

Alfred Edmund Galloway, of Wellington Street, Strand.

The Scarlet Letter.

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

Contents.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—		PAGE		
Imperial Parliament	1202		A Character that Cannot Afford to be Libelled	1209
The War	1205		Election Intelligence	1209
Lord Derby's Accuracy in Quotation	1206		Limited Liability	1209
Mr. Bright, M.P., and the War ..	1206		Our Civilisation	1209
Continental Notes	1207		Postscript	1210
Brutality of a Cotton-lord	1207			
An Injured Angel	1208			
The New Metropolitan Commission of Sewers	1208			
The Militia	1209			
PUBLIC AFFAIRS—				
Arbitrary Government	1211			
Whence the Foreign Legion is to Come	1211			
The Austrian Treaty	1212			
OPEN COUNCIL—				
Last of the Preston Strike	1213			
The Marylebone Election	1213			
LITERATURE—				
Summary	1214			
Bombardment of Russian Finance	1215			
PORTFOLIO—				
Prince Edward's Christmas Gift	1218			
COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—				
City Intelligence, Markets, Advertisements, &c.	1220-1224			
			Chaucer	1215
			Civil Law	1216
			Barnum	1217

VOL. V. No. 248.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1854.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

News of the Week.

THE Government has passed its two War Measures, and further damaged its character: these are the facts of the Parliamentary week. The debate last night was the epilogue of the farce of the fortnight; the point was that this Government, which got majorities for its measures, and could afford to make no communications to Parliament, seems thoroughly contemned and distrusted in the House of Commons. Mr. Bright's masculine invective was cheered by *all* sides, the immediate Ministerial benches excepted. At the same time this talking for talking sake—a debate followed by no real division, and occasioned by no proposition, the declamation without action—does not present the Independent portion of the House in a position very much more respectable than that of the Government. The forcible speeches, however, may lead to action after Christmas. Messrs. Cobden and Bright will no doubt have last night made their "mark" on public opinion; and their addresses, together with that of Lord John Russell, in which he indicated that the Government is earnestly attempting to patch up a peace, will lead to the impression that the war *may* soon end. All the Governments are fearing a revolutionary war, and are seeking to stop in time.

Excepting in reference to the bill of Mr. Gladstone's about the Savings Bank Funds, the Parliament has been altogether a Council of war; the two Houses interchanging topics, now the Militia Bill, now the Foreigners Enlistment Bill. The Lords have this week had the former measure under consideration, and it has passed under their protest. Lord Derby's objections to it were a matter of course; it is his business in life to object to everything proposed by the coalition. But Lord Grey's criticism was of value, for, of all the statesmen of the aristocracy, he seems to be displaying, at present, the highest intellect and the loftiest patriotism—as a thing distinct from partyism. He objected to the bill on the same ground on which he stood in objecting to the establishment of a Militia: that it was to create a force which could be created in a cheaper and more efficient manner—by adding to the number of regular soldiers. He has a belief in the "recruiting power" of the country; and though only volunteer militiamen will be sent abroad, he appears to think that we could have got the same number in a more direct method, while keeping faith with those, on whom a moral screw is now used, who enrolled into the Militia with no thought of things more serious than home parade. But this is arguing the matter theoretically. We have yet to see what Militia force will be got together for foreign garrison duty. We do know that the recruiting for the Line has, as yet, been a failure; for, despite all the boasting of "1000 a

week," and the ardent patriotism, it is a fact that the sum Parliament voted last session for troops has unhappily turned out to be a sum in excess—that is, we have not raised the 40,000 extra men. Facing that fact, it is not logical in Lord Stanley to talk of "the resources of a people of 26,000,000." The case is probably this: the class that in ordinary circumstances would enlist in the Line is in the Militia, and will now make its appearance in the volunteers. But, undoubtedly, also, the Irish "exodus" has thinned the ranks of that class who carried the English standard through the perils of the last war. Furthermore, the palpable madness of enlisting into an army whose generals carry it into Crimean expeditions, necessitating battles of Inkerman, must have deterred all but the wildest of the "boys" despised by the manly Mr. Herbert. And generally that sound class represented by the "Clerk" who writes to the *Times*, and which would raise so highly the *moral* of the army, is waiting for temptations to enlist—the temptation of a career in addition to daily pay. Motives of this latter character are being at last comprehended by the statesmen who are not convinced that the Duke of Wellington was infallible; and among the very first of the liberal gains derivable from this war is coming a Reform Bill for the army.

The debates on the Enlistment of Foreigners measure have been interesting, and, intellectually, worthy of Parliament. The speeches of Lord Palmerston and Mr. Sidney Herbert on one side, and those of Sir Bulwer Lytton (who had a complete Parliamentary success) and Mr. Milner Gibson on the other side, were true debating speeches—keen, logical, and full of point. Lord John Russell was tediously feeble, here and there accidentally forcible, his second speech—on Tuesday he favoured the House with two, as if he were the Ministry—being the best. Mr. Disraeli distinguished himself by a prolixity of style which suggests either that his powers are failing, or that he has a great contempt for his audience. And he risked his position as a patriot by his parallel between respectable Cinias and genteel Lord Raglan—Syracuse and Sebastopol. Lord John Russell remarked that Mr. Disraeli seemed to gloat over the prospect of England's misfortunes; and there is no doubt that if it were a party benefit, Mr. Disraeli would not regret if the British army was driven into the sea. When, in the great Palmerstonian Foreign Policy debate, Mr. Disraeli ventured on a prediction similarly sinister—that England, isolated in Europe, would occasion a League of Cambray—Mr. Roebuck sneered that it was “no Englishman” who cherished that thought. The fact is that Mr. Disraeli is not an Englishman, and in that sense his disinclination to entrust English honour to foreign mercenaries is sufficiently ridiculous. He is a cosmopolitan gentleman, who takes advantage of the want of a country to cultivate enlarged views. He has

written books elaborately satirical of the institutions of England, and ingeniously constructed to obtain Christian tolerance for Jews, on the express ground that they crucified Christ. There is therefore not the slightest disguise about Mr. Disraeli; and if the Country and Protestant party trust him and follow him, no one has a right to complain, and all that his political enemies have to do is to regret that England's recruiting power is so thoroughly used up that she has to hire Germans for her soldiers, and Italian gentlemen for her statesmen. Mr. Disraeli has further been unfortunate this week in his tricky misquotation of Wellington for passing purposes of debate. But Mr. Disraeli quotes Wellington as he quotes Cinias—they are both "foreigners" to him.

Ministers, by their modified explanations last night, threw some light on the Austrian Treaty and the Prussian Mission of Baron Von Usedom. But both points are discreetly left in some confusion. And it may be observed that this reticence is in strong contrast with the out-spokenness of the Czar. "Would not the Emperor of Russia be much obliged to me if I told you," sneers the Duke of Newcastle, in answer to a question as to forces put by Lord Derby. But the Emperor of Russia tells us. He is raising a new army of 800,000 men.

Affairs in Sebastopol are in progress. Some sorties have been made and repulsed. Both sides are receiving reinforcements. Both sides are suffering from the winter—the Russians, no doubt, most. The Russians are preparing fire-ships to scatter in our fleet. The Allies are preparing grand rockets to fire into the harbour—possibly, to set fire to the Russian men-of-war. Soon there must be something decisive. It will be, probably, when Omar Pacha's army has been landed.

Mr. Gladstone is suffering from his constitutional want of candour. He brought in a bill to amend the administration of finances in connexion with Savings Banks, and the funds go down one per cent., in perplexity as to his real meaning. It is a pity that a man so nobly above all his competitors in genius and honours allows himself to be thus misunderstood. Why not have boldly stated to Europe, in the present sitting, his whole financial policy?

Lord Clarendon is suffering from an old sin in his Irish administration. The sin was but a silliness; and he is alike condemned and laughed at, not because he bought *Mr. Birch* and the "*World*," but because *Mr. Birch* and the *World* were not worth buying. We see that nearly all the London morning papers (the *Morning Advertiser* and the *Morning Herald* are vigorous exceptions) are enthusiastically Ministerial, and yet the honourable and high-minded British press, fearful of its character being lowered by the abolition of the stamp, is not in the least shocked.

Sir James Graham is suffering from a blunder in making a bad bargain with the Prussians. Too much, however, has been made of the matter.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

FOREIGN ENLISTMENT BILL.

In the House of Lords on Saturday this Bill was moved through the stage "report." The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH renewed his opposition, and the LORD CHANCELLOR renewed the defence, with respect to the legal and constitutional objections. Subsequently the alteration of 10,000 men instead of 15,000 was agreed to, and the third reading was ordered for Monday. On Monday some sharp discussion occurred, Lord ELLENBOROUGH recapitulating the alterations which had been made in the bill in its progress through the House. If we were to have at all this foreign legion why could it not be trained in Malta or Corfu as well as in England? Why bring it to England for drill, England not being the nearest way or the nearest place to the Crimea? He said that her Majesty's Ministers seemed to distrust the fidelity of these foreign troops if placed in the Mediterranean garrisons, and he could not understand how they could be trusted in the Crimea. If they revolted in Corfu, might they not desert at Sebastopol? He wished to know whence these troops were to come? He adhered to his opinion that there were no troops in the world like British troops. A chain cable formed of wrought and of cast iron links might look equally good in all its parts, and might act equally well in fair weather, but when the strain of the storm came the cast iron links would be sure to give way. His wish was that the British army should be composed in all its parts of wrought iron. There was a sense of personal dignity about an Englishman which he believed did not exist elsewhere. An Englishman felt if he disgraced his colours that he would be hooted when he went home—not a woman would look at or speak to him. It was different with foreigners. If they turned their backs they but disgraced the arms they had assumed, and they would go back to the banks of the Weser, or the Oder, or the Elbe, as much respected as they were before. He wanted to know what consideration we were to give these German princes for thus obtaining the services of their subjects? If these petty German princes were willing to sell the blood of their subjects for money—and he could not see why else they should give their consent to this system of enlistment—then he wanted to know what difference there was between this traffic and that carried on in the kingdom of Dahomey? Could that be right on the banks of the Weser which was denounced as the last atrocity on the banks of Dahomey? He concluded by announcing that his object in thus opposing the measure was to force the Government to draw their forces entirely from English subjects. He wished to drive Ministers out of that course they seemed to have adopted, of making war without a reserve, and of conducting a campaign without means of transport; a system which he condemned as leading only to victories which were bloody and fruitless.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE characterised the objections that had been raised against the bill as exaggerated and absurd, and declared that all the dangers which had been attributed to it would vanish like spectres upon investigation.

The Earl of DERBY again remarked upon the constitutional peril and national degradation which would follow the passing of the present bill; but, after the vote of the previous night, declined to ask for another division on the measure.

Lord HARDINGE said there was no parallel between the alteration in the Articles of War in the present case and that to which Lord Ellenborough had referred, of the Indian army. Originally, corporal punishment existed in the Indian as in the British army; that was abolished by Lord William Bentinck, who substituted other punishments, which did not work well. He approved of the present measure, as an attempt to get the largest force they could at the earliest possible period; and though he had every confidence in the army now in the Crimea, and in the spirit of the British people, still he could not think that would justify him in resisting this measure.

Earl GREY adverted "to the manner in which peers opposite had allowed their passions to overpower their judgments." What but a feeling of this kind could have induced the noble earl (the Earl of Ellenborough) to compare the object of this bill with the slave trade on the coast of Africa? The constitutional argument also, he thought, was only an example of that vague kind of language which men were in the habit of using when they wished to give a measure a bad name, without knowing exactly what to say. He ridiculed the "wrought-iron argument" of Lord Ellenborough, and said there never was an army composed throughout of troops of equal quality, and that even some British regiments were considered superior to others. He thought this House and the House of Commons would take upon themselves a fearful responsibility if they refused to

Ministers the means they asked for to carry on this great war; and he rejoiced, therefore, to learn that it was not intended to divide the House against the bill.

Earl GRANVILLE supported, and the Earl of MELMESBURY opposed, the bill.

Lord REDESDALE wished to know how these foreign troops were to be officered, but the required information was not given.

The bill was then read a third time, and on the question that the bill do pass,

The Duke of NEWCASTLE agreed to strike out the 5th clause, relating to the Articles of War, which he said had been copied from former bills.

The clause was struck out accordingly, and the bill in its amended form passed.

The second reading was moved on Tuesday in the House of Commons by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, who recapitulated at some length the arguments employed on its proposal, and stated that unless it was adopted the present Minister could not carry on the war with the confidence of the country. It was very strongly opposed by

Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, who commenced by observing that neither he, nor any gentleman on that or either side of the House, need express their willingness to support the Government in any measures for carrying on a war in which the honour of England, and civilisation itself, were identified. But he thought the honour of England would be sacrificed if we were content to earn our laurels by proxy. Honour was not so intolerable a burden that we should get foreigners to relieve us of part of the weight. It was the spirit of nationality upon which we depended more than upon wealth or extent of population; and that spirit of nationality was about to be damped. The presence of foreign soldiers paid by the people's taxes, and lodged in barracks declared too small for our own troops, would excite much discontent—and, besides, it was admitted that more men are being enlisted than can be drilled and employed by the Secretary-at-War. Our soldiers would never resign into the hands of mercenaries those standards which had been so gallantly planted at Alma and so gloriously defended at Inkerman. The admission that a protracted war was expected implied a grave censure upon Government, which should have foreseen and provided for it. In the last nine months they ought to have collected a sufficient number of troops to enable them now to dispense with the beggarly instalment of 10,000 mercenaries; and the Alma ought to have shown them that reinforcements were immediately needed. Why was it necessary for these professed warriors to be brought to England to be drilled? Why did not Government exercise its privilege, and send them from their own countries direct to the Crimea? The bill itself was a model of carelessness. It was not understood in all its bearings until they had been compelled to look at it a second time; and, though they professed the measure to be so important, they blundered or did not care about the difference of 10,000 or 15,000 men. A very exact precedent for such a measure should be found. That of 1804 was none. Then the King of England was elector of Hanover also, and British and German interests were closely identified. It was said that we were under obligations to the Germans for military instruction; but times were changed, and the Germans could scarcely have improved on the charges of the Scots Greys, the Enniskilleners, or the Light Brigade. He thought we might look at them with great affection for what they had taught us in art and literature in time of peace. Between ourselves and the whole of the German people there was so close an affinity of race, of commercial interests, and of all that belongs to intellectual interchange, that he should consider it as something monstrous—as something out of the ordinary course of nature—if Prussia, descending from that front rank among the nations to which she was raised by the genius of Frederick the Great, were to refuse her co-operation in rolling back from the frontiers of civilised Europe the advancing tide of Russian barbarism. (Cheers.) But if we are to have an alliance with the great German people, in Heaven's name let it be in a way that is worthy of them and us. Let us have nations openly for our allies, and not the scum of the earth. He called upon Government, if they saw their way to the restoration of Poland, to say so manfully, but not to enlist Poles unless they could benefit them. They had never blamed Ministers for their reluctance in going to war. What they blamed was, that Ministers had not frankly explained to the Czar the feeling of this country in opposition to his schemes, which, he believed, would have been a better security for peace than the compliments they had lavished on the moderation of that potentate. The boundless resources of this country, and the magnificent exordium of the Queen's Speech as to the vigour with which the war was to be carried on, with this creeping, crawling, begging proposition for foreign levies, reminded him of a gentleman who was boasting to a stranger in a coffee-house of his extensive and valuable estates, his diamond and gold mines, and then winding up all by saying, "By-the-by, I have got a

little bill at the bar; you don't happen to have the sum of 10*l*. about you?" If he were to presume to give advice on this question, he would say, go to the market of war—the best market was at home—and buy the best article at any price; it would be the cheapest in the long run. The mere mechanical difficulties of the drill would soon be got over by our skilful officers; and for the rest, our recruits, even before they joined our ranks, had gone through a discipline far more precious than the three years' holiday service of the foreign soldier. They had been trained from their cradles to hardy habits, to patient endurance of fatigue, and, above all, in an indomitable conviction in the strength of their own right arm. These were the habits which made soldiers invincible; without them, armies might be faultless in the drill and valueless in the field. He concluded, amidst the general cheering of his party, by moving that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

Mr. M. MILNES considered the present a European war, and would consequently support the measure.

Mr. ADDERLEY urged that recourse should be had to our colonies, in preference to foreign countries, for soldiers.

Mr. WATSON supported, and Mr. BALL opposed.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON said that the noble lord had concluded his speech with a very important announcement, to the effect that if the bill were defeated the Government would feel it necessary to resign their offices.

"He felt, after that announcement, they approached the question under considerable difficulty, and he did take upon himself to protest against the system of overawing the people of this country. (Cheers.) By telling them that if they did not, after a few hours' previous notice, make up their minds upon an important legislative measure—a constitutional measure—the Government would feel at liberty to retire from office. He could not understand why resignation was to be the consequence of the defeat of this bill. Had they not seen, during the last session of Parliament, important measures of domestic policy, involving the principles of a great party, and yet the Government defeated, but at the same time considering that they could honourably continue to administer public affairs? Then it was not fair, upon a measure of this character, which is after all but a minor part of the proposals that have been made for the carrying on of this war, that the rejection by the House of this legislative proposal, involving a principle, is to necessitate the resignation of the Government. He, in voting, whichever way he might think proper to vote on the measure (laughter), should vote in reference to its merits and his own conscientious convictions. He felt there was a great principle at stake in the bill—a principle that he valued more even than the resignation of a Government. He wanted to know whether it was consistent with a sound view of public law that Parliament was to make provisions for the Government of a country to communicate with the subjects of some neutral state. Are such Governments to communicate with Governments? He would appeal to any honourable member in the House whether in the law of nations it be a sound principle to separate peoples from their sovereigns, and to give power to the Crown to negotiate with individual subjects of neutral Powers without saying one word as to the recognition of their Governments? Had we not a law upon our statute-book that made it a misdemeanour for any one to come here, and, without the consent of the Queen, to enlist troops to serve in foreign countries and in a foreign war? It was not consistent with sound principles that private subjects of a State should make war against a country when their own country is at peace with that country; and it appeared to him that they could not give their sanction to the converse principle. The House could not recognise such a principle. Not a word had been said about any such treaties having been entered into with any foreign Government. Not a syllable had been said about any alliance or understanding; but her Majesty was merely to be empowered by this bill to throw her recruiting officers into any foreign country or any neutral state, to enlist forces to carry on the war with Russia. This was either to be done with the consent of those neutral Governments, or against their consent and without their knowledge. If it was to be done with the consent of those foreign Governments, then he maintained that they would forfeit their neutrality. There would then be no necessity for the bill; for these Governments would be belligerents against Russia, and they were bound to declare war openly, and in the face of Europe. They would then be bound to enter into an alliance with this country, and to send their forces as their contingent in support of the common war. Such a course of proceeding would be consistent with the law of Europe. If, on the other hand, it was to be done without the consent of those Governments, or against their wishes, then he maintained that the British Parliament ought not to sanction any such course of public policy. The Government of Switzerland, and other Governments throughout Europe, had already passed laws—municipal laws—to prevent the carrying on of war by means of mercenaries. The noble lord the President of the Council might quote

the precedents of past times, go back to the middle ages, and tell the House of precedents of Indians with their scalping knives and tomahawks; but as civilisation advanced, nations and Governments were endeavouring to mitigate the painful practices with which war was carried on; and he (Mr. M. Gibson) maintained that the whole course of public treaties, and municipal law in particular states, had been to utterly condemn the system of carrying on war by paid and hireling mercenaries, who would serve any side, and could not be said to have any interests or sympathy in that particular war. If it were pointed out that some power, or some foreign nation, was willing to allow its subjects to be enlisted by this country for the purpose of making war with Russia, and yet maintain its neutrality—which was a principle contended for by some—then he asserted that it was a dangerous principle to lay down. If this was the principle of the bill—if Russia were to hire privateers from the United States (*cheers*), would they not be told that any country might let out its men and forces without forfeiting its neutrality, and that a British Parliament had laid down this principle? (*Cheers*.) He had heard it said that a country may lend its troops to carry on war with another country without forfeiting its neutrality, provided there was some existing treaty antecedent to hostilities, and which had not been made with reference to the particular war then pending. If this was the case, where was the country with which this nation had such a treaty that it was entitled to go into that country and raise troops for the war with Russia? That country ought to be named, for it could be no secret. It ought not to be difficult to be found. He said that either Government had no treaty with any such country which entitled them to enlist its subjects to carry on the war with Russia, or if there were no such country with which treaties of this kind were in existence, they were about, by this bill, to embark on a course of policy most dangerous to the future interests of England—to multiply wars beyond all precedent, and to involve persons who desired to be neutral, in spite of themselves, in existing hostilities. They might involve some small neutral State in a war with Russia, and would incur obligations to send troops to defend that small country, and have other duties besides those of defending the Ottoman empire; or they would have to leave that country to take care of itself, which had brought on it the indignation of the Czar by lending its troops to carry on the war. A case of necessity, no doubt, was endeavoured to be made out by the noble lord who moved the second reading of the bill. He told the House that this country was engaged in a war with a great military power, and that it had with it a just cause and the sympathy of the world, but that it wanted numbers. The noble lord appeared to forget that they had a great military ally. The noble lord forgot to mention the Ottoman Power, with its immense forces. He (Mr. Milner Gibson) could not believe that two great countries like England and France with the forces of Turkey, were reduced to such a state that they were dependent upon the importation of a diminutive supply of German mercenaries. No member of Government had given a sufficient explanation to the House to justify him in giving his support to the bill. He believed that the measure was unsound in principle, and calculated to be injurious to the permanent interests of the country, and had come to the deliberate conclusion that it was his duty to record his vote against this bill, and to use every parliamentary means in his power to prevent it passing into law." (*Cheers from the Opposition benches.*)

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE opposed the bill.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT replied to Mr. Gibson, and justified the threat of resignation.

Lord STANLEY thought it absurd that the population of twenty-six millions could be exhausted by the enlistment of 200,000 men. If the British recruits were too young, the Germans—the disbanded soldiers whom the Government hoped to obtain—would be too old. As for the threatened resignation, he wondered at that, from a Government which had calmly borne the loss of the Reform Bill and the Education Bill.

The bill was then supported by Sir J. FITZGERALD.

Lord PALMERSTON made an elaborate defence.

Mr. DISRAELI then urged the inutility of the measure as the support was not wanted. The noble lord appeared to forget the alliance with the greatest military nation in the world. He then paid a considerable tribute to the French and to their Emperor, and explained that the English troops did not object to fight with foreigners, but they did object to fight with mere mercenaries. He then read various extracts from the Duke of Wellington's despatches, for the purpose of showing how useless mere foreign recruits were. The French had a foreign legion in the Crimea, one member of which deserted to the enemy, and, by his information, occasioned the battle of Inkerman. The hon. gentleman concluded by saying:—

"Since the expedition against Sicily by the Athenians, I do not know that there ever was an expedition from which so much was expected, or upon which so much was staked. There is, unhappily, in the commencement of both these expeditions, too much similarity. The schemers were arrogant, boastful, and over-sanguine. There were too many generals in the Sicilian

expedition—there was too little cavalry. There was a winter campaign, and there was no reserve. When gentlemen go into the country in a few days—I understand we are to be absent a month—there may be moments when the battue is exhausted, and when there may be a frost (*a laugh*)—I recommend gentlemen to refresh their memory, by turning to the pages of Thucydides. I recommend them to read the despatch of Nicias to the Athenian Assembly, when he says, 'Men of Athens, I know that you do not like to hear the truth, but understand this—you sent me out to be a besieger, but, lo! I am besieged.' Now, sir, we know what was the end of the Sicilian expedition. May that Divine Providence that has watched over the inviolate island of the sage and the free, save us from a similar conclusion! But, at least, let us do now what the Athenians did even in their proud despair. They sacrificed to the gods, and appealed to the energies of their countrymen. We are at a moment not, I believe, of equal danger—we are in a situation which I pray may end in triumph, but still a situation of doubt, of terrible anxiety, even of anguish—we bring in a bill in order to enlist foreign mercenaries to vindicate the fortunes of England." (*Loud cheers.*)

After some feeble opposition from Mr. MUNTZ and Mr. DEEDES,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL reviewed, in a somewhat angry manner, the arguments of the Opposition, and complained bitterly of the "ingenious" manner in which Mr. Disraeli had misquoted the Duke of Wellington. He then made more quotations which were intended to counterbalance the opinions of the Duke expressed in the former selection. He then frankly admitted that the Government had been occasionally mistaken, but expressed his conviction of ultimate success.

The House then divided, when there appeared, for the amendment, 202; against it, 241; majority against it, 39. The bill was then read a second time, and committee fixed for the following day.

The discussion was resumed on Wednesday.

Mr. LIDDELL contrived, at great length, to say nothing which had not been said before against the bill—with the exception that Germans had brought cholera into Liverpool on their way as emigrants to Canada.

Mr. RICH had felt bound to give his vote in favour of the bill, but he must carefully guard himself against being supposed to have supported the measure merely because it went to the employment of mercenary troops. Had he placed entire confidence in the explanation of the objects of the measure that was given by the Secretary-at-War, he would hardly have been prepared to vote in its favour. He considered that the Government were tongue-tied, but he voted for their measure to show that he had faith. As an instance of having faith, the hon. gentleman further explained that every military office in the Ministry should be filled by a Minister who had a majority of public support, and that was not the case with a single Minister in any way related to the War Department. He thought every Minister should change his department with a colleague.

Mr. DRUMMOND hastened to save Ministers from their friends. He could not help suspecting that the bill was, in Newmarket language, "a dark horse"—that all was not fair and above board—that some ulterior measure was concealed behind it. He was not opposed to the employment of foreign auxiliaries with the consent of their sovereigns, but he had no faith in the fidelity of men whose oath of allegiance would be sworn to a shilling a day. He suggested that the measure should be postponed till after the recess.

Sir WILLIAM VERNER and Mr. OTWAY opposed the bill.

Mr. WHITESIDE further opposed it in a speech which was characterised by Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, who replied, as one of those forensic displays with which Mr. Whiteside knew so well how to create an effect for the moment. Neither arguments contained any new important points.

Mr. COBDEN said:—

"Although I protested against sending out our men to fight the battles of Europe upon land, although I protested against the objects of our continental policy in fighting those battles, and although I think that the expedition to the Crimea is about the rashest of any of which an account is to be found in our annals—and that is saying a great deal—yet the nation having willed that 30,000 of our fellow-countrymen should go 3000 miles off to invade the empire of Russia, I say that the nation is bound to assist those brave men in the Crimea. But if you were to put it to our countrymen who are rotting in such misery on the heights of Balaklava, what would they say of the aid you propose to send them? Would they ask for mendicant Germans to rescue them from their present difficulties? No! they would ask for their own countrymen, and I cannot help thinking that this proposal, among other disadvantages, will be accepted as no compliment by those men whom you are proposing to serve. But beyond this, it appears to me that you are, in the face of the world, holding out a signal of distress, *suing in forma pauperis*, proclaiming a sort of national bankruptcy in men and in courage, in proposing, in the first year of the war, to go and raise recruits among foreigners."

He thought the measure looked as if fervour for the war was failing, and asked, if troops were wanted, where was the reserve of which Government talked.

