

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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VOL. IV. No. 183.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THAT WAR is at hand appears to be the almost universal impression in this country. Russia has just transmitted to her representative at Vienna, for communication to the representatives of the other Powers, two Notes, either one of which, separately, may be regarded, at once, as an ultimatum on the part of Russia, and a rejection of every attempt at accommodation. These Notes from Count Nesselrode annul all that has been done during the protracted negotiations, and stultify every party to those negotiations, always excepting that one consistent State, which has never swerved from its moderate and decided course—Turkey. One of these despatches refers to the substance of the modifications proposed by Turkey, in the Vienna Note, and the other refers to the Note itself adopted by the Four Powers. The two subjects are essentially distinct, and, although published subsequently, we may take the one upon the Turkish modifications first.

The Note of Redschid Pascha, setting forth the Turkish objections to the Vienna Note, took particular exception to the words which represented the Emperor of Russia as watching over the orthodox Greek Christians, and the Sultan as confirming the immunities secured by the solicitude of the Emperors. It is admitted universally, even by the most Russian journals in London, by the Ministerial papers both of London and Paris, and by the semi-official journal of Berlin, the *Zeit*, that the note of Redschid Pascha was drawn with consummate ability, and that the position taken by the Porte was almost unexceptionable. The Porte said that to admit that phraseology would be to recognise the Czar as the Dictator, the Sultan as his Registrar. The Emperor of Russia now says that he will not give up the original text, because to omit the words would be to confess that he had no ground of complaint against the Sultan; and that they do not add anything to the force of the treaty of Kainardji—the Emperor insisting upon a new recognition of his protectorate, exactly as Prince Menschikoff himself demanded it. The overweening tendency of this demand is aggravated by the insolence of the language, which speaks of "the ill-disposed intention" of the Ministers of the Porte, and the "condescension" of the Emperor.

In the other Note the same spirit of arrogance is turned against the Four Powers, perhaps with one remarkable exception. In this despatch,

Count Nesselrode expresses the dissatisfaction of the Sultan with the Vienna Note, which he had reluctantly accepted as an act of condescension. He declares that he did not ask or desire the good offices of the Four Powers. He speaks of them as the allies of Turkey, specially interested in the honour of the Sultan; he holds them accountable for not having rendered their Note a final proposition; and avows that if Turkey be permitted to make exceptions—which it was rather his privilege to do than the Sultan's—he reverts to his original freedom, and shall continue his quarrel with Turkey alone, setting aside the Four Powers. We have here but described the naked purport of the Note, not straining its intent, although not literally following its language.

There is dishonesty as well as insolence in this preposterous statement. Count Nesselrode puts before the Allied Powers a dilemma, which shows how he understands a "question of words." If the modifications were unimportant, why should Turkey insist upon them? if important, Russia could not assent to them. But inasmuch as the modifications involved the negative of that original proposition by Prince Menschikoff, which was declared to be inadmissible, some such emendations of the text were of course inevitable, and Turkey might turn against Russia its own dilemma. It is, however, plain, that although Count Nesselrode is spurred to the irksome duty of sharpening his diplomatic casuistry upon this ugly subject, Russia does not wait upon reason, nor care even to maintain appearances. Under the decorous robe of Count Nesselrode appears distinctly the rude bludgeon of the bully, who is intent only upon wreaking that brute force, in which he supposes himself to possess a transcendent advantage.

The two despatches of Russia, taken together, mean that Russia yields nothing; that she perseveres in her original purpose of extorting a spiritual vassalage from Turkey; she sets aside the Four Powers, and will execute her will in their despite. The announcement of this course has had a various effect upon the Four Powers. With regard to Prussia's intention we are not yet informed. Austria has withdrawn, and has no doubt, as we had constantly predicted, played throughout into the hands of Russia. Count Nesselrode distinctly states that the Emperor of Russia assented to the general bearing of the Note which was sent to him by telegraph from Vienna, before the Note itself was despatched, and he admits that he had a right to suppose that Turkey had had cognizance of its terms, which, thanks to the Conference, she had not. He pats

Austria on the back as the Emperor's friend, whose good offices he had accepted; and dismisses the other Powers—that is France and England—as the "allies and protectors" of Turkey.

Turkey appears to be ready. It is well known that her armies are impatient to begin, and her most immediate danger appears to consist in holding them back. A manifesto to his people, in which the Sultan explains the actual posture of affairs, and declares his intention of maintaining his rights—a manifesto which he originally suppressed, in deference to the Four Powers—has been published in his Gazette. The complaints of Austria against the course taken by France and England, imply that M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who has taken so leading a part in the conference, was too firm for Russia's ally. In England, the response to the insolent despatches of the Russian Emperor is unanimous. There is, we believe, scarcely a journal that does not declare further submission to be impossible. The *Morning Post* announces the attitude of the affair to be suddenly and totally changed, that journal being understood to represent the views more especially of that active Minister whom the public would be glad at the present moment to see in the Foreign Office. Lord John Russell has spoken for himself; he has declared in the speech delivered within the last few days at Greenock, that the sacred duty of Englishmen is to maintain the weak against the strong, to vindicate the independence of States, and to secure for nations those liberties of which others would deprive them. The people of Greenock responded to that declaration with cheers, which implied how glad they were to welcome it from official lips. Lord John, in fact, recognised their appreciation of his sentiments; he said in his speech that he spoke *their* sentiments as well as his own. The meeting at Sheffield is, we believe, but the first of a series—in fact, we have reason to know that impatient spirits in other towns have only been held back by the fear of not meeting with that unanimous response which is now bursting forth in different parts of the country: as at Stafford, where a meeting is to be held in the Shire-hall on Monday evening next. England feels herself insulted, and is at last awakening to something of her old spirit.

Spain is undergoing a Ministerial crisis—a matter about as important as a Portuguese revolution. We say "Spain," although the Palace clique at Madrid have little right to speak in the name of their country. General Lersundi was selected as the late Premier, because there was an idea that

the leading Minister ought to be a military man and an obscure accomplice; but he has been unable to restore any respectable character to that Government which is exiled from our Stock Exchange. The complexion of the new Ministry is as little easy for us to describe as it would be to define the character of the present Town Council of Little Pedlington.

France, according to the most probable accounts, is making way downwards. The immense expenditure of the Government, to feed and amuse the people, is attended by its natural consequence, a great deficit in the Exchequer. The Emperor, it is said, is bent upon peace; but really it would seem probable that war would open to him one release from his home difficulties, by affording a good pretext for a loan; and if it were well contrived, with a fair prospect of a real alliance between France and England, and with some sort of prospective guarantee upon the future resources of France, by conquest or otherwise, a loan would not be unlikely to take in London.

Indeed, conquest might be turned to good account. Why should not foreign legions be paid with the lands of Russia or of Austria? "Land orders" of that kind might find a market, as soon as we are fairly at work.

At home, trade is undergoing the severe crisis which we have explained, and grave apprehensions are now entertained that, before our mercantile men can make both ends meet, or reconcile the conflict between ever-rising wages and expiring profits, some of them must go to the wall. Now, we believe they are reaping the effects of not having established, in quiet times, a better understanding with their hands, by a more genial and frank intercourse with their workpeople. We have seen how moderate and forbearing the working classes can be, if they are treated with consideration and candour.

The great mill-owners might become really "Lords," and take the place of our effete aristocracy, if they would but use the opportunities of their station to win the affection and confidence of those amongst whom they reside. Such festivals as those given by Mr. Salt, at Saltaire, near Bradford, are, in the true and noble sense, aristocratic displays of factory munificence, and they do good; how much might be done, with even less cost, by ordinary candour and kindness in every day life!

The report from China, that the tea trade is stopped at Fou-Chou, is as little unexpected as the report of famine at Pegu. It was well understood that the truce proposed by the Court of Ava was solely to serve its own purposes of trade, and we are as certain to pay for it, as our teapot is to suffer at first for the religious zeal of the Chinese Christians. The teapot however is not so precious as the loaf; and the continued assurances that our harvest will not be worse than it was reckoned to be a few weeks back, with a certainty of ample supplies abroad, more than compensate for a few cargoes of tea stopped at Fou-Chou.

The most gloomy fact is the general spread of the Cholera; at present, however, in isolated spots about the country. The authorities, central and local, are active; but the crying defect is want of power. Everybody is telling somebody else what to do, at the same time that everybody is very much inclined to rebel against "centralizing" orders; and we have, this time, to pay for the neglect in setting our house in order legislatively and administratively, according to common sense. Many of the deaths have now to pay the penalty of that neglect; and if, after so many warnings, we repeat these murders, we ought to erase from our titles the rank and name of a "civilized" people.

THE CHOLERA IN ENGLAND.

OFFICIAL PRECAUTIONS.

The following official notification of the presence of the Cholera in England has been issued by the Board of Health:—

"General Board of Health, Whitehall, Sept. 20, 1853.

"It is the painful duty of the General Board of Health to notify a third visitation of the epidemic cholera. This disease again, first breaking out in Persia, has extended within the present year over a large portion of Russia; stretching as far northwards as Archangel, on the shores of the Arctic Ocean; it has ravaged Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, and then developing itself in the north of Germany, it has attacked Stettin, Berlin, Rotterdam, and Hamburg; and subsequently it has appeared in England, again breaking out on its north-east coast, in the near neighbourhood of the town in which it made its first appearance in this country in 1831.

"In this widespread course it has everywhere overleaped the barriers which quarantine has erected to stay its progress; and where this means of protection has been most rigidly enforced, it has not only disappointed the expectation of those who have relied upon it as a safeguard, often to the neglect and exclusion of the most important precautions, but has aggravated the evils of the pestilence, and added disastrous consequences of its own.

"The experience already obtained of this pestilence at Newcastle, Gateshead, and Hexham, is decisive, that where the conditions are favourable to its localisation and development, as in the case in these towns, the disease has lost nothing of its former virulence. In the two former, indeed, the severity of the disease, as far as it has yet extended, has greatly exceeded that of any former visitation, and it has attacked in all those places, as it has abroad, a much larger proportion of the middle and higher classes.

"It is deeply to be lamented that the interval between the last visitation of this pestilence and the present, has not been generally employed in effecting a larger amount of improvement in our cities and towns. From such inspections as the General Board have recently been enabled to make of the state of populous districts, the former seats of the disease, in apprehension of its reappearance, they are compelled to state that there are extensive districts, and even entire towns, in which no perceptible improvement of any kind has been effected. On the other hand, there are instances in which, even where no general permanent works of improvement have been effected, better supplies of water, extensive flagging and paving, more frequent scavenging, and a more active removal of nuisances in epidemic localities have been accomplished. Combined and permanent works, involving elaborate engineering measures, capable of remedying the neglect of years, cannot be effected in a few weeks. But the consciousness of past neglect should stimulate to immediate and resolute exertion, that all which the time requires, and which can be done, may be done. The results in some instances, even of limited and partial improvements, are highly encouraging. During the present epidemic in Hamburg, which has now been prevailing upwards of six weeks, only six cases of cholera have occurred in the improved parts of the town; and during the whole of the epidemic in the metropolis in 1849, not a single case of cholera occurred in any one of the model dwellings for the poor, occupied by similar classes of the population, though the pestilence raged in the districts in which these buildings are situated, and there were instances of two and even four deaths in single houses close to their walls.

"Even in towns in which the greatest amount of improvement has been effected, and in which works under the Public Health Act are most advanced, much remains to be done, and may be done. Local Boards of Health are invested, under the Public Health Act, with ample powers of cleansing, for the removal of nuisances, for preventing the carrying on of unwholesome or noxious trades in such a manner as to injure health, for preventing the occupation of cellars as dwelling-houses, unless under certain conditions; for preventing the occupation of any dwelling-house which, on the certificate of an officer of health, shall appear to be in such a filthy and unwholesome state as to endanger the health of any person, until such house shall have been properly and effectually white-washed, cleansed, and purified; and for administering the Common Lodging Houses Act, the provisions of which are most important. All those powers should be exercised at the present juncture with extraordinary activity, vigilance, and stringency.

"But though it may be needful to prosecute the work of cleansing more vigorously than in ordinary periods, yet it should be done under supervision and with extraordinary care. In removing accumulations of filth, precautions should be taken for disinfection and for preventing the increase of noxious evaporation. The contents of foul drains, sewers, and ditches, should in no case be spread upon the surface, and no large accumulation of filth should be removed, excepting under the direction of a medical officer. The escape of noxious effluvia is far more dangerous in an epidemic than in an ordinary season.

"The evil of overcrowding, so general not only in common lodging houses, but in tenements of all descriptions occupied by the poorer classes, especially by the Irish, an evil preventable and, to a considerable extent, removable, should be at once, and by all practicable means, reduced.

"Wherever local boards of health exist, they should in all cases co-operate with the boards of guardians, and it is believed that the boards of guardians will, on their part, co-operate with local boards. The existing means for the extraordinary service now required are divided amongst independent local jurisdictions; medical officers in England and Wales being under boards of guardians; works of sewage and cleansing in towns, not under the Public Health Act, being under town commissioners acting under local acts; and the enforcement of orders required for the public service being with the magistrates or municipal authorities. It is confidently expected that a common feeling will give precedence to the branch of service specially needed on this occasion, and ensure that unity of action which it is the main object of the rules and regulations issued herewith to authorize and promote for the common object.

"Experience has shown that, in the case of the actual outbreak of the epidemic, the chief measures to be relied

on for checking its spread are those which prevent overcrowding, remove persons from affected houses, and bring the infected population under prompt and proper treatment during the premonitory stage of the disease. During the epidemic of 1849, an organization for effecting these objects was brought into operation, the main parts of which were the establishment of a system of house-to-house visitation, the opening of dispensaries and houses of refuge in affected districts for the gratuitous supply of medicines, the establishment of houses of refuge for the reception of such indigent persons as appeared to be in imminent danger, resident in the most filthy and overcrowded houses, the provision of temporary hospitals for the reception of those who could not be properly treated at their own homes, and in some instances the supply of tents for the removal of the most susceptible and destitute classes to a distance from infected localities. The result of this system was, that out of 130,000 premonitory cases brought under its operation, no fewer than 6000 of which were on the point of passing into the developed stage, only 250 went into the collapsed stage of cholera, or 1 in 520. But of the 43,737 cases under visitation in the metropolis, including 978 cases on the point of passing into the collapsed stage of cholera, only 52 actually did so,—not 1 in 800; so that taking together the general result of this extended experience, it appears that the proportion of cases under early treatment which passed from the premonitory into the developed stage varied from 1 in 500 to 1 in 800.

"No doubt is now entertained of the efficacy of this system, or of the duty of local authorities to carry it into effect on the very first appearance of this disease in an epidemic form; and, as none can tell where or how suddenly the pestilence may alight, it is the duty of local authorities to be prepared for the emergency before its arrival. Preparation will be attended with little cost; the power to act with promptitude and efficiency when the necessity for action arises will be attended with a great economy of money as well as of life.

"With reference to those precautions against the disease which each individual may take for himself, or the heads of families or establishments for those under their charge, the first in importance are personal and household cleanliness, and the freest ventilation of living and sleeping rooms with pure air; the purity of the air we breathe being even more essential than the wholesomeness of food and drink.

"When the disease has actually broken out and become epidemic in any district or locality, then the one essential precaution is not to neglect for a single hour any degree of looseness of bowels. This symptom being commonly without pain, and so slight that it is difficult to conceive that it can be of the smallest consequence, naturally leads to neglect, and this neglect has cost the lives of thousands. Were any additional proof of this required it would be found in the events that are now occurring at Newcastle and Gateshead; all the medical men there bear testimony that premonitory diarrhoea is all but universal, and that life depends on instant attention to this symptom.

"Thus, one physician says, 'He has never yet seen a case without premonitory symptoms;' another states, 'He has found in a great number of instances, where the men said they had been first seized with collapse, there had been neglected diarrhoea for 24, or even 48 hours or longer;' another declares, 'In all cases of collapse investigated, it is found there had been neglected diarrhoea.' Even in the cases in which death takes place with the greatest rapidity, the suddenness is apparent only, not real; for the fatal collapse is the final but gradual result of diarrhoea neglected for several hours, and sometimes for entire days. It must, then, be repeated, that in any district in which cholera is epidemic, life may depend on obtaining prompt and proper relief for painless and apparently trifling looseness of the bowels.

"The measure of precaution next in importance relates to the proper regulation of the diet. Great moderation, both of food and drink, is absolutely essential to safety during the whole duration of the epidemic period; an act of indiscretion has been often followed by a severe attack; intemperance at such a time is fraught with the most extreme danger. During the epidemic of 1849, sudden and fatal attacks of the disease followed immediately on the indulgence of habits of drinking after the receipt of weekly wages. The intervals between the meals should not be long; cholera being uniformly found to prevail with extraordinary intensity among the classes that observe the protracted fasts common in eastern and some European countries.

"The utmost practicable care should be taken against fatigue, which is a very powerful predisposing cause of the disease. Employers and persons engaged in laborious occupations should endeavour, as far as possible, so to arrange the amount and time of work, as to avoid physical exhaustion.

"Warm clothing is of great importance. During the present epidemic in Hamburg, it has been found that incautious exposure to cold and damp has brought on an attack as rapidly as improper food or excess. This precaution against damp is rendered doubly important by the peculiarity of the present season. Long continued and excessive rains have, in many places, surcharged the ground with moisture, especially undrained and low-lying districts, placing, in many instances, the land contiguous to towns, and beyond the usual range of town drainage, almost in the condition of marshes. The exhalations arising from a surface thus saturated often with water, holding decomposing matter in solution, spread to the towns and affect the inhabitants, however well drained the immediate sites of the towns may be. The General Board were so apprehensive that disease would be extensively produced by this unusual and dangerous state of a large portion of the country (an apprehension which was subsequently realized by the breaking out of disease, allied in character to cholera, in sixty towns), that in their notification, issued in December, 1852, they represented to local authorities that this calamity afforded a special occasion for adminis-

tering extraordinary assistance to the poor, to enable them to keep large fires in their rooms, to protect themselves from cold and damp by warm clothing, to sustain their strength by a solid and nutritive diet, and to counteract the predisposition to disease induced under these peculiar circumstances, by suitable tonics and other remedies, under medical direction. This representation was made when there was a threatening of the return of cholera; it is now amongst us, and the General Board would remind the affluent that the opportune supply to their poorer neighbours and dependents of wholesome food, warm clothing, and bedding, and even such remedies (to be always in readiness) as their medical attendant may recommend for looseness of bowels, is charity in the truest sense, and may be the means of saving many lives. It is also much to be desired, and the General Board would strongly recommend, that the higher classes should co-operate with the clergy, who have done so much to promote the object of the Legislature under the Public Health Act, in making frequent visits among the poor, and impressing upon them the importance of following the instructions here laid down, with reference to which there is a perfect accordance between the College of Physicians and the General Board of Health.

"In conclusion, after the large experience of this disease which has been obtained since the General Board of Health issued their first notification (1848), they can now repeat with greater confidence what they then urged, that, formidable as this malady is in its intense form and developed stage, there is no disease against which it is in our power to take such effectual precaution, both as collective communities and private individuals, by attention to it in its first or premonitory stage, and by the removal of those agencies which are known to propagate the spread of all epidemic diseases, or, where that may be impracticable, by removal from them. Though, therefore, the issues of events are not in our hands, there is ground for hope, and even confidence, in the sustained and resolute employment of the means of protection which experience and science have now placed within our reach.

"By order of the General Board of Health.

(Signed) CHARLES MACAULAY, Secretary."

Three cases of "cholera" are reported at Greenwich and Woolwich, but none have been fatal. It is not said whether the cases were "Asiatic cholera" or not. Deptford streets are reported to be in a very dirty state.

The act of Parliament under which the order in council respecting the cholera, was issued, passed on the 4th September, 1848. It is entitled "An act to renew and amend an act of the tenth year of her present Majesty, for the more speedy removal of certain nuisances and the prevention of contagious and epidemic diseases." The first part of the statute has reference to the removal of certain nuisances, and the second empowers the privy council to issue orders for putting in force the provisions relative to contagious and epidemic diseases. The order having issued for Great Britain for the next six months, the General Board of Health, by the 10th section, is empowered to issue directions for the prevention, as far as possible, or mitigation of, the disease. The board may provide for the frequent and effectual cleansing of streets and public ways; for the ventilating and disinfecting of dwellings; for the removal of nuisances, and the speedy interment of the dead, and generally for preventing or mitigating such epidemic in such manner as to the board may seem expedient. Medicines may be dispensed and medical aid provided. Houses can be inspected during the day time, and anything injurious to health removed. The expenses are to be paid out of the Poor's rate. There are various provisions to enforce the act, and penalties are to be levied and recovered for obstructing its execution. All orders and regulations are to be laid before Parliament and gazetted.

It is notable that North Shields, within twenty minutes' rail journey of Newcastle, is as yet free from cholera, but several cases of diarrhoea have occurred.

In Newcastle, the head quarters of the present cholera, the fatality of the epidemic seems on the decline. The deaths, during the early portion of the week, reached, daily, as high as 108; of late they have fallen to 91 and 89. The total number of deaths in Newcastle has been 953. During the same time there were but 156 deaths in 1831-32. The deaths, in Gateshead, have varied from 30, on last Saturday, to 12, on Thursday. In Hexham there have been 11 deaths; in South Shields, 5 deaths; and in Durham, 3 deaths.

An extraordinary sanitary step has been taken. The majority of the inhabitants of the Sandgate, a crowded and dirty quarter of the town, have been ordered away. Some have been encamped outside the town, and live a wholesome life, under canvas; others are scattered through the town, but those who remain have been subjected to a severe visitation, 126 cases of cholera having occurred amongst them.

This week there has been but one case of Asiatic cholera in London. A woman, living in the city, was seized on Tuesday, and died on Thursday morning. A case of endemic cholera occurred in Marylebone.

In Manchester there has been one case of cholera.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S SPEECH AT GREENOCK.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL has had his holiday demonstration; and in accordance with the character of the man, has spoken gravely, though hopefully, of the present aspect of affairs at home and abroad. The occasion was the presentation of an address from the provost, magistrates, and town councillors of the town of Greenock, who, on Monday, presented one of the usual complimentary addresses.

In referring to Parliamentary reform, Lord John oddly brought in the coincidence, that when he was a boy at school, in Scotland, the people were not represented:—

"I cannot but look back at the time when I first entered Scotland, and had the advantage of receiving part of my education under distinguished men in the metropolis of your country. (Cheers.) At that period there was nothing like real representation of the people of this part of the United Kingdom—those exceptions of popular election which prevailed elsewhere did not find their place in Scotland, and the freedom of the press was a mere name; for I do not remember that there was any newspaper at that time which really conducted public discussions with freedom and with openness. I cannot but look at that time to congratulate you, and to congratulate myself, that times are so greatly altered. Your provost has alluded to institutions in other countries which have failed—to liberties which have flourished for a time, and have decayed, or without bringing their fruits to maturity. But the difference between those countries and this is, that there is here such a temperate enjoyment of freedom—such a forbearance in pushing rights to extremity, such a well-considered appreciation of the value of liberty, the institutions derive all their force and all their grandeur from the character of the people among whom they are introduced. It is thus that if I at any time have been enabled to add to the privileges, to add to the power of the people, I have felt at the moment, and I have been confirmed by experience since, that I was adding at the same time to the strength and security of the throne. I am sure, gentlemen, that such will continue to be the case, and that while you value and esteem those privileges which you enjoy, and those privileges which you may hereafter obtain, you will at the same time consider that it is by the temperate use of liberty, that all these privileges can be best maintained to a remote posterity."

In these words no extension of reform is promised; but in the following the necessity of general reform is vaguely described, in allusion to the Free-trade measures:—

"Gentlemen, your provost has alluded to measures which have been under discussion with regard to the extension of the principle of representation, and measures with regard to the extension of the freedom of commerce. I am happy, at least, to say, without entering into any argument upon these subjects, that your address confesses the increase, I should not say confesses, but rather loudly proclaims the increase of the prosperity and happiness of the people; and thereby, at the same time, proclaims that those measures were not ill devised, and have not been unsuccessful. Gentlemen, with regard to the future, although I may take but for a short time any farther part in the deliberations of parliament, I trust that much that excited party dissension and heated discussion having passed away, that much which was matter of doubt having been settled, there will be, with regard to future measures, if not an absence of party—and I don't expect any time when there shall be an absence of party in this country, or when an honest difference of opinion should not be expressed; yet I trust there will be that agreement that the course of legislation may be still further conducive to the happiness of the people at large. And let me say, however important the questions that we have discussed in past years, and it would be difficult perhaps to find a time in the history of any country, when so many measures of importance have been obtained, without convulsion and without revolution, as have been obtained and established in this country since 1833. I say, while this is the case, there still remains much for the consideration not only of all statesmen, but of all men who are lovers of humanity, of justice, and who have a regard to the welfare of their countrymen. It is thus with regard to legislatures, as the poet describes it with regard to the traveller in a mountain country. Although you seem to have mounted to a considerable ascent, there are still farther ascents before you—

Hills rise on hills, and Alps on Alps arise.

There is no time—I contemplate no time—in which there will not be much for an enlightened and benevolent legislature to discuss, to arrange, and to establish. Very unfortunately, the very increase of civilization, the very gatherings together of population, which are the fruits of industry, of commerce, of flourishing manufactures, and increased trade, bring with them their attendant evils; and while we are occupied—while many benevolent men are occupied—in extending into remote regions the light of Christianity, there are too many almost at our own doors, who from the imperfection and the deficiency of education, on the one hand, and from the crowded and ill-ventilated dwellings which they inhabit, on the other, are almost as much deprived of the means of obtaining religious knowledge and instruction as the heathen in the most distant lands which our devoted missionaries have visited, and where they have been ready to sacrifice their lives in the promotion of Divine truth. (Cheers.) Well, gentlemen, but these questions give rise to numerous and important matters upon which men again may differ, but upon which I hope the conclusion to which they arrive may be conducive to the happiness of our countrymen.

"Our very freedom stands in the way of many regulations in themselves beneficial."

"While in a foreign country, where despotic rule prevails, you find that there is an obligation to provide for the good ventilation, for the ordering and maintenance, by measures of police, of that which contributes to the health of the population of a city; our people, naturally—I must say I find no fault with such jealousy—object to the interference of any central authority; and when the matter is left to their own government, they do not always provide those measures which it is for the good of our people they should provide. What should be the limit? Should you interfere? What should be the measure of interference? How far can you limit the freedom of the people in this respect? How far should legislation be introduced into such matters? These are important questions which the legislature should consider. Then, in regard to education, what vast matters are opening, upon which men of the greatest intellect have already given their opinion to the world! Can we rely upon the voluntary efforts of individuals in order to provide sound education for the people at large? Should you interfere, as the Government of America has interfered, in order to provide education? If you do interfere, how far should you insist that it should be a religious education? Can you, on the other hand, provide a secular education, and leave others, the ministers of religion, to give religious instruction? I only glance at these questions in order to show that there are weighty matters still for the consideration of the legislature and statesmen, and I only pray to God that they may be resolved in a manner befitting the intellect, befitting the character, befitting the spirit of an enlightened and a constant people." (Loud cheers.)

But while thus trimming between extremes in regard to home questions, Lord John roused himself and his audience to enthusiasm as he spoke on the foreign question of the day:—

"Let me only say, that while these matters of internal legislation are of the utmost importance, while they must occupy from day to day the minds and the time of those who are called to represent you in the Commons House of Parliament—while there are other questions of internal legislation, likewise of vast importance, upon which I have already, for my part, given my opinion, that further measures ought to be adopted, it is also to be considered, and I trust we shall none of us forget, that this country holds an important position among the nations of the world. (Cheers.) It is not once but many times she has stood forward to resist oppression, to maintain the independence of weaker nations, to preserve to the general family of nations that freedom, that power of governing themselves, of which others have sought to deprive them. (Loud cheering.) I trust that character will not be forgotten, will not be abandoned by a nation which is now stronger in means, which is more populous, more wealthy, than she has been at any former period. This, then, you will agree with me, is not a period to abandon any of those duties towards the world, towards the whole of mankind, which Great Britain has hitherto performed. Let us perform them, if possible, by our moral influence—let us perform them, if possible, while we maintain the inestimable blessings of peace; but while we endeavour to maintain peace, I certainly should be the last to forget that if that peace cannot be maintained with honour it is no longer peace—(applause)—it becomes then but a truce, a precarious truce, to be renounced by others whenever they may think fit—(cheers)—whenever they think an opportunity has occurred to enforce by arms their unjust demands either upon us or upon our allies. (Much cheering.) I trust, gentlemen, that so long as I can bear any part in the public councils of this kingdom, such will be my sentiments, and such will be my conduct. Happy I am to find that you have done me the honour to signify your agreement with me in these sentiments. I shall conclude, therefore, thanking you again for the great honour that you have done me, by saying that I shall remain attached to that cause which has been expressed in plain words—in that which used to be the toast at our dinners, wherever Englishmen were met—namely, 'The cause of Civil and Religious Liberty over the world!' (Cheers.) I trust that wherever the influence of Great Britain extends, that cause will be maintained by her. I feel it is her sacred function; and when she lets fall that standard from her hands, she will no longer deserve to bear her part in the concerns of the world." (Loud and continued cheering.)

The whole scene is said to have been striking. It took place in a church (the Midparish Church of Greenock), and the municipal dignitaries were in their robes and chains of office. The *Times* hopes the words and the cheers may usefully echo on the magnificent banks of the Neva: to us they seem but like the strophes of the chorus in the old Greek drama—chanting virtue in the presence of crime.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER XCI.

Paris, Thursday Evening, Sept. 22, 1853.

WE are still in the midst of a crisis, and the much-vaunted system of "authority" shows signs of falling to pieces. The infallible Government has lost its wits, and knows not what saint to invoke to its aid. The latest report demanded of each *commune* leaves no further doubt or illusion as to the scarcity. Even in the northern departments, which were said to be more favourably conditioned, the deficiency is stated to be a third. I find my former calculation not quite correct: that given by the *Sidèle* is as near the exact state of the case as possible. The deficiency must be estimated to range between one-third and one-fifth. The Basse Bretagne, that is to say, three departments

out of the eighty-six, furnish an abundant harvest. Facts like these it was impossible for any factitious fall to resist. At first, indeed, the system of authority was disposed to put down facts, and to exercise autocracy over events; but facts and events have put down autocrats and authorities; or rather, the fire-eaters in authority have accelerated the very crisis they tried to put down. By having informations (*procès verbaux*) drawn up against the sellers at a rise, they drove away the dealers from the markets; by prosecuting buyers who went to farms to purchase wheat in advance, they frightened away the merchants; lastly, by ordering M. Darblay, the great corn-merchant of the Seine et Oise, to throw his supplies at a fixed price upon the Halle de Paris, they have disgusted him, for a long time to come, of every kind of enterprise. The upshot of all is, that the Paris corn-market is now in utter confusion. There has been a rise of from three to six francs a hectolitre in many parts of the country, and the price of bread is decidedly on the rise. In the provinces as yet there have been a few partial *émeutes*, easily repressed, the Government declaring everywhere that prices would fall, and that all forestallers would be rigorously punished. But as the rise increases, and the Government will soon have exhausted its promises of a fall, calamities may be looked for. In the presence of such an eventuality Bonaparte has resolved on a very simple plan. He knows well enough that it is above all things indispensable not to have any *émeute* at Paris. "If the provinces revolt we will give them grape (*la mitraille*) to eat," says Persigny. As the people of Paris have a tough digestion, and would infallibly reply to *mitraille* by a revolution, the Government has made up its mind to give them bread. Bread is to be sold at eight sous throughout the crisis. Our fire-eating governors fancy this policy is an act of genius. They are mistaken; they are only heaping up fuel for an explosion more certain and more terrible. Work will be at a stand-still in the provinces; the workmen will rush to Paris, where bread is cheap. At Paris they will be in competition with their brethren of the capital, and wages will fall. Bread may still be cheap, but the labour market will be shrunk one half. The crisis, instead of affecting 300,000 working men will strike 600,000; in other words, 300,000 from the provinces and 300,000 of Paris. The revolution will have an army of 600,000 men at hand. The Revolution thanks the Government for the opportunity.

To the bread crisis is superadded another, to which I alluded in my last letter—the financial crisis. Not only does the Government demand contributions in advance from the capitalists in Paris, but my letters from the provinces say, that the same demands are made in the departments. The Ministers scarcely affect to dissemble their embarrassment. All the branches of the Administration have been surrendered to pillage of late. It seems to be understood, that the beginning of the end has come, and every one tries to get his share of the booty while he has his hand upon the public purse. Only Monday last, on the breaking up of the Council of Ministers, one of them is reported to have said, that "the Turks must be left to their fate, what with our want of money and our scarcity of bread."

Meanwhile, Bonaparte has started upon his triumphal progress in the northern departments. No expense is spared in his service. He takes forty horses from the Imperial stables, and eighty cooks in his suite—a degree of luxury forgotten in France. He is accompanied by the Empress. The towns on his passage have voted fabulous sums for his reception. Arras gives 80,000 francs (3200*l.*); Lille, 120,000 francs; Douai, 30,000 francs—with the proviso, that these 30,000 francs should be spent in succours to the indigent. At Lille all the functionaries of the department, small and great, amounting to 20,000 persons, have been convoked to salute "their Majesties" on their passage. None but functionaries can approach Bonaparte. These 20,000 men will represent the population. In every town orders have been given to erect triumphal arches. A contribution of five francs for each house has been imposed. There will not be wanting English journals to report, that "the Emperor was received everywhere with enthusiasm." Tell them, pray, once for all, that this enthusiasm is simply—*enthusiasm by order*.

Numerous arrests have been prosecuted this week among the working-classes; especially in the Faubourg St. Antoine and the Quartier de Marais. A fortnight ago there were some tumultuous crowds (*rassemblements*) on account of the rise in the price of bread. The men arrested were, it seems, marked by the police in these crowds.

Besides arrests of working men there have been arrests of officers at Avesnes. Under the regime of authority now in force, the Government shuts cafés at its good pleasure, if they incur its suspicion. So it was

at Avesnes. A café to which the principal citizens resorted was closed. The next day a party of officers went to this café as usual, broke open the doors, and began smoking and drinking as if nothing had happened. Three officers of the 7th Cuirassiers, with their colonel, were among this band of insurgents disguised as civilians. An hour after, the sub-prefect arrived with a piquet of soldiers. The officers, with their colonel, rushed on the soldiers, who thoroughly relished the joke of being thrashed by their own officers in disguise. The soldiers, you may imagine, were routed, to their own great delight, and to the fun of their officers and of the civilians of Avesnes, but to the disgrace of the sub-prefect. The prefect of Lille informed the General of division of the facts. The General replied that the colonel and officers had done quite right. The Prefect insisted; the General pook-pooked the Prefect; the Prefect rushed to Paris to lay his complaint before the minister, who placed the General in arrest at the citadel of Lille, and ordered General Thirion, second in command, to arrest the colonel and the officers of the 7th Cuirassiers. A pretty specimen of our precious regime of "authority!" S.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE RUSSIAN QUESTION—IMPENDING WAR.

THE following despatch from Count Nesselrode to Baron Meyendorff, at Vienna, is dated St. Petersburg, Sept. 7th.—"We have just received, together with your Excellency's reports of the 16-28th of August, the alterations which the Ottoman Porte has made in the draft of a note drawn up at Vienna.

"Count Buol will only require to recal to mind the expressions of our communication of the 25th of July, to form a clear idea of the impression these alterations have made on his Majesty the Emperor.

"When I, in His Majesty's name, accepted that draft of a note which Austria, after having previously procured it to be approved and accepted by the Courts of France and England, described to us as an ultimatum, that she intended to lay before the Porte, and on the acceptance of which the continuance of her friendly offices was to depend, I added in a despatch which you, Baron, were instructed to communicate to the Austrian Cabinet, the following remarks and reservations:—

"I consider it to be superfluous to remark to your Excellency that, whilst we, in a spirit of conciliation, accept the proposal of accommodation agreed to at Vienna, and of sending a Turkish ambassador, we assume that we shall not have still further changes and fresh propositions to examine and to discuss, which may happen to be contrived at Constantinople under the warlike inspiration which seems at present to influence the Sultan and the majority of his ministers; and that, should the Ottoman Government also reject this last arrangement, we should no longer hold ourselves by the consent which we now give to it."

"Expressions so precise as these could leave the Austrian Government no doubt as to our present decisions.

"I will not at the present moment enter into the alteration of the wording which have been made at Constantinople. I have made them the subject of special remark in another despatch. I will, for the moment, confine myself to asking whether the Emperor, after having for himself renounced the power to change even a word in that draft of a note, which was drawn up without his participation, can allow the Ottoman Porte alone to reserve to itself that power, and whether he can suffer Russia to be thus placed in an inferior position *vis-à-vis* Turkey. We hold this to be inconsistent with the dignity of the Emperor. Let us recal the whole series of events, as they took place. In the place of the Menschikoff note, the acceptance of which without alteration we had stipulated as the condition of our resuming our relations with the Porte, a different note was proposed to us. On this ground alone we might have refused to take it into consideration. And even after entering upon it we might have found occasion to raise more than one objection, to propose more than one alteration in the expressions. You know, Baron, that from the moment we consented to give up our *ultimatum*, no note of any form whatever was what we desired—that we should have preferred another plan, another form of agreement. We did not insist on this plan: we have laid it entirely on one side. Why? Because, as soon as we should have made counter propositions, we should have exposed ourselves to the reproach of protracting matters, of intentionally prolonging the crisis which is disquieting Europe. Instead of this, as we wished to put an end to the crisis as soon as possible, we sacrificed our objections both as regards the contents and the form. On the receipt of the first draft of a note, without waiting to learn if it had been approved in London or in Paris, we notified our accession to it by telegraph. Subsequently the draft was forwarded to us in its final form, and although it had been altered in a direction which we could not misunderstand, we did not retract our consent, nor raise the smallest difficulty. Could greater readiness or a more conciliatory spirit be shown? When we thus acted, we did so as a matter of course, on the condition that a draft which the Emperor accepted without discussion, should be accepted by the Porte in a similar manner. We did so under the conviction that Austria looked on it as an *ultimatum*, in which nothing was to be changed, as the last effort of her friendly mediation, which, should it fail in consequence of the pertinacity of the Porte, would thereby of itself come to an end. We regret that it was not so. But the Vienna Cabinet will admit, that if we had not to do with an *ultimatum*, but with a new draft of a note, in which either of the parties concerned was at liberty to make changes, we should thereby recover the right of which we had of our own accord deprived ourselves, of proposing variations

on our part, of taking the proposal of arrangement into consideration, and not only changing the expression, but also the form.

"Could such a result be intended by Austria? Could it be agreeable to the Powers, who, by altering and accepting her drafts, have made it their common work? It is their affair to consider the delays which will result from this, or to inquire if it is for the interest of Europe to cut them short. We see only one single means of putting an end to them. It is for Austria and the Powers to declare to the Porte, frankly and firmly, that they, after having in vain opened up to it the only road that could lead to an immediate restoration of its relations with us, henceforth leave the task to itself alone. We believe that as soon as the Powers unanimously hold this language to the Porte, the Turks will yield to the advice of Europe, and, instead of reckoning on her assistance in a struggle with Russia, will accept the Note in its present form, and cease to compromise their position so seriously for the childish satisfaction of having altered a few expressions in a document which we had accepted without discussion. For of these two positions only one is possible; either the alterations which the Porte requires are important, in which case it is very simple that we refuse to accede to them; or they are unimportant, and then the question arises, why should the Porte unnecessarily make its acceptance dependent on them?"

"To sum up succinctly what we have said: the *ultimatum* drawn up at Vienna is not ours. It is the work of Austria and the Powers, who, after having first of all agreed to it, then discussed it, and altered its original text, have recognised it as such as the Porte could accept, without its interests or its honour being compromised. We on our part have done everything that depended upon us to shorten unnecessary delays, inasmuch as when the arrangement was laid before us, we renounced all counter-propositions. No one will refuse to bear this testimony to the *loyauté* of the Emperor. After our having long exhausted the measure of concessions, without the Porte's having as yet made a single one, his Majesty can go no further without compromising his own standing, and without exposing himself to a resumption of his relations with Turkey under unfavourable auspices, which would deprive them for the future of all stability, and must inevitably produce a fresh and signal breach. Even now, further concessions with regard to the expressions of the Note would be of no use, for we see by your despatch that the Ottoman Government is only waiting for our consent to the alterations made in the Vienna Note to make its signature, as well as its sending off an Ambassador to convey the latter hither, dependent on fresh conditions, and that it has already made inadmissible proposals with respect to the evacuation of the Principalities. As regards the latter point, we can only refer to the assurances and declarations contained in our despatch of the 10th of August, and repeat, that the arrival of the Turkish Ambassador, bearing the Austrian Note without alterations, will suffice at St. Petersburg for the orders to be issued to our troops to retire over the frontier."

COUNT NESSELRODE'S INTERPRETATION OF THE VIENNA NOTE AND MODIFICATIONS.

The *Zeit* of Berlin publishes a German version of Count Nesselrode's second despatch to M. Meyendorff. The following is a translation of the document, which was originally written in French; and has therefore gone through two translations:—

"EXAMINATION OF THE THREE MODIFICATIONS WHICH THE OTTOMAN PORTE HAS INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRIAN NOTE.

"1st. The *projet* of Vienna declares, 'If at all times the Emperors of Russia have borne witness to their active solicitude for the maintenance of the privileges and immunities of the orthodox Greek Church in the Ottoman Empire, the Sultans have never refused to consecrate them again by solemn acts.' This passage has been modified as follows:—'If at all times the Emperors of Russia have borne witness to their active solicitude for the worship of the orthodox Greek Church, the Sultans have never ceased to watch over the maintenance of the immunities and privileges of that worship and of that Church in the Ottoman Empire, and to consecrate them again—'

"These words, 'in the Ottoman Empire,' and these, 'the maintenance of the immunities and privileges, &c.,' are suppressed in order to be placed below, and to be applied exclusively to the Sultans. This suppression takes away the whole signification, and even the entire sense of the mutilated passage; for nobody denies to the Sovereigns of Russia their active solicitude for the faith which they profess themselves, and which is that of their subjects. That which it was wished not to recognise is, that at all times Russia has shown an active solicitude for its co-religionists in Turkey, and for the maintenance of their religious franchises, and that the government is resolved to adhere to that solicitude, and to preserve those privileges intact.

"The turn given to the phrase is so much the more unacceptable, because, by the expressions which follow, there is attributed to the Sultans more than solicitude for the orthodox worship. It is affirmed that they have never ceased to watch over the maintenance of these immunities and privileges, and to confirm them by solemn acts. The facts are diametrically contrary to what is here affirmed; and, considering what has taken place more than once lately, and especially in the affair of the Holy Places, we are forced to seek a remedy for them by requiring more positive guarantees for the future.

"If we consent to acknowledge that the Ottoman Government has never ceased to watch over the maintenance of the privileges of the Greek church, what then becomes of the complaints which we have raised against it? We should be ourselves admitting by it that we have no substantial wrongs, that the mission of Prince Menschikoff was without motive, and, in a word, that the Note which has been addressed to us is itself superfluous.

"2nd. The omissions and additions of words, which are made here with a striking affectation, have evidently the object of enfeebling the treaty of Kainardji, whilst assuming the appearance of confirming it. The wording of the Note first adopted at Vienna was, 'Faithful to the letter and to the spirit of the stipulations of the treaties of Kainardji and Adrianople, relative to the protection of the Christian worship, the Sultan regards it as due to his honour to preserve from all attack the immunities and privileges accorded to the orthodox Church.' The reading which would turn aside the spirit of the treaty, that is to say, from the general principle laid down in the 8th article relative to the maintenance of immunities, applies to the view which we had expressed, and to which we still hold; for, in our opinion, the promise to protect a worship and its churches comprises within it the maintenance of the immunities which they possess. The two things are inseparable. This reading, first adopted at Vienna, was afterwards subjected at London and at Paris to a modification; and if at that time we did not raise any objection, as we had a right to do, it was not that we made any illusion of the sense of the change. We perfectly comprehended the difference made between two points, which in respect to us are inseparably united. But the distinction was indicated in a manner so delicate that, in the spirit of conciliation, and in the desire to arrive as soon as possible at a solution, we admitted the reading which from that moment we have considered as invariable.

"These motives of condescension are no more applicable to the new changes which have been made in the same passage at Constantinople. The line of demarcation between the two objects is too strictly traced to enable us to admit those changes without disowning all that we have said and written. The mention of the treaty of Kainardji becomes superfluous, and its confirmation without object, from the moment in which it is ceased to apply the general principle to the maintenance of the religious immunities of the Christian worship. It is with this end that these two words have been suppressed—the 'letter and the spirit.' They bring forward without any necessity the fact, that the protection of the Christian worship is exercised by the Porte, as if we raised the pretension to exercise ourselves that protection in the States of the Sultan; and as they omit, at the same time, to remember that, according to the letter of the treaty, this protection is a promise made by the Sultan—an obligation accepted by him—it would appear that they desired to question the right which we have to see to the punctual fulfilment of that promise.

"3rd. The modification introduced into this passage of the Austrian Note is especially inadmissible. The Ottoman Government would bind itself only to allow the orthodox worship to participate in the advantages which it would accord to other religious communities, subjects of the Porte. But from the moment in which these communities, Catholics or others, should not be constituted of native persons, but of foreign priests and laics (and this is the case in almost all the convents, hospitals, seminaries, and bishoprics of the Latin rite in Turkey), from the moment, we say, in which it should please the Porte to accord to these establishments new advantages and privileges, the orthodox communities would not, according to the words sought to be introduced into the Note, have the right to demand the same favours for themselves, nor Russia to engage herself for them.

"The ill-disposed intention of the Ministers of the Porte will become still more evident if we indicate the example of a possible case. Let us suppose the probable case of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, the last appointed, receiving from the Porte privileges which the Greek Patriarch has not. Every demand on the part of the last would be repelled, because he is the subject of the Porte. The same objection might be taken by the Ottoman Ministry in that which concerns the Catholic establishments in Palestine, as soon as a new advantage, not mentioned in the last firman, should be accorded to them, to the detriment of the native communities."

We said last week that the scimitar would untie the knot of the Eastern Question. All the latest accounts from Constantinople represent the daily and hourly increasing exasperation of the Turks at the long delays and doubtful words of the "Allies," and the burning desire for instant war. Here is the translation of a placard that was widely spread through Constantinople on the 29th and 30th of August:—

"O very powerful Padishah! all your subjects are ready to sacrifice their lives, their property, and their children in your imperial service; but you are also bound to unsheath the sword of Mahomet that you have girded, like your ancestors, in the mausoleum of Ebi-Eyoub-Eussary (Eyoub, a disciple of Mahomet, killed under the walls of Constantinople in 668-48 of Egypt). The hesitation of your ministers in this respect has shown itself for a considerable period from their occupying themselves solely with their personal interests. This state of things may (from which the Lord preserve us!) throw us into a great danger. Therefore, your victorious army, and the magnates your slaves, absolutely demand war for the defence of your incontestable rights, O Padishah!"

Another may be translated thus:—
"Thy people are armed, in order to defend their rights with weapons in their hands; if thou art worthy of thy forefathers and of the throne, then draw the sword, and lead us on to the war; if not, then descend from the throne, and make room for a worthier."

A deputation from the Ulemas had waited on the Sultan, and given him the alternative of declaring war or abdicating his throne; requiring his answer at the Feast of Bairam.

Placards continued to be posted on the walls of the city and of the mosques, calling upon the Divan to declare war against Russia; and addresses to the Sultan and his ministers were being signed publicly by the inhabitants, praying the Sultan to lead them against the enemy without waiting longer for the support of England or France, "who," they add, "had clearly proved that Turkey could

not depend on them." Those addresses and placards had produced much effect on the lower classes, and it was doubtful at what point the popular effervescence would stop.

Several Turkish caricatures have appeared of late in Constantinople bearing hard upon England. In one of these the Emperor of Russia is represented as feloniously breaking into Buckingham Palace; Prince Albert rushes to defend his house and family, but Lord Aberdeen holds him back, declaring the outrage not to be a *casus belli*. The English names for the vessels of war, &c., are, by a slight change, made to express the Turkish for anything but what is respectful. Of course these caricatures are not allowed to be publicly exposed.

The following is a substantial transcript of the Manifesto of the Porte, which appeared in the official journal of Constantinople on the 4th inst., but the publication of which was stopped after a few copies had been struck off:—

"After the occupation of Wallachia and Moldavia by the Russians, the Sublime Porte protested before the Four Powers, in conformity with its ancient custom. Some days before the departure of Prince Menschikoff from Constantinople, the Sublime Porte framed a Note, which, in consequence of its not having been accepted by the Russian Ambassador, remained unexecuted. One of the terms of that Note was the evacuation of the Principalities, after which an Ambassador was to repair to St. Petersburg. The Four Powers interfered, with the view of bringing the two parties in dispute to an amicable arrangement, and with that object they framed a Note, which was immediately communicated to them. That Note was accepted by Russia in the same form in which it was drawn up, and we were informed of this by the telegraph from Vienna as far as Belgrade, and thence by an extraordinary courier. By that act the Four Great Powers gave proofs of their goodwill and their friendship for the maintenance of our integrity. The Vienna Note, when examined with attention, showed some points which could not and which cannot be admitted either by his Majesty the Sultan, who desires to maintain the right of his ancestors in this grave question, or by his Ministers, who are bound by it.

"For some months past the Government of his Majesty has made great preparations with the object of maintaining its solidity, and such being the case, the Note to which we have referred cannot be accepted; and to resolve the pending question, it cannot accept other than the Note modified by the Sublime Porte, and under the official guarantee of the Four Powers. It is to that point the solution tends, and of this all its Ambassadors have been informed.

"On the same question we have received a letter from his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, to which we have replied after the same manner in which we now express ourselves.

"Such is the actual state of the question, and as to the turn which it may take hereafter, intelligence of a more recent date will inform us.

"Awaiting the results which may take place, the Sublime Porte will maintain the footing, with respect to its armaments, which it occupies at this moment—and such is the decision of all."

The Constantinople Correspondent of the *Chronicle* gives a lively account of the appearance of the Bosphorus and of the character of the Turks as sailors:—

"The Bosphorus never was so full of shipping as at this moment. Hundreds of vessels are lying there waiting for a south wind to sail up to the Black Sea, and load corn at Odessa. The appearance of the Bosphorus is peculiarly interesting at this time, owing to the warlike preparations set on foot by the Government. At the entrance of the Golden Horn there lie anchored ships of every nation, British and French war steamers and frigates, an American brig, a Russian steamer, a Dutch steamer—the moving watch-towers of the far North. As you proceed up the brilliant stream, every turn brings you to new scenes of active interest. From leaving Constantinople, up to Jonikoi, Turkish steam-frigates and corvettes dot the waters. On turning the curve near Therapia, the green tents of the Egyptian army on the heights near the Giant's Mountain rise to view, whilst the bay of Buyukdere discloses the Ottoman fleet, which stretches across the whole length of the inhabited portion of the European coast up to the entrance of the Black Sea. These monstrous ships give the scene a warlike aspect, well in keeping with the numerous forts, bristling with artillery, that line both the Asiatic and European coast at that point; and the charming scenery combines to render the general effect as admirable as it is interesting. The *Mahmoudé*, flag-ship of the admiral, carries 126 guns, and is in every respect, as are also the rest of the fleet, superiorly equipped. The Turkish artillerymen are excellent. A British naval officer expressed his astonishment to me at their precision in firing. As regards the crews, all that can be said is, that they are orderly and obedient, and competent to fulfil the duties that may fall to them, namely, the defence of the entrance to the Bosphorus; but they are not sailors, in the English sense of the term; and how can they be expected to be so? No Turkish ship cruises forth to the Atlantic. It is only by crossing the seas, or by contending with the element they live on, that sailors are made. The Turks are very good sea-soldiers; it cannot, however, be disguised that sailors they are not. The Greeks are the seamen of the Levant. None are, however, to be found on board Turkish men-of-war, as the Porte cannot trust them. Considering the annihilation of the Turkish fleet at Navarino, and the subsequent prostration of Ottoman seamanship, the immense fleet that has been equipped and ably organized by Turkey is matter of astonishment. Since the rupture with Russia wonders have been done—an immense army has been raised and equipped, and is at this moment on the banks of the Danube, panting for the contest."

Another correspondent writes from the camp itself:—

"Schumla is a vast entrenched camp that can be defended by 25,000 men, and is capable of containing 100,000.

It has also been rebuilt on a much better plan, and is totally different from what it was in 1828. My time is much taken up; but you shall hear from me again. The most perfect discipline reigns in the whole army, not to speak of the general wish for war. The sanitary state of the army is most satisfactory. Out of 15,000 men, incredible to say, there are but 300 sick. Nevertheless, the troops work most assiduously at the fortifications, and at their military duties. This proportion is the fifth of what is generally calculated. The Turkish soldier is much better fed than is generally the case in Europe. The irregular appearance of these troops strikes a European eye displeasingly; but it is part of a system. On the whole, this camp gives one an idea of the camp at Boulogne in 1803-4."

The commander of the fortress of Varna has received orders to prepare for the reception of 12,000 men. The fortifications are almost completed, under the direction of French and Prussian officers. The soldiers work four hours a-day; and the inhabitants, each one day in ten.

There has been a truly Russian attempt to get rid of Omer Pacha:—

"The following fact has been communicated to us," says the *Constitutionnel*, "and we find it confirmed by letters both from Constantinople and Schumla. A European physician, who arrived some months back at Constantinople, obtained, by dint of solicitation, the direction of the military hospital of Schumla. It appears that Omer Pacha soon perceived that this person kept up mysterious relations with Russian spies, and, in consequence, he kept on his guard. Soon after, being warned that there was an intention to poison him, he feigned to be indisposed, and sent for the medical man in question to attend him. This person, after examining the patient, went out to prepare a calming potion, which, on his return, he presented to Omer Pacha to drink. The general-in-chief of the Turkish army requested the physician to taste it first himself; and as the other refused to do so, he forced him to drink the whole of it in his presence. Seeing that the physician then wanted to hurry out, he forced him to remain in the tent, in order that he might judge of the effect of the potion. At the end of some hours the physician died from poison."

The *Journal de Constantinople* gives the following account of a review of the Egyptian troops by the Sultan, on the 20th ult.:—

"On Tuesday last his Imperial Majesty the Sultan went to the camp of the troops from Egypt, at Selir-Bournou, to pass them in review. On the arrival of his Majesty at the port of Unkiar Skelessi, all the vessels of the fleet were decked out, and their crews on the yards joined the troops who were drawn up in line of battle from the landing-place to the bottom of the valley, in greeting the Sultan with repeated cries of *Allahummè onsur Soutanena* (O our God, aid our Sultan!) All the bands of the regiments and the fleet then performed warlike marches, whilst the cannon of the fleet and of the fortresses of the Bosphorus sent forth their thunders. His Majesty, who wore a military uniform, the grand decoration in brilliants of the Medjidie, and a magnificent sword enriched with precious stones, was attended by his ordinary suite. He was received on landing by Mehemit Ali Pacha, Grand Seraskier; Ahmed Fethi Pacha, Grand Master of the Artillery; Mahmoud Pacha, Grand Admiral; and Mehemet Ruschdi Pacha, General-in-Chief of the Imperial Guard. The Sultan mounted a magnificent Arabian horse, and passed the review of the troops, who on his passage continued the same acclamations. Arrived at the Chemsid, a tent in the form of a beautiful parasol, on the height of Selir-Bournou, the Sultan commanded the attendance of his ministers, and immediately after the superior officers of the troops, which he had passed in review, headed by General Selim Pacha, were admitted to the honour of depositing at the feet of his Imperial Majesty the homage of their devotedness. The Sultan delivered a speech, in which he manifested his satisfaction at the fine appearance of the troops, and praised the activity and zeal of Abbas Pacha. After the speech of the Sultan the troops filed off before the imperial tent, and went towards the camp. As a testimony of his satisfaction the Sultan deigned to order all the contingent from Egypt an extra month's pay. The departure of his Imperial Majesty was, like his arrival, saluted with flourishes of trumpets, acclamations, and the firing of artillery."

Izzet Pacha, a veteran, who is remembered for his defence of Varna, in the last war with Russia, has been appointed to the Governorship of Belgrade: a significant post for a significant man.

The Russians are making every preparation to pass the winter in the Principalities. General Gortschakoff had gone to Bucharest, to inspect the corps under the command of General Ludon. In Bulgaria, the cold has already driven the Turks from their tents; and in the Principalities the Russians will soon be compelled to occupy barracks.

It is affirmed that the Porte has positively ordered the two Hospodars of Moldavia and Wallachia to retire from the Principalities. Several bayards have been arrested for keeping up a correspondence with Omer Pacha, informing him of the movements of the Russian army.

The services of the Russian post at Constantinople is suspended, and the postmaster has gone to Odessa.

The Bey of Tunis has informed the Porte that his contingent is ready to take the field. Steamers are about to be sent for these troops to reinforce the garrison of Constantinople.

The Servian Government has declared that it cannot fight against the Emperor of Russia—its co-religionist; but it has promised to abstain, at all events, from any hostilities against the Sultan.

The latest accounts from Constantinople mention, that M. Argyropoulos, the interpreter of the *ci-devant* Russian Embassy, has been sedulously visiting the leading members of the Turkish Government, and endeavouring to convince them that all the difficulty proceeds from the meddling of the Western Powers, and that it was for the

interest of the Porte to have Russia for an ally; but that it was impossible for the Czar to admit the modifications in the Vienna Note. All these arguments have been met with firmness, and an assurance of the determination of the Porte to resist. Russian agents have swarmed like locusts of late in the Turkish dominions; and the number of Russian travellers in all the chief capitals of Europe this summer has been remarkable.

The *Times* correspondent at Constantinople writes:—

"The most important reform that has been projected for many years in the Ottoman Empire is at length about to be accomplished. A firman will shortly be issued, authorizing the admission of Christian evidence in courts of law. Hitherto no Christian's word has been admissible as evidence against a Mussulman, and hence an immunity from punishment and a license to crime to any Mussulman who took care to have none but Christian witnesses to his offence. Practically the rayhas were deprived of anything in the shape of law or justice, and lived in perpetual distrust of their Mussulman fellow-subjects. The working of the new firman will doubtless be difficult, but, supported by the European Consuls, it will confer an inestimable boon on Turkey, and will do much to remove those causes of complaint which have led to the present crisis, which latter, having produced the firman, furnishes an instance of good resulting from evil which could scarce have been hoped for."

The new bank at Constantinople is to commence operations on the 15th of October.

Admiral Dundas has paid a visit to the Pacha in command of the Dardanelles forts.

On the 3rd inst., charts of the Black Sea were distributed to the ships of the two fleets. The ships will soon be compelled to leave their present position. A large quantity of stores of all kinds has been sent from Malta to the fleet.

The *Bellerophon* is at Tenedos with invalids from the ships. She has established a hospital on the healthiest part of the island, under the yellow (quarantine) flag. It is reported that the Captain of the *Bellerophon*, Lord George Paulet, has been placed under arrest by the Admiral, for negligence in carrying-out orders, and that the matter has been referred to the Admiralty.

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, received in Paris on Thursday, announces that, upon the demand of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, new conferences had taken place, at which it was decided that the representatives of the Powers at Constantinople should declare that the Vienna Note does not contain the dangers which the Porte sees in it. No other collective step will be taken. The effect of these conferences at Constantinople, if indeed they take place, is neutralized by the Nesselrode Notes and the diplomatic rupture at Vienna.

Austria, as we always predicted (and we take no credit to ourselves for the prophecy), has backed out of the Conference of the Four Powers, deserted Turkey, and positively taken sides with Russia. On the 14th, Austria despatched a strong note to the Porte, declaring that it was absolutely necessary for Turkey to yield, and that Europe could not remain longer in the situation in which the Eastern question had thrown her. M. de Nesselrode, in sending the Russian memorandum to Vienna, to M. de Meyendorff, informed him that he was to leave an official copy with M. de Buol, but that he was not to pursue the same course with respect to the other representatives of the Great Powers. By that mode of acting, Russia desired to intimate that she recognised only Austria as the mediating Power in the Eastern dispute.

The Nemesis of the Hungarian war is looming. Austria sacrifices her traditional policy to her fears of a revolutionary war: and in the connivance of Austria with his designs, Nicholas no doubt chuckles to find one more article of Peter the Great's testament accomplished. On the receipt of the last Russian despatches it seems the Austrian Government summoned the Conference; and as France and England could not be brought to insist upon Turkey's unconditional submission, Austria, isolated from the other Powers, despatches the pressing note to the Porte, not exactly in the name of the Conference, but with a hint that it is in accordance with the presumed intentions of France and England. This insolence on the part of Austria is only surpassed by that of M. de Nesselrode, who, in his despatch to M. de Meyendorff, speaks throughout of Austria as the chief Power in the Conference, only referring in a secondary and subordinate sense to France and England. The tone of the whole despatch is clearly designed to flatter the young Emperor of Austria, the conquest of whose heart and hand is to be finally accomplished at Olmütz.

The Emperor of Austria arrived at Olmütz, on the 16th. M. de Meyendorff left Vienna on the 15th for Warsaw, to await the Emperor of Russia. The British Ambassador was to go to Olmütz on the 23rd, to remain till the 27th. The Czar arrives on the 24th. The King of Prussia does not go to Olmütz, as his presence there would be interpreted in a Russian sense. Frederic William can only afford to be Russian at a distance. He has no policy of his own.

The King of Prussia has just appointed Prince Frederic William, son of the Prince of Prussia, to be Major in the first regiment of the Guards.

The Hereditary Grand Duke of Russia arrived in Moscow ten days ago. The Prince and Princess Frederick of the Netherlands have also arrived in that capital.

Mr. Jackson, the new American Ambassador to Austria, has arrived at Vienna. It is said that he goes to Olmütz, to "settle" the Kossta affair. Mr. Jackson, we suspect, will be found of different mettle to Lord Westmoreland.

The Emperor of Austria went to Vienna on the 21st inst., to receive the lost and found regalia of Hungary. Yet we are told that the Austrian Government, to show their contempt for the lately discovered regalia which the Hungarians regard with superstitious veneration, has ordered them to be placed in the Vienna Schatzkammer—a collection of "curiosities." The word indicates the

true character of all such baubles—Austrian or Hungarian.

Austria has had another brush at Smyrna; but this time it is against a weaker power. The cordial reception given to the American frigate *St. Louis* at La Spezia, and the ball given to the Queen of Sardinia by the Americans, has increased the enmity of Austria to Piedmont. When the *Bellona*, Austrian frigate, arrived at Smyrna, she found a Sardinian frigate stationed in the roads, but omitted the customary salute; and moreover, the Austrian captain indulged in some observations insulting to Sardinia. The Sardinian captain dared the Austrian to repeat his insults on shore.

The great reviews in Prussia were terminated on Friday last. About eighty foreign officers were present at the manoeuvres. The officers of the English army proceeded from Berlin to the camp at Olmütz. The festivities at Berlin included a performance at the Opera, and a grand banquet given by the King.

Louis Napoleon reviewed the camp of Satory on Tuesday. The troops were formed into three sides of a square, the carriages of the Empress and of the Court, and a considerable crowd of spectators, occupying the fourth side. The Emperor then proceeded into the centre of the square, accompanied by a numerous staff and a considerable number of foreign officers, Austrian, English, Piedmontese, and Dutch. The Emperor, having on his right Prince Napoleon, and on his left General Prince Jablonowski, of the Austrian service, then delivered the following address to the troops:—

"Officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers!—At the moment when the camp of Satory is about to be raised, I desire to testify to you my entire satisfaction. The three divisions which have in succession occupied it have manifested that discipline and confraternity, and that love for the profession of arms which keep up the military spirit so necessary for a great nation. In fact, who is it that in difficult times has supported empires, if not these assemblages of armed men taken from the people, broken into discipline, animated with the sentiment of duty, and who preserve, in the midst of peace, when generally egotism and interest in the end enervate everything, that devotedness to the country founded on self-denial, and that love of glory which is founded on a contempt for riches? That it is which has always made armies the sanctuary of honour; and, consequently, as long as peace continues, there exists a community of sentiment, I may even say a sort of *esprit de corps*, between us and foreign armies. We love and esteem those persons who in their own country feel and act as we do, and as long as political events do not turn them into enemies we are happy to greet them as comrades and as brothers. Receive, my friends, with my encomiums for your good conduct, my thanks for the marks of attachment which you have given to me and to the Empress. Reckon on my affection, and be certain of this, that next to the honour of having been three times elected by a whole nation, nothing can afford me greater pride than to command such men as you."

After the *defilé* of the troops the Empress retired, and the Emperor gave a collation to all the officers near Marshal Magnan's tent. In front of the tent was to be seen a colossal bust of the Emperor, made in twelve hours by M. Roubaud, a pupil of Pradier. At six o'clock the Emperor returned to Saint Cloud "amidst loud acclamations."

The camps at Satory and at Helfaut (near St. Omer) are to be respectively broken up on the 24th and 27th of this month.

The mayors of the various towns which Louis Napoleon is to traverse in the course of his progress in the northern departments, are assisting the prefects and sub-prefects in "getting up the steam" of loyalty and spontaneous enthusiasm. The Emperor and Empress arrived at Arras on Thursday evening. A brilliant reception had been prepared for them. Indeed the towns are vying with each other in splendid decorations, addresses, balls, illuminations for the occasion. Boulogne distinguishes itself by an address of congratulation and compliment to the Emperor from the English inhabitants. The English residents in Boulogne (who are not bigoted politicians as a class) may reasonably feel grateful to the man who keeps things quiet in France, and who has certainly hitherto shown himself animated with friendly feelings towards England.

The Prince de Chimay is sent by the King of Belgium to Lille, to compliment the Emperor on his visit to that frontier town. It is remarked that at the marriage of the Duc de Brabant the French ambassador was conspicuously absent.

The French Protectionists express alarm at the decrees allowing the free admission of corn, cattle, and meat. They specially object to the latter decrees, and admitting the urgency of the present crisis, ask why the time for the re-imposition of the duties is not fixed.

The *Écho Agricole* has been warned for having told the truth on the corn question. It is accused of having created a factitious rise in prices, the fact being that the Government has laboured to create a factitious fall.

A warning has been given to the *Constitutionnel*, for having in spite of an "unofficial warning," persisted in systematically praising, in its bulletin of the Bourse, certain industrial enterprises, and depreciating others, from interested motives.

On Tuesday last the Odéon Theatre was reopened with a new play by Méry, the Provençal improvisatore, called *Gusman the Bravo*. This *Don Gusman* is supposed to be an ancestor of the Empress; and the play was written by Méry, who is a sort of Court poet, for the purpose of stirring up the loyalty of the students and working men of the quarter of the Odéon. Queen Christina of Spain was present at the first performance; but the Emperor and Empress, who were expected from St. Cloud, did not make their appearance, on account of a slight indisposition, it was understood, of the Empress.

The cloth manufactory of M. Jourdain-Ribouleau, at Louviers, the largest in France, in which about 1200

workmen were employed, was completely destroyed by fire on Sunday night last.

The marriage of Count Olivier de Larocheffoucault with Miss Montgomery, daughter of a New York merchant, was celebrated on Tuesday last at the church of Ste. Valère, in the Faubourg St. Germain.

General Voiron, an ex-General of Division, and ex-Governor-General of Alferria, died on the 15th inst. He was Commander of the Forces at Strasburg in 1836, when the present French Emperor attempted an insurrection in that town.

Another shuffle of the cards at Madrid. General Lerundi's ignoble Cabinet has fallen. Sartorius (Count of St. Louis) has formed a new administration.

The new Ministers are Sartorius, Interior and President of the Cabinet; Blaser, War; Domenech (Progressist) Finance; the Marquis de Molins, Marine, or State (Foreign Affairs). The other names are not mentioned.

M. Sartorius and M. de Molins were members of the last ministry of which Marshal Narvaez was president; the first as Minister of the Interior, and the second as Minister of Marine. At that time M. de Castro was President of the Congress, and in that capacity seconded the plans of the Ministry. At the present moment he occupies an elevated judicial post. M. Domenech was Minister of Finance with M. Olozaga. General Blaser is not known as a politician. It is believed he will make room for Narvaez.

The Marquis de Molins was at Paris when he was informed of the fall of the government; and would immediately set out for Madrid.

M. Collantes, who held the portfolio of Public Works in the late Ministry, will, it is believed, be Minister of the Interior, and M. Llorente (now in Paris) will take the Finance department.

The Queen returned to Madrid on the evening of the 16th from La Granja. Before proceeding to the palace, she visited the Church of Atocha.

The new Cabinet has a more constitutional look than the last; but in Madrid intrigues and "influences" govern all. It may be expected of the present Ministry, that the Cortes will be speedily convened: the Protestant Cemeteries question settled: Marshal Narvaez recalled: and the slave-trade in Cuba less openly carried on under the Spanish flag: but those who expect much of Spanish ministers, however liberal and honest their complexion, do not take into account the more secret agencies by which the Queen's Government is carried on in constitutional Spain.

The deposition of the Queen is liberally discussed in certain political circles at Madrid.

The King of Belgium, accompanied by his two sons and several Ministers of his Cabinet, has visited the statistical congress at Brussels. During the discussion of the reports of the various sections a delegate stated that a statistical congress would be held in Paris in 1855. Mr. Horace Say, the political economist, objected on political grounds to the choice of that city, and proposed Turin. This little incident created no slight sensation.

The regular session of the States General of Holland was opened by the King in person on the 19th inst. The speech was received in London within two hours after its delivery, by submarine telegraph. The recent session of the Chambers was an extraordinary session, convoked for the discussion of the new law against the aggressions of the Papacy.

Alexander von Humboldt celebrated his 85th birthday on the 14th inst., at his estate at Regel, surrounded by a select society of friends.

The Duke of Genoa is in command of the forces encamped upon the plain of Marengo. He is indefatigable in exercising the troops.

At Naples it is generally understood that Austria is playing the game of Russia in the Eastern question.

Miss Cunningham, an English lady anxious to convert the Italians to Protestantism, distributed tracts among the people of little villages near Lucca. The people got offended, and pelted her away. She persisted, and the police arrested her. She is now in jail, accused of having endeavoured to seduce the people from their faith. She was repeatedly warned by her friends, but she would not desist. She is now liable to imprisonment for six years, with hard labour. The Grand Duke was appealed to, but has declined to interfere.

We mentioned, a few weeks since, that the Princess Belgioso had been stabbed, at Smyrna, by a discharged servant. No apprehension of fatal consequences was entertained by the friends of the Princess in Paris, as they had received a letter from her after the event, and had heard from other sources that her wounds were not dangerous. We regret extremely, however, to learn by a letter from Constantinople, of the 8th, in the *Ost Deutsche Post* of Vienna, that the Princess has died of her wounds in the Turkish capital. She will be deeply regretted.

MENSCHIKOFF THE MISSIONARY.

If civilization has been scared by atrocities committed in the name of liberty, it cannot be denied that crimes as flagrant and iniquities as enormous have been disguised in the sacred vestments of religion. No church, no sect, can claim immunity from this charge of having perverted the most solemn objects of reverence and worship to the service of violence and wrong—'Orthodoxy,' or in other words adherence to the creed which the strongest has the power to enforce, has been the fruitful parent of war and violence, international and intestine, in every form, and under every pretext.

But not to enlarge upon a text so familiar as this, let us proceed to inquire into the religious aspect of

the Eastern question, or, as we should rather call it now, the Russian question. It is a matter of history that the chief object of Prince Menschikoff's mission was to demand the Protectorate of the Christians of the Greek Church resident in the Turkish dominions, and, by implication, the protectorate of all the Christians in Turkey, excepting those of the Latin Church, who look to France and Austria for protection. We have repeatedly shown the absolute incompatibility with the independence of the Porte as a Sovereign Power of such a preposterous assumption. But from the very outset of these protracted negotiations, from the moment when Prince Menschikoff was escorted to his embassy by a fanatical mob as the bearer of these overweening demands, aggravated by the contempt of all diplomatic decencies displayed by the ambassador, the dispute between the Sultan and the Czar was ostentatiously paraded at St. Petersburg as the battle of the Crescent and the Cross. The invasion of the territories of an ally in contempt of treaties, the infraction of the public law of Europe, was the act of a new crusader going forth to fight for the "orthodox faith." We know that at St. Petersburg there was a religious procession, a proclamation to the people, directly appealing to the passions of a race who are taught to believe that Nicholas is the holy apostle of God, if not, by some mysterious incarnation, God himself. We know that in the Principalities the arrival of the invading army was hailed by *Te Deums* in the Greek churches, and we read this week that by imperial ukase a new church is to be erected at Ismail to commemorate the passage of the Russian armies. We hear, moreover, that the Czar has assumed a new title of ominous and awful import; he now calls himself the "God-Fearing," and his sons, as if to distinguish themselves from other and less religious royal families, are to be styled in addition to their other titles, "Believers in God." All these assumptions of titles, these proclamations, these processions, these *Te Deums*, are evidence enough that in the eyes of the Muscovite party represented by Prince Menschikoff, and to which Nicholas, notwithstanding his German associations, is fatally attached, and of which M. de Nesselrode is the diplomatic instrument, this Turkish question is a Holy War. Christian Europe is expected to sympathise with the Cross upheld by Nicholas against the standard of the Prophet. Christian Europe is to speak and think of the Moslem as savages and pagans, but of the Cossack hordes as Christians and believers. Let us be permitted, then, to consult authentic and independent testimony as to that Church, as it is at home, which the Czar champions abroad. Let us examine the right and title of Nicholas to the office of Defender of the Faith and champion of the Cross. We shall then perhaps be the better able, in a religious point of view, to appreciate the importance of ousting the Turk from Constantinople, and giving the keys of the Dardanelles to the Czar.

It will be seen that the Russian Greek Church, as it is at present constituted, of which the Czar is the Sovereign Lord and Pope, was wrenched from the Patriarchate by force of bribery and persecution; that it was finally and completely secularized and subdued to its actual helplessness by Peter the Great, who took more credit to himself for enslaving and debasing the religion of the State than for all his other mighty acts of organization; that ever since his day the Russian Greek Church has been a degraded slave of pollution, idolatry, corruption, covetousness, debauchery; its priests drunken and ignorant hypocrites, its formularies a blasphemous adulteration, its convents brothels, its holy synod a packed committee of priests bought and drilled by an aide-de-camp, its solemn rites a pretext for robbery, its daily life and practice a brutal Fetichism, its God the Czar. This is the Church to which we are invited to look as the Crusader of the nineteenth century, as the sworn exterminator of Paganism, as the avenger of the Cross.

In Turkey, where the "infidel" still reigns, we shall find the Christian population in the enjoyment of far other rights and privileges than Protestants enjoy in Spain or Italy, or Catholics in Russia; nay, as we have seen, than the Greek Christian Church itself in Russia. Are we to exchange the Crescent for the Cross, in order that instead of "God is God, and Mahomet is his Prophet," the conquerors of Constantinople may shout, "God is God, and Nicholas is his Prophet;" or rather, "Nicholas is God, and Menschikoff is his Prophet?" We conclude these introductory remarks with a caution to enthusiasts against an unconditional acceptance of that Greek Empire notion which we described to our readers some weeks since, and which has found so bold and able an advocacy in England. We do not say that a Christian Empire at Constantinople may not be on the scroll of distant eventualities; perhaps a Greek Christian Empire; perhaps a Christian Federation; but we cannot forget that a Christian Greek Empire is the romance, of all others, which peculiarly flatters

Russian diplomatists. It was a Christian Greek Empire that Russia thought of when she fought for the independence of Hellas, and assisted France and England at Navarino, in blowing up the fleets of "our oldest ally." It is a Christian Greek Emperor that Russian soldiers are taught to fight for, and Russian gold to bring into the intellectual currency of Europe.

We now invite the attention of our readers to the following extracts from a work on the Russian Question, by a French gentleman who has passed many years in that country in diplomatic and consular appointments. Let us remark how he, an eye-witness and an experienced observer on the spot, describes the Russian Greek Church:—

A RUSSIAN EMPEROR'S RESPECT FOR THE CHURCH.

The Emperor Alexander, in the course of a progress through the interior of his empire, was induced by a fit of devotion to enter a church in a village. He was received by the priest with the usual ceremonial, with the exception, however, of the benediction, the priest not venturing to hold out his hand for the imperial kiss. "Hold out your hand then," said the Emperor in a low voice; but the priest, more frightened than ever, would not budge. Then Alexander burst in a rage. "Will you hold your hand out or not, you idiot?" The priest obeyed trembling.

SIMONY IN THE GREEK CHURCH.

To the fixed stipend which the priests receive from the landlords they add casual fees and impositions; and it is in these that their cupidity has full swing. Since Peter the Great, the tariff of the church has not been reformed, and as the prescriptions of that emperor have become, through the change in the value of money, totally inapplicable, the priests have no other standard by which to regulate their salaries than their own arbitrary caprices. *Simony is with them a daily practice.* They sell the sacraments. A priest has been known to refuse to carry extreme unction to a dying person whose family objected to pay what the priest demanded. The seigneur interfered and with great difficulty succeeded in arranging the dispute between the two parties.

THE CONVENTS.

Let us enter the convents. It is into them that any spark of life yet remaining to the phantom of the Russian Greek church has fled. Men of science and virtue are to be found within their walls; but as these men never step beyond the threshold of their cells, their science and virtue are of no profit but to themselves, and a few monastics who live under the same roof.

Such among them as leave the cloister to assume the dignity of bishop or archbishop, forfeit by that step of their independence, and are nothing more than decorative pontiffs, with whom, no doubt, the Czar is fond of adorning his throne, but whose mitre he would mercilessly break if ever it covered a head which had the audacity to think for itself. We know to what a pitch of servility the profession of a courtier was carried by that old Metropolitan of St. Petersburg, under whom was consummated the act which united the Greek Catholics established in the empire to the Russian orthodox church. An unparalleled scandal was that transaction, and well does it illustrate the very human fashion in which religious matters are treated in Russia. After having in vain exhausted every description of violence against the unfortunate dissidents, even to the brutality of a licentious soldiery, after having imposed upon them a catechism fabricated by schismatics—sermons fabricated by schismatics; after having condemned to punishments, ridiculous as disgraceful, those of their pastors who rejected these impious classifications—after having, in a word, heaped upon them every excess of persecution, the imperial Government resolved upon what it deemed peremptory measures. It replaced the priests of the Greek Catholic church, whom it had ejected from their parishes, by Russian priests, and declared by ukase that, as the flock could not belong to another faith than that of their pastor, *the union of the two churches was henceforth an accomplished fact.* So true is it that the Russian church is nothing but a form. It is true that it would have been difficult, even for the General of cavalry who presides over the holy synod, to find any other means of conversion. When Protestant subjects of the Czar are asked whether they would change their religion, and be baptised in the orthodox faith, their reply is, "What! do you think a man changes his religion to descend in the scale?"

To return to the convents. If those inhabited by men are, to a certain degree, entitled to respect for the science and virtue they contain, those which serve as a refuge for women are generally remarkable only for the ignorance and debauchery they conceal. Many and strange facts have been recounted about these convents, and I might add many still more strange, which defy contradiction. But why enlarge upon a subject so disgusting? The respect we owe to the reader commands a reserve which we will not break. Let the "orthodox"

nuns sleep in their shroud of infamy; others may stir the mud which we refuse to touch.

ORTHODOXY NOT MORALITY.

Where goes that *moujik*?—where goes that shop-keeper?—where goes that *employé*? who, as they pause before a church, turn suddenly round, sprinkle themselves with a few signs of the Cross, bend their backs, and murmur mechanically three or four syllables of a prayer. One goes to his bureau to rob the State; another to his counter to defraud his customers; another to a wineshop to get drunk. In fact, there is no connexion between the orthodox Church and virtue. It is mere gymnastics.

Do you believe, for instance, that all those saints in frames, who invariably adorn the Russian houses, sanctify the abode, and the masters thereof? Why, these saints are found even in *brothels*. True, that the faces of the saints are veiled.

Happy indeed are those saints if they don't incur the displeasure of those who invoke them. I have known a St. Nicholas, who was implored by a thief to assist his enterprise, and responded faintly to his appeal, mercilessly *whipped*. Once some monks discovered in the vaults of a monastery an old dried corpse. It was canonized. Then came miracles, gifts, and offerings to the pious recluses. Soon after there was a terrible drought. The distressed peasantry rushed in crowds to the monastery to beg for rain, trying, at the same time, to tempt a miracle by presents which the priests could appreciate. The rain came not. Then these peasants were furious at having been tricked. During the night they scaled the walls of the monastery, broke into the church, and after dragging the saint from his shrine, stripped him of his finery, and smashed him.

Saints of this kind are not rare in Russia. Formerly they were discovered almost daily: it was a speculation. Lately, the Emperor Nicholas has shown himself less facile in granting canonization. When he was recently applied to on behalf of an old scrag of a corpse discovered at Kasan, which, it was averred by those who pleaded its cause, was fully as predeceasing of the honour of saintship as any of its predecessors, "Well, then, you may make this one a saint," said the Emperor; but "*let it be the last.*"

IDOLATRY.

The images, which the Russians multiply to such an excess in their churches, and in the interior of their houses, are painted upon canvass or upon wood. Never any statues or reliefs. The Russian Church proscribes them as heterodox. All the Church permits is to cover the most precious images with gold and silver tinsel, so cut as to leave only the head and the arms exposed. There are few nobles, and still fewer tradesmen, who have not one of these luxurious images suspended at one of the angles of their drawing-rooms, or of their bed-rooms. In the *isbas*, or huts of the peasantry, the place of honour is under the little chapel, which the family images adorn: it is in that corner that respectable persons and distinguished visitors are seated. The *moujiks* are seriously angry if you do not understand this peculiar compliment, and still more if you do not make the first bow to their saint. Such is the general usage in Russian houses. The *bogs* (images) take precedence of all. This does not prevent many transactions in their presence which are hazardous enough to Christian perfection. These orthodox *bogs* are so indulgent!

THE "PRINCIPLE" OF RUSSIAN POLITICS.

Russia has no principle. Two things only are sacred in her eyes—Interest and Force: the one which points out the end, the other how to attain it. Be what you will, if in this double point of view Russia perceives in you the opportunity of an effective concurrence, she will be your ally.

THE RUSSIAN GREEK CHURCH.

What is the Russian Greek Church? It is the Roman-catholic Church reduced to a state of petrification.

THE RELIGIOUS ELEMENT IN THE EASTERN QUESTION.

In spite of the repeated *ultimatums* of Prince Menschikoff—in spite of the notes and circulars of M. de Nesselrode—in spite even of the manifesto of the Emperor Nicholas—no one seems as yet to appreciate at its true value the *rôle* which Russia seeks to make the religious element play in the Eastern question. This *rôle*, in a word, is purely nominal; it serves as a pretext, it cannot be a principle. But has this not always been the case? Without the Dardanelles, Russia has not the key of her house. That *not* of the Emperor Alexander resumes the whole question. Russia wants Constantinople.

MENSCHIKOFF THE MISSIONARY.

Go now to St. Petersburg. What a magnificent outburst of enthusiasm you find there! But do you believe that these Russians of polite society (*de salon*),

the only human beings who think in Russia, are very anxiously interested in the fate of the rayas? (Greek Christians in the Ottoman dominions.) Ah! they know better than anybody else the sort of *immunities* those poor wretches would have to enjoy if they ever passed from under the sceptre of the Sultan to the sceptre of the Czar. Imagine, then, how they laugh at the efforts which European diplomacy is making, or at least was lately making, to transform Prince Menschikoff into an Evangelical Missionary!

NICHOLAS "NOW AND THEN."

In the midst of this general excitement, what is the attitude of the Emperor Nicholas? It is sombre and mysterious, no doubt, but it yields to the torrent nevertheless. Did he not himself let loose the floodgates? Nicholas must not be regarded as the man he was, say, twenty years ago. At that period, having just vanquished a revolution, which well nigh cost him his throne, he was absorbed by the anxieties of the internal administration of the Empire. He had not only to re-establish his authority, but to surround it with those institutions and elements of strength which confer at once power and prestige. He had hardly sketched out this mighty task, when Poland rose in insurrection. Nicholas determined to reduce Poland, and with that object he deemed it politic to exterminate it by degrees. This required time. Then he resumed his labour of organization and influence. Long years were given him to develop his projects substantially. Next came the revolution of February to give him an opportunity of putting his work to the test. While all was tottering around him Russia remained firm. Nicholas, afraid of his own safety and of his system, assumed the character and the office of the invincible protector of the rights of the discomfited Kings. The Kings believed him, Austria threw herself in his arms. For a moment the Muscovite Czar was regarded as the corner-stone of social order, as the arbiter of the world. This moment passed by. Peace was restored to Europe. Nicholas retired. And it was then that, in his secret meditations he felt himself devoured by a bitter grudge. Catherine II. was fond, as she used to say, of "fishing in troubled waters." Nicholas had had an opportunity of indulging largely in the same tastes. He was annoyed to find the thrones in safety again, and the peoples quiet. Besides, his intervention in Hungary appeared to be less fruitful in results than he had anticipated. He felt that the scandalous malversations committed by the officers of his army, in the face of a foreign power, the innumerable corpses with which his army, by its disgraceful condition, had strewed the roads and infected the encampments; he understood that all these horrors would be so many flashes of light to expose to Europe the secret weakness of his empire; and that he would run the risk of appearing to the rest of the world rather as the conservator of mischief than the energetic organizer of public order. Nicholas, moreover, knew well that obligations imposed are apt to degenerate into an involuntary yoke, and one which, soon or late, the obliged makes no scruple of shaking off, as Prince Schwarzenberg expressed it, by a *supreme ingratitude*.

THE RUSSIAN EMIGRATION.

Nothing, in truth, can be more curious and instructive than what is now going on on the banks of the Neva. The very ministerial bureaux scarcely dissemble the movement. As for other people in the city and about the court, it is a rivalry which shall betray the mystery first. They dream of nothing but Byzantium and the enchanted shores of the Bosphorus. "Are you going to the country soon?" "No, I am waiting; but, for Heaven's sake, I hope it will soon be settled." One hears of schemes of emigration *en masse*. Even the merchants and bankers are ready to ship their counting-houses and be off.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS ABROAD.

An accident happened on Sunday on the Paris-Bordeaux railway. Two engineers, two firemen, and the guard were killed. Other passengers received severe contusions.

The cause of the accident is said to have been some unaccountable neglect on the part of the station-master of St. Ligué. There is as yet but one line of rails between Tours and Bordeaux. A telegraphic despatch was sent to the station-master, informing him that a special goods train from Bordeaux was coming up the line, and desiring him to keep the down mail train on the side rails at the station until the luggage train had passed. This order was unattended to, and hence the collision.

An accident has also occurred on the Rouen railway. About eight o'clock on Sunday evening two engines came in collision opposite Sotteville, in consequence of some mistake in turning the switches. As the engines were both running at great speed, the shock was very severe. One of the engines was completely knocked to pieces, and the two men thrown amongst the ruins of it. The engine-driver had his thigh and his knee joint broken, and the stoker received some very severe contusions. They were both conveyed to the Hotel-Dieu at Rouen, where the state of the engine-driver was considered very dangerous.

SUSPENSE OF WAR IN INDIA.

THE Burmese war is said to be at an end, but it seems merely a suspension of hostilities. Our troops are kept in a state of readiness; staff-officers are not allowed to leave their regiments, and all European women are restricted to Rangoon as the only safe place. The *Friend of India*, the Ministerial paper, speaks in an exulting tone of the future conquests to follow that of Pegu:—"We have obtained possession of another of those great Asiatic deltas which teem with the luxuriant fertility of the tropics, and have opened to our traders another river, which may well be compared, in its own size, and the richness of the tracts through which it flows, with the Ganges or the Indus. . . . We still believe, as we have always believed, that a third Burmese war is ultimately inevitable, and that our frontier to the eastward will shortly be Western China. . . . The Ministry did not desire the war, the Court of Directors regretted it, the public were scarcely reconciled to it, and it was denounced, from the first, by the English press as a quarrel about a swamp. Yet, in spite of press, Parliament, and people of the Board of Control, the Court of Directors, and the Government of India, the red line, the mark of British dominion, surrounds Pegu. We have quitted the peninsula and are fairly embarked in the affairs of Indo-Chinese Asia, and, if any one imagines the red line will remain at the 96th degree of east longitude, he has studied the history of India to exceedingly little purpose."

But at present this "fertile" province is the scene of a most frightful famine. The entire population is destitute of food. Rice, the staple production of the country, and upon which its inhabitants are as much dependent for existence as the Irish were upon potatoes before the famine of 1846, is so excessively dear, that it is beyond the means of any but the richest to purchase enough to keep body and soul together. A small basketful sold in Calcutta for about a shilling, there costs sixteen! A letter from Prome of the 11th of July states:—"Some hundreds of families came in from the jungles a week or two ago in a state of starvation indescribable. Forty of them died in one night." A most liberal subscription, amounting to 600r., was raised among the officers at that station, and many starving people were relieved. By the last accounts the scarcity had been only in the most partial manner alleviated by the arrivals of rice from Calcutta; but there were 16 to 20 vessels loading grain on the 1st instant, of an average tonnage of 500 tons, and of which, we believe, some have already left for Rangoon. In the meanwhile the whole country is overrun with bands of dacoits. The river is so infested with them, that no merchant will venture up; and it is said, that even the commissariat with a strong guard dreads the passage. The *Rangoon Chronicle* is full of nothing else but murders, dacoities, starvation, and cholera.

The official intelligence from India is meagre. The Governor-general is at Calcutta, and Lord Falkland and the Commander-in-Chief at Poonah. At Calcutta a monster meeting of native Indians had been held to express disapproval of many parts of Sir Charles Wood's Bill.

THE CHANGE IN CHINA.

THE rebellion makes way slowly but steadily. We have news of various small successes by the rebels, of imbecile movements by the imperialists, and Tieu-teh, said by some to be a myth, is heard of again.

A person writing privately from Hong Kong says:—"News is now coming in of new insurrections in all parts of the empire, and the fall of the old dynasty is become hardly a matter of doubt. With a body of religious enthusiasts, part of whose creed is war to the death in the heart of the country, and engaging in all the feeble energies of the Government, and insurrections under other banners in nearly every province south of the Yellow River, it cannot long survive. The ultimate result is a question only to be decided by time, but the superior organization, poor as it is, of the Christian rebels, and their more determined spirit, may justly give us hope that in the end they may prevail over their competitors for empire. They still remain in position at Nanking and Chinkiangfoo, and beyond some skirmishes with the Chinese foreign ships, in which they are uniformly successful, nothing new has occurred."

The general of the Amoy insurgents professes himself an adherent of the restored dynasty of Ming, represented by Tieu-teh, and it is said that great and quiet person is to appear in person should the rebellion become generally successful.

At Foochow there had been a Chinese riot, cut short by the Tartars, who cut off the heads of the rioters on the spot. Two ships chartered by an American firm were lying below Foochow waiting for tea cargoes, but owing to the disturbances in the interior the tea had

not arrived. Trade in general at Shanghai was dulled by the unsettled state of things. The European import merchants had asked Sir George Bonham to get the duties temporarily taken off on the grounds that the market for goods was spoiled by the bad state of things, but Sir George considered such interference beyond his province.

"THREE COURSES OPEN" TO AUSTRALIA.

SOUTHAMPTON is destined to be the starting point for three lines of steam-packets running regularly to the Land of Gold, and three distinct companies are in "the field," if one may so term the wide stretch of waters to be crossed.

That monarch of great associations, the *Peninsular and Oriental*, has been the pioneer of regular passages to Australia. It equipped and sent to sea, from Southampton, the two first steam ships destined to commence and continue a postal system. That wealthy and successful company, already possessing a line of steam ships in regular operation from Southampton, *via* the Isthmus of Suez, Ceylon, and Singapore, to China, was enabled to be the first in the field, and the operations of their steam ships, stretched out in advance so far as Singapore, the nearest point to Australia, rendered it a comparatively easy task to complete the line by adding a link from Singapore to the various ports of South Australia. That link has been already supplied, and for some months past the mercantile community have been indebted to the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the most speedy and only reliable method of postal intercommunication—*viz.*, that by the eastern route. This route is not and never can be anything more than a postal one, its great expense for passenger, bullion, and merchandise traffic is practically prohibitory, and must apparently long continue so; while, additionally, the frequent changes from steamer to steamer, and the necessity for crossing the desert through Egypt, are inconveniences not easily remedied. The line established by this company is, however, of much importance to this country in a postal point of view, while many benefits to the trade and commerce of both India, China, and Australia have been effected by the regular communications maintained between those places by means of this line.

The second company in this line is the *General Screw Steam Shipping Company*; and it has chosen the Cape of Good Hope route to Australia. At an outlay of capital of nearly 500,000l. sterling, this company are using the greatest energy to place upon the best possible footing this gigantic enterprise, which involves nothing less than the circumnavigation of the globe (for their steamers are to come home by way of Cape Horn) during every voyage to be undertaken. The *Harbinger*, of 1000 tons, the first of their ships, opened the line in February last, and for an experimental voyage did exceedingly well. This vessel was followed by the *Argo*, a fine screw steamship of 1850 tons; and the *Harbinger* is about to start in October to prosecute another voyage to the antipodes. Pending the experimental trips of these steamers, the General Screw Company are preparing three iron screw steamships of great size, with which most efficiently to carry out their undertaking. These are the *Crossus*, the *Jason*, and the *Golden Fleece*, each of 2500 tons, and 500-horse power; and a fourth, of still greater tonnage, is, we understand, likely to be built. There is no doubt, therefore, that ere long the Cape route to Australia will be effectively and regularly performed by the ships of this company, and that great success will reward the efforts of this enterprising association. The merits of the Cape route, so far as passenger and merchandise traffic is concerned, over the eastern route, arise from the convenience and moderate charges with which goods, bullion, and passengers can be conveyed. No change of ships is needed, and a passenger setting foot, at Southampton, on board one of the noble steamships of this company, may without further inconvenience be conveyed direct to Melbourne and Sydney, at a cost comparatively trifling when contrasted with the excellent accommodation to be afforded on board these magnificent floating hotels. The fact, likewise, that there is no isthmus to cross, and that no transshipments of any kind are necessary on this line, enables merchandise of all descriptions to be shipped at such rates as will always command a remunerative freight for so desirable a method of conveyance. These ships are destined, therefore, to be the carriers of a vast quantity of cargo, and will also bring back, in great amounts, the precious products of the auriferous soil of the Australian colonies.

The third competitor is the *Australasian Pacific Mail Steam Packet Company*, and its road is that through the Isthmus of Panama. Only a few months will intervene before a regular communication by way of Panama will be established, Southampton being likewise, as in the case of the eastern and Cape routes, the

point of departure. At an expenditure of upwards of a quarter of a million, the company have built and are equipping five screw steam ships, destined to run monthly from Australia *via* New Zealand to Panama, and, connecting with the steam ships of the Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Company on this side, to maintain a rapid and regular monthly steam service between Southampton and Australia. The steamers prepared specially for this enterprise are the *Kangaroo*, *Emu*, *Black Swan*, *Dinorius*, and *Menura*—each of about 1600 tons burden, supplied with auxiliary screw machinery of 300 horse power, and fitted with propellers patented by Griffiths. These vessels are represented as combining in every degree the requisites of speed, either by wind or steam propulsion; and possess all the improvements both of form and equipment yet introduced in the steam marine. To these five ships will be added a sixth, the *Pelican*, of 1100 tons, and 220 horse power, destined to run between Sydney and Port Phillip, in correspondence with the main line ships, and to be additionally available for any casualty that may occur on the trans-Pacific service. The *Kangaroo* and *Emu* are both launched, and are receiving their machinery; the remainder are in a forward state. But for the strikes in the north, and the feverish state of the labour market in the Clyde, they would have been ready some months since. It is now, however, anticipated that the *Kangaroo* will be despatched from Southampton in November direct for Sydney, there to commence the regular service to Panama. The *Kangaroo* will be followed by the other ships in quick succession. The proposed route is from Sydney to Wellington, New Zealand, through Cook's Straits, keeping along the 40th parallel of south latitude, until about the 100th parallel of west longitude, thus taking advantage of the strong west winds generally prevailing in the Pacific—thence a northing to Panama will be made. The outward or return course is intended to be from Panama in nearly a direct line to the north of New Zealand, calling at Auckland. It is not at present contemplated to touch at Tahiti, although a coal depôt is to be established there, to be available if required. A large supply of coals has already been sent forward to Panama and New Zealand, and the company fully expect to effect the voyages through from Southampton to Sydney in 55 days, the steamers in the Pacific being calculated to perform their work at an average speed of nine knots an hour.

Geographically, the Panama route to Australia is the best. It is the most direct and the shortest, and to this may be added the well-acknowledged fact that the navigation of the Pacific Ocean is the most favourable for auxiliary screw-steamers of any ocean in the world. A straight line may be drawn on Mercator's Chart from Southampton to Sydney, which would very nearly intersect the American continent at the Isthmus of Darien, and this will be sufficient to show that the Panama route is the shortest means for approaching our Australian possessions. It is, in fact, the natural ocean highway from Europe to the South Pacific.

ENGLISH INNS.

The magnificent charges which an English host can make are still the subject of letters in the leading journal. One gentleman, writing from the Athenæum Club, suggests a reformed hotel:—

"The scale which I would suggest is somewhat of this kind:—Large beds for two, 1s. 6d.; single persons, 1s., with 6d. extra if the parties only remain one night, on account of the waiting; plain tea, 1s. (6d. or 9d. for a family); breakfast, 1s. 6d., or 1s. each if for a party, without meat, for which say 6d. extra; plain dinner, 2s. 6d. and 2s. if for more than one; ale, 6d. per quart (and here let me suggest the importance of providing wholesome table-beer as well for children and those who are not strong enough for ale); wine, 5s. per bottle (full bottles, six to the gallon—not innkeeper's ninos). I drink excellent port and sherry here (the Athenæum) for 4s. per bottle. Let the innkeeper furnish the same at 5s., which gives him, if he buys it the day before, 25 per cent. profit, without risk or loss of interest. Sitting-room, if required, 2s. per day; more for large room; fire, 6d.; candles in sitting-room, 6d. each, and not charged for again till burnt out; and, above all, let there be a good *salle-à-manger* as well as drawing-room, in which those who like it, ladies as well as gentlemen, can sit and take their meals without the expense of private sitting-rooms and all its abominations."

Of all the instances of extortion rapidly done, the following, at Leamington, is the most audacious:—

The sum total for three of us was upwards of 40s. for bed, breakfast, and luncheon of bread and cheese, with two small jugs of beer. The beds were 15s.; apartment, fire, and lights, 5s.; luncheon, 4s. 6d.; beer, 2s.; and attendance, 6s. We arrived late in the evening of Saturday, January 22nd last, and left at 3 p.m. on Sunday. It was after a vigorous remonstrance on our part that the waiter referred the bill to some unseen manager or proprietor, who confessed the gross imposition attempted to be practised on us by deducting 10s. from the amount, accompanied by the remark of the waiter, that the Clarendon "note" as modified would do no one injury.

THE HIGHLAND COTTIERS.

The following story of a Highland eviction is very simple but very touching:—

Many poor crofters or cottier tenants lived on the estate of Knoydart, in Glengarry, owned by Mrs. Macdonnell. For a long while the crofters for the most part have been unable to pay their rents, and many of them were in heavy arrears. To clear the way for a more profitable class of tenantry the proprietress resolved to clear the estate; but in order that the crofters might be placed in circumstances which, in her judgment, would be for their benefit, she offered them a choice of emigration to America or Australia, undertaking to engage a vessel at her own expense, to provide them with suitable clothing, to let them sell their little stock, and forgive them all arrears of rent. The proposal appeared to be accepted by the crofters generally, and they preferred Canada to Australia, a colony of Glengarry men having been established there for half a century. A vessel was then engaged and sent to the Isle of Ormsay in Skye, where the emigrants were to be shipped, but when the hour of trial came about sixty persons who had agreed to the terms of removal refused to leave their crofts, and the vessel had to sail without them, taking out two hundred and eighty emigrants in all. In these circumstances summons of removal were served on the refractory crofters and cottars, but they were unheeded. Notices to quit in forty-eight hours were then given, and these also failing in effect, the legal officers were instructed to eject the people. They met with no forcible resistance. First, the little furniture the crofters had was taken out. The officers, with their assistants, next proceeded to unroof the cottages, and then to pull down the mud walls. The scene now was truly a painful one. So long as there was a hope of being left with a covering over their heads the cottars were comparatively quiet, but now that they were homeless many of them became frantic with grief, and were driven to seek shelter in some of the neighbouring quarries, where some are now living, and others among the caves of the rocks with which this wild district of the Highlands abounds. The crofters who were on the poor roll were allowed to remain, but the others are all scattered. The weather has been fine since their ejection, and thus far they have been supported by the benevolence of their poor neighbours, and what little they can do at fishing; but unless something is done for them before long there can be little doubt but starvation will ensue; the wives and children are most to be pitied. They all admit that their proprietress was liberal in fulfilling her engagement; and they seem conscious that they are legally in the wrong; but they cling to the home of their fathers with desperate tenacity, and, judging from their conduct in preferring ejection to emigration, and the strong feeling which they show, it is clear that they look on their case as one of expatriation."

It is said as an excuse for Mrs. Macdonnell and others who act like her, that sheep-walks and shooting grounds are more profitable than farms with peasants, but it is a mean policy that refuses to improve men and strives only to increase cattle.

THE WORKING CLASSES.

The "strikes" are increasing in importance. At Wigan, 5000 colliers refuse to work unless at an advance of twopence in the shilling; and nearly all the coal-pits in the district lie idle. The cardroom hands at Wigan are also on strike, for an advance of 2s. and 1s. per week, according to classes. At Preston, the weavers, aided with money from the men at work, still demand 10 per cent.; but the masters threaten, in revenge, to "lock up" the mills. At Manchester there are two strikes—that of the weavers, whose funds are getting low, and of the fustian dyers, who now, at the end of eleven weeks idle, seem firm, and are very bitter in spirit. They have committed some assaults. The Birmingham nailers ask an advance of 10 per cent. The Wolverhampton carpenters demand 6d. per day addition to their present wages. The London carpenters demand 6d. a day advance; and other workmen in London have joined the general movement towards a rise. The bricklayers are "striking" at the masters, one by one, and thus compelling concessions. The seamstresses and slopworkers have adopted the novel course of taking to the hills of Kent and Sussex, and there getting better pay for picking hops than in town for making shirts. The bakers and basketmakers are also "on the move."

THE STRAND ACCIDENT.

MORE facts about the Strand house which fell and killed four persons have come out on inquiry. On the day before the accident Mr. Standford, an architect, observed the house, and considered the excavation dangerous. "There were no shores about the lower part of the wall." He "would never have excavated in that form; would have secured the walls before he excavated. He should have carried a pier to the bottom or footing of the wall without removing the earth, and then he should continue to remove small portions at a time, and carry the foundations from front to back in that manner." This gentleman told these things to the surveyor's clerk on the day before the accident. Thomas Tatum, a dealer in building materials, said—"If the house had been properly shored from the inside, and the three raking shores were carried higher up, the building would be standing now." George Cove, a clerk living

in the Strand, gave similar evidence. The district surveyor was examined. The act requires that he should have got notice of the operations, but such notice was not given of the works in the Strand. Had he known of the works having been commenced he would have visited them without having received notice; but, said the surveyor, "I think the district surveyor has not any jurisdiction as to the taking down of houses or digging out of the ground."

CURIOSITIES OF JUSTICE.

"FOUR years of penal servitude," a sample of the new style of punishment, has been allotted to Samuel Ellan, forger of a Bank Post Bill endorsement.

The drunken man who got into the break-van of the carriages of the Blackwall Railway, and put on the break to the danger of the train, has been sentenced to "a month in Newgate." The Company's servants who allowed a stranger to act thus have been punished—not at all.

A DUBLIN TRAGEDY.

A STRANGER in Dublin has acted most mysteriously. Fanny Steuart, proprietress of a house in French-street, has made a statement. The stranger came to her house late on the night of the 30th of August, the day after the arrival of the Queen; he was shabbily dressed, and seemed to have been some time under the rain which fell during the night; he asked for something to eat, and went down to the kitchen, where he saw a gentleman sitting at the fire, to whom he said—"I suppose you are on the spree to-night; if you want money I can give you some, as I have a hundred sovereigns." Miss Steuart did not think this statement was correct, as she only saw eight or nine sovereigns in his purse when he drew it out. He attached himself to Emma Fawcett, and remained until five o'clock in the morning, when he went out, but returned in about five or ten minutes, and said he would not go, as he thought he was late for the train. He lived with the same girl ever since, seldom going out at first, and latterly not at all, and whenever he did it was in a covered car. On the 31st of August he went to the King's-bridge terminus for some portmanteaus he had left there, and in two or three days after he brought in more luggage, including a large trunk, which he never opened in the house, and which is still corded, and so great is its weight that two men can scarcely carry it; he appeared to have a considerable sum of money—all in gold—which he spent in the most lavish manner, purchasing for the females in the house, and particularly for Emma Fawcett, various and costly articles of dress. He was frequently questioned as to where he came from, and who he was, but his replies were often evasive, always unsatisfactory and contradictory. The night of his arrival he said he was a veterinary surgeon attached to the Queen's establishment, and subsequently he stated that he had been some time in Australia. The name he gave was Webster, which, if not his real name, was one he appears to have travelled under, for on the railway labels pasted on his luggage is "Daniel H. Webster, passenger to Dublin." Miss Steuart stated, in reply to the inspector, that she never saw the deceased drunk, nor did she ever know him to have any quarrel with Emma Fawcett; that, on the contrary, he seemed very much attached to her. He bought her several dresses, and, amongst other articles, an accordion, upon which he was teaching her to play.

Emma Fawcett, the girl referred to, now takes up the story. On Sunday evening she left the stranger sitting in the bedroom to go down to the drawing-room, and had been absent but a short time when she heard him calling her on the stairs. She went out, and saw him on the landing beside the lobby-window, looking towards the drawing-room door. She was going up to him, and had ascended some three or four steps, when he stopped forward with a pistol in his right hand, and instantly fired at her, the charge, which appears to have been of small shot, striking her in a slanting direction downwards. She immediately turned and rushed back into the drawing-room, exclaiming, "Oh, I am shot," and then became unconscious. The people in the house screamed; a second shot was heard, and the constable went up stairs, and, on entering the room, was horrified at seeing the body of a man stretched at full length on the floor, and bleeding slightly from a bullet wound in the left breast. Life was extinct. The girl Fawcett was examined, and it was found that she was not wounded dangerously. She now lies at the hospital.

The mystery which shrouded the stranger still remains. The police found on the dressing-table several pistols, and beside them a bag of bullets, together with a quantity of powder. The pistols are quite new, and of a very superior description; the maker's name is "Richardson, Lord-street, Liverpool." A considerable quantity of wearing apparel, of the best style and quality, was lying about. The stranger was of the middle size, slightly made, and of a sallow complexion; his face was much worn, and would indicate a life of hardship or dissipation; he might have been about thirty-five years of age, but looked somewhat older, from having lost some of his teeth, and wearing a wig; his hair, which was dark brown, was slightly grizzled, having been recently shaved, which he accounted for to Fawcett by stating that it had been done in hospital, where he was treated for an attack of glanders, which he took from contact with a diseased horse. A miniature of himself, enclosed in a handsome morocco leather case, which he presented to the girl Fawcett, is a faithful likeness.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

THE maid-servant at Mr. Cohen's, watchmaker in Shofield, inadvertently left the window-shutter of a parlour on the ground-floor (an outside shutter) unfastened. Some burglars removed two panes of glass, and cut away the vertical bar of wood that had divided them. The aperture thus formed was only 9½ inches from top to bottom, and 12 inches wide, but it was large enough to

admit the body of a child. A person of small stature was lifted through the hole, and opened the outer door. The thieves, having obtained admission into the parlour, forced open an inner door and thus got into the shop. Their subsequent conduct is inexplicable. They were literally surrounded by valuable property of the most easily portable nature, spread out in tempting array, and yet not a tithe of it did they in the least disturb. They stole from the shop window 19 silver and 12 gold watches, a tray of gold seals, keys, and chains, and containing upwards of 60 gold pencil-cases; and another tray bearing a gold bracelet, three carbuncle drops, and a quantity of gold brooches. Several rows of watches equal in value to those taken away were allowed to remain in the window. In the money drawer, which was not locked, there was a sum of 6*l.* in silver. That also was left untouched. The burglars conducted their operations so adroitly that none of the inmates of the house were disturbed, and they got away from the premises unobserved.

Mrs. Catherine Grieve, a lady of fortune living at Camberwell, came home drunk, and then took a pint of gin. She fell on her face on the bed, and was suffocated, being too drunk to get up. In the cottage she occupied there formerly lived a foreigner, who cut the throats of his three children and then cut his own. So that the little cottage has two tales of horror attached to it. The *Globe*—evening organ of the Ministry and of the Chelsea Ghost—should take possession of the place.

A young woman named Brown went to Surgeon Hamilton, 3, King William-street, Strand, for advice. He told her she was *enceinte*, and after making inquiries, which she evaded, as to the young man who had kept her company, he made improper overtures, telling her at the same time that it was necessary for her cure. He then committed an indecent assault. In evidence the woman and her "young man" contradicted one another; and Hamilton asserted that the young man called on him and endeavoured to extort money. He has been committed for trial.

John Wright was robbed of his watch. Walking through Petticoat-lane—a bad place—he saw it hanging for sale, and insisted upon having it. The shopkeeper demurred, but the Lord Mayor, on hearing the case, awarded the watch to the owner, advising the shopkeeper—amid the laughter of the court—to keep a book of the names and addresses of those who sold him watches.

Henry Cunliffe, a labourer, was a drunkard, and his wife was for ever raving about religion, saying her soul would be lost, and other nonsense of the kind. Her little child slept with her: she cut its throat, and then tried to cut her own. —A woman who came to the bed in the morning said, "The child was lying on the pillow quite dead, but not cold. I saw a large wound in its throat, as if a piece had been cut out. The mother was besmeared with blood, and had a night-dress on and two petticoats. She was bleeding from a large gash in her throat, and I heard the wind rattle in the wound. I found an open razor sprinkled with blood beneath her pillow. The blood appeared dry. I said to her, 'Oh! Elizabeth, what hast thou been doing? and who has done this?' She opened her eyes, which before had been shut, and said, 'What is to do?' I replied, 'There is plenty to do. Who has done this?' She whispered, 'Myself.' She intimated that she had something to say to me. When I listened, she said, 'I must be hanged on a tree. I must be cut in lumps and whipped. God will not look upon me.'" A "crown's quest" verdict of "wilful murder" has been returned against the poor wretch.

Some additional evidence has been given respecting the murder of his wife by James Hayes. The sister of the deceased woman said,—"My sister had not lived with her husband for the last eighteen months. When they lived together they lived within two doors of the Star and Garter, in Earl-street. After that they went to live at Kensington. She had not received a penny from Hayes since they parted. He took her clothes away from her, and left her without anything. I knew that the accused was living with another woman at Notting-hill. He often ill-used both me and my sister. He never struck me, but he often threatened to kill his wife.—The Coroner: Do you blame any one on account of the death of your sister, Elizabeth Hayes?—Witness (emphatically): Yes, I do. I am sure Hayes was the murderer of my sister; and I blame the woman he was living with, for she incited him." After the inquest, the witnesses attended to give the same evidence before the magistrate. Hayes himself was also brought up. He said, in defence, that he was so tipsy on the night of the murder that he did not know what he was doing: he remembers nothing of what occurred. He has been committed for trial on the wilful murder of his wife. He is described by the reporters as "a good-looking, fresh-complexioned man, with light blue eyes and fair hair, apparently about thirty-five years of age."

An Italian organ-grinder occupied Chelsea, and, as obstinate as the Czar, refused to evacuate, playing deadly-lively tunes opposite people's windows. The police had at length to arrest him. Mr. Russell, an old gentleman, lately objected to the "music" of the Italian, and shortly after received the following "note," which looks very like an *ultimatum*:—

"Signior Russell—You are one very great vicked ole man—you are one very reched miserabile man. Why you will hert the pore horgan man that try to get a honest living for you have plenty yourself money. Why you stop the pore horgan man to get a little money. You are a very ole feeble man and cannot life mush longer—when you die where will your guilty sole go to—you have no charity for the pore horgan man what charity will God have for you in the next world what mercy will he have for you; he will be us hard o you in the next world, as you are to the poor man in this. You will go to purgatory and stop for ever and ever if you do not repent of your wickedness you brown breached, blue coated brite button old scarecrow. Now in conclusion three or four of us true sons of Italy have sworn by the Holy Virgin to make of you rite over

upon the top of your own dore steps one pitefullest to martyr.

"Sined ANTONIO G.
"GUIDO R.
"JUAN B."

Opposite the names were three daggers, and then followed a postscript—"The Capitaine and the ladies at number 4 are very goot to us." Poor Mr. Russell is nearly dead with fright. The organ-player has been fined seven shillings.

Pardington and Woods, the driver and stoker of the express train which caused the Hornsey accident, have been held to bail to appear at the Central Criminal Court.

Things were mysteriously stolen for some time from the "Eastern Counties" carriages, and a guard was concealed in the luggage van to detect the thief. One night, "a man jumped up from the line into the van." On being tried, this man confessed that he had been in the habit of springing into the vans of luggage-trains, from which he flung out packages at spots which were agreed upon between him and his confederates, and that when the train reached the station, he contrived to escape.

Cotterill, jun., was one of the warders whose cruelties were investigated lately at Birmingham. He was to have been examined before the Commissioners, but he got excited, and died from nervous debility, brought on by mental anxiety. Freer, the chief warder, has been dismissed by the Justices, and it is said that the surgeon, Mr. Blount, has resigned. An advertisement for a new governor, and new chief warder, appear in the Birmingham papers of Monday.

A respectable stranger, on crutches, gave a Windsor shopkeeper a 10*l.* Bank of England note in payment of a 3*l.* silver watch. He got 7*l.* change, and immediately left in a cab. The note was forged.

Kirwan, the Irish "artist," convicted of murdering his wife, has been found out as a bad man in many ways. At the late auction of his property, it was found that many of the books had been stolen, and that many of the drawings with his name inscribed as "artist," were stolen drawings done by other persons—some by painters of eminence. The mean tone of the man's mind is also shown by his possession of several valuable books given as College premiums to other persons, but with Kirwan's own name substituted for the rightful owner of the premiums.

Edward Rutter made a murderous assault on the mate of a steamer at Woolwich. He pitched him over the side rail, and tried to throw him over a lower rail into deep water. Rutter has been acquitted of intent to murder, but sentenced to a year's imprisonment for a common assault.

The Jewess, Sarah Liepman, accused of killing her newborn baby, has been found guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. She was subject to hysterics. A surgeon swore his belief that the child was born dead.

The charge against Mrs. Kelly, related in our "Story of a Will" last week, has been further investigated this week. The evidence for the prosecution seems to establish the facts that the letters were written by her, and that through Mr. Despard Taylor and Colonel Smith she paid Malone to allow their destruction.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE QUEEN has passed another quiet week at Balmoral. She dined with her mother on Sunday last at Aberfeldie, and has taken drives about the neighbourhood of Balmoral almost every day. Lord Palmerston has relieved Lord Granville in attendance.

On Friday evening of last week, the Queen and her family were startled by a fire, in one of the mason's cottages, near the royal home. The flames were quickly put down, without serious injury. Prince Albert is said to have worked "shoulder to shoulder with a sturdy Highlander," in conveying water to the building, and the Queen herself directed the operations. The boy princes also willingly gave what help they could. Our pictorial cotemporary has thus got a good subject for an "illustration," to relieve the usual sameness of its pictured "fires."

Sheffield has spoken out on the Eastern question. It held a public meeting of some importance on Tuesday evening, in the Town Hall. The Mayor had called the meeting, on a requisition signed by 140 persons, headed by Mr. Overend, Deputy-Lieutenant of the West Riding. Mr. Isaac Ironside was the chief speaker, and his speech was well toned and well worded. A memorial to Lord Clarendon was adopted, calling on the Government to take steps towards compelling Russia to quit the Danubian Provinces.

The evidence taken before the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the management of Leicester gaol, shows that what was done in Birmingham through personal partiality has been done in Leicester as part of a system. The crank labour appears to have been very severe, but regularly and impartially imposed. If a man would not work he got nothing to eat. One man was kept strapped to the wall for thirty-three days!

The results of the Barnstaple inquiry would be surprising if any exposure of electoral corruption could now surprise any person. There were 250 electors bribed: 140 freemen and 110 householders. As the freemen number entirely but 262, we thus see that more than one-half of them are corrupt. The householders number 510, so that only one in five were bribed. Lord Ebrington spent 10*l.* in bribery, done

through an unauthorized agent; the Tories spent 2400*l.*, exclusive of the costs of defending the seats.

Lord Brownlow died last week at his house near Grantham. He was an old man of seventy-five. He was remarkable as a supporter of the Pimlico Puseyism practised at St. Barnabas by the Reverend Mr. Bennett. His grandson, a boy of eleven, is now Earl Brownlow, and is also the inheritor of the vast property settled by the late decision in the strange will case of Lord Bridgewater.

On Wednesday a Court of Directors was held at the East India-house, when Mr. Frederick James Halliday was appointed a provisional member of the Council of India.

Sir James A. Gordon, the present Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital, has been mentioned as the probable successor of the late Governor, Sir Charles Adam.

The East India Directors have commissioned Mr. Noble, of Bruton-street, to make a statue of "the Duke" in the finest marble. The site of the statue has not been announced.

The proposed Lawson University still wants 3200*l.* public subscriptions. Government has promised to procure a grant of 2000*l.* from Parliament.

The agricultural dinners, once banquets eaten to the sound of a political tocsin, have now settled down into useful meetings of farmers and their friends. At Watford, on Wednesday, the Herts Agricultural Association thus met. Mr. Mechi attended, and spoke at length on the practical points of agriculture. He more especially emphasized the advantages of machinery, pointing out that by steam-ploughs alone the agriculture of the kingdom might save nearly 10,000,000*l.* sterling.

Much interest exists at Lloyd's, the Jerusalem, and other coffee-houses, in reference to the race now pending between the British clipper-built ship *Stornoway* and the American ship *Challenge*. The *Stornoway*, while under the command of Captain Robertson (now of the *Cairngorm*), made some extraordinary passages, beating on one occasion this very vessel, the *Challenge*,—which, however, is three times her tonnage, and consequently spreads an enormous quantity of canvas. The *Stornoway*, under her present commander, Captain Hast, has made the quickest passage of the season from Bombay to China; and it is therefore hoped that, although the *Challenge* had the start of him from Macao Roads, he will yet overhaul his colossal competitor, and make his appearance off the English coast as the winner of the match.

The *Wyeern* R. Y. S. schooner yacht (205 tons), belonging to the Duke of Marlborough, has sailed for Australia, having Lord Alfred Churchill, and Captain Cathcart, late of the 10th Hussars, on board.

The R. Y. S. cutter, *Corsair* (87 tons), so celebrated at Cowes for her sailing qualities, has reached Australia after an excellent passage, making good weather of it all the way out.

The *Solent*, new steam-ship, has run from Southampton to Carshot Castle, seven miles, in twenty-eight minutes. We lately described this vessel as a new timber ship, built on diagonal lines. It has other improvements. The engines are built with oscillating cylinders, and tubular boilers, and have attached paddle-wheels constructed upon the feathering principle. Owing to the valves being laid with India rubber, as well as the ship being of its peculiar construction, the vibration usually felt in paddle-wheel vessels is entirely prevented, and therefore renders this vessel more easy and comfortable in every respect. There is an additional advantage in the construction of these ships beyond that of saving about half the amount of fuel required in working ships of equal tonnage; they are rendered equal, as far as room is concerned, to iron-built ships, without the connecting disadvantages. The iron-built ships in hot climates feel so intensely the heat of the atmosphere, that it has become necessary to provide them with an inside lining of wood, leaving a space of about nine inches between that and their outward sides. This lining not only encourages damp, which is detrimental to the health of those on board, as well as to the room afforded, but from the condensation which naturally takes place between the double sides, that lining soon becomes rotten, and is therefore obliged to be replaced by new, which causes no inconsiderable amount of expense and delay.

The Queen, while in Ireland, spent 8000*l.* in the purchase of Irish fabrics. She has sent through Lord Palmerston this week another official letter, expressing, with a warmth and at a length unusual in official documents, her entire satisfaction with her late visit, and her admiration of the Exhibition.

The three Queen's Colleges of Ireland form one University, called the Queen's University. The Senate of this University has ordained an examination for degrees in Art and Medicine, and the examination has taken place this week, with some state, in St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle. About sixty students have been examined.

The Commissioners for inquiring into the state of Maynooth College, met, for the first time, on Tuesday last, at Dublin Castle. There are five Commissioners,—Lord Harrowby, the Lord Chief Baron, Mr. Longfield (Commissioner of Encumbered Estates), Mr. James O'Ferrall, and Mr. Twiss. Mr. West and Mr. O'Hagan, both barristers, the one being Protestant and the other Roman-Catholic, have been appointed secretaries.

An Order in Council has been passed, putting the Nuisance Removal Act of 1848 in force throughout the whole of Ireland for six months. No case of Asiatic cholera has as yet been reported from Ireland, although there have been many cases of the common endemic cholera.

A religious "miracle" is reported in the Irish papers. The Roman-Catholic parish-priest of Newtown, county Cork, has, at the head of his parishioners, expressed his warm thanks to the Protestant rector of the parish for a liberal donation in aid of a new chapel.

It is a curious fact, that the mansion in Rutland-square, Dublin, recently occupied by the Roman Catholic Defence Association, is now in the possession of the Protestant

Church Missions Society. The Conciliation Hall erected for the Repeal Association is now used as a corn store.

Irish tenants are fellows of infinite wit in inventing means to defeat the law. A man named Spellman was ejected by the Sheriff from a farm, near Ballinasloe. Though far behind in arrears, he claimed a right in his own eyes to a quantity of potatoes and oats which he had sown before the ejection took place; and on Sunday last the peasantry assembled to do him justice. Between eight and nine o'clock in the evening, about two hundred of the peasantry of both sexes appeared on the grounds, and, being prepared with reaping-hooks, horses, and carts, in less than half an hour everything was removed. The movements were performed with regularity, outposts being placed in a circle round the lands, and at a convenient distance, to prevent a surprise. When the complete removal of the crops had been effected, those assembled were treated to a plentiful supply of poteen, after which they danced a number of jigs and reels and peticotees in all the wildness of exultation at their success over the unknowing landlord.

Trade is dull in Manchester. The abstinence from business to a great extent arises from a desire to better comprehend the difficulties which really have to be met—to see to what extent the drain of gold will carry the rates of interest, and to watch the result of the present extraordinary movement among the operatives, as well as to postpone engagements as much as possible, the better to be in a position to meet the chances of war.

Herald's Railway Journal reports the following:—"We understand the present learned Solicitor-General, having observed the infamous abuse of power by some directors, and the impossibility of the honest shareholders coping with boards, will introduce a bill next session very much to enlarge the powers of shareholders."

The *Banker's Circular* usefully examines the various published estimates of a deficiency in grain. Some have said that an importation of eighteen million quarters of grain will be required; but in the year 1847 less than five million quarters of wheat and flour sufficed to meet the wide deficiency of that year.

In July last year the paupers relieved in England and Wales numbered 800,172; this year they were but 743,639. The "able-bodied pauper" list shows a more striking decline; last year the July list was 124,882, and this year but 17,002.

A cattle-train, passing from Crewe southward, went slowly because the rails were slippery, through a thick fog hanging over the line. A goods-train following the same path half an hour after, found the rails less slippery, and went pretty quickly on the line, led by a pilot-engine. Half a mile from Madeley the pilot-engine was detached, and sent in advance to get itself out of the way at Whitmore. But it overtook the slow cattle-train, and dashed into it—killing a poor cattle-drover named John Rourke, and bruising two other men. The inquest jury declared the Crewe officials blameable, and condemned the practice of detaching pilot-engines except at stations.

Edward Thompson went into a pasture where a savage bull was confined, and after irritating it by throwing stones at it, and driving it about, actually attacked the infuriated animal with a "bull-stick"—a stick shod with iron, used in coercing these animals—and entered into a sort of single combat with the ferocious brute. The bull rushed at its assailant, and gored him to death.

Opposite the Bank of England is the site of the great Peel statue, to be erected by "the city" to Sir Robert Peel. It will be completed in two months.

The gigantic group of "Sir Robert Peel, supported by the allegorical figures of Commerce and Art," intended for a public site in Manchester, has just been cast in one huge piece of bronze at the Pimlico foundry.

A snake going at large about London is, like a "lion among ladies," "a fearful thing." The *Daily News* has the following:—"A reptile of the snake species was encountered last Saturday by Mr. Sutherland, one of the parochial medical officers of St. Pancras, under the following singular circumstances:—As that gentleman was, on the day in question, making his usual sick calls in Agartown, his attention was attracted by a hen in the yard of one of his patients' houses quite paralysed, and a short distance from it discovered a large serpent, which had evidently stung it, and which was then in the act of sucking water as it dripped from the tank. Acting upon his first impulse, dictated by personal fear, and anxiety to destroy the reptile, which measured full a yard long, Mr. Sutherland hastened to arm himself with a weapon, but, upon returning, he only arrived in time to see it dart into a hole under the wall. Every effort was made to discover the locale of the snake but without avail. It is conjectured that it has its retreat in an adjoining dung-heap. The discovery has created the greatest dread in the neighbourhood."

The Aztec Lilliputians, as they are called, are announced, we see, to leave for Dublin at the end of this week; those who have the care of them being anxious to test their popularity in the Irish metropolis while the Industrial Exhibition is still open. We suppose that humanity in any eccentric development will attract everywhere. At any rate, if the people of Dublin prove but half as curious concerning these diminutive mortals as the London public have proved to be, the Aztecs will not have to complain of want of patronage.

The Speech of the King of Holland, delivered at the Hague at one o'clock on Monday, was printed in London in the second editions of the morning papers of that day, having been transmitted by submarine telegraph direct from the Hague.

The *Annuaire de la Legion d'Honneur* for the present year, which has just been published, gives the following as the number of persons belonging to the order on the 1st of January last:—The Emperor and Princes of the Imperial family, 3; grand crosses, 57; grand officers, 214; commanders, 997; officers, 4,633; and knights, 40,805—making a total of 62,709.

Jullien has won a complete triumph in New York. In addition to his own troupe of fine musicians, he has engaged some of the cleverest companions of Lind, and Parodi, and Sontag; and with this combined army of artists, has taken New York by storm. His concerts are given in Castle Gardens—a castle built in the Bay of New York—one hundred yards from the Sea Park ("the Battery") of the city, with accommodation for ten thousand persons.

If a report in the *Morning Chronicle* (September 19), be correct, America, Russia, and England will meet face to face in the Japan seas. Our contemporary says:—"We hear that, in consequence of the Russians having sent a squadron to Japan, the English Government intend also to send one, and the ships named as likely to form it are her Majesty's steam-vessels *Encounter*, 14, Captain O'Callaghan; *Leopard*, 12, Captain Giffard; *Stromboli*, 6, Commander Hall; and *Barracouta*, 6, Commander Parker."

It is reported in a China paper that the American squadron in Japan has already succeeded in effecting a settlement among the Loochoo islands, having purchased on an island called Bineau, a piece of land containing about ten acres, and intended for a government coal depot.

The postal service between Aden and Bombay, now badly performed by the East India Company, as shown by the loss of the *Fazel Kareem*, is to be given to some public company, probably the Peninsular and Oriental.

The importation of foreign corn into France is very large. At Marseilles they are in expectation of 2,400,000 hectolitres of wheat from the Black Sea, in addition to the large importations already made.

The postage of letters between France and England is shortly to be reduced to 25 cents each. The present postage is 75 cents.

The Episcopal Church in the United States is distracted by a serious scandal. Bishop Doane, of New Jersey, has been charged with fraudulent negotiations touching money loans and bill discounting, and also with being sometimes drunk. The committee of the diocese of New Jersey examined the charges last year and declared them baseless. But three Bishops—Bishop Meade, of Virginia, foremost, have ventilated the accusations anew, and at Philadelphia a Council of Bishops is holding an investigation.

An American paper reports, that Robert Stephenson, now in Canada, has declared a submarine telegraph between Europe and America, a practicable undertaking. A series of recent experiments has established the fact, that by forming a complete wire circuit, that is, by two connected wires, extended so as to return to the same point of departure, forming a complete metallic circuit, instead of using one wire connected with the ground, the galvanic current may be sent to any conceivable distance without loss or diminution of power. The supposed weakness of the current is to be attributed to its interruption by cross currents, which cross currents are overcome or avoided by the continuous wire circuit. In this way, doubling the expense of the submarine cable, making with it a complete metallic circuit or double track by a return line, the galvanic current may be sent, without sensible loss of power, from London to Portland, or New York, or, at any rate, from Galway to Cape Race.

Later news from Australia was brought by the last Overland Mail. At Sydney the supply of goods was in excess of the demand, but the New South Wales gold fields were increasing in yield. The Ovens diggings were also very productive.

A gold mine in a private yard is among the wonders of Australia. Mr. G. Middleton, grocer, &c., Hartlepool, went to Australia, accompanied by his father and mother, resident in Gateshead. This year he was followed from Hartlepool by his wife and two children, by two of his sisters, by Mr. Joseph C. Dunn, his successor in business (who superintended the carpentry work of Merrington Church when it was rebuilt); and by Mr. George Brown, brother of Mr. M. Dunn. They settled at Collingwood, near Melbourne, on a site which cost them 315*l.*, and on which they established a general store. One day, being visited by a young man, formerly a clerk of the railway goods station in this town, he remarked that the ground in their back-yard had a gold-producing aspect. Diggings were at once opened, and had been productive. The gold is remarkably pure.

The only political fact brought by the last West India mail, is the complete suppression of the insurrection at Tortola. The yellow fever is nearly extinct at Jamaica, and at British Guiana is confined to the hospitals and ships. The *Orizoco*, which brought the news, had no case of yellow fever on board.

At Bombay there is quite a mania for table-turning. It is said that at the last meeting of Council the members, having no more important business before them, and being obliged for appearance sake to remain a certain time in the Council Chamber, amused themselves with trying to send the tables round. The Hindoo servants are lost in astonishment at seeing their masters and mistresses standing in circles round hats and tables, and fancy that it is some magical incantation for prolonging the rule of the Company Bahadour. Among the English there are more believers than sceptics; many have been converted by successful experiments being made with natives, by setting round a table Sepoys and others who have never heard of the process, and have no idea of what is to happen, and who are beside themselves with fright when the tables begin to move.

The London news, circulated among the common people at Constantinople is rather startling:—"Lord Aberdeen received a hog'shead of gold from the Emperor Nicholas. The Queen, however, found it out, and sentenced him to death; whilst Lord Palmerston is named his successor. The execution has taken place, and his lordship's head has been fixed on a spike, amidst the hootings of the London populace."

The Leader

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1853.

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.

ST. GEORGE WITH THE DRAGON.

THERE is a refinement in laziness known only to those who indulge in it very much. Thomson, the poet, who was seen eating peaches off a tree, with his hands in his pockets, no doubt felt the enjoyment of that extremity of indolence to a degree which surpassed the imagination of any casual visitor to his Castle. In like manner the English people may contemplate itself, and watch with voluptuous interest the excessive amount of provocation which is needed to rouse it to a sense of its own indignities. Romance tells us in old tales how the mere report of a wrong would call forth the champion from his home, carry him to the utmost bounds of the known world, and present danger as a temptation instead of an obstacle. The existence of a dragon in Cappadocia was a positive attraction to St. George, our patron—a form of temptation to a tour which was irresistible. The lady who was destined to be the food of that dragon had charms, no doubt, but the true knightly impulse was to attack the dragon for the dragon's sake. No doubt the monster held most heretical opinions; and in prosecuting his journey to Asia Minor, St. George regarded himself as a missionary for overcoming the enemy of mankind and suppressing the flames of unbelief, as well as those which issued from the throat of the monster. There is not the same temptation at the present moment. If the modern St. George be drawn to the Turkish dominions, it is no longer to put down the dragon of heresy, or to carry on a war of propagandism. Quite the reverse. The dragon has now become the ill-used victim of the Northern Bear. His religious opinions are uttered with moderation; he is forbearing to his neighbour; and in truth is more Christian in his spirit than the Orthodox Greek Christian, on whose behalf the Bear professes to speak. But the remarkable fact is, that St. George has undertaken the mission, and yet cannot screw his zeal up to the point of setting out.

The course of recurrent submission is distinctly marked. In the first place, England declared that Russia had no right to dictate to the Porte the government of its own subjects, which was a matter that must be left as one concerning the dignity and independence of the Sultan. Russia insisted, and in order to obtain a "material guarantee," invaded the Danubian provinces. St. George then considered, publicly, whether that act of warlike invasion was a "*casus belli*," and having consulted the precedents, he at last reluctantly made up his mind that it was such; but he still persuaded the Sultan not to act upon it, and the descendant of Saladin acquiesced. The English and French fleets were advanced to Besika Bay, as a kind of set-off; Russia having drawn the sword, St. George put his hand upon his own hilt. Russia rated him for that act of "aggression," and St. George, who has grown very reasonable and exact in his expressions, took great pains to explain that the act of advancing his fleet to an offlying post was not equivalent to the warlike invasion of Turkish territory. Russia then hinted that if she could not obtain her material guarantee, she should advance to Constantinople, a circumstance which rendered it desirable to get her out of Turkey if possible; and two other "Powers" were asked to help France and England to execute that work peaceably. They tried their hands, they wrote a joint Note, which was so composed, that Turkey, who was to be defended, and Russia, who was to be arrested, both construed it to mean that the sovereign influence of the Czar was to be recognized in Turkey—exactly the thing which the

Emperor had at first claimed. Austria, with a wink of the eye, wishes England and France to fall in with that idea, hinting that Turkey must be content with the defence which lets in the aggressor, if he will come quietly. The policy of Austria is the policy of Mrs. Hardcastle—"take all I have, and spare my life." St. George, who has grown fat, and disinclined for disturbances, thinks that it may be possible to arrange the affair yet, and proposes to talk it over once more, slipping into the hands of Turkey a separate explanation. But here the peremptory will of the Czar breaks up all those nice and quiet arrangements.

The chancellor of the Czar has sent two circulars to the Courts of the Four Powers, which place the pretensions and insolence of the Northern autocrat beyond any mistake. In one despatch, the Four Powers are told that their mediation was not asked or wanted; that if they have not arranged a definitive submission for Turkey, they must take the consequences of their own ill-success, for the Czar will listen no more, and will proceed to action according to his own judgment. The other circular explains how he had considered the Vienna Note to convey that recognition of his influence in Turkey which it was the very object of the mediation to deny. There is more than the failure of the negotiations in this declaration from Russia—it implies, first, that Russia never really entered into any consultation with the Four Powers, but looked for the satisfaction of her own will, whatever they might judge; that the Emperor regards the mere act of listening to the Four Powers as a great condescension; that if they did not defer to him, he is ready to defy them, one and all; and that his arrogance proceeds so far as to prevent even the desire of concealing the contempt that he has for any that stand against him.

This last act of the arch enemy appears really to have roused comfortable St. George; and official as well as popular organs admit that Russia has gone too far for longer forbearance. Turkey was in the right before; but official organs endeavour to show that, however Turkey might be in the right abstractedly, it might be more expedient to make a compromise between that right and the grossest and most lawless injustice. Turkey has made no aggression, but only endured it; yet St. George, who used to be the champion of innocence against wrong in the Turkish dominions, has now discovered that the weakness of Turkey was a reason why the champion should desist from the duty of defending weakness against wrong! If by any means St. George could only have compromised the affair—if he could suffer wrong to be committed without the offender or the victim saying out loud that it was a wrong—if he could only hush up the cries of injury, and the exulting shout of the injurer—if he could only persuade the too proud Emperor to moderate his triumph, to put his insolence in diplomatic language, to inflict his kicks under the surcoat, St. George would have been content not to move. But as it is, Turkey calling out for help, Russia declaring her intent to defy law, the great autocrat positively going so far as, in the face of Europe and America, to give St. George a fillip on the nose, the scandal has become too great for knighthood to endure, and St. George feels that he must at last buckle on his sword.

Next week? In the meanwhile there would be a chance for more talk on the subject, and St. George may yet be relieved. Lord John Russell has been repeating at Greenock that it is the sacred duty of Englishmen to maintain the weak against the strong, to defend the independence of nations, and to secure for peoples that freedom of which others would deprive them. But that duty was England's duty last week, or the week before, when Ministers were doing their best to hush up and compromise the wrong of Russia. Sheffield has had its meeting, and has spoken out strongly in favour of vindicating the honour of England by executing the duty which Lord John Russell avows; but the commercial English mind maliciously remembers that Sheffield deals in sword-blades. Other towns also are prepared to speak. Birmingham has been thinking of it—Marylebone has been cogitating—Newcastle has been moving in its sleep—Manchester has consulted its mayor; Stafford is mindful of Mr. Urquhart; but St. George, who is very heavy after supper, groans, and yawns, and lets the weeks creep by, hating the mission that summons him once more to Cappadocia.

LITTLE RAVENS WANTED FOR FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

FRANCE is making progress towards free-trade. The example of England has not been without its force, and necessity supplies the immediate impulse. There is a chance that the people will want bread; and, a hungry people being an angry people, his Majesty Napoleon III. feels a peculiar solicitude to prevent the people from becoming hungry. He has, therefore, not only made an arrangement to pay their bakers' bills for them, which is an extremely imperfect way of managing the affair—but has thrown open the ports to foreign corn. The French people are in want of iron for railways; they have iron somewhere in France, and iron also in Belgium introduced under special treaties; but it can be supplied from England with great facility and cheapness; and the truth has at last dawned upon the French mind, that French resources would be less wasted if English iron were used. Iron therefore is admitted. Another improvement has been, to throw open the ports to live stock and to salt meat provisions; and there is really a possibility that that which has been declared to be the principal element of the victory of Waterloo may be inserted into the French constitution, in the shape of John Bull beef.

A good old Tory of the Protectionist times might have deprecated this supply of stamina to our "natural enemies," and might have drawn grave arguments from the proposal to feed the forces arrayed against Wellington up to the standard of Wellington's own men. But in our day, we are more accustomed to regard the French as arrayed, not against us, but in concert with us, to promote a trade of which they produce one part and we another.

This idea also has expanded to completeness in the minds of the councils general, in various parts of France, and particularly in the wine-growing districts; where their hearts have thoroughly opened to the conviction that English iron ought to be admitted into France, through the blessed perception that it would be delightful if French wine were admitted into England. As Dido felt the miseries of *Aeneas* in her own sufferings, so the French wine-producer feels the wrongs of the English iron-master through his own exclusions.

It is true that these arrangements in France, perhaps these sentiments, are in great part only provisional; but it is remarked, that in France it is the provisional only which endures. And it is possible that if the caprices of Government do not obstruct, these genuine experiences of the French people, having been expressed to themselves by themselves, may survive the stage of theoretical controversy, and be realized in permanent action. If so, the French will find introduced amongst themselves more certain supplies of bread to make contented citizens; English iron to make railways; English beef to feed artisans as well as soldiers to the English standard; English prices for wines.

And we ourselves shall not lose by the gain of the French. On the contrary, there is nothing we can supply to them for which they will not return us more; for the principle of free exchange is, that each party gains by the transaction, or it will not be effected. There is a chance, therefore, that besides Australia and other distant augmentations of the field of our commerce, we may acquire a constant customer in our nearest neighbour; and that the prosperity, over which we have been rejoicing for the last year or two, will be again extended; all classes of the country to benefit by it. We make it no exception, although it is a bold assertion, to say that the class which produces the beef and the corn, and which so far feeds all other producing classes in the country, will have its own largest share of our increased prosperity. It has not been so yet. It is true that the impulse of the improved wages has reached even the agricultural labourer, and that in Suffolk as well as Cornwall wages have advanced from 6s. or 7s., to 9s., 10s., 11s., or even 12s. But in England, with increased prices set by the scale of prosperity, 12s. a-week is still a small income for a man and his family. Few of those who write or talk so glibly about the improved condition of the labourer, would be content to live upon 12s. a-week; would not indeed turn pale at the thought of such a fate.

While then, we are talking about the possibility that the French peasant may be better fed,

we have still reason to doubt whether the English peasant is yet fed up to his paying-point. We mean whether as a serviceable animal it would not pay the employer of the English labourer to feed him better. Another proof of his excessively low condition is the fact, that brass buttons and a bounty for keeping his family out of the work-house still form an "object" for the English labourer. We have that fact on the highest authority. The great philosopher of the quondam Country party presided over the most recent celebration of agricultural unity, and distributed to meritorious peasants prizes consisting of sums of 20s. or 50s., and of green coats with brass buttons. The peasant is often told at these meetings that he is the true creator of wealth; but it seems that a very little sample of his creation is sufficient to satisfy himself. Out of all the universe of pounds, shillings, and pence, one pound sterling, or two, which the mere administrator on the Stock Exchange would think it mean to expend upon a dinner, becomes a life impulse for the creator. These peasants, it is said, are the bone and sinew of the country, and yet it seems they are held so cheap, that, while we pay 6l. bounty for a militia-man, we pay as bounty to the parent in the labour market 5s. per head for a child. Indeed, the money bounty is all paid for the children, so that we must take the price of the peasant to be per child, 5s.; per adult, a green coat with brass buttons.

How comes it, then, that the peasant is content with his fate? How is it that he so resembles a horse which a child may drive, though its strength would kill the strongest man? It is because the English labourer is so far removed from the civilization of which we boast, that, like the French peasant in Arthur Young's time, he is ignorant not only of what all the rest of the world knows, but even of the very means of acquiring other knowledge. The peasant does not know his own strength—does not know what he might have, and therefore is it that he is so readily persuaded to be content with 11s. or 12s. as the ideal maximum of income for the "true Englishman." Those who rejoice in "the productive power of the country" might reflect that the man who is content with 11s. or 12s. for himself, his wife, and family to live upon, must be a being of limited ideas, ignorant and stupid. In that cramped and benighted condition he must be, in fact, a very unskilled and bungling machine. It would not pay a cotton manufacturer to keep his weavers down to the point of mental and physical imbecility which is the standard of the true Englishman under the patronage of the Country party. Recent experiments in agriculture have shown that improvement of ploughs, digging-machines, and reaping-machines, returns a larger profit where a larger outlay procures a better implement; and some of the most recent experiments also justify the belief that if the principal machine of all—the working hand-labourer—were improved in the same manner, and somewhat by the same means, profit would be proportionately increased.

During the late prosperity, a part of our difficulty has arisen from the fact that the producing power was scarcely equal to the strength put upon it. The sale, for example, both of iron and coals, has at times been restricted by the difficulty of producing either; and if we are to extend our fields of commerce, there is no doubt that our producing power will be still further strained—in other words, will prove unequal to the opportunities it encounters. In the history of commerce, however, it has always been found, that when an opportunity has been opened and not seized upon by those who stood nearest to it, others have come forward to take it; and such is unquestionably the case in the present instance. If the sagacity of our ministers, or the necessities of foreign governments, should open for us fresh fields of commerce, in France or elsewhere, which we cannot fill, our statesmen are but working to introduce, say, American traders. It therefore becomes a question, practical and urgent for those who have the interest of the country at heart, to say nothing of the interest of the agricultural labourer, whether they can place the labourer in a state of greater efficiency, awakening his mind by education, and strengthening his limbs by better food? We are convinced that it will pay as well to feed and instruct the Englishman up to the commercial standard, as it will to bestow the same process on the Frenchman.



ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST THE CHOLERA.

THE cholera has found us unprepared. Were this the first time that the cholera came to England, there would be an excuse for the absence of all obstacles to its operations. But this is not the first time. It has visited us again and again. The memory of its doings, on the last occasion, is fresh and sore in the minds of many persons, and it seems but a year ago since Edwin Chadwick and Southwood Smith were pointing out to us what should be done, that we might avoid its dangers and avert its fatality. But, in many places, nothing has been done to ward off its deadly blows. The new visit has necessitated new exhortations, the sameness of which would weary us, but that we know that they are really essential. In the narrow streets of London filth is still the prevailing presence; noxious heaps of dirt are still to be found, by smell and sight, in places where men spend often twelve, and sometimes sixteen, out of the twenty-four hours. Want of air is still the stifling fact, in thousands of lodging-houses, where poor people pass a great deal of their time. Factories, which send out poisons for home consumption, still rear their chimnies in the midst of seething crowds. And the commonest conveniences of healthy habitation are absent from houses, occupied even by people who are above the lower classes, in station and comparative independence. This description applies to London and to many towns of England, especially the great trading and commercial cities of the North. Newcastle is first in filth, and has won the disgrace of being the first in which the cholera has appeared. Liverpool has holes and corners where disease is industriously encouraged. South Shields has suffered for its own sins and for its nearness to Newcastle. The low lanes of Manchester will soon tell their own deadly tale; already one death, very sudden, has occurred. Still the great power of doing nothing is strong in local bodies. This very week the vestry of St. Mary's, Newington, in this metropolis, had a long and loud debate as to the virtues of public baths, and finally adjourned, without a decision. The local boards in Deptford have to be roundly reminded of their duties, by the dockyard officials, who point to many a street where cholera may properly lodge. In Sheerness there is the same story. In other places we hear of great activity, and we do not doubt that personal fear has hurried many into proper precautions. But, upon all the acts of local officialism we see the stamp of precipitation and confusion. Their machinery is the mushroom growth of fear. The actual danger staring them in the face has alone roused their attention. And the great fact still remains; we are unprepared for the cholera. We knew that it might come: we knew that the dwellers in dirty places were almost sure to be attacked: we knew that even good diet and ventilated houses could not keep it out, when once aided by the treacherous ally within our walls: we knew that daily in our streets persons spreading the seeds of cholera would come near and almost come in contact with the wealthiest and most cautious; yet, as a people, we are still unprepared. It is a national disgrace, more shameful to us, as a civilized community, than if a foreign army landed on our coasts, and killed thousands before our troops moved.

The popular knowledge of the character of cholera, and the means to meet it, fully justify this rebuke. The real facts of the case make the necessity of prevention and early action still more imperative. The surgeon may try to find out the diet of the family; the minutiae almost baffle his inquiry; but in the public markets the character, wholesome or unwholesome, of the food of a district could be ascertained by an investigation more easily than the after inspection of the dinners of a single family. Inspectors find houses rank with foul air; two years before when these houses were being built, without yard or water-closet, any person could have prophesied that they would be homely hospitals for the needy families confined in them. An offensive drain is detected by a doctor; any engineer could have said from the first that the drain would not work well, and would end in doing harm. A whole district is made unhealthy by the fumes of a factory, but that its fumes would be noxious every chemist in town could have told the people and the authorities before a stone of the building was laid. Some special facts communicated to us by a friend more strikingly show the early stage at which evil is generated. In a fashionable outlet of Lon-

don new houses, stately in pillars and gay in white exteriors, have been reared very rapidly of late. Our friend knows the neighbourhood very well. Before the new houses were planned he knew one field adjoining the public road; it was a repository for rubbish, decaying animal matter, night-soil, and refuse of all kinds. It was a place that no person could pass without being sensible of the abomination. On that ground, the offensive mass surface hardened into passable solidity, the foundations of family mansions and comfortable dwelling houses were carefully laid, and built up with due regard to proper solidity, airiness, and convenience. Our friend is a medical man; a family of his acquaintance took one of the houses; he has not been out of it for three weeks together during the last six months, the term of their occupancy. One after another, three of the family have been taken ill. The cause is clear; the matter beneath the house might, if hermetically sealed up, be innocuous, it might "keep;" but when rain and air creep into it, little by little, through chinks and crannies, when a simmering ferment is thus occasionally aroused,—through every crevice of the floor an invisible evil steals up, and slowly poisons the people of the house. But they cannot understand it; they say that there is no bad smell, that the house is kept quite clean, and the housemaid, closely questioned, admits nothing, but that every morning when she comes down stairs, she feels forced to open all the windows, so heavy is the atmosphere in the lower rooms. Another house in this locality was built on a bank of earth specially raised for the foundation: in levelling the earth some of the labourers found human bones—the earth had come from a city graveyard. The story of the inmates of this house is unknown to us—it may be guessed. These things are not alone; there is scarcely a part of London but has haunted houses—dwellings where death is a permanent lodger. In Berners-street, Oxford-street, there is a row of houses which for years has been successively fatal to a large proportion of the inmates. They are built over one of the old plague graveyards. In all these cases we see causes at work, primal causes which precede architecture, and which defy the most minute inspection of inspectors coming when the fatality occurs. These agents of the cholera are accessories before the fact.

And yet none of our organizations, municipal or Governmental, provide for the prevention of such gigantic causes of disease. We read the reports of the Registrar-General, and we find accurate and clear accounts of the sanitary condition of the houses where death has occurred; but no notice of the many houses in their district where death is likely to occur through bad conditions of habitation, and dangerous nearness of nuisance. This is not the fault of the local registrars—generally most painstaking persons,—for they are appointed to register deaths, not to prevent them. But we see no other adequate organization for the removal of nuisances. The duties are divided among many persons; and in some of the most important places what is divided among many is performed by none. In Rosemary-lane, and many other localities of the city wards, the public dust-bins have been left uncleared up to this very week of actual cholera in the town. This is but one instance out of many. Every one can tell a nuisance when he sees or smells it. But who can tell us, in a few short words, what is to be done towards a remedy? There is no short or simple action of forcible ejection, and no prompt means of punishing the offenders against public health. There is no law or police to stop the building of bad houses. There is no local agency to detect people in laying the foundations of accidents. A man may take measures for undermining a house, and unless he sends for a surveyor to witness his offence he may go on unhindered until the house falls. (Guy Rawkes would delight in these days: it would suit him exactly had the officers waited until he gave them notice, or until a summons could be issued against him.) An engineer may sink a noisome drain under the very nose of the public; but until the drain has done some deadly work, no one stops him. The one character attaches to the conduct of all our authorities; they are inactive at first, and very energetic when, as a general rule, it is too late. It is also very painful to note, that some of our highest official authorities do not know how to guide the people.

The directions and regulations issued by the General Board of Health may be understood by lawyers, and acted on by clerks; but for the general public, they require to be translated into that popular English which the people understand. It is a relief to except from this catalogue of sins and shortcomings, the closing of the London graveyards, and the constant labouring within his vocation of the Registrar-General, whose weekly warning we cannot but remember now with this expression of good will.

But what officialism has left undone, and what it has done, remind us the more forcibly of the great task it has yet to accomplish. It must first know its own strength and its own situation. The civil service of England is a most extensive institution. It has in it men of acute intelligence, great business energy, fine capabilities of conception, and ready ability to act. Its career has been in bureaux, and the people know little of the actual administrators of our State affairs. Men whose minds supply politicians with knowledge and reasoning are as unknown to the people as if they were mandarins in China. These men have to fight a continuous fight with political intrigue. In the Stafford story we saw how shamelessly Parliamentary men thwart officials "regarding only what was good for the service." To enable them to succeed against this strong and subtle power of political party the bureaucrats must appeal to the people. Already they feel more with the people than with the political chiefs, for in a free state the civil service is the people's right hand, and not the servant of the sovereign. Sir Charles Trevelyan, for instance, spoke like a popular orator before the Lords when he gave evidence in favour of a free press, native employment, and beneficial rule in India. The civil service has to place itself *en rapport* with the people, and inspire and inform them into organized action. Above all things it must teach them what to do; instead of shutting up its large knowledge in big blue books, and wrapping up information in the mummy cloths of official words, it must speak plainly to the people. If vestries are obstructive, guardians inert, and the general public good for nothing in concert, the fault is with officialism, which hitherto has not known how to win their confidence, or show them how to act. With this present danger to clear the way, the civil service has now the noblest task ever set for a class of men—to teach a free people the necessity of organized action and the way to work together for good.

RATIONALE OF INN CHEAPNESS.

"You English people," said an eminent French writer to us once, "think a great deal of 'comfort,' and yet I don't know a country in the world where it is more impossible, in some respects, to be made comfortable." Many of us are doomed, at some periods of our life, to find our warmest welcome at an inn, and yet we so arrange matters as to preclude ourselves from obtaining comfort in that traveller's home, excepting upon such terms as totally destroy the comfort we would purchase. If the wine does not make the traveller's stomach ache, the bill does; if the hardness of the bed does not keep him awake, the price of the "wax-lights" prevents his sleeping. This torment is the greater because he cannot know what he shall have to pay. Even in inns that have a tariff, there must, in many instances, be great firmness, if he escapes on the stipulated charges. He cannot get what he wants unless it be accompanied by what he wants not, and he is charged most for those things which he prizes least. Say that he is either disinclined for wine or very picky in his taste, yet he must "drink for the good of the house," or undergo some slight which ruffles his dignity. He desires a clean and private room, and is quite willing to pay for that; but he is to pay for "wax lights," which he does not require, and, indeed, which he does not have, for who ever found wax lights at an inn where they appeared in the bill?

There are, however, reasons for all things, and there are many and obvious reasons why the Englishman is so thwarted in his inn bills. Just at present the *Times* is deluged with every species of complaint, from people who consent to be fleeced, in every quarter of the country, and yet we have no improvement. The reason is, that the Englishman does not deal honestly with this inn question. The landlord charges in his bill

for things that are not apparent in the supply, and the traveller demands many things that he does not express in words, and which could not be put in the bill. The Englishman, of whatever grade, takes a pleasure, especially when he is out travelling, in an ostentatious air of magnificence, always placing himself not in an independent position, as a man, but in a "superior" position, as "above" what he really is, and still more above those about him. Your English traveller not only grudges being civil to those whom he meets, especially his "inferiors," but takes an actual pleasure in being rude to them. He dislikes to *ask* the waiter, and prefers to "order" him. He expects to find the inn choked with stores of the particular things which he desires; he will not wait a moment, and yet he wants to pay as if he waited to bargain. His commercial habits, the impatient spirit, the love of exacting servility in every form, require that he should be served at once. Arriving at the inn when nobody expected him, the dinner must be ready on the instant, in the prime condition, hot, "ordered," introduced by an obsequious landlord, and served by obsequious waiters. If there is any lack in these things he proclaims the inn to be ill-furnished, the people slow, the waiters uncivil, and the landlord regardless of his guests. Now, the landlord cannot put down in his bill so much "to dinner kept waiting for Mr. John Bull, who was not expected." He cannot put down in the bill "to so many pairs of fowls, awaiting the honour of your arrival," when Mr. Bull himself did not expect the honour of his own coming. The landlord cannot put down in his bill "to meeting your insolent manners with unbroken smiles or low bows." The waiter cannot represent that he has submitted to reproaches and oaths, for not bringing things not ordered, for serving things in the usual style, and being accused of ignorance, which was the traveller's own; for not hearing an imbecile voice, or not understanding a thick one. So the landlord sets down his bows in an additional price for his sherry, charges the spoiled fowls in the mutton cutlets; and the waiter, who behaves more honestly, does but withhold a portion of that enormous civility which the traveller expects for the odd pence. It is the ill-considered arrangements, the unexpressed ambitions, the stupid want of attention to his own interest, and the bad manners of the traveller, which are set down in the bill. When he storms at the wax lights or the port wine abomination, it would be much more reasonable if he reflected that he had better teach to himself or his fellows the art of expressing what they want in civil language; for then, by degrees, landlords and waiters will learn to understand what travellers want, and begin to meet the demand accordingly.

In a former article we pointed out the evils of the licensing system in connexion with the brewing trade. Innkeepers suffer from the same cause, and the remedy is to reject the support of such a broken staff. What protection does an innkeeper require? He supplies a universal want, since the demand for food and sleep will never cease to exist. As long as the world lasts men will run from place to place, railway carriages will discharge their cargoes, and there will be inns to furnish shelter and repose. Of course there must be a limit to the demand, and though the immediate consequence of an opening of the trade might be an excess of accommodation, a very short time would suffice to make the balance even. The best men would win the day. Excellence combined with fair prices, would attract customers, and contented numbers would take the place of a discontented few. Hitherto attempts to establish cheap inns have been failures, but the fault has lain with the innkeepers rather than with the public. "Cheap and Nasty" is a combination of words which, though usually applied to the productions of slop-shops and cheap tailoring establishments, may be said, without exaggeration, of some of our "cheap" hotels. Cleanliness, good fare, and civility, are the three essentials of a good hotel. Nine travellers out of ten would rather be without the luxurious additions of wax candles, waiters with powdered heads, and a show of vulgar plate. But so long as the only choice is between the bad accommodation of a cheap inn, and the extravagant charges but substantial comfort of a first-rate hotel, an Englishman will continue to satisfy exorbitant demands, and appease himself by writing angry letters to the *Times*.

Doubtless an opening of the trade would in-

volve experiments of all kinds, and we are glad to learn that the Crystal Palace Company have determined upon building hotels adapted, like railway carriages, to the wants of different classes. No one need then complain; and a traveller will only have himself to blame, if he suffers his false pride or his slavery to fashion to lead him to an expensive hotel, when good accommodation is offered him at a moderate rate, on a scale and at a charge known beforehand, and familiarized to the public by a general uniformity. *This* is the grand point—uniformity, steadiness, and certainty of the charge.

THE HON. MRS. NORTON'S WRONGS.

OUR readers have had a week to reflect upon the letter of Sir John Bailey, and they will probably agree with us in thinking that the statement by that gentleman, who was appointed as judge between husband and wife by Mr. Norton himself, is conclusive. Mrs. Norton has declared that she will write no more, and Mr. Norton, we anticipate, could not benefit his case by adding another word to it. We will treat the latest letter by the umpire exactly as we treated the letters on both sides, presuming its representations to be true, without supposing that we can do anything to add to its authenticity or credibility. We take it as it stands.

According to this statement, then, Mr. Norton invited counsel to give him an "opinion," and supplied that counsel, not with a real case, but with "a series of invented fables which he had strung together," and it is the opinion upon these fables, which he advanced in his letters as Sir John Bailey's. Mrs. Norton was "anxious only on one point, the restoration of her children;" the husband was "anxious only about the pecuniary part of the arrangement, and obviously making the love of the mother for her offspring the means of barter and bargain." While Mr. Norton made untrue statements of his wife's expenses and extravagancies, he detained her wardrobe, jewellery, and books. She offered to pay her own bills, but Mr. Norton's solicitor replied that "there was no undertaking, that even if she did pay her bills, her property should be returned to her." Mr. Norton confesses to gross personal violence towards his wife; on one occasion kicking her room door from its hinges, and dragging her out by force, not long before the birth of her youngest son. The wife was "reasonable" in her language, and desirous to be at peace with "her children's father." He promised to return her children, and at his counsel's dictation wrote a letter which that gentleman posted, Mr. Norton being "base enough to write a second letter," unknown to the arbitrator, to forbid the coming of the children—"and come they did not." Mr. Norton admitted his firm belief of his wife's innocence of the charge he had brought against her and Lord Melbourne, and then advertised it in the papers!

"I then," says Sir John Bailey, "certainly changed my opinion." The public had been somewhat impressed with the rights of the husband, and the confident statement put forth by Mr. Norton, but the public will henceforward read Mr. Norton's statement by the light of Sir John Bailey's commentaries.

What, then, do we find to be, according to the statement of the judicial authority, his true story of an English wife? She is deprived of her children, and falsely accused of extravagance by her husband, who withholds her property, even her personal effects; she is advertised in the papers by her husband, who confesses her innocence; she is subjected to personal violence by the husband who had endearingly besought her to return; and ultimately, when he is made answerable for the debts of a wife whom he has persisted to hold in bondage, he permits her to be dragged into a public court, and meets the exposure of the facts by a reiteration of all that has been refuted by his own arbitrator.

The simple statement of this case is enough to excite indignation wherever natural feeling has not been stifled by the custom of the country. But we are to reflect, that this case had in it something peculiar. Mrs. Norton is no doubt a woman sharing the ordinary feeling of her sex, and on that account alone to be the object of tenderness and honour. But, besides that, she is a woman endowed with many gifts of nature which point her out as peculiarly calling for honour from any man upon whom she bestowed her hand. In this sense, although beauty

cannot claim to have rights of its own, yet as enhancing the sacrifice, it might at all events have constituted, with other reasons, a ground why she should have been received to the heart and hearth of any man as an object more precious than an ordinary gift, especially when she had united herself to a man who has taken the pains to stamp his own grade before the public. But besides beauty, Mrs. Norton is also endowed with the rarer charms of genius, and its most refined accomplishments: she has wedded feeling and grace to the English language, both in its prose and verse; and has a reputation far transcending the bounds of her native country. To be permitted to provide a home for one of the most distinguished living intellectual celebrities of a country renowned in letters; to be chosen as the companion of one of the most beautiful women, in a country celebrated for its beautiful women, might have extorted a sense of proud gratitude in the heart of any man fully endowed with the faculties of man's nature. Mr. Norton, it appears, did not acknowledge any such sense. The woman who is received with homage in the highest society in the land, who is honoured by the whole people, was by him subjected to shuffling avoidance of promises, to the "Greenacre" correspondence, to charges which he confessed to be false, to advertisements in the newspapers, pointing her out for the contempt of the virtuous and the discredit of the commercial world, and to personal violence.

And yet, we have a right to say, such stories are discovered in good society, are not treated as incredible, not as unparalleled monstrosities, but are only matters of debate and of evidence, like any ordinary quarrel. The husband in this case, who thus treats his wife and judge, is still himself a judge of summary jurisdiction in cases of wife and husband! And although this wrong stands flagrant before the public, there is, it appears, no law which can procure redress, or even the common justice of independent industry for the woman, although that woman is a Caroline Norton.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—The press of Europe is at length becoming unanimous upon the merits of the Turkish question. Blinded by the absolute recognition for years past of the disinterested and moderate policy of the Czars, the vigilance of Europe has been stilled, and her watchfulness lulled to sleep. Even when startled from her heavy slumber by the stifling of Italian, Polish, and Hungarian liberty, and by the extinction of republican Cracow, Europe did but half rise, the heavy torpor of her belief exerted too deadening an influence upon her judgment; it spread too thick a pall over her intellect to permit of the simple principles involved once appearing luminous and clear to her understanding. Hence her slowness to comprehend the refutation Russia has itself afforded, and hence that long lingering confidence in the magnanimity of the Czar Nicholas, which has paralyzed the action of Europe, and procrastinated Turkish civilization for half a century to come. But the deceptive panegyrics upon that system "which exhausted every means of procuring peace before it resorted to war," have also contributed not a little to produce the perilous result which now keeps the whole world in suspense. The voices of stock-jobbers and of petty dynastic intriguers, and the whimperings of the Peace Society, have been heard in the chambers of the Government, and the natural result of measuring British feeling by the rise and fall of the public stocks has been the complete victory of the Russian autocrat. Undeterred by any considerations of the three per cents, the Czar has conducted his manœuvres with spirit; they all bear the stamp of an inflexible will, and of a vigorous intellect, and they have all been unqualifiedly successful although founded upon complete injustice. The Allies, with a good cause, with public law, with justice on their side, have suffered an ignominious defeat. And whence does so startling an anomaly arise? Had the movements of the European Powers been directed with enlightened unanimity, and well arranged precision, would so unusual, and so humiliating a contrast have occurred, and should we now be deploring the ill-considered precipitancy which has caused the rejection of the Vienna Note? Throughout these unfortunate negotiations the diplomacy of Europe, forgetting its dignity and the merits of its cause,

has scrambled to the Czar not only with indecorous haste, but bearing undignified and indigested propositions. Had the Porte been consulted by the Four Powers ere the last protocol was transmitted to St. Petersburg, the modifications afterwards inserted would have formed part of its text as recommended by the Allies, and the absurd *contretemps* which Europe has fallen into would have been effectively obviated. The sense of this Note had, it is true, been communicated to Russia beforehand, and it must ever remain an uncertain question whether if these subsequent alterations had then formed part of the proposals, Russia would have given her adhesion with equal readiness. This course, however, would have reduced the question to the most perfect simplicity; for the alterations suggested by the Porte were, and are, thoroughly in accordance with the views of two, at least, of the Allies; and the Allies having thus embodied them in their Note, it would have only remained for Russia to accept or to reject them. The Allies now stand somewhat committed to the proposition so hurriedly presented; and the question has become one of interpretation. Austria is stated to have already interpreted this Note in her own way, and to have seceded from joint action with the European Powers, specially on the grounds above mentioned. Whether this retrogression be owing to the cause alleged is, indeed, problematical; but the Vienna Note, whether nursed in falsehood or in good faith, for honest or for deceptive purposes, has proved a failure. It is the last of the consecutive blunders made by Europe, solely, perhaps, because it is the last thing Europe has attempted. The principle involved, however, and the question of right, remain unaltered. The duplicity of Russia has become bared to the world, and her object better understood and more distinctly defined. The substance of the despatch addressed by Count Nesselrode to Baron Meyendorf, separated from its insolence, and its bombastic and insupportable self-sufficiency, flatly rejects the Turkish emendations; and a second despatch, proceeding from the same source, is found to amount to a declaratory act, that the interpretation given by Russia to the meaning of the Vienna Note is diametrically opposed to that intended by the mediating Powers, and that thus the question is no longer one of mere phrases, but of vital substance. The words of every agreement, however, are of vital importance, else why so much care expended upon their preparation? In this case, the welfare of a nation is involved; in others, perhaps the question of a property, or of a creed—that is the only difference. The question, however, is now more distinct, more important, more menacing. Secured in her position, Russia no longer needs the subterfuges of diplomatic phraseology: it is no more, therefore, a confirmation of old rights, but a demand for fresh privileges. Upon what principle of law or justice does Russia base her preferential claims? Confessedly unable to produce the cases of oppression which constitute the vague pretexts of her demands, Russia cites the privileges conferred by former treaties, as establishing her right to additional favours. This absurd and unprecedented pretension she has supported by the forcible occupation of Turkish territory. It will now be my purpose to review, in a few words, the events which preceded this reprehensible proceeding, and the falsehoods and deceptions which have characterized her policy, from the appearance of Prince Menschikoff, to the Nesselrode declaration.

When that formidable embassy reached Constantinople, and was received with such *éclat* by the Greek population, the first uneasy feeling that had been created considerably diminished on the announcement of the object which this diplomatic invasion had in view. The Emperor only desired satisfaction upon the question of the Holy Places where undue preferences had been accorded to France. The French Government quietly and unostentatiously withdrew its claims; certain privileges were conferred upon the Russian Church, and Prince Menschikoff declared that he was "perfectly satisfied." But the rebellion in Montenegro, the Austrian demands for compensation, the disturbances rumoured to be in various parts of the Turkish Empire, the distracted and uncertain councils of Persia, were scarcely to pass over without an inducement for their increase, and so favourable

an opportunity was not to be (it never has been) lost by Russia. When, according to the full belief of Europe and the satisfaction of the bewildered and beleaguered Porte, Prince Menschikoff had expressed his satisfaction with the advantages accorded to the Greek community, the question was deemed terminated, the Russian Ambassador, in direct contravention of all diplomatic usage, and in complete outrage of all principles of justice, delivered a second series of demands, and retired to Buyukdere, there to await the final decision of the Divan. This building of cupolas and custody of keys had only indeed served to mask the true object of Russian diplomacy. This new ultimatum—for such it was—demanded a *de facto* and *de jure* right of protectorship over the Christian Greek population of the Turkish Empire, and that these uncivilized and semi-barbarous subjects of the Porte should be placed "upon the footing of the most favoured nation." To have accorded this would have been to constitute them virtually independent, for Russia interprets this clause as conferring equal privileges with those accorded to the embassies of Europe in the Turkish capital, and as inducing a train of other consequences at which she alone would have cause to rejoice. Apart from the unauthorized nature of these requirements, they were couched in the most insolent terms, and demanded a categorical and instant reply. Alarmed by such threatening demonstrations, Europe proffered its aid to extricate the Porte from its dilemma; the aid proffered was accepted, and negotiations followed. Encouraged by the evident alarm of Europe, and its infelicitous councils, the threats of Russia were followed by speedy fulfilment; her troops crossed the Pruth, invaded Moldavia and Wallachia, seized the reins of Government, demanded tribute, appointed their own agents, occupied the frontier upon Turkey, and virtually incorporated the Provinces. The fleets, whose advance into the Black Sea and the Baltic would doubtless have sufficed to stay this aggression, remain idly and ignominiously at their anchorages, and henceforth having acquired without striking a single blow the advantages of a successful campaign, Russia contrived at once to negotiate and to continually advance fresh troops into the Principalities. Fortified at length in her military position, and assured, as it appears, of Austria's support, Russia throws off the mask and deliberately asserts claims, compliance with which would abolish Turkish sovereignty in Europe. But whence does Russia derive her right?

The treaties of Kainardji and Adrianople contain clauses securing certain privileges to the Greek communities under the guarantee of Russia. It was originally asserted that these treaties had been violated by the Porte, and that Russia had therefore just grounds of complaint. This would, indeed, have authorised Russia to insist upon the due execution of those treaties or to demand their confirmation. The first of these courses would have been preferable, since the latter would appear to call into question the validity of the documents themselves. Russia at first favoured both these plans, and the Porte offered to confirm, and did confirm, the privileges insisted upon. But this was not what Russia required. She knew that no remissness in carrying into effect the provisions of a contract would enable the holder of that contract to demand fresh and additional advantages. He could indeed legally and justly insist upon the due performance of the provisions of that agreement, and that too to the fullest extent, but unless with the uncoerced assent of the other contracting party, no alterations could be made and no claim to any such alteration could be enforced. Dallying, therefore, with the first demands, creating a war of words, transferring the negotiations from point to point, and at length gaining time sufficient, Russia points to her military position and requires stipulations unauthorised by her agreements; to which she has not the shadow of a claim, which are not contained in any one of her treaties, and which are decidedly opposed to the desires of the European powers. The first glimmer of light upon the grave nature of the fresh obligation sought to be fixed upon her is afforded by Turkey. Europe understands for the first time the true nature of the demands, and offers to support Turkey by a separate declaratory reading of the Vienna note. Austria objects to this, and declines to guarantee Turkey against future aggression. For the present the matter remains thus.

Count Nesselrode's despatch to M. de Meyendorff, puts the dilemma thus:—

"For of these two positions only one is possible—either the alterations which the Porte requires are important, in which case it is very simple that we refuse to accede to them; or they are unimportant, and then the question arises, why should the Porte unnecessarily make its acceptance dependent on them?"

The alterations here alluded to are already well known. The most important of them is that placing the Greek population upon the same footing as the most favoured subjects of the Porte, instead of upon the same footing as the "most favoured nation." There is, of course, a wide and irreconcilable difference here, as already previously stated. The Western powers understood the Vienna memorial in the same sense as the Porte; the latter desired, not unnaturally, to fix with still greater precision and distinctness the true nature of the most important clauses. Russia has objected to a plainness, which would hereafter render her tergiversation impossible, and Count Nesselrode, in "refusing to accede to these modifications, if they are important," plainly indicates what was the foul and dishonest intention of the Czar, and the use that would ultimately have been made of the indeterminate language of the allies.

Turkey and Western Europe, and Russia, then, are now separated by a broad, well defined, and perfectly understood question. The whole matter has been so plainly exposed that no room for equivocation remains. Russia has no claim, either recognised in treaty or arising from position, except such as a successful wrong and a formidable military attitude may command. Austria, which appears, consciously or unconsciously, to have carried on the Muscovite conspiracy at Vienna, has plainly inclined to the unjust cause of Nicholas, and, whatever may result from the present question,—whether peace may yet be preserved, or whether the Turkish soldiery precipitately hurl back the wrongs inflicted upon their country, and which they have borne so long and so patiently,—the guilt will rest with Russia.

It would, perhaps, be ungraceful, at this moment, to point to the realization of fears that the timid conduct of the Allies would provoke the very situation they were most desirous to avoid. A sense of public duty, however, bids me state that a more dignified, a more determined, and a more worthy course of policy would have redeemed a name now dishonoured in the East, and would have been better calculated not only to preserve Turkey from unjust aggression, but to preserve the peace of Europe and the honour and glory of the British name. "ALPHA."

THE GOVERNING CLASSES.

No. IV.—THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.*

AMONG the other benefits conferred upon his country by the late Sir Robert Peel, was the establishment of a belief in six or seven young men of light hair and sanguine complexions that they were the cleverest fellows in the world. Sir Robert was the shyest of men, but he instituted the most audacious of political schools. They have all light hair and sanguine complexions, they are all fluent, self-sufficient, and pushing. There is the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Frederick Peel, and the Duke of Argyll, all like one another in character and temperament—certainly all of the same political class. They are, *par excellence*, the "rising" young men. They were rising young men at sixteen, and they will be rising young men at fifty. Fortunate England with such a relay of such consuls.

The Duke of Argyll is a chief governor: he is a member of the Cabinet which governs the Governing Classes, and arranges British destinies. Can any one tell why? can a self-governing country guess why? Not because he is a Duke, for there are plenty of other Dukes open to Coalition offers; not because he is popular, for the country knows nothing about him; not because he is wise and experienced, for he is only thirty, and very young of his age; not because he has great administrative capacity, for he is put into an office—Privy Seal—where there is nothing to do but tell the Premier that posterity will appreciate him;

* The intention was, as far as possible, in this series, to select names in alphabetical order; but it may perhaps be considered pardonable that the writer should have passed over the subject of the present sketch.

not because he is a debater, for the Duke of Argyll ranks as next bore to Lord Monteaigle in the Lords' chamber. Why, then, is the Duke of Argyll in the Cabinet? The territorial influence of the Campbells is not as necessary to Queen Victoria as it was to George the First, and the Duke of Argyll is not a man to have family influence. A son-in-law of the Duchess of Sutherland has, of course, fine prospects in this self-governed country, and Lord Aberdeen would probably not be indisposed, on a hint, to promote his young friend from the Western Highlands. But there would still be a mystery, as the Whigs would have had a veto when the Coalition was formed; and no truth ought to be attached to the story that Lord John let in the Duke of Argyll on condition of Sir Charles Wood being endured by the Peelites. The Duke of Argyll belonged as much to the Whigs as to the Peelites; in reality he was of neither party, of no party, and was just the man no one would have calculated on either Lord John or Lord Aberdeen running after. The name of the new Lord Privy Seal astounded and perplexed people; and no appointment is good which astonishes. The quidnuncs affected to trace the taste of the Prince Consort in the choice; but in this self-governed country, where the Government is as much an affair of mystery as it is in Russia, if not more, the quidnuncs are always wrong. The appointment was, to the governed classes, inexplicable, and, for that class, still remains so, which renders a portrait of the Duke of Argyll peculiarly apposite to a series with the moral attached to the present. A Cabinet Minister about whom nobody knows anything, is surely an interesting study for a self-governed country?

An old head on young shoulders is a disfigurement, of course; but it is a disfigurement which may be redeemed. It may be redeemed by the old head being a clever old head. It is made worse and more unsightly when the old head put on the young shoulders is a commonplace old head. When a young man has an old head on his shoulders, and the old head gives you nothing *but* the impression of age, his appearance displeases in the same way as the appearance displeases of an old woman with a young ringleted "front." Such an impression of incongruity is what the Duke of Argyll invariably produces. He is a young man who has never had youth; and that sort of young man is never popular. Eternally the world, however moral, will prefer the Tom Joneses to the Blifils; and the young gentlemen who have never gone through a course of husbandry with wild oats, seldom attain to the acquisition of such laurels as are worth having. It was clever, no doubt, of the Duke of Argyll to write, at nineteen, a pamphlet on the question whether Bishops are more loveable than Presbyters; but the world, with unerring instincts, distrusts young men who do such things at the age when they should be ruining their constitutions, and getting philosophic views of life. You admire children who, at ten, can repeat a book of the *Aeneid*, and beat you at chess; but you would prefer that they should be spoiling their clothes and rolling savagely in ditches. It indicates a bizarre ambition,—a young Duke seeking position among polemics and archaeologists. It is quite right that a young Duke should bring himself up piously; and a Scotch young duke could scarcely avoid the contagion of ecclesiastico-scorbutics peculiar to that land of passionate Christians, and careful traders. But Mac Callum Moore wagging his pow in a pulpit! We live in an age when we are not startled to hear the last of the Plantagenets, the Marquis of Chandos, praised as "a man of business;" but the ambition of being "useful" is an ambition in which the spirit of the times will sympathise,—the ambition of the Marquis of Lorn to share fame with Scotch Dissenting canters was a vulgarity which the good taste of the times condemns. And that first act of the life of the Duke of Argyll may be dwelt upon, because at nineteen he was old, and at thirty he is just the man he was at nineteen. As he commenced he went on, and is going on; and the Duke of Argyll, at thirty, may be described as a young man who has gone into the Cabinet, not as the organ of the Whig, nor as the organ of the Tory party—but, simply and grandly, as

the organ of—the Tea Party. The Coalition includes all parties; and perhaps *that* is why the Duke of Argyll was made Privy Seal.

You see, at a glance, when you go into the House of Lords, any night in Session, that the Duke of Argyll is, of all the young men of this country, eminently fitted to excel in that party. You see that he is clever, but that it is commonplace cleverness. You can see such a head as his—large without being massive, and not effective, because so symmetrical—in any Convocation meeting, for it is eminently the parsonical head; and such a style as his you can hear at any meeting-house, when half a dozen gentlemen, connected with the Gospel, meet to talk professionally. It is fluent commonplace: good enough, in its way, if offered with the humility of mediocrity, but insufferable, from the air with which the speaker insists upon impressing it upon you, and from the obvious tribune of self-esteem from which the balmy orator is addressing you. It was said of an emphatic elocutionist that he talked in italics: the Duke of Argyll talks in capital letters, with a note of admiration after each sentence. A Duke has a chance of knowing something of the world, if he passes a not strictly Christian youth, and, in his early manhood, only dwells in decencies when he goes to his castles. But a duke who passes his life in studying the history of Presbytery, and the strata of the rocks about Inverary, the rocks trodden by Effie Deans and her sister, can have no conception of the thoughts or actions at work in the British empire. And this is visible in the tone of the Duke of Argyll, when he addresses that courtly House of Peers, which doesn't hiss, and can't laugh. You hear a young gentleman, who is gifted with a certain sort of logical faculty, and who has read several books and all the papers, (that morning,) who has got up his subject logically, at secondhand, and who is pouring out his "views" just as Mr. Delarue's machine pours out cut envelopes—mechanically. Once upon a time even a Duke would hesitate before he addressed an educated body of men, unless he were quite sure he had some of the qualities of a public speaker: but the Duke of Argyll, knowing merely that he can talk fluently—in that lanky, loose, flaccid, Peel style, which is hideous—and that he can remember what he read in the works of that eminent divine, M'Yell, talks to the Lords with the confidence of a Chatham, and a good deal oftener. All this arises from the simplicity and the good faith of a good-natured young man, who is coaxed into conceit by his coterie of relations, and who hasn't the slightest notion either of himself or of other men. As a lecturer at occasional Mechanics' Institutes he gratifies—the populace is pleased to encounter a Duke who can talk like a book: in the Duke's case *very* like a book. But a Duke among peers is no great hit; and the Duke of Argyll has unconsciously drifted and drivelled into boredom. Such speaking as his, indeed, is possible nowhere; half homily, half leading article, it is chokingly dry and dull. He has no wit, no humour, no imagination, no originality of ken: it is all the high and dry level of a weary *quasi*-logicality, which is not even generalized, but is minutely and pedantically accurate; and all this with an Argyllshire accent which convinces that Mac Callum More is a great gun in the General Assembly. Why, then, is the Duke of Argyll a British Cabinet Minister?

NON-ELECTOR.

THE NOBLEMEN OF TRADE.

THERE are merchants of England who seem Princes by the grace of their own acts. Such is Thomas Salt, of Saltaire. Even ignoring the energy and integrity essential to his great success in life, the generous nature of the man's soul speaks in what he has done in the little place he found a village, and has made a town. To lodge the workmen of his new great alpaca factory near Bradford, he has added to Saltaire seven hundred houses. Wide streets, and spacious squares, and commodious baths, give airiness and health: pleasant gardens and playgrounds please the eye and glad the spirit; while, schools teach children, and a pretty church reminds the people of God. The other day the benefactor of this good work gave a dinner party to his friends. It was a monster meeting of guests: three thousand, seven hundred—peers, mayors, and workmen—sat down to the gigantic feast. After dinner, the host ordered a special train and carriages for his friends, and took them to St. George's Hall, Bradford, and treated them to a first-rate concert. This was acting the host on a more than royal scale. Another instance of the good-will of tradesmen occurs this week. William Brown, member for South Lancashire, has given six thousand pounds to build a free library for the town of Liverpool. These acts stand well side by side with the deeds of that King of Industry who has built the Dublin Palace.



Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

THE LAW AS TO SERVANTS' CHARACTERS. (To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Through the medium of your journal my attention was especially directed, in glancing at the table of contents, to the "Law as to Servants' Characters," and upon reading it, my mind forcibly dwelt upon the injustice, as it appears by this article, affecting this class of society. The systems in England and Ireland are totally different; and I would say, that the system adopted here is very much superior. We are obliged to give servants, if they have lived for three months with the master or mistress, a *written* discharge, which of course the person must substantiate when called upon by a new employer; but by the custom which the article in your paper depicts, the servant is wholly and solely dependent upon the character which her former mistress gives to her next one. Now, then, supposing a servant has been unfortunate, and having displeased her mistress, is dependent for her bread upon the character she may be pleased to give; it is likely her last mistress will not speak of her in most favourable terms. She is then kept walking about until, in despair, hunger compels her to seek her sustenance, and alas! too often in not the most reputable way; whereas, in this country, if one discharge is prejudicial, she has perhaps five or six from former mistresses, which she produces as a strong proof of her general character. The idea in this country preponderates as to the virtue of the servants over those of the sister country; and this system, I feel sure, you will see is calculated to protect our servants.

Yours, &c.,

A HOUSEHOLDER.

26, Mary Abbey, Dublin, Sept. 20, 1853.

THE EARLY EDITION OF THE "LEADER." (To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I am glad that the repeal of the advertisement duty has enabled newspaper proprietors to issue two editions without incurring the serious tax of paying double duty upon all their advertisements. Employed in a printing-office, these matters have come under my notice; but whatever may have been the reason which induced you to issue an early Saturday morning of the *Leader*, I, in common with many other working men, am glad of it. In every part of the country the advantage by this time must have been felt. The *Leader* now reaches Glasgow and Edinburgh on the Saturday night, and though too late to be delivered that night, it can be had on the Sunday morning in every town in Scotland. Because there is no post delivery on Sunday in our towns, many are not aware that the *Leader* can be had, but any subscriber who directs it to be sent to him can have it on application at the Post-office, as there is always a delivery to applicants before church time in the morning. If this was generally known, I am sure it would be of advantage to the circulation of the *Leader*. It is more generally read here than any other London paper, and I have been told by workmen in England that it is the same in many other places. If you think this letter worth inserting, I can send you a fact or two illustrative of this assertion.

Yours respectfully,

PEARL WILCOX.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Irish Nationalist" is correct in supposing that we only alluded to the *histrionic* democrats when we spoke of an "impracticable element;" and we are glad to find that he approves of our contempt for that miserable *Branchification*. Mr. John Macgregor's second letter, on the Sabbatharians of Glasgow, is nothing better than a *rechauffé* of his former assertions. "A Lover of Arts" will find his inquiry satisfied in Nos. 111, 112, 119, 121 (Vol. iii.), of the *Leader*. "A Black Philosopher," in type.

Literature.

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

THE "perils of literature" are illustrated in this week's news, by the double attempt to burn the house of G. P. R. JAMES, the British Consul at Virginia, who has incurred the implacable hatred of all LEGREES, by the reputation of having formerly written a song, in favour of emancipation. What would these people do to CLARKSON or Mrs. STOWE? Mr. JAMES has not, with us, had the character of being a very terrible anarchist; not even a formidable poet; but in Virginia, he is both.

The "curiosities of literature"—a more pleasant topic—have furnished a writer in the *Irish Quarterly*, with some very piquant details, for his amusing article on *Fashion in Poetry and the Poets of Fashion*. The paper embraces a series of fashionable poets, from HANBURY WILLIAMS to HAYNES BAYLY, with liberal extracts from their works. In the introductory remarks on the fantastic conceits and literary vagaries of old writers, such as acrostics, anagrams, lipograms, (verses with some letter uniformly evaded,) and "figure poems," or poems written in the shape of the object they describe, our readers will find curious matter; and we will borrow two excellent specimens of "figure poems" here given, from PANARD:—

Que mon
Flacon
Me semble bon!
Sans lui
L'ennui
Me nuit,
Me suit,
Je sens
Mes sens
Mourants,
Pesants.

Quand je le tiens,
Dieux! que je suis bien!
Que son aspect est agréable!
Que je fais cas de ces divins présents!
C'est de son sein fécond, c'est de ses heureux flancs
Que coule ce nectar si doux, si délectable,
Qui rend tous les esprits, tous les cœurs satisfaits.
Cher objet de mes vœux, tu fais toute ma gloire;
Tant que mon cœur vivra, de tes charmants bienfaits
Il saura conserver la fidèle mémoire.
Ma muse, à te louer se consacre à jamais.
Tantôt dans un caveau, tantôt sous une treille,
Ma lyre, de ma voix accompagnant le son,
Répétera cent fois cette aimable chanson;
Règne sans fin, ma charmante bouteille,
Règne sans cesse, mon cher flacon.

We next present the glass:—

Nous ne pouvons rien trouver sur la terre
Qui soit si bon, ni si beau que le verre,
Du tendre amour berceau charmant,
C'est toi, champêtre fougère,
C'est toi qui sers à faire
L'heureux instrument
Où souvent pétille,
Mousse et brille
Le jus qui rend
Gai, riant,
Content.
Quelle douceur
Il porte au cœur!
Tôt,
Tôt,
Tôt,
Qu'on m'en donne,
Qu'on l'apporte;
Tôt,
Tôt,
Tôt,
Qu'on m'en donne,
Vite et comme il faut:
L'on y voit sur ces flots chéris
Nager l'allegresse et les ris.

There have been several poems written, of which the boast was that some letter of the alphabet was banished; there have been several, also, in which some letter was obtrusively initial,—thus, in the *Pugna Porcorum* of LEO PLACENTIVS, every word begins with p. Here is a specimen:—

"Plaudite porcelli; porcorum pigra propago
Progreditur, plures porci pinguedine pleni
Pugnantes pergunt. Pecudum pars prodigiosa,
Perturbat pede petrosas plerumque plateas;
Pars portentosa populorum prata profanat."

Imagine the laborious frivolity of such a feat, and the utter impossibility of any one's reading such "damnable iteration!"

The same number of the *Irish Quarterly* contains a long analysis, with translations, of *Jérôme Paturot*, rather late in the day, but entertaining to those to whom it may be a novelty; a continuation of the gossiping anti-

quarianism on *The Streets of Dublin*; "Premium" MADDEN; *Irish Industry*, and an *Irish National Gallery*.

Our wish, at all times, to give both sides a hearing, no less than the suggestiveness of the communication itself, induces us to print the following criticism:—

"I confess myself very much instructed by the articles on the *Vestiges*. You are extremely happy in your remarks upon *Time*, to consider which as a positive condition of change is absurd. Nevertheless, you have marked some passages from the *Vestiges* in italics as being erroneous, which I find escape the very objections you urge. For instance, the author of the *Vestiges* says, 'We might almost regard the progression as the result of an aspiration towards new and superior fields of existence;' now, instead of this remark about aspiration being connected with progress seeming fanciful, I find it profoundly true. First, from my own consciousness; the unrest within my brain, the love to be something better than I am is at the root of my every advance in culture. Again, from observation, the naked savage's aspiration to be independent of fierce extremes of heat and cold causes him to use clothes, and the reaction of clothes on his body changes the nature of his skin. Descending the scale of animal life, there is not a single animal, however dull, but manifestly prefers a certain quality of food, or a certain habitat, which shall add to its comforts and preserve its life and the life of its young; and this continual unborn tendency always gives the new generation a benefit, however small, which reacts on its physical and mental nature, producing some kind of change. In Chambers's Paper on 'Animal Instincts and Intelligence,' which you once called truly philosophical, the writer observes that, 'in studying the influences at work among the sociable tribes it is impossible not to recognise the probability, if not the certainty, of something approaching to civilization, or the striking out of valuable devices by the good heads which occasionally start up, which devices are spread and continued by imitation. We find that necessity, the mother of invention, sometimes operates in enlarging the sphere of action of a species;' and he then gives an instance of crows adding turnips to their articles of diet. Whenever this was done, the new food, &c, must necessarily re-act on their system, change in some respects its nature, and the change be transmitted to their posterity; yet this could never have occurred without a desire, aspiration, or tendency, for comfort and longevity in the animal. J. SHAW.

Our objection to the phrase "aspiration towards new and superior fields of existence" was its metaphysical character, implying consciousness of superior existence, "denoting a foregone conclusion," and thus aiding and abetting the Author's primary error of a "Plan." The fact of Progress is undeniable; undeniable the effect of new wants in producing new forms of existence; but when the crow added turnip to his diet he may have been impelled thereto by hunger, curiosity, gulosity, or simple accident, but surely not by any "aspiration?" In like manner when water birds became land birds, it is probable that scarcity of food had far more influence than "an aspiration after new and superior fields," unless that "want" is to be translated by aspiration, which translation would be a relapse into the very metaphysics we combat.

Some signs of literary activity in France may be noted. GEORGE SAND continues her dramatic innovation; setting aside all theatrical exigencies, and relying solely upon the magic of style, and the interest of rustic scenes, she has once more redeemed failures by a great success. Her new piece, *Le Pressoir*, bids fair to rival *François le Champi*; and the critics are rhapsodical in delight. Dramatic, in the proper sense of the word, her plays are not; but they bear the same relation to dramas that her late idyls, *Le Mare au Diable*, *François de Champi*, and *La Petite Fadette*, bear towards novels. In a country so fatigued with theatrical combinations and stage effect, and also so ready in keen appreciation of literary excellence, such an innovation may hold its ground for a time. At any rate it is gratifying to see both GEORGE SAND and theatre managers, undeterred by failure, courageous in new efforts, resolute to persist in a direction they believe to be true!

ALEXANDRE DUMAS, the great theatrical thaumaturge, has a comedy in rehearsal at the *Théâtre Français*, which will no doubt be a curious contrast with Madame SAND's rustic sketch—a contrast as great as that of the Court of LOUIS XIV. and a vineyard in the South. The mention of DUMAS reminds us that his son's novel, *La Dame aux Perles*, which reaches us via Brussels, is a great disappointment. Rumour preceded it trumpet-tongued. It was obviously intended to be a pendant to *La Dame aux Camélias*, setting forth the love of a Duchess, as that work did of one who was not a duchess. The first volume is very promising; but it soon relapses into conventional and impossible melodrama, only relieved here and there by an occasional touch. It is not at all "adapted for family reading," as we carefully warn you!

Something for family and other reading, however, we can commend,—namely, PROSPER MÉRIMÉE's new volume. It contains three dramatic sketches, *Les Deux Héritages*, a proverb charmingly written but ill-constructed; *L'Inspecteur Général*, a comedy translated from the Russian of GOGOL; and *Les Débuts d'un Aventurier*, a dramatic episode in the life of *Démétrius*, the pretender, whose history M. MÉRIMÉE has written in a volume translated into English.

To write memoirs seems now the occupation of Frenchmen, more than ever it has been since the great Revolution. To those already announced we may add two more autobiographers—very different; each attractive. One is DR. VÉRON, the proprietor of *Le Constitutionnel*, whose "personal relations" gloriously cover his personal insignificance, and will make his memoirs curious; the other is VILLEMMAIN, whose personal significance and personal relations will make his memoirs valuable.

We conclude this gossip with mention of the fact that GERVINUS has published a small brochure on his political convictions—*Meine Politische Ueberzeugungen*, which will be interesting to our German readers.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

- The Poultry Book.*
Three Original Plays. By John Wynne. W. S. Orr and Co.
India: its History, Climate, Productions, and Field Sports. By J. H. Stocqueler. T. Bosworth.
Macphail's Edinburgh Ecclesiastical Journal. G. Routledge.
The Scottish Educational and Literary Review. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.
An Inquiry into the Evidence to be found in Human Nature of a Future State. By G. G. Vincent. James Hogg.
Chapman's Library for the People.—The Artist's Married Life. W. Tweedie.
Chapman's Quarterly Series.—1. Theism, &c. By Theodore Parker. John Chapman.
Chapman's Quarterly Series.—2. History of the Hebrew Monarchy. By F. W. Newman. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.
The Pantropheon; or, History of Food. By A. Soyer. Smith, Elder, and Co.
The Physiology of Temperance and Total Abstinence. By W. B. Carpenter, M.D. H. G. Bohn.
Bohn's Antiquarian Library.—Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sinai. H. G. Bohn.
Bohn's Classical Library.—Aristophanes, Literally Translated. H. G. Bohn.
Bohn's Standard Library.—Miss Bremer's Works. By Mary Howitt. H. G. Bohn.
The Universal Library. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
The Rhine. By Victor Hugo. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
Fitz Alwyn, the First Lord Mayor. By Miss E. M. Stewart. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
The Life of Edmund Burke. By Peter Burke, Esq. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
Handbook of Foliage and Foreground. Drawings by G. Barnard. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
The Alain Family. Translated from the French of Alphonse Karr, by R. B. Brough. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
The Three Presidencies of India. By John Capper. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
History of France. By Emile De Bonnechese. Translated by W. Robson. Ingram, Cooke, and Co.
Elements of Psychological Medicine. By Daniel Noble, F.R.C.S. G. Routledge and Co.
Homœopathy Fairly Represented: in reply to Dr. Simpson's Homœopathy Misrepresented. By John Churchill.
 W. Henderson, M.D. T. Constable and Co.
The Bushrangers. By Charles Harpur. W. R. Piddington.
Why are you a Christian? Aylott and Co.
The Gentleman's Magazine. J. B. Nichols and Son.
Percy Effingham; or, the Germ of the World's Esteem. By H. Cockton. 2 vols. G. Routledge.
Sports and Adventures in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. By W. H. Maxwell. G. Routledge.
Mark Sutherland; or, Power and Principle. By E. D. E. N. Southworth. John Cassell.
Old Neighbourhoods and New Settlements. By Mrs. Southworth. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.
Raymond De Monthault, the Lord Marcher. By Rev. R. W. Morgan. 3 vols. R. Bentley.
The Napoleon Dynasty; or, History of the Bonaparte Family. Clarke, Beeton, and Co.

LIFE: ITS DANGERS AND DURATION.

The Decline of Life in Health and Disease; being an attempt to investigate the causes of Longevity, and the best means of attaining a healthful old age. By Barnard Van Oven, M.D. Churchill.

Hufeland's Art of Prolonging Life. Edited by Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S. Churchill.
Healthy Skin: A Popular Treatise on the Skin and Hair, their Preservation and Management. By Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S. Fourth Edition, Churchill.

"THE man who is his own doctor has a fool for his physician:" so runs the popular adage; and certainly, to any one having even the most superficial knowledge of the complexity of his frame, there will appear considerable justice in the adage. Ignorant of horology, no man attempts to "set his watch to rights" when it has ceased to go; ignorant of mechanics, no man thinks of mending his own steam engine; but ignorant of physiology and of pharmacy, many men prefer to trust their disordered frames to their own ignorance, rather than to the knowledge, imperfect though it be, of physicians.

But although it is obvious in theory, and confirmed in daily practice, that to meddle with our own diseases is an absurdity; yet nothing can be more unquestionable than the wisdom and desirableness of our having some general knowledge of the laws of health, the observance of which may ward off disease. We can, in a great measure, keep ourselves healthy; for that we need no physician. We can learn general principles which will prevent our machinery from accidents. These principles are not difficult of acquisition and obedience. And surely, if anything in this life be of importance, health is eminently so? No commendation can be too emphatic for good works on such a subject, addressed to the general public: no reprobation too severe for the ignorant and quackish. We have, according to our wont, respected the exigencies of space, and brought together three books on this subject, that we may notify their existence and qualities.

Dr. Van Oven has earned a title to respectful hearing by thirty-five years of practice in an art, of all others the most delicate and difficult; and fitly closes his career by recording its general results, as regards longevity, in a modest and valuable work. We cannot assent to his proposition, that "there is probably no fixed limit to our existence:" a proposition as decisively contradicted by Biology, as by universal Experience. But it is clear that comparatively few attain the limit, few die of old age, and that the general average of life not only is capable of prolongation, but has been notably prolonged in modern times. Let us, however, note the contents of Dr. Van Oven's volume.

The work consists of three parts. 1st. On the Decline of Life in Health. 2nd. On Longevity. 3rd. On the Decline of Life in Disease; or, in other words, on the diseases incident to old age. The first part embraces a rapid, yet luminous, sketch of the progress from Birth to Maturity; a description of Maturity and its duration, in which his fundamental proposition is again expressed:—

"I do not hesitate to assert that the duration of the period of maturity is greatly within our control; and that, although the termination of the journey of human life is absolute and certain, yet that not only the length of that journey, but the manner of its division into various stages, and the degree of ease and pleasure with which we may travel, depend essentially on ourselves;"

and, finally, all the signs and sequences of Decline in Old Age. It was tersely said by the French physician, that "Man commences in a gelatinous, and terminates in an ossous condition:" and Dr. Van Oven sums up thus:—

"The great characteristic of all the changes which gradually occur from early to extreme old age, is consolidation, a diminished plasticity and mobility of parts, increased firmness of structure, and diminished bulk: interstitial fat is then everywhere absorbed; the muscles become stringy and fibrous, and at their termina-

tions ligamentous; cartilages become bony; bones lose their internal cancellous structure; those of the cranium their diploe, and become merely solid masses, whilst the bloodvessels are diminished or obliterated, and hence they become fragile. The coats of the arteries become harder, and lose their tonicity; many of the smaller trunks are obliterated, whilst, however, the veins have become larger and more dilatable than they were in early life; perspiration is nearly at an end, for the skin has become harsh and dry, wrinkled, and discoloured; and even, as in the vegetable world, plants as they grow older become more and more woody, and the sap traverses only the larger vessels, so too in the old man, the circulation is carried on only by the larger trunks, and hence the whole body becomes thinner, firmer, more harsh, more dry, and loses strength and mobility, and the power of repairing injured, or regenerating lost parts. The muscular system has become so weak as to be almost useless. The once powerful man, now unable to stand erect, stoops; the shoulders are raised, and the head falls forward. In walking the spine is much curved; the aid of a strong stick or an able arm is required to keep the body in equilibrium; the step is tottering and uncertain; the spine is curved even when sitting, and the head hangs forward; the hands are unable to grasp any object firmly, they tremble in a palsied manner if the attempt be made, and the command over the movements of particular fingers is very uncertain."

The second part, devoted to Longevity and its causes, is the most interesting and valuable. Hufeland refers to the fact of so great an age as 150 or 160 years having been attained, and sees no reason why the limit should not be extended to 200 years. But we do not comprehend his reason for stopping there. Why not say 300 or 400? Why not, as some have done, believe in the possibility of escaping Death altogether? As soon as you quit fact and biological laws, there is no reason for assigning a limit. Dr. Van Oven is not so clear on this point as may be wished. He says:—

"The tables appended will show above 7000 instances of persons who lived to ages between 100 and 185 years; and the more that these and other similar collections of examples are examined into, the more will it be found difficult to say to what extent human life may endure. It is unquestionably true that many of these instances can only be regarded as exceptions to the general law of mortality, yet they distinctly show that life may extend to a very much longer period than is generally the case; and that if 70 years be at present the usual term of life, and 80 be regarded as an instance of very old age, yet there is good reason to believe that if the attention of mankind were directed to the subject, the duration of human existence might be greatly prolonged; and I do not think it too much to assert that well made and healthy individuals, the offspring of healthy parents, who have attained maturity in a state of health, and live in such a manner as to avoid disease, ought to regard a high degree of longevity as the ordinary rule of mortality, not as a favourable exception to it."

The only way in which we can accept such a statement is in assuming that, having gradually improved the whole stock of human beings, by breeding only from the healthiest and most long lived, and by entirely changing all the deleterious conditions of climate and civilization, we shall naturally raise the standard of vitality. In this form the proposition is acceptable; but to bring it into this form, what a thorough disregard of actual conditions!

In enumerating the causes of longevity, Dr. Van Oven bids us remark, that:—

"Class of life seems as little to be the cause of advanced age. Most of the instances of very long life are to be found amongst the labourer, the pauper, and itinerant beggar; yet the lists contain the names of many noble lords and ladies, and of all conditions between the two. Much stress has been laid upon a country life and the free country air; but I think more than is just. It is true that most of the instances of great longevity are derived from the country, yet many persons attain a very advanced age in towns. We should regard the habits and occupations of the individuals more than their place of residence; and it is manifest that, generally speaking, they will be simple and more healthful in the country than in cities. The tables contain very many instances of longevity among paupers dying in poor-houses in London.

"Rejecting then climate, social position, and place of residence, we must seek for the causes of longevity in what concerns the individual, in his original stamens, in the healthfulness of the parents from whom he sprung, in his habits, avocations, and mode of life; in his immunity from the attacks of diseases, in equanimity of temper, and freedom from great and frequent excitement."

He is thus landed on the real cause of Longevity—hereditary organization:—

"Unless the physical development of the infant be good, it would be absurd to anticipate a vigorous manhood, or a healthful old age. In this respect, unquestionably, 'the child is father to the man;' but there are many gradations from a perfect physical development to that state of imperfection which would render the attainment of an advanced age impossible. Referring again to our tables, it will be seen that a tendency to longevity, or, I ought rather to say, a capability of attaining old age, is clearly hereditary. Thus, it is related of Thomas Field, a labourer of Bexford, Herts, who died aged 102, that his father was aged 104 years, his brother was 95, his uncle 93, and that scarcely any of his family died under 90. P. Marion, a Dutch fisherman, died at the age of 109, his father lived to 107, and his grandfather to 116. The celebrated Thomas Parr lived to 152 years; his son to 113; his grandson to 109; and his great grandson to 124. Two other grandsons, by his daughters, lived 127 years each; and the tables will show many other instances, proving that longevity is in some families hereditary.

"If the importance of breeding animals from a healthy stock be granted, it is surprising to observe how daily in the world all regard to this first requirement for insuring health, happiness, and longevity is neglected. How dreadful it is to observe that in the selection of wives and husbands this, which should be the first, is but too often the last consideration; that wealth, station, beauty, accomplishments, are each in turn sought for and appreciated, without inquiring whether the seeds of gout, consumption, madness, &c., be also a part of the dowry of the bride, or of the possessions of the bridegroom. Surely one would suppose that whilst there is so much and so laudable an anxiety to transmit to offspring honourable titles and distinctions, and accumulated possessions, it would be also a prominent desire to endow them with such a physical and mental development, as would

enable them to appreciate duly their worldly blessings, and to enjoy them for a length of time; but alas! this is not so. As truly as 'that charity covereth a multitude of sins,' so surely do personal beauty, great talents and accomplishments, a coronet, or a large estate, not only cover too many personal and mental defects existing, but completely prevent all anticipations of the evils which may come after.

"Few that have attained longevity have passed a life of celibacy; indeed many of those whose lives are quoted, have been married often; and it is curious that in many instances the man and wife have died within a very short time of each other: thus showing, that whilst in all probability the mode of life adopted was conducive to health, the pleasures of domesticity and companionship were not less so."

We have here a definite point round which to gather the whole argument. When we said, there was a fixed limit to the life of man, our meaning was not, that a certain number of years might be ascertained, circumscribing the life of all men, short of accidents; but that Death being the inevitable residue of the activities of Life (we will not here inquire into the *how* and *why*), a certain limit there must be for every organism—and this limit will, of course, vary with the varying composition of the organisms. Every cell has its definite phases of development and decline. Every flower has its limit of existence; but the *same* limit is not absolute even for similar flowers. In point of fact, we are seeking for a will-o'-wisp in seeking Time as the limit—it is only the *record* of the limit. Death does not depend on Time, but on the accomplishment of certain effects, which take place in Time, but are not influenced thereby. Hence the proposition is, that *Certain organisms have within them a reparative reproductive power greater than others.* This is really the same as Dr. Van Oven's proposition, when he adduces Hereditary Constitution as the cause of longevity; but he will scarcely maintain, that anything like *uniformity* in such constitutions can be expected; we must re-organize the world and obliterate the whole past, before such an uniformity could be attained.

This question of hereditary transmission is so important, that we shall, in confirmation, translate a passage from Béraud's *Physiologie*, just out:

"It is no longer possible to doubt that duration of life is often an hereditary attribute. In certain families, early death is so universal, that very few only of their members, by dint of precautions, escape the doom. The individuals of Turgot's family rarely survived the age of fifty, and he who has made the name famous, on approaching the fatal epoch, although enjoying excellent health, and endowed apparently with a strong constitution, remarked that it was time for him to arrange his affairs, and to finish an undertaking which he had commenced, because the term of years allotted to those of his race was drawing to its conclusion. He died, in fact, at fifty-three.

"Ordinary duration of life is not less an hereditary attribute; the most reasonable expectations of prolonged life are founded upon such being a family inheritance. Rush says he never knew an octogenarian, in whose family there had not been frequent instances of longevity. Upon this assertion, M. Lucas proceeds to examine the duration of human life. He distinguishes average duration of life from individual longevity. Average duration depends evidently upon situation, hygiene, civilization; individual longevity, on the other hand, is independent of these conditions. Instances of it are found in all ages, in all countries, under all conditions, among all races. The census made under Vespasian shows that in one part of Italy there were 65 persons upwards of a century old. In France about 170 are reckoned annually; in England, one in every 3100 individuals reaches the age of one hundred. Everything tends to prove that longevity arises from an inherent vital tendency. This vitality is so peculiar, and so strongly implanted in their nature, that it characterizes their whole organization. They possess generally a kind of immunity from disease. All the functions and faculties of life—sensorial, emotional, locomotive, mental, and sexual—are accomplished, in these individuals, with peculiar energy, regularity, and persistency."

It is, indeed, evident, *a priori*, that as the parents transmit to their offspring the peculiarities of organization, they will also transmit this peculiarity of longevity.

This point discussed, we have to consider the *practical* part of Dr. Van Oven's work—namely, the means of attaining longevity; because, although each organism has a definite limit, beyond which its reparative reproductive power cannot travel, yet, as before noted, very few really attain their own limit, and it is eminently desirable that the means of doing so should be known. This will occupy us in our next article.

AN AMERICAN CRITIC.

Mental Portraits; or, Studies of Character. By Henry F. Tuckerman, Author of "Artist's Life," &c. Bentley.

It is becoming daily more and more of a serious conviction in England, that American literature has passed from its early and imitative bondage, into a freedom of national development, promising the best results. Its works are no longer reproductions of the mother country's forms of thought and expression, but are distinctively American. The consequence is, that we are beginning to regard every new work that crosses the Atlantic with feelings of real curiosity; and, amid the cargoes of rubbish, we find valuable commodities. Here is a volume which cannot, indeed, be recognised as specially American, in anything except, perhaps, the ambitious aim which is *ex post facto* given to it, but it is a volume of elegant literature, very acceptable, come whence it may. It is a republication of various review articles, written at considerable intervals, and subsequently made to stand for a gallery of "Mental Portraits," with this afterthought of a *purpose*—

"It is the delight of naturalists to indicate how the same law asserts itself under widely different circumstances: they point to the leaves and stems visible in fossil remains, to the same botanical organization in the pale flower buried under Alpine snows and the radiant calyx of the Tropics—to the identity of material in the cloud and the iceberg. A similar parallel may be drawn from the history of character; its phases re-appear continually, modified by time and place, yet essentially one and the same. No class is represented by the philosophy of antiquity; no general or special development is stamped on any age, and no individual man has

become memorable—but have their existent prototypes and representatives. Human nature has always been the same."

As a series of "studies," embracing Southey, Boone, Constable, Wilkie, Lafitte, Körner, Savage, Jenny Lind, Leopardi, Jeffrey, Hawthorne, Brockedon Brown, D'Azeglio, Audubon, Washington Irving, and Campbell, it is both entertaining and suggestive. Mr. Tuckerman has an elegant mind, a catholic and cultivated taste, a clear unpretending style, and touches each subject with a graceful completeness, very rare in reviewers, who have a tendency to become ponderous when not fragmentary. It is not easy, in a brief notice like the present, to give an idea of his mode of treatment; we shall borrow, therefore, a passage or two, and let them speak for themselves:—

THE LITERARY ADVENTURER.

"The distinction of civilized society is that human life is systematic, and the natural effect of those circumstances which, in any degree, except an individual from its usual routine and responsibilities, is to induce the impulsive action and precarious expedients that belong to wild races. In the world of opinion and habit I occasionally see those who, goaded by misfortune or inspired by an adventurous temper, break away from the restraint which custom ordains, and by hardihood in action or extravagance of sentiment, practically isolate themselves from nearly all the social obligations acknowledged by mankind. Indeed, every human pursuit may be said to have its respectable and its vagabond followers. In trade these extremes are obvious in the merchant and the pedlar;—in the church, we have the bishop and the field-preacher: and in literature, the author who devotes the leisure that intervenes between the care of his estates and the engagements of fashionable society, to a review, a poem, or a history, and the man about town who lives by his wits, and whose dinner is contingent upon a happy epigram or a successful farce. Even when fortune and rank obtain, natures imbued with a vagrant or adventurous spirit will cut loose from social bondage through mere waywardness or courage, as if there were gipsy blood in their veins, or the instinct of heroism or discovery in their hearts.

"The enthusiasm of misanthropy made Byron a pilgrim, that of reform drove Shelley into exile, and that of sentiment won Rousseau to a picturesque hermitage. How much of human conduct depends upon the source whence is derived the inspiration or the sanction of existence! Family pride leads to a constant reference to the standard of external honour; the desire of wealth to a keen adaptation of all occasions to interest; while the consciousness of having nothing beyond personal resources to look to for advancement or happiness, breeds in earnest minds an independence of mood almost defiant. To this we attribute, in no small degree, the recklessness of Savage. Every circumstance of his life tended to encourage self-will. He found neither in his birth, his fortunes, nor the incidents of his daily experience, any vantage-ground for confidence. Fate seemed to ordain between him and society a perpetual enmity. Hence his dauntless egotism; driven from the outworks of life, he fortified the citadel. Sure of no palladium but his genius, he held it up as a shield against the arrows of scorn, or thrust it forth as an authentic emblem of his right to demand from others the satisfaction of his wants.

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"The genuine literary adventurer is, indeed, a kind of social Ishmaelite, pitching the tent of his convenience as necessity or whim suggests. It is his peculiar destiny to 'take no note of time,' for he falls into any incidental scheme of festivity at morning, noon, or night, joins any band of roisterers he may encounter, takes part in the street-corner discussions of any casual knot of politicians, and is always ready to go to the theatre, the club, a private domicile, or a coffee-house, with the first chance acquaintance he meets. He hangs loose upon the skirts of society. If the immediate is agreeable, he scorns change, and hence will prolong his social visits to the infinite annoyance of those who keep regular hours. Where he breakfasts, dines, or sleeps, is problematical in the morning. As the itinerant musician goes forth to win entertainment by his dulcet notes, the vagabond man of genius trusts to his fund of clever stories, his aptitude as a diner-out, his facility at pen-craft, or his literary reputation, to win upon the sympathies of some humane auditor, or chain the attention of the inquisitive, and thus provide for the claims of physical necessity.

"His appeal is threefold—to the benevolent, the curious, and the vain; and in a large city, with the *entrée* of a few circles and places of resort, it will be, indeed, a strange hazard that deprives him wholly of these long-tried expedients. His agreeability makes him friends which his indiscretions at length weary; but as he generally prefers to do all the talking himself, he gradually ceases to be fastidious, and when he cannot fraternize with a scholar or a gentleman, contents himself with inferior society. The consciousness of superior gifts and singular misfortunes, soon blunts that delicacy which shrinks from obligation. He receives a favour with the air of a man to whom consideration is a birthright. He is, as Landor says of woman, more sensitive than grateful; borrows money and books without a thought of returning them, and although the most dependent of beings, instantly resents the slightest approach to dictation as a personal insult. He is emphatically what Shakespeare denominates a 'landless resolute;' considers prudence too mean a virtue for him to adopt, and industry a habit unworthy of his spirit. His wits are his capital, which he invests, day by day—now and then, perhaps, embarking them in a more deliberate venture, by way of polishing his tarnished escutcheon. Equally exempt from the laws of sentiment as those of economy, he makes unconscionable drafts upon the approbation and the malignity of others, by inditing panegyrics and lampoons.

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"It is peculiar to this class of men to be unconscious of the diverse attractions of talents and character. Their egotism prevents an habitual recognition of the important fact that the entertainment afforded by conversational abilities and personal sympathy are two very distinct things. Because their talk is listened to with avidity, their wit productive of laughter, and their reputation of deference, they deduce the erroneous conclusion that individually and for themselves an interest is awakened; whereas, in most cases, the charm is purely objective. By men of the world, genius of a literary kind is regarded in the same light as dramatic, artistic, and juggling cleverness—the result is not associated with the person; it is the pastime, not the man that wins. A conviction so wounding to self-love is not easily adopted; and, as a natural consequence, the deluded victims of social applause continue, in spite of mortifying experience, to look for a degree of consideration, and demand a sympathy which it is absurd to expect from any

but the very liberal and the naturally kind, who confessedly form the exception, not the rule, in general society. Yet in actors, authors, and artists who possess great self-esteem, this error is the rock upon which the bark of hope invariably splits."

The effect of circumstance, as moulding mental tendencies into certain shapes, is ingeniously indicated in the following sketch of

PROVINCIAL LIFE IN ITALY.

"Provincial life in Italy can scarcely be realized by an American except through observation. However remote from cities, or sequestered in location, may be a town in this country, if not connected with the great world by railroad and telegraph, the newspaper, the political representative, and an identity of feeling and action in some remote enterprise or interest, keep alive mutual sympathy and intelligence. But a moral and social as well as physical isolation belongs to the minor towns of the Italian peninsula. The quaint old stone houses enclose beings whose existence is essentially monastic, whose knowledge is far behind the times, and whose feelings are rigidly confined within the limits of family and neighbourhood. A more complete picture of still life in the nineteenth century it is difficult to imagine, than many of these secluded towns present. The dilapidated air of the palaces, the sudden gloom of the narrow streets, as one turns into them from the square, where a group of idlers in tattered cloaks are ever engaged in a game or a gossip, the electrical effect of a travelling-carriage, or a troop of soldiers invading the quiet scene, at once inform even the casual visitor of the distance he is at from the spirit of the age. With the decayed air of the private houses, their worn brick floors and primitive furniture, contrast impressively the extensive and beautiful view usually obtainable from the highest windows, and the architectural magnificence of the church. We are constantly reminded that modern amelioration has not yet invaded the region; while the petty objects to which even the better class are devoted, the importance attached to the most frivolous details of life, the confined views and microscopic jealousies, or dilettante tastes that prevail, assure us that liberal curiosity and enlarged sympathy find but little scope in these haunts of a nation devoid of civil life, and thrust upon the past for mental nourishment.

"It is, however, comparatively easy to imagine the influence of such an environment upon a superior intelligence. Recoiling from the attempt to find satisfaction in the external, thus repressed and deadened, the scholar would there naturally turn to written lore with a singular intensity of purpose; the aspirant would find little to tempt him from long and sustained flights into the ideal world; and the thinker would cling to abstract truth with an energy more fond and concentrated from the very absence of all motive and scope for action and utterance. It is thus that we account, in part, for the remarkable individuality and lonely career of Giacomo Leopardi, one of the greatest scholars and men of genius modern Italy has produced."

This essay on Leopardi, like all the others, is pleasantly written, but scarcely dips beneath the surface of the subject, and never once touches the great questions it involves. Indeed the whole volume is somewhat too purely of a literary cast for permanent effect.

We have no space to touch on details, but there is one correction we will make room for, on account of its passing interest. At p. 141 Mr. Tuckerman, amid his rapture on Jenny Lind, reports that "Consuelo" is said to have been founded on her character and history. Unfortunately "Consuelo" was written before Jenny Lind was heard of; moreover the artist who *did* furnish George Sand with that exquisite type was Viardot, one of George Sand's dear friends. And the reader who follows "Consuelo" with this clue, will soon detect the original suggestions of Corilla and Azoletto, in Grisi and Mario; but we warn him that in all three instances, they are but suggestions, not portraits.

Portfolia.

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

UNDER THE YEW TREES.

ONE of my Fair Readers recently expressed a wish that I should go into the country, because when in the country I am usually grave with sentiment, and she likes me best when I am sentimental. It is pleasant to be liked by such readers in any mood, but not even *that* reward can induce the mood; and although I have been away, amid autumnal scenes, I have not been in the least sentimental. Languid, if you will, luxurious, and indolent, but not tender. I do not find that Sentiment will travel with a disaffected liver; Theology is far more congenial to the bilious mind; and hence it is that I, who have never opened a book of Theology (don't quote the Fathers against me,—I read them for their playfulness!), have found myself vexing the most intricate problems with my doubts, and spending day after day in amicable polemics under the yew trees.

Let me "sketch in" the company of combatants. There is, first, our portly and sonorous host, known all over his county as one of the buttresses of High Church; beside him sits that gay and dashing Irish officer, conqueror of hearts, carrying off Beauty from under my very eyes! Note him: for under the gay and careless exterior you will find a rigid and devout Catholic. Next to him sits a dishevelled philosopher, whose talk is of "tissues," and who worships in the cathedral of Immensity (which I have my private reasons for believing to be a magnificent description of the Nowhere!). Beside him there is a mild Baronet, whose views are not very "pronounced," but we may call him a *damp* Churchman. Finally, there is my own patristic self. Imagine these various Churches and Credo's thus variously represented, and you may form some idea of the tone and arguments of our disputes; or, let me not call them disputes, but commingings and comminglings of spirits.

Reflecting thereon, and observing how Religion appeals in various ways to various minds, so that one can say, without suspicion of sarcasm: This man has an historical Religion, that man an artistic Religion, a third a speculative Religion, a fourth a "respectable" Religion (hoping, on account of "his connexions," that he will be "visited" in the next world by the first circles of archangels), while a fifth has simply a practical Religion, unvexed by speculative doubts; reflecting on this, I was tempted to ask, Is it not a necessary consequence of our various natures? Religion is the solemn sanction each man gives to his Ideal, and thus the variation in Ideals necessarily issues in varied religious forms.

How vain to demand uniformity where natures are so multiform! How vain to seek agreement in opinion, when minds are so diverse and errant! Let us rather look for unity there only where it can be found—in feelings of reverence and love. Sitting under those trees, canopied by the ever-wondrous, ever-saddening sky, which stretched in mystic lengths away from us, we—men by nature different, by training antagonistic, but fashioned by common humanity for sympathetic union—did there daily illustrate the simple moral: for underlying all the delicate differences and wide discordances of *opinion*, there was but one *feeling*, rising up from the recognition of the great Mystery—a feeling of amity, linking together in kindness the various threads of human diversity, and making each dear to each by reason of our common enjoyments, common infirmities, common aspirations. This man believed that God has *planned* each detail of the Eternal Life of which we note the passing moments; this other believed that God *lives* the Life,—but, like children linking hands as they look out on the awful ocean sweeping in from distances inscrutable, both agreed in feeling the greatness inexpressible, and the mystery inaccessible, of that eternal Life in whose presence they stood; and feeling this, the one man did not hate, did not vex, did not malign the other!

And this was the moral I wrought out from under the noble Yew Trees.

VIVIAN.

The Arts.

ART AND ART-MANUFACTURES IN THE DUBLIN PALACE.

[SECOND ARTICLE.]

COLERIDGE defined painting as the intermediate somewhat between a thought and a thing. The life of German art may not be judged by this imaginary rule. It is a comprehensive ideal, combining with its high gift of intellectual force a thorough material representation, worked out in its minutest portions with a conscientious integrity, which is not found in even the most careful productions of other schools. It is impossible to forget one of their good paintings. Life and imagination have been made such firm allies in the schools of Belgium and Prussia, that the ideal gains by admixture with the real. The imbecile beauty that Carlo Dolce painted appears a style from which the refined sturdiness and strength of their minds, and commanding mastery attained over noble forms and grand heads, will ever keep aloof. There are spurious artists whose imaginations are as dim and misty as the legend of the Black Forest, and they paint works replete with horrors dark as the Blocksburg. These their committees of selection excluded from the coveted honour of receiving a place in the galleries of art in the Industrial Palace, but the precaution has not availed. Resolved to prove their existence and unworthy rejection, they have taken refuge in the Berlin department, and the Hibernian Academy Exhibition.

Not telling a story—the great faculty of English painters—but describing a scene, is the peculiarity of German art. It gives powerful delineations of lofty things, but is altogether deficient in the happy incidents and momentary illustrations; the sympathy with evanescent varied beauty, wherein much of the perfection of our own school lies: the unity, not the possible occurrence of the instant, is the chief aim. Millais adds a charm to the "Proscribed Royalist" by making a butterfly alight on the gnarled tree. The German remorselessly puts such trivial adornments aside, as detracting from the intellectual influence of his work—he would despise the commonplace aid of fancy. He holds in his hand the aerial atmosphere, vanishing light and shade, and gleams of colour, and he can dispense with quick sympathy. Perhaps, too, his fancy is slow, his organization imperfect in catching at picturesque prettiness. His accessories belong to "teacup times," and the kitchen utensils must be left to Holland and her "Interiors." They rarely make mistakes, either in the choice of subjects, or their treatment; no occasional fault with British artists, who produce historical compositions with a perplexing multitude of figures, generally accompanied by a key, by which industrious people may enlighten themselves—and no doubt diligence has its reward—the while, perhaps, indolence is not altogether discontented with ignorance, and probably dares to think a picture is not to be studied with a dictionary like an unknown tongue.

Yet the sublime religious element so universal in their compositions, proves that art knowledge is more sedulously cultivated in Brussels and Berlin, than London and Paris; were it otherwise these painters would not depend so confidently on its impressiveness. Symbolism and tradition are a dead thing with the ordinary throng of visitors to our art exhibitions, primary as their position is in sacred representations, and British artists too frequently overlook the essential of conventional costume. Under the title of a "Holy Family," an English artist has sent a pretty idiotic nursery maid in pink wrapper and Scotch plaid kerchief, bonding

over a Christ and St. John, who carry reed crucifixes and wear sashes! Confessedly the subject is not well treated in the foreign schools, but the severer test of Raphael and Andrea del Sarto confronts it in the gallery of Old Masters.

"Judith with the head of Holophernes," by Thomas, of Brussels, is freshly and beautifully rendered. The widow of Manasses is more a noble Hungarian lady than a Hebrew, dark haired and majestic, not decked with the jewels put on to tempt the Assyrian general. She is drawn to her full commanding stature, the face upturned; a consciousness of the courageous deed which has rescued her people from the tyrant its leading expression; an ejaculation of thankful prayer on her lips. Her form still and untroubled by woman's fears or weakness. All the fear concentrated in her waiting woman, who receives the ghastly trophy of liberation for Bethulia in a portion of her garment with a panic of nervousness, shrinking and trembling at the grand powerful head which Judith extends, yet sustaining it by the hair. Her white robe exposed by the action of resting the sword, the steel glistening through the stain of the blood, yet not offensively dripping with it, the hilt concealed in the rich crimson mantle falling on her arm. Each exalts the other into stronger relief, but the repose of the picture is a little disturbed by the too heightened contrast between the startled maid and the stern serenity of the Jewish heroine.

In the pursuit of effective scenes, night appears to claim popularity: Vanhombergen's "Moonlight" embodies a marine view of rare beauty. The sky is lit with a large moon reflected in the calm sea enclosed by dark rocks, and rippling waves quivering in silver light, the sandy beach stretching round in an annular bar, and the waves plashing into a curl of white foam on the shore.

There are generally two classes of cultivated admirers of art, the connoisseur who requires less from the imagination, and those who view effects through the medium of fancy. With these pictures will naturally obtain different reputations. Charles Ischaggeny's "Harvest Field," is a painting for enthusiasts, from the graceful incidents, the perfect handling and aerial command of the atmosphere, the sunshine and shadow. Artists and connoisseurs will make a longer pause before his "Plough," although the field furrows, the delicately painted sky, the yoked horses, and the plough on which the labourer has hung his red coat, his dog resting on the turf, and a few wild flowers peeping through the grass form the composition. No bright sunshine or varied colour, and yet there is not a more truthful or perfect piece of painting in the collection.

The wonderful power of Achenbach's "Pier of Ostend during a Storm" appeals to every mind, successfully, but his "Pantaleone in the Island of Sicily" likewise comes into the class which, wanting the character of life and motion, wins less applause. Pantaleone still in the purple sunset, the evening clouds hovering near; on the mountain the mournful cypress trees, a few faint figures passing beneath them, and the glow resting on the half-darkened city: does not strike the crowd in any degree commensurate with its beauty, but is very lovely in the estimation of the student. Some things are sought in art, difficult and well nigh impossible, which these Germans have, nevertheless, supplied; expression of mixed emotion is accomplished in the "Gretchen in Kerker," of Cornelius Bezas. Mad, murmuring snatches of song from her wandering brain; stealing into her face the partial recognition of Faust, her returning love, her shrinking dread of the long fiend-like form of the spectral vision, (his short drapery, of a mystic shadowy blue, terminating each way with red,) overpowering her weak faculties. The quick turn of the head, the piteous question, entreaty, and conviction, in the light flickering wildly through her eyes, and terror passing, in a shiver, over her form. Faust helpless to retrieve his own safety, in the sight of the ruin he had made, and reckless of the danger he risks, his face pale and shrunken, from the unquenched thirst of intellect, the terrible throes of remorse in his countenance. Mephistopheles, careless of their agony, striding in, with his warning of fleeting time, as though a soul is nought to the "chilling breeze" on his horses, and anxiety to rescue his prey hardly changes the haggard sneer. Retzeh has not achieved this.

De Keyser's picture is altogether different in its equal mastery of expression. Sufferance, not passion, is the object. St. Elizabeth is secondary to the afflicted group round which the story gathers. The poor invalid is borne on a litter, to the porch of the Wartburg Castle; her shoulders are sustained upon the knees of the ragged boy behind her; the crutch has slipped from her nerveless fingers, one hand hanging powerlessly over the knee which supports her,—the other is laid tenderly upon the body of the dying child, on her lap: about its head a cloth, and a few rags upon the pulseless form. Much suffering has attenuated the poor frame, scarce hidden by the thin covering, falling sadly around her; a feeble smile flits over the gentle patient face, as the Landgravine gives a piece of money to the healthy, garrulous, wrinkled old woman, who has told the tale which needed no deeper eloquence than the languid forehead and wateriness of the weak eyes, to speak her sorrow. Blooming in all the joyousness of childhood one little child, untouched by sickness, stands beside her mother, and looks up at the saint, shyly and wondering. Most dexterous is the command of the texture and colour of the skin, the changing flow of the blood, the transitory traits of illness in the two sick women, life hardly lurking in the extended form of the dying child, and that which has sunk its heavy swollen head on its mother's bosom. Even the repulsive men, who complete the beseeching crowd, are given with the same subtle mastery.

In the Dublin Exhibition practical art so mingles with æsthetic, that there is no strangeness in the transition. Decorative art is not extensively so much as admirably represented. Paper-hangings are principally of the subdued colours which would be chosen for walls intended for pictures; the designs chaste; no barbarisms of pale blue glossy satin, but soft full greens, dulled crimson, violet and grey, gold and silver running lightly through the scrolls. The better designs are French, executed in England and Ireland. Jeffrey and Allen, of London, exhibit the best

collection, which is a compilation of well adapted designs; the enclosing borders are ancient Greek friezes, which are not incongruous with bunches of wild flowers and mosaic combinations. Etruscan friezes, with ornamental painting, in imitation of wood and marble, and carvings after Gibbons, from the establishment of Mr. Boylan, of Dublin, equal the English manufacture. In tasteful arrangement Messrs. Boyle and Hugh, of Glasgow, have great merit, with novel design, although not altogether new in application. The section of a room is exemplified in mural decoration, the fire-place, doors at each side, and panels of flowers, covered with glass, terminating in oval moulding, all managed with close attention to harmonious effect.

As subordinate to art, the carpets, whether in Turkey, velvet, tapestry, Brussels, Axminster, or Irish, are skilfully composed of subdued colours, interwoven with uniformity in arabesques and mosaics rather than flowers. This is a marked improvement. It is uncomfortable to tread, even lightly, on the close imitation of horticultural beauty which recent fashions strewed on our floors, spreading imaginary destruction at every step. Not content with this, the same fashion has put us to the pain of committing insect murder by walking over butterflies. Happily a taste more in accord with place and appropriateness is arising. Upholsterers have discovered that furniture requires a ground of softly blended, cool colours, to give due effect, and that too distinct patterns offend the eye. No one would carpet a picture gallery with the brightest pelargoniums, tulips, and the Victoria Regia, but ladies still demand brilliant ornamentation for their drawing-room flowers, and abundant specimens of florid carpets are hung like arras in the galleries of the Industrial Palace.

The curtain hangings are by no means so judicious; elaborate commonplace outnumbers chaste simplicity. One suit of amber satin is upheld by infantine supporters standing on white and gold pier brackets, the modeller having bestowed intense effort on making the strain on their nude forms from the burthen of the silk cords as perceptible as possible, enlisting our philanthropy on behalf of the poor little innocents, who need spirited public interference to ameliorate their condition. At the top of this extraordinary composition modish Cupids, veiled in lace by sylphs, support the drapery depending from the cornice. There may be found people who will commend this absurd waste of ingenuity, but no gorgeousness of effect can atone for want of fitness in the design to the purpose to which it is applied. Needle-work in pole-screens and couches betray the usual fatuity of feminine invention; a graceful drooping inclination on the part of worked barley is conspicuous, with a tendency to construct a new system of ornithology in chenille. The chairs of raised work are but pictures,—the weight of a lap-dog would spoil them. Some honourable exceptions there are of a close attention to nature, and by the use of more obedient materials, artistic excellence is ensured.

The Irish woods, the richly veined arbutus, which, though but a shrub in England, grows to trees of great size in Killarney, and readily polished yew, are extensively applied to the better class of furniture. The yew is more especially devoted to carving, and the romance of Irish history is much in esteem. One side-board of circular form is illustrated with the punishment of inhospitality. The marine portion, where Granuawaile rows to her barge with the heir of Howth, is finely executed, but the Earl and Countess, in despairing pursuit (the Abbey bells which rang the alarm are in the Antiquities Court), have little capability for volition, and the unity of the story is destroyed by the introduction of classic satyrs hiding in vines at the ends. A sideboard in native oak, exhibited by Messrs. Fry, of Dublin, is carved, and not too elaborately carved, with emblems of country sports, dead game, and fish. One in mahogany by Fairclough, of Liverpool, is illustrated with the seasons, a boars' head forming the centre decoration; on the front rail, strung on a whip, are a hunting-horn, fox's brush, and wine-flask, the consoles carved with fish, game, and fruit. These very appropriate dining-room designs are admirably executed. Some ecclesiastical thrones of the Louis Quatorze style are meritorious, and specimens by a self-taught peasant show a wild genius and untamed extravagance in combining as many thronging horrors as Leonardo da Vinci's shield.

Library book-cases are of useful descriptions, but receive the title of Elizabethan, on the sole claim of the heads of Shakespere, and "large brow'd Verulam," carved in alto relief. Library chairs, principally in the prevailing fashion of Irish yew, faulty in no respect but in being luxuriously inimical to study. The pavillion furnished for the Queen with blue divan couches, mirrors, thrones, cabinets, and consoles for flowers, is, from arrangement, the department most favourable to Irish taste. But in the Furniture Court, although imported articles may excel in the skilful use of the tools, the home designs are novel, chaste, and national. In the centre-couches for the drawing-room, called "Marchioness," composed of two sofas, the ends two *fauteuils*, one manufactured in Dublin, has a centre bracket, where a glass vase of flowers adds considerable grace of effect. This "marchioness" is rosewood carved, and gold-coloured silk damask. Plate-glass is not yet a branch of Irish manufacturing industry. Mirrors of magnificent dimensions have been largely imported. The frames are in most instances the work of Dublin artisans, and the glass is in some applied as a ground for gilt tracery; the surface of the mirrors covered with fanciful carvings. Squirrels eating nuts, owls blinking under foliage, monkeys at mischievous frolics in the branches, and boars walking stately through the trees. Simply wrought and not new designs surround the large mirrors, the ordinary eagles and swooping vultures surmounting fruit and vines. It is singular that where much less demand exists for picture frames than elsewhere, the Irish artisans should have brought them to surpassing excellence. Whether simple or elaborate they are equally creditable, none possessing the startling brightness of part silver part gold, so prevalent where a more refined taste should prevail, and frequently, as at Windsor Castle, the frames are thrust more conspicuously on the observation than the pictures they enclose, and to which they ought to be subordinate.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

THE mortality in London from all causes for the week ending the 17th September, was 949; in the former week 1015 deaths were registered. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52, the average number was 1053, which, with a correction for increase of population, becomes 1158. The deaths returned for last week are therefore 209 less than the corrected average, and 66 less than those recorded in the previous week. Cholera was fatal to 16 persons, 9 males and 7 females, showing an increase of 9 fatal cases compared with the preceding week. Twelve deaths from cholera occurred on the north and 4 on the south side of the Thames, 9 in children under 15 years of age, 6 in adults of 15 and under 60, and one at the age of 71 years. The number of deaths by cholera in corresponding weeks of the 10 previous years was 11, 3, 1, 2, 6, 7, 839, 2, 7, 8, and from the week ending July 9th in the present year, 3, 6, 9, 4, 19, 10, 18, 16, 7, and 16 fatal cases were registered. Four of the 16 deaths are described as "Asiatic," varying in the duration of the attack from 7 to 48 hours.

The deaths from diarrhoea were 131, being a decrease of 53 on the previous return, and 14 below the corrected average of the corresponding weeks of the past 10 years.

Last week the births of 816 boys and 690 girls, in all 1506 children, were registered in London. In the eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 the average number was 1310.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.887 in. The mean temperature of the week was 57.6 deg., which is slightly above the average of the same week in 38 years. The highest temperature of the week was 73.0 deg., and occurred on Saturday; the lowest was 40.5 deg., and occurred on Wednesday. The direction of the wind was variable, at the average rate of 51 miles a-day. The electric condition of the atmosphere was positive on every day of the week except Monday.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 27th of August, at the Manor-house, St. Hilaire, Canada East, the wife of Major Campbell: a son.
On the 8th of September, at the Grove, Hackney, the relict of the late John Spickett, Esq., of Clifford's-inn, solicitor: twin daughters.

On the 10th, at 150, King's-road, Brighton, the wife of Captain C. F. Kirby, late of the Madras army: a daughter.

On the 16th, at Elstree, the wife of the Rev. Thompson Podmore: a son.

On the 17th, at Guildford, the wife of Mr. Frederick Keene: twin boys.

On the 17th, at 16, St. Mary's-road, Canonbury, the wife of Joseph Thomas Cooper, F.R.A.S.: a son.

On the 19th, at No. 72, Eccleston-square, Pimlico, the wife of the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, Head Master of the City of London School: a son.

On the 20th, at Coston Rectory, Melton Mowbray, the wife of the Hon. and Rev. John Sandilands: a daughter.

On the 20th, at No. 12, North Audley-street, Grosvenor-square, the wife of Captain James Metcalfe, Bengal Army: a daughter.

On the 20th, at 12, Upper Harley-street, the wife of the Rev. J. W. Reeve: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 14th of September, at Charlton Church, Mr. Heinrich Blum, of Hyde-vale, Blackheath, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. August Faber, Carr-villa, Blackheath.

On the 15th, at St. Martin's-in-the-fields, Mr. William Barratt, of Eldon-road, Kensington, to Caroline Sophia, third daughter of Mr. James Barrack, of Spring-gardens, Charing-cross.

On the 15th, at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, Thomas Heathcote Stisted, Esq. Twelfth Royal Lancers, son of the late Colonel Stisted, King's Own Light Dragoons, to Camilla Sophia, eldest surviving daughter of Edwin Stacey, Esq., of Maidstone.

At Cleppington, near Dundee, on the 15th, Henry, eldest son of H. S. Boase, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., Claverhouse, Dundee, to Mary, third daughter of James Thomas, Esq., of Cleppington.

On Thursday, the 15th, at St. George's, Leicester, the Rev. Edwin Robert Birch, of Norland-terrace, Notting-hill, London, youngest son of the late Rev. Samuel Birch, D.D., prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, Gresham professor, and rector of the united parishes of St. Mary Woolnoth, and St. Mary Woolchurch Haw, London, to Jane, youngest daughter of the late Richard Tibbits, Esq., of the Manor-house, Hecknoe, Warwickshire.

On the 15th, at Stapleton Church, Bristol, Mary Eliza, youngest surviving daughter of the late Major Coffin, to Charles Henry Martin, Esq., Ninety-seventh Regiment, youngest son of John Martin, Esq., late Major in her Majesty's Ninety-ninth's Regiment.

On the 15th, at St. Mary's Richmond, Alexander William, eldest son of the late Andrew Dods, Esq., M.D. R.N., of Bath, to Louisa, the only surviving daughter of the late T. W. Bateman, Esq., of Jungapore, Bengal Presidency.

On the 15th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Mr. G. C. Tulloch, son of the late Rev. William Tulloch, of Dallas, Morayshire, N.B., to Eliza Ann, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Budgen, engineer, Tunbridge-wells.

On the 19th, at St. Saviour's, Jersey, Charles Thomas Poingdestre, Esq., Pernambuco, to Frances Maria, fifth daughter of Rear Admiral Le Geyt, O.B.

On the 17th, at the parish church, Woolwich, R. A. James, youngest son of the late Henry Rouse, Esq., of the East India House, to Matilda Caroline, only daughter of Colonel Chalmer, Royal Artillery.

On the 19th of March last, at Hobart Town, Van Dieman's-land, Edward Amand, son of Stephen Wright, Esq., of Lockleys, South Australia, to Lucy Anne, daughter of William Windsor, Esq., of Hobart Town.

On the 17th, at the parish church, Hove, Edward, son of James Cazenove, Esq., to Louise, second surviving daughter of Captain Gustavus Evans, R.N., of Lansdowne-place, Brighton.

On the 22nd, at the Greek Church, London-wall, Lucas Mavrogordato, Esq., of Manchester, to Marietta, daughter of Pandia T. Ralli, Esq., of 30, Finsbury-circus, London.

On the 22nd, at St. James's, Paddington, Frank Chaplin, Esq., Captain in the Third Dragoon Guards, to Marianna, third daughter of W. J. Chaplin, Esq., M.P., of 2, Hyde-park-gardens, and Ewhurst-park, Hants.

DEATHS.

On the 7th of June, accidentally drowned on his passage to India, while bathing, Charles Adolphus, Midshipman on board the *Gloriosa*, and second surviving son of Cipriani Potter, Esq., of Baker-street, Portman-square, aged 17.

On the 22nd of June, at Sitang, Burmah, of fever, brought on by the active discharge of his duties while serving with the Madras Sappers and Miners, Lieutenant Alexander Mackay Harris, Nineteenth Regiment M.N.I., youngest son of Alexander Harris, Esq., Stratford-green, Essex, aged twenty-three.

On the 3rd of July, at Rio de Janeiro, aged seventy-nine, Manoel Antonio de Paiva, Esq., for many years Consul-General in London to the Brazilian Government.

On the 13th of July, on his passage from Batavia to Samarang, commanding the ship *Candahar*, Captain John Goss, of 1, Hope-villas, Canonbury-park, London.

On the 26th of July, at Bombay, William Walsh Farquharson, Lieutenant First Regiment Light Cavalry (Lancers), aged twenty-two, second son of Charles Farquharson, Esq.

On the 26th of July, at Bahia, from yellow fever, Thomas Francis Power, youngest son of the Rev. Edward Power, of Atherstone, aged nineteen.

On the 24th August, at Trinidad, of yellow fever, Lieutenant-Colonel Paxton, Sixty-ninth Regiment, son of the late Sir William Paxton, of Middleton-hall, Carmarthenshire, aged forty-nine.

On the 2nd September, at Venice, Mr. Adolphus Asher, bookseller, of Berlin, aged fifty-three.

On the 10th, drowned while bathing, at Stoke-by-Nayland, Edward Mark, son of Captain S. T. Dickens, R.N.

On the 13th, aged sixty-seven, John Faithful Fortescue Wright, son of Lieutenant John Elworthy Fortunatus Wright, R.N., of Lesoe Castle, Cheshire, and grandson of the celebrated Captain Fortunatus Wright, and great-great-grandson of John Evelyn, the well-known accomplished Author of "Sylva," &c., of Wotton, Surrey, and nephew of the late Sir John Evelyn, Bart.

On the 13th, by the upsetting of a boat, off Eeclerigg-crag, Windermere, two cousins, Ralph, aged twenty, of Trinity College, Cambridge, only son of Ralph Anthony Thicknesse, Esq., of Beech-hill, member for the borough, and Thomas, aged nineteen, Lieutenant Third Royal Lancashire Militia, eldest son of John Woodcock, Esq., of the Elms, banker, all of Wigan.

On the 15th, at Belton-house, Lincolnshire, John Cust, Earl Brownlow, aged seventy-four.

On the 16th, at Greenwich Hospital, Admiral Sir Charles Adam, K.C.B., Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

On the 16th, at the residence of her uncle, Henry Barnewall, Esq., Richmond-hill, Lucy Nugent Hill, only daughter of the late Captain St. Leger Hill, of the Twelfth Lancers.

On the 16th, at Southwick, Hants, Julia Caroline, only child of Mr. Charles Grimani.

On the 17th, at Homburg, of gastric fever, Francis Beetham, Esq., of Sea-lawn, Dawlish, Devonshire, and of the Temple, London.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, September 23, 1853.

ALL the last week the markets have been getting flatter and flatter; yesterday Consols touched 94½, the lowest fall that they have seen since 1850; and the aspect of things to-day is far from encouraging. There has been a corresponding drop in all heavy railway shares, whilst other adventures have been partially neglected. There was at one time a kind of "spurt" in Nouveau Monde shares, on what information we know not; but they have relapsed into languor again.

French shares have fallen in some instances 2l. a share. Paris and Strasburg, owing to a report of new shares being about to be issued to the original holders, have experienced a considerable rise. Land Companies and Chartered Banks have been, with the other small fry, comparatively neglected. The Bank has done nothing this week, but it is pretty well understood that they will "put on the screw" another ½ per cent. next Thursday. Money is therefore decidedly tight, and the Bears are ominously preponderant.

London and North Western Shares are little better than above par, and as this line may be looked upon as the "Consols" of rails, it is a tolerably fair idea of the depreciation of railway shares.

London and North Western, 100½, 101½; Great Western, 80, 81; South Western, 74, 76; Midlands, 57½, 58; Caledonians, 51½, 52; Berwick, 61, 63; Leeds, 64½, 65; Dovers, 60½, 61½; York and Norths, 44, 46; Great Northern, 72, 73; Eastern Counties, 11½, 12½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 60, 64, x. d.; Oxford and Worcester, 37, 39; Great Southern and Western of Ireland, 102, 104; Paris and Lyons, 16, 16½ pm.; Strasburgs, 38, 38½; North of France, 33½, 34½; Centrals of France, ½, ½ pm.; Canada Trunk, 5, 4 dis.; Upper Indian Scrip, par to ½ pm.; Australian Agricultural, 29, 31; Peel River, ½, ½ dis.; North British Australian, ½ dis., par.; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½, 1½; Aqua Frias, ½, ½ pm.; Anglo Californian, ½, ½ pm.; Nouveau Monde, ½, ½ pm.; Carson's Creek, ½, ½ dis.; Mariposas, ½, ½ dis.; Mariquitas, ½, ½ dis.; United Mexican, 3½, 3½. The market leaves off flatter all round.

Consols, after having been done at 94½, improved to 94½, ½, and leave off at 94½, ½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday, September 23, 1853.

The reports of the deficiency in the yield of the new crop of Wheat increase rather than diminish, so that though the weather has been favourable for the harvest during the past week, a further advance of fully 2s. per quarter has taken place since last Friday; and this advance has been exceeded in most of the country markets. Barley and Oats are also 1s. dearer, and the latter is reported less favourably of, both in England and Ireland, than heretofore. Beans and Peas are exceedingly scarce, and 2s. dearer than last week.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Con. Ann.	95½	95½	95½	95½	94½	.....
Consols for Account	95½	95½	95½	95½	94½	.....
3½ per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 5 per Cents.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans., 1860	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock	250	253	.....	251	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	5 p	.....	.....	3 p	.....
Ditto, under £1000	.....	.....	.....	5 p	3 p	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	2 d	3 d	3 d	3 d	8 d	.....
Ditto, £500	6 d	3 d	3 d	.....	3 d	.....
Ditto, Small	.....	0 d	3 d	3 d	3 d	.....

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	100½	Ecuadorian	4½
Brazilian New 4½ per Cts.	97½	Sardinian 5 per Cents	92½
Mexican 3 per Cts. Acct.	.....	Spanish 3 p. Cts. New Def.	.....
September 30	24½	Acct., September 30	22½
Portuguese 5 per Cents.	.....	Dutch 2½ per Cents.	63½
Converted, 1841	46	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	97

AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS' FAREWELL
NIGHTS at the MARIONETTE THEATRE, Lowther Arcade, Strand. Decidedly the LAST SIX DAYS of the Exhibition of these Wondrous Beings; they positively appear in Dublin on the 3rd October, by Special Invitation to attend the closing of the Great Exhibition; their stay in London cannot, under these circumstances, be prolonged; Saturday, 1st Oct., is positively the Last Day.

Admission, One Shilling.

Open—Eleven till One, Three till Five, and Seven till Ten.

DIFFICULT TEXTS and TEXTS MIS-UNDERSTOOD.

TO-MORROW EVENING, the Rev. WILLIAM FORSTER will deliver the Eleventh of a Series of Twelve Discourses, at the Temporary Free Christian Church, Hawley-crescent, Camden Town. Col. i., 15-19. Subject—"Christ under God—the founder of spiritual society, not the creator of matter and mind." On Sunday, October 2nd, the Last of the Series:—1 Cor. xv. 24-28. Subject—"The Kingdom of Christ, its origin, its triumph, and its end, when the Son will be subject, and God will be supreme."

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Fine Gunpowder	4 0 "
Choice Coffee	1 0 "
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Good GREEN TEA at	3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. "
Prime GREEN TEA at	4s. 0d. "
And delicious Green Tea at	5s. 0d. "

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