible. The reign of terror commences only with you; but it will not chage the People, and it will obtain nothing from the Pope.

Well, gentlemen, the faction has now been conquered, proscribed, imprisoned full seventeen months. The army is dissolved—the National Guard is dissolved—the reorganization of the state from above is complete. What have you obtained from the people? What have you obtained from the Pope?

The People is sad—sombre—irritated; it hates and despises you; and to restrain it, you are obliged to send reinforcements to your corps of occupation.

The Pope has yielded nothing. You would demand from him, you said, the principles of the statute—the laws of your civil code, a complete judicial reform, a municipal and provincial organization founded on election, a deliberate assembly for finances, an almost universal amnesty, and the secularization of the Administration. He has given nothing. You declared that there should be no inquisitorial researches into the past; he has replied to you by dismissals and arrests *en masse*. You boasted* that you would not permit any acts of violence to be committed under your eyes; and some few weeks ago under your own eyes, six persons were executed for past political offences.

Behold, gentlemen, the results of your expedition to Rome, for which you have sacrificed, in the murder of

a friendly people, the gold, the blood, and the honour of France.

Gentlemen, seventeen months ago it might have been that you were yourselves deceived; Europe now knows that it is France that has been betrayed—France whose initiative for good is threatened with destruction at Rome—France, whose soldiers take part in arms at the Saturnalia of a power which is expiring, and in the condemnation to twenty years' imprisonment of young men guilty of illuminating their windows with tri-coloured Bengal lights.

Gentlemen, they are your colours which are there condemned; it is your republican flag which is being nailed to the galleries. A thought hostile to your liberty broods over all this shameful episode; it directed your arms against Rome, because that was the price of an electoral bargain; it deals abroad a first blow to the institutions which you conquered in February; it desired to train the soldiers of France to fire, wherever it might be, on the republican flag; it sought a second Algeria; through Rome it prepares a Satory; by the crusade against the Italian Republic it prepares that expedition of Rome against the interior, which one of your orators announced to you with such audacity, and which your majority, gentlemen, enfeebled, enervated by the crime which you have allowed to be committed, was able to hear proclaimed with indifference.

Members of a National Committee, of which the nucleus was elected by sixty members of that Assembly which you dispersed by your bayonets, and which has been completed by the choice of a great number of Italian patriots, all bound together by the same idea; interpreters of the vows of the Roman populations again subjected by you to the law of silence, we come, gentlemen, to renew before you, and to France, the protest of Rome against your violation of her territory, against the overthrow of her Republic, against the prolonged occupation of your troops.

We protest, in the name of Article 5 of the Preamble of your Constitution—in the name of your official declarations of the 16th, 24th, and 26th of April—in the name of the solemn vote of your Assembly of the 7th of May—in the name of the written declarations of M. de Courcelles, on the 13th of June—in the name of the engagements solemnly entered into at the tribune by your President of the Council, and by your Ministers in the sittings of the 13th, 18th, and 19th of October, 1849.

We protest, in the name of the imperishable right of nations—in the name of eternal justice—in the name of God, who has created his people for liberty, and not for oppression by brute force.

You may, gentlemen, put down our protest—for a time; you cannot refute it. We said to you, seventeen months ago, restore the right of suffrage to the Roman people, and let it proclaim its inmost desires concerning the Government which you have reimposed upon it; and we repeat our demand to-day. Summon the people to vote—it will accomplish our victory by the suffrage. Recall your troops—it will conquer for us by insurrection.

You know this, gentlemen, and therefore you will not do it.

You entered Rome, because you dared not forbid the entry of the Austrians into the Legations. You remain there, because you dare not hear the mighty cry of "Vive la République," which two hours after your departure would be raised to declare your policy criminal and false.

Remain, then, gentlemen. It may be that the lesson is not yet complete—it may be in order that the national Italian thought, of which Rome has been the cradle and must be the temple, shall have a more resistless outburst—that for some short time yet all eyes may behold the spectacle of the Papacy depending for its reign on foreign bayonets alone.

But take care, gentlemen, lest Europe should one day say to France, "The nation which destroys the liberty of others has no right to the enjoyment of it herself"; take care lest history say of you, "After having submitted to the policy of corruption they inaugurated the policy of cowardice. They had neither the frank brutality of crime, nor the blessed courage of repentance."

For the Italian National Committee,

JOSEPH MAZZINI.

JOSEPH SIRTORI.

AURELIO SAFFI.

AURELIO SALICETI.

MATTIA MONTECCHI.

CESARE AGOSTINI, Secretary.

London, Nov. 11, 1850.

(From the *Morning Herald* of Dec. 2nd.)

The ex-Triumvir of Rome—Mazzini—however men may differ from him in opinion—must by all be admitted to be a man of conspicuous ability, energy, and eloquence, and one who for more than twenty years of an agitated life has uniformly played a remarkable and consistent, if not always a wise and prudent part in the affairs of his country.

The son of a physician of considerable repute at Genoa, Mazzini, like most young Italians of respectable family, dedicated himself at an early age to the study of the law, and was in due course admitted an advocate. But with the eager and impetuous zeal of some of his countrymen, the Pandects and the Code were soon abandoned for politics, and the future tribune and triumvir had scarcely more than attained man's estate when he found himself an object of suspicion and surveillance to some of the authorities of his own country. This is neither surprising nor wonderful. Anterior to 1830 all the Governments of Italy but one were obscurantist and retrograde—and, perhaps, there was not among them all, with the exception of the Papedom and the Cabinet of Naples, a Government who had less excuse to offer for its sins of commission and of omission than the Cabinet of Sardinia.

The French revolution of 1830 found many of the young men of Genoa and Turin ripe for change; and,

considering the excitement and effervescence which were communicated from Paris and the French frontier to the kingdom of Savoy, it is not wonderful that Giuseppe Mazzini, whose extreme opinions were previously known, should have been compromised in revolutionary movements, and obliged, in consequence, to fly from his native city. He was, if we mistake not, condemned to death *par contumace* in 1830, and since then for twenty long years (with the exception of his short democratical reign of a twelvemonth in Rome) his life has been the life of a wanderer and an exile.

Of most of the secret societies which have been formed for the independence and political unity of Italy Mazzini has been a leading member. Of two or three of them he has been the founder, the apostle, the confessor—all, indeed, but the martyr or the victim. Of the ancient *Carbonari* he was in his youth a zealous member, and of the societies of Young Italy and of Young Europe he may be pronounced to have been the ablest and the foremost man. The expedition to Savoy was, we believe, one of the fruits of his persevering efforts; and the expedition to Calabria in 1844,* in which the two unfortunate brothers Bandiera (sons of an admiral in the service of Austria) suffered, was originated and matured by a mind fertile in expedients against existing governments and authorities. Such were some of the doings of a man who has recently acquired a European notoriety as a tribune of Rome; and who, whatever his faults of omission or commission, cannot be accused of any want of talent or of zeal,—of any personal or corrupt ends. Mazzini, in looking for an independent and united Italy, is seeking for a chimera which we apprehend will not be found in our day, but in pursuing this mischievous, but, according to him, brilliant and laudable, phantom, it is impossible to deny that he has exhibited energy, enthusiasm, singleness of purpose, and a literary ability equally rare and remarkable. He may, if you will, be a desperate and a dangerous enthusiast, and if we were ourselves officially connected with the Austro-Italian, the Neapolitan, or the Sardinian Governments we should so think him. But, admitting this to be so, his appeals to his countrymen are not the less remarkable, the less spirit-stirring, and, by consequence, the less dangerous.

On two questions, however, without committing ourselves to any of the wild theories or extravagant opinions of Mazzini, we have thought him right from the commencement. The first is as to the necessity of doing away with the effete, the corrupt, and the abominable Government of the Popes of Rome; and the second is as to the mischievousness, the impolicy, and the injustice of the French invasion and occupation of the Eternal City.

In his treatise, *Le Pape au Dix-neuvième Siècle*, Mazzini has shown, with an energy, eloquence, learning, and logical power, rarely equalled, and never surpassed, that the sway of the Popes has been licentious and leaden—immoral—unclean—and brutalizing—blighting the mind—blasting the prosperity, and ruining the religion, the morals, and manners of his countrymen. He has shown—irrefragably shown—that so long as this vile and venal sway lasts no improvement can come to Italy; while the existence of the Papedom as a temporal Government is equally a danger and a reproach to civilized Europe. It is not our purpose to-day to follow the Triumvir through his historic illustrations of his theory, but we cannot—in commenting on the address of the Italian National Committee to the National Assembly of France, and published in the *Morning Herald* of Saturday—forebear from pointing out what remarkable confirmation the theory of Mazzini receives from recent facts, and how the result of the French expedition proves, not only its inconsiderateness and impolicy, but its utter powerlessness in dealing with a Government which arrogates to itself a character of infallibility. Such a Government is, in human affairs, not to be mended or moulded—is not to be corrected—or patched up for a few years. Such a Government must be swept altogether away, unless, indeed, the intention of the parties sustaining it is to place an extinguisher on human reason—and to oppose a barrier to human improvement.

The address of Mazzini to the National Assembly of France is unanswerable, because it is every word true. The logic of rhetoric is easily assailable, but the logic of facts there is no withstanding. The exiled and fallen Triumvir tells the Government of France that they entered Rome to protect the Pope against the Austrians, yet the Austrians are now encamped in the Legations—now occupy Bologna—now fortify themselves in Ancona. He tells them that they entered Rome professedly to establish order, which was not compromised—to restore peace, which was not disturbed—and to establish true liberty, which was never endangered. He tells them that the result of their interference, and of seventeen months' military occupation, has been to replace Pius IX. certainly; but to restore at one and the same time the despotism and the abominations of a Popish sacerdotal Government, and to destroy every vestige of liberty and every scintilla of free opinion. The reign of terror and of blood is again restored. The Government is the Pope, the cardinals, the priests and their minions, the sacristans, while the so-called faction of disaffected is the whole Roman people—the nation at large. Arrests, denunciations, and executions have commenced and continue. The press is silenced and destroyed. Municipal government has ceased to exist. There is no Representative Assembly. No Communal Councils exist. Espionage and the Inquisition are as active as in the middle ages; and banishments and imprisonments, without rhyme or reason, continue to be the order of the day. Among the thousands incriminated, not ten have been brought to trial; and what is called by a cruel mockery justice has been administered, should we not say *inflicted*, with closed doors. The cardinal ministers are incapable; the clerical subordinates debauched and corrupt. The national debt has

* Our contemporary is here somewhat in error: we may take a future opportunity of explaining the history of this expedition.

* Sitting of the Assembly of Oct. 18. Speech of the President of the Council.

increased, while the revenue, notwithstanding inordinate taxation, diminishes. Hundreds of respectable families are compelled to beg, and many among them have committed suicide, from desperation and despair. Yet this is the incapable—the infamous—the diabolical—the God-abandoned Government which has been restored by French Republican bayonets, and which dares to fulminate its bulls, and to erect its synods, in an independent country, and among a Protestant people.

Can such wickedness, combined with such weakness, last much longer?

Notwithstanding the Presidential letter to M. Edgar Ney, promising to Rome a general amnesty, a secularization of the Government, the Napoleon Code, and a liberal administration, the Romans have obtained nothing. They are governed now as in the days of Gregory XVI., of obscurantist and mediæval memory.

No wonder, therefore, that the Romans, as Mazzini says, hate and despise the name of the French Cabinet. No wonder they are prepared to rise as one man against Pope and priests the instant the French army of occupation is withdrawn.

Associative Progress.

REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—FORMATION OF BRANCHES.—We call them “branches,” but, in truth, branches cannot be. They are illegal, so when we say branches we must be understood as speaking of districts, collections, &c. Before a collecting district can be formed and carried on, there must be some one determined to labour incessantly, almost irrespective of success. Wherever a man of this practical character is found, a prosperous district will be the result; and without some of this workableness a branch or district cannot be formed with any chance of success. In London there is nominally a branch, yet, as there is not one who will work, it is nearly a blank as respects our society: and there are hundreds willing to contribute, but not one is found to collect. Yet we dare say that our London friends are no more engaged on a Sunday morning and afternoon than we of Leeds are. The same may be said of all the great towns. These remarks have been solicited by a friend in London. In order to form a district it is first necessary that there should be five or six willing to meet weekly, to act as president, secretary, treasurer, and two auditors. It must still be borne in mind that all these officers are but nominal; in fact, they are but so many friends meeting weekly to manage, collect, and remit the moneys of their fellow-members to Leeds. When such a number in any place agrees to start a district they must communicate with Mr. Hobson, our secretary, and they will be supplied with collecting-books, rules, and tracts. These tracts can be sent from the depot in London, enclosed in any bookseller's parcel that the applicants may name, by giving the address of such bookseller's London agent. As many as can be found must distribute these tracts by house-row, requesting each householder to read them carefully over till he calls again next Sunday. With your collecting-book in hand fulfil your promise the following Sunday, and solicit their adhesion. Having collected all excepting such as wish to read them again, and having left No. 2 tract with those who wish to know more of the society, relay your tracts in a fresh batch of houses. Continue this, and you will find that at the end of six months you will have made considerable progress. When the district is small, as it must be at first, you must meet for the transaction of your weekly business in some friend's or temperance house, where you can do so gratis. For this purpose select the most respectable house you can get. Here you must meet every week to audit the collector's books and do the business of the district. A quire of folio post, stitched, and covered with crown paper, ruled by hand to your liking, will be quite sufficient for your members' book. A minute book composed of a quire of quarto post will fulfil all requisites in that matter; and a common shilling memorandum book will do for your debtor and creditor account with the society. In the collecting books you will have the weekly payments of members; in the members' book you need only enter the payments quarterly. Whatever parties wish to become candidates you will have to give their names, address, age, married or single, number of children, trade, profession, &c. These facts you must enter in your members' book, and you must send them to Leeds to be passed, sending 6d. each name to be entered. The rules and acts of Parliament are due to each for the 6d. entrance fee. All parties thus entered are candidates. In order to become full members they must pay the minimum of one penny per week for six months. The district secretary must, at the end of that time, send the names of such as have been candidates for six months, and who desire to become full members, accompanied with 6d. for their cards of membership, which will be transmitted by post. The parties then become full members, and as long as they continue to pay the minimum of one penny per week they have full jurisdiction over the funds of the society, and may prosecute all who violate the rules of the society. The district committee must send all moneys collected of the members and donors in full to Leeds. It may be sent in sums from 1s. to 10s. in postage stamps, above that sum in post-office orders, made payable to Mr. William West, treasurer, Upper-lead-row, Leeds, or in half £5 notes to the same address. Any special information may be had on application to Mr. D. Green, bookseller, Briggate, Leeds. To spread a knowledge of the society, public meetings or lectures may be got up as the parties are able. Moneys received for the week ending December 2nd, 1850:—Leeds, £2 2s. 9d.; Sunderland, per Mr. Chapman, £2 0s. 9d.; Hyde, per J. Bradly, 9s.; Drigglington, per Mr. Clayton, 5s.; Manchester, per Mr. G. Measham, £1 1s.; West-Bromwich, Mr. Davis, 6d.

Communal Building Fund:—Leeds, £1 3s. 6d.; Sunderland, per Mr. Chapman, 8s. 6d.; Drigglington, per Mr. Clayton, 10s. The cash from Sunderland on the 15th of July was duly received; but owing to the change from the *Tribune* to the *Leader* the acknowledgment sent did not appear. The items were Mr. Humby, £1; Mr. Potts, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Chapman, 2s. 6d. Communal Building, 15s. subscription.—D. G.

HALIFAX BRANCH.—On Wednesday last the first annual festival of the Halifax branch of the Redemption Society was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, when about 400 of the members and friends of the society partook of a social cup of tea. The Rev. E. R. Larken, Rector of Burton-by-Lincoln, was called to the chair. He said it gave him great satisfaction to witness such a respectable assembly present to do homage to that principle with which some of them were familiar. His connection with the society had been long—it had been from the commencement, and he had had the greatest pleasure in seeing the zealous efforts of persons connected with it, more especially those of his friend, Mr. Green, from whom they would hear many interesting particulars. The object of the Redemption Society was to redeem the working classes from the evils that surrounded them. It could not be denied that much misery existed among the working classes, and that much uncertainty pervaded their condition. They might to-day be prosperous but thrown out of employment to-morrow. The end and aim of the Redemption Society was to make the condition of the working classes prosperous. It provided a remedy for all the evils to which they were exposed. As a minister of the Gospel he should be the last person to deny that if Christianity had its full sway, the evils of which they complained would not exist. But, at the same time, they must distinguish true Christianity from that which was recognized under that name. They knew if Christianity had its full spiritual working in the elevation of man, it was necessary that the institutions of the country should be in accordance with the principles of that Christianity. If this was not the case, man identified abuses connected with that system of religion which might have been the greatest blessing to him, and the means of bringing him up for a higher state of things hereafter. The reverend gentleman was succeeded by Mr. David Green, of Leeds, who said that it was formed in the year 1845, and was enrolled by Act of Parliament, to give it legal protection. It had begun without a penny, but was now worth several thousands of pounds. It had an estate in Wales of 160 acres of land, in the centre of which they were about to erect a large building, composed of small cottages, which would be fitted up in the very best style. There would very likely be no fire-places in the houses, but they would be warmed from the centre of the building. A drawing-room would also be provided, in which the people would spend their time after they had finished their labour. There would also be a library in connection with the building, and instruction of every kind would be given, so that the people might be as intelligent as any other class of persons. They would not meddle with religion, because they had not a right to do so, for they thought that each man ought to judge for himself. Mr. Isaac Bates moved, and Mr. Nicholson seconded, the following resolution:—“That as labour is the source of all wealth, it is necessary, in order that the labourer may enjoy a greater portion of the fruits of his labour than he does at the present time, to commence business on his own account; and an opportunity now presents itself in the objects sought by the Redemption Society.” A vote of thanks was then given to Mr. Green and the chairman, and the meeting broke up soon after.

HUDDERSFIELD.—UNION OF DEMOCRATIC AND SOCIAL REFORMERS.—At a meeting of the friends of democratic and social reform, held at the Albion Hotel, Nov. 28th, 1850, Mr. George Brook in the chair, the following gentlemen then present agreed to form themselves into a committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of endeavouring to promote the union of all political and social parties in Huddersfield:—Messrs. John Brook, William Hirst, Samuel Mitchell, John Hirst, Joseph Oldfield, George Scholefield, John Ashton, David France, J. W. Gardner, Uriah Studdard, Samuel Biddle, Joseph Smith, Charles Gledhill, Thomas Jaques, Lawrence Pitt Keithley. It was further resolved that the following gentlemen, with the chairman, be a sub-committee to carry out the purposes of the foregoing resolution, and to summon the general committee, when the same may seem expedient, and that five members shall constitute a quorum:—L. P. Keithley, J. Hirst, G. Scholefield, J. Smith, J. Brook, Charles Gledhill, J. W. Gardner, John Ashton. Resolved, that the next place of meeting shall be at the Christian Brethren's room in Albion-street, and that the day and time of meeting shall be Wednesday evening, at seven o'clock, and that the next meeting be convened on Wednesday, the 4th of December. Resolved, That Mr. Thornton Hunt and the Reverend E. R. Larken be requested to visit Huddersfield for the purpose of explaining the principles of Association, and the duty of social reformers in respect to the political movements of the day.—Signed on behalf of the meeting, GEORGE BROOK, Chairman.

PADIHAM.—On Nov. 24, two lectures were delivered in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Padiham, by David Green, of Leeds, on the Aims and Objects of the Redemption Society. The chair was taken both afternoon and evening by Dr. Uttey, of Burnley, a gentleman whose services and purse both in adversity and prosperity, have ever been at the command of the cause. Mr. Green stated, that the society seeks to unite all men in the great work of association. By securing the physical comforts of man, you render virtue possible; by neglecting them, you prolong the reign of civilized anarchy. Industry, economy, and prudence, are the weapons by which the society is assured of success. While it respects the prejudices of men, it earnestly labours to propagate truth. The doctrines of the Temperance Society it has espoused from the first, and added them to the principles of association.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, NOV. 30.

The first annual meeting of the National Freehold Land Society was held at the London Tavern last evening, Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P., in the chair. From the report read, it appears that,

“Up to the 31st of October last, 5019 shares have been taken by 2824 members, and the total amount of money subscribed to the funds of the society was £21,257 16s. 10d. Fourteen estates, costing £62,000, and situated respectively at Malden, Kingston, Croydon (north and south), Anerly, Tunbridge, Bromley, Walthamstow, Stoke Newington, Chatham, Uxbridge, Manningford, Enfield, and Godalming, have been purchased for distribution among the members. Five of these properties have already been divided into allotments, believed to be of the full annual value of 40s., at an average cost of about £20; and of these allotments 207 have been taken by members paying up the full amount of them, and 175 by members paying on the plan of periodical subscription. The gross profit made on the year's transactions has been £1265 8s. 1d.; and the whole expenditure, including the preliminary charges, has been £768 9s. 7d.; leaving a nett surplus of £496 18s. 6d.—a rate of profit which will enable the directors to place at least £5 per cent. to the credit of the members at the end of the second year.”

The meeting was addressed by the chairman, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Lattimore, all of whom spoke in sanguine terms of the great advantages which may be anticipated from the rapid extension of the Freehold Land Movement.

Mr. Cobden made some sound remarks upon the great desire among the industrious classes to obtain a piece of land:—

“I like the plan,” said he, “because it gives to the people more political power, and prevents the operation of that system of vast masses of property indivisibly reverting back to one family again. (*Cheers*). The principle of this national society is in some respects different from those established in the rural districts. We have gone further from home. We carried our operations from London to distant parts of the country; and, I may add, that we have found quite as good a field for the operations of this society in agricultural localities as in great towns. (*Hear, hear.*) We went to Godalming, for example, a pretty market town in the county of Surrey, where we bought some eighty or ninety acres, and we bought the manor rights, too, if I recollect right. I think we are lords of the manor. (*Cheers and laughter.*) But, notwithstanding that, we are going to enfranchise all our freeholders, and we have no design of retaining any rights or privileges over them. (*Hear, hear.*) We don't intend to retain any part of the feudal system here. (*Cheering.*) We bought that estate, and directly afterwards there was not a man in the whole town who was not rummaging in his pockets and in his hoards and drawers to see whether it was not possible that he might get so much money together as would enable him to offer for one of these allotments. I think it is probable that two-thirds of that large estate might have been sold to inhabitants of Godalming. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) In every district you will find blacksmiths, shoemakers, small traders, and others, all anxious for a little land. But under the present system, they cannot get it. (*Hear.*) There is not an inch of it for them; and even if a bit of ground is to be sold they have such a horror of the lawyers and their long bills—(*Laughter*)—that not a man of them ever thought of putting himself in the hands of a lawyer for a conveyance. There is quite as much scope, therefore, in the rural districts as in the large towns for operations such as were carried on by this society. I do not see why, with proper, judicious, and well-considered management, those operations might not be greatly increased. (*Hear, hear.*)”

For some days past a huge effigy of the Pope has been paraded in a carriage about the neighbourhood of Clapham, with the ultimate view of its being publicly burnt on Clapham-common. Every night this week crowds of persons have assembled on the common in anticipation of the exhibition. They were, however, disappointed till last night, when the execution formally took place, in the presence of an immense assemblage of persons from all quarters of the metropolis. The figure, which was of huge size, was attired in a bright scarlet coat. A stake was erected in the middle of the common, and the effigy having been attached to it, various combustible materials were piled around, and the whole burnt, amidst the shouts of the assembled spectators. As soon as the figure was consumed the ashes were piled up again, with a fresh assortment of combustibles, and a large bonfire kept burning till a late hour.

Cardinal Wiseman has not been out of England during the week. Upon his departure from St. George's Chapel on Sunday morning, accompanied by his chaplain, he proceeded to the seat of a Roman Catholic nobleman in Buckinghamshire, where he has been actively engaged in conference with some of the most influential of the Roman Catholic peers and commoners for the last four days. The result of the lengthened consultation is to be the issuing of a manifesto from the Catholics in this country, a most important portion of which will be a severe castigation of Lord Beaumont, whose letter to the Earl of Zetland has given mortal offence to the zealous supporters of the Pope's late proceedings, many of whom declare his lordship unfit to be a member of the Romish Church. The cardinal, having completed the object of his sojourn, returned to town yesterday morning, and arrived at his permanent residence in Golden-square,

where he will remain in retirement till after his installation, which is to be gone through in the strictest possible privacy.—*Times*.

The committee appointed by the Society of Arts, to obtain a reform of the patent law, held their second meeting, at the society's house, in the Adelphi, yesterday. The Right Honourable T. Milner Gibson, M.P., was in the chair, and the other members of the committee present were Professors Forbes, Royle, Lyon Playfair, Bennet Woodcroft, and Edward Solly; Mr. H. Cole, Captain Ibbetson, Mr. Highton, Mr. Brace, Mr. Newall (of Gateshead), and Mr. Prosser (of Birmingham). The committee have decided on issuing an extended statement of the evils of the present system, and of the principles which should guide legislation, and in preparing which we understand they have been assisted by a large mass of documentary information from members of the working classes and others, sufferers from the existing evils.

William Stewart Sheridan, formerly a clerk in the Inland Revenue-office, but now an inmate of Limehouse Workhouse, was brought up at Bow-street Police-office yesterday, charged with sending a threatening letter to Lord John Russell. It appears that Sheridan was examined at the Police Court, Worship-street, in the month of December, 1847, on a charge of having administered poison to his aged mother, to avail himself of the amount of an assurance upon her life, from the effects of which she died. After a lengthened trial at the Central Criminal Court he was acquitted of the charge, it appearing in evidence she was of very intemperate habits, the result of which might have been her death. The Board of Excise, however, dismissed him from his situation, and since that time he had been memorializing the Treasury, and taking other steps of the usual kind to obtain redress. All these having been unsuccessful, he had addressed the following letter to Lord John Russell:—

"TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL, &c. —It is evident that some misfortunes are so wrapped in mystery as to lead to a belief in destiny. The world seems a complete contradiction. Might overcomes right. There is no redress for grievances. The oppressed are mocked; and, when they remonstrate, they are hunted down. Spies let upon them because they seek for justice. A conspiracy is formed to overthrow a man. He is marked out for persecution. Some pretext is made to attack him. A false charge is made, and the bread is taken out of his mouth. After a long service, Mr. Sheridan has been deprived of his situation on unjust grounds. In fact, he is the victim of persecution. How often have wrongs led to fatal results? History confirms it. The appeal is made to his Lordship in the hope that something may be done for Mr. Sheridan, who is sinking with depression. If no notice is taken of this, serious consequences may ensue.—No. 2, Ernest-street, Stepney, Nov. 19, 1850."

The prisoner confessed that he had written the letter, but denied that any threat against Lord John Russell was conveyed in it. The "serious consequences" went to imply that, if driven to despair, he might destroy himself. Mr. Jardine was not quite sure of that, and, even if it were so, it was the duty of the magistrate to interfere. He, therefore, ordered him to find bail, himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each, that he would be of good behaviour to all her Majesty's subjects, and particularly towards Lord John Russell, for the next six months.

The news from Germany is again of an alarming character. The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*, in a letter dated Nov. 26, says:—

"The Austrian note communicated by telegraph this morning is of a very threatening character. The evacuation of Hesse Cassel is again required. Prussia is asked whether she will oppose further impediments to the proceedings of the army of the Bundestag in the electorate. An answer to this question is required to-morrow morning, and, unless the answer be satisfactory, the Austrian ambassador has received instructions to demand his passports and to leave Berlin forthwith. The Austrian note contains guarantees to Prussia that, if the electorate be evacuated, the military roads shall at all times be open to her. Many alarming rumours have been in circulation. Herr von Prokesch Osten was reported to have already demanded his passports and to have left Berlin. The same was said of the Bavarian ambassador. Herr von Prokesch Osten has sent to his tradesmen, requiring them to forward their bills instantly, as he did not know how much longer his stay in Berlin might last. At the embassy everything has been prepared for instant departure, and report says that a train has been ordered to carry the Austrian envoy to Oderburg. The *Kreuz Zeitung* says that the ambassador of another great power will leave Berlin at the same time with the Austrian. I suppose that Baron Budberg, the representative of Russia, is alluded to. I am informed that the Government has concluded the preliminary negotiations necessary for procuring a loan in London to the amount of £10,000,000. The interest offered is five per cent., and the terms on which the London capitalists are willing to conclude are ninety-six.

"The military preparations of this country will be complete in a week's time from this date; the several armies will be concentrated on the different points assigned them, and will be ready for immediate action. It is reported that an army of 115,000 men is to be concentrated in and around Berlin.

"The chief masses of the Austrian troops are directed towards Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia; the greater portion of these bodies left Vienna some days ago, but letters from that city inform us that large military transports continue at intervals to pass through the Austrian metropolis, and that the private traffic on the northern railway, which was entirely suspended for some days, has only been partially resumed. The two corps withdrawn from Italy number 65,000 men. Eighteen battalions of recruits from the frontier regiments are on their march to Venice and Lombardy. The whole of the fortresses and fortified towns are to be provisioned for four months."

The Leader

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1850.

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.

STATE OF THE GERMAN QUESTION.

LAST week Europe seemed to be on the eve of a general war. The two greatest powers of the German Confederation had called forth all their military strength, and only wanted the signal of battle to begin that process of marching and countermarching, of trampling down cornfields and destroying villages, by which, for five thousand years or more, nations have been accustomed to decide their controversies.

The matters ostensibly in dispute were unsubstantial enough. First of all there was the question of a reconstruction of the Federal Germanic Constitution. The events of 1848 had pronounced a just sentence of incompetency on that product of old despotic diplomacy, the Constitution of 1815, according to which all affairs affecting the relations or the common interests of the thirty-eight combined states were decided by a Central Diet or committee of plenipotentiaries representing the Governments of the several states, the larger ones singly and the smaller collectively, and presided over by Austria. The King of Prussia, whose idea of his own mission is that he is the man born to create a new form of federal union for Germany, took the opportunity to volunteer a fundamental modification of this old constitution, having for its most obvious feature an encrease of the influence of Prussia. Austria, on the other hand, though not formally denying the necessity of a modification, was true to her retrogressive instincts in wishing it to be as insignificant as possible. Such was the main question. Other sources of animosity, however, were the questions of Holstein and Hesse-Cassel. Prussia, forced by the European powers to acquiesce in the intervention of a Federal army in the affairs of Holstein, should such intervention be necessary, yet refused to allow a passage to any such army through her territories. And, lastly, the Central Diet having listened to the application made to it by the checkmated Elector of Hesse-Cassel for the interference of Federal troops in the struggle between him and his subjects, Prussia, in the midst of whose dominions Hesse, with a cluster of other small states, stands geographically interposed, protested against a military movement which would thus affect her territorially, and, availing herself of her acknowledged right of military way from one portion of her dominions to another through Hesse, fortified this protest by marching troops of her own into that principality and occupying certain positions in it.

Such were the ostensible forms of a dispute that lay really deeper, a dispute between the tendencies of northern and southern Germany; between semi-liberal, active, energetic Prussia, and slow, inactive, paternal Austria. Other interests and passions, however, besides those of the two opposed Governments, marshalled themselves in the train of the dispute, resolved to turn to account the fight that was to be going on at any rate. In Prussia, a democracy, eager, and all but universal, lent its enthusiasm for the promotion of a war of which it made sure of commanding the direction and reaping the fruits; and, on the other hand, in Austria, the Liberalism of Vienna, and the nationalities of Italy and Hungary, expecting a compulsory call to serve with arms the cause of a detested Government, consoled themselves by seeing therein a possibility of shooting off each in its own direction at the first crisis of the war, and so leaving despotism deplorably in the lurch. Out of Germany, too, the interest was intense. Russia, concealed behind Austria's back, looked forward to a struggle which was either to procure for her policy a new stride westward, or to drive it back to its proper Muscovite area; and France and England were anxious in proportion to the strength of their respective prepossessions and to their feeling of the difficulty of remaining neutral.

So matters stood last week. All attempts at a settlement were reported to have failed. Austria had given her ultimatum, with a breathing time of forty-eight hours ere the thunder of her cannons should commence; and Prussia, it was said, still stood firm. But there were shrewd suspicions that matters would not be allowed to go to extremity. The King of Prussia's propensity to bluster was known; and it was surmised that, eager as he may have at first been for the fray, the sight of the riant and tumultuous Democracy which he had mustered behind him, had caused him to think better of his intention. And as for Austria, Italy and Hungary were two strong reasons why she should wish to be pacific.

These anticipations have been verified. There is, it appears, to be no European war—at least, none is to grow out of this particular emergency. At the very climax of the dispute, and when all the world was looking to see the Ambassador of Austria shake war out of his sleeve, it was arranged by telegraph that the Prime Ministers of Prussia and Austria, leaving Berlin and Vienna simultaneously, should meet for personal conference at Olmutz, a town situated on the line of railroad between the two capitals. At the same moment, the dispute was greatly simplified by the offer of the Elector of Hesse-Cassel, doubtless not made without advice, to deal with his subjects himself, and thus permit both armies to evacuate his territory without a compromise on either side. This left the negotiators at Olmutz less to do; and, accordingly, though the precise tenor of their arrangements has not yet transpired, it has been authoritatively announced that their conclusions on the Holstein and other questions were such as to establish a certain promise of peace. The Russian Ambassador was present at the consultation.

So ends the affair for the present: it remains to be seen, however, whether an impulse to war so powerfully set in motion, can be arrested by the fiat of governors; and especially whether the King of Prussia shall succeed in bidding back the roused Democracy of his people. The private enjoyment of his pedantic "mission" as constitution-maker for Germany may have possibly been reserved for Frederic William by the skill of his Minister Mantouffell; but it is not likely that a pacification, the terms of which have been devised by two statesmen of the stationary school in concert with a Russian ambassador, will prove satisfactory to Prussian liberalism. As one great motive of the parties to peace has been the fear of the development war might give to certain "subversive theories"—so they name Democracy and Socialism—all over Europe, there is little doubt that this fear has helped to determine the character of the stipulations.

CAN ENGLAND AID FOREIGN PATRIOTS?

THE Liberal party in Europe has a vast preponderance in numbers and intelligence, but it is weak because it is not united. When thrones were threatened in the first acts of the French Revolution, Kings and Kaisers banded together to support their principles and to crush their foes; a common interest produced a common resistance; the Royalists were all outraged by the promulgation of Revolutionary ideas, and they took up arms to avenge the insult. Were the Liberals less outraged by the insolence of Austria and Russia in the Hungarian struggle? Did not every Liberal cheek burn with indignation at the recital of Hungarian wrongs? Were not orators copious and journalists sarcastic? Were not "meetings" held, and Austria anathematized by perspiring crowds—did not Notting Hill declare its readiness to "rise as one man" in the cause of Hungary? And all in vain! The flush subsided; the orators had "said their say"; the journalists continued their sarcasms; Notting Hill, having paid its score, returned to the domestic circle with an air of very considerable importance indeed, as if Europe was to be shaken to the centre by that night's expression of opinion; and Jones as he drew on his night-cap thought how Haynau would grow pale and Nicholas tremble on his throne when to-morrow's *Times* brought them the report!

What prevented the Liberals from acting as the Royalists acted? Why, the sneaking philosophy of "non-intervention"! We are to see horrible injustice transacted before our eyes, knowing that a word from us will prevent it; but we abstain, because, to make good our words, would be "expensive." So we remember that "each nation should settle its own affairs." You walk through

the streets and see a burly blackguard prevent a weak youth from walking on the pavement, and then fall upon him with a shower of blows because the youth persists; do you interfere to save the youth and see justice done, or do you allow the two to "settle their own affairs"? The latter is the philosophy of "non-intervention." If men believe in principles they should be ready to fight for them. The Royalists are, the Liberals are not.

We observe the same spirit animating minor causes. Wherever the Church or Tory party attempt to achieve anything they seldom fail from want of union; they act in concert; they support with purse, with person, and with influence the acts of their party. The Liberals are scattered into cliques, and do nothing, except in the way of opposition.

But because the nation is supine are not individuals to act? Because "non-intervention" is the policy of our Government are Englishmen forced to remain impotent spectators of wrong? The question is serious. As practical men let us see how it can be answered.

When on a recent occasion we showed a means of crushing the Papal movement by carrying the war into the seat of Papal power we did not mean that England was to declare war with Rome. There was no *casus belli*. But the reasons which ought to determine intervention are simple enough. The philosophy of the matter seems to be this.

There is a certain solidarity between all European nations, but in some countries it is more direct and extensive than in others. Belgium, for example, has a constitution so like our own as to make an identity of interests between the two countries. Should any movement on the part of the Belgian Government attempt to overthrow that constitution, or to subvert by violence any of its principles of freedom, England is bound to interfere—bound by the vulgarest notions of self-interest, for in truth her own freedom is assailed, and she must battle for her own cause. The advantage of fighting this battle on other ground is almost too obvious to need remark. The horrors of civil war are avoided. The battle is fought at the expense of others. In such a case the intervention should be national, as the cause is national. Hungary was a case in point. To our shame we let the occasion pass by, and declaimed loudly but moved no step.

When the constitution is not identical with our own—as in the case of Italy—national intervention is less easily justified. Nevertheless, seeing that thousands of Englishmen do really feel deep sympathy with the Italian party, and would gladly assist them in their struggle against despotism, some mode of rendering such assistance ought to be legalized. A simple mode exists. Let Government instead of calling upon the nation to interfere—instead of applying to Parliament for resources—sanction the assistance of any number of individuals who might sympathize with the Italians, and who might be willing by purse or person to lend their individual aid. The Government here holds aloof—declares no war as a Government—takes no national part; it merely gives to Englishmen the freedom of their own individual actions; suffers them to enlist; suffers them to act for themselves.

The Italian Loan proposed through our columns by Mazzini and his party might readily be raised if any countenance were given to it by Englishmen of position; and if the Government sanctioned English aid, we cannot doubt but that it would be liberally furnished, and so all the enthusiasm which now escapes in the mere vapour of "meetings," or in rounded periods of leading articles, might then take some definite and powerful shape. And this without in any way compromising the nation: for as a nation, there can be no doubt that the majority would be adverse—many furiously opposed—to any intervention in favour of the Republicans.

Among the many good effects of such a change would be the abatement of cant. If sympathy were to be shown in acts as well as in rhetoric, many a fluent orator would fall silent. The loss to public meetings and public journals we could console ourselves with, in the increased reliance to be placed upon such expressions of sympathy as did force themselves into notice. But, above all, it would be gladdening to the hearts of all sincere men to know that there really were means open to them for the assistance of foreign patriots, fighting their own cause, and struggling for human progress.

MR. COBDEN AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT.

MR. COBDEN has made a new kind of public appearance. At the Peace Meeting held in Birmingham last week, he directed a fierce onslaught against certain publications containing matter which he regarded as hostile to the cause he had come there to advocate. One of these publications was *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*. The *Daily News* thus reports the passage in which he referred to that periodical:—

"There is a class of reasoners who tell us that war has its favourable sides, that it is not quite so bad as some think it. Why, the same might be said of slavery. I have heard people say that some good springs out of that; and very good sophistry has been used to show that slavery has its collateral benefits. But I did not expect to find that doctrine where I found it lately, published under the sanction of a name from which we are accustomed to expect the promulgation of better principles—I mean *Chambers's Journal*; but there must be some impostor taking the name of my friend Chambers: he would not, I am sure, ever allow such doctrine to be published under his name."

With the justice of this attack we have, of course, nothing to do. We are not acquainted with the paper in the *Edinburgh Journal* to which Mr. Cobden especially refers; but from his own description of it, and from the allusions subsequently made to it in the *Times*, we infer that it is, not an exhortation one way or other, but a short essay or dissertation, an appreciation, according to the writer's particular sentiments, of the historical and philosophical worth of such agitations as the Peace Movement. And if so, then, without the slightest wish to interfere between Mr. Cobden and the object of his attack, we must say that this new mode of furthering his cause to which Mr. Cobden has had recourse—that of publicly denouncing from the platform such literary expositions as offend against his ideas of what ought to be taught to the people—is a thing not to be passed over without some comment. For, doubtless, Mr. Cobden has generalized the notion thus for the first time laid hold of, and has set it down formally among those hints for the practical guidance of popular leaders that will occupy so conspicuous a place in the valuable treatise on the Art of Political Agitation, which the public may one day expect from him. "Denounce at public meetings by name any popular book, or any literary periodical in which you may discover opinions contrary to those on which your movement is founded"—such is the rule of efficient agitation which Mr. Cobden may be considered to have recommended by his example. And having virtually propounded the rule, he will, doubtless, continue to illustrate it. All the literary periodicals of the Empire may henceforth make up their minds to live under the terror of a platform-attack from Mr. Cobden, if they dare to put forward one thought, one paragraph, that might lead to the consumption of gunpowder. There is no mistaking the fact; the literary men of this country are under a novel kind of censorship, and must write very cautiously. *Dickens's Household Words* may suffer a castigation some day: even the *Penny Cyclopædia* is not quite safe.

The fact, whatever we may think of it, ought at least to be noted. Theoretically, it amounts to nothing less than this—that the Press of this country shall henceforth manufacture only such thoughts as are approved by the Platform; that a man sitting down in his study to express himself philosophically on a subject as a whole, shall be obliged, under penalties, to issue the same conclusions and the same forms of language that serve the practical man, when, in his zeal for some definite cause, he lifts the subject by one of its limbs. In other words, there is to be no difference any longer in England between the mood in which a man is to write a dissertation and the mood in which he is to address a crowd; the poetical way of looking at a thing, and the scientific way of looking at a thing, are to be no longer allowed; Mr. Cobden is to be judge of what speculations are fit articles for the market; and the whole thought of the country is, in future, to be transacted either by or to the order of the oratoric faculty, and the expression of that thought is to be set to the oratoric cadence. Because it is agreed among all sensible men that war is an evil—a thing to be avoided to the last agony of suppressed indignation, and indignity silently borne—it is to follow, it seems, that no generalities are now to be tolerated in our literature respecting the influence of the agency of war in past civilization; and that, whenever a writer shall have occasion to refer to the actions of such military personages as Alexander, Cæsar, and Napoleon, he

shall be required to copy the style of certain profoundly-cultured individuals whom we could name, and call them not great men, but "wholesale butchers," "monsters in human shape," or something equally true and elegant! Such, we affirm, is the consequence of the maxim of agitation virtually propounded by Mr. Cobden, if that maxim is fairly carried out. Let us not be misunderstood. We do not deny the right of the platform to comment on the press, any more than we deny the right of the press to comment on the platform. But we do say that a speaker on the platform, availing himself of the peculiar circumstances of the platform, has no right to denounce offhand a piece of purely literary judgment, any more than a writer for the press has a right to insist that the laws of exact literature shall regulate the perorations of the platform.

Might we, with all respect, tender Mr. Cobden a hint? If he is resolved upon attacking the mode of thinking that seems so distasteful to him, would it not be best once for all to attack its highest speculative representatives? Is it absolutely necessary to the success of his new method of agitation that the attack should only be made where the noxious opinions are connected with something socially tangible and commercially vulnerable? If not, did Mr. Cobden ever hear of that much talked-of philosopher—M. Auguste Comte? Does he know that that philosopher of progress, whom some account as among the best and most scientific minds in Europe, treats the necessary and beneficial influence of war and slavery in the past as an axiom indubitable to an intellect trained to scientific thought, and scouts the Non-intervention nostrum as an old critical crotchet that has nearly served its day? Here is a fountain-head of vicious speculation: why not attack it? Or, not to go out of our own country, are there not similar delinquents here—Mr. Carlyle, Mr. Savage Landor, with many others that we could name? Why not attack them? Mr. Cobden is not the man, surely, to be afraid of catching a Tartar!

Moreover, does not this mode of serving peace look very like war? Some people might call it intimidation, and might ask whether this fighting with the tongue is not itself a deviation from the strict "Yea and Nay" principle on which alone an absolute Peace-Movement could found itself—whether, for example, to name a man with indignant rhetoric at a public meeting is not as distinct an infliction of pain as to treat him to a sabre-cut; or whether to assail a man's reputation may not sometimes be as great a commercial damage as to send a cannon-shot through his warehouses. We know the reply—the difference between physical force and the moral force of public opinion! But that is a reply of which a severe logic would make very short work.

It is a recent peculiarity in Mr. Cobden's mode of advocating the Peace-Movement that we have been noticing; we have said nothing on the Peace-Movement itself. That movement deserves a profound and searching criticism, with a view really to bring out what is useful and wise in it. As one of its leaders, Mr. Cobden will, doubtless, accomplish much good. We hope much more, however—all the country hopes much more—from his services in the cause of National Education. It was a matter for thanksgiving in all the churches when Mr. Cobden attached himself to that movement. There is not a man in the country from whom, in various capacities, and especially in this, more noble work is to be expected than from Mr. Cobden; and one regrets to have occasion to find fault with such a man at all.

THE EXAMPLE FOR ENGLAND.

To wish what is right, and not to obtain it, is the condition of weakness. Judging by this rule, we must pronounce this great country of England to be weaker than some of her "dependencies." England, with all her great powers and aspirations, allows a weak Whig Ministry to be the measure of her satisfaction, consenting to take no more than will pass through the puny hands of a Russell or a Grey. Canada and the Cape of Good Hope are not content with that short measure, but make their own terms. The history is instructive. Canada desires a constitution of the English model: Ministers hesitate: Canada rebels: Canada obtains a constitution of the English model. In breach of old compacts, repeatedly assailed, but always maintained by the pertinacious energy of the colonists, Lord Grey proposes to send to the Cape of Good Hope a shipful of convicts: the Cape protests: Lord Grey sends the convicts: with great quiet and

decorum the Cape rebels: Lord Grey withdraws the convicts.

This example has not been lost on other colonies. Lord Grey, for instance, has volunteered for the Australian colonies a constitution, which has the peculiar felicity of satisfying the mind of himself and Mr. Hawes, and of proportionately disgusting the Australian colonists: from Sydney to Adelaide they are murmuring of "independence." Some West Indians have talked about "annexation," but that magnificent group of colonies has been so long accustomed to being ill-used, that we have no belief in the exhaustion of its patience.

It was in the midst of the altercation and discredit occasioned by the Australian Colonies Bill, marked as the discussion was by the most unaccountable equivocation on the part of Ministers, the most monstrous discordance between known facts and official assertions, that Lord John Russell spontaneously promised to the Cape a constitution of the complete English model. It rather took the world by surprise, but it was supposed that Ministers were redeeming at the Cape, in reward of its energetic outspeaking, the sins which they had committed on other colonies. Who would have supposed this purely spontaneous boon was a new illustration of that peculiar regard for truth which has distinguished the colonial administration under the Grey-Hawes régime?

The Queen's letters patent were laid before the Legislative Council when it opened on the 6th of September, and then the true nature of the Ministerial gift became known. No doubt it directed, as Lord John Russell promised, that there should be two Chambers, and so far it resembled the English constitution: but what trait of our constitution can be cited to justify the passage in the letters authorizing the Governor to dissolve both Chambers, or either one of them separately. Imagine Queen Victoria dissolving the House of Commons, and carrying on the public business with the monarch-created House of Lords alone! That is what the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope would be empowered to do. Such is Lord John Russell's idea of following the English model in making a constitution! The letters patent dictating such general heads as these left the details of the constitution to be filled up by a council appointed under the present system as a body representing the Cape; but in order to understand the dishonesty of this delegation we must see how the council was composed. And it is worth while to follow the details of these transactions, not only because the Government thus trifling with a respectable community is the same Government which is permitted to trifle with the people of our own islands, but because we have seen in the anti-convict affair that the Cape colonists knew how to treat that Government which is permitted to trifle with the English people.

The Council to which the duty of filling up the details of the constitution was delegated, consisted of twelve persons: seven, including the governor, were appointed directly or indirectly by the colonial office; five were elected by certain municipal bodies, and may so far be considered comparatively genuine representatives; but one from this number of five must be transferred to the official members. On the list of persons sent in as nominated by the electors, Mr. J. H. Wicht stood fifth; but he was passed over by the Governor, who, in lieu of that gentleman, selected Mr. Godlonton, the *eleventh* on the list, and he repaid the distinction by voting with the official party. It is not to be understood that even the four members were appointed by anything like a general election, nevertheless their conduct warranted their being considered as practically representing the colonists.

The official eight and the non-official four soon came to a contest. The first point of dispute was the qualification for members of the Legislative Council or Upper Chamber under the proposed constitution: the official members proposed a qualification of £2000, or even £4000, clear of all encumbrances; the non-official members proposed that the members should be elected "by the combined votes of all persons possessing the electoral franchise"—contending that so tried and extended a confidence would in itself be sufficient qualification. The votes, of course, were eight to four in favour of the official recommendation. The next point of dispute was an extraneous matter. During the disordered state of the colony the governor—against whose personal honesty and good intentions no charge is made—had irregularly raised money on his own authority; and he now asked the sanction of the Council to ordinances which would have the effect of indemnifying him for those

irregularities. Sir Andries Stockenstrom objected, first, because the present Council was appointed for a specific duty; secondly, because the financial indemnity was too important a question to be discussed parenthetically, in a mere interruption of urgent business; thirdly, because the Chambers to be appointed under the new constitution would be more qualified to consider the financial indemnity; and, fourthly, because some of these ordinances, for which a hasty sanction was now demanded, might not merit to be passed at all. Sir Andries was, of course, outvoted; on which he and his three coadjutors resigned; recording in a protest, of language equally temperate and explicit, their embarrassing position as popular representatives whose presence implied a sanction to anti-popular measures carried by the overwhelming vote of the official party.

Such is the first working of Lord John Russell's English constitution—it places the red tape party and the popular party irreconcilably at issue. The Cape colonists behaved with their usual judgment and energy; the municipal commissioners of Capetown met the four resigned members of Council, who were joined by Mr. Wicht, the genuine fifth. Those five gentlemen were requested to prepare the draft of a constitution, which they did. Sir Andries Stockenstrom and Mr. Fairbairn were requested to bring it personally to England, which they consented to do. These arrangements were ratified by a general meeting of the inhabitants on the 2nd of October. The draft constitution is very simple, practical, and moderate—in this country, we should even call it Conservative. For example, the electoral qualification is set down as the possession for twelve months of the property valued at £25. It is not, however, the Conservative character of the plan which we recommend as an example to the English people, though it shows very great judgment on the part of the Cape colonists, under the peculiar circumstances of their contest with a powerful and invidious adversary. What we recommend for imitation is the promptitude, the combined movement, the energetic and concentrated action of the colonists. It was these qualities that enabled them to beat the Government in the anti-convict affair: they have now to contend with equivocation and mystification, by which the Government in Downing-street obtains credit from the English people for volunteering to give an English constitution, while the thing given is a disguised bureaucracy, after the fashion of those which Lord Grey has thrust upon New Zealand and Australia. The Cape colonists have met these tactics by tactics diametrically the reverse; they have transferred the discussion to London, where they will carry it on with Lord Grey in the face of that English people whose applauses he filched by pretending to volunteer an English constitution for the Cape. The Cape will be well represented by a gentleman like Sir Andries, whose biography is interwoven with the history of his country, and who may be said to represent at once the Dutch blood and the most enlightened spirit of the colony, and Mr. Fairbairn, the virtual leader of the triumphant anti-convict movement. The conduct of that movement and its results make us watch the present struggle with a lively interest. We believe that the colonists will display the same sustained vigour and concentrated purpose which they have done before: we trust that the English people will see justice done to a spirited community waging an unequal contest with an arbitrary and dishonest Government, whose power would be nothing if it were not backed by the inert power of the English people: we are certain that, in any event, the English people must derive valuable instruction from the contest.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

BISHOP BERKELY, in his *Querist*, published more than a century ago, asks "whether there be any country in Christendom more capable of improvement than Ireland," and whether the people of Ireland are not as far before other nations in natural advantages as they are behind them with respect to arts and industry? Had Berkely been alive at the present time he might have published these queries with the same pertinence as he did in 1735. "What has produced the difference," says a Belgian Minister, "between the rich and flourishing condition of England and the poverty and weakness of Ireland? Industrial knowledge." These two words contain a complete reply to the question. It is by her industrial knowledge, and by that alone, that England has attained so high a rank

among civilized nations, and it is only by a similar laborious process that Ireland can ever hope to elevate herself to the same platform. It is true that England has done much in former days to thwart the free development of Irish industry, and no time should be lost in making every amends for this. But whatever may be said on that score the fact still stares us in the face that, notwithstanding all its wonderful natural advantages, Ireland remains the most backward country in Christendom.

Take the single item of agricultural labour. In Ireland, previous to the late decimation of her inhabitants by famine, pestilence, and emigration, the number of persons employed upon the land was greater than in England. But so worthless was the labour of the Irish compared with the English labourers, that the gross value of the agricultural produce raised in England was worth about £150,000,000 a-year more than the entire annual produce of Ireland. People grumble at the enormous cost of the poor in Ireland—some two or three millions sterling a-year at most; and yet they never utter a single complaint on account of a loss fifty times greater—that arising from the want of a proper organization of industry. Take an Irish boy at an early age, give him a sound industrial education, and he is able to do as much work as any skilled English agricultural labourer. What is it, then, but the want of industrial training, and just laws securing to the labourer the fruits of his industry, that causes this annual loss of £150,000,000 to the Irish nation?

THE GLAZIERS' STRIKE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Poor working men, in their disputes with their masters, seldom receive a fair hearing from the public. The recent strike of the glaziers at the Exhibition in Hyde-park seems to be an instance of this. The contractors, Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co., made a proposal to their glaziers, the substance of which was that they should be paid at the rate of 4s. a-day for every fifty-eight panes of glass put in by the machine system—that being the contractors' estimate of a suitable day's work. This proposition the glaziers respectfully declined to accept—stating that it was impossible, under the most favourable circumstances, for a man to glaze fifty-eight squares a-day; and that, from the peculiar obstructions to which they were liable at the Exhibition, from thirty to forty panes would be a good day's work. "Any man doing more than this," they said, "must scamp his work, and it would tell for itself in due time." The reply of the contractors was:—"If you like to work for us according to the terms of the proposal, well; if not, you can leave the work." A reply which, though it is probably what most masters in the circumstances would have given, is, we beg to say, not such as should be addressed by any master to men with whom he has a merely pecuniary difference! The reason of such pre-emptory curttness probably was that there were hundreds of poor fellows hanging about the Exhibition but too glad to undertake a job on any terms that would get them a week's bread. This it is that, in all such cases, gives masters the advantage, and compels workmen to submit to what they consider hardship in silence.

The public ought not to be prejudiced against the workmen in this case by the fact that the strike has occurred at a building, the progress of which is a matter of such universal interest. Let the Exhibition, important as it is, go to the dogs, rather than that injustice, if there is injustice in the case, should have to be done to poor but respectable workmen. There is too much disposition, both in courts of justice and elsewhere, to scowl upon workmen who have a difference with their masters, as if they were so many ruffians. It is not so; men, living from day to day, do not throw up their work for nothing! We regret to see that one of the glaziers has been accused of having had recourse to threats at a conference with the Contractors. Legally he may have committed an offence; but the most probable version of the affair is, "Here is an honest fellow, who, in stating his case, has got into a scrape by suffering his temper to get the better of him!"

The lessons of such strikes as that of the glaziers, are these—that our laws relating to master and workman require a great deal of present modification in favour of the latter; and that glaziers and all other classes of workmen should do their best, by their small efforts, to speed on the yet distant time promised by Coöperative Socialism, when there shall be no caste of masters, in the present sense

of that word, in society at all; but when working men shall be associated in voluntary partnerships under real masters of industry, undertaking work on reasonable terms on their own account, and not *scamping* it.

SOCIAL REFORM.

EPISTOLÆ OBSCURORUM VIROBUM.

XX.—LE DROIT AU TRAVAIL, No. 5.

TO THORNTON HUNT, ESQ.

"Where there is a will, there is a way"—out of the pit of pauperism.

Rawden, near Leeds, Dec. 3, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—In my former letters I argued for the acknowledgment of the *Droit au Travail* as a principle of British law.

But, granting all these arguments to be proved, how far, you may ask, do they advance us? The difficulty is in finding the work, not in proving that it ought to be found: grant the right to labour, and the duty and interest of society to enforce it; how is it to do so? Enough, and more than enough, you may say, of abstract talk about first principles; what practical suggestions do you propose? what actual measure would you have Government to take? what law would you have passed? In a word, what thing would you get done?

These would be questions fair enough; and yet I think you will agree with me that we are doomed to a vast deal more of this kind of talk before we shall get to much practice. A right must be acknowledged *de jure* before it can be realized *de facto*; and how much of the cry against what is called theorizing about first principles springs not from the wish for practice, but from fear of the principles, fear of the trouble of defining them, or of the sacrifice of realizing them. If I learn that my neighbour has a right to work, I learn also that it is my duty to try my best to find him work; no wonder, then, if I would let alone that branch of learning—keep off it as unprofitable; for I want no new duties, am quite contented with old ones; and this is not only a new duty, but no easy one: and it is because I judge of other men by myself (for which I beg their pardon, but cannot help it), that, knowing my own temptation to shirk this duty by denying it, or terming it useless theory, which comes to the same thing, I have tried to show how it is bound up with the very existence of society; that it is, in fact, the tie which binds me to my fellows.

Moreover, we are forced by our opponents to define and defend our principles, their objections attacking not so much the details of any particular plan, as the inherent nature of all possible plans; declaring either that they are in themselves injurious—must do harm—or that they are impracticable—can do no good; and therefore, it is added, may, and probably will, do harm. Mr. Mill, for example, in that chapter of his *Political Economy* in which he discusses "remedies for low wages," dismisses the proposition of guarantees of employment by the State almost with contempt, as sure to relax all restrictions of population, and, therefore, to aggravate the disease it attempts to cure.

I will not weary you by reiterating the arguments in my last letter, which seemed to me to show that the result would be precisely opposite; but Mr. Mill is an authority for whom I have so profound a respect, and with whom, if I differ, I am so doubtful of my own judgment, that I would gladly take counsel with others on the matter, and so would beg you and all our friends to read over the chapter I allude to (Book 2, cap. 12), asking, Would or could he have taken this view, had he not ignored the rights and duties of the question? for had he admitted the duty of society to right the labourer by employing him, he would not have feared the consequence of its performance, but would have felt that, in the long run, duty is sure to take care of itself. Moreover, he seems to me to dwell too little on hope as a motive, and too much on fear; or rather, to overrate man's power to force man to prudence, and to underrate the influence of circumstances to persuade him: forgetting that, as I said in my last, fear follows hope as its shadow, and that, therefore, the more hope the more fear; and a man once put in a way to get on in the world, would feel that the bar which an improvident marriage would raise across his path, is far more dreadful to him than is the union-house to the aimless drudge whose life has no hope but to shun that starvation from which even its prison walls are a refuge. Depend upon it, if a man can, by the strength of his sinews or the sweat of his brain, raise a house about him which is a home, he will

dread being driven out of it by his own imprudence far more than he will being driven from a house which is no home, but a den, a miserable home—even though he be forced to exchange it for the "Bastille."

After all, no "Bastille" can be framed so fearful as famine; and that the fear of famine is no preventive check to population, a few days' tour in Connaught or Munster would quickly convince any one.

And now, one word as to the charge of impracticability made so often and so loudly by men of practice and men of theory, by official politicians whose sole science is expediency, and by doctrinaire professors who would leave men to govern themselves by the rules of political economy, or rather by their interpretation of them. "Your plan is impossible," they all cry. "You may talk as you will of man's right to work, and the state's duty to find it; but if the labourer cannot right himself, the state cannot right him—its duty cannot exceed its power, and it has no power to employ labour, for it can get neither employers nor labourers: not employers, for all whom it appoints are incapable or untrustworthy, any way unfit—know not how to fill their office, or would make it subserve their own interest: not labourers, because state labour is sham labour, 'like masters like men;' the master will not care to get the work done, and the man will not care to do it, for the interests of neither will be involved. Your object may *seem* work, but *is* wage; you do not want to get work done, you want the labourer to be doing it in order that you may pay him: you may succeed in your real object, get what you want—for a time: you may give wage for sham work till you have exhausted your capital or wage-fund; you may pay men for doing nothing till you have nothing left wherewith to pay them; or, if the superintendents you set over them do succeed in getting work out of them, it will be because they get it for themselves; and, so if you tax the community to employ the unemployed, one of two results must follow—either, by setting them to work for some individual capitalist, you will enable such individual to pay less wage for the same work, because you will make him a present of the work for which you pay, and thus you will rob the community for the benefit of a few—and as, by reducing the rate of wages you will encrease the recklessness of the labourer by lowering his standard of living, your effort to employ paupers, as in the allowance system under the old poor-law, will end in making them. Or else if the state, as you advise, really turns employer itself, and for itself, it may, or rather it will, get the process of production under its own management, for it will undersell the private employer in the produce market, because it will not want a profit, and it will overbid him in the labour market, because it will offer wages for sham work; and so you will, it is true, prevent the mistakes of the capitalist, for you will take from him the power of making them; but, in taking his capital from the capitalist, you will destroy it as well as him, for you will waste it. In the place of the present captains of industry you will have one grand generalissimo of idleness."

So much for the philosophy of the objectors; and then, as to facts, they give us plenty; flinging at us more especially the public works of Ireland in the famine and the ateliers nationaux in Paris; and, in short, they tell us that all our experiments have failed and must fail, because we attempt production, disregarding, or rather disclaiming, its chief incitement, and, therefore, its chief element of success, viz., the individual self-interest of the producer: if the old proverb be true, "whatever is everybody's business is nobody's," much more true, they say, is it, that what is everybody's interest is nobody's.

Now, my reply is that this old proverb is true no longer; the time was when it was true—the true measure of man's knowledge of his own interest; but now everyday it becomes less and less true, for everyday each man knows his interest better—feels that it is more and more bound up with that of his fellows, and, therefore, that their business is his business, and his business is theirs; and so he and they together are more and more willing to appoint agents who shall do their joint business, and save the time of both; and hence we find the tendency of society is to encrease the power and enlarge the functions of Government, while at the same time it encreases its responsibility, and the number of those to whom it is responsible; and so the members of a community will each find it his individual interest to order its governors, who are his servants, to free

him from the pauper who is a burden on his industry, and to trust them in their efforts, because he knows he can, and they know he will, see that they do their best.

But it is not alone on this general feeling of community of interest that I would rely—on each man's feeling that it would advantage him that this business should be done by the man appointed to do it; but I would make the interest of the man who is appointed and all his mates depend upon its being done—make them feel that it would be altogether sacrificed if it was not done—in a word, in the national workshops I would make the wage of both foreman and workmen depend on good work being turned out. Instead of herding our surplus labourers as we do now in pens, which in mockery we call workhouses, or tempting them to idleness at home by diminishing their wants to the lowest possible point, and then supplying them by our gifts—I would make the gratification of their wants depend on their own industry. Labour, not relief, was, indeed, the original meaning and purpose of our poor-law. The 43rd of Queen Elizabeth decrees that the "overseers shall take order for setting to to work all such persons, married or unmarried, as have no means to maintain them," &c.; and also, "that a convenient stock shall be provided of flax, hemp, &c., to set the poor to work." But, though our ancestors thus exacted labour from the pauper, they forgot to secure him its reward: they relieved him according to his wants, that is, according to their estimate of his wants, not according to his work. No wonder, then, that his labour was inefficient, for it was unpaid: he soon discovered that whether he worked or no his pittance would be neither more nor less, just as much as their fear or conscience induced them to give to save him from starvation, and so being sure of parish pay, he ceased to work for it; or if he did work the parish paid him, but the private employer, the farmer, got the work. And it was to prevent this last robbery of the parish that the new poor-law was passed, with its General Order, declaring that "the payment of wages of able-bodied persons, wholly or partially, out of the poor-rate, is an abuse which must be prevented."

But this abuse, and many another, arose because our ancestors made this great mistake; they looked on the forced idleness of the labourer as a nuisance to themselves instead of an injustice to him; and so they tried to force him to work for their profit instead of enabling him to work for his own.

What, then, I would aim at is the repeal of this general order, which compels paupers to be idle or starve, and to substitute for it regulations which would oblige him to be industrious or destitute. I would have society do its duty to him by enabling him to do his, and then let him suffer the consequences if he neglects it. I would employ the surplus labourer on condition that his reward should depend on his success; that is, that he should be set to task work instead of day work, wherever possible—and in almost all cases task work, with ingenuity, is possible—and that the rate of wage for this taskwork, after deducting a subsistence not more than present parish pittance, should vary according to the profit. For example, take a hundred paupers in an agricultural district—I would put them on a farm with spades in their hands, and keep account of how much each did; and then if there were any surplus after paying their subsistence and the interest of the capital advanced, and the expenses of management—as soon as I had ascertained that it was made, I would divide it, giving each man his share in proportion to the task which he had done.

Possibly it might be best, in order to make the incitement to industry more immediate, to make the subsistence itself vary in some degree according to the efficiency of the labour; but this is a question of detail, as also would be the question whether the salary of the manager should depend in any measure upon the profits. Probably that would not be necessary, for the public is a hard master, and its service no sinecure now-a-days. Besides, the advancement of the managers in their profession would depend on their success; and, indeed, if they worked as hard as the present poor-law officials there would be little fault to find.

Then, as to interference with the private employer, I would provide that the state labourers be engaged only in what you call "primary employments;" that is, in the production of necessities, not nicknacks—of articles the demand for which is only limited by their cost; but with this limita-

tion I would have them employed in whatever seemed most fitted to their previous habits; that is, I would have the state take a farm in Dorsetshire, start a mill for weaving low goods at Bradford, and sink a coal-pit in Durham; and then send its corn, and its stuff, and its coal into the market fearless of the result; knowing that if the private capitalist was undersold it would be because the state made more profit; that is, understood better the art of production, in which case the capitalist would, of course, have no reason to complain.

But, perhaps, it will be said, though the state produce cost more, it may be offered at a less price, because as it must be made, it must be sold; sale, not profit, being the object. My reply is, that the object will still be profit in this case as much in any other; nay, more especially in this case, because the men will be sharers in the profit as well as the masters; and that, moreover, as the state, if it undersells the capitalist without a profit, must underpay the labourer, because its sole pay will be his subsistence, it will not be able to tempt labourers away from the private employer, and so not be able, in any of the articles I limit it to, to employ producers enough to rule the market.

Thus, then, whatever happened, no one could complain. If the experiment succeeded, the ratepayer would get his rate back with the comfort of knowing that it had made his brother a free man, instead of keeping him a slave to idleness; and if it failed the rate receiver would, it is true, get no more; but if he produced anything it would be so much towards his own keep, and, therefore, into the pocket of the ratepayer; and if he produced nothing, that would be only what he does now.

So that at the worst there would be no harm done, but certainly this good, that those who have reason to complain now would have reason to complain no longer; for to all who are unemployed we should give not only employment but guidance: we should not only find them work, and pay them wage for it, but we should also tell them how to earn it, and then, if their earnings be little, it will be because they are poor workmen, and that we cannot help. We should pull them out of the bog in which they are sinking, and make room for them on the path on which we ourselves stand; and, telling them to join hands with us, point them to the hill up which we would climb, but, alas! do not; and more than this we cannot do. And do I think that, after all, they would fall or miss their way? No. I have faith in the strength which God has given them, and in the light which overshines us all, and in our power to bear them up; ay, and I have faith, too, in their power to bear us up, so that together we may stay our downward course, and climb the hill, however steep.

One word with our Socialist friends before I finish; for they too will be objectors, I can well imagine. "Why waste your time in calling out for State efforts," they may say: "Government can do nothing for you; its machinery is worn out; why mend the old rags? Society is about to clothe herself anew in the garments of love and brotherhood, which our warm hearts and busy brains are weaving." All honour to your warm hearts and busy brains, my good friends; but it is only by mending the old rags, one old rag after another, that society will ever get clothed in its new garment; for, if we strip her, she will die of cold. Associations such as you are forming are good things, most useful, most benevolent aids—to the good, the skilful workman; but what right have you to ask him to admit the poor, the unskilled workman into his partnership? If he does so, he will quickly become bankrupt. It is the pauper, the surplus labourer, whom we want to help; but his fellow-labourer is the last person who can help him, for it is all he can do to help himself. What right have we to shift our burden on to the shoulders which are least able to bear it? The only possible association for this surplus labourer is the association which nature has already formed—to which we all belong—is society itself.

Let us, then, remember that we are all associates, members of a community, with each of us our post assigned; and, as we see and feel this truth, we shall confess that the only possible way to arrive at what you call the principle of Communism, which but seems to me the aim of every commonwealth, viz., "concert in the division of employments," is to admit the right of every one of our fellow-citizens to live by work, and to call upon our Government to enforce it.

W. E. FORSTER.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

THIS is Magazine week, but nothing of more than ordinary excellence has caught our eye. *Blackwood* is not so strong as usual, though BULWER continues his novel, and there is some hard hitting in the "Lecture on Journalism." *Fraser* keeps up its varied and pleasant character, the "Note Book of a Naturalist" continuing its delightful communications. *The Rambler* has, of course, an article on the "Hierarchy," but brings forward nothing new; the papers on "Religion and Modern Philosophy" are curious as exhibiting ingenuity in a hopeless attempt. When will men understand that all Truth is of God? When will they confess that the revelations of Science are in open contradiction with the revelations of the Bible? When will they understand that the doctrines of Religion are only attempts to explain the phenomena of the universe and of man's relation to the Deity? Whence it follows, that the early explanations are necessarily imperfect, and must give place to newer and truer explanations, so that while the Religious Sentiment in man remains constant through all the phases of human progress, Religious Doctrines necessarily vary with the varying explanations afforded by advancing knowledge.

Beside the old Magazines new journals are raising their titles. This week we have the first number of *Leigh Hunt's Journal*, which is destined to cultivate our love of the beautiful and progressive. LEIGH HUNT, THOMAS CARLYLE, and WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR, are sounding lures to open with; and, besides the attraction of good names, the new journal has the indispensable quality of filling a place hitherto unoccupied. The section devoted to "Talk of the Week," will be an interesting one; not less so that of "Books speaking for themselves." By uniting the instructive with the æsthetic, this journal will secure a charmed and numerous public.

In France, the literary event of the week is the republication by GUIZOT of his two thoughtful tractates on *Monk* and *Washington*, with appended documents. The *Washington* is tolerably well known here; but the *Monk*, having only appeared in the *Revue Française* (except in the English translation), will, to most readers, be as a new work.

The election of M. D. NISARD to a seat in the Academy excites idle sarcasms and reclamations from some of ALFRED DE MUSSET's admirers. Certainly, if merit were the passport to the Academy, DE MUSSET would have a far higher claim than NISARD; but when was ever merit alone the passport to an Academy? PAUL LOUIS COURIER, in his inimitable Letter on that subject, denies that even high birth is absolutely indispensable—"l'ignorance bien prouvée suffit: well-authenticated ignorance is enough"! In NISARD's case, however, the choice is perfectly justifiable: his merit is undeniable, and is precisely of the academic kind. As an acute critic, a sober thinker, a rigid defender of classic purity and national taste, M. NISARD's claim to a *fauteuil* surpasses that of all his rivals.

In the *Revue des Deux Mondes* (15th November) there is an amusing paper by HENRI BLAZE, on *Verona and Marshal Radetzky*, where, among other matters, he touches upon *Romeo and Juliet*. The house where Juliet was born, lived, and loved, is now turned into a vast warehouse for merchandize by the pitiless prosaism of Time, which respects nothing; and this recalls us to the curious point thrown out for the commentators by M. BLAZE, who was told by an Italian genealogist that the Capulets never belonged to the Veronese nobility—they only were rich merchants, whereas the Montagues were of pure noblesse. SHAKSPEARE, who somehow always manages to be in the right, no matter what his ignorance of the subject, has hit the precise distinction, just as if he had been versed in the whole genealogy. Open the play: and M. BLAZE assures you that, while great stress is laid on the nobility of the proud patrician Montagues, not a word indicates the claim of the Capulets to be more than rich. "He that can lay hold of her shall have the chinks," says Juliet's Nurse; and Capulet is always spoken of as the "rich Capulet."

It is a pity to spoil so pleasant a passage for the

commentators, who always will discover SHAKSPEARE to be minutely right; but a natural suspicion of all French judgments on these matters forced us to look at *Romeo and Juliet*, to see if what M. BLAZE said was correct; had it been so, there would have been no marvel in it, for SHAKSPEARE must, in this matter, have taken his cue from the story, not from genealogists; but, in point of fact, it is not true. The very Prologue thus rudely contradicts it:—

"Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona";—

and County Paris says to Capulet:—

"Of honourable reckoning are you both."

Nay, the very phrase chosen by M. BLAZE, "rich Capulet," is, in the original, a condemnation of his notion;—it is "the great rich Capulet." Moreover, had SHAKSPEARE meant to indicate the distinction, would he not have placed some sarcasms in the mouths of the Montagues?

The *Taschenbücher*, which formerly were even more numerous in Germany than our Annuals at the height of their success, have gradually dwindled down—as with us—to three or four. There is a fashion in books as in everything else; and one may safely assert that the fashion has departed from Annuals. In Germany their place is filled by the pretty children's books, which are now swarming from the press. The best of them is *Der Jugend Kalender*, wherein the illustrations are really artistic. That for 1851 is quite a gem; and, as German now rasps the throats of our very "Young England," this notice may not be unwelcome to parents and godpapas wishing to make presents.

The almanacks are sand-numerous. A passing word is all we can give to WEBER's *Illustrirter Kalender*, with its rivals by GUBITZ and NICRITZ. The comic almanacks are by BRENNGLASS (noticed last week) and the famous KLADDERADATSCH.

For new books we have a novel by the active THEODOR MUNDT, *Die Matadore*—which we shall not read—and two by his wife (who writes under the pseudonym of L. MUHLBACH), called *Johann Gotzkowsky ein Kaufmann aus Berlin* and *Der Zögling der Gesellschaft*—both of which we shall most carefully avoid; but, as you may like German novels, we generously give you the information, with the stoic benevolence of a physician who prescribes a dose that he would shudder at if offered to himself.

But here is something that we, and you, and all German readers will try to get hold of—a Christmas book by BERTHOLD AUERBACH, author of the "Tales of the Black Forest"—it is not yet published, but its title is *Deutsche Abende*. Our graver philosophic friends may be told that CHALYBAUS, whose History of Modern Philosophical Systems is tolerably known here, has published a *Speculative Ethik, oder Philosophie der Familie, des Staates, und der religiösen Sitte*—the only work on philosophy that has been issued for a long while. Barricades have brushed away cobwebs.

SHELLEY used to tell a story of the Italian *douaniers* with infinite relish. He had two books in his trunk, an English Bible and a Latin Spinoza: the Bible was confiscated, the Spinoza was allowed to pass free! This story is recalled to us by the Neapolitan journals, which announce that the Government has prohibited the sale of several very dangerous and anarchical works, among them SOPHOCLES! SHAKSPEARE, SCHILLER, MOLIERE, THIERS, SISMONDI, LAMARTINE, and HUMBOLDT. Some of these we can understand as inspiring terror; but why poor SOPHOCLES is made a Red Republican we cannot divine.

We had something of importance to say upon the new press laws in Saxony, but must reserve it for next week.

THE LADDER OF GOLD.

The Ladder of Gold. An English Story. By Robert Bell. In three volumes. Bentley.

ROBERT BELL is known to the world of letters for a variety of works signed by him, embracing a very wide range—as wide, indeed, as from a History of Russia to a five-act comedy! He has now won laurels in another field, and has written his first novel. It will not be his last, if success may justify prediction.

The Ladder of Gold is a book that once commenced must be read through, for it grasps the attention with a power as great as that of the Ancient Mariner's eye when it fixed the wedding guest. Although

written for monthly publication, it has none of the disjointed and capricious construction which that form usually necessitates. The central figure and the central purpose are never forgotten. The rise and progress of Richard Rawlings, as he steps from the ground to the top of the ladder, Mr. Bell keeps for ever before our eyes; and this artistic construction gives an interest to the story which otherwise it would want.

He has chosen for his theme a story somewhat analogous to that of the ex-Railway King. He has shown us the miserable drudge rising into the successful speculator—the gigantic railway lord—the worshipped high-priest of mammon—the speculator made unscrupulous by success, and finally hurled from his giddy eminence into poverty once more, from which once more his energy rescues him. It is not a satire on George Hudson. With excellent taste Mr. Bell has not only eschewed the cheap success of "scandal," he has also drawn a portrait in all respects differing from that of the railway magnate. How easy it would have been to make merry with the vulgarities and peculiarities which those who crowded round Hudson, like sycophants, were so eager to report like dastards—as if in revenge for their own subserviency! But in taking the subject from actual life Mr. Bell has had the good feeling to create his own hero for it; and wisely. His Richard Rawlings interests us, in spite of some bad traits; and the author is able to "point his moral" with all the greater effect, because we feel that he is not dabbling in scandal, but is dealing with humanity as an artist.

Besides the story, there is a charm in the book in its geniality, its observation of life, its touches of philosophy, and pleasant style. In the literary qualities one may expect to find the experienced author superior to novelists in general; and, therefore, there are no unreadable pages in the three volumes. Yet there is less of mere writing in the book than we usually find. The remarks are well placed and well expressed; the descriptions not too abundant. An occasional touch of the manner of Dickens, in the descriptive passages, mars the effect; and we cannot compliment him on another unconscious imitation of Dickens where Dickens is far from agreeable—we mean in perverse cacophony of names: Sloake, Pogey, Crikey Snaggs, Lord Crickerley, &c., are doubly offensive, being neither tolerable to the ear nor to the understanding, and throwing an unreality into the scenes where they appear. On this subject of names, also, let us note the strange inadvertence of his selecting "Costigan" for his whisky-loving, good-hearted Irishman, at a time when the greatest living novelist had made all England familiar with a "Costigan" no one will forget. These are small matters; but they affect the reader.

In the *Ladder of Gold* we recognize the experience of a man who has observed life. It is not the production of a circulating library. And yet from the very truthfulness of many scenes we are made painfully aware of the exaggeration of others. The nearer a representation approaches reality the more objectionable become all departures from it. In a rude sketch we take no notice of faulty proportions; in an elaborate drawing they are eyesores. We laugh at absurdities in a riotous farce, which in a comedy would call forth indignant hisses. To cite but one example, we ask Mr. Bell to read over again the scene where Lord Valteline and Mr. Pompey Wagstaffe come to Rawlings to borrow money, and then answer whether he thinks that such a scene ever took place in the nineteenth century. Insolence far greater has been shown, but in a softer manner. It is not the matter of the scene so much as its representation that we object to; the manner is common enough in novels, but only met with there.

But we must not fall into a strain of objection, or we shall be contradicting the general impression we have received, and desire to convey, which is unequivocally that of pleasantness. Were our library table less burdened with books demanding notice, we could fill some columns with charming extracts; such as this on

HOARDED RESENTMENT.

"The subtilty that enters into resentments built upon minute points and hoarded trifles, is not easily penetrated by ordinary observers, and is scarcely intelligible to people of large and comprehensive views. There are individuals—not a very numerous class it is to be hoped—who have an extraordinary power, when it serves the occasion, of calling up, out of a lifetime of kindly intercourse, a miraculous collection of small slights and

offences, utterly forgotten by everybody else, if they ever had a real existence, and getting up out of them a plausible catalogue of grievances, which they make it appear that they had borne with exemplary patience. In instances of this nature, however, it generally happens that the grievances are never disclosed till some fortunate opportunity arrives when they can be made use of advantageously, the meek virtue upon which they had been inflicted continuing to bear them with a smiling resignation up to the moment when it can turn them to a profitable purpose."

Or with little aphorisms carelessly thrown into the current, such as this on

HABIT.

"Habit is a great tyrant with lean, lonely people, when their lives become contracted, and their sympathies narrowed to a solitary point;"

which is a truth very finely and powerfully expressed.

As we mean you to read the book we do not intend forestalling interest by an analysis of the story; and will close this meagre account by an extract from the opening chapter, which will give you a "taste of its quality":—

"It was mid-winter; and a heavy fall of snow, depositing itself in all manner of odd nooks and crannies, and leaving sundry parts of the variegated architecture standing up bare and black, was rapidly converting the housetops of a little town on the eastern coast into a chaos of unintelligible shapes and shadows. If the moon could have penetrated the haze which intercepted that heap of human habitations, it must have been considerably perplexed to pick out from the confused mass the outlines of the familiar eaves and fantastic gables of Yarlton.

"Down in the narrow, zigzag streets, the snow was playing the same pantomimic tricks upon window-sills and shop projections, and up entries, and gateways, and blind alleys. Wherever there was a corner that took the wind's eye, it was blockaded by the besieging drift, which swirled upwards in fierce eddies to the chimney-pots, round which it danced and leaped like mad. Old porches, here and there, looked like sheeted sentry-boxes pitched against the dark background of the houses. Crazy wooden lamp-posts were crowned with queer white caps, tied under the chin of the dim light in ragged knots. Grotesque forms, resembling fragments of cats and baboons, were squatted on the swinging sign-boards; and the Golden Canisters, and Red Boots, and Original Hats, which advertised the marine public of Yarlton where the best articles in their respective lines were to be obtained, had put on a wild sort of masquerade, like gorgons and griffins glaring upon you through a mirage.

"There were that night in many great mansions blazing fires and loud revelry, all in-door comforts being wonderfully enhanced by a sense of triumph over the storm which rages outside in the window-panes, but cannot find entrance; and there were also on the bleak highways, and in the ruts on the skirts of villages, many torpid and famished wretches creeping for shelter under walls and hedges, and trying to sustain the life heat till a new day should open upon their wretchedness. But the contrast of extremes does not always touch us so keenly as the strata of mixed existence that lie between wealth and poverty, in which the struggle to keep out the wolf that howls on the threshold is a hundred times more wearing and wasting than downright pauperism, which goes straight to its refuge in the charities of the world.

"Towards the extremity of the main street of Yarlton branched off a small row of houses, inhabited for the most part by the wives of sea-captains and mates of vessels, who, in the tedious intervals of grass-widowhood, while their husbands were absent on long voyages in the China seas, and other remote quarters of the globe, solaced their loneliness by letting lodgings, principally to single gentlemen. From the number of little bills on the shutters, and an occasional display of hard-bake and dusty apples, piled up pyramidically in the windows, it might be surmised that the dwellers in Trafalgar-row did not consider the humblest speculations beneath their attention. Yet, notwithstanding these signs of unobtrusive indigence, the place had a retired and genteel appearance, which might, perhaps, be ascribed to a board at the entrance exhibiting the words, 'No Thoroughfare,' the opposite extremity being boarded up with a notification, addressed in vain to the enterprize of the Yarltonians, that the mysterious space within was to be let for building. This circumstance, although it kept out the public traffic, was nevertheless attended by some inconvenience to the inhabitants, as the aforesaid boarding was the favourite resort of the little boys of the neighbourhood, who used to take an inscrutable delight in peeping through the chinks at the heaps and hollows of earth beyond, where some projector had dabbled in the building lots, and, for want of capital, left his foundations unfinished. With this exception, however, the only invasions to which Trafalgar-row was exposed were from wandering organ-grinders, puppet-shows, and dancing monkeys—a class of entertainments largely patronized by the seaboard population.

"In a little parlour in one of these houses, on the night when the snow had the streets all to itself, and nobody was out of doors that could help it, sat two persons at a table; a man about thirty years of age, but looking much younger, by virtue of a round, fresh-coloured face, beaming with a soft and passive expression, and a woman, his junior by three or four years, but whose pale, lank features and fretful eyes gave her the appearance of being at least ten years older than her companion. This deceptive aspect of youth or age is often a matter of temperament. Some people, Heaven help us, are born old.

"The considerate Muse of this true history drops a veil over the scanty supper, which lay untouched on the table between them. Nor will she make an inventory of the furniture, although it might be done with a few scratches of her pen, except that she thinks it necessary to record that there was a cradle in one corner, with an infant in it; and on the opposite side a dual-functioned piece of carpentry, which served as a settle in the daytime, and as a bed at night, supplying us at once with the etymology of that ancient article called a settle-bed. There was an open cupboard, disclosing imperfect and rather disorderly lines of cups and saucers, and other bits of ware glimmering behind them; and the walls were adorned with half-a-dozen prints of sky-blue sailors, brandishing huge cutlasses heroically in the air; a fancy sketch of 'Sally in our alley,' dressed in a chip hat with streamers, a long puce-coloured sash, short petticoats, like a ballet-girl, and a bunch of flowers in her hand; a ship in full sail upon an ocean of mellow-green billows; and a portrait of Mr. Incedon, in the act of singing 'The Storm,' painted up to the eyes with a round blot of scarlet, that slightly infringed upon the collar of his jacket. In spite of these gay works of art, the room had a penurious and dismal aspect. There was not much fire in the grate, but luckily the grate was small, and favoured the diligence with which the kindly-featured man from time to time repacked the embers to keep them together.

"It's gone ten, John," observed the woman, with a furtive glance at the table.

"Only a few minutes," replied her companion; "wait a little longer."

"Perhaps Raggles is worse to-night," she rejoined.

"Wait a bit, and we shall hear, Nan. Lord bless us, how the wind does tear at that scrap of paper, though the shutters be fastened up outside."

"Ah! just like you. All the Peabodys are the same. As long as you can keep out the cold, and get a scramble of something to eat and drink, you'll never trouble your head about doing anything for the family."

"What would you have me do, Mrs. Peabody?" demanded John, taking a little courage, and looking at his wife through the flame of the candle, which he was not sorry stood between them.

"Do? What every man does that has a wife and child," replied Mrs. Peabody, "You know we haven't had a lodger now for upwards of six weeks, except cousin Richard; and how do you think we can maintain ourselves and pay our rent out of his four shillings a-week, and the trifle you pick up at the wharf? Now, if anything should happen to Raggles, Richard will be thrown out of employ, and we'll lose that, and have to keep him most likely till he gets another berth."

"Sufficient for the day, Nan," returned Mr. Peabody, who was going on with that exemplary axiom, when he was cut short by the lady.

"Sufficient for the fiddlestick," she broke in; "I'd like to see the day when we're to have sufficient. You're an idle man, Peabody; and I'm always telling you that you're a fool, but it's no use. You get down talking to people of a morning, instead of trying to earn something; and I have to face all the worry at home to keep the house over our heads. We owe money to everybody, and it was only a week ago that I sat up all night with Mrs. Muggs' baby in the measles to keep her off me a little longer."

"Well—well," replied Peabody, in a soft and deprecatory tone, "who knows but we'll have a bit of luck by-and-by."

"Luck?" replied Mrs. Peabody, her thin face becoming apparently more thin and pinched than before; "waiting for a bit of luck! A bit of luck, Peabody? What do you mean by a bit of luck?" And this latter interrogatory was uttered in a sort of scream which bore a painful resemblance to a laugh."

POPULAR LAW.

A Popular Lecture on Law, its Origin and Results. By Thomas Turner, of the Middle Temple. F. Elsworth.

We should like to see many popular lectures on the law, pointing out the present evils of the English system of procedure, and showing how the people may assist in producing a speedy and thorough reform of its glaring defects and absurdities. Mr. Turner in his pamphlet speaks of the uninviting nature of the subject. As long as he can only give the reader an idea of the utter unintelligibility pervading the theory and practice of the English law seen by the vision of the common observer, and with difficulty pierced by the long-practised eye of the profession, he cannot expect lectures on the law to be popular. The only popularity to be gained is by insisting on the necessity of reform, showing the benefit to be gained by good, cheap, and simple law. When the law is reformed, popularity may be given to the subject opened to the comprehension of everybody. Law, regulating the transactions between man and man, of all subjects ought to be the most popular, and in its origin was addressed to the people. In its results, it has become most obscure to those whom it was intended to prevent from offences and protect from crime. It has fared as its comates, religion and morality; the simplicity and purity of the original has become disguised by the scribes, lawyers, and pharisees of every age. The words of the law of Moses were read in the audience of the people. The Chinese Government considers itself obliged to read to the people periodically the criminal code, in order that

they may know exactly what to expect as its punishments. Lawmakers were the greatest of mankind. It would not be too much to say, that lawmakers ranked before moral philosophers, founders of religion, the poet or prophet, and the historian of society. Often, however, all characters were incorporated in the one to give effect to the law. Seldom did the lawmaker rest without claiming the authority of heaven, and asserting his laws to be divine as well as human. Men made laws for themselves to regulate their conduct, and from analogy, discovered the laws of physical science. Not only the laws of heaven and earth, regulating the universe by the experience of mankind, were found and laid down by reason intermingled with fancy; but the relations supposed to exist between man and his Maker from the beginning to the end, were the imaginations of the law. There was good and there was evil; there was the right and the wrong; there were those who kept to the law and those who disobeyed its directions; rewards for virtue and punishment for crime in heaven as well as earth. Besides the natural laws of good and evil, determining the measure of happiness and unhappiness to societies and individuals, there were allegories and mythologies of the original inhabitants of the earth transgressing laws imposed upon them direct from heaven, some of which not only brought upon them direct punishment, but accounted for evil and misery throughout all future generations as the results of the sins of their forefathers. The sacrifices of beasts and men, atonements, propitiations, penances and sufferings, were imposed upon themselves by mankind in punishment for the contraventions of the laws of God. The scheme of law has been transferred to heaven, and in lieu of all sinners, the death of one innocent was accepted. Nevertheless, the transgression of the law upon earth was still visited in after life by punishments more or less severe, purgatorial and perpetual. Christianity, especially the Roman version of it, has in hell a system of punishment in the extent of its torture unknown to the ancients or any other theological justice in the world. Until the last and present century the supposed theology of justice and divine law seemed to have inspired the actual and present rivalry with its future ferocity. There were very few offences which were not visited by death, the ultimatum in this world, and perpetual hell in the other. Joseph II., of Austria, who was not supposed to take his law and justice from the Church, repealed capital punishment for all offences, even murder, which we believe, still remains in force in Austria. The code of Akbar, the Mahomedan, founded on the Hindoo, still extant in India, in its mildness might well have put to the blush the Christian conquerors of that peninsula. Simultaneously with the amelioration of codes on the Continent was a theological scepticism which ignored the scriptural interpretation of the severity of future punishments. With us, in England, the Church in the person of a general reformer, Archbishop Whateley, and many other Dissenters, in association with the revision of our earthly penal code, endeavoured to show, from the Old and New Testaments, that there were no such punishments for the body in a future state as had been imagined in perpetual hell torments, and had been practised in this life by the churches. Among the most remarkable of works to this effect was White's *Life in Christ*, and there is a Magazine on our table dedicated to the propagation of the more merciful belief. Frederick the Great ameliorated the laws of Prussia; at the same time some zealous minister of religion gained obloquy from bigots by preaching a reform in opinion as to future punishments. It is related of Frederick, as an anecdote to the point, by the sticklers of old usages, who esteem the salutary effect of infernal torments to the fullest extent, that he said, on hearing of it, "Let them be damned if they like it." It might be as well to show the penal code of eternal hell, and the duration of purgatory attached to mortal and venial sins by the infallible Roman Catholic Church, and which, therefore, can never be amended. Lord Shaftesbury said worshippers might be known by their worship; and, therefore, without any bigotry, we may imagine for the future what we have experienced—the results of such a heavenly code, did the ecclesiastical have a fresh lease of power over the temporal.

There is a law which in revelations, interpretations, legislations of law, divine and human, becomes forgotten and erased. This law is the supreme court of jurisdiction which should try all other laws. It is a revelation which preceded all other revelations, and

by which they are tried. Leading upwards to divinity, and derived from divinity, it is common to all humanity. This is the law of the human heart, moral conscience, or in legal phraseology, perhaps, may be termed equity. The uniformity observed among the lawgivers of all nations, in their codes and moral interpretations, seems to affirm a common origin of truth and common result, loving good, fearing evil, and loving your neighbour as yourself. Professor Maurice, of King's College, from the concordance in laws, morals, and philosophy throughout the world, wherever any systematized procedure has been established, concludes that all nations so circumstanced have had a divine teacher. Analogy from the material universe may enlighten us as to the operations of the human mind. If, as the author of the *Vestiges of Creation* supposes, the progress of the universe has been developed by laws of nature without the imminent agency of divinity, may we not more readily believe what has been confirmed by experience, that law had its growth in humanity, individually and socially, preceding revelations and not arising from direct inspiration. Cicero and Macintosh, and nearly all writers on the law, are obliged to acknowledge, in enquiring into its origin, a law of nature. They agree that, without it, the individual would have been destroyed, society would never have been established,—self-preservation dictated measures against the annihilation of the species. As the universe without order would not be, so without order mankind could not exist. As the Creator is represented establishing a law of good, which could not be without comparison of bad, when it is said of everything that he saw that it was good, so there is primarily in the heart of man a standard of good by which everything is to be tried whether for good or evil.

WILSON ON CATHOLICITY.

Catholicity Spiritual and Intellectual. An attempt to vindicate the Harmony of Faith and Knowledge. A Series of Discourses by Thomas Wilson, M.A., late minister of St. Peter's Maneroft, Norwich. No. II. John Chapman.

We noticed the first of these eloquent and thoughtful discourses some time ago; the publication of the second furnishes us with an extract or two we are glad to place before our readers. Mr. Thomas Wilson was a minister of the Church—his independent mind has led him beyond the shadow of the ancient cathedral, out into the sunshine of the universe at large. To drop metaphor he has passed to the camp of the Spiritualists, desiring *Catholicity* not dogmatism in religion.

REAL CATHOLICITY.

"There can be no bond of peace, and no unity of spirit, without Catholic charity and communion with every nation under heaven, where men worship God with reverence and righteousness, according to their knowledge. To attain this one result, without which faith and knowledge combined are in the Christian balance nothing worth, the churches must cease to propound debateable questions touching dogmatic schemes and scholastic tenets, as inexorable Shibboleths of heaven and hell between man and man. Questions of words and names, of opinion and conjecture, of learning and research, of anise and cumine, must be paled off from the eternal, unchangeable, and universal principles of the spiritual law, the weightier matters of justice, mercy, and faith; brightened by the divinest of the abiding three, the grace that never fails, the grace after God's own heart, trusting all things, hoping all things, believing all things—for the best, whose most excellent name and way, both in heaven and earth, is charity."

The views we have so often put forth in our columns respecting Protestantism, thus meet with his agreement:—

OLD AND NEW PROTESTANTISM.

"This idea of limiting man's communion with his Maker to a stereotyped edition of Revelations, verified and expounded by much learning, has reached its climax under the phase of Church history, which is called Protestantism, marking the momentous and magnificent epoch of the sixteenth century. In order to shake off the heavy yoke of the Papacy, the Lutheran insurgents indignantly, righteously, and successfully spurned the priestly usurpation of a spiritual Fatherhood on Earth. The disciples of the Reformation owed their safety and victory to a Democratic denial of priesthood, and a popular vindication of the rights of private judgment. They refused to acknowledge or tolerate any human mediatorial agency, whether sacrificial or prophetic, between man and his Maker. They utterly and contemptuously repudiated all claims to collective or individual infallibility on the part of Ecclesiastical Councils or their Episcopal Chief, as declaratory channels from the Almighty. Thus was achieved a great triumph towards the recognition and establishment of the dynasty of the Inner Kingdom, for the Churches that had defeated the Roman hierarchy by invoking private judgment against Corporate Rabbinism could not themselves set up the

pretension they had repudiated. Such was the work, good and great as far as it went, of the German Remonstrants, but, like every other human achievement, poor, partial, and inadmissible if rashly put forth as final. The condition of life, physical, intellectual, or spiritual, is movement; we must keep moving, one way or the other, till we cease to be. The rational and faithful continuation of the Teutonic protest against the corporate investment of spiritual oracles in any ecclesiastical priesthood, is the recognition of God's 'Inner Kingdom,' as entrusted to the delegated rule and empowered sufficiency of every humble and faithful disciple.

"The Protestantism of the modern churches has attempted to take up a half-way position between a special Judaic priesthood of caste and class, and the royal Christian priesthood of a peculiar People individually zealous of good works. It has repudiated the pretension to mediation between God and man, but has at the same time declared all divine knowledge to be kept in a casket of which it holds the key. It has made book-lore the arbiter of eternal life or death, and has wound up the interests of immortality in a web of criticism which its own fingers can alone unravel. The unlettered suitor for his soul's salvation must plead his cause before a stern tribunal of forensic theology; he must be prepared for questions of authentic authorship, genuine manuscript, and correct interpretation; he must be versed in the languages, customs, nationalities, and localities of ancient times; must be qualified, in short, for the solution of physical and metaphysical problems, demanding the rarest combination of natural ability and acquired knowledge, with all the means and appliances of health and wealth. Protestantism has thus referred the soul's heritage of faith, hope, and charity, to an incompetent and unauthorized tribunal; it has ignored the constitution and thwarted the jurisdictions of the Inner Kingdom by refusing to render to the spirit the things that are spiritual and to the understanding the things that are intellectual."

We close our extracts with this, showing

A CLERGYMAN'S OPINION OF THE BIBLE.

"As Protestants we must cherish the Bible, but not worship it; the soul must do with it as with the net to which the Kingdom of Heaven is likened in the Gospel,—must choose the good, cast away the bad, and neglect the indifferent; for like the net, the Bible has gathered of every kind. They of old said thus and thus for the hardness of men's hearts,—an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, curse for curse, and blood for blood,—but in the beginning it was not so, neither shall be in the end, but Alpha and Omega shall be the eternal truth proclaimed by Christ in words of spirit and of life, 'I say unto you otherwise, be not ye overcome of Evil, but overcome Evil with Good.' To maintain that the Bible is one book, containing but one doctrine, and no error, is either ignorance, or prejudice, or falsehood. It consists of books written in different ages by men with different measures of inspiration, from the fulness of the Godhead bodily to the ordinary capacity of ordinary authors. Its doctrines vary from the extreme of the narrowest Judaism to that of the most expansive and divine Christianity. Its spiritual errors are confuted line upon line, precept upon precept, by itself, as it puts away childish things, and rises to the stature of perfect manhood in the teacher come from God. But its truth is the perfect wisdom of the spirit, making men wise unto salvation; it never enters upon the domain of intellectual learning and philosophy: it never aims at making men wise unto science; its physical theories are the popular errors of its time,—intelligible errors more useful than unintelligible facts,—for præter-natural meddling with such matters would have been to mar the mind's mission, forestalling its work, and quenching its fire. To define faith, therefore, as belief in the plenary or literal inspiration of the Bible, can only be excused on the score of ignorance or prejudice."

MRS. BROWNING'S POEMS.

Poems. By Elizabeth Barrett Browning. New edition. In two volumes. Chapman and Hall.

(Second Notice.)

"O that I were young and handsome!" exclaimed Hector Berlioz, in one of his *spirituel* feuilletons; "I would make Alboni desperately in love with me, ill treat her, and in six months she would be the greatest singer in the world."

Something of that artistic ferocity we feel towards Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Alboni has not a more peerless gift from Nature, nor a greater need for the glorious baptism of suffering. The godlike power of song has been bestowed upon her; but she has little to sing. For solemn psalms and silver litanies, for playful wanderings of fancy and the delicate delights of reverie, she has a finely-toned organ, and can play such themes with "ravishing division"; fill her soul with the gathered stores of experience, and she will pour them forth in eloquent music; but, meanwhile, her playing is like that of a great artist, who precludes the composition of some noble work by running his fingers over the keys to try the capabilities of the instrument.

For power of expression—the genuine musical utterance of emotion—she has scarcely a rival living. But on closing the second volume, and taking a survey of the contents, we cannot help regarding the present collection as poetic exercises rather than as lasting poems. Compared with her contemporaries

she stands eminent above almost all of them; compared with her peers—the real poets—in the great kingdom of fame—her position is insecure from the meagreness of her material. We insist on this point to explain the fervour of our admiration of her genius, and the coldness of our criticism when her substantive value is to be estimated; and the high standard by which we try her should be kept in view.

Before quoting some samples of her power, one objection must be made. Certain mannerisms of style have been touched upon by others; and indeed are too obvious to escape remark. There is one, however, which amounts to a vulgarism, and must not be overlooked—we mean the laxity of pronunciation implied in such rhymes as “smiling and while in,” “enfolding and told him,” “coming and human.” We are no great sticklers for rigour in rhyme, but smilin’, enfoldin’, and comin’, are vulgarisms of pronunciation. In a subsequent edition these should be removed.

“The Drama of Exile,” which opens the collection, contains abundant examples of that power of poetic expression we just claimed for her; but it is meagre in plan, and quite characterless. Space forbids analysis; we hasten to quote beauties. The least poetic reader will feel the force of this scene—especially the image by which Lucifer paints his own condition:—

“Luc. (after a pause). Dost thou remember, Adam, when the curse

Took us in Eden? On a mountain-peak,
Half-sheathed in primal woods and glittering
In spasms of awful sunshine, at that hour
A lion couched,—part raised upon his paws,
With his calm, massive face turned full on thine,
And his mane listening. When the ended curse
Left silence in the world, right suddenly
He sprang up rampant, and stood straight and stiff,
As if the new reality of death
Were dashed against his eyes, and roared so fierce—
(Such thick carnivorous passion in his throat
Tearing a passage through the wrath and fear)—
And roared so wild, and smote from all the hills
Such fast, keen echoes crumbling down the vales
Precipitately, that the forest beasts,
One after one, did mutter a response
In savage and in sorrowful complaint
Which trailed along the gorges. Then, at once,
He fell back, and rolled crashing from the height,
Hid by the dark-orbed pines.

Adam. It might have been.
I heard the curse alone.

Earth Spirits. I wail, I wail!

Luc. That lion is the type of what I am!
And as he fixed thee with his full-faced hate,
And roared, O Adam!—comprehending doom,—
So, gazing on the face of the Unseen,
I cry out here, between the heavens and earth,
My conscience of this sin, this woe, this wrath,
Which damn me to this depth!

Earth Spirits. I wail, I wail!

Eve. I wail—O God!

Luc. I scorn you that ye wail,
Who use your petty griefs for pedestals
To stand on, beckoning pity from without,
And deal in pathos of antithesis
Of what ye were forsooth, and what ye are;—
I scorn you like an angel! Yet, one cry,
I, too, would drive up, like a column erect,
Marble to marble, from my heart to Heaven,
A monument of anguish, to transpire
And overtop your vapoury complaints
Expressed from feeble woes!

Earth Spirits. I wail, I wail!

Luc. For, O ye heavens, ye are my witnesses,
That I, struck out from nature in a blot,
The outcast, and the mildew of things good,
The leper of angels, the excepted dust
Under the common rain of daily gifts,—
I, the snake; I, the tempter; I, the cursed,—
To whom the highest and the lowest alike
Say, ‘Go from us—we have no need of thee,’—
Was made by God like others. Good and fair,
He did create me!—ask Him, if not fair;
Ask, if I caught not fair and silverly
His blessing for chief angels, on my head,
Until it grew there, a crown crystallized!
Ask, if He never called me by my name.
Lucifer—kindly said as ‘Gabriel’—
Lucifer—soft as ‘Michael’! while, serene,
I, standing in the glory of the lamps,
Answered, ‘My Father,’ innocent of shame
And of the sense of thunder. Ha! ye think,
White angels in your niches, I repent,
And would tread down my own offences, back
To service at the footstool? That’s read wrong:
I cry as the beast did, that I may cry—
Expansive, not appealing! Fallen so deep
Against the sides of this prodigious pit,
I cry—cry—dashing out the hands of wail,
On each side, to meet anguish everywhere,
And to attest it in the ecstasy
And exaltation of a woe sustained
Because provoked and chosen.

Pass along

Your wilderness, vain mortals! Puny griefs,
In transitory shapes, be henceforth dwarfed
To your own conscience, by the dread extremes

Of what I am and have been. If ye have fallen,
It is a step’s fall,—the whole ground beneath
Strewn woolly soft with promise; if ye have sinned,
Your prayers tread high as angels! if ye have grieved,
Ye are too mortal to be pitiable;
The power to die disproves the right to grieve.
Go to! ye call this ruin? I half-scorn
The ill I did you! Were ye wronged by me,—
Hated and tempted, and undone of me,—
Still, what’s your hurt to mine,—of doing hurt,
Of hating, tempting, and so ruining?
This sword’s *hilt* is the sharpest, and cuts through
The hand that wields it.

Go—I curse you all.

Hate one another—feebly—as ye can;
I would not certes cut you short in hate—
Far be it from me! Hate on as ye can!
I breathe into your faces, spirits of earth,
As wintry blast may breathe on wintry leaves,
And, lifting up their brownness, show beneath
The branches very bare.—Beseech you, give
To Eve, who beggarly entreats your love
For her and Adam when they shall be dead,
An answer rather fitting to the sin
Than to the sorrow—as the heavens, I trow,
For justice’ sake, gave theirs.

I curse you both,

Adam and Eve! Say grace, as after meat,
After my curses. May your tears fall hot
On all the hissing scorns of the creatures here.—
And yet rejoice. Increase and multiply,
Ye and your generations, in all plagues,
Corruptions, melancholies, poverties,
And hideous forms of life and fears of death;
The thought of death being always eminent,
Immoveable, and dreadful in your life,
And deafly and dumbly insignificant
Of any hope beyond,—as death itself,—
Whichever of you lieth dead the first
Shall seem to the survivor—yet rejoice?
My curse catch at you strongly, body and soul,
And He find no redemption—nor the wing
Of seraph move your way—and yet rejoice!
Rejoice, because ye have not set in you
This hate which shall pursue you—this fire-hate
Which glares without, because it burns within—
Which kills from ashes—this potential hate,
Wherein I, angel, in antagonism
To God and His reflex beatitudes,
Moan ever in the central universe,
With the great woe of striving against Love—
And gasp for space amid the Infinite—
And toss for rest amid the Desertness—
Self-orphaned by my will, and self-elect
To kingship of resistant agony
Toward the Good round me—hating good and love,
And willing to hate good and to hate love,
And willing to will on so evermore,
Scorning the Past, and damning the To come—
Go and rejoice! I curse you! [LUCIFER vanishes.]

Still finer this scene between Adam and Eve after the “fall”:—

“CHRIST. Speak, Adam. Bless the woman, man—
It is thine office.

Adam. Mother of the world,
Take heed before this Presence. Lo! my voice,
Which, naming erst the creatures, did express—
God breathing through my breath—the attributes
And instincts of each creature in its name;
Floats to the same affatus,—floats and heaves
Like a water-weed that opens to a wave,—
A full-leaved prophecy affecting thee,
Out fairly and wide. Henceforward, rise, aspire
Unto the calms and magnanimities,
The lofty uses and the noble ends,
The sanctified devotion and full work,
To which thou art elect for evermore,
First woman, wife, and mother.

Eve.

And first in sin.

Adam. And also the sole bearer of the Seed
Whereby sin dieth! Raise the majesties
Of thy disconsolate brows, O well-beloved,
And front with level eyelids the To come,
And all the dark o’ the world. Rise, woman, rise
To thy peculiar and best altitudes
Of doing good and of enduring ill,—
Of comforting for ill, and teaching good,
And reconciling all that ill and good
Unto the patience of a constant hope,—
Rise with thy daughters! If sin came by thee,
And by sin, death,—the ransom-righteousness,
The heavenly life and compensative rest
Shall come by means of thee. If woe by thee
Had issue to the world, thou shalt go forth
An angel of the woe thou didst achieve;
Found acceptable to the world instead
Of others of that name, of whose bright steps
Thy deed stripped bare the hills. Be satisfied;
Something thou hast to bear through womanhood—
Peculiar suffering answering to the sin;
Some pang paid down for each new human life;
Some weariness in guarding such a life—
Some coldness from the guarded; some mistrust
From those thou hast too well served; from those beloved
Too loyally, some treason: feebleness
Within thy heart,—and cruelty without;
And pressures of an alien tyranny,
With its dynastic reasons of larger bones
And stronger sinews. But, go to! thy love
Shall chant itself its own beatitudes,
After its own life-working. A child’s kiss,
Set on thy sighing lips, shall make thee glad;
A poor man, served by thee, shall make thee rich;

A sick man, helped by thee, shall make thee strong;
Thou shalt be served thyself by every sense
Of service which thou renderest. Such a crown
I set upon thy head,—Christ witnessing
With looks of prompting love,—to keep thee clear
Of all reproach against the sin foregone,
From all the generations which succeed.
Thy hand which plucked the apple, I clasp close;
Thy lips which spake wrong counsel, I kiss close,—
I bless thee in the name of Paradise,
And by the memory of Edenic joys
Forfeit and lost;—by that last cypress-tree,
Green at the gate, which thrilled as we came out;
And by the blessed nightingale, which threw
Its melancholy music after us;—
And by the flowers, whose spirits full of smells
Did follow softly, plucking us behind
Back to the gradual banks and vernal bowers
And fourfold river-courses:—by all these,
I bless thee to the contraries of these;
I bless thee to the desert and the thorns,
To the elemental change and turbulence,
And to the roar of the estranged beasts,
And to the solemn dignities of grief,
To each one of these ends,—and to this END
Of Death and the hereafter!”

Her translation of the “Prometheus Bound” is a magnificent sample of feminine scholarship, and must be accepted as the finest version we have yet had of that difficult work. Microscopic criticism will discover flaws, but the whole commands our homage. As a sample of the flaws we cannot help noticing her rendering of two famous lines—the one which, in the review of Professor Blackie’s *Æschylus* (vide No. 17), we ventured to translate thus—

“I gave blind hopes a dwelling in their breasts”

(literally, “I made blind hopes house in them”), Mrs. Browning renders

“I set blind hopes to inhabit in their houses.”

κατρκισα seems to have misled her into a weaker image than the original. The second is the constantly quoted *ἄνθρωπον γέλασμα*, thus rendered:—

“Riverwells and laughter infinite
Of yon sea waves!”

The passage is, we are aware, a puzzle to translators, but “infinite” is clearly the wrong word, and destroys the image; Blackie’s “multitudinous laughter” is the best yet given, for *ἄνθρωπον* brings before the eye the image of the sea wrinkled all over with laughter. But, away with the microscope! Take up the volume, and be proud of English maidens, when one of them can thus wrestle with the Titan!

“The Vision of Poets” will recal Tennyson’s “Palace of Art.” Instead of speaking of its plan we will cull a nosegay from it:—

“These were poets true

Who died for Beauty, as martyrs do
For Truth—the ends being scarcely two.

God’s prophets of the Beautiful
These poets were—of iron rule,
The rugged cilix, serge of wool.

Here, Homer, with the broad suspense
Of thunderous brows, and lips intense
Of garrulous god-innocence.

There, Shakespeare! on whose forehead climb
The crowns o’ the world. Oh, eyes sublime—
With tears and laughter for all time!

Here, Æschylus,—the women swooned
To see so awful, when he frowned
As the gods did,—he standeth crowned.

Euripides, with close and mild
Scholastic lips,—that could be wild,
And laugh or sob out like a child,

Right in the classes. Sophocles,
With that king’s look which, down the trees,
Followed the dark effigies

Of the lost Theban. Hesiod old,
Who, somewhat blind and deaf and cold,
Cared most for gods and bulls. And bold

Electric Pindar, quick as fear,
With race-dust on his cheeks, and clear,
Slant startled eyes that seem to hear

The chariot rounding the last goal,
To hurtle past it in his soul.
And Sappho, crowned with aureole

Of ebon curls on calmed brows—
A poet-woman! none forgoes
The leap, attaining the repose!

Theocritus, with glittering locks
Dropt sideways, as betwixt the rocks
He watched the visionary flocks.

And Aristophanes, who took
The world with mirth, and laughter-struck
The hollow caves of Thought and woke

The infinite echoes hid in each.
And Virgil: shade of Mantuan beech
Did help the shade of bay to reach

And knit around his forehead high;—
For his gods wore less majesty
Than his brown bees hummed deathlessly.

Lucretius—nobler than his mood :
Who dropped his plummet down the broad
Deep universe, and said, 'No God,'

Finding no bottom: he denied
Divinely the divine, and died
Chief poet on the Tiber-side,

By grace of God! his face is stern,
As one compelled, in spite of scorn,
To teach a truth he could not learn.

And Ossian, dimly seen or guessed :
Once counted greater than the rest,
When mountain-winds blew out his vest.

And Spenser drooped his dreaming head
(With languid sleep-smile, you had said,
From his own verse engendered)

On Ariosto's, till they ran
Their locks in one.—The Italian
Shot nimbler heat of bolder man

From his fine lids. And Dante, stern
And sweet, whose spirit was an urn
For wine and milk poured out in turn.

Hard-souled Alfieri; and fancy-willed
Boiardo, who with laughers filled
The pauses of the jostled shield."

"'Tis an excellent piece of work, madam, lady;
comes there more of it?" Ay, much more; but
something every now and then we do not understand.
Goethe, for example, would have tried the limner's
skill, but what sort of sketch is this?—

"And Goethe—with that reaching eye
His soul reached out from, far and high,
And fell from inner entity."

Our Latin and our psychology are equally at fault
here. Similar defects mar with obscurity several of
her pages.

We have not quoted half the passages we marked
for the purpose; and must positively contrive to in-
sert a third notice of these volumes, in spite of the
pressure of new publications. To leave off with an
objection would be unfair to our own admiration, not
to mention the reader, so we close this with a sonnet
that shall sing its own praises:—

"CONSOLATION."

"All are not taken! there are left behind
Living Beloveds, tender looks to bring,
And make the daylight still a happy thing,
And tender voices, to make soft the wind.
But if it were not so—if I could find
No love in all the world for comforting,
Nor any path but hollowly did ring,
Where 'dust to dust' the love from life disjoined—
And if before those sepulchres unmoving
I stood alone (as some forsaken lamb
Goes bleating up the moors in weary dearth),
Crying, 'Where are ye, O my loved and loving?'
I know a Voice would sound, 'Daughter, I AM . . .
Can I suffice for HEAVEN, and not for earth?'"

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

*First Latin Reading Lessons, with Complete Vocabularies; in-
tended as an Introduction to Cæsar.* By John Robson, B.A.
Taylor, Walton, and Maberly.

Another excellent educational work, by the author of
those *Constructive Latin Exercises* formerly reviewed by
us. The present is little more than a reprint of the
second part of the Exercises, with a preface and a voca-
bulary to save reference to dictionaries. The principle
upon which it is founded, viz., that of gradual though
slow ascent from the simple to complex sentences, with
the incessant repetition of forms and words, seems to us
the very best principle for fixing the meaning in the
youthful mind.

Chapman and Hall's Penny Maps. Part 5.

This excellent series of maps sustains its character and,
if anything, rather improves in execution upon the first
number. So cheap a work has never before been pub-
lished, keeping in view the style with which it is executed.
Fathers of families and heads of schools must be very
grateful to Messrs. Chapman and Hall. Part 5 contains
four maps representing Italy, Sardinia, and Corsica.

Conversations of Goethe with Eckerman and Soret. Translated
from the German. By John Oxenford. 2 vols.

Smith and Elder.

Game Birds and Wild Fowl; their Friends and their Foes. By
A. E. Knox, M.A., F.L.S.

Van Voorst.

The Girlhood of Shakespeare's Heroines. By Mary Cowden
Clarke. Tale 1. Portia, the Heiress of Belmont.

W. H. Smith and Son.

A Practical Treatise on Musical Composition. By G. W.
Kühner. Second part. Counterpoint.

Longman and Co.

*Glimmerings in the Dark; or, Lights and Shadows of the
Olden Time.* By F. Sommer Merewether.

Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

*Sketches of her Majesty's Household, and a Guide to Situations
in the Queen's Domestic Establishment.*

W. Strange.

*Royal Correspondence.—The Private Letters of Queen Victoria
and Louis Philippe.*

W. Strange.

Knight's Pictorial Shakespeare. Part IV. (King John.) National
Edition.

Charles Knight.

Half-Hours with the Best Authors. Part IX.

Charles Knight.

Pictorial Half-Hours. Part VII.

Charles Knight.

Knight's Cyclopædia of the Industry of All Nations. Part I.

Charles Knight.

PERIODICALS FOR DECEMBER.

Fraser's Magazine.

The Rambler.

The Reasoner.

The Looker-On. Edited by Fritz and Liolett.

The Freethinker's Magazine.

Robert Owen's Journal.

Leigh Hunt's Journal.

Household Words.

OUR UNIVERSITIES.—"Noble buildings! and noble
institutions! given freely to the people by those
who loved the people, and the Saviour who died
for them. They gave us what they had, those me-
diæval founders: whatsoever narrowness of mind or
superstition defiled their gift was not their fault,
but the fault of their whole age. The best they knew
they imparted freely, and God will reward them for it.
To monopolize those institutions for the rich, as is done
now, is to violate both the spirit and the letter of the
foundations; to restrict their studies to the limits of
middle-age Romanism, their conditions of admission to
those fixed at the Reformation, is but a shade less
wrongful. The letter is kept—the spirit is thrown away.
You refuse to admit any who are not members of the
Church of England;—say, rather, any who will not sign
the dogmas of the Church of England, whether they be-
lieve a word of them or not. Useless formalism! which
lets through the reckless, the profligate, the ignorant,
the hypocritical; and only excludes the honest and the
conscientious, and the mass of the intellectual working
men. And whose fault is it that THEY are not members
of the Church of England? Whose fault is it, I ask?
Your predecessors neglected the lower orders, till they
have ceased to reverence either you or your doctrines;—
you confess that, among yourselves, freely enough. You
throw the blame of the present wide-spread dislike to
the Church of England on her sins during 'the godless
eighteenth century.' Be it so. Why are those sins to
be visited on us? Why are we to be shut out from the
universities, which were founded for us, because you
have let us grow up, by millions, heathens and infidels,
as you call us? Take away your subterfuge! It is not
merely because we are bad churchmen that you exclude
us, else you would be crowding your colleges, now, with
the talented poor of the agricultural districts, who, as
you say, remain faithful to the church of their fathers.
But are there six labourers' sons educating in the uni-
versities at this moment? No! The real reason for our
exclusion, churchmen or not, is because we are *poor*—
because we cannot pay your exorbitant fees, often, as in
the case of bachelors of arts, exacted for tuition which
is never given, and residence which is not permitted—
because we could not support the extravagance which
you not only permit, but encourage, because, by your own
unblushing confession, it insures the university 'the
support of the aristocracy.' 'But, on religious points,
at least, you must abide by the statutes of the university.'
Strange argument, truly, to be urged literally by
English Protestants in possession of Roman Catholic
bequests! If that be true in the letter, as well as in the
spirit, you should have given place long ago to the
Dominicans and the Franciscans. In the spirit it is
true, and the Reformers acted on it when they rightly
converted the universities to the uses of the new faith.
They carried out the spirit of the founders' statutes by
making the universities as good as they could be, and
letting them share in the new light of the Elizabethan
age. But was the sum of knowledge, human and divine,
perfected at the Reformation? Who gave the Reformers,
or you, who call yourselves their representatives, a right
to say to the mind of man, and to the teaching of God's
Spirit, 'Hitherto, and no farther.'"—*Alton Locke.*

The Arts.

THE PERFECTION OF ACTING.

If you desire to see really perfect acting, rush to the
LYCEUM and be astonished at *The Day of Reckoning*.
Astonishment elevates your eyebrows at the Lyceum
venturing upon a French *drame* instead of its cus-
tomary farces, comedies, and burlesques—a *drame*,
too, prohibited in Paris because of its revolutionary
tendency (poor Parisians!)—a *drame* presenting the
ignoble scenes of the *tapis franc*—a burglary—
attempted assassination—scoundrelism of various
kinds—and, finally, a bloody duel, cutting short the
existence of—Charles Mathews of all persons in the
world!—a *drame* contrasting the *blouse* and the frock
coat—the rich and the poor—the law's injustice and
the villainy of the great;—a *drame* which, in its ori-
ginal shape, *L'Enfant de Paris*, excited the invective
of Jules Janin through twelve columns, to the virtuous
indignation of its author, Emile Souvestre, who pro-
tested his *drame* was perfectly moral;—well, this
drame you find altered from five acts to three, and
otherwise improved by the accomplished Planché,
and presented to a thrilled Lyceum audience! Having
recovered your astonishment at this venture and its
perfect success—having been astonished at the *mise*
en scène (but you are accustomed to that in this
theatre)—the lasting astonishment is that Vestris
should perform a pathetic noble woman, and perform
it as no actress on our stage could do it! That is
something to marvel at. Vestris, the greatest pet of
the public, will startle even her greatest admirers in
this part; for, assuredly, no one ever believed her
powers lay at all in that direction. Yet I assure you
her acting is quite a study. My readers have learned
by this time that I am not a very great admirer

of modern acting; and if, when I *do* admire, I ex-
press myself enthusiastically, yet I am not easily
roused to enthusiasm; and I declare to them that
the acting of Vestris and Charles Mathews in the
new piece gave me more unmixed delight—more
exquisite enjoyment—than I have for a long while
received from the English stage. All the freshness of
early enjoyment came back upon me, and no boy
ever relished his first play more!

The secret of all this? Nothing can be simpler.
Vestris and Charles Mathews were *natural*—nothing
more, nothing less. They were a lady and gentle-
man such as we meet with in drawing-rooms, grace-
ful, quiet, well-bred, perfectly dressed, perfectly
oblivious of the footlights. He is a polished villain—
a D'Orsay without conscience, and without any of
the scowlings, stampings, or intonations of the ap-
proved stage villain. There are scoundrels in high
life—but they are perfectly well-bred. Whatever
faults there may be in their conduct, their deport-
ment is irreproachable. This is the villain repre-
sented by Charles Mathews—a man of fashion,
reckless, extravagant, heartless, but perfectly un-
conscious of his being worse than his neighbours.
Those who are familiar with his *Used Up* will under-
stand how he represents the quiet elegance of the
part: but they must see him in this to appreciate
his refined villainy, cool self-possession, and gentle-
manly devilishness. In every detail of his dress, in
every gesture, and in every look I recognized an
artist representing Nature. It is, of course, a higher
thing to play Othello or Macbeth, and I do not wish
to exaggerate the importance of this part; but I say
that in this part he plays to *perfection*: a Teniers may
not be a Raphael, but it is worth a hundred ambitious
attempts at Raphael.

This reliance upon Nature is what touches me so
in Vestris. Her character is one which in most
hands would become insipid or melodramatic: a sad,
neglected wife, loving another man, of whom her
husband is jealous, and solacing her unhappiness by
constant beneficence to the poor—a noble, loving,
suffering woman, she stands there represented with
a truth, a grace, a gentle pathos I have no epithets
to characterize. The sad dignity with which she
bears her husband's insults, the terror which agi-
tates her when that husband intimates his knowledge
that her lover is in an adjoining room, and that he,
the husband, is permitted by the law to kill him—
these things are represented in a manner very unlike
that current on the stage—and recal the finished art
of French comedy. I am well aware that a little
ranting and "letting down the back hair" would
have "told" upon the audience with more noisy
effect; but the difference is that I carry away from
the theatre an exquisite picture, on which it is de-
lightful to dwell, which reflection tells me was per-
fect in its art; and if the audience did not shout
hoarse bravos at the time they felt it quite as
vividly, and will go to see it again and again, certain
of being charmed.

Oh! what a contrast between the natural manner
of these two and the stage manner and stage life of
all the rest! Yet the others *played* well too—notably
Frank Matthews (a real bit of character!), Roxby,
and George Vining. But the contrast was between
sunshine and the footlights—the ruddy cheek and
the rouged cheek—the grace of a graceful woman
and that of an opera dancer. I insist upon this
point, for the public, the critics, and the actors may
here read a valuable lesson as to what constitutes
acting: a thing at present they seem to have the
wildest notions of, and the ignorance of the public
reacts upon the performer, forcing him often to dis-
obey his own conceptions to gain their ignorant ap-
plause.

VIVIAN.

MIND YOUR STOPS!

A pleasant little piece under this title has been
produced at the Olympic, as if on purpose to show
how a smart pen and clever actors can dispense with
novelty of incident. A village hairdresser (the
scene is a Continental one), presuming on his sup-
posed position as the holder of a lottery-ticket which
confers on him a chateau and a title, endeavours to
put aside his engagement with an innkeeper's
daughter, and makes haughty love to a baroness.
The occasional compunction of the barber, who de-
plores the difficulty of being a gentleman without
being a blackguard, is capably given by Compton;
and his injured affianced finds a suitable representa-
tive in Miss Louisa Howard. The discovery that a
mistake has been made in the number of the ticket,
which instead of being 66 is 99, restores the barber to
reason; and a handsome present from the real
winner of the chateau and the baroness allays his
pain of disappointment; particularly as, without the
lady, he would have been merely the possessor of a
moneyless title and an empty house. A short half-
hour is thus merrily run through, and a pleased
audience justly applauds.

This has been the only novelty of the week, unless
we except the revival of that dreary play, *Richard II.*,
for Macready; and the revival of that genial, mirth-
provoking, most attractive farce—*To Parents and*
Guardians—for the Keeleys and Wigan in their ori-
ginal characters.

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—
GORTHE.

THE DEFEAT.

The struggle's o'er, and once again
Foul wrong has trampled on the right;
Yet, sadly they misjudge the fight
Who think that we have fought in vain.

'Tis true, no well-fought field we boast;
'Tis true, we wear no laurel-bough;
But 'tis not true (through failing now),
In losing this, that all is lost.

Think not that martyrs die in vain;
Think not that truth so soon will fail:
We only bow before the gale,
We only break to form again.

These are but flashes which forerun,
As heralds of the tempest's power,
And serve to light the clouds that tower,
And show the storm has not begun.

There groweth up a mighty will,
And time will only give it force;
Through somewhat swerving in its course,
It tendeth to an object still;

And, toiling upward to the place,
Where shines the everlasting morn,—
Not fearing hate, nor heeding scorn,
The vanguard of a wavering race.

Through vengeance was the battle-cry,
And fell revenge first drew the sword;
More firm in act, more true in word,
We seek a nobler victory.

And all the failures in the past
But make the future more secure;
And bygone sufferings ensure
The triumph of our cause at last.

Secure in truth, we wait the day
As watchers wait the morning light;
For time will only strengthen right,
The false alone need dread delay.

Nov. 10, 1850.

H. R. NICHOLLS.

PERSECUTION.

To roast a man's body for the good of his soul and the glory of God was the agreeable pastime of pious fervour in that "Religion of our fathers" which we are often urged to "stand by." But, like many other methods for the propagation of the Gospel, it has fallen somewhat into discredit in our degenerate prosaic times; and now each party is as anxious to disclaim the method as it formerly was to practise it. To listen to the indignant sarcasms which Protestants utter on platforms and in journals against the "persecuting Papists," and the virtuous horror with which they endeavour to inspire all England against this culinary creed ("so dreadful in families"!) one might really imagine that Persecution was the monopoly of Rome, and that Protestants were guiltless of all imputations on that score.

Historically considered, this is a barefaced falsehood. If we are to judge between the two creeds by the exhibition they make in the pages of history, they both look so disgraceful, that the verdict alternates from one to the other. But, as our word will not be taken for this, and we are not disposed to print a history of Europe in our columns, the dispassionate sentence of Henry Hallam—the most impartial of historians, and himself a Protestant—must suffice. "Persecution," he says, in *The Constitutional History of England*, "is the deadly and original sin of the Reformed Churches; that which cools every honest man's zeal for their cause, in proportion as his reading becomes more extensive." Glib orators, in their thunder at the Papists, will do well to remember this. History can only be invoked to their shame. If Galileo, Giordano Bruno, Vanini, and others serve to point a sarcasm—and a just one—against the Christianity which persecuted them, the cries of Servetus and others should warn Protestants not to open graves, for the merciless cat-like cruelty of Calvin was applauded by Christians, who boasted that they had restored the human soul to freedom!

Leave History alone. The better Catholics are ashamed of the past, as we are, as all true-hearted men must be. But if the auto-da-fe is no longer fashionable, the spirit which lighted the fagots still burns in ungenerous hearts. Persecution adopts new Inquisitions, but it has only changed the name. Let any man look into our domestic history, and see if the spirit of tolerance operates beneficently; let any man examine for himself the amount of freedom of opinion which exists on those awful subjects whereof the knowledge of the greatest philosopher is no greater than that of the smallest child! But Intolerance is petty, though virulent; it does not roast your

body for the eternal welfare of your soul, it attacks your character, tortures your soul, cools your friends, heats your enemies, turns against you the feelings of your fellows—and talks of Charity and doing unto others as we would be done by!

But we said that it was in ungenerous hearts that the spirit of Intolerance now rages. Far be it from us to malign the thousands in whom it is extinct! That it is extinct, the existence of this Journal proves, for this Journal is proud to number among its staunch supporters men of great and noble intellect, who look upon its opinions as erroneous, dangerously erroneous, but who meet them manfully in the open field of free discussion, and would rather encourage our open speaking than the equivocation of others. These men are real Protestants, the energetic workers in the cause of human progress. They know the folly as well as the wickedness of persecution, and know that Truth, to use the quaint illustration of an old writer, is like a cork in water, which will ever get uppermost though you strive to keep it down.

SKETCHES FROM LIFE.

By HARRIET MARTINEAU.

III.—THE MAID-SERVANT.

"WHERE is Jemima? I want Jemima," said a feeble voice, interrupted by coughing, from a bed in a sick room.

"My dear," said an elderly woman, who entered through an open door from the west chamber, "Jemima is gone to lie down. What can I do for you?"

"I want Jemima," was the reply: and Jemima appeared. In she came, with her young, innocent, chubby face, looking as fresh as if she had been accustomed of late to sleep every night, as other people do, whereas she had been night and day, for some weeks, by the bedside of her mistress, who was dying of consumption. Her master was very ill too, and the whole of the nursing rested upon his mother, and upon this, their little maid-of-all-work, who was then fifteen.

When Jemima had comforted and refreshed her poor mistress, the mother-in-law whispered to her that she must go and lie down again; but Jemima said a little fresh air would do her more good than lying down with the feeling that she was wanted. The medicines for the evening had not come, and she would go for them, and to the grocer's.

Thus it went on to the end. Jemima always found that her best refreshment was in doing something that was wanted. She was always at her mistress's call; and, when that call was unreasonable, she was the first to observe that dying persons did not always know the night from the day, or judge how time went with other people, when it was all so long to them, and they could get no rest. When the funeral was over, her elder mistress made her to go to bed for nearly a week. At first she cried so much, as she lay thinking of the one who was gone, that she would rather have been up and busy; but soon a deep sleep fell upon her; and when she rose, her face was as chubby and her voice as cheerful as ever.

The same scene had to be gone over with her master. He died of consumption two months after his wife. As there were now two nurses to one patient, Jemima's work was not quite so trying; but she did more than most trained nurses could have done. When the funeral was over, she helped the bereaved mother to clear the house, and put away everything belonging to those that lay in the churchyard. The tears were often running down her cheeks; but her voice was always cheerful, as she said things were best as they were, her friends having gone together to a better place.

One summer evening, when Mr. and Mrs. Barclay and their family returned from a walk, they found at their door a genteel-looking little girl, who had just knocked. She was in a black stuff gown, with a grey handkerchief crossed over her bosom; and a black straw hat, under which was the neatest little quaker cap. She curtsied, and said she came after the housemaid's place. Mrs. Barclay would have dismissed her at once, as too young, but for something in her face and manner which seemed to show that her mind was that of an older person. She said she was very strong, and willing to be taught and trained. Mrs. Barclay promised to enquire her character, and that enquiry settled the business.

"Ma'am," said the bereaved mother, "I would never part with Jemima, if I could by any means keep her. I never saw such a girl. It seems impossible to exhaust her, body or mind, on account, I think, of her good will." And she gave the whole story of the two illnesses. When asked what the girl's faults were, as she must have some, she said she really did not know: she supposed there must be some fault; but she had never seen any. She had known Jemima only six months, and under peculiar circumstances; she could not tell how she would get on in a regular housemaid's place; but she had never had to find fault with her. Of course, Jemima went to Mrs. Barclay. Her wages were to be £5 a-year at first, and to encrease to £8 as she grew up, and became trained.

The training was no trouble to anybody. When she had once learned where every thing was in the house, and what were the hours and ways of the family, her own sense and quickness did the rest. She was the first person awake and up. She never lost, or broke, or forgot anything. Never, during the years of her service, was there a dusty, dark corner in her pantry, nor a lock of "slut's wool" under any bed, nor a streaky glass on the sideboard, nor a day when the cloth was not laid to a minute. She never slammed a door; and if there was a heavy foot overhead it was not hers. She and her

fellow-servants had their time, after seven in the evening, for their own work; and Jemima was a capital needlewoman, and worked for somebody else besides herself. She would ask the nursemaid to read aloud, and, in return, she would make or mend a gown for her. She reduced her own gowns, when they began to wear, for her little sister Sally. The wonder was how she could afford this, out of her small wages; but she was always nicely dressed; and she soon began to spare money for other objects which her friends thought should not have been pressed upon one in her circumstances. This was after a great change had come over her mind and life.

It was true that Jemima was not without a fault, any more than other people. Her temper was not perfectly good. Her mistress soon perceived this, by certain flashes from her eyes, and flushes of her cheeks, and quick breathing, and hurry of speaking. It was not much at first; no more than just enough to show that Jemima could be in a passion, and probably would some day. The sufferings of her deceased master and mistress had kept this down while she was with them. Their deaths had made a deep impression upon her, and had disposed her naturally religious temper to be strongly wrought upon by the first religious influence which should come in her way. A new Methodist minister had been very acceptable to the people who attended the Apple-lane meeting-house; and, within a year after going to the Barclays, Jemima requested permission to attend that place of worship, instead of following the family to their own chapel on Sundays. Mrs. Barclay was sorry, because she liked to see her servants at worship near her own pew; but Jemima was always so trustworthy, and on this occasion so earnest, that it did not seem right to deny her; and she became a member of the Apple-yard Meeting Society. Very soon she asked leave to go an hour sooner on Sunday mornings to attend class; and then to go there one evening in the week, and sometimes two. As her work was never neglected, this, too, was permitted. Very soon it appeared that she was subscribing annually, quarterly, weekly, to missionary objects and sectarian funds. How she managed it nobody could understand; but she did it, and honestly. Her dress reached the last point of plainness and cheapness; but it was as neat as ever; so that it was wholly her own affair. A less pleasant change was that her temper was far from improving. She would have none but religious books read in the kitchen, and could tolerate no singing but hymns. She winced when anybody laughed. A contraction came over her open brow, and a sharpness into her once cheerful voice. Not satisfied with pressing her views upon her fellow-servants, she became critical upon the ways of the family. One of their customs was to receive, on Sunday evenings, two or three young men, who, living alone, liked to spend their Sunday evenings in a sociable manner. There was always Scripture-reading and prayer, and often sacred music. In summer there was a country walk; in winter cheerful conversation, with an occasional laugh, which could be heard in the kitchen. This was too much for Jemima; but a worse thing was the supper. Like most old-fashioned Dissenters, the Barclays dined at one o'clock on Sundays, and, naturally, they had some supper at nine. It was simple enough; but the servant whose turn it was to stay at home had sometimes to poach eggs or dress a cutlet; and Jemima's repugnance to this was so far from being concealed that it amounted at last to extreme impertinence; and she went so far as to express her contempt and abhorrence to the child, whom it was her business to put to bed. Her mistress always hoped that the fit of fanaticism would pass off with months or years, and the sooner for not being interfered with; but this behaviour could not be passed over. When the rebuke was given poor Jemima emptied her heart completely; and very curious the contents proved to be. It appeared that she despised the family she lived with, though she was fully resolved to do her duty by them. She feared they were lost people; but they might yet be saved, and it was her business to serve them, and not to judge them. She hoped she had not failed in her duty; but her feelings and her thoughts were her own. If she must not speak them, she could hold her tongue, and bear the cross of so doing; but nobody could take them from her. There was so much that was respectable and really fine in her ardour and conscientiousness, that she was gently treated, and only forbidden to make any complaints to the younger members of the family. One most important disclosure at this time was that she was engaged to be married; not yet, but some time or other.

Her lover was a class-mate, apprenticed to a shoemaker, with two years of his apprenticeship still to run. On enquiry he was found to be thoroughly respectable as to character, diligent in his business, and likely to be an able workman. So he was allowed to call for Jemima on class evenings, and to come now and then to the house. The Barclays knew when he was there by hearing a man's voice reading in the kitchen, when the door was opened, or by the psalm-singing, which needed no open doors to make itself heard.

Jemima was now, however, unsettled; not at all by her engagement, for nothing could be more sober and rational than the temper and views of the young people as regarded each other and their prospects; but the poor girl felt that she was living in a sort of bondage, while yet she could blame nobody for it. She sighed for freedom to lead the sort of religious life she wished, without interruption from persons of a different way of thinking. I believe she was nineteen or twenty when she told Mrs. Barclay what she had been planning; and Mrs. Barclay was not altogether sorry to hear about it, for Jemima had lost much of her openness and cheerfulness, bounced about when doing her work, and knocked hard with her brushes when

cleaning floors overhead. There was evidently an internal irritation, which might best be relieved by total change.

The plan was for Jemima and a pious friend, about her own age, to take a room and live together, maintaining themselves by working for the upholsterers. The girls thought they could make money faster this way than at service, as both were good workwomen, and could live as cheaply as anybody could live. If they found themselves mistaken they could go back to service. Jemima avowed that her object was to lay by money, as Richard and she had resolved not to marry till they could furnish their future dwelling well and comfortably. This might have been a rash scheme for most girls; but these two friends were so good and so sensible, and knew their own purposes so well, that nobody opposed their experiment.

It was really a pleasure to go and see them when they were settled. They chose their room carefully, for the sake of their work, as well as their own health. Their room was very high upstairs; but it was all the more airy for that, and they wanted plenty of light. And very light it was,—with its two windows on different sides of the room. The well-boarded floor looked a clean as their table. There were plants in the windows; and there was a view completely over the chimneys of the city to the country beyond. Their most delicate work could get no soil here. They were well employed, and laid by money, as fast as they expected.

Still it seemed, after a time, that Jemima was not yet happy. Her face was anxious, and her colour faded. She often went to work at the Barclays; as often as Mrs. B. could find any upholstery, or other needlework, for her to do. One object was to give her a good hot dinner occasionally; for it seemed possible that she might be living too low, though she declared that this was not the case. One day she happened to be at work in the dining-room with Mrs. Barclay, when one of the young ladies went in. Jemima was bending over her work; yet Miss B. saw that her face was crimson, and heard that her voice was agitated. On a sign from her mother, the young lady withdrew. One evening the next week Richard called, and saw Mrs. Barclay alone. Little was said in the family; but in many parts of the city it became presently known that the preacher who had so revived religion among the young people was on bad terms with some of them. Either he was a profligate, or some dozen young women were slanderers. Jemima was growing thin and pale under the dread of the enquiry which must, she knew, take place. Either her own character must go, or she must help to take away that of the minister. It was no great comfort to her that Richard told her that Mrs. Barclay could and would carry her through. She had many wretched thoughts that this certainty could not reach.

It was some weeks before the business was over. The Miss Barclays and Jemima were sitting at work together, with the parlour-door open, when there was a knock, and then the shuffling of the feet of four gentlemen in the hall, just as Mrs. Barclay was coming down stairs. She invited them into the drawing-room; but the spokesman (an acquaintance of the Barclays) declined, saying that a few words would suffice; that he and his friends understood that Mrs. Barclay was thoroughly well acquainted with Jemima Brooks, and they merely wished to know whether Jemima was, in that house, considered a well-conducted young woman, whose word might be trusted. All this was heard in the parlour. Jemima's tears dropped upon her needle; but she would not give up; she worked on, as if her life depended on getting done. The young ladies had never seen her cry; and the sight moved them almost as much as their mother's voice, which they clearly heard saying,

"I am glad you have come here, Mr. Bennett; for I *can* speak to Jemima Brooks's merits. She lived in my family for some years; and she is in the house at this moment. There is no one in the world whom I more cordially respect; and, when I say that I regard her as a friend, I need not tell you that I think of the value of her word."

"Quite enough, Mrs. Barclay. Quite enough. We have nothing more to ask. We are greatly obliged to you, ma'am. Good morning,—good morning."

When Mrs. Barclay had seen them out, and entered the parlour, the quick yet full gaze that Jemima raised to her face was a thing never to be forgotten. Mrs. Barclay turned her face away; but immediately put on her thimble, sat down among the party, and began to tell her daughters the news from London. Jemima heard no more of this business. It is probable that the gentleman received similar testimony with regard to the other young people implicated; for the preacher was dismissed the city, without any ceremony, and with very brief notice.

From this time might clearly be dated the decline of Jemima's spiritual pride and irritability of temper. She was deeply humbled; and from under the ruins of her pride sprang richly the indigenous growth of her sweet affections. She was not a whit less religious; but she had a higher view of what religion should be. Her smile, when she met any of the Barclays in the street, and the tenderness in her voice when she spoke to them, indicated a very different state of mind from that in which she had left them.

She was looking well, and her friend and she were doing well, and Richard and she were beginning to reckon how many months, at their present rate of earning, would enable them to furnish a dwelling, and justify their going home to it, when they were called upon for a new decision, and a new scene opened in Jemima's life.

(To be continued.)

Matters of Fact.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The returns relating to trade and navigation for the month ending 5th November, and for the ten months of the year ending on that day, have appeared in the customary shape of a parliamentary paper. The exportation of articles of British produce still continues to be greatly in excess of previous years. The declared value of our exports for the month ending 5th of November was:—

In 1850	£4,751,804
In 1849	4,568,234

Balance in favour of 1850.. £183,570

In the ten months terminating on the same day the return was:—

For 1850	£55,038,206
For 1849	49,398,648

Excess

Compared with the year 1848 the return is still more striking, the exports for the corresponding ten months of that year having amounted to little more than £40,000,000.

We proceed to enumerate some of the more important articles of export, with regard to which this result is apparent:—

	Month ended Nov. 5. 1849.	Month ended Nov. 5. 1850.	Ten Months ended Nov. 5. 1849.	Ten Months ended Nov. 5. 1850.
	Declared Value.	Declared Value.	Declared Value.	Declared Value.
Coals and culm	£88,201	£86,889	£966,689	£1,116,034
Cotton manufactur.	1,412,666	1,484,739	15,601,380	16,858,244
Lace and net	29,744	31,440	393,921	472,416
Thread	26,947	34,421	340,135	364,508
Other descriptns.	11,452	13,651	285,213	187,601
Cotton yarn	662,020	641,056	5,838,933	5,398,371
Earthenware	59,260	67,328	673,504	836,397
Haberdashery and millinery	79,340	82,877	988,255	1,246,997
Hardware and cutlery	166,313	185,927	1,774,576	2,177,953
Leather, unwrought	9,142	13,397	95,047	151,702
" wrought	26,708	23,893	231,017	241,812
Saddlery and harness	10,426	8,454	83,498	99,908
Linen manufactures	209,226	231,956	2,556,586	2,906,628
Linen Yarn	55,374	64,834	595,544	734,026
Iron, pig	23,933	25,914	383,348	311,731
Bar, bolt, and rod	171,502	146,308	2,236,869	2,472,374
Wire	6,236	6,485	65,683	72,208
Cast	11,466	12,730	131,527	176,874
Wrought	119,326	100,289	1,182,384	1,278,884
Steel, Unwrought	28,079	31,578	262,728	337,211
Wool, Sheep, or Lambs	38,507	41,380	445,955	528,483
Woolen Manufactures:				
Entered by piece	333,807	326,427	3,843,173	4,622,330
Entered by yard	135,688	139,495	1,970,664	2,429,742
Stockings	7,574	4,633	61,986	57,518
Of all other descriptions	15,680	13,177	257,711	216,861
Woolen yarn	110,376	158,173	917,685	1,262,870

FOREIGN TRADE OF FRANCE.—The commercial reports which are annually published by the French Government, and which answer to our Board of Trade returns, have just been issued for 1849, and give a complete view of the foreign trade of France in that year, as compared with the two preceding ones. From the figures thus furnished, it appears that the actual value of the imports for home consumption, and of the exports of French manufactures and produce, have been as follows:—

	1847.	1848.	1849.
	Millions of Francs.	Millions of Francs.	Millions of Francs.
Raw materials	543	330	154
Goods for consumption	364	123	141
Manufactured goods	49	22	29
	956	475	324
	1847.	1848.	1849.
	Millions of Francs.	Millions of Francs.	Millions of Francs.
Natural productions	191	234	292
Manufactured goods	529	456	646
	720	690	938

TRADE RETURNS.—The shipping returns of vessels employed in the foreign trade of the United Kingdom for the month ending the 5th of November, show an increase in the inward entries of 51,816 tons, beyond that of the same month in 1849, and in the outward clearances for the same period a decrease of 4054 tons. The aggregate tonnage entered inwards for the ten months ending the 5th of November exceeds that of the same period in 1849 by 32,472 tons, and the outward clearances for the same period exceed that of 1849 by 371,176 tons. The entries of coasting vessels inwards for the same periods show a decrease in the month, as compared with 1849, of 35,639 tons; and for the ten months an increase of 476,084 tons. The clearances outwards show an increase in the month of 9890 tons, and an increase in the ten months of 576,584 tons.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)

The sudden increase in the deaths of London, which was announced in the last bill of mortality, has been

followed by a more remarkable decrease. The following numbers show the fluctuations in the returns during the four weeks of November:—921, 908, 1016, and in the week ending last Saturday, 861. The average of the 10 weeks corresponding to last, in the years 1840-49, was 1067, which, if corrected for increase of population, is 1164; the 861 deaths registered last week are, therefore, less than the corrected average by 303. It will be seen, from a statement of the deaths in three periods of life, that the young, the middle-aged, and persons of advanced years, now participate in an improved state of health:—

	Last week.	Average of 10 corresponding weeks (1840-49).
From birth to 15 years..	410	503
15 years to 60	289	344
60 and upwards	162	218

But, notwithstanding the great decrease in the present return as compared with that of the previous week, it appears that in the class of zymotic or epidemic diseases the number remains nearly the same. The aggregate of fatal cases by epidemics was in the preceding week 203, in the last 196; whereas in affections of the respiratory organs, the number, which rose to 201, has now fallen to 160. Consumption, which stands in the tubercular class, was 111, and in the following week declined to 96. "Convulsions," which carried off in the previous week 44 children, was recorded last week as the cause of death to 35; and while 48 persons died of "Age," only 24 cases this week are placed under this head. Between the 21st and 28th of November 8 pensioners died in the Royal Hospital, Greenwich, in most cases of paralysis or apoplexy. Last week the deaths from smallpox amounted to 14, all among children; and, though it is still below the average, the disease appears to be making progress in the metropolis. In Marylebone, in different houses of a single sub-district, that of Christchurch, no fewer than six deaths occurred from "variola, natural" in the week; and the registrars repeatedly mention facts to prove that the children of the working classes, in many cases, are not protected against the disease owing to prejudice entertained against vaccination. Measles carried off last week 25 children, and it is stated to have broken out in the Pancras Workhouse (Camden-town sub-district); scarlatina carried off 30; and 47 persons of various ages died of typhus. Diarrhoea has now declined to 13, and no case of cholera was registered.

Intemperance was fatal to three persons; in one case by producing disease, in another by an embrocation taken internally by a man when in a state of intoxication. In the third case—that of a woman who died suddenly without medical attendant—it is stated "that she had frequently been known to drink a pint and a half of raw spirits in a day; a day or two before her death she drank seven quarts of rum; whilst she did not consume a shilling's worth of food in the week."

	Ten Weeks of 1849-49.	Week of 1850.
Zymotic Diseases	2309	196
Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat ..	510	41
Tubercular Diseases	1731	137
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses ..	1244	116
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels ..	315	35
Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Organs of Respiration ..	2245	160
Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion ..	543	49
Diseases of the Kidneys, &c. ..	97	7
Childbirth, diseases of the Uterus, &c. ..	110	12
Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c. ..	79	12
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c. ..	10	—
Malformations	42	3
Premature Birth and Debility ..	179	27
Atrophy ..	154	14
Age ..	614	24
Sudden ..	140	3
Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance ..	263	24
Total (including unspecified causes) ..	10665	861

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY.

The news from Berlin of the probability of an immediate adjustment of the German differences, and the rise which had occurred on the Bourses where the statement had been received, caused the English funds to open on Monday morning at an advance of a half per cent., which was carried considerably further upon the arrival of greatly improved prices from Paris, Consols, which had opened at 97½, having closed at 97½ to 97½. This advance was maintained on Tuesday and Wednesday. Yesterday the market was firm, with a strong tendency to further improvement, checked, however, by doubts as to whether German affairs are yet fairly settled. The first quotation of Consols yesterday morning was 97½ to 97½, and upon the receipt of higher prices from Paris they advanced to 97½. At the close of business, however, they had again fallen to 97½ to 97½. The fluctuations of the week have been:—Consols, 97½ to 97½; Bank Stock, 211 to 213; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 98½ to 98½; Exchequer Bills, 61s. to 68s. premium. Owing to the adverse news from Berlin, this morning, Consols opened at a decline of one-eighth.

The market for Foreign Securities has been rather better this week; Mexican especially have improved in price. There was not much doing yesterday, but prices were, on the whole, tolerably well maintained. The actual bargains comprised—Mexican, for money, 32½; for the account, 32½, ½; Peruvian, for money, 79½; for the account, 79½; the Deferred, 35½ and ¾; Portuguese Converted, 35; the Four per Cents., 34½ and 33½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 96½, ¾, ½; Spanish Five per

Cents., for account, 18½; Venezuela, 30½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 56½ and 57½; and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 87½ and ¾.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, Dec. 6.

The supplies of all grain since Monday, both British and foreign, are moderate. At the country markets held during the week the dullness usual at this time of the year has prevailed, and at some of them Wheat has receded 1s. per quarter in value. The trade here has been without animation, but there is no alteration to report in the value of any article.

Arrivals from Dec. 2 to 6:—

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat ..	2220	—	6770
Barley ..	2090	—	1220
Oats ..	340	800	5340

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending on Saturday, the 23d of November, 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued 29,584,870	Government Debt, 11,015,100
	Other Securities .. 2,984,900
	Gold Coin and Bullion
	"
	Silver Bullion 45,667
£29,584,870	£29,584,870

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' Capital, 14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead-weight Annuity) .. 14,228,901
Rest	Other Securities .. 11,719,370
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) .. 9,040,581	Notes
Other Deposits	Gold and Silver Coin
Seven-day and other Bills	635,573
£37,566,949	£37,566,949
Dated Nov. 28, 1850.	M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	212	212	212½	212½	213	—
3 per Ct. Red ..	96	96½	96½	96½	96½	—
3 p. C. Con. Ans. ..	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½	—
3 p. C. An. 1726 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 p. Ct. Con. Ac. ..	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½	—
3½ p. Cent. An. New 5 per Cts. ..	97½	98½	98½	98½	98½	—
Long Ans., 1860 ..	7½	—	7½	—	7 13-16	—
Ind. St. 10½ p. ct. ..	—	271	—	271	269	—
Ditto Bonds ..	85	—	86	83	—	—
Ex. Bills, 1000l. ..	65 p	65 p	68 p	66 p	67 p	—
Ditto, 500l. ..	65 p	65 p	68 p	66 p	64 p	—
Ditto, Small ..	65 p	65 p	68 p	66 p	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Thursday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents. 93	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc. 32½
Belgian Bds., 4½ p. Ct. —	Neapolitan 5 per Cents. —
Brazilian 5 per Cents. —	Peruvian 4½ per Cents. —
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts. —	Portuguese 5 per Cent. —
Chilian 6 per Cents. —	" 4 per Cts. 33½
Danish 5 per Cents. —	" Annuities —
Dutch 2½ per Cents. 57½	Russian, 1822, 5 p. Cts. —
" 4 per Cents. —	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts. 18½
Ecuador Bonds —	" Passive —
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris 94.65	" Deferred —
" 3 p. Cts., Dec. 5, 58.60	

SHARES.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Thursday Evening.

RAILWAYS.	BANKS.
Caledonian .. 10	Australasian .. 3½
Edinburgh and Glasgow .. 26	British North American .. 42½
Eastern Counties .. 6½	Colonial .. 9½
Great Northern .. 15½	Commercial of London .. 27½
Great North of England .. 245	London and Westminster .. 182
Great S. & W. (Ireland) .. 39	London Joint Stock .. 172
Great Western .. 73½	National of Ireland .. 172
Hull and Selby .. —	National Provincial .. —
Lancashire and Yorkshire .. 51½	Provincial of Ireland .. 43
Lancaster and Carlisle .. 66½	Union of Australia .. 35½
London, Brighton, & S. Coast .. 85	Union of London .. —
London and Blackwall .. 7½	
London and N.-Western .. 119½	MINES.
Midland .. 43½	Bolanos .. —
North British .. 8½	Brazilian Imperial .. —
South-Eastern and Dover .. 207	Ditto, St. John del Rey .. —
South-Western .. 70½	Cobre Copper .. 33
York, Newcas., & Berwick .. 178	MISCELLANEOUS.
York and North Midland .. 238	Australian Agricultural .. —
	Canada .. —
Docks.	General Steam .. 27½
East and West India .. 141	Penins. & Oriental Steam .. 80½
London .. 120½	Royal Mail Steam .. 68
St. Katharine .. 78	South Australian .. —

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 26th day of November, 1850, is 29s. 0½d. per cwt.

GRAIN, Mark-lane, Nov. 29.

Wheat, R. New 40s. to 42s.	Maple
Fine	White
Old	Boilers
White	Beans, Ticks
Fine	Old
Superior New 48 ..	Indian Corn
Rye	Oats, Feed
Barley	" Fine
Malt	Poland
" Fine	" Fine
Peas, Hog	Potato
	" Fine

FLOUR.

Town-made	per sack	40s. to 43s.
Seconds		37 — 40
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship		32 — 34
Norfolk and Stockton		30 — 32
American	per barrel	22 — 23
Canadian		21 — 23
Wheaten Bread, 7d; the 4lb. loaf. Households, 6d.		

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING NOV. 28.

Imperial General Weekly Average.

Wheat	40s. 3d.	Rye	23s. 6d.
Barley	24 6	Beans	28 5
Oats	17 1	Peas	29 2

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.

Wheat	40s. 0d.	Rye	25s. 11d.
Barley	24 2	Beans	29 0
Oats	17 0	Peas	29 7

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.*

SMITHFIELD*.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef	2 2	3 4	2 4	3 10
Mutton	2 4	3 8	3 0	4 2
Veal	2 8	3 6	2 8	3 8
Pork	2 6	4 0	3 0	3 10

* To sink the offal, per 8lb.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Friday.	Monday.
Beasts	1037	5124
Sheep	5970	23,750
Calves	313	280
Pigs	510	150

PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 12s. 0d. to 14s. per doz.	
Carlow, £3 14s. to £4 0s. per cwt.	
Bacon, Irish	per cwt. 42s. to 44s.
Cheese, Cheshire	42 — 69
Derby, Plain	44 — 54
Hams, York	60 — 70
Eggs, French, per 120, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.	

HOPS.

Kent Pockets	75s. to 90s.	York Regents per ton s. to ..
Choice ditto	90 — 147	Wisbech Regents — ..
Sussex ditto	63 — 75	Scotch Reds — ..
Farnham do.	84 .. 126	French Whites — ..

POTATOES.

HAY AND STRAW. (Per load of 36 Trusses.)

	CUMBERLAND.	SMITHFIELD.	WHITECHAPEL.
Hay, Good	72s. to 76s.	76s. to 78s.	60s. to 70s.
Inferior	50 — 65	48 — 58	0 — 0
New	0 — 0	0 — 0	0 — 0
Clover	78 — 84	82 — 84	68 — 76
Wheat Straw	24 — 28	22 — 28	22 — 28

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, November 29.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—W. Star; final div. of 6s., Dec. 3, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—T. and R. Hunt; final div. of 4d., Dec. 13, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—H. Tappenden, jun., Ashford, corn dealer; first div. of 3s. 5d. on new proofs, Nov. 30, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—T. Harvey, Newark-upon-Trent, builder; first div. of 1s. 10d., any Saturday; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—J. R. Henderson, Leicester, wine merchant; fourth div. of 2d., Dec. 7, or any subsequent alternate Saturday; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—J. Welsh, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, draper; third div. of 4s., Dec. 7, or any subsequent alternate Saturday; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—G. Burdis, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, banker; first div. of 1s. 2d., Nov. 30, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

BANKRUPTS.—M. P. EDWARDS, Tredegar, linendraper, to surrender Dec. 10, Jan. 7; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Turner, Aldermanbury; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—W. STRANGE, sen., Navarino-grove, Dalston, bookseller, Dec. 11, Jan. 10; solicitor, Mr. Sheard, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Stansfeld—W. HARKNETT, Courland-grove, Larkhall-lane, Clapham, and Lavender-hill, Wandsworth-road, builder, Dec. 11, Jan. 14; solicitors, Messrs. Young and Son, Mark-lane; official assignee, Mr. Stansfeld—J. CURL, East Winch, Norfolk, grocer, Dec. 11, Jan. 14; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry; Mr. Pillars, Swaffham; official assignee, Mr. Graham—R. J. WALLIS, Loughborough, wine merchant, Dec. 13, Jan. 10; solicitors, Messrs. Shaen and Grant, Kennington-cross; and Mr. Cheshire, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Bittlestone, Nottingham—A. GRAVES, Smith, Yorkshire, innkeeper, Dec. 19, Jan. 17; solicitors, Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Young, Leeds—C. WARE, York, saddler, Dec. 19, Jan. 23; solicitors, Messrs. Harle and Clarke, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Freeman, Leeds—T. DYSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, linendraper, Dec. 13, Jan. 3; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Mackenzie, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.—Dec. 20, T. Megarey, Love-lane, Billingsgate, coal merchant—Dec. 20, T. King, sen., Greenwich, baker—Dec. 21, T. and E. Lyon, Birch-lane, stockbrokers—Dec. 21, S. M. Halfhide, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, linendraper—Dec. 21, J. Marshall, Birch-lane, merchant—Dec. 21, T. Lyon, Birch-lane, stockbroker—Dec. 21, C. Garlick, Charter-house-square, woollen warehouseman—Dec. 21, F. Kerr, Harley-street, and elsewhere, bookseller—Dec. 23, J. Seelie, Freeschool-street, Horselydown, rectifier—Dec. 23, R. H. Gould, Strand, ice merchant—Dec. 24, A. Solomons, Basinghall-street, merchant—Dec. 30, T. Clarke, Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer—Dec. 24, J. Hill, jun., Malmesbury, Wiltshire, innkeeper—Dec. 24, J. Pugh, Monmouth, tailor—Dec. 20, W. and A. Miller, Liverpool and Bootle, wine merchants—Dec. 20, T. B. Bourne, Liverpool, cotton broker—Dec. 20, W. Passmore, late of Leeds, tailor—Dec. 20, E. Green, Almondbury, Yorkshire, common brewer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—Dec. 20, J. S. Hodge and J. Culpin, New Oxford-street, tailors—Dec. 20, D. Radford and G. Southall, Gracechurch-street, coal merchants—Dec. 21, W. Woods, Prospect-place, Wandsworth-road, builder—Dec. 21, W. Harding, Crawford-street, St. Marylebone, corn dealer—Dec. 21, H. H. Davis, Battersea, builder—Dec. 21, T. Bradley, Ranelagh-road, Publico, lard refiner—Dec. 27, R. Battersby, Liverpool, ironfounder—Dec. 20, J. Robinson, Ripon, Yorkshire, surgeon.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—W. Callander, Woodburn, near Falkirk, farmer, Dec. 5 and 26—T. Duncan, sen., Edinburgh, Dec. 2 and 23—A. Galr, Tain, Ross-shire, bootmaker, Dec. 4 and 26—T. Mowbray, Edinburg, commission agent, Dec. 2 and 23

—A. Taylor, Alva, Stirlingshire, manufacturer, Dec. 4 and 25—J. Mackintosh, Kiltarn, Ross-shire, innkeeper, Dec. 6 and 27.

Tuesday, Dec. 3.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.—R. Lund, Blackburn, cotton-spinner; first div. of 2s. 0d., on Tuesday, Dec. 3, and every following Tuesday; Mr. Hobson, Manchester.

BANKRUPTS.—H. BISHE, otherwise BISH, Brighton, Sussex, builder, to surrender Dec. 10, Jan. 17; solicitors, Messrs. Freeman and Bothamley, Coleman-street; and Mr. Chalk, Brighton; official assignee, Mr. Graham—R. RISING, late of Frith-street, Soho, and Lower Berkeley-street, dealer in casts, Dec. 10, Jan. 17; solicitor, Mr. Flower, Great James-street; official assignee, Mr. Graham—R. NORTHOVER, Skinner-street, Bishopsgate-street, and elsewhere, lint manufacturer, Dec. 10, Jan. 21; solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Graham—N. BERTON, Princes-street, Hanover-square, tailor, Dec. 13, Jan. 16; solicitor, Mr. Stark, Basinghall-street; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—H. M. EAST, Mark-lane, stationer, Dec. 30, Jan. 15; solicitor, Mr. Richardson, Moorgate-street; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Kingwilliam-street—W. HEYGAK, Watford, Northamptonshire, and Chardstock, Dorsetshire, brickmaker, Dec. 13, Jan. 18; solicitors, Mr. Low, Chancery-lane; and Mr. Becke, Northampton; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—H. SMITH, Woolwich, linendraper, Dec. 13, Jan. 18; solicitor, Mr. Lloyd, Milk-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—J. MORE, Nottingham, cabinetmaker, Dec. 20, Jan. 24; solicitors, Messrs. Hopwood and Son, Chancery-lane; and Messrs. Freeth, Rawson, and Brown, Nottingham; official assignee, Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—J. SMITH, Darlington, Durham, bootmaker, Dec. 13, Jan. 16; solicitors, Messrs. Newburn, Hutchinson, and Newburn, Darlington; and Messrs. Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; official assignee, Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—J. FIRTH, Leeds, linendraper, Dec. 13, Jan. 24; solicitor, Mr. Middleton, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Young, Leeds—J. GOLLOR, Beaminster, Dorsetshire, builder, Dec. 11, Jan. 8; solicitors, Mr. Cox, Beaminster; and Messrs. Bishop and Pitts, Exeter; official assignee, Mr. Hirtzell, Exeter—S. PEARSE, Topsham, Devonshire, coal merchant, Dec. 11, Jan. 8; solicitor, Mr. Turner, Exeter; official assignee, Mr. Hirtzell, Exeter.

DIVIDENDS.—Dec. 26, R. King, Oxford, coal merchant—Dec. 26, E. B. Broughton, Southampton-street, Covent-garden, tailor—Dec. 24, J. R. Oliver, Blackheath, master mariner—Jan. 10, J. and J. Cowlishaw, Derby, railway carriage builders—Dec. 26, G. Hoskins, Preston, merchant—Dec. 24, H. J. Hinxman, Bury, apothecary—Dec. 24, J. Pierce, Chorley, Lancashire, corn dealer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.—Dec. 26, R. King, Oxford, coal merchant—Dec. 26, J. M'Monnies, Liverpool, corn merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—J. M'Lean, Paisley, dyer, Dec. 9 and 30.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 27th ult., at the Parsonage, Bovingdon, the wife of the Reverend A. Brooking, of a son.
On the 28th ult., at Westbourne-green, the wife of J. Needham, Esq., barrister-at-law, of a daughter.
On the 29th ult., at Ladon-house, Mortlake, the Honourable Mrs. Spring Rice, of a daughter.
On the 29th ult., in Portman-square, the wife of the Reverend R. Richardson, incumbent of Leverstock-green, Herts, of a daughter.
On the 29th ult., at Glatton, Huntingdonshire, the wife of the Reverend George Wingfield, of a son.
On the 1st inst., in King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street, Mrs. J. R. Lloyd, of a son.
On the 1st inst., at her Majesty's Dockyard, Portsmouth, the wife of Captain Mould, R.E., of a daughter.
On the 2nd inst., in Hyde-park, the wife of Major Courtenay Philipps, of a son.
On the 2nd inst., in Upper Seymour-street, the wife of the Reverend J. E. Hall, of a daughter.
On the 2nd inst., in Hyde-park-square, Mrs. A. B. Bloxham, of a son.
On the 3rd inst., in Dorset-place, the wife of P. A. Buller, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 3rd inst., at Aubrey-house, near Lymington, Hants, the lady of Sir J. Rivett Carnac, Bart., of a son.
On the 4th inst., in Grosvenor-square, the Lady Foley, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 28th ult., at Brighton, the Reverend W. Sergison, rector of Slaughtam, to Catherine Frances Eleonora, second daughter of William Colegrave, Esq., of Mere-hall and Bracebridge, Lincolnshire.
On the 28th ult., at Denmore, Joseph, only son of Lieutenant-Colonel Dundas, of Carron-hall, in the county of Stirling, to Margaret Isabella, youngest daughter of George Moir, Esq., of Denmore, in the county of Aberdeen.
On the 28th ult., at Frankfurt, T. Twining, jun., Esq., of Perryn-house, Twickenham, to Antoinette Victorine Caroline Johanne von Hagen, eldest daughter of the late Baron von Hagen, of Prussia.
On the 28th ult., at St. George's, Hanover-square, D. E. Power, Esq., youngest son of Thomas Power, Esq., of Gibraltar, to Emily Marianne, only daughter of the late H. J. Tylden, Esq., of Halifax, Nova Scotia.
On the 30th ult., at St. Mark's, Kennington, Lieutenant Parr W. Kingsmill, Third W. I. Regiment, to Anne La Rive, eldest daughter of the Reverend Henry Kingsmill, of Southampton.
On the 3rd inst., at Staplegrave, the Reverend Robert Wynne, of Wickham, Hants, to Elizabeth, second daughter of the late Captain E. B. Law, of Taunton, Somerset.
On the 3rd inst., at St. James's, Westminster, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander, of the Fifth Bengal Cavalry, to Penelope, youngest daughter of the late W. Hooper, Esq., of Merton-house, Ross, Herefordshire.
On the 3rd inst., at Trinity Church, Marylebone, J. C. Cowley, Esq., of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, to Julia, eldest daughter of Sir William Baynes, Bart., of Portland-place.
At Catton, near Norwich, Jane Sarah, youngest daughter of Rear Admiral Charles S. Hawtayne, to the Reverend George Coulcher, of Botesdale, Suffolk.

DEATHS.

On the 24th ult., at Glasgow, J. C. Drysdale, Esq., eldest son of the late Major J. Drysdale, of Jerviston.
On the 25th ult., at Broseley, Salop, the Reverend T. Mortimer, B.D., late minister of the Episcopal Chapel, Gray's-inn, aged 55.
On the 26th ult., at Alne, aged 59, the Reverend H. Chaloner, youngest son of the late W. Chaloner, Esq., of Gilsborough.
On the 27th ult., at Sholden, Kent, Captain Isaac Bean, aged 73.
On the 28th ult., at Dover, Sir W. Whympier, late of the Coldstream Guards.
On the 28th ult., at the Vicarage, Lastingham, Yorkshire, the Reverend R. Harrison, aged 77.

On the 28th ult., in Regent-street, A. Turquand, Esq., in his 78th year.

On the 29th ult., in Park-square, Regent's-park, Henrietta, relict of G. Enderby, Esq., aged 87.

On the 29th ult., at Canterbury, aged 25, H. Davie, Esq., Rifle Brigade, eldest son of Sir H. F. Davie.

On the 29th ult., at Elsham, Lincolnshire, the Lady Mary Corbett.

On the 30th ult., at Leamington, the Reverend Arthur Buller, aged 71.

On the 30th ult., in Wilton-crescent, Elizabeth, widow of the late B. Blackden, Esq., of Bledlow, Bucks, and eldest daughter of the late Sir T. Cayley, Bart., aged 87.

On the 1st inst., at Higham-hill, Walthamstow, Essex, Mary, the wife of the Reverend E. Cogan, aged 82.

On the 1st inst., at Horfield-barracks, Bristol, Captain J. Frith, Seventy-second Highlanders, aged 47.

On the 1st inst., at Englefield-green, R. Roscoe, Esq., aged 61, fourth son of the late W. Roscoe, Esq., of Liverpool.

On the 1st inst., at Shanklin, Isle of Wight, A. Manby, Esq., C.E., aged 75.

DR. CULVERWELL ON NERVOUSNESS, DEBILITY, AND INDIGESTION.

Price 1s.; by Post, 1s. 6d.

WHAT TO EAT, DRINK, AND AVOID.

"Abstinētia multi curantur morbi."

An Address to the Young, the Delicate, the Valetudinarian, and Invalid; instructive of how to avert many of the illnesses of life; and showing, also, the resources we have within ourselves to remedy them and live again.

Sherwood, 23, Paternoster-row; Mann, 39, Cornhill; and the Author, 10, Argyl-place, Regent-street: consultation hours, ten till five; evenings, seven till nine.

ANOTHER CURE OF CONSUMPTIVE

COUGH BY

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