"The emigration from Germany to the United States consists generally of grown-up men and women with their families, of communities of labourers carrying with them their clergyman and their doctor, who have booked themselves upon the Rhine for Cincinnati or Buffalo, or some other place in the far West. Can anything be so puerile as to dream of intercepting these people, of stopping them on their way through England, and inducing them to go to Sebastopol? It appears to me that even if you pass this bill there is no guarantee whatever that you are going to get the men whom you want to enlist; but I join with the hon. gentlemen who oppose this measure upon moral grounds, even if you do succeed in carrying it into effect. What is it? The opinion of most people would sanctify the practice of war, and make the profession of arms one of the most honourable pursuits of man. What is the reason of this? Why, it is assumed that men fight for a cause, that they are actuated by love of home, devotion to the country, or attachment to a sovereign; these are the sentiments that hallow the pursuit of arms. But what motive have these men whom you endeavour to hire out of the back slums of the towns of Germany? They can have no pretensions to fighting from any moral motive whatever; they are deprived of every ground upon which you can justify war, and, as they want the motives which I have described, there is just the difference between them and an ordinary soldier fighting for his country that there is between a hero and a cut-throat. It is wholesale assassination to employ them. Not to go over the arguments which have been used so abundantly by other people, I will only ask whether you are really going to fight the Emperor of Russia, with his 800,000 armed men, upon his own shores, when you say you are obliged to seek help from abroad before you have hardly got into the fray? I think, the moment you have landed an armed force in an empire like Russia, 3000 miles off, you must be assured that, unless you are prepared to put forth energy such as this country never put forth before, you must have taken a step which will lead inevitably to disaster and disgrace. Was it a light thing to land such a force upon the shores of an empire like Russia? There is no other country the territory of which it would be so difficult to invade and occupy permanently. I once used a phrase which has been a good deal abused, and has caused much amusement, and I dare say will do so again. I was speaking at a public meeting in 1849 of those who threatened us with an attack from Russia, and my words were these:—If Russia were to attack England or the United States, or any other great maritime Power, they would fall upon her like a thunderbolt, and crumple her up in her own dominions by means of their shipping. Have we not done so by means of our shipping? The moment our ships appeared did not the fleets of Russia disappear? But if you attempt to fight Russia on land, you must be prepared for a very different state of things from that which you contemplated, and it is reducing your efforts to a most disproportionate proportion—it is using the strength of a dwarf for doing the work of ten giants—to peddle over your Foreign Enlistment Bill to enable you to go abroad and get aid to carry on the war. This House is in danger of losing its character for independence, and for being the real great council of the nation, if it permits itself to be sent back without one word having been said with regard to the prospects and the conduct of the war. If I may judge from the communications I get from Sebastopol, you cannot be doing a greater act of kindness to the army than entering into a discussion of that question, and, at all events, they will have the gratification which, from the course our debates have hitherto taken, they can hardly have now, of knowing that the representatives of England have not separated without giving some attention to the unparalleled miseries under which they are now literally rotting."

Lord JOHN RUSSELL was very much surprised that the same arguments, which had been so often disproved, should still be urged in opposition to the bill. He repeated that many measures had been taken besides the contemplated Foreign Enlistment. Since the landing in the Crimea, 11,500 more men had been sent as reinforcements. Other regiments in Mediterranean garrisons would follow, and their place would be supplied by militia.

Lord C. HAMILTON said, the objection was, not that this was the only measure proposed by the Government, but that it should have been concealed till the last moment.

Mr. DANNY SEYMOUR asked,

"While they were besieging, or rather only half besieging, Sebastopol, what was this fleet of fifty-four ships-of-war doing which conveyed their army across the sea, and which was pronounced one of the greatest naval armaments that ever appeared upon the waves? At this very moment there was every kind of produce going in and out of every Russian port in the Black Sea, except that kind which we wanted, viz., bread-stuff. He had been informed by English gentlemen who had establishments at ports in the Black Sea that cargoes were going out of those ports, and that in return

here were brought back those materials and that wealth which were necessary for carrying on the war against us. The principal part of the profits derived from the existing commerce in the Black Sea was passing into the hands of the Greeks, because the English merchants, when they heard of the establishment of a blockade, were foolish enough to put confidence in the Government, and to believe that a blockade would really be established. No English house there had entered into any business speculation, or shipped any produce for our shores; but the Greeks, more astute, and looking with more impartial eyes at the Government that held the reins of power in this country, after a short time finding that no blockade really was established, disbelieved the Government, and began to enter again into trade, and up to the present hour they had continued the ordinary shipments that English merchants had ceased. It had been well said by a French writer that a war on a great scale became a war of budgets. All the signs of weakness had begun to be shown by Russia; the Emperor had found the same difficulty as that found by his first antagonist, Turkey—the difficulty of raising money. This had recently been shown by M. Léon Faucher, in a very damaging article published by him in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, describing the real financial position of Russia, how weak her resources were, how much she would require in order to enable her to carry on the war, how her loans had all been rejected, and how her finances could not hold out for more than one more campaign such as that of '54. When we saw those signs of weakness it became our duty to press on that weak point—not to confine ourselves to the blockade of Sebastopol, but to take care that no shipments should be made at any Russian port. It was unfortunate that we had not taken possession of the straits leading into the Sea of Azoff, for in May last they were defended only by a few invalids. Every part of the Russian munitions of war all came down the Don and the Volga, and were shipped by the Sea of Azoff to Sebastopol, which was only about 100 miles off. It would have been easy then to have cut off the Russian supplies; but since that time they had fortified the dépôt at which they debarked their stores brought from the interior. The Government must be careful what part of Germany they got soldiers from, for he had seen thousands of wretches sent from the central parts of Germany as colonists who were an object of thorough contempt to the inhabitants of the countries they were sent into. The German nation three centuries ago had a struggle with their monarchs like the struggle of the people of England two centuries ago with Charles I. The result of that struggle, however, was different—in England, it was the people who were victorious; in Germany, it was the kings. Prior to that time the German people were animated by as great a spirit of liberty as ourselves; but since that they had degenerated both physically and morally. And the fatal system of hiring mercenaries had done a great deal towards that degeneration. If men belonging to that unhappy race were brought before the Russians, they would hardly be worthy of being chased off the field by Russian bayonets."

Mr. PHILLIPS thought that the Executive could judge of the matter better than he could—he should, therefore, support the bill.

Mr. ALCOCK could not consider the bill the only alternative. He mentioned moral force as compared to physical force in the army, and urged that the Caucasians would fight with any nation against Russia.

Admiral WALCOTT considered that the introduction of foreign soldiers would tarnish the honour of the country.

Some utterly irrelevant remarks closed the debate for that day.

The debate on Thursday was resumed by Mr. CONNOLLY, who criticised the opposition favourably, and thought Lord John Russell and the Secretary-at-War had made a pitiable exhibition. When Government were asked for explanations, the Secretary-at-War or Lord Palmerston mystified them with details. He objected, in very violent language, to the introduction of German mercenaries.

Mr. COLLIER said the only question was whether this measure, which he had rather not adopt, was necessary or not. The Government asserted it was, the Opposition that it was not. Which had the best means of information? The Government, although they might have reasons for withholding them. The Commander-in-Chief and Lord Raglan deemed this measure requisite, and he thought he should incur a most fearful responsibility if he refused to the Government a means of carrying on the war.

Mr. NEWDIGATE observed that, of all troops in the world, mercenaries were the most liable to corruption, and Russia was prodigal of treasure for such a purpose. If an emergency existed, the Government might in less than four months transport to the Crimea a body of disciplined troops from India, with no Russian sympathies. He opposed the measure because it was futile in itself, and calculated to prevent the country from putting forth its energies while an obvious resource was neglected.

Mr. FRESHFIELD suggested whether, as the argument had been fairly worn out, and the principle of the bill had been affirmed by the House, the question of going into committee should not be at once brought to issue.

Mr. DISRAELI justified the conduct of his party in the course they had previously followed, but suggested that the bill should then be allowed to pass the stage of committee, all further opposition being reserved for the third reading.

After a few words from Lord J. RUSSELL, Mr. PACKE, and Mr. BRIGHT, the House went into committee, with the understanding that there was to be a debate on general policy last (Friday) evening.

Mr. L. KING then proposed that the old system of half-pay for the foreign troops should not be continued. They should be paid well at once.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT explained that half-pay was not intended, but he thought pensions for wounds desirable. Foreign troops would have no claim on the Patriotic Fund.

Mr. HENLEY inquired about the wives and children of the enlisted, to which Mr. HERBERT replied that, as far as possible, single men would be chosen. The wives of married men might precede them to the colonies.

Mr. HENLEY said, as sure as fate the country would be overrun with their wives and children calling for maintenance.

In answer to Captain KNOX, Mr. HERBERT stated that in the last war the officers were principally Germans.

Mr. OTWAY suggested that many of the half-pay officers should be employed, to which Mr. HERBERT replied that nearly all who were fit were already in active service. With respect to quartering the men that must be left to the Executive.

After a great deal of discussion, during which Lord JOHN RUSSELL assured several members that there was no intention of billeting the troops, all clauses were agreed to, and the bill was "reported."

MILITIA BILL.

On Monday the Militia Bill went through committee in the House of Commons. On Tuesday it was read a third time and passed, and carried into the House of Lords, when the Duke of Newcastle, in moving the first resolution, suggested that it should be read a second time on Thursday, and passed through committee the same evening.

The second reading was moved on Thursday by the Duke of NEWCASTLE, who detailed briefly the merits of the bill. It was highly important that, in the spring, Government should be able to send to the Crimea those regiments now on Mediterranean service. The object of the bill was to supply their place by militia, indeed, they had already anticipated the measure, by drawing some of the troops from Malta. The enlistment would be perfectly voluntary on the part of every individual officer and private. If they volunteered to go to Malta, Government would have no power to transfer them to the Ionian Islands.

"The noble lord opposite (the Earl of Ellenborough) raised an objection which was perfectly tenable, although its intention never was such as he described. He said that Government would be empowered by this bill to send all the militia abroad, and might substitute other troops for them here. Undoubtedly this bill was first drawn in such a shape that all the militia might be sent abroad, although in the working of it, necessarily, a certain proportion must have been left in this country, as was the case with regiments of the line. But, as the bill now came to their Lordships' House, not more than three-fourths of any militia regiment could be accepted for foreign service, and one-fourth must remain to form a dépôt in this country. Another alteration, a manifest improvement, had also been made in this bill. It was not right, perhaps, considering the possible duration of this war, that militia regiments should be enabled, at once, to volunteer for foreign service during the continuance of the war; and there was a limit of five years, therefore, to be placed on the term of service, for which they might volunteer to go abroad, that being the limit for which militia regiments were originally enlisted."

The Earl of DERBY objected to this bill, for it would rather impede the object intended, and would have the inconvenience of totally changing the character of the militia.

"That force was designed strictly to maintain domestic tranquillity and preserve the country from invasion, and enable us to dispense with the services within the kingdom of the small standing army we possessed. He thought our jealousy of the standing army had been of late years carried to an unreasonable extent, and reductions, urged by a false economy, had led us now into difficulties. The garrisons of Malta and the Ionian Islands had been reduced by the officers in command there, on their own responsibility and to their great credit, sending troops to the Crimea. He approved of the proposition, which came, he suspected, rather from the old superseded Horse Guards than from the modern War Department, to form additional battalions in every regiment, and place the additional battalions in the Medi-

terranean. It would be infinitely better to feed the army thence than to send the militia to the Mediterranean. And if the militia went out there, how could the army be recruited from the militia?"

Instead of sending the militia out of the country, the men should be induced to enter the line.

"It was said that this would be a purely voluntary service; and no doubt it was so in a great degree, although it was scarcely consistent with the voluntary principle that every militia regiment should be required, as the noble duke said, to send 25 per cent. of its men to the army. The noble duke had laid much stress on the voluntary character of this proceeding, and had said that there were more offers from the militia than could be accepted to volunteer for foreign service."

No doubt this was the case, but they had been entrapped step by step, which would prevent the militia supply being kept up.

"A noble friend of his suggested the question what was to become of a man of small means in the militia who had insured his life, and who would forfeit his insurance by going abroad, and to ask him to do that was pushing the voluntary principle to its utmost extent. He was reminded that by the proposition of his right honourable friend in the other House the number of militia going abroad was limited to three-fourths of each regiment, and there was much amusement caused when the question was asked when three-fourths went out how many would remain, and it was answered 'one-fourth.' Now, the fact was that the provision of the bill was that only three-fourths of the 'establishment' of each regiment should go. The numerical strength of the establishment of such regiment was 1200 men; but if 900 only were enlisted, and you could by the provisions of the bill send three-fourths of the establishment, that would be three-fourths of 1200, and, there being only 900 enlisted, none would be left at home. If that were so, the Government had acceded to the amendment in letter only and not in spirit, the intention being that there should always be one-fourth of the actual strength of a regiment left at home."

The noble lord then adverted to the case of the medical officers, most of whom had local connexions which they would forfeit by going abroad for five years, and who would receive no half-pay on their return.

Earl GREY repeated generally Lord DERBY's arguments. He, however, would not oppose the bill.

Lord DENMAN and the Duke of ARGYLL defended the measure.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH then repeated the former objections. He urged strongly that a larger body of militia was to be employed than would be required, and contrasted it with the provisions of the bill of 1813. He thought eleven regiments for Mediterranean services all that were required. He was willing to grant that number, and would move an amendment to that effect in committee.

The Earl of GLENGALL expressed a wish that compensation should be made for wounds as it was in the line.

The bill was then read a second time, and the House went into committee.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH then proposed his amendment, which was subsequently negatived, and all the clauses agreed to. The bill was then committed, and ordered to be read a third time on Friday (yesterday).

ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR.

Previously to the second reading of the Militia Bill, and during the debate, some discussion ensued on a question from the Marquis of SALISBURY relative to the inefficiency of the blockades in the Black and White Seas. The Duke of NEWCASTLE objected to explain without regular notice. Lord DERBY said, as the admirals had been thanked, he supposed they were not in fault, but had merely had no orders.

The Earl of HARDWICKE inquired into the particulars of the exchange of the frigate *Thetis* for two gun-boats from the Prussian Government. He characterised the exchange as almost criminal, the *Thetis* being worth 40,000*l.* or 50,000*l.*, and the gun-boats worth only 6000*l.* each. The Earl of CLARENCE jocularly replied that Prussia proposed to exchange their boats for what they called "donkeys"—but her Majesty's Ministers had no donkeys they wished to get rid of, and they therefore made the arrangement complained of. The gunboats were much wanted by Government last June, but since then they had endeavoured to get off their bargain, to which, however, Prussia held them. He contended that the exchange was by no means a loss on our side, and the Earl of Hardwicke was quite mistaken in his estimates.

The Earl of HARDWICKE then wished to know who were the responsible officers at Balaklava, and how it happened that, according to the accounts of a correspondent of the *Times*, there was nobody to take the least care of such a vessel as the *Prince*, which was of immense value. After commenting on the want of knowledge of the captain of the *Prince*, he con-

plained that no care was taken by the harbour-master, and that the heavy losses during the storm were mainly owing to that negligence.

To these charges the Duke of NEWCASTLE replied, that the storm was not only of an unusual description, but was utterly unexpected—it came without the least warning. Sir Edmund Lyons had been in command of the port and roadstead of Balaklava until he had left to attack Fort Constantine. Since then he had been employed in other ways. Subsequently it had been under the command of Captain Dacres, of the Sanspareil, an officer but little inferior to Sir E. Lyons. He had been invalided soon after the storm, and had been succeeded by Captain Drummond, of the Retribution. Other offices connected with the port had been filled by distinguished men, and he felt sure that no blame attached to them.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH then touched on the Prince. He said that it appeared from the accounts that the lading was all wrong. All the medical stores were on board, and placed so that they could not be disembarked as required, at Scutari, without removing all the heavy stores. He thought all vessels should have assorted cargoes.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said that he had not seen the statement referred to. It was untrue. All the vessels had assorted cargoes, and the Prince was a striking instance, as she had on board stores of every description.

THE PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

The Duke of GRAFTON gave notice that he would move for a return of the residue of the Patriotic Fund of the last war, and also for a full account of the present fund. The Duke of NEWCASTLE explained that the former was a private fund with which Government could not interfere, and that elaborate accounts of the present were published daily. However, a report of the gross amount should be made. The motion was then withdrawn.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE ARMY AND NAVY.

On the motion of Lord COLCHESTER, the name of Rear-Admiral Montague Stopford, together with those of Major-Generals Airey and Estcourt, were inserted in the vote of thanks, they having been inadvertently omitted.

IRISH AND SCOTCH MILITIA.

In answer to the Earl of GLENGALL, The Duke of NEWCASTLE stated that nine regiments of Irish militia had been ordered to be embodied, and it was the intention of Government immediately to order the embodiment of about as many more, making altogether a force of from 15,000 to 18,000 men. The same course was about to be taken with regard to the Scotch and the unembodied English militia regiments.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

In answer to a question from Lord MELMESBURY as to when Parliament would meet again after the recess, the Earl of ABERDEEN said the 23rd of January.

A THANKSGIVING DAY.

In answer to the Duke of GRAFTON, Lord ABERDEEN explained that no day would be appointed at present for thanksgiving for success. Standing forms of prayer were issued which he thought would answer the purpose, and some more decisive success must be obtained before the wish could be complied with.

REMISSION OF INCOME-TAX FOR CRIMEA OFFICERS.

In reply to a question from Mr. J. O'CONNELL, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the Government had no intention of proposing any exemption from the income-tax in favour of officers belonging to either branch of the service on account of their being engaged at the seat of war. Such a distinction he believed would be invidious, and any reward which those officers had earned would be more appropriately given in another shape.

FRENCH TROOPS IN THE BRITISH SERVICE.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated, in reply to Mr. MUNZ, that the only limit to the number of troops which the French Government was desirous of sending to the Crimea was the amount of transport conveyance which they could command; he added that there never had been any arrangement between the two Governments to send out French troops to be paid by the British Government.

REMISSION OF LEGACY DUTY FOR THE ARMY.

Mr. BURKE moved for leave to bring in a bill relieving from all liability, on account of legacy or succession duty, the property and estates of the officers and men who died, or might die, on service in the Crimea during the present campaign. The hon. member enlarged upon the deserts of the gallant men engaged in the war, and he urged the justice of remitting the succession tax in regard to the property left by those among them who might have perished during the performance of their duties.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER contended on principle that all propositions of special reward to our soldiers and sailors should originate with the Crown, whose servants they were. In detail, also, he showed

that the boon now proposed would, in the great majority of instances, operate inefficiently and unequally.

The motion was then by leave withdrawn.

ORDERS OF MERIT.

Captain SCOBELL having moved that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying for the establishment of an "order of merit," with the view of recognising distinguished personal services performed either by officers or privates during the present war,

Lord J. RUSSELL intimated that the whole question of rewards for military desert was under the consideration of the Government.

The motion was then withdrawn.

MEDICAL MILITIA OFFICERS.

Mr. BRADY observed that the medical officers of militia regiments were mostly possessed of local connexions, but they were not generally men of property, like the officers. It would, therefore, be unjust to send them out of the country without compensation.

EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR ESTATES BILL.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD brought in the Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill, which was read a first time, and the second reading was fixed for the 31st of January.

SAVINGS BANKS.

The House having resolved itself into committee,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a preliminary resolution, designed to form the foundation of a bill to amend the law relating to Savings Banks. This measure, he stated, would provide for the custody of, and accountability for, the moneys of depositors, and would hereafter be followed by a supplemental measure regarding the internal management of the banks.

The resolution was agreed to, and leave given to bring in a bill founded upon it.

ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

Mr. NAPIER, in the absence of Sir T. Acland, moved for copies of various despatches relating to the missing expedition. He expressed his hope that the Admiralty would spare no pains to gain information on a subject in which the relatives of the missing crews, in common with the whole country, were so deeply interested.

Sir J. GRAHAM expressed the fullest sympathy with the right hon. member, but would not consent to another expedition, the result of which would be the exposure of many valuable lives to the vigor of an Arctic winter.

Motion agreed to.

THE WAR.

THERE can be no doubt that lately very little war has taken place at Sebastopol. A few sorties, promptly repulsed, comprise all the activity in fighting; but, nevertheless, great preparations in the way of new batteries are being made, and considerable reinforcements have arrived in the Crimea. A despatch received early this week says:—

"Every evening the garrison opens a fire of artillery on the French position, and makes sorties, which are always repulsed with loss. In the morning of the 2nd the Russians attacked an advanced guard of the 50th Regiment, which retired. The Rifles advanced to its assistance, drove back the Russians, and forced them to quit their positions."

The Vienna *Presse* announced from Constantinople, December 4, that the Russians had been driven to their second line of defence, and had abandoned the Quarantine battery. The following has been received at Vienna:—

"The Russians made a sortie against the French lines on the 5th. Eight divisions of the line, under General Forey, repulsed them with great loss. The French are arming batteries with guns from the Henri IV. The English have constructed new 50-gun batteries."

The Paris papers publish the following private telegraphic despatch:—

"Marseilles, Dec. 15.—The last intelligence from the Crimea was to the effect that a new battery of thirty-six guns had been erected before Sebastopol. Great precautions were taken against the fireships the Russians were preparing against the allied fleets. Ninety-two rockets, intended to set fire to the Russian fleet, had been landed. The *Portofoglio* of Malta pretends that 60,000 more Russians had passed by Perekop to reinforce the Russian army in the Crimea."

The following is from the Paris correspondent of the *Times*:—

"Private letters received from the French camp before Sebastopol speak of the assault of that place as an event that may be soon expected. From several points of observation everything that is done within the besieged city can be seen. The second line of fortifications is described as very strong. Sebastopol will probably be a complete ruin before we can get in, but rain as it may be, there is no alternative; and the opinion is that it must be stormed and captured to satisfy the *amour-propre* of the army, and produce a moral effect

throughout Europe. The Russians seem to have foreseen and provided for such a contingency; and they have made every preparation for retreat to the north side of the harbour, and have taken measures to place every impediment to our advance. The retreat of Liprandi was occasioned by the inundation of the Tchernaya, and a letter from the camp speaks of it with satisfaction, the ground he had occupied being covered with wood, which can be made available for fuel and other necessities. Forty-five thousand, it is now said at the War-office, is the amount of the force expected with Omar Pacha. This is about 10,000 more than was supposed. They are from the garrison of Shumla, and may therefore be considered as the flower of the Ottoman army. It is remarked that the Russians have begun to arm their ships in the harbour of Sebastopol, while a portion of the English fleet is thought to be at Sinope, and a part of the French at Constantinople. It was surmised that the Russians were meditating a dash by sea, to try what chance there was of an attack on our diminished squadrons."

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* says, under date of

Bucharest, Dec. 7.

"Mussar Pacha starts on Monday or Tuesday. Thirty or forty thousand Turks, and a hundred guns, are to be embarked at Varna, or Baltchick, under his superintendence. Next week Omar Pacha, too, will start for the Crimea. The troops will most probably be disembarked at Eupatoria."

The *Press*, of Vienna, of the 16th, says:—

"A telegraphic despatch from Galatz, through Bucharest, states that the Russians are fortifying the positions of Reni, and the other positions of the Pruth. Prince Gortchakoff was on the 9th at Ismail, and on the 10th continued his journey to Odessa. The works of fortification of the Turks, near Tultcha Jaktchi, are not as yet terminated. Omar Pacha arrived on the 12th at Shumla, where he remained some hours, and then took his departure for Varna."

FRENCH TREATMENT OF THE ARMY.

It is said that one of the measures to be proposed to the Corps Législatif by the Emperor will be a bill for providing a "dotation" for the army—that is to say, the appropriating some tangible part of the public property, the rents or produce of which will be distributed among deserving soldiers in addition to their pay.

The *Moniteur* contains the following official notification:—

"Considerable sums have been offered to the Ministers of War and Marine for the wounded of the fleet and the army of the East. While fully appreciating the patriotic sentiment that has given birth to these generous offers, these ministers have not been able to accept them. It is at once the duty and privilege of the entire country to remunerate the services of those who shed their blood for it; such is the opinion of the Emperor, and the government of his Majesty has not shrunk, nor will shrink, from any sacrifice in order fully to discharge this sacred debt. The same ministers have also received numerous offers of objects intended to increase the comforts of our troops; these gifts, of a very different nature from the former, have been gratefully accepted. Although the state magazines are amply supplied, and fresh orders issued every day for keeping up these supplies, there are some things that one cannot have too abundantly, such as coverlets, linen, lint, &c., and gifts of this description will always be received with gratitude. The ministers of war and the navy embrace this opportunity for returning thanks to the prefects of the Loire-Inferieure, of the Seine, and others, who have taken the initiative in this matter."

ALLEGED MISMANAGEMENT IN THE CAMP.

The following rather "captious" complaints are made by the correspondent of the *Daily News*:—

"The horses are still without nosebags, and likely to remain so. I must again most emphatically point out this fresh proof, if proof were wanting, of the thriftlessness, the improvidence, and the helplessness of the campaign. For weeks past our cavalry horses have taken their food from the mire and slush in which they wallow, and every week they are dying off by hundreds in consequence, while goathair cloth for nosebags, and rough tailors to make them, abound in Varna and Eupatoria, and thousands of these bags can be bought at Constantinople at twopence a-piece. The least, I believe, that could have been done, especially after the terrible warning we received on the 11th ultimo, would have been to make some provisions at least for the sick in the camps. If the French lost a good many of their sick on the morning of the hurricane, they could at least boast that their patients would have been all safe had not the whirlwind blown down their hospital on Sebastopol heights. But where, after eight weeks of occupation, is the English hospital on Balaklava heights? To this day the sick are laid up in hospital marquees, where, as I am credibly informed, their mattresses are saturated with the wet, while the liquid mud actually flows over their limbs. I report what I heard, not what I saw, for by this time it is not easy for a correspondent of the *Daily News* to get into places where things are not what they ought to be. I wish,

when Parliament opens, some patriotic member would move for a correct return of the number of hospital marquees blown down on Balaklava heights between the 14th November and the 2nd December inclusive, and also how often each marquee was blown down, and whether the accident or accidents occurred by day or by night, and how many hours it took each time before it was possible again to pitch the marquees. I am sure such a return would throw some light on the extraordinary mortality in the latter half of November. I know it will be urged that the hospital marquees in the camps are merely temporary asylums for the sick, who, on the recommendation of the regimental surgeon, are sent down to Balaklava hospital, and from thence to Scutari. That is the theory. The practice, I fear, is somewhat different. I know, for instance, that on the 13th November, the day after the hurricane, the 13th Lancers applied for ambulance waggons to carry their sick down to the hospital at Balaklava. When they got the waggons, and at what date the sick of the 13th Lancers were removed from camp, is more than I am able to say; but this I know, that ten days after the demand was made, up to the 25th of November, the ambulance waggons had not come up, and yet the cavalry camp is not very far from Balaklava; and if the cavalry must wait above ten days for ambulance waggons (and that, too, at a time when comparatively few wounded were to be taken down from the front), what must be the delays before the infantry divisions can send down their sick? Thus much for the theory of a regular clearance of the hospital marquees, the roofing of the sick in Balaklava, and the housing of them in Scutari!"

TEACHING OUR ENEMIES.

The *Daily News* correspondent describes the somewhat anomalous position of the siege. It appears from this that our only chance of beating the Russians is to leave them undisturbed:—

"Our hope is that the Russians may come on, for we are now despairing of our ever being led forward to expel them from their positions. What the Commander-in-Chief's plans are it is impossible to know, but a fair estimate of them may be gleaned from what is doing. A fresh siege train has been ordered up from Malta; fresh supplies of ammunition are coming out from Malta and England. Since a cannonade of forty-two days against the fortress has done no good whatever, Lord Raglan has come to the conclusion to continue it until it does some good. We are advancing our works and repelling the Russian *sorties*, and the Russians are narrowing their lines, and constructing fresh works in the rear of those we destroy with so much labour. The fortress is actually getting stronger under our cannonade, and if that cannonade continues (as it is likely to do) for another two months, Sebastopol will be impregnable. A fortnight ago the approaches past the White Tower were open to us; at present that portion of the ground is unassailable, and if an attack takes place on the extreme right, the storming columns must advance down Inkerman gully, and outflank the north-east of the fortress, under the nearer and deadlier fire from Fort Constantine, and the works on the other side of the harbour. In another month Inkerman gully, too, is likely to be impracticable, for a battery at its extreme end would place our columns in the unenviable position of advancing against that battery in front while the town and the forts fire at them on either side. British troops might stand that fire, but assuredly they could not survive it. And yet Lord Raglan's plan, whatever it be, gives the Russians plenty of time to complete their fortifications."

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR'S CAMPAIGN.

Extensive preparations are being made in various departments. Twenty-six reserve companies of sailors are being formed to replace those who may be killed or disabled next summer. The Swiss Armourers of Zurich have been invited to join the Russian army. Very liberal pay is promised them, and they will be placed at the head of the workmen. It is also rumoured that Colonel Colt has contracted to supply a large number of revolvers which are to be manufactured at Liege.

INCIDENTS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE SERGEANT-MAJOR.—Lord H. Rokeby, lieutenant-colonel of the Scots Fusilier Guards, who is about to leave England for the seat of war in the Crimea, was sent for at the request of the Prince of Wales. His royal highness informed the officer that he wished him to be the bearer of a fur cloak, as a present to Sergeant-Major Edwards, of the first battalion of Scots Fusilier Guards, who when in England was his royal highness's gymnastic preceptor.

WOODEN HOUSE.—At the Southampton Docks a real wooden house has been exhibited. The longest sides of the house are formed, in the first place, with twenty-four upright posts on each side; planks then fit into these posts to make the sides weather-tight. The roof is ridged, and covered with felt. The house is floored with thick planks, raised from the ground. From the longest sides the flooring slopes considerably towards the middle, where is the passage from one end of the house to the other. There is a well-arranged doorway to the house, and two glazed windows. A large number of crates of glass is to be

sent out to Balaklava, to repair the windows, when necessary. There are now in Southampton Docks prepared timbers for 300 houses waiting for shipment. This number would house upwards of 7000 soldiers.

THE "SURPRISE" AT INKERMAN.—In reference to this a correspondent of the *Constitutional* says:—"A Russian officer declared in dying that we were betrayed by a deserter from the foreign legion. It is known that the foreign legion, which is so remarkable for its bravery, counts a great many deserters in its ranks. The man to whom I refer is said to be a German, and persons ask if it would not have been prudent to have left in Africa all those who had deserted, especially those who have a certain affinity of race with the Russians?"

THE HENRI QUATRE.—A large body of Cossacks, thinking this a fair mark for plunder, came down towards a hillock, with four field-pieces, to pound the wreck. The French saw them approaching, and observed well the spot on which the artillery would be posted; every gun of the vessel was laid for that place, and all was kept silent on board until the Cossacks were well fixed and just about to fire. At that very moment the triggers were pulled on board the *Henri Quatre*—almost every Russian was destroyed, and our noble allies have now the four field-guns on board a man-of-war, trophies of a feat as clever as it was successful.

GALLANT CONDUCT OF AN HOTEL-KEEPER.—We are gratified in being able to announce that Mr. Edward Churchill, of the Calverley Hotel, Tunbridge, has put the resources of his establishment in requisition for the purpose of supplying our troops with plum-puddings to the number of 160, and which, when cut into half-pounds, will enable several thousands to partake of that cheer without which an Englishman's Christmas is not complete, and we believe it is his intention to remit to Cheltenham orders that the same course may be adopted in his establishment there.—*Sussex Express*.

OFFICERS OF THE STAFF.—The *Nenagh Guardian* says:—"We understand that all the mounted constabulary throughout Ireland, amounting in the aggregate to about 350 men, have been ordered to Dublin, for what purpose we are unable positively to say, but, if rumour be true, to undergo a preliminary inspection previous to their ardour for a brush with the Russians being appealed to."

THE REGIMENTAL TAILORS.—A correspondent of the *Times* calls attention to the miserable pittance earned by the poor girls who make the greatcoats recently ordered for the Crimea. The following is an extract from his letter, which certainly calls for the attention of "Alton Locke":—

"I would first observe that there were six persons in a room of about 12 feet by 7, a considerable portion of which space was occupied by a bed. One young woman, A. B., had been employed in making a military greatcoat, for which she received the incredibly small sum of 6½d. The needles and thread cost her about 1½d., leaving a sum of 5d. as a remuneration for her labour. This did not include working the button-holes, which would have given an additional 2d. to the worker. This young person told me that she was a new hand, and could not make more than one coat a day, working for 14 or 16 hours; or, in other words, if fully employed, and working six days, or 84 hours, she would receive 2s. 6d. for her labour. An adept at the work could sometimes manage a coat and a half or even two a day. Another young woman (A. C.) was engaged upon a kind of military paletot, for making which, including working the button-holes and sewing on a double row of buttons, she obtained 7d. After deducting the cost of needles and thread she had left 5½d. per coat! This was without lining, and, being a tolerably quick hand, she could complete two in a day of 14 or 16 hours' labour. The garment she was then employed upon was intended to have a fur, or other warm lining, this would give her 10d. per coat extra, or, after deducting thread, &c., about 8½d.; but, by sewing in the lining, she could only complete one coat in a day—that is, 1s. 2d. for making a coat lined throughout with fur!"

LORD DERBY'S ACCURACY IN QUOTATION.

A MORNING contemporary, just at present more remarkable for its scholarship than for its urbanity, taunts Lord Derby, through a correspondent, with imputing the celebrated lines

"Italia, Italia, O tu, cui feo la sorte
Dono infelice di bellezza"

to Alstari, instead of to Filienja. This is doubtlessly wrong, but we must say that it proves Lord Derby to be acquainted with the author, although he made a slight error, and we like him all the better for not leaving his "felicitous illustration" to the care of his secretary. We are the more happy to suggest this defence, as we, last week, inserted a correction of the supposed blunder on the Chatham epigram, which, it subsequently appeared, was entirely an error of the reporters.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., AND THE WAR.

A PUBLIC meeting has been held in the Manchester Town-hall, "to enable the citizens to declare that they do not concur in the opinions of Mr. Bright, but are fully convinced of the justice and necessity of the war, and earnestly hope that it will be carried on with the utmost vigour, until the objects for which it was commenced are thoroughly effected." The meeting was called upon a requisition to the Mayor, signed by upwards of 600 inhabitants of all political parties. Mr. Bright and his friends attended, and were received by a perfect storm of cheers, hisses, and groans. Various gentlemen addressed the meeting, but it was scarcely possible to hear anything until Mr. Bright presented himself, and when that period came, it was quite impossible to hear him for about a quarter of an hour. He then contented himself by simply addressing those immediately near him in general terms, and an adjournment was effected to the Reform Association's Room, in Newall's-buildings. After a few observations from Mr. Wilson, the chairman, the meeting was addressed by

Mr. Bright, who commenced by complaining of those who had asked him to go to a meeting for collecting subscriptions for the Patriotic Fund, when it was well known that he could not approve of its purposes. He said:—

"Mr. Watkin should not have written me a letter if he did not want my opinions to be known at St. Petersburg. But with regard to the publication of the letter there, it tells very strongly in favour of not having gone into the war at all. There can be no man in England that can have less sympathy than I have for the Russian system of government. I was one of those who did what I could to receive with great delight the ex-governor of Hungary, the most wonderful man, I think, that has visited the shores of this country for many a long year. I had not only a dislike, but an absolute horror of what I considered the unfortunate and wicked step taken by the Russian government in crossing into Hungary, and putting down the attempt of the Hungarian people to obtain freedom for themselves. I have no doubt that a great deal of the clamour that has been raised in this country against Russia of late, has come as an almost inevitable consequence from the false step which the Emperor of Russia took on that occasion. But having this opinion against the Russian system of government, does it not rather tend to shake that confidence of men in the goodness of the cause in which this country is now engaged, when a statement which no man, I take it, has been able to overthrow, drawn up by an Englishman, who has as good means of judging as anyone else, and who can have no partiality for the Emperor of Russia or his system of government, when even such a statement of events can be laid without harm before the public of his capital and his empire? I hope they will learn one thing from it, at any rate, that there is a country, and unfortunately it is this with which they are at war, in which, although public opinion may run strongly in one direction and there may be a violent clamour, yet any man, having honest convictions in opposition to public opinion and clamour, may, without fear of the government, publish those opinions to his country and the world." (Cheers).

He urged his right to speak, no matter what Russia might think of the want of unanimity of public opinion here. Personal and party feeling had more to do with the meeting against him than unadulterated patriotism had. He continued:—

"There is no man living who more appreciates the honourable position I have been placed in as representing this constituency. It is far beyond anything I had ever any reason to anticipate, or for a moment aspired to. But the very fact that I am the depositary, so far as the House of Commons goes, of a portion of the political power of this constituency, makes me feel the more that it is not becoming in me, whatever it may be in members of other places, to skulk on an occasion of this kind; or, when I held opinions adverse to the Government of the day, to fear to state them, whether in the House or out of it. Did not I make a speech in the House of Commons, which, I am sorry to say, took me nearly two hours to deliver, and which, I am proud to say, was listened to with an attention that could not possibly be exceeded? And although a minister—and that minister precisely that one who is said to know so much more of foreign affairs, and to be so much more capable of managing them than anyone else—though he rose to answer me, what was his answer? He did not go into the negotiations at all. He did not meet a single fact. He said, 'the Member for Manchester is against all wars under all circumstances, and no doubt if an enemy—I suppose he meant that enemy that he said was coming over 60,000 strong two years ago, the soldiers of our great ally the Emperor of the French—were to come over, the Member for Manchester would merely take a piece of paper and discover which was the cheapest, whether to resist them or to be conquered; and therefore his opinion upon a matter of this kind is not to be taken at all. But am I to shut my mouth in the House of Commons—("no, no")—because I feel it my duty to say something adverse to the policy being carried on by this Government? What did they say when Mr. Burke opposed

the American war? They raised the constituency of Bristol against him, and he wrote one of the most eloquent, convincing, argumentative, and unanswerable letters that ever was written; and if any of you have Burke's words to refer to, as no doubt you have, it would be worth your while to read them over carefully, and more than once. What was the case with regard to Mr. Fox in the early days of the French war, when he was opposed to it? They stated that the Empress Catherine of Russia had actually got the bust of Mr. Fox between a bust of Demosthenes, the great Greek orator, and the bust of Cicero, the great Roman orator; and they said to Fox, you are the friend of the Empress Catherine, you are not a true friend of England. What was Mr. Fox's answer? It would be presumptuous of me to quote Mr. Burke or Mr. Fox as models whom I was aspiring to follow; but if I find men distinguished in the history of the world placed in that position, at least I may turn to them, and say, there were great intellects in the days of our fathers, who found themselves opposed to the popular clamour; they did not yield to the clamour. We are their posterity, and we pay them the tribute of having been wise, at the same time that they were honest. (Loud cheers.) I am able, I believe, to show to all rational men—and I am perfectly confident that the verdict of events will prove that I am right—that the war has no reference whatever to European liberty. Because if you find men pursuing an object in conjunction with other men, and you want to learn what is the object, you judge from the associates of those men. Why, if this country is going for liberty in Europe—for independence and civilisation in Europe—I cannot myself believe that these are the objects (in the sense the people of this country understand) that the Emperor of France himself very much applauds; and if he applauds them, I doubt very much that anybody here will believe that the Emperor of Austria applauds those objects. (Loud cheers.) Our Government is in this position, that it is making allies wherever it can; and it does not matter one single straw whether those allies are in favour of liberty of any kind or not. They may trample upon Hungarians, and send the patriots of that country to the gallows and to the block; they may trample upon the Italians, as they do, with an enormous army; and yet such is the cause in which we are embarked, that we welcome to our arms, as it were, the emperor and the cabinet by whom that policy in Hungary and in Italy is supported. You are to take the Crimea; you are to destroy Sebastopol; you are to dismember Russia, in fact—because unless you come to actual and positive dismemberment, you still leave Russia a great and gigantic empire, as I venture to say you will leave it—but at the same time you will weaken Turkey by the great wasting struggle which you have incited her to enter upon (for if it had not been for this Cabinet, which had a minister at Constantinople, it would not have been entered on), you will waste Turkey; and when this war is over, be it to-day, or twelve months, or twelve years hence, I venture to foretel that the power of Russia, as compared with the power of Turkey, will be far greater than it was before this war began. And having taken this unfortunate, decrepit, and tottering Turkish power under your care, you cannot again leave it if it is to remain there at all, and in all probability every object for which you have entered into the war will not only be thwarted, but the result, in my opinion, will be precisely opposite to that which the people of this country have expected."

He had for twenty years paid as much attention to political subjects as any man had, and he believed that the objects which the Government had in the war were quite opposite to those which the people had.

"Now, as to this question about the German mercenaries. It is one of those points which the people ought to look at very narrowly; it shows that it is not in defence of the country, not in the feeling of patriotism only that you wish to actuate your soldiers; but you buy 15,000 men who have no more moral principle than to hire themselves out for daily wages to slaughter any persons, in any part of the world, against whom your government has declared war. Those men will not fight because they are fighting for their fatherland, or because they are fighting for the honour of their country, or because they believe the cause is just; they care nothing about the country; they have no sentiments of honour in it; they know nothing of the interests of the war; they have no cause of quarrel with those they go to shoot down and to bayonet; and yet this government has led you, within about eight months of the declaration of the war, to a point, when perhaps if you are to save the army that you have yonder, at least so they say, you must have recourse to this most objectionable, and to my mind, most criminal system. I have given the Government on all financial and fiscal questions—and on all matters in which they have gone in the direction they promised the country they would go in when they took office—I have given them my cordial support; but I tell you no man can support this Government—this Government will break down. (Applause.) From the beginning of it it was a house of cards; it was a coalition that never coalesced; there are not, at this moment, the elements of success or of stability about it. Their internal condition has dragged

you into this war—which I could undertake, if there were time, I think, to demonstrate—and that same internal condition will enable them only to carry on this war in a manner that will be disastrous to this country; and you may rely upon it, that however valuable peace may be, and I shall rejoice as much as any man living when it comes, yet for all these objects, for which the country believes it has gone to war, you will make a peace which history will describe, even if your war was just, to be shameful and ignominious."

Mr. Bright then said the people must prepare themselves for another Ministry—he knew not of what description—but certainly one that would make peace, and which he would consequently support.

"Now with regard to my difference with men in this constituency: you know I cannot help that. Did I not differ with many people about the papal aggression? The statesmen who opposed the papal aggression are now at the head of the Government. Did I not oppose the panic about the French invasion, which led to the increase of the militia—which led to the increase of our armaments—which led to a strong spirit for war, and which led (approximately, no doubt, to a great extent) to the war in which we are now engaged. I endeavoured to keep myself with an eye singly towards what appears to me sound in principle, and truly advantageous and honourable to the country. If the country runs in one direction or the other, I cannot therefore follow it. I lament it. When I see it going wrong I stand still. I would take the opinion which I heard had once been expressed by the Duke of Wellington. He said—

'Whenever you are wrong (in position, he meant), don't fidget yourself about getting right. If you will only be quiet you will find by and by that those waves and billows will much subside and after a little while everybody will admit that you were not wrong after all, and that probably they were in the wrong.' That is what I am looking forward to. There is no amount of labour or sacrifice that I will not make on behalf of what I believe to be the interests of this constituency so long as I am permitted to represent them in Parliament. (Applause.) If half of those who voted for me were to send me a requisition to say that they are discontented with my conduct on this question, although on many questions they were not, but that they considered this matter of such paramount importance that it was their duty to be represented by somebody of different opinions, I would then take the Chiltern Hundreds. (Applause.) I would ask for the only appointment I dare say I shall ever ask for, by the very first post, and I would give them an opportunity of returning another man to the House of Commons. (Applause.) But I ask you whether (and I shall speak as if I were simply an elector and not a representative), it is better for us, electors of Manchester, that we should be represented by a man who, although he may have strong opinions, and occasionally may make errors like other men, yet endeavours to uphold the dignity and character (loud applause) of the constituency, maintains their position in the House of Commons, and is not reckoned there as a knot of the tail of any statesman that ever lived, or any set of men? (Applause.) In another year or two you will probably find the country look back upon the men who went into this war with indignation and contempt. And even though you cannot take precisely the view I take, yet let me recommend you this—do not combine with any men, or set of men, that would make the restoration of peace less possible. This ministry will get tired of the war. They will want to make peace. (Applause.) They have been driven partly into it by the clamour of the English press—and this press, which is profiting by the war, still hounds them on to continue it to the last extremity. Do you not be parties to anything of the kind. The blood that is being shed, the interests that are being sacrificed, the generations of animosities that are being engendered, all the hopes of the future bid me appeal to you, whatever you may think as to the cause of the war or as to its results, to beg, if you can, by all means, upon any fair, honourable, and moderate terms, that the sword may be sheathed again, and that the countries of Europe may be blessed with that tranquillity which for so many years has been undisturbed. As to freedom, war sets up the military spirit. This war will double the armies of Russia, will double the armies of Austria, will increase the armies of Prussia, increase the armies of France, and double the armies of this country. (Applause.) Do you think, when all these armies are doubled, and men's minds are led off from the contemplation of everything in the form of home affairs, when every man's mind is filled with thoughts of slaughter, and glory, and all your literature tinged with the same thing—I ask you whether that plant of freedom, which was matured, it is true, by the blood of your ancestors, and nourished by the tears and prayers of those who have gone before us—I ask you whether you think, after this war, that liberty in Europe, reform, or anything good in the politics of this country, will be in a better position than it was before this war commenced? (Applause, and cries of 'No.') Rely upon it, that the verdict of events will be given, and that verdict of events will be given in our favour. (Applause.) Kossuth has said there is an inexorable logic

in events. I am willing to abide by that, and if any man blames me in this constituency, I ask him only to wait. If I am proved to have been wrong in the course which I have taken, I shall be willing to abide by any blame you can lay upon me, but, at any rate, wait until the result is before us, until all the evidence of facts and events is before us. Until the result is shown, I hold myself free to take the course I have hitherto taken." (Loud applause.)

A vote of thanks was then proposed and carried, to which Mr. Bright briefly responded.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE PRESS IN PIEDMONT.—The situation of the newspaper press in Piedmont has of late been less satisfactory than the best friends of this young constitutional state must desire. The last mail from Turin brings news of three press prosecutions, all originating with the executive government. The responsible editor of the *Opinione*, a Turin paper, was condemned on the 7th to a fortnight's imprisonment and 200f. fine for a letter which it had published about a year ago against the Queen and the government of Spain. The responsible editor of the *Voce della Libertà*, M. Brofferio's paper, was condemned to the same punishment for having reproduced the objectionable article. The *Gazzetta del Popolo* has been seized by the police for an article hostile to the French army.

THE LATE ARMAND MARRAST.—The Emperor of the French has granted from his private purse the munificent pension of 6000f. a year to Madame Marrast, the widow of Armand Marrast, the eminent republican president of the Constituent Assembly. His Majesty accompanied the grant with a letter stating that he entertained a great esteem for her late husband. M. Achille Marrast, his brother, has lately obtained a lucrative post in the management of a railway.

PRUSSIA AND THE GREAT POWERS.—M. Vincke, in the course of a debate, lamented that Prussia was isolated from the great Powers. "Not from Russia!" triumphantly exclaimed M. Gerlach, a leader of the dominant court party—"not from Russia, a great power, and some say the greatest."

The Czar's name-day was kept at Berlin on the 18th, the feast of St. Nicholas, according to the Russian calendar. The Russian Ambassador, Baron Budberg, gave a dinner, at which the "Health of the Czar" was proposed by M. Manteuffel, the Prussian Premier. Baron Budberg in turn proposed the "Health of the King of Prussia." The next day the Russian Ambassador dined at court.

A SPECIAL MISSION FROM PRUSSIA.—His Excellency Herr von Usedom has been charged with a special mission from Prussia to the Court of St. James. He arrived in London on Thursday.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* hints that the object of the mission is to obtain in advance a mild interpretation of the four points, and a promise not to press Russia for an indemnification on account of the costs of the war, and that these points conceded, Prussia will accede to the alliance.

THE BAVARIAN MINISTRY is now urging forward a bill to abolish the system of a general representation of the country introduced in 1848, and to substitute the system of representation of orders. Under this system the members of the elected chamber would be chosen respectively by various classes and bodies, the nobility, the clergy, the universities, landed proprietors, and civic corporations.

SPAIN.—The *Diario* of the 16th says that the Government is preparing to reform the Concordat, and to sell the property of the clergy to make up the deficit which will be occasioned by the suppression of the octroi.

BRUTALITY OF A COTTON-LORD.

The following, which we extract from the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, illustrates, we hope in an unusual manner, the relation of the employer to the employed:—

Thomas Ellerbeck, cotton manufacturer, who with his brother Joseph are the proprietors of the Roach Mill Weaving Shed, Heywood, was charged at the Bury Police Office, before William Openshaw and John Lomax, Esquires, magistrates, under two warrants, with an indecent assault, on the 6th ultimo, upon Elizabeth Davenport, aged 16 years, and with violating the person of her sister Mary Ann Davenport, aged 20 years, on the 14th ultimo. Mr. Crossland, solicitor, appeared in support of the charges, and Mr. R. T. Grundy for the prisoner. Mr. Crossland stated that the girls were two of the daughters of Mrs. Jackson, who had filled the situation of housekeeper to gentlemen in the neighbourhood, who spoke in high terms as to her conduct. The girls had formerly been employed at Mr. Walker's mill in Bury, and their character was unimpeachable. Their father had been dead for a considerable period and their mother had re-married; but in consequence of the ill-treatment of her second husband she had lived apart from him for upwards of ten years, and had with industry and exertion

very praiseworthy brought up her family of four girls hitherto without reproach, and it was therefore no wonder that she should severely feel the injury which had been inflicted upon her children by the prisoner. The family removed to Heywood last September but one, and the four daughters went to work at Roach Mill.—The prisoner was a married man and had professed great interest in the welfare of Mrs. Jackson and her daughters, at whose house he had been a frequent visitor, and the mother had placed great reliance upon his protection. His brother Joseph had also professed paying attention to her eldest daughter Susannah. The charges against the prisoner would have to be supported by the uncorroborated testimony of the girls, and the magistrates would have to say, after they had heard the testimony, and after they had been cross-examined by his friend Mr. Grundy, if they believed their statement. There was another circumstance which doubtless would be relied upon by the defence, and that was that the offences were committed so far back as the 6th and 14th of November last, and that no communication was made by either of them until Thursday morning last. The explanation that he had to give was this—that there were four girls entirely dependent upon employment at the prisoner's mill, and that this circumstance, and a sense of shame, doubtless operated on the minds of the girls in concealing the outrage; but from the testimony of the mother and other parties, it would be shown that from the period the offence was committed to the present time, the girl Mary Ann had been continually fretting, and very low-spirited; scarcely eating any food; absenting herself from a place of worship where she had been a regular attendant; and in fact had become quite an altered person; and that her mother had repeatedly endeavoured to ascertain from her the cause of her grief, and it was only on Thursday morning last that she was enabled, with threats, to obtain any information from her. On that morning the girl came to breakfast, but eat nothing, and returned to her work, and the mother then ascertained, from her eldest daughter, that her sister had been again fretting. She sent for her from her work, and after a good deal of trouble, she got to know what the prisoner had done. Then it was that her sister Elizabeth also communicated the attempt which the prisoner had made upon her on the 6th, and warrants were forthwith taken out against the prisoner.—Mary Ann Davenport, a good-looking young woman, who showed evident signs of suffering, and her sister Elizabeth, then deposed to the assault committed upon them, which is totally unfit for publication. After hearing their mother's testimony, and Mr. Grundy on behalf of the prisoner, Mr. Openshaw, the magistrate, addressed the prisoner as follows: "Thomas Ellerbeck, after a long and painful hearing of the charges preferred against you, we have come to the conclusion that the more serious charge of rape must be dismissed; but such an opinion do we entertain on the subject, that we must say, if the young woman had complained to her mother at an earlier period, or had her cries been heard by anyone, our decision would have been a very different one. The second charge preferred against you we consider has been fully established, and considering you in the character of a master and the father of a family, your conduct has been most scandalous and disgraceful, and we shall mark our sense of the enormity of the offence by inflicting upon you the highest penalty the law allows us to do, which is that you be fined in the sum of 5*l.*, including costs, and in default of payment, you stand committed to the House of Correction for two months. Nor can we allow this painful inquiry to conclude without expressing our disapprobation of the conduct of you, Joseph Ellerbeck: the manner in which you have conducted yourself and the levity displayed by you during this inquiry have been such as to merit our severest censure, and we censure you accordingly."—The fine was paid and the prisoner liberated.

AN INJURED ANGEL.

THE St. Petersburg Court Journal is by no means behind its contemporaries of that capital in lamenting the European opinion of Russia's angelic policy:

"Russia raised her voice in the political world entirely in a religious, moral, and philanthropic sense when she reminded the Porte of earlier treaties, whereby the latter was bound to protect the Christian population of the Turkish empire, and especially those of the orthodox profession of faith. Nevertheless Turkey acted in violation of all treaties purchased with Russian blood, and in its breach of faith oppressed all orthodox Christians. Conscience and sound reason induced rational men throughout Europe (?) to believe that all European Christian States would support the disinterested (?) demands of Russia. But the reverse was the case. The party which thirsts for the destructive overthrow of Europe has excited the war against Russia, under the pretext that European civilisation is menaced. This is nothing more nor less than pitiful and ridiculous. The protectorate over Christians in the East has been thrown in by Russia's enemies as dangerous to European civilisation. Such indecency could scarcely have been hazarded in a theatrical farce, and yet it has found an echo in the political world. And England, it is added, stands at the head of this base conspiracy; and its journals, copied by those of France and Germany, are the trumpets of these and other venomous calumnies."

THE NEW METROPOLITAN COMMISSION OF SEWERS.—MR. F. O. WARD'S STATEMENT.

AFTER the despatch of the ordinary business at last Tuesday's Court, Mr. F. O. Ward (one of the new members appointed by the Home-office) rose, pursuant to notice, "to call the attention of the Commission to the general policy of the Commission with respect to House drainage, District drainage, Main intercepting drainage, and the Utilisation of sewage for agriculture; also to submit to the consideration of the Court recent inventions calculated greatly to facilitate drainage operations."

Mr. F. O. Ward, in a speech of upwards of an hour's duration, reviewed the existing policy of the Commission in all its above branches, and set forth the new policy, which, in his judgment, ought to be substituted for the old in each class of operations, in order to avoid the imperfect results of the half measures which have covered previous Commissions with unpopularity, and in order to bring about that complete purification of the London houses, and streets, and river, which can alone give satisfaction to the public, attended as such reform would be with an immediate reduction of existing charges, and diminution of sickness and mortality, and with a prospective revenue of annually increasing amount, derivable from the application of the sewage manure on a constantly widening tract of land.

With respect to Private house drainage, Mr. F. O. Ward said he took it first, because its actual condition presented the largest mass of urgent practical evil, and that which, happily, we could most rapidly and completely relieve, while other questions (such as main drainage and outfall) were under discussion. Of three tons of filth, one under a man's house, another in the open street, the third diffused through the vast body of the Thames, there could be no doubt that the first was the most horrible and deleterious nuisance, and that which pressed most urgently for abatement. Now, though there were above one thousand miles of main sewers in London, two-thirds at least (in many districts nine-tenths) of the houses, past which those sewers ran, had cesspools under them; the old policy having been to run sewers through districts, without at the same time abolishing the cesspools, and extending branch drains to the houses on either side. The new policy, Mr. Ward said, should be forthwith to remove the excrement now buried, to the amount of a million tons at least, under the houses within reach of existing sewers, to fill up those horrible pits of filth, and to replace the open privies by water-closets draining into the sewers. This should be done with money borrowed on the security of a private improvement rate, of such amount as to distribute the cost over a term of thirty years. Such a rate would be very light (about 2*d.* per house per week on the average), and as it could be fairly apportioned between occupier and owner, and would put an end moreover to existing charges for cesspool-cleansing, &c., of greater amount than the rate itself, it would be willingly paid for the great benefit secured. Their Act contained powers enabling them to carry out such a policy, though those powers had hitherto been suffered to lie comparatively dormant, probably from attention not having been sufficiently called to the advantages which would ensue from their exercise.

In illustration of those advantages, Mr. Ward cited the case of Lambeth-square, a square of thirty-four small houses, situated near the Waterloo Railway Station, in a low, unhealthy neighbourhood, with imperfect main drainage by tide-locked sewers; a square inhabited by 560 persons of the artisan class, and which had been visited by cholera in 1849, and most fearfully ravaged by typhus in 1852, while cesspools and open privies were retained; but which, having in the autumn of 1852 been fitted with water-closets, draining to the sewer through 4-inch pipes, and the cesspools having been abolished, had not since produced a single case of typhus; while last summer's cholera, though it had ravaged the surrounding streets, had left Lambeth-square entirely untouched. Mr. Ward exhibited a map of the square, and of the streets adjacent; these latter blackened with dots, indicative of the number of deaths by this year's cholera, while Lambeth-square itself stood out, a white spot in the midst, not one man, woman,

or child, having died of cholera in any of these properly drained houses. The cost of the improvement had only been about 6*l.* per house, or about 200*l.* in all; and the agent for the property had informed Mr. Ward, that each house brought 28*l.* a year rent now, more readily than 26*l.* a year before the improvement, besides which the tenants, instead of being frequently ill and unable to pay their rent, paid regularly; and instead of the houses standing frequently vacant as before, some times seven or eight empty at once, there were always now more applicants than houses to let; so that, on the whole, the property produced from 100*l.* to 120*l.* per annum more than before the improvement. Such improvements, Mr. Ward said, might be extended within twelve months to extensive districts of the metropolis, comprising probably from 100,000 to 150,000 houses. The expenditure of from half a million to a million sterling in this way, would do more direct and immediate good than any other measure he knew of. And they should do this at once, beginning with those houses, or groups of houses, which the late epidemic had marked out as *Cholera-death-houses*, most urgently requiring fortification against future invasions of disease. From 10,000 to 20,000 death-houses should, at all events, be thus dealt with before the next hot season; and such an operation would effect a large reduction in the next year's mortality returns. To illustrate further the pecuniary benefit which would result from this policy to the rate-payers and to society at large, Mr. Ward computed the pressure weighing on the rates and on the general resources of the community, in consequence of preventable sickness and death, and showed how heavy that pressure was, even if the funerals in excess were only taken at 4*l.* each on an average, the cases of illness at 1*l.* each (a low estimate), and the value of the labour lost at 10*s.* per week on the males laid up, and 5*s.* per week on the females. Applying these figures to the preventable sickness and mortality of London, Mr. Ward showed that the pressure on the means of the community ranged from 30*s.* to 40*s.* per head per annum, causing a vast aggregate loss, which might be rapidly diminished and ultimately saved by extending, as proposed, to London at large, the simple and cheap improvements that had worked so admirably in Lambeth-square.

From private house drainage, Mr. F. O. Ward proceeded to street or main drainage, and thence to the grand scheme of intercepting drainage, which led to the question of sewerage utilisation, by irrigating pipes, precipitating processes, &c. On each of these topics in succession, he examined the old policy of previous Sewer Commissioners, and set forth with great clearness the new policy he would recommend for adoption, describing as he went on several new inventions adapted to meet special difficulties (amongst others, a mode of making jointless pipe-drains in continuous lengths of indefinite extent), and sketching out a series of practical measures, which we regret our inability, through the pressure on our columns, to insert this week. Mr. F. O. Ward was listened to throughout with the deepest attention by the Court, every member of which was present; and on his concluding, Sir John Shelley rose, and in the name of his colleagues, thanked him for the luminous and comprehensive statement which they had just heard, and which he trusted they would have in print. There appeared, indeed, to be a very general concurrence in Mr. Ward's views, to which, as they refer to matters of deep and permanent interest, we shall revert; making each branch of his argument, and each of his main conclusions, the subject of a separate report; and in the mean time warmly supporting the plain and practical suggestion with which he concluded this first portion of his address:—

"That measures of private house improvement, such as have worked well in Lambeth-square, preventing cholera, diminishing the tenants' expenses, and increasing the landlord's profit, should be immediately extended throughout London along the lines of the existing sewers, precedence being given to the Cholera-death-houses; and the requisite capital being raised by loan, and repaid by improvement rates, so as to spread the cost over thirty years, thus obviating undue pressure on individual resources, and coupling the sanitary benefit conferred with an immediate reduction of existing charges."

THE MILITIA.

The Nation gives the following warning to intending Irish volunteers:—

"Parliament was summoned in a panic to pass a Militia Bill, and Lord Palmerston has introduced it with a speech of more than usual plausibility. The militiaman is to be as free as air. He cannot be sent to Malta or the Colonies except with his own, full consent. Though all the rest of his regiment volunteer, he will be entitled to refuse. In short, the act is to be merely an enabling one; compulsory on nobody—and, above all, not on the happy militiaman. Of course not.

"Perhaps our readers may suppose the Home Secretary relies exclusively on the force of habit and discipline for turning his militia into regulars as fast as they are needed—for have them he must and will. Habit and discipline are certainly very powerful. Take a young peasant, and put a uniform on him, carry him from Louth or Meath to Monmouthshire, shut him up with a thousand others, to lead the idle and vicious life of a barrack, and in a few months he will be fit for little else than to become a soldier for life. A return to honest toil, and the simple life of the country, will appear insipid and spiritless to him; and the chances are, he volunteers to the Crimea or elsewhere and fulfils his destiny. But they do injustice to the ingenuity and resources of the noble viscount who fancy that it is upon this moral gravitation alone he relies in leaving the militiaman so much apparent freedom. Get him in a red coat, plant him under a drill-sergeant and an oath of obedience, and he will speedily be taught a few lessons on the liberty of the subject not contemplated in his philosophy.

"Old hands' tell droll stories of the volunteering from Irish militia regiments in the time of Bonaparte. The men were as free as air, but somehow they found a visit to the Peninsula inevitable. A militia ensign or lieutenant was offered a commission in the Line if he could seduce a certain number of his regiment to accompany him. First blarney was tried—promotion, plunder, and glory were promised in any quantity by the gallant young crimp. But these baits sometimes failed, and then came the heavy drill till the men fell down in the ranks, or their feet were a mass of bruises and blood. By way of variety, an intractable company were sometimes marched up to a stone wall till their noses touched it, and left there under arms and in the same position for hours in succession. Drill is the modern 'torture.' Prisoners sometimes inflict frightful wounds and sores on themselves to evade the species of it practised in some of the stricter gaols. But that is a trifle to the military drill employed as a punishment. The militiaman who could successfully withstand it, and insist upon his Act-of-Parliament right not to leave the country, would be worthy of immortality.

"A militia raised for the *bona fide* purpose of home service—for the protection of a free country against invasion—is a most honourable force, and would be cheerfully recruited by the best men of such a country. But the hesitation of the people—even the panic flight to America of many—show how it is regarded in Ireland. They recognise in it only a more subtle species of impressment; a mere nursery of hireling soldiers, and treat it accordingly.

"The 'better classes' in Dublin have evinced a nice discrimination in selecting men worthy to become our guardians at home, or to be transformed into 'our gallant army in the East,' our 'brave defenders,' and so forth. At a meeting of the South Dublin Union the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"Resolved—That the recruiting-sergeants of the several regiments of the Line be informed that there are a number of able-bodied PAUPERS at present in the house, and that they be requested to attend and make a selection of such as are fit for service."

"Resolved—That all able-bodied PAUPERS now employed as cooks and otherwise in the house, who may be selected as fit for soldiers, be discharged, for the purpose of being enlisted either in the Line OR MILITIA, and that their work be done by the able-bodied women in the house, and that the master furnish this board with a list of all able-bodied male paupers by this day week."

"The *Evening Mail* assures us these resolutions will be generally adopted throughout Ireland. We congratulate the gallant militia upon their brothers in arms. Who would not take service in so honourable a corps? The workhouse has pronounced, why is the treadmill silent? When the House of Hanover is sustained by the House of Correction, who shall resist us?"

A CHARACTER THAT CANNOT AFFORD TO BE LIBELED.

Birch, the proprietor of the Dublin *World*, notorious for its easy leaning towards moneyed interests, brought an action against Mr. Forster, editor and proprietor of the *Examiner*, for an alleged libel. The libel consisted of denouncing the complainant as a libeller, in an article severely commenting on the *Birch v. Somerville* case. The present case was disgraceful but amusing, as Birch contrived to get a good sprinkling of Cabinet Ministers as witnesses, who were compelled to describe their bribing transactions. Of course the defendant obtained a verdict; but Lord Clarendon, one of the reluctant witnesses, suffered severely in having to remind the country of his weak tendencies about "law and order" in Ireland in 1848.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

MARYLEBONE.—The election took place this week, when Lord Ebrington obtained a large majority—the numbers being—For Ebrington, 6919; for Bell, 4166. An attempt was made to exact from the new member a pledge to vote against the Foreigners Enlistment Bill, but he replied that pledges he neither could nor would give. He had, he said, safeguarded his independence in all his intercourse with the borough, and the only promise he could make was to give to every subject a close and conscientious examination. Mr. Bell told the constituency that he was disappointed but not ashamed, and should keep his poll-books and cards for another election.

EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—Mr. R. S. Holford, of Westonbirt, has been elected without opposition. His opinions, which he sends from Genoa, are decidedly Conservative—a member of the Established Church, but for freedom of opinion and education of the people. Considers the war just and necessary.

FERMANAGH.—Mr. S. Gamble, a merchant of Enniskillen, has entered the lists with Lord Henry Loftus and the Honourable Colonel Cole. It is tolerably certain, however, that the last-named gentleman will be the successful candidate.

ANTRIM.—Captain Pakenham, brother of the late gallant member, has issued his address to the electors. His political principles are identical with those of his lamented relative, and, notwithstanding the threats of opposition, there is but little doubt of his return, probably without a contest.

LIMERICK.—The election will take place on the 26th instant, when Mr. Stephen De Vere will be returned without opposition.

NORWICH.—Mr. Peto, M.P., of the firm of Peto and Brassey, the eminent contractors, has just issued an address to the electors of Norwich resigning his seat, in consequence of having accepted the contract for the construction of the railway from Balaklava to the trenches in front of Sebastopol.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

THE writer of the City article of the *Times* says:—

"It is understood that fresh remonstrances have been made to the Board of Trade on the obstructions offered during the past half-year to the healthy development of public enterprises, by constant refusals to grant charters of incorporation. The satisfaction obtained, however, has been only of a negative kind, since, instead of those applications which are allowed to be important and urgent being at once granted, the parties are obliged to content themselves with a general intimation that a bill to amend the law of partnership will be introduced next session. Before this measure can be expected to come into operation nearly a year will most likely have passed, and another instance is thus afforded of the effects of official tardiness in matters where the great interests of commerce are concerned. The lapse of a year in the introduction of specific undertakings might at any time make every difference in their success or even their practicability, since men of business often abandon projects they would otherwise have warmly carried through, rather than wear their time out in combating useless delays. It is at the present moment, moreover, that every encouragement which freedom can give in such matters is most needed, especially when, as in the supply of materials for paper, the plans contemplated are of a nature to give direct assistance to the revenue. The plea for refusal is, of course, confined to the point that it would be undesirable to extend special privileges when the time is approaching for the adoption of wider views; but, if the proposed bill is not intended to disappoint the expectations of the country, those who are now seeking charters would be perfectly willing to accept such conditions as are contemplated to be introduced at a future period for the general benefit."

OUR CIVILISATION.

AN INVALID LODGER.—Frederick Robinson, an elderly gentleman of fifty, and evidently one of "the old school," occupied a first floor in Store-street, Bedford-square. On one occasion he complained to the servant girl that the yard door and the window of the room under his apartments were not kept shut, and consequently he was exposed to cold wind and cutting draughts from all parts of the house. The servant immediately closed the yard door, and shortly afterwards Robinson left the house. He returned in a few minutes, and seeing the door open again, he began threatening and abusing the servant in the most disgusting language. The landlady ran up stairs to see what was the matter, and said she could not allow such language to be used in her house, and desired Robinson to quit the lodgings as soon as he could make it convenient to do so. Without any other provocation whatever from her, he raised his foot and gave her a violent kick in the throat, which sent her backwards down a flight of eight or nine steps into the stone yard below. She was stunned at the moment, but fortunately sustained no other injury than a few bruises and the lacerated wound in her neck, under the jaw bone, which was caused by the kick. At Bow-street Robinson assured Mr. Hall that there were many extenuating circumstances. He was an invalid, and

old was most fatal. Mr. Hall gallantly fined him 15s., which was immediately paid by a gentleman in court. Cold appears to have narrowly escaped being more fatal to the lady than to the gentleman.

THE MARRIAGE MARKET.—A young man and a young woman are described as "rushing" into the presence of Mr. Hall, at Bow-street, to charge each other with bigamy. They had quite confused the inspector who attempted to take the charge. The young woman said that the young man was already married when she became his wife, and he had since married again, all the three wives being still alive. He responded to this statement by accusing her of being a married woman when she married him; to which she replied that this was not the fact, in a legal point of view, because her first husband had a wife living when he married her, and consequently she was at liberty to marry again. A stormy altercation was ensuing, when Mr. Hall, stopping the wrangle, said he could not interfere in the absence of legal evidence. They could indict one another if they liked, but they must do it legally.

MURDER COMMITTED WHILST DRUNK.—Some men were drinking together at Merriott. Horner, the deceased, bantered Lewis, the prisoner, and some altercation ensued. However, they left the house, friendly, but drunk. Horner was playful, and knocked off the other's hat twice, when Lewis stabbed him with a knife. He died immediately.

UNPROVOKED ASSAULT.—A powerful savage, named Crawley, spoke something not fit to hear to a young needlewoman. She told him to go away, and that she would have nothing to say to him; but he still persisted in his advances, and followed her to her door, when he forced his way in. Her landlady attempted to eject him, but he knocked her down, and, as she was going out of the doorway to fetch a constable, he struck the girl on the head and felled her to the earth. Her body was covered with bruises, inflicted while she was on the ground. The prisoner apologised by saying that he was drunk. Two months' activity have been awarded for the purpose of sobering him.

DISCRETIONARY POWER.—J. Pound, a "relieving" officer of the City of London Union, has been fined twenty shillings, for exercising his "discretion" in offering a piece of bread to a destitute woman who applied for a night's lodging. He paid the 20s. "under protest," which did not awe Sir R. W. Carden in the least.

THE ASSAULT AT BEULAH SPA.—The two Newtons, gentlemen, who were committed for trial for nearly killing Mr. Ker, who simply did not wish to make their acquaintance, have been found guilty, and sentenced respectively to nine months and three months' imprisonment.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, December 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MILITIA BILL.

This bill was read a third time and passed.

SAVINGS BANKS.

Lord Monteagle moved for certain returns relating to savings banks.

The returns were ordered, and their lordships adjourned at half-past 5 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE TEA DUTIES.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: I take this opportunity to give a notice which is of a somewhat unusual character, but which I feel the House will consider justifiable under all the circumstances of the case. I beg to state, without giving any other intimation, or wishing to hold out any presumption as to any other financial measures of any kind whatever, that it is the intention of her Majesty's Government, in the event of the continuance of the war, to propose to the House, when the time for making the financial statement for 1855 shall arrive, that the duty on tea, instead of falling progressively until it reaches 1s. per pound, shall continue at the present rate of 1s. 6d. per pound until a peace shall be concluded. It is on account of the enactment of the House being of such a long date, and the diminution of duty having been so long looked forward to, that the Government thought it right to give this early notice of their intention to make this alteration in the law.

UNSTAMPED PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. Bright called the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the case of Thomas Stevenson, of Wheeler-gate, Nottingham, who had been served with an Exchequer writ for publishing an occasional broadside containing intelligence on the subject of the war. Mr. Stevenson complained that it was unfair to exempt the telegraphic messages sent by the west-end clubhouses respecting parliamentary debates, and at the same time to single him out for prosecution. He brought the case under the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the hope that this person might not be subjected to the annoyance and expense of legal proceedings.

THE SICK AND WOUNDED AT SCUTARI.

Mr. S. HERBERT, in reply to Mr. WHITESIDE, stated that the latest returns received were dated the 25th of September and the 5th of December. The last accounts from Balaklava gave the numbers in the field and general officers at 2393; and in the hospitals at Scutari at 3550; making a total of 5943. He was afraid, however, that the subsequent returns would show a considerable addition to those numbers. The stoppages deducted from the pay of the sick amounted to threepence-halfpenny per day, which was the same as was exacted from the soldiers, when in health, for their rations.

BLOCKADE OF MEMEL.

Mr. DISRAELI begged to ask if her Majesty's Government had received any official account of the blockade of Memel by Russian gun boats.

Sir J. GRAHAM: So far from having received any such account, I have every reason to believe that no such blockade has been established. I have recently received information from Admiral Chads, dated Elsinore, December 15, and stating that up to the day previous her Majesty's cruisers were still in the Baltic. I have no reason to believe that any Russian ships of war have appeared off Memel, and least of all that they have instituted a blockade against not only a neutral but a friendly port.

PRUSSIAN ARSENAL IN THE JAHDE.

In reply to Mr. OTWAY,

Lord J. RUSSELL said, the British Government had received information from their minister at Berlin to the effect that the Prussian Government had acquired a part of the Duchy of Oldenburg, and that it was their intention to form an arsenal there. It was understood that the Governments of Hanover and Brunswick were inclined to remonstrate against this alienation of territory; but her Majesty's Government did not think it necessary to make any representation on the subject to the court of Berlin.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that in case the Enlistment Bill should be read a third time that evening, he would to-morrow move that the House at its rising should adjourn till Tuesday, the 23rd of January.

ENLISTMENT OF FOREIGNERS BILL.

Sir E. DERING moved that the bill be read a third time.

Mr. COBDEN then proceeded to enlarge on the general question of the war. He commenced by accusing the war of demoralising a great many members, as it inclined them to vote against their convictions. He then proceeded to say:—

"It was stated the other night by the noble lord the leader of this House that proposals had been made on the part of the Emperor of Russia, through Vienna, for peace upon certain bases which have been pretty frequently before the world under the designation of 'the four points.' I wish to draw attention to that subject; but before I do so, let me premise that I do not intend to say one word with regard to the origin of this unhappy war. I intend to start from the situation in which we now find ourselves; I think that it is the province of this House of Commons to express an opinion upon that situation; and if it be not, as I am going to do, to argue in favour of peace upon the terms announced by the Government, at all events, I think honourable members will see that it is absolutely necessary, on the other hand—if the war is to go on, if we are to carry on a war of invasion by land against an empire like Russia—that it should be carried on in a very different spirit and on a very different scale from what it has hitherto been."

He never could find out the objects of the war. He thought the feeling against Russia out of doors originated in a notion that she assisted to oppress nationalities, and that class of persons was fully represented by the late Lord Dudley Stuart; that noble lord's sympathy was geographical, extending to all nationalities supposed to be under Russian rule. But this notion was more equally determined with the other supposed grounds of the war, viz.:—the opening of the Black Sea, the free navigation of the Danube, and the integrity of Turkey. While sympathising with nationalities he could not sanction a propagandism carried on by means of war and interference with the affairs of other countries. The object stated in the declaration of war was to defend the Turks—and, said he:

"Now, I ask, have we not accomplished that object? Have we not arrived at that point when we can say, all that was promised in the Queen's speech has been effected. Russia is no longer within the pale of the Turkish territory. Russia, I believe, has renounced all intention of invading Turkey; and now we have, according to the noble lord, certain proposals made from Russia to serve as a basis of peace. What are those proposals? In the first place there is to be a joint protectorate, by the Five Great Powers of Europe, of the Christians of Turkey. There is to be a joint guarantee for the rights and privileges of the Principalities. There is to be a revocation of the rule laid down in 1841 with regard to the right of entrance of ships of war into the Black Sea; and the Danube is to be free to all nations.

These are the propositions that are made for peace on behalf of Russia, as we are told by the noble lord; and what I want to ask the House is, whether it is not competent for us to offer an opinion, at the present moment, as to the desirability of treating on these terms? My first reason for urging that we should entertain these terms is this:—We are told that Austria and Prussia have agreed to those terms. Now, Austria and Prussia are more interested in this quarrel than England is—a great deal more than England ought to be."

If Austria and Prussia, who were so much more interested than we were, was willing to accept these propositions, why should not we? As to the governments and peoples of Germany not being in harmony, he believed, at least in Prussia, nineteen-twentieths of the population would go with the king. Had England abstained from war, and occupied the same ground as Austria and Prussia, Russia would equally have evacuated the Principalities. Was this war to continue because we were Quixotically ready to fight for everybody that was supposed to be wronged? If so, where was it to end? He strongly advocated that present propositions to negotiate ought to be sufficient to secure peace, and unless you could secure some great object commensurate with the sacrifices that were being made, we might make peace. He contended that even the taking of Sebastopol and the occupation of a portion of the Crimea, was not such an object, and not being the real stronghold of Russia, would not touch the vitality of her power. He sneered at the Turks and their national and physical condition, insinuating that they were not worth the sacrifices that were being made for them; and it was a great delusion to suppose that they were capable of independence and self-government. He urged that the House ought to encourage Government to accept every indication of peace from the enemy, and if they erred, it would at least be on the side of humanity.

The debate then ran without an exception through a series of the lesser members, including such names as Mr. CORRY, Mr. VINCENT SCULLY, Mr. I. BUTT, Mr. LAING, &c., until about eleven o'clock, when

Lord JOHN RUSSELL rose, and expressed his reluctance to enter into the arguments with regard to the bill. He confessed that if we had 200,000 or 250,000 British troops, he should not think this bill necessary, but situated as we were it was indispensable. Its opponents endeavoured to stir up popular feeling against it, and when its defenders stated plainly the facts which caused it, they were called imprudent. Mr. Butt had exclaimed, "If you cannot do without these foreigners, then perish England," a proposition in which he could by no means agree, preferring rather to have foreign troops than to see England perish. He was, for his part, ready to adopt any means to bring this contest to a successful termination. With regard to the outcry against taking mercenaries when, as was said, the enthusiasm of the people could be relied on for abundance of recruits, the plain fact was that notwithstanding that enthusiasm the number of recruits required was not to be got. As to Mr. Cobden's speech, his whole argument was founded on a supposed origin of the war, which was not the true one, viz., a propagandism of liberal principles. That was not the object, but the object to check the aggrandisement of Russia, to hold back barbarism and advance civilisation. The war was but the fulfilment of the prophecy of the first Napoleon, that if anything could unite France and England it would be resistance to the aggression of Russia on Turkey. In one point, however, Napoleon was mistaken, and that was in supposing that Austria would be a partaker in the spoil. The rest of his arguments contained nothing very novel; but he concluded as follows:—

"I have said that the war was undertaken, not for any speculative object, but because there was an aggression of the Emperor of Russia against his neighbour. The hon. member for Manchester, in a letter which he has very widely circulated—not being able to justify such a fact as this, that the Emperor of Russia sent to Constantinople a message, saying—'Sign a note which I will dictate, or within eight days your territory shall be occupied'—finding that a matter rather difficult of justification, he says that my noble friend and I did that which was just as bad—that we sent a fleet to Athens, with a menace to bombard it. That is not exactly true. The fact is, that some English subjects had been injured in their property, and the fleet was sent there to interrupt the trade until the pecuniary losses were satisfied, and that object was attained. But as to any threat of bombarding Athens, such a thing was never thought of. (Cheers.) I have made these remarks, because the hon. member for the West Riding, at the commencement of this discussion—in a very fair and temperate speech, I must say—made observations as to the nature of the war. All that I wished to do was, to point out that there must be some securities for peace, and let me say, having stated at the end of the discussion on the first night of the session what were the general provisions of the treaty with Austria, I think the House will admit that I did not deceive them on that subject, and did not overstate its

provisions. If I had done so I should have been justly chargeable with misleading the House and attempting to give an exaggerated notion of the provisions of that treaty. Having stated that, I must now repeat that my belief is, that although not contained in the literal terms of the treaty, Austria will find that, as we do not propose to diminish the territory of Russia, as we propose to leave her a great and powerful state, and only seek for securities which are as necessary for Austria as they are for England or for France, in order to obtain an honourable and a durable peace—that unless Russia shall consent to such terms—such fair and moderate terms—as it will be our duty to propose whenever the minister of the Emperor of Russia shall declare that he is directed to enter into negotiations—I feel convinced that if those terms are not accepted by the Emperor of Russia—that if he is of opinion that that great scheme which was begun in the reign of Catharine, if not before, that great scheme which is to end in adding Turkey to the dominions of Russia, must be persevered in—then, that we shall have, before the opening of the next campaign, the alliance of Austria with us in an offensive and defensive war. (Cheers.) I have stated that Austria is not literally bound to any such course; but I think that she is morally bound by the stipulations into which she has entered. I have always been of opinion that we should be obliged to have a long and protracted war, unless Austria was a party with us in that war. But I do believe that if Austria joins us, and if this should lead to the accession of Prussia to the alliance, that we shall be in a position before very long to say that the war will not be protracted, and that it will be ended by a durable, satisfactory, and honourable peace. (Cheers.) I could not avoid making these explanations. I have nothing to add with respect to the bill immediately before the House; indeed, I have not heard any new arguments to-night. If gentlemen wish to continue the discussion of that bill I can have no objection to it; but it seems to me that the bill has been sufficiently considered, and that, after no very long time, it will be generally admitted that the measure has been a beneficial one." (Cheers.)

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON followed, but there was nothing very striking, as may be supposed, in his speech. He defended Mr. Disraeli against an attack of Lord John, with regard to his "gloating over our disasters at Sebastopol," which he likened to the "abuse of the plaintiff's attorney in a bad case." He criticised the conduct of the Government with regard to the expedition to the Crimea, but with no great brilliancy, only repeating a former speech of his.

Mr. BRIGHT complained that Lord John had not fairly represented Mr. Cobden's arguments. The noble lord had invoked the *status quo*, which nobody had set up; what Mr. Cobden had said of the character and condition of the Turks was only in refutation of the monstrous statements of Lord Palmerston with regard to the progress of that country. He accused Lord John of disingenuousness and, shifting the issue, did so in the plainest terms, undeterred by Ministerial interruptions. He urged that the Mahomedan part of the Turkish population, as contradistinguished from the Christian population, were in a decaying state, and that the two empires which undertook to set Turkey on her legs would have a more difficult task than they imagined. In the extreme jeopardy of Turkey this country was taking a course which, in his opinion, would only tend to her destruction. The line of argument then taken by Mr. Bright was pretty much that which he took in his recently published letter, and it was delivered with great force and energy—urging that the basis on which Russia was willing to treat was sufficient to ensure peace, and that the carrying on of a war for purposes either of vengeance or conquest was a crime in the eyes of God and man.

On a division the members were, for the reading, 173; against it, 135; majority, 38.

THE WAR.

The following despatch has been received from Admiral Hamelin, addressed to the Minister of Marine:—

"Bay of Kamiesch, Dec. 12.

"Four thousand three hundred men arrived on the 10th, with ammunition.

"A brisk cannonade has been kept up for the last two days.

"The enemy has made some vigorous sorties on our own and on the English lines.

"They were driven back by our musketry, and in some instances at the point of the bayonet, after a fierce resistance."

The report that 60,000 men had passed Perekop to join the Russian army in the Crimea, is, we learn from a good source, entirely untrue. From 15,000 to 16,000 men is the greatest number that the Russians can receive for some weeks.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1854.

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.

ARBITRARY GOVERNMENT.

THE Ministry have carried an unpopular measure by means of a threat of resignation. In the circumstances a threat of resignation is a threat of dissolution, and a threat of dissolution is overwhelming with a House of Commons comprised of disorganised parties. Arbitrary government is, therefore, for the present fully established in this country. The coincidence may betoken no great disasters to the constitution, but it must not escape notice that the unpopular measure for which Parliamentary Independence is sacrificed, is a measure for the establishment of a Home Army of Foreign Mercenaries. We are not in the least despairing of English liberties; but Englishmen should understand the precise tendencies of the politics for the moment in the ascendant.

A Parliament has met and has passed measures. The French Parliament is about to meet and will pass measures. And as the action of the French Parliament will not in the least indicate a constitutional régime, so in our case we must make this distinction—that we have a Parliament without Parliamentary Government.

From first to last, during the fortnight closed last night, the Government has obstinately refused to make any statement of their policy, or of the position, or prospects, of the war. Lord John Russell last night was seemingly significant, but, after all, he only expressed his individual opinion of what ought to seduce Austria and satisfy Russia. The Foreigners Enlistment Bill is passed; but Parliament is not informed either of the number or nation of the mercenary horde we are to let loose in defence of civilisation. The Militia Bill is an act, but Parliament asks in vain to be informed what force of natives this bill will supply for the purposes of actual war in the Crimea; and as to our general military position, we only get a parenthetical suggestion in a by-the-by speech of Lord John Russell that our Government is calculating on a

standing army of 200,000 men. With regard to our War Finance, we are left in profound ignorance, and all that our Finance Minister does is to send the funds down by perplexing stockbrokers. Of trade, as affected by the war, nothing is permitted to be said: Mr. Collier is coaxed into a postponement of his motion; Mr. Danby Seymour is sneered at for making some valuable statements respecting Black Sea commerce; and the Duke of Newcastle seemed to resent as an insult Lord Hardwicke's questions as to the reality of the blockades in Russian waters. We have had a vast variety of detailed explanations as to the administration of the war in minor particulars; these have been conceded to the public because the personal vanity of individual Ministers was affected by the universal impression that the war has been mismanaged. And in the profusion of perplexing and petty vindications of this character Parliament seems to have been induced into the notion that it was putting the Government to a trial and hearing a solemn defence. The more important Ministers have encouraged the garrulity of their colleagues, and have themselves perseveringly kept silence on all the great points. No correspondence whatever has been laid on the table. True, there is an Austrian treaty there: the Ministers who themselves have given contrary interpretations may safely defy the astute House of Commons to make a meaning out of the awful document. Thus, in all respects, a Cabinet in which no one has faith is obtaining unlimited "confidence," and thus we are not only subdued to the endurance of arbitrary government, but to the arbitrary government of men who have not proved any illustrious capacity in their great position.

We are not forgetting that we have had several debates, and three important divisions, and that the Government has succeeded in obtaining majorities in both Houses in favour of their measures, and, by implication, in support of their refusal to consult the Parliament on the national policy.

But the majorities, we have already said, were not obtained from the convictions but from the fears of members; and the explanation of a distrusted Cabinet remaining in office because Parliament believes there is no other Cabinet possible just now, may be complete without in the least satisfying us that England is in the possession of self-government. Unpopular measures have been passed under a species of compulsion; while the voting has been one way, all the speaking has been the other way; members voted for bad measures rather than have no measures. We are here speaking, not of the abject Ministerialists, and not of the steady Derbyites—these two sides place their consciences in political trusteeship—but of the really independent sections who ejected Lord Derby and are sustaining Lord Aberdeen—many of whom, on Tuesday, voted with Sir Bulwer Lytton, and none of whom voted for the Government without reluctance. The Ministerialists and the Tory Opposition do not feel the degradation of the assembly in its present position: the one side has private compensation for public insignificance; the other, hoping for its own turn, does not quarrel with a system which answers its own purposes. The mortification for the independent members must be all the greater at this subversion of Parliamentary Government,

that it is the result of their own want of organisation. Mr. Cobden, in a speech in which the man of genius escaped from the dogma of Peace, and in which he indicates the possibility of his participating, with the liberal party, in the conduct of the war, has said that the House of Commons was losing its independence in not making conditions with the Government. That is precisely the view we

have ventured so frequently to suggest; but of what avail is it in Mr. Cobden to say this and not to act on it? Will he, or who will, dare to be "factious," and compel the Ministers to remember that there is an English theory about English freedom? The *Times* has said this week, speaking of the failure of the Government in the war:—

"These things go to make up an aggregate of helpless disorder and hopeless confusion, which our Government must find speedy means of terminating, or they will infallibly induce the conviction that we may trust the aristocracy to administer the affairs of peace, but must dive to a lower station of society for the tact, the talent, and the energy requisite for meeting the fierce and urgent emergencies of war."

There are, we believe, men in the House of Commons numerous enough and able enough to take the government out of the hands of the aristocracy. That, however, is an idea which will not be generally accepted until the progress of the war has thickened the national disasters. But even already members must feel that the Government is in their power, if they choose to exercise their power. We do not doubt that the threat of resignation was a reality: the Coalition would be glad to escape from the responsibility of a war to which they are unequal. Such threats, nevertheless, should have little influence: for there is nothing more certain than that there must be a Coalition Government, and we could scarcely have a worse one.

WHENCE THE FOREIGN LEGION IS TO COME.

MINISTERS have told us nothing whatever respecting the sources from which they hope to draw the Foreign Auxiliary Legion, and their silence on that point is so remarkable as in itself to suggest more than one important interpretation. There are three modes in which the bill can be used, and we are not to suppose that the authors of the measure are blind to the powers which they have asked from Parliament.

The first mode would be, simply to enlist the subjects of such Governments on the Continent as would be willing to give their permission for that purpose. There are many Governments which might be willing to do so. Austria, we may suppose, would bring all her own forces into the field; but we may look for willing supplies from Brunswick, and some of the minor Governments of Germany, which pay some soldiers, and breed more soldiers, but have very little means to render their armies locomotive, or to use them effectively for aggressive purposes. They have already signified their sympathy in the war, and would probably be glad to enlist in the army of the allies, as identifying themselves with the winning party on easy terms. Switzerland has a habit of lending its soldiers. Belgium might furnish a contingent, though Belgian soldiers do not stand at a high quotation. Portuguese are already volunteering, and would of course be lent by our ancient ally, who is out of harm's way, and only desires to conciliate England. Spain would probably reciprocate the loan she had of Sir De Lacy Evans's Legion; and Spaniards can fight well. Tuscany is about to receive Lord Normanby as Envoy—and all Italians are proud to be thought Tuscans.

To the second use of the bill we have already alluded. It gives Ministers the power of enlisting foreign soldiers—a power they intend exercising. Governments on the Continent might place themselves in this position, that they should not be allies coming into the field with their armies, that they should, in fact, lend no assistance whatever in the contest, yet that they should not dare be enemies, and yet further, that the position of neutrals would be abso-

lutely intolerable. Prussia yields the most signal instance of such a power; but Denmark also, like Prussia, displays a Government which claims a precarious alliance with this country, and evidently leans towards Russia; while the people, constitutionally, must sympathise, if not with England, yet with the allies. Ministers, therefore, might well enlist the subjects of both those powers; and there are Holsteiners who would not be sorry to avenge the events of 1848—especially if England were obliged to declare by act that she then made a mistake. Should the Danish or Prussian Government remonstrate with such an enlistment, our own Government might well say—You are not allied, you cannot be neutral, your own people belie your policy, how then can we respect your arrangements? The mere hint, we say, that such a use might be made of the bill, would almost be sufficient screw upon the Governments of Denmark and of Prussia to make them know their duty.

The third mode opens an extended list. The state of Europe as it is will not be the state of Europe a short time hence. The continental Governments are taking measures to prepare against a general disruption; their own relations must be thrown into confusion, the allegiance of many must be rendered precarious, perhaps broken; the armies of the Continent may be wandering without owners; those who are now revolutionaries may be merged in the population, and England may well be able to engage fifty, a hundred thousand, a million of men, or any number that might be requisite to break down and trample under foot the tyrant of the world. Ministers hold the power in their hand: whether the hand is powerful enough to use it is a question, for whose solution time may furnish the opportunity.

We profess to be at home constitutionally afraid of a foreign force, and we wish to put restraints upon the Ministers and the mercenaries. For our own part we have little respect in that security which lies in the chains placed upon the enemy. Trust to those, and you have always the chance of his getting free. The true safety is to be strong yourself. If England fears foreign soldiers, the very fear proves her weakness, and suggests the remedy—which is, to increase her strength proportionately. We are using up the Militia as a foreign army, we are stripping the country, we are confessing fear of foreigners in our own pay. Can we defy foreigners not in our pay in the service of the enemy? We could do so if Ministers did that which the times render necessary—arm the people!

THE AUSTRIAN TREATY.

NAMES must not blind us to realities; the memory of past facts must not veil to us the perception of present facts; the preponderance of recent evidence one way must not make us presume that there is to be no evidence the other way, especially when we have had reason to know that the case has not always been one-sided. Austria has been for generations the nickname for all that is tyrannical, unjust, arbitrary, sanguinary, cruel, and intolerable. As a state holding by conquest states superior to herself, Austria has, throughout the greater part of her history, been the representative of organised usurpation and constituted rapine. Nevertheless, we must admit that Vienna has from time to time been the seat of great administrative faculties; has been the abode of princes worthy to rule empires, and has given birth to statesmanship sometimes superior to that of Metternich. Rudolph was one of the great names in history, fitted to rank with the Charlemagnes, the Napoleons, the Caesars, and the Clives. One of the most earnest, ardent, and successful reformers of modern times, a

man who united in his own measures equivalents of our Reform Bill, our Free Trade, and our Catholic Emancipation—Leopold of Tuscany, was a Prince of the House of Austria, an Emperor of that hated name. Crotchetty Joseph was a man of ability and sincerity. Austria, therefore, has not produced *only* Ferdinands and Metternichs; has not only presented a hideous realisation of Machiavelli's satire—the Prince. One of the reformers of 1848 was an Austrian statesman; and the Austrian statesmen who now shape the public affairs of that country, appear really able to comprehend the position in which she is now placed, and to be advancing measures applicable to the rescue of the empire from the destruction which seems to be the doom of absolute Governments. We do not say that we trust Austria; we do not say that she has yet regained the confidence, or even the hope, of Europe. We do not forget that her acts, as at the present moment recorded, are before us imperfectly, if at all. We see only a part of her action; but such as we do see we are bound at least to observe with a candid mind, and to take it for what it appears to be worth.

What is the effect of the recent treaty? It declares that the common object of Austria, as well as the Western Powers, is the restoration of general peace, with sufficient guarantees against the renewal of the present disturbance. There can be no such guarantee without a curbing of the power of Russia; and Count Buol and his colleagues must understand that necessity as well as any men in this country, if not better. But Austria has publicly, before Europe, recorded her acceptance of the position thus defined. Should peace not be concluded within the year, Austria will join with the Western Powers, and she pledges herself in this treaty to join in deliberation for "effective" measures to attain the common object. Let us bear in mind that the position of Austria is, in fact, different from that of the Western Powers, inasmuch as she is not yet at war with Russia, which they are; and no new act calls upon her to declare war, unless, after giving appropriate notice to the great Power of the North, she herself prepares the way for such an act on the part of Russia as may reasonably justify a declaration of war. Hence the interval of one month between, not the ratification, but the signature of this treaty and the deliberation on ulterior measures. Should war ensue, the treaty becomes one, *ipso facto*, offensive and defensive—that is, Austria becomes one in the triple alliance with the Western Powers to act as well as consult—to make aggressive warfare as well as to defend. From the first she pledges herself not to entertain any separate overtures or propositions on the part of Russia. In fact, the joint action of Austria with the Western Powers commenced from the 2nd of December. Comparing the position of Austria at the present moment with her position in the spring, when she was rather slowly acquiescing with the invitations of Prussia to unite in the quadrupartite treaty,—and with her position on the 20th of April, when she had just gained a head of Prussia,—we should observe a constant progress towards the position now assumed; and we must admit that at each stage Austria, when we have least expected her, has maintained her ground; and after each stage has maintained her advance. We repeat, we do not trust her—we do not even yet hope—but we watch her progress with increasing interest.

In the series of diplomatic instruments on the part of Austria, we have not yet had one constituting so distinct and active a bond as this. There are some circumstances which tend to confirm the belief of its importance, and of the active sequel contemplated in Vienna. The gift of the Order of St. Stephen

to the Emperor Napoleon, shows that Austria intends really to be the comrade of France in the present situation, and not only intends it, but means Europe to know that she does so. It is now notorious in London that the Emperor Napoleon has admitted to an English Member of Parliament his willingness to re-establish Poland as an independent State, if that should become necessary in a political and military sense. The Emperor, who has expressed that opinion, is the person receiving the Order of St. Stephen from the Emperor of Austria. Lord Normanby, who has recently been Minister at Paris, is now appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Tuscany—Tuscany one of the outposts of Austria, though not unacquainted with some degree of constitutional freedom.

Every sign continues to make us believe that Austria is preparing for rough times. It is, however, impossible that she can look forward to times of strife, without being prepared to revise the internal relations of her Empire. The war cannot be limited to the Crimea, or to the year 1854; it will extend to other years and other Empires; and those who intend to preserve a commanding position, must be prepared to adapt their counsels to the circumstances of the time. Either Austria is gambling in the maddest game that ever was witnessed, or she is preparing for one of the grandest changes that ever has been witnessed in the development of States. Time will tell us whether she is ruled by wisdom or madness.

PRESIDENT PIERCE'S MESSAGE.

PRESIDENT PIERCE's last Message to Congress is a State medal of that kind which presents all its information on the reverse. It tells us, in a positive sense, nothing new whatever. When it announces that the Republic is flourishing, with a revenue exceeding by 15,000,000 dollars the expenditure, it only informs us of what we know already. In announcing that crops, although less abundant than they have been, are still amply sufficient for domestic consumption, with a surplus for exportation, President Pierce tells his own countrymen exactly what we have told our readers weeks, if not months, ago. We knew that "a universal drought, totally destroying the crops," must have been a great Liverpool-Yankee lie, intended for corn-jobbing purposes on our side. We are informed that the ratifications have been exchanged of a treaty to regulate the coast fisheries of Great Britain and the reciprocal trade between the Republic and the British North American Provinces; which we knew already. The President relates the affair of the *Cyane* at Greystown, in soft and plausible terms, so as to excuse Captain Hollins and the Government which gave him loose instructions, while, by the very moderation of that excuse, disarming any remains of irritation on the part of Great Britain. All the positive statements of the Message are such as could have been much more satisfactorily compiled by any reader of our own paper.

It is in things which President Pierce does not say that we find the fullest information. For example, the position of affairs with Spain remains just as it was at the end of the last session of Congress; but the new Government established by the revolution gives reason to believe that the American Minister will find the present Government more favourably inclined than the last to comply with the just demands of the United States; a statement from which we learn, that the Government which has obstructed the Order of the Lone Star has not yet done *anything* towards settling the vital question of Cuba. President Pierce expects that the Government of Espartero will be more willing to sell Cuba at a bargain than the Government of his prede-

cessor. Now we have not learned any new reason for believing that supposition. President Pierce may count upon a greater press of necessity; he may reckon that Espartero, being a man of plainer common sense, must see how impossible it is for Spain ultimately to keep Cuba, and how the money-payment would be some gain for his country; and the President may be correct in those calculations. But there is no reason to suppose that Espartero or any Ministers at the present day will abate one jot of Spanish pride. We can only make one exception to that statement; and that would be a Minister appointed by the extreme Democratic party. Such a Ministry might give Cuba to the United States, not as a surrender of Spanish territory, but as a friendly readjustment and a fair exchange. In such a bargain, however, dollars would not be the equivalent, though political support might. From giving that, however, President Pierce appears to preclude himself.

The whole drift of his Message, in the part which is most forcible and most pertinent to the present time, is a disclamour of interference in European affairs:—

"As a nation, we are reminded that, whatever interrupts the peace or checks the prosperity of any part of Christendom tends more or less to involve our own. . . . Hence it has been my earnest endeavour to maintain peace and friendly intercourse with all nations.

"The wise theory of this Government, so early adopted and steadily pursued, of avoiding all entangling alliances, has hitherto exempted it from many complications in which it would otherwise have become involved. . . . In plans for adjusting the balance of power among themselves they have assumed to take us into account, and would constrain us to conform our conduct to their views. One or another of the powers of Europe has, from time to time, undertaken to enforce arbitrary regulations, contrary in many respects to established principles of international law. That law the United States have, in their foreign intercourse, uniformly respected and observed, and they cannot recognise any such interpolations therein as the temporary interests of others may suggest. They do not admit that the sovereigns of one continent, or of a particular community of States, can legislate for all others."

The President shows that the distrust occasioned by this standing aloof is unjust; that the extension of the right of neutrals, promoted by the new treaty with Russia, is only consistent with the principle just laid down, and with the course that the United States have followed ever since they had an independent Government. This is true; but, nevertheless, President Pierce fails to show us any grounds for accepting his doctrines of absolute American neutrality as final or beneficent. It is exactly the policy which has been attributed to Great Britain as a reproach—a pedantic boast of self-righteousness—a practical regard only to self-interest, and a chivalry exercised only on behalf of commerce. The United States unquestionably were made for better things than that. If the Republic has no men, born of its soil and enjoying its freedom, who can perceive higher duties accompanying their rights, alas! for the future of the Republic.

At the present moment the whole of Europe is arraying itself on two sides—one to sustain arbitrary government—exactly the opposite to that which is upheld by the United States, and one to vindicate rights which are fatal to the development of arbitrary power, and which must by degrees lead to the development of popular power. "The Americans," says General Pierce, "constitute an example to the nations." True, but by the fact of that example, they have an influence of great weight; and their simple word of encouragement might give such life to numerous parties in Europe as to hasten the development of popular power by generations. At the present moment it happens—we say it with pride and gratitude—that our own country is arrayed on the right side; the whole body of the English people is

standing up for the principles of national independence and justice, as opposed to arbitrary power and wrong. By that simple exercise of our power, we are consolidating and strengthening amongst ourselves rights that have been weakened in recent years. The hearty goodwill of the United States at such a moment would greatly contribute to increase that strength—to make Englishmen, in their social and political conduct, more like Americans. Is it consistent with patriotism that Americans should view such a condition of the English people with indifference and should withhold the hand of brotherhood, in a cowardly and selfish regard to what some imbecile king or some vulgar czar might say?

It so happens—we say it more with gratitude than with pride—that the national power of this country is exercised on the Continent for extending the principles by which we live politically; and we might still further develop the vitality of Republicanism on the Continent—for it is Republicanism, although we act in the name of "her Majesty"—if America also would aid us with voice, counsel, and right hand. Ay, without any State subsidies or contingents of the standing army, the presence of the American flag, the services of a few American volunteers, the good word of American statesmen, would give that strength to England which England could exercise only for good, and which would bind us still more strongly for the future to liberal constitutions and natural alliances with peoples instead of bureaucracies. Is it consistent, we say, with the high sense of the blessings that America enjoys, coldly to stand by when other states may be assisted in their struggles towards those blessings, instead of holding out the hand of help; to let the arms fall coldly by the side, and look on in safe neutrality with a chivalry reserved for the protection only of commerce?

We see the reason of President Pierce's policy, and regret it. There are in the Union at least two parties—one which calls itself, *par excellence*, *democratic*, and hates England, with a preference even for a low-minded Czar, so that he be the enemy of England; and a more truly liberal party, which can look forward to a federation of all the high influences of the earth, and to a substantial spread of Republic by whatever names the institutions of different countries may be called. There is a party chivalrously eager to extend the institutions and principles of Union, and one which proposes only to enjoy those blessings without doing anything to deserve them by extending them to others. A considerable portion of President Pierce's first term has expired, he looks, of course, to be re-elected for another four years; and already by this negative course trimming between his own party and its antagonists, he is taking care to avoid offending any, hoping to remain unmoved in the still waters between the conflicting streams.

STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND ENGLAND.

The last mail from Australia brought the Report of the select committee of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce upon postal communication by steam with this country. At the present moment this document is of striking importance, for since it was printed those colonies have been deprived of the then existing lines of contract steamers, whose services were declared insufficient to meet the growing requirements of Australian commerce. By the withdrawal of the steamers *via* the Cape and India, the colonists of Australia are left to rely upon the postal service of sailing clipper-ships, the finest in the world, no doubt, but not endowed with the certainty, of steam. The urgent recommendation which the Sydney committee gave for the adoption of the Panama route must now possess far greater weight. The colonists of the "Great South Land" must however, put their own shoulders to the wheel, and, not looking too much to England, take the initiative, as they are the most deeply interested.)

Open Council.

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

LAST OF THE PRESTON STRIKE.

(To the *Editor of the Leader*.)

December 20, 1854.

SIR,—I am extremely sorry that it should be necessary to encroach upon your valuable space with any subject possessing so little of public importance, at a time when more interesting matters are crowding upon you daily; but, having received several letters from various places inquiring concerning my imprisonment, and finding also that in consequence of it not being generally known that I am again at liberty, other letters have been addressed to me which have not reached me, I feel compelled to adopt this course in order to satisfy that portion of the public who take an interest in me or the cause for which I was imprisoned.

Allow me then to say that I was imprisoned at the suit of John Benjamin Horsfall, printer, of Royton, for the sum of 16*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, the balance of an account for printing the weekly reports or balance sheets, which debt was contracted during the last four weeks of the "Preston Lock Out," and for which I and several others of the Executive Committee had become responsible.

Immediately upon my imprisonment, a few of my personal friends commenced a subscription for my liberation; and at a public meeting called by them for the purpose, a committee was formed to collect the necessary amount; but on the 20th of November arrangements were made between the committee and Mr. Horsfall's agent that I should be liberated on the payment of 45*l.*, which sum was immediately borrowed, and I was accordingly liberated on the 22nd inst., having been in prison fifteen days.

I find, upon inquiry from the secretary of the committee, that the above sum, together with solicitor's fees on my behalf, amount to 57*l.*, and that 20*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* has been subscribed towards it, leaving 36*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* still to be raised.

Much has been said in many places respecting the apathy of the Preston people; and, although I am not now about to vindicate their conduct, I must, in justice to them, say that, in consequence of the length of the recent struggle and the present depressed state of trade in the town, coupled with the high price of every article of consumption, their means are, indeed, very small even for their own wants, nay, absolutely inadequate to meet them, and I would therefore humbly, but earnestly, appeal to the various trades who so nobly supported them during the contest, to assist in removing this responsibility from the shoulders of two or three individuals.

Mr. Horsfall was only one of several parties to whom the committee were indebted; it will be seen, by reference to the final balance-sheet issued by the Weavers' Committee, that the sum of 900*l.* had been borrowed for the purposes of the contest, which sum has since been reduced to 530*l.*, and while deeply thankful to all parties for what has been done in my behalf, I must not forget to thank the remaining creditors for the lenity they have displayed, and trust that with the return of more prosperous times we shall be able to repay them to the last farthing. Apologising for the length of this letter, and trusting to your usual kindness for its insertion in your next, I remain your humble servant,

GEORGE COWELL.

12, Young-street, Pibleton-lane, Preston.
All communications to be addressed to James Southworth, Secretary, No. 7, Old Shambles Market-place.

Post-office orders to be made payable to Edwin Whittle, coal-dealer, Hawarden-street, North-road Preston.

THE MARYLEBONE ELECTION.

(To the *Editor of the Leader*.)

DEAR SIR,—The Marylebone Election has ended in the return of an aristocratic Whig lord, contrary to the general expectations of the electors, who had considered Mr. Bell was the favourite candidate and certain of success. But the facts are, a disgraceful compact was entered into between the *pseudo Reformers* and the *Whigs* and *Tories*, and they worked together, sparing no pains or means to damage the interest and character of the independent candidate. True, Mr. Bell does not come up to the standard of the Marylebone Reformers, and what with his shortcomings and the disgust felt for the aristocratic nominee, two-thirds of the Reformers resolved not to vote at all.

Enormous sums of money were spent by the Ebrington party in public-houses, cabs, and seedy billiard-rooms, and this is called purity of election.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
AN ELECTOR OF MARYLEBONE

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 Christmas number of *Household Words* is a delightful contribution to the means of a genial fireside enjoyment of the present season. It ought to be read aloud in all families on Christmas Eve; or, as Christmas Eve falls on Sunday, any other eve in Christmas week will do. We like the literary method or form of the number—that of giving to a number of distinct stories a common dramatic setting. This is CHAUCER's method in the "Canterbury Pilgrimage;" Boccacio also used it; and, indeed, there is a natural fitness in it which will always make it popular. In the setting of the "Seven Poor Travellers," and in the first story, told by the host of the night, we think we discern Mr. DICKENS's own pleasant, and kindly, and poetical vein. The second story, that of the Jew "Acen Virlar," is extremely good in a peculiar style of the fantastic; and the fourth, or broken-down attorney's story, is one of the very best and most amusing little stories of plot and incident we have ever read.

We must call attention to the merits of *Punch's Almanack* for the new year. The text is, as usual, a perfect mass of minute puns and facetiae crushed together in small marginal type round the illustrations; and the illustrations themselves make the number, perhaps, the best that has been issued. Mr. LEECH's versatility is here apparent—particularly his equal facility in the domestic or in-doors form of the comic, and in out-of-doors scenery with a dash of comic human interest across it. One of the illustrations—representing two fellows fishing hopelessly in a heavy rain, in a dreary out-of-the-way place, with night coming on, both being miserably wretched, but the one anxious to go home, while the other won't hear of it—has been haunting us since we saw it. There is more real genius in that sketch than in many a much-praised painting.

It is a fact for these columns, devoted as they are to the news of the intellectual world, that, on the 8th of December last, the Pope and his assembled Cardinals and Bishops promulgated, in St. Peter's at Rome, the decree of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin—thus adding to the beliefs of the world that new speculative ingredient the want of which has caused all our woes, all our wars in the East, all our political convulsions, and the authoritative decree of which can only be compared to the letting loose from the dome of St. Peter's and from the hand of the Pope of a subtle and intense oil of such virtue that, diffusing itself through the atmosphere of our planet, it will restore health to the soul of the race and peace to all the relations of peoples. Yes, this proposition, that Mary was conceived immaculately, promulgated on Friday, the 8th of December last, is to be the universal solvent, the spiritual counteractive to all that is morally and politically wrong. Already the world moves in sunshine; and we are all, whether we know it or not, sweeter men. Curiously enough, as the *Catholic Universe* informs its readers, the scene which took place at Rome on the 8th was prophesied two centuries ago. It was prophesied that the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception would be settled at a time when there would be a revolution in China, convulsion in Turkey, and wars among Christian kings—also, that it would be settled in a week without a Friday. The fulfilment of the main part of the prophecy is obvious; and as in honour of Friday, the 8th of December, the Pope absolved all Catholics from the usual fast on that day of the week, the rest may be said to have been fulfilled too!

France has just lost one of her celebrated men, M. LÉON FAUCHER, for many years distinguished both as a statesman and a writer. The career of M. FAUCHER is in many respects typical of the manner in which France—differing so much from our own country—uses the abilities of her eminent journalists, authors, and scholars. We know who are our "governing classes" in this country; they are the members of our aristocratic families, and the members of that wonderful class from which these families recruit themselves by marriage—our capitalists of the second and third generation. France has its "governing class," too; but its composition is peculiar. There is a dash of the old noblesse in it; commerce and capital are also represented; but the real strength of the governing class are those young men growing up every year all over the provinces, and educating themselves with an express eye to public life in Paris. LÉON FAUCHER, for example, was born in one of the southern departments, the son of poor parents; but from the time he was a pupil at the school of Toulouse, he looked forward to being a minister of state. He came to Paris first in the capacity of tutor in a family, but soon began to write for the newspapers. After contributing to the *Temps*, and other liberal journals, he became principal editor of the *Courrier Français*. The publication of his important work on the social condition and political institutions of England (*Etudes sur l'Angleterre*, 1845), raised him still higher in the ranks of authorship. He was immediately elected a member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences—in which society he continued till his death, a vigorous expositor of the English policy of Free-trade, and generally of English economics. In 1847 he was elected Deputy for Rheims to the Assembly. After the Revolution of 1848 Rheims elected

him again, and as his peculiar economical doctrines made him firm against the tide of socialistic reform which came in with the Provisional Government, he was one of those who came into power during the Presidency of LOUIS-NAPOLEON. He was Minister of the Interior twice during this period; and in that capacity became very well known over Europe. The *coup d'état*, however, broke his connexion with Louis-Napoleon; and, indignant at the subversion of Constitutionalism in France, he retired from office. He was one of those who, since Louis-Napoleon's accession to the empire, have most boldly used the restricted liberty of speech and writing allowed in France; and among his latest writings are some articles on the war resources of Russia, France, and Great Britain, published a few months ago in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, in which he ventured, in a very independent manner, to review the finance policy of Louis-Napoleon's Government, more particularly its lavish expenditure in the vaunted public works now going on in Paris, at the same time testifying his continued faith in political liberty as the true strength of nations, and his continued respect for Great Britain as the single representative of such liberty in the Old World. Broken in health, he was on his way to Italy, when an attack of typhus at Marseilles carried him off.

We have been much interested by an article in the *Siecle* of Monday last, bearing the signature of M. LOUIS JOURDAN, singularly illustrating the fact that the passion for free speech is growing all but ungovernable among the best minds in France. On Monday last the annual meeting of the Institute of Moral and Political Sciences took place in Paris. The business of the meeting was not in itself very promising or spirit-stirring. M. GUIZOT, the President, was to read an enumeration of moral, political, and philosophical questions for Essays, for which the Institute have this year proposed prizes; and M. MIGNET, the Secretary, was to read an historical sketch of the life and works of M. DE GERANDO. That was all; but the intellectual world of Paris seemed to think it attraction enough. Freedom, put down everywhere else, had still a kind of refuge in the Institute; and bereft of the normal means of utterance in Parliament and in newspapers, the spirit of liberty might ooze out even through a list of subjects for prize essays and an historical memoir! The meeting was, therefore, crowded. Nor were the audience disappointed. "When M. GUIZOT in a few words went through his part of the business," says the *Siecle*, "the words of the orator, so firm, so well-delivered, so vibrating, recalled the memory of old parliamentary days; and with what skill was the least allusion seized by the audience, and how freely by their applauses did they detect the speaker's hinted thought, and, in a manner, develop it!" Describing M. GUIZOT's speech more particularly, the writer says: "He uttered a fine encomium upon liberty. Yes, like those lovers who never adore their mistress so much as when she is absent, the statesman, the minister, who so long defied the Opposition from the tribune, and ended by rousing a revolution which swamped at once tribune and orator, royalty and the throne, now, in his pacific guise and under palm branches, found noble and warm words to speak on behalf of freedom. O, fickle Athenians that we are! In all this crowd that hung on the lips of this John Goldenmouth, there was not one who had not in his mind the recollection of the past, who remembered not the immense unpopularity of this man, his haughtiness, his acts injurious to that very goddess whom he now invokes; and yet we gave ourselves up to the charm of that thrilling and sonorous voice as it proclaimed the immortal principle, the imperishable rights of human liberty and genius. It has in old times been said of M. GUIZOT that instead of practising his maxims, he made maxims of his practices. He is no longer the same man, and we prefer much the maxims of the academician to the practices of the statesman, especially when the former calls on the sciences to raise spirits degraded in the dust, and when he affirms, he who knows it in his own experience, that a nation which God has made free and intelligent cannot remain long under the yoke of material force." The memoir read by M. MIGNET, it appears, was no less full of the spirit of freedom than that of M. GUIZOT. Under the form of an historical sketch of M. DE GERANDO, M. MIGNET, according to the account in the *Siecle*, pronounced a eulogy on the much maligned eighteenth century, reminded France of how much she owed to the spirit of inquiry then awakened, and, when he came to the year 1789, spoke with filial gratitude of the Revolution. The state of things in France, as described in this article in the *Siecle*, is indeed curious. Usually it is the Conservatives, the partisans of force and power that venerate the past and cherish the antiquarian sentiment. In France at present, it is different. It is the lovers of freedom, the opponents of the existing order of things, that have most of the sentiment of the antique. Only in the past can liberty be found; hence these longing, lingering looks into the times gone by; hence the odd event that the eighteenth century, which did all it could to root out reverence for the past from men's minds, is now itself a kind of golden age dear to the memory of the French.

A work, entitled *Portraits Biographiques et Critiques des Hommes de la Guerre d'Orient*, has just been published in France. The author is M. ALFRED DES ESSARTS, and from accounts of the work which we have seen, it appears to be decidedly superior to the catchpenny publications of a

similar kind which have appeared in this country. We have often felt that a good biographical dictionary of living celebrities—political, military, literary, &c.—is a desideratum. Our usual dictionaries and cyclopædias do not make an “article” of a man till he is dead, whereas fifty times in a week one wants to know the “antecedents” of some living man. The German *Conversations Lexicon* has articles on contemporaries; and if you want to know how old Sir Lytton Bulwer is, or when Mr. Carlyle published his first work, we believe you will find the most accurate information on such points in that German compilation. Even that, however, is inadequate; and what other means of similar information we have are too scattered for convenience. The work of M. DES ESSARTS, of course, supplies only one part of the desideratum—confining itself to biographies of men figuring directly or indirectly in the present war. A critic in the *Journal des Débats* charges the writer with some inaccuracies and omissions. Complaining that, amongst other sketches, there is wanting one of General BOSQUET, the critic states the following fact, which will be interesting in this country, where General BOSQUET’s name is now so popular. In 1848, General DE LAMORCIERE, then Minister of War, was greatly attacked by the Opposition for having raised to the rank of general of brigade a colonel whose right by seniority was not admitted. He remained firm, however, declaring that he had promoted the young colonel for unusual services in Africa, and that his worth would be found out one day. The Assembly was sensible enough to take LAMORCIERE’s word for it; and the colonel thus promoted is now General BOSQUET.

Who does not remember that wonderful spectacle to gods and men—the Frankfort Parliament of 1848, wherein it was shown how a century or two of combined metaphysics, tobacco, and despotism, can utterly eradicate action from the Teuton, substituting endless talk in its stead? The ghost of this defunct Talk-Babel has recently appeared, provoked by HEINE in his late volumes, and one of the arch-talkers spouts once more to the extent of three columns in the *Cologne Gazette*. Among the poems in the *Vermischte Schriften* is one entitled “KOBES I.,” in which HEINE ridicules the Frankfort Parliament after his own fashion, by recommending Germany not to elect an Emperor from dynasties, but to choose KOBES I., of Cologne—a personification of all the faults and follies of the impracticables of 1848. “Who is KOBES?” asked the public; “is he a real person, or merely characteristics made personal?” And just as the public were dismissing the matter and saying “N’importe,” M. KENEDY, deputy from Cologne to the Parliament, writes hotly from Zurich to the *Cologne Gazette*, claiming to be the real identical KOBES, and enclosing two columns and a half of doggrel in reply to HEINE. A perusal of the doggrel will convince the reader that M. KENEDY’s claim is valid. He must be KOBES.

BOMBARDMENT OF RUSSIAN FINANCE.

Les Finances de la Guerre. Par M. Léon Faucher.
Ressources Financières de la Russie. Par M. Tegoborski.
Réponse à M. Tegoborski. Par M. Léon Faucher.

(In the *Revue des Deux Mondes* of September and November, 1854.)

THE Czar of the Russias has at length been hit. In vain does Napier, with a splendid armament, summon it in the Baltic—the Czar entrenches himself behind impregnable granite, and gives no answer. In vain is Odessa half bombarded, Alma won, Sebastopol hailed upon for two months with bullets, and Inkerman defended—the cannon and the bayonet speak in vain, and as far as we can know, the Czar remains unmoved, at any rate gives no reply. In vain does the *Times* thunder its loudest thunder, and in vain in its columns does the acute Smith suggest Perekop, the keen-sighted Brown threaten Keitch, the common-sense Jones cry Finland, and the spasmodic Thompson shriek Kamchatska and the Arctic Circle—despite all this, the Czar remains impassive, and gives no answer. But what Captain Sword has hitherto failed in doing, and what the choicest bluster of English raw-recruit penmanship could not achieve, has been achieved by Captain Pen in France, and a quarry from the bow of logic, fact, and reason has hit the Russian Eagle, which turns round galled and wounded, and—replies.

In September M. Léon Faucher, whose death we hear of with regret, attacked, in the *Revue des deux Mondes*, Russia on its weakest side, and in a masterly article proved conclusively that if the war were waged energetically on our part, Russia could not possibly resist over a third campaign. In the November number of the *Revue* is a reply from M. Tegoborski, and also a short, but quite conclusive, parting shot from Léon Faucher. The importance of this reply of Tegoborski (author of *Enquiries into the Productive Powers of Russia*) cannot be exaggerated, not from its intrinsic value (which is *nil*), but for these reasons—that it is a defence of the Czar by the Czar himself, and that the fact of the Czar defending himself at all is a most significant fact. That Tegoborski’s reply has either been written by express command of the Czar, or sent to Paris for publication by his express sanction, no one can doubt; and that Russia, that has never till now vouchsafed a word of its finances, never allowed its revenue to be known, never produced a budget, nor in any way explained its monetary arrangements to the world—that Russia should now reply to Faucher and seek to defend herself before Europe, clearly proves, we think, that Faucher’s conclusions are true, and that Russia is fearful of their effect on the public of France and England. If they were false, why should Russia reply? If she were really opulent in men and money, and our action and policy were influenced by the conviction that she was bankrupt in the one and not so strong as we are in the other, Russia would clearly be the gainer by our error. But if that condition be true, then it becomes vitally important to Russia to prevent the Western nations from believing it to be true.

For fifty years now Russia has assiduously sought the prestige that

attaches to mysteries. Her resources unknown, her power in money and in men has been the favourite subject for literary Munchausens to pull the long bow about, and they pulled it until Russia had grown to be a vague but omnipotent bogey, to terrify the naughty children of Western Liberalism. If such as Faucher would only keep silence, what would be the probable result in the idea of the Czar, supposing no vital blow to be struck at him in a couple of campaigns? Would it not be that the foolishly-sanguine public of Western Europe, that sent out its *élite* of men and its strongest vessels with frantic cheers, and made reckless bets that Russia would be crushed in a couple of months, smarting under the reaction of merely negative success, would cry—“We were rightly told that Russia’s resources are inexhaustible: see, in two campaigns we have not once struck home: let us make an honourable peace while we can.” Whether this would be the case or not, it is not an unwise hope of the Czar, if Faucher only would keep silence. But if the facts adduced by Faucher became known and his conclusions universally adopted, what would then be the result? Would not the same public cry—“True, in two campaigns we have done nothing; but we know how bankrupt at the core is Russia, and let us fight on: be it three, or four, or five campaigns, seeing that it is as clear as any theorem of Euclid, that Russia must be utterly bankrupt long ere we are driven to any extremities of finance.” Hence is it that what the sword could not do as yet, the pen has done; hence is it that forlorn-hope Tegoborski is ordered by his parental Czar to immolate himself at the batteries of Faucherian deduction.

Faucher’s original article is half philosophical, half statistical. In the former part he examined Russia’s resources in men, and proved, what is indeed evident, that seeing that Russia’s population over an immense territory is not so great as that of France and England united over a much smaller territory, her resources in men pure and simple are not so great as ours. Hence Russia cannot wage a war of barbarian irruption, like the wars of Alaric, Genghis Khan, and others, in which civilisation was imperilled, without any curb, by simple brute force of inexhaustible numbers. Hence she must wage a civilised war, in which numbers and finance go hand-in-hand. He then turned to the purely statistical, and showed by figures, carefully collected, that Russia began the war in a worse condition than we can end it. In profound peace for thirty-nine years, she has been a constant borrower. Either, therefore, she has constantly been spending more than her income, and so sailing tranquilly year by year to the vortex of bankruptcy; or she has been hoarding funds for the present emergency. That the latter has not been the case, Faucher proves by marshalling the following dreadful facts against Russia:—

- 1st. That no sooner has the war broken out than she has to raise a new loan, which failing in ex-Russian Europe, is converted into a forced loan at home.
- 2nd. That she calls in the balance of her former loan.
- 3rd. That she withdraws her funds in France, England, and Holland.
- 4th. That she seizes five millions sterling of the metallic guarantee of bills of credit from the fortress of St. Petersburg.
- 5th. That she issues from the beginning of 1853 downward, fresh bills to the tune of four millions sterling.
- 6th. That she takes the loans made to the public coffers by the banks, the amount unknown, but certainly very large.
- 7th. That she seizes the plate of the convent of Tzeuotochwa.
- 8th. That she takes the voluntary loan of the clergy, reported by herself to amount to three millions sterling.

This at the beginning of the war; afterwards M. Faucher relapsed into the philosophical, and showed clearly enough that Russia cannot grow richer as the war proceeds. A purely agricultural country, with already only one arm where there should be ten thousand, as men are drafted into the army the production must diminish; the nobles becoming daily poorer, not only will not be able to pay increased taxes, but not even the same; and will, into the bargain, withdraw their money from the banks, bringing about this pleasant predicament—that what with its floating debts and its guarantees to the various banks and other establishments, Russia is liable to be called on to pay liabilities to the extent of two hundred millions sterling. This sounds like an Arabian Nights’ Entertainment in £ s. d.; but it is soberly true. And what does Tegoborsky reply? He simply denies everything. The loan is not a failure; it marches (*il marche*) in Germany and Holland. The Czar has not seized any of the metallic reserve; *it would not be legal for him to do it*. There has been no forced loan; *he has simply invited his subjects to subscribe, and paternally suggested the amount*. As for seizing the silver vessels of the convent of What’s-its-name—what do you mean? The Czar steal! Isn’t his kind treatment of all his Catholic subjects (the nuns of Minsk included, we presume) sufficiently notorious? In fact, it is quite surprising that Faucher should reiterate such scandals, seeing that they have already been denied in several *Warsaw* papers. And even the deductions Faucher drew from his facts, admitting them to be true, are false, because Russia is quite an exceptional country, and transactions which inevitably lead to utter ruin elsewhere may lead to splendid results in Russia, she is so exceptional.

Would that we had space to give an abstract of Faucher’s reply to this nonsense. Our epitome, however, of Tegoborski is fair and accurate, and we think the reader can easily project for himself in how masterly a manner a man like Faucher, with facts at his complete command, searching logic, quiet humour, and a playful courtesy, utterly annihilated such a reply. One feels pity that an able man like Tegoborski should be compelled to make such a fool of himself, even in the service of so high a potentate as his Eminence the Czar.

In conclusion, will no enterprising publisher get the whole passage-at-arms translated and published at a low price? He will assuredly do the State a service, and would be no loser himself, we fancy.

CHAUCER.

Poetical Works of Geoffrey Chaucer. Edited by Robert Bell. Vol. I.

Parker and Son.

On many accounts this is the most important volume of the Annotated Edition of the English Poets which Mr. Robert Bell has offered to the public. It is the first attempt that has been made, in our time, to popularize Chaucer. In the present volume the general reader may buy for half-a-crown a Life of the Poet, an Introduction to the study of his Works, and

the *Canterbury Tales* (illustrated on every page by explanatory notes), the whole published in the form of a book which can be carried in the pocket, when it is not wanted, and read by the fireside, when it is. This experiment is so unique, and so honestly and thoroughly deserves success, that we should be failing in our duty to our readers if we neglected to point out to them, plainly and impartially, some of the special merits which claim for the popular edition of Chaucer the people's hearty welcome.

Of Chaucer's life nobody must hope to know much. If we are reduced, for the most part, to guesswork about Shakspeare, how much further into the dark must we expect to go when we are groping after biographical facts in relation to a poet who lived and wrote two hundred years before the Elizabethan period! Mr. Bell takes us carefully and skilfully by the hand, but all his experience and intelligence does not avail to lead us very far. We estimate our advance principally by the number of doubts we stumble over. We doubt about the year of Chaucer's birth—it may be 1328, or it may be 1344. We cannot find out for certain whether he was born in London or not. We wander in a perfect labyrinth of conflicting opinions the moment we try to find out who his father was. Leland tells us he was a nobleman, Speght thinks he was a vintner, Pitts says he was a knight, Hearne declares he was a merchant—we are on the verge of distraction, and begin to execrate Leland, Speght, Pitts, and Hearne, when Mr. Bell comes to the rescue, and takes us to our first certainty. We ascertain it for a fact that Chaucer received the education of a scholar and a gentleman—infer consequently that his family must at least have been respectable—and are so far perfectly satisfied. Going on to general discoveries, and still following Mr. Bell, we find out that Chaucer and John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, married sisters—that the poet was a fast friend and adherent of the duke's—that his patron's influence procured for him a whole list of lucrative and important government appointments—that he lost these at one period of his life, and recovered equivalents for them at another—that he was a member of Parliament—and last, though not least interesting, that "the father of English poetry" was by no means one of the "poor poets." "His pensions," Mr. Bell tells us, "exclusive of his offices, ranged for many years with the salaries of the Chief Baron of the Exchequer and the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas." Of the day and place of his death we may be certain. He expired on the 25th of October, 1400, in a house in Westminster, situated almost on the same spot where Henry the VIIth's chapel now stands. His age was seventy-two, and he was buried in Westminster Abbey.

From Chaucer himself let us pass for a moment to Chaucer's poetry. Most truly does Mr. Bell describe it as especially interesting to the modern reader "from the singularly clear and full idea which it conveys of a state of society for which modern experience furnishes no parallel. . . . From Chaucer's poetry may be learned much more satisfactorily than from the chronicles of his contemporaries, or the more elaborate compilations of later historians, the modes of thought, habits, and manners which prevailed in the reigns of Edward III. and his immediate successors; the era in which the Norman and Saxon races became fused, and our language and social institutions assumed forms that have descended with some modifications to the present time." Every page of the *Canterbury Tales*—to go no further than the present volume—attests the justness of this view of the great historical value of Chaucer's poetry—history, be it remembered, of that best, truest, and most deeply-interesting kind which records the manners and habits of the people at large. As to the intrinsic merits of Chaucer's poetry, we ourselves, are mainly impressed and delighted, in reading him, by his wonderful ease, and his exquisite humour. His peculiar graces of metre and his varied beauties of expression flow from him so easily, that we know him for a born Poet, the moment we get acquainted with him. There is no strain in the manly, inexhaustible force of his writing—there is nothing laboured, nothing unnatural in his rich, quaint, exquisitely sly and suggestive humour. But, after all, when everything that can be said and written critically about Chaucer has been said and written, there remains one indisputable proof of the greatness of his genius which is worth all the opinions in the world. He wrote five hundred years ago, and his poetry lives and lasts still in our day.

Any reference to the number of centuries which have passed since Chaucer wrote, necessarily brings us to the consideration of the phraseology in which he expressed himself. "The English language," says Mr. Bell, "like everything else at this period, was exhibiting signs of change." French forms and idioms were beginning to be grafted on the original Saxon, and were adopted by Chaucer as part of the language of the good society in which he lived. What was the new talk, the new style, and the new spelling five hundred years ago, is necessarily in many respects sufficiently obsolete now. Hence the apparent difficulty, at first sight, of reading Chaucer; and hence also the many obstacles which Mr. Bell has had to clear away for the public in preparing the present edition.

Attempts have been made at various periods, in a fragmentary and incomplete way, to familiarise the general reader with Chaucer by means of specimens. Sometimes these specimens have been presented with a prose paraphrase—sometimes the old poet's spelling has been modernised—sometimes his peculiarities of metre have been pedantically distinguished by classical marks for long and short feet, placed over every syllable. The result of these various proceedings has been to present the public with several ingenious interpretations of Chaucer, but not with Chaucer himself. Mr. Bell has avoided this mistake. Having set himself to the work, he has done it boldly in a genuine, straightforward way. Being determined to give the whole of Chaucer to the public—as Mr. Tyrwhitt and Mr. Wright before him had given Chaucer to the antiquarians, students, and reading men in general—Mr. Bell has made it his business, in the first instance, to secure the greatest possible purity of text; and in the second place, to print that text word for word and letter for letter, exactly as his own researches and the labours of others informed him that Chaucer wrote it. The result is that the old minstrel sings to us his own full and glorious song, in his own way, just as he sang it to listening knights and ladies five centuries ago.

But what if we are unable to follow the song? asks the general reader. Learn, with very little exertion, one or two preliminary lessons—we answer—and you must be careless indeed if you cannot follow it with perfect ease. Besides the Glossary, which will terminate the last volume of Chaucer, Mr.

Bell gives us an Introduction to the Poems which explains philological difficulties, and smooths down metrical obstacles so clearly and so skilfully that any reader of average intelligence, who will pay proper attention to the Editor when he opens the book, may feel assured of reading it easily, as well as usefully, to the end. Besides this Introduction to the Poems, the Poems themselves are illustrated by preliminary "arguments," and by full explanatory notes at the bottom of every page. In short, all has been done that can be done for Chaucer in the first place, and for Chaucer's readers in the second.

We have already had occasion in these columns honestly to express our high sense of Mr. Bell's qualifications for the arduous literary undertaking to which he is now devoted. That favourable impression has been greatly strengthened and increased by a very careful examination of the volume now under notice. Proof on proof accumulates, from the first page to the last, of Mr. Bell's conscientious industry and excellent good sense. He has wrought at his task intelligently, earnestly, and modestly, as a scholar and a gentleman should; placing the results of his learning and research unreservedly at the reader's service; and never coming forward in his own person but to help and explain. In closing this notice—necessarily a very imperfect one, from the small space to which it is limited—it is only common justice to Mr. Bell to say that, in every respect in which the prosperity of the present experiment has depended upon his knowledge, industry, and good taste, the conditions of success have been fairly and fully complied with.

CIVIL LAW.

Manual of Civil Law. By Patrick Cumin, M.A., Balliol College, Oxon, Barrister-at-Law. London. Stevens and Norton.

The above work is at once well-timed and well-executed. It was to be expected that the revival of systematic legal studies, in connexion with our Inns of Court, would create a demand for a good modern commentary on the Institutes, as the great text-book in the Elements of Civil Law. For, however inapplicable many of the dicta of the old Roman civilians may be in the present state of society, and however repugnant "their quiddits and their quibbles, their cases, their tenures, and their tricks" may be to the spirit with which modern authorities approach, not merely the practice, but the very principles of jurisprudence, still the importance of the civil law in its bearing on the study of ancient literature, as well as in its relation to the principles of moral and political science, will ever secure to it many lay students, in addition to those professionally interested in acquiring a knowledge of one of the great bases of many of the institutions of our own day. In accordance with the general law of supply, this demand has been met by Mr. Cumin with a *Manual*, which commends itself to acceptance by its reasonable bulk, the general fidelity of its execution, and a completeness of detail which raises it far above the standard of that very useful class of works of which, by its title, it professes to be one. For although the learned civilian will range in his book-shelves many works of greater pretence, to which our author acknowledges his obligations, we are bound to state that we know of no volume which we would with greater confidence place in the hands either of the professional tyro or of the more general scholar.

Mr. Cumin commences with a short, but very comprehensive, history of Roman law, from the time when the convergence of three neighbouring tribes to a common centre laid the foundation of that mighty empire whose influence was to be felt in the institutions of all civilised nations to the end of time. He shows how the whole history of their law is interwoven with that of their political being, so that the "Corpus Juris Civilis" is essentially an historical document, the best commentary on which is supplied by a knowledge of the ordinary history of the people. At the same time, he recites the more immediate sources to which Tribonian and his fellow-labourers had to turn when employed in this great work of codification.

The body of the work itself, like that of Lagrange, on which it is based, is printed in the form of questions and answers; but the former serve less for purposes of self-examination than as headings to indicate the subject of small sections of commentary corresponding to the ordinary sub-divisions of the text. Each of these divisions is taken in its order; everything approaching to a difficulty in the original is translated, while the obscurities arising from extreme condensation are cleared away by careful paraphrase, as well as by the introduction of explanatory matter from Gaius and other authorities; the notes being enriched by references to the pandects and code, as well as to mediæval and modern commentators. Of the latter Mr. Cumin seems chiefly to have consulted the valuable works of Ortolan and Ducaussoy, though, as an indication of the scrupulous industry with which he has laboured, we may mention that he frequently refers to Mr. Saunderson's edition of the *Institutes*—a work which could only have appeared when his own volume was on the very eve of being issued from the press.

We find a difficulty in selecting a passage of a length such as our limited space would admit, and which would do justice to the author. The ample index will furnish the general reader with a clue to any topic whose treatment will test Mr. Cumin's powers; but we would refer the student to the following sections, as fully justifying all that we have advanced in behalf of this work:—Book I., tit. x., Of Marriage; tit. xix., Of Tutela Fiduciaria. Book II., tit. v., Of Usu Capio; tit. xx., Of Legacies. Book III., tit. xiii., Of Obligations; tit. xxv., Of Partnership.

Having unintentionally omitted to notice this volume on its first publication, we are glad to find that the favourable impression which we then formed of it has been ratified by the verdict of competent authority. It has been placed on the list of works recommended for the aspirants to honours in the examination instituted by the several Inns of Court; while in Scotland it has been adopted as the principal text-book in the classes of the present eminent Professors of Civil Law in Edinburgh. For a member of the English Bar, and a Scotchman, which we believe Mr. Cumin is, this is a flattering distinction; but it is one which is well merited by the ability, industry, and research evinced by every section of his work. There are many laurels still to be gathered in the same field, and we shall gladly learn that an author has girt himself to win them.

BARNUM.

The Autobiography of Phineas Taylor Barnum, &c. &c.

Sampson, Low and Co.

No amount of adverse criticism could do injustice to this book. It may be briefly characterised as an account of a quarter of a century of "humbug," to which no moral attaches, excepting that the (New) World is ruled by humbug, and that cash is more satisfactory than pride. This Autobiography is composed of numberless yarns, broad grins, and Yankee tricks—some good, the majority bad, and all very indifferent to the characters of the persons concerned. A few extracts will not, we trust, induce imitators. The Cæsar-like air with which Barnum professes to carry all before him, is grand in its impertinence.

THE CHURCH AND THE CIRCUS.

As was usually my custom on the Sabbath I attended church in Lenox, Mass. The clergyman took occasion to declaim against our circus; said that all men connected with circuses were destitute of morality, &c. In fact, he called us such hard names, that I wrote a request to be permitted to reply to him, and asked him to give notice from the pulpit that I should do so. I signed it "P. T. Barnum, connected with the circus, June 5, 1836," and as soon as he had read the closing hymn, I walked up the pulpit-stairs and handed him the request. He declined noticing it, and immediately after the benediction was pronounced, I strongly lectured him for not granting me an opportunity to vindicate our characters, gave him my opinion of a slanderer, &c.

This incident caused great commotion in the village. Several members of his church apologised for their clergyman's conduct. They said that he had recently lectured them for permitting their children to speak in dialogue at an exhibition of the village-school, censured him for his course regarding the circus, and hoped that I would not hold the church responsible for his ill behaviour. I was satisfied, and, as Louis Napoleon would say, "tranquillity was restored."

A similar scene subsequently occurred at Port Deposit, on the lower Susquehanna, though in the latter case I insisted on addressing the audience in defence of ourselves from personal assault. I did so for half an hour, and the people attentively listened to me, though the clergyman repeatedly begged them to disperse. I sincerely thought myself entitled to this hearing. Many a time had I collected the circus company on the Sabbath, and read to them the Bible and such printed sermons as I could obtain, and I had repeatedly induced many of them to accompany me to public worship in the towns and villages in our route. We certainly had no religion to boast of, but we felt ourselves not altogether "castaways," and thought we were entitled to gentlemanly treatment at least when in attendance on the gospel ministry.

THE ETHIOPIAN CAN CHANGE HIS SKIN.

I had advertised negro songs; no one of my company was competent to fill his place; but being determined not to disappoint the audience, I blacked myself thoroughly, and sang the songs advertised, namely, "Zip Coon," "Gittin up Stairs," and "The Racoons Hunt, or Sitting on a Rail." It was decidedly "a hard push," but the audience supposed the singer was Sandford, and, to my surprise, my singing was applauded, and in two of the songs I was encored!

After singing my negro songs one evening, and just as I had pulled my coat off in the "dressing-room" of the tent, I heard a slight disturbance outside the canvas. Rushing to the spot, and finding a person disputing with my men, I took their part, and spoke my mind to him very freely. He instantly drew his pistol, exclaiming, "You black scoundrel! dare you use such language to a white man?" and proceeded deliberately to cock it. I saw that he supposed me to be a negro, and might perhaps blow my brains out. Quick as thought I rolled up my shirt-sleeves, and replied, "I am as white as you are, sir." He absolutely dropped the pistol with fright! Probably he had never seen a white man blacked up before; at all events, he begged my pardon, and I re-entered my "dressing-room," fully realising that I had incurred a narrow chance of losing my life. Nothing but a presence of mind which never yet deserted me, saved my brains. On four several occasions during my life I have had a loaded pistol pointed at my head, and on each occasion have I escaped by little less than a miracle. Several times, also, have I been in deadly peril by accidents; and now, when I look over my history, and call these things to mind, and especially when, in tracing my career, I find that so many with whom I have had intercourse are tenants of the grave, I cannot but realise that I am deeply indebted to the mercy of God.

AMUSEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

There has been a gradual change in these, and the transient attractions of the Museum have been greatly diversified: industrious fleas, educated dogs, jugglers, automatons, ventriloquists, living statuary, tableaux, gipsies, albinos, fat boys, giants, dwarfs, rope-dancers, caricatures of phrenology, and "live Yankees," pantomime, instrumental music, singing and dancing in great variety (including Ethiopians), etc., dioramas, panoramas, models of Dublin, Paris, Niagara, Jerusalem, etc., mechanical figures, fancy glass-blowing, knitting-machines and other triumphs in the mechanical arts, dissolving views, American Indians, including their warlike and religious ceremonies enacted on the stage, etc., etc.

Apart from the merit and interest of these performances, and apart from everything connected with the stage, my permanent collection of curiosities is, without doubt, abundantly worth the uniform charge of admission to all the entertainments of the establishment, and I can therefore afford to be accused of "humbug" when I add such transient novelties as increase its attractions. If I have exhibited a questionable dead mermaid in my Museum, it should not be overlooked that I have also exhibited cameleopards, a rhinoceros, grisly bears, orang-outangs, great serpents, etc., about which there could be no mistake because they were alive; and I should hope that a little "clap-trap" occasionally, in the way of transparencies, flags, exaggerated pictures, and puffing advertisements, might find an offset in a wilderness of wonderful, instructive, and amusing realities. Indeed I cannot doubt that the sort of "clap-trap" here referred to is allowable, and that the public like a little of it mixed up with the great realities which I provide. The titles of "humbug" and the "prince of humbugs" were first applied to me by myself. I made these titles a part of my "stock in trade," and may here quote a passage from the *Fortunes of the Scattergood Family*, a work by the popular English writer Albert Smith:—

"It's a great thing to be a humbug," said Mr. Rossett. "I've been called so often. It means hitting the public in reality. Anybody who can do so is sure to be called a humbug by somebody who can't."

Among my first extra exhibitions produced at the American Museum was a model of the Falls of Niagara, belonging to Grain the artist. It was undoubtedly a fine model, giving the mathematical proportions of that great cataract, and the trees, rocks, buildings, etc., in its vicinity. But the absurdity of the thing consisted in introducing water, thus pretending to present a *hic-simile* of that great wonder of nature. The falls were about eighteen inches high, everything else being in due proportion.

I confess I felt somewhat ashamed of this myself, yet it made a good line in the bill, and I bought the model for 200 dollars. My advertisements then announced among the attractions of the Museum,

THE GREAT MODEL OF NIAGARA FALLS, WITH REAL WATER!

A single barrel of water answered the purpose of this model for an entire season;

for the falls flowed into a reservoir behind the scenes, and the water was continually re-supplied to the cataract by means of a small pump.

THE CLUB THAT KILLED CAPTAIN COOK.

Passing up stairs, I commenced overhauling a lot of war-clubs, and finally selected a heavy one that looked as if it might have killed Captain Cook or anybody else whose head it came in contact with. Having affixed a small label on it, reading "The Captain Cook Club," I took it down to Mr. Clark, assuring him that this was the instrument of death which he had inquired for.

"Is it possible?" said he, as he took into his hand. Presently raising it above his head, he exclaimed, "Well, I declare, this is a terrible weapon with which to take a man's life."

"Yes," I replied seriously, but feeling an inward delight that I was now paying off Mr. Clark with interest; "I believe it killed the victim at the first blow!"

"Poor Captain Cook!" exclaimed Clark, with a sigh; "I wonder if he was conscious after receiving the fatal blow."

"I don't think he could have been," I responded, with a well-feigned look of sorrow.

"You are sure this is the identical club?" inquired Clark.

"We have documents which place its identity beyond all question," I replied.

"Poor Cook! poor Cook!" said Clark, musingly. "Well, Mr. Barnum," he continued with great gravity, at the same time extending his hand and giving mine a hearty shake, "I am really very much obliged to you for your kindness. I had an irrepressible desire to see the club that killed Captain Cook, and I felt quite confident you could accommodate me. I have been in half-a-dozen smaller museums, and as they all had it, I was sure a large establishment like yours would not be without it!"

TOM THUMB'S VISIT TO A BARONESS.

A few evenings afterwards the Baroness Rothschild sent her carriage for us. Her mansion is a noble structure in Piccadilly, surrounded by a high wall, through the gate of which our carriage was driven and brought up in front of the main entrance. Here we were received by half-a-dozen servants, elegantly dressed in black coats and pantaloons, white vests and cravats, white kid gloves, and, in fact, wearing the *tout ensemble* of gentlemen. One old chap was dressed in livery—a heavy laced coat, breeches, a large white powdered and curled wig, and everything else to match. The hall was brilliantly illuminated, and each side was graced with the most beautiful statuary. We were ushered up a broad flight of marble stairs, and our names announced at the door of the drawing-room by an elegantly-dressed servant, who, under other circumstances, I might have supposed was a member of the noble family.

As we entered the drawing-room, a glare of magnificence met my sight which it is impossible for me to describe. The Baroness was seated on a gorgeous couch, covered with rich figured silk damask (there were several similar couches in the room), and several lords and ladies were seated in chairs elegantly carved and covered with gold, looking indeed like solid gold, except the bottoms, which were of rich velvet. On each side of the mantel-piece were specimens of marble statuary, on the right of which stood glazed cabinets, containing urns, vases, and a thousand other things of the most exquisite workmanship, made of gold, silver, diamonds, alabaster, pearl, &c. The centre table, and several tables about the size and something like the shape of a pianoforte, all covered with gold, or made of ebony, thickly inlaid with pearls of various hues, were loaded with *bijoux* of every kind, surpassing in elegance anything I had ever dreamed of. The chairs at one end of the room were made of ebony, inlaid with pearl and gold, elegantly cushioned with damask. The walls were panelled, and heavily gilt; the curtains and ornaments of the most costly kind. The immense chandeliers, candelabra, &c., exceeded all my powers of description, and I confess my total inability to give a correct idea of the splendour in which lived the wife of the most wealthy banker in the world.

Here we spent about two hours. About twenty lords and ladies were present. On taking our leave, an elegant and well-filled purse was quietly slipped into my hand, and I felt that the golden shower was beginning to fall!

TOM THUMB AT COURT.

Queen Victoria desired the General to sing a song, and asked him what song he preferred to sing.

"Yankee Doodle," was the prompt reply.

This answer was as unexpected to me as it was to the royal party. When the merriment it occasioned somewhat subsided, the Queen good-humouredly remarked, "That is a very pretty song, General; sing it, if you please." The General complied, and soon afterwards we retired.

I ought to add, that after each of our three visits to Buckingham Palace, a handsome *douceur* was sent to me, of course by the Queen's command. This, however, was the smallest part of the advantages derived from these interviews, as will be at once apparent to all who consider the force of court example in England.

PLAYFULNESS OF THE SWEDISH NIGHTINGALE.

Christmas was at hand, and Jenny determined to honour it in the way she had often done in Sweden. She had a beautiful Christmas tree privately prepared, and from its boughs depended a variety of presents for members of the company. These gifts were encased in paper, with the names of the recipients written on each.

After spending a pleasant evening in her drawing-room, she invited us into the parlour, where the "surprise" awaited us. Each person commenced opening the packages bearing his or her address, and although every individual had one or more pretty presents, she had prepared a joke for each. Mr. Benedict, for instance, took off wrapper after wrapper from one of his packages, which at first was as large as his head, but after having removed some forty coverings of paper, it was reduced to a size smaller than his hand, and the removal of the last envelope exposed to view a piece of Cavendish tobacco. One of my presents, choicely wrapped in a dozen coverings, was a jolly young *Bacchus* in Parian marble—intended as a pleasant hit at my temperance principles.

RECEPTION OF JENNY LIND—SHE KISSES BARNUM!

I cannot express what my feelings were as I watched this scene from the dress circle. Poor Jenny! I deeply sympathized with her when I heard that first kiss. I indeed observed the resolute bearing which she assumed, but was apprehensive of the result. When I witnessed her triumph, I could not restrain the tears of joy that rolled down my cheeks; and rushing through a private box, I reached the stage just as she was withdrawing after the fifth encore. "God bless you, Jenny, you have settled them!" I exclaimed.

"Are you satisfied?" said she, throwing her arms around my neck. She, too, was crying with joy, and never before did she look so beautiful in my eyes as on that evening.

A TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

In the fall of 1847, while exhibiting General Tom Thumb at Saratoga Springs, where the New York State Fair was then being held, I saw so much intoxication among men of wealth and intellect, filling the highest positions in society, that I began to ask myself the question, What guarantee is there that I may not become a drunkard? I reflected that many wiser and better men than myself had fallen victims to intemperance; and although I was not in the habit of partaking often of strong drink, I was liable to do so whenever I met friends, which in my travels occurred every day. Hence I resolved to fly the danger, and I pledged myself at that time never again to partake of any kind of spirituous liquors as a beverage.

Portfolio.

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

PRINCE EDWARD'S CHRISTMAS GIFT.

I.

PRINCE EDWARD, Prince Alfred, and Prince Patrick, were the sons of a great lady, who was called the Queen of Victory. Every blessing smiled upon their birth; and they grew up to be as beautiful as they were good, as brave as they were gentle, and as simple as they were accomplished; for every true gentleman is simple in heart, and obeys best the laws which God plants equally in the breasts of high and low. But the most beautiful of them all was Prince Edward; for he was tall and slender, with gently rounded limbs, fair hair flowing down by his cheeks, a sweet face, and a mouth so kind that every lady longed to kiss it. One day,—and it was not a hundred years ago,—the Queen of Victory called the three Princes to her, and told them that she should give them each a Christmas gift, but it must be chosen by themselves; and she first asked Prince Patrick what he would have. “Give him old Nick as a Jack-in-the-box!” cried Prince Alfred. “Hold your tongue, Alfred,” said the Queen of Victory. And Prince Patrick said that he would have whatever his mamma thought best, because he had heard everybody say that her giving it made the value of the gift. So the Queen of Victory gave him a kiss over and above the gift he was to have, and told him that he was a naughty rogue like his father. Then she told Prince Alfred that he might choose; and he said he would have a keyed bugle to amuse himself with learning it while he was at his drawing lesson; and the fair lady promised that he should have a keyed bugle of gold, to learn at his drawing lesson, as soon as he could paint the effigy of one so truly that he should not know which was the picture and which the bugle until he tried to play upon it and found the counterfeit too flat for tune. Then she asked Prince Edward what he would have, and he said he would have that thing which would best teach him his duty in studying to be a good king. So the Queen looked at him steadfastly and said, “What is that, my boy? Is it a sceptre?” “No, mamma,” he answered; “for a sceptre is only a toy, like a fool’s bauble, which shames him that holds it, unless his people learn to know it and love it for his sake.” The Queen looked graver, and asked—“Is it the Book?” “No, mamma,” he answered still, “for I have not yet learned to read all that is in it, and he that makes mistakes reverses its lessons.” “What then is it?” “I do not know, unless you can tell me.” “And I do not know, my child, that I have in my Treasury anything which I can give you in studying to be a good king better than the wish which you have given yourself.” “Nay, mamma,” answered the youth, resolved to have his boon, “I did not take that wish, but you gave it me and papa, under God; besides wishing without knowing is not possession.” “Then my child you have put me a question which I cannot answer; but I will try to discover it.”

So she summoned her councillors, and told them what the Prince had asked, and she begged them to tell her what it was. Each cried out at once that he knew; but when she kept silence to hear, they also kept silence, and after a pause, begged leave to consult upon it. She told them that they should have leave to consult; but as they said they knew it already, they needed not either fire, or food, or candle, but only solitude and quiet. So they were locked up, and then each looked at the rest, each expecting his neighbour to invite him to pronounce for them all. At last the keeper of the Queen’s Exchequer, feeling most certain about his own counsel, as all money statesmen do, said that the thing which the Prince asked for was the book which he was about to write on revenue, taxation, currency, and commerce. The Archbishop said that was materialism; and that what the Prince was inspired to crave, was a restoration of the Church as it was when it possessed all the land, and all the souls upon it, and a tenth of everything, so that it might have wherewithal to magnify and glorify the truth. But the Lord President observing that the truth could do without tenths or lands, said he had reason to believe that the Prince had in his eye a Public Education Law. “No,” said the Health Minister, “it is a perfect system of drainage.” Another said it was manufactures made by finished artists, so that every utensil and fabric should teach some moral and intellectual duty. Another would have it that the Prince had in his view some universal medicine, of which, whosoever took becomes strong, wise, happy, and beneficent; as he could testify from having tried it himself. In short, although each man was certain—yet, taken together, they were all uncertain, or, certain only that it would be none of these things. On which the Archbishop said that the Prince must be unwell, and must have a morbid appetite for new and subversive ideas; because, when any man, especially a young man, strongly desires what older and experienced men never thought about, it is a proof that he is sick in mind and body. “That,” said the Home Secretary, “is just what Pontius Pilatus said.” “My Lord,” cried the Archbishop sternly, “you will compel me to — decline discussion with you.” At last they resolved humbly to petition the Queen that they would not tell; and she graciously granted them her permission to be ignorant.

But still the royal youth had in his aspiration excelled the wisdom of the sages in their sententious council, and he remained unsatisfied, which was a grief and a shame to the Queen. She consulted the most eminent professors and sages not in office, and their suggestions were innumerable; they advised a knowledge of statistical science, of conic sections, of ethnology, of prison discipline, of chemistry, of guano, of dynamics, of grammar, of Nilotic literature, of Kant or Comte, of, in short, each thing for which each man was noted. One philosopher, however, proposed the exact reverse of the thing for which he was noted, and said that silence was the thing which Prince Edward wished. Another said that it was total abstinence.

As soon as the difficulty of the Queen was known, those who were not sages sent in their notions to her Majesty; each being confident that the one

thing instinctively indicated by the Prince was Blair’s gout pills, or six shirts for forty shillings, a patent carding machine, the standard or natural sherry, an excursion ticket to Paris and back *via* Boulogne, the liquid hair dye, a set of furniture designed for persons about to marry, the revalental arabica, &c. But even amongst these blessings for the human race the Prince failed to discover the satisfaction of his great longing. It is true that the wisest nation on earth busied itself principally about such things; but even that or still wiser nations do not always set examples of the way in which really princely minds should be occupied.

At last the Prince bethought him of the wonderful revelations made by gifted pieces of furniture in the service of the Rappites; so going up-stairs into the remotest room in the castle, he sat himself patiently down to consult an old table; and after two hours and twenty-three minutes he heard faint raps. Now it so happened that there was a hardened old joker of a death-watch under the table, who determined to disappoint the Prince, so he spelled out with great pains and accuracy the sentence—

“Don’t you wish you may get it.”

The Prince, much struck by this allusion to his real wish, rose from the table greatly comforted, only wishing that the spirits would be more explicit.

In the courtyard he found a little old man, very mean in attire, with a strange, good-humoured, ugly face; and the man coming up to him without so much as an obeisance, said, “Prince, you must have this before you can have what you want;” and he gave what he held into the Prince’s hand. The Prince looked at it curiously. It was a pair of boots made to lace up to the ankle, with strong soles, and thick nails in them. Prince Edward turned to argue the poor man out of his mistake, but the queer little fellow was gone. The Prince sat down on the steps of the hall, and looked at his present. “Boots!” he cried, graciously recognising them in their ordinary capacity. “Boots! Now boots, unless I interpret them in a non-natural sense, are made to be worn.” So he tried them on, and they fitted him beautifully. He stood up. They were so well-fitting, that they looked quite comely; so stout, that he felt stout that wore them. He walked, and he had never walked so before. He was glad, and nature seemed glad with him; for never had the wind sung so lustily and shrilly in his hair; never had the ice crackled so under his feet; never had the Christmas sun burned so cheerily upon his cheek and hand; never had the upturned earth danced so merrily as his rapid stride kicked the clods before him; never had the woods, thickening and thickening as he walked, looked so green—for green they were, and flowers sprung at his feet, even as they sprung up under the tread of Latona’s boy; and in the wood he met a young lady of the most beautiful aspect—just such a young lady as his mother—who bade him welcome.

“I am the Peri Banou,” said she. “I was the little cobbler that gave you those boots, and I am going to give you what you wish—the best thing for a Prince studying to be a good King.”

“Peri Banou,” cried the delighted Prince, “I am in love with you; and when I am king I will give you a pension under the civil list for your eminent services in the improvement of boots.”

“Prince,” replied the fairy, with a beautiful smile that stopped the bold young gentleman’s breath, and made him feel faint with admiration, “you must not love above your rank, and no true knight can give, but only receive from a lady. Learn to know that in a stunted cobbler may be a generation of loveliness; and that those who can dwell in places like this do not want pensions.”

The Prince had thought that everybody wanted pensions, but he felt under the lady’s eyes that what she said was true; so he kissed her hand very humbly, and felt forgiven.

“That is your first lesson,” she said. “But come, I must introduce you to my court before I go;” and she turned to a host which Prince Edward now perceived surrounding her, particularly beckoning one to come nigh. It was a very tall and noble man, dressed entirely in black armour, with three white feathers waving over his basinet. “Edward,” said the lady, “this is your namesake, Prince Edward.” “I do beseech your grace,” exclaimed the Black Knight, “to be my brother in arms;” and he embraced Prince Edward very affectionately, kissing him first on one cheek and then on the other. “Tell me,” he continued, “can our stout bowmen send a cloth-yard as far and as true as ever?” “Sir,” answered the Prince, we do not use arrows now, but guns, or rather rifles; for we have improved even those guns.” “True,” observed the knight, “I had forgot; and does every freeman that treads our noble land know the exercise with these same rifles?” “Indeed no, my Prince,” answered Prince Edward; “they are only used by a few; and truly we have not so many as we want.” “And how is that, Sir Prince?” “Sir, it is not thought proper to trust every man with a deadly weapon, lest he be unruly in the use of it.” “By our Lady!” cried the Black Knight, with a frown, “not trust Englishmen with the best arms they can get! Certes these are strange tidings! There is a gentleman,” he added, pointing to a rough-looking, stout man, with moustache and tuft on his chin, a broad-brimmed hat, brown doublet, and loose boots—“there is a gentleman greatly opposed to me in politics, yet he will be as much astonished as I am;” and he made the Prince repeat what he had said to the gentleman in slouched hat and doublet. “And how,” cried the gentleman, “do our independent countrymen stand it?” “They stand it, your Highness,” replied the Prince,—for he is a perfect gentleman, and will give every man the title that he has fairly achieved, “they stand it indifferently well.” “I pray your royal highness,” asked a grave gentleman in judge’s robe, “are the Papists again in power? for I put it in the bill myself, that Protestants should have the use of arms equally with Papists; and King William would not have had his crown if he had not signed that with the other articles.”

“My lord,” answered Prince Edward, “there is no longer feud between Protestant and Papist.” “But your grace tells me that you have not enough of these petromils?” cried the Black Knight. “No, my Prince.” “Then, sir, let them get furnished with all speed, and never talk in your reign of not trusting Englishmen; for, believe me, that king or chief is safest who has about him the most Englishmen, strong and conscious of their strength; in the which

blessed assurance our friends here will bear me out; and so might some of those who have gone before you by that unhappy experience in finding Englishmen *not* around them. Sir, the strength and truth of battle at Crecy lay not in the clothyard shaft, and lieth not in your petronels, though they be of the best, but in the English heart; and woe to the Prince that mistrusteth that heart, for if he be not the enemy, he is the traitor of England."

"Prince," cried the Fairy, "that is your second lesson. But now you must go on your quest; but I tell you that you shall receive it here whence you started, and these are the hands that shall give it you—the hands of the Lady of Salisbury." So she said, and yet she was alone with the Prince. The young Edward kneeling, very devoutly kissed her hand to take leave; and then set forth on his pilgrimage.

Scarcely had the Prince, however, moved away ere he remembered himself, and running back, asked the lady if she would tell him the way. "There are many ways," she answered; "seek and you will find."

II.

The Prince walked on, ever delighted by the beauty of all around him; and even when the scene grew less beautiful, still he loved the air that brought strength and happiness to his breast, and he liked the change because it was change. At last he came to a great town, where everybody was so busy that no one could attend to him; and by this time he felt very hungry. So he stopped one man who looked rather more good-natured than the rest, and told him how hungry he was, and asked for some food. "Food!" cried the man, "none can eat that do not work; least of all likely lads like you." "I am on a long journey," said the youth. "Well then, you must walk and fast," answered the man; "travellers must take care of themselves." "But I am in search of something that will be of great benefit to my country." The man laughed very loud at that, and said that people who were in search of something for the good of their country always starved, and were too useless to be rescued from starving. So the Prince saw that he must have a harder search than he thought, for he must travel and work too. "That," he said to himself after the fairy's way, "is your third lesson, Edward. But perhaps," he thought, "I shall find it where I work; for who can tell where the gifts of God lie hidden?"

So he followed the man into a great building, where the rooms were large and the walls bare, and the air clogged with oily vapours, and the people pale and saddened in face; in short, a place as unlike the dear earth as if one had set himself to create a world exactly the reverse of God's own; and the Prince began to fear that he was in the devil's house. The room was full of ingeniously-contrived machines, each one spinning as many threads as fifty women; and the man set him to one of these machines, to watch the threads that they did not break. "But," said the Prince, "that is women's work; it is, indeed, less, since the machine does half." "Well," cried the man, "do as you like; work or starve; but see how many as good as you are content and glad to do half woman's work." Perforce then, the Prince did as he was bidden, and he worked many days. But when he had done, he had let so many threads be broken, and had so little wages left after the fines, that he knew he should not be able for years and years to fill his purse to travel with; and it is a sad thing to work on through daylight and dark, trying to reach what makes life intelligible and independent, and only to reach it or see it in the distance when life fades and expires. So taking his leave of his master, who was not the devil's steward, he knew, for he meant no ill, the Prince set out again and left the town.

"Aye," he exclaimed, as he once more faced the air, "it is better to be hungry, and feed on this." And when he had got away, he thought sadly of those he had left behind, and who had no motive given to them by a good fairy to leave that hopeless life and come away; but lived there crowding, poisoning each other, barely feeding, striving bravely to learn without time to learn in, dooming their progeny to their own death-life, and reproached by the master for the inborn hopes that would not die out and sometimes spoke forth.

Hunger is not the worst fiend that dogs the man that travelleth, but after hunger comes faintness, which stops even the journey to food; and the Prince felt that coming on, when he met a stout farmer. "Stout farmer," he cried, "give me to eat, and—" he continued, stopping the word in the man's mouth—"I will work for it." "Say you so, my lad; thou shalt have a day's wage." "And perhaps," thought the Prince, "I may dig up what I seek." So he worked hard all that day, and the man gave him some money. Yet when he had paid for his food and his bed, he found that he had nothing left; but he had to begin again at dawn. Now the farmer was a kind-hearted man, so the Prince told him what he told the master spinner; and the farmer did not laugh: but he did not understand. "A likely lad like thee," he said, "may do what none of these poor folks do, and may get to be a farmer; but thou must work for 't, lad. So just go on as thou art." "It is the same," thought the Prince; "I may get the means of finding when it is too late."

And beyond food, or comfort, or safety, or life, he loved his search; and, therefore, he left the farm and walked on, until he came to a port. There he saw a large bill, telling everybody that a good ship was sailing to the country where all man's desires were satisfied; so he went to the captain, and asked him for a voyage. The captain held out his hand for the money, and when the Prince said that he had none, the man told him that he could not go, unless he worked. "Gladly," answered the Prince; and he stepped on board. He had to assist the men in helping the people and goods on board; but he was strong, and the men were kind, and at last it was all done; and then they sailed. The Prince had often been on his mother's favourite ship, and felt half at home, and almost a sailor. "At all events," he said, thinking of the factory and the farm, and remembering how much sweeter hunger was when he tended the beasts and the corn, growing after God's good laws, than a full belly in a poisoned air, "I shall have to face nothing worse than God has made." But the ship was not his mother's favourite ship, and the captain was not the lady his mother. One night it came on to rain and blow, and he was on deck; but he had nothing particular to do, and he thought he would go down into his cabin, close as it was. Just as he began to descend, a sailor

struck him a smart blow with a rope's end, and told him not to skulk. Edward did not mind the blow, but he did mind the being thought a skulker; so he stopped on deck, although he was nearly washed off, and felt so wet with salt water that he thought he was a sponge or a piece of bread soaking in salt broth. Some time after the master said he might as well begin to go aloft, and then he learned how a ship looks from the top of a pole making a sweep of scores of yards. It *must* fall, he thought; but it didn't. Nor did he. Afterwards one day he was told that he must go out on the yard—must crawl along that round, wet, slippery spar, waving and jerking over the waves that now rose up and tried to reach him, and now opened to let him in as he fell. "It will be my death," thought the Prince. "and I shall never find what I seek." But it wasn't his death. He was not worse off, poor Prince, than many a bold fellow. At last they passed the Cape of Storms, and here they felt safe; but then came the worst storm they ever had had, and the ship, after straining, and groaning, and beating the waves, was dashed upon the rocks, and went to pieces. "Well," cried the good Prince, as he felt himself sinking, "if it is God's law that I seek no more but in the other world, it is best so; but who can tell till he tries?" So he struck out bravely, and for all his boots he managed to crawl on shore.

He scrambled over the rocks, and walked on into the country, again faint and hungry. At last he saw something coming over the plain, which might be a host; but he found that it was a great herd of cattle, with long horns, walking, trotting, galloping, tossing their heads, and lifting their noses wildly into the air. Few trees were there near, but he got behind one to let the herd pass without trampling him down; and behind the beasts he found a man on horseback, with a rifle at his saddle and a great whip, and he told the man what had befallen him. "You shall tend my herd," said the man; and so the Prince did, not only driving it, but helping the drovers of other herds to keep watch against the black thieves of the border. "The rascals had been better since the Queen's Generals had thrashed them instead of petting," said the farmer. "But why did they pet them before?" asked the Prince. "Oh! I never could tell. I think they learned how to treat black savages by studying dame schools. But we soon taught them better." "How did you do that?" asked the Prince. "Why, you see, we struck out; and, young man, I will tell you one thing that may serve you as a settler—for you will be a settler before you are old—that when kings govern badly, the shortest way for the people to get righted is just—" "To do what?" said the Prince, for that was coming close to his study. "To rebel," said the farmer stoutly. "Are not fair words better—a mild answer, you know—" "Mild answer be —!" No; deputations only get gracious replies." "Have you tried?" "Tried both, young man. They told us not to beat those thieves on the border, and we petitioned, and much good did it. The Dutchmen went over the border; and for all the King sent orders to bring them back, there they are—free. They sent us thieves home-made; we sent our Governor to Coventry, and they sent the thieves away again. Finding us so stout to take care of ourselves, they began to take care of us, and gave us a free constitution as they call it; and free enough we are—for I have a voice in my own laws, I have a good rifle to protect myself; and now, if our good Queen wants it, that same rifle is at her service—to the death, my boy; and can any man say more than that?" But, although it was a fine life, the Prince did not fill his purse for travel; so he went down to the town, and took ship again with stout heart, and went on to the Land of Promise.

A fine town did he land in, and a pleasant. Everybody looked happy, so everybody was kind; and bare as he was, the youth, being well educated, had his choice of work. Every man was free, every man could make way in life, every man could have a voice in the laws, every man had his rifle, and every man offered it for the service of his Queen. The Prince might sit in the bank and write, he might tend a vineyard, keep a waggon, work on a farm, mind a store; and all under a gay sun. He tried them all, each after the other; and found there, as at home, that whatever the gain, that labour is the sweetest which comes closest to the working of God's own laws in his own free air and under his own broad sun. "But," he asked, "where is that which man most wants?" "Oh!" cried these happy people, "that is in the desert behind us." So the Prince went on into the tawny desert.

And faint enough he was with hunger, toiling over the hard ground under the broiling sun of Christmas. At last he came up with a man who was busy about the ground—a rough-looking fellow, dressed in a leather-shirt over his trousers; and again the Prince asked for food, offering to work for it. "You won't get much food out of this ground," answered the man, "though we must all work for what we eat. Thou canst buy some at the store yonder or stay, here is a biscuit which I will sell thee for a piece of silver, and that is cheap in this land." "But I have no money," said the Prince. "God's life! lad, why didst not say so at first? Here, take the biscuit, and another too, for Bob Oldham will never see a comrade starve while he has a biscuit in his pocket." When he had appeased his hunger somewhat, the Prince asked the man what they were working there for. "What for?" asked the man, "why for this;" and he took up a large lump of something which he gave to the Prince. "What is it?" asked the young man. "Canst not tell it? Mayhap thou hast not often seen it so large or so pure. It is gold, lad; what every man longs for—what thousands of us come here to dig, and when we come, we find that it will satisfy neither hunger nor thirst. Thou'll grow no fatter in these diggings; and if thou wouldest to buy, thou must work longer than thou wouldest at loom or plough to get a bellyful." Seeing the man so fair a comrade, and feeling the want of converse in that desert, the Prince frankly told him his whole story. "What! then art thou a Prince?" cried the man; "a real Prince? Well, sit down, lad; thou'll find a seat with more gold in it than thy mother's throne, though thou sittest upon the ground." The Prince told the man what he was in search of. "Well," cried Oldham, "thou'st come to the other side of the world, with thy feet right opposite to those at home, and thou'st not found it yet; but I don't think thou canst be far wrong. It is not this, at all events," he cried, tossing the gold in his hand; "we know what that is worth and what it isn't; but when thou and I come together at the opposite side of the earth, and

come to an understanding, I do not think that thou canst be very far off the scent. It is not so difficult to govern men, so that thou govern not too much. Go where thou mayst, thou findest the same laws greater than those of King or Governor. Its work is the true charter; freedom is the true seed of loyalty. Go and see the Capeman driving his cattle; come and see the digger hewing out the gold; go and see the backwoodsman in the North-West clearing the forest—it is always the same. Stand amid the dark forests, see the broad river from the lakes fall over the rock, and ask if the Queen of Victory can lift back that weight of waters; or see the trees that have fallen under thy stroke, and ask if the Queen, with all her power, can lift that axe, or lay low that tall growth of ages. But I tell thee, lad, that the stoutest loses heart for work when he is a prisoner at his work, and cannot love those that hold him bond. Now, thou hast done half thy journey, and I counsel thee to go home with a good heart, not looking for what thou seekest to the right nor to the left, but expecting that it will come to thee in the straight path."

III.

So the Prince went back to the town, took ship again, and patiently voyaged home. As he went, he bethought him of all the strange lessons that experience had taught. Strange it is that the further he went from his mother's palace and from the reach of her Ministers, the happier were the people! Strange that the freer each man was, the more loyal he became! Strange that the more each could produce for himself, the more he yielded for others! He had found what he had not sought, but still wanted the promised gift. At length he arrived in the wood where he had seen the Fairy. As he entered it she met him with a smiling countenance; silently

giving him her hand to kiss, she left in his a small band with a buckle at one end.

The Prince looked at it curiously. It was a plain belt of silk, with the pure rich white untouched by dye; the buckle was formed like a golden spur with a red cross for the tongue; and on the belt, in magic letters of gentle shining light, which could be read in whatever direction the belt was held, he saw this legend—"Honi soit qui mal y pense."

He looked up to ask the Fairy what that gift meant, but she was gone. Greatly oppressed with doubt, he left the wood, and went straight to his mother. "How long, my child," she cried, "you have been wandering in the gardens!—how fatigued you look!—nay, ten years older!" Then the Prince, reminding her of his wish, showed her his present, asking her if she could tell him what it meant, since that kind, cruel Fairy had not done so? The Queen looked at the belt and blushed, "For," she cried, "it is a garter—not a garter of the pattern of my Herald's College, but a real woman's garter—and it is still warm!"

She answered his question by asking him how he had got such a gift; and he told her, how a common working man, such as he might have ridden over in the town, had given him his shoes, which he showed to her; how he had wandered all over her dominions, even to the other side of the globe—feeling hunger, enduring toil, facing death, wandering in pure trust, even as her people do; and how, when he came back, the Fairy gave him that as the thing he sought—that gentle pledge whose counterfeit is the proudest badge of the noblest in the land. Then, reading the words, "Honi soit qui mal y pense," and murmuring—"To work, to know, and to think no evil!"—the Queen kissed her son, and said, "Go, my child, you have what you sought!"

THE CABMEN'S STRIKE IN GLASGOW.—This absurd strike is already at an end. The idea of preventing a person from going in a cab, if so inclined, on a wet day, with his family to church on Sunday, was so extravagantly wild that even Jehu himself could not stand it long.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 19.

BANKRUPTS.—JOSHUA VINES and JAMES SMITH, 76, Dover-road, Borough, builders—GEORGE WILSON and WILLIAM RAYNHAM, Walmer-road, Notting-hill, builders—JOSEPH LOUGH, 69, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and JOHN JAMES LIMEBEER, 48, St. James's-street, blacking-manufacturers—JOSEPH GIBB, 45, Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-road, livery-stable-keeper—CHARLES MUSKETT, Diss, Norfolk, chemist—JOHN PETER WHITE, 24, Mark-lane, City, merchant—GEORGE CLIMANCE, St. Alban's, Hertfordshire, baker—JABEZ COOPER, Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, linendraper—FREDERICK REEVE BARRATT, Stamford, Lincolnshire, music-seller—ROBERT WILSON WYLLIE, St. Leonard, Devonshire, flax-scutter—JONATHAN WRIGHT, WILLIAM WRIGHT, and LUPTON WRIGHT, Oxenhope, Yorkshire, worsted-spinners—WILLIAM ALLAWAY, Southport, Lancashire, dentist—JAMES SOTHERN TONGE, Liverpool, commission agent—WILLIAM YATES, Liverpool, cotton broker—JOHN FLETCHER, Bury, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—BETTY BARON, HENRY WILLIAM KNOWLES, and JAMES HEYWORTH, Bacup, Lancashire, manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—THOMAS WADDELL, Garterig, contractor—CHARLES STAPLES, Glasgow, wine and spirit merchant—JAMES HERBERTSON and BROTHERS, Glasgow, builders.

Friday, December 22.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—MORRIS ELLIS PEMBERTON, Lime-street, City, merchant—WILLIAM GEORGE SHARP MOCKFORD, Rood-lane, City, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.—GEORGE HARDIN, Stoke Newington, linendraper—JOHN GOWER, Lawrence-lane, City, warehouseman—HENRY SHEPHERD, Salisbury, Wiltshire, grocer—JAMES MORTIMER, Grosvenor-road, St. John's-wood, builder—NICHOLSON JOHN GARDNER, Water-lane, commission agent—WILL BUCKWELL, and THOMAS JONES, Duke-street, Southwark, stone manufacturers—JOSEPH POPPLETON, Leicester, lambswool dealer—RICHARD GINKS, Hartlebury, Worcestershire, wheelwright—WILLIAM CHADWICK, Liverpool, limeburner—JOSEPH STODDAERT, North Leach, Gloucester, draper—THOMAS EDWARDS, Shrewsbury, builder—JOHN MARSHALL, Todmorden, Yorkshire, innkeeper—GEORGE NEWMARSH, Nottingham, hatter—JOHN BATTERS, Tokenhouse-yard, City, shipowner.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—DANIEL LIVINGSTON, Glasgow, wright—MICHAEL ROWLAND, jun., Glasgow, sharebroker—JAMES LAMB, Glasgow, builder.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, December 22, 1854.

CONSOLS have been not over lively again this week. The supposed dissensions in the Cabinet and the opposition to the universally unpopular Foreign Enlistment Bill, shaking public confidence, as also the renewal of an agitation about the French loan, which last week was said to be set at rest. Mr. Gladstone, too, has the misfortune of being exceedingly unpopular in the City. Mr. Baring does not approve of him as a Finance Minister, and Mr. Baring's opinion in the City, amongst moneyed men, is received as authoritative. Sundry rumours are afloat as to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's dispositions for the coming Budget. The old City men shake their heads, and affirm that the Chancellor must come at last to a loan, either openly or by a "dodge." In the one case Consols would fall at once; in the latter, by degrees. If negotiations go on during the recess between Russia and the other Powers, or if Herr von Usedom's mission is productive of any good, that may go to neutralise the despondency felt by the wavering of a Ministry disunited amongst themselves, and without any future purpose. Shares have been lower. The Great Luxembourg Company has held a meeting; the shareholders, with good cause for indignation, abused the directors handsomely: one of the directors, a City magnate and ex-Mayor, another a member of a great banking-house. These scenes are hardly creditable to our City magnates, and they are not very rare. The Canada Company has had its half-yearly meeting, and the South

Australian Company, and their reports are very satisfactory. Turkish Scrip is now fully paid-up, and still does not recover as much as its friends could wish.

Mining shares are flat, and nobody doing anything in them. Bank shares are quiet.

At four o'clock Consols left off 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, 91 $\frac{1}{4}$, having opened 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, 91 $\frac{1}{4}$; Turkish Scrip, 6 per Cent., 74 $\frac{1}{2}$, 75, or about 5 dis.

Caledonians, 60 $\frac{1}{2}$, 61; Eastern Counties, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$; Great Northern, 89, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$; A stock, 77, 78; B stock, 123, 125; Great Western, 70, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 73, 73 $\frac{1}{2}$; Brighton, 106, 107; Birmingham, 100, 100 $\frac{1}{2}$; South-Western, 83, 84; Midlands, 68 $\frac{1}{2}$, 69; North Eastern (Berwicks), 73 $\frac{1}{2}$, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$; York, 52, 53; Oxford, 31, 32; South Devon, 60, 62; Antwerp, 62 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern of France, 31, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$; East Indian, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$, 21 $\frac{1}{4}$; Ditto Extension, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$; Luxembourg, 28, 31; Northern of France, 33, 34; Paris and Lyons, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$, 33 $\frac{1}{4}$; Paris and Orleans, 46, 48; Paris and Rouen, 38, 40; Western of France, 5, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ pm.; Agua Fria, 4, 1; Brazil Imperial, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3; St. John del Rey, 30, 32 xd.; Carious Creek 1 dis.; Linares, 8, 9; South Australian, 4, 5 pm.; Waller, 4 dis.; Peninsulas, 4 dis.; Australasia Bank, 79, 81; London Chartered, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$, 22; Oriental Bank, 38, 40; Union of Australia, 68, 69; Australian Agricultural, 36, 37; Canada, 100, 105; Crystal Palace, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$; General Screw Steam, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$; North British Australasian, 4, 1; South Australian Land, 38, 39.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, Dec. 22.

The business done in Foreign and English Wheat during the week has been to a very limited extent, but such is the confidence of holders, that prices have not given way. A few sales of floating and arrived cargoes of Saidi and Beira Wheat have been made at 50s. cost, freight and insurance for the former, and 52s. and 53s. for the latter. Wheat for spring shipment is held as follows:—61 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Rostock, 67s.; Stettin, 61 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., 63s. to 64s.; Danish, 60lb., 64s. 6d.—all f. o. b. A few parcels of 60lb. Island Wheat are offered at 72s. cost and freight to London for present shipment. The French markets continue to droop. At New York, notwithstanding rather better supplies, prices are firmer, owing to the demand for home consumption. The shipments of Maize from New York to Liverpool and Cork continue on a large scale. Sales have been made of cargoes on passage at 44s. ed. to 45s., and 46s. 6d. per 480lbs. is asked for an arrived cargo. A cargo of Mazagan, arrived in good order, has been sold at 46s. cost, freight and insurance. The trade in Barley during the week has been flat. Supplies of Oats are short, and on Monday buyers were compelled to give 6d. to 1s. over last week's rates; but since then the trade has been extremely dull, without alteration in price. With short supplies of English and French Beans, prices are barely maintained. A cargo of Egyptian has been sold at 40s. cost, freight and insurance, direct to Liverpool. Peas are dull, and without alteration in value.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	208 $\frac{1}{2}$	208 $\frac{1}{2}$	209 $\frac{1}{2}$	209	209	209
3 per Cent. Red.	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91	91	91
3 per Cent. Con. An.	shut	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Consols for Account	92	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. An. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	48	48	48	48	45-16	45-16
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	12	9	9	9	.....	12
Ditto, under £1000.....	9	.....	12	.....	.....	12
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	4	4 p	4 p	4	.....	7
Ditto, £500.....	.....	4 p	7 p	4	7	7
Ditto, Small	4	4 p	7 p	4	7	7

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents 1822.....	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.....	102	Russian 14 per Cents.....	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def. 1874	1874
Danish 5 per Cents.....	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spanish Committee Cert.	.....
Ecuador Bonds.....	34	of Coup. not fin. ....	.....
Mexican 3 per Cents.....	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Venezuela 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents.....	21 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. Dec. 29.....	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	Belgian 4 per Cents.....	90 $\frac{1}{2}$
Portuguese 5 per Cents.....	.....	Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents.....	91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Portuguese 3 p. Cents.....	.....	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. 91 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. A. WIGAN.

Tuesday and during the week will be performed, the New Comedietta,

A WIFE'S JOURNAL.

Brown, Mr. Emery; Harcourt, Mr. Leslie; Mrs. Brown Miss Maskell.

After which, a New Fairy Extravaganza, by J. R. Planche Esq., called

THE YELLOW DWARF AND THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Danvers, Clifton, White H. Cooper, Miss Julia St. George, Miss E. Ormonde, Miss Marston, Miss Bromley (her first appearance), and Mrs Fitzallan.

To conclude with the farce of

A BLIGHTED BEING.

In which Messrs. F. Robson, Leslie, Danvers, H. Cooper, and Miss E. Turner, will appear.

SIEGE OF SEVASTOPOL.—GREAT GLOBE.

A LARGE MODEL of the COUNTRY AROUND SEVASTOPOL, including Inkermann, Balaklava, and the Tchernaya, with the Positions of the English, French, and Turkish Armies, and the Siege Works, at the GREAT GLOBE, Leicester-square. Open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Admission, 1s.

WAR GALLERY, GREAT GLOBE.

The Portraits of Lord RAGLAN, Marshal ST. ARNAUD, OMAR PACHA, SCHAMYL, and the Costumes of the Armies of Europe, are at the GREAT GLOBE, Leicester-square. Open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling.—Children and Schools half-price.

QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, HANOVER-SQUARE.

THE AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS, THE REPUTED GODS OF IXIMAYA, AND THE EARTH-MEN, OR ERDMANNIGES. People who burrow under ground. The first of either race ever seen in Europe—the existence of which has been much disputed. Grand Fashionable Exhibitions, commencing Tuesday, Dec. 26th, continuing for some weeks. Daily, from 11 to 1 o'clock. Lectures at 12. Admission, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s. Children, Half-price. The robes in which the Aztecs will appear cost upwards of 60s. These most extraordinary little creatures, now united with the Earthmen—extraordinary in their size, dimensions, habits, demeanour, race, origin, and history—are now spelling some words, walk upright, and are greatly improved in every way, though of the same Lilliputian stature. EXHIBITIONS FOR THE MILLION will be given daily in the LINWOOD GALLERY, Leicester-square, commencing also Dec. 26th. Observe the PRICES—Gallery, 6d., Body of the Hall, 1s., Stalls, 2s. Exhibitions daily, from 3 to 5, and 7 to 9. Lectures at 4 and 8. The Rooms, having been prepared for the purpose, will accommodate 1500 persons at a time. This arrangement will afford all London an opportunity of beh

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS,

NEXT FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1854.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that, although it had been his intention, as in former years, to have limited the period of his Concerts to one short series, a variety of circumstances have, this season, induced him to depart from his accustomed practice.

The great success which has invariably attended these Entertainments has increased this year to such an enormous extent that it would really appear as if the omission of the last year's Concerts, in consequence of M. JULLIEN's absence in America, had, instead of diminishing, added, in an extraordinary degree, to their popularity; and, indeed, as if the Public—deprived for one season of their favourite amusement—had, during the next, flocked towards it with a twofold eagerness. M. JULLIEN, in fact, during his late series of Concerts at Drury Lane Theatre, on many occasions, found it quite impossible to accommodate the numbers of persons who presented themselves for admission—this great anxiety to attend the Concerts not being confined to one class alone, but extending itself to the mass of persons visiting the Promenade, as well as to the occupants of the Dress Circle and Private Boxes.—M. JULLIEN trusts this great success is not solely attributable to any one of the special attractions which he had provided for this year's Concerts, for, unprecedented as has been the enthusiasm evinced at every performance of the "Allied Armies' Quadrille," the great *piece de resistance* of the season, and several other portions of the Programme, he hopes that the increased popularity of his Concerts may be fairly regarded as an evidence of a more widely spread taste for the works of the Great Masters, as well as a rapid and progressive aptitude in the mind of the Public generally for the appreciation and enjoyment of the better class of Musical Entertainments.

Under these circumstances, and in accordance with the wishes and advice of many of M. Jullien's Patrons and Friends, he determined to endeavour, if possible, to arrange a second short series of Concerts this season. The great difficulty, however, which at once presented itself, was the finding a building affording such increased space as it might fairly be supposed would be sufficient to accommodate a large additional number of Visitors. In this difficulty M. JULLIEN sought the assistance of the Directors of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, their Theatre being the only one at all likely to afford the accommodation required; and it is with very great gratification he is enabled to state that the Directors, entering at once into his views, have, in the most handsome manner, placed their magnificent establishment entirely at his disposal, and thus rendered him most valuable aid in his efforts still more widely to cultivate the popular musical taste. M. JULLIEN has, therefore, the honour to announce that the

SECOND SERIES OF CONCERTS

will commence on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th; and it will be seen that, popular as they have proved to be, he has not relied entirely for the amusement of his Audience, on the novelties of the last Series of Concerts, but has provided, though at a very large cost, great additional attraction. He has entered into an engagement with

MADAME PLEYEL,

the most celebrated Pianiste in Europe, to perform for a limited number of nights. He has also entered into an engagement with that most distinguished performer on the Violin, HERR ERNST, for the purpose of executing the Classical Works of the great Masters. MADAME ANNA THILLON, whose Charming Vocal Performance has received, nightly, such unanimous marks of approbation, is re-engaged for the whole Series. SIGNOR BOTTESINI, who is daily expected from America, will appear immediately on his arrival. HERR KENIG is also engaged.

The above Artists, in addition to those already forming M. JULLIEN's Unrivalled Orchestra, will constitute a most unprecedented combination of Talent.

It is M. JULLIEN's intention to repeat, with additional attractions, the Evenings of the

BEETHOVEN and MENDELSSOHN FESTIVALS, and also for the first time to give a CONCERT consisting entirely of the Works of MOZART.

MEYERBEER's celebrated STRUENSEE (the Complete Work) will be performed; also a Selection arranged for full Orchestra, from ROSSINI's Opera, LE COMTE ORY; a Selection arranged for full Orchestra, from VERDI's New Opera, RIGOLETTO; a Selection for full Orchestra, from SPONI's Classical Opera JESSONDA, &c. &c.

In order to contribute to the amusement of the many JUVENILE VISITORS whom M. Jullien hopes to see at his Concerts during the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, he has composed a new Comic Quadrille, entitled the PANTOMIME QUADRILLE.

The NEW SLEIGH POLKA, describing, with some curious and novel effects, sledge-driving in America, will also be produced.

The NEW GRAND ALLIED ARMIES' QUADRILLE, assisted by the THREE MILITARY BANDS of HER MAJESTY'S GUARDS, which has created such unparalleled enthusiasm, will be performed on the First Night, and on every evening until further notice. The nightly programme will, in fact, present an unequalled variety and excellence. The whole area of this magnificent Theatre—the audience portion as well as the stage—will be converted into one IMMENSE SALLE, and exhibit an entirely new and tasteful decoration, the whole being carpeted, warmed, and ventilated. At the back of the Promenade will be found

THE READING ROOM,

Containing Newspapers and Periodicals from almost all parts of the world, including Six London Morning Papers, Five Evening Papers, Fifty-six Weekly Papers, and Twenty Provincial Papers; besides the Irish, Scotch, German, American, Italian, Swiss, Dutch, Indian, Chinese, Australian, New Zealand, Malta, Portuguese, Ionian, Canadian, French, Belgian, and Spanish Newspapers, Magazines, and other Periodicals.

Notwithstanding the vast outlay necessarily incurred by the above arrangements, it is M. Jullien's intention, in the regulation of the admission, to preserve the popular character of his Entertainments, and to retain the usual Scale of Prices.

Prices of Admission:

Promenade,	} One Shilling.
Upper Boxes,	
Amphitheatre Stalls,	
Amphitheatre,	} 2s. 6d.
Dress Circle, 2s. 6d.	
Private Boxes, 12s., 21s., 31s. 6d.	

The Concerts, on each evening, will commence at 8 o'clock, and terminate before 11. Places and Private Boxes may be engaged at the Box Office of the Theatre, and Private Boxes of the principal Librarians and Booksellers.

N.B.—In consequence of M. Jullien's provincial engagements, into which he has already entered, it will not be possible to extend the Concerts beyond ONE MONTH.

NIAM-NIAMS, or the TAILED FAMILY of CENTRAL AFRICA, now to be seen for the first time in Europe at DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM (top of the Haymarket). Open as usual. Lectures to Gentlemen by Dr. Sexton, and to Ladies by Mrs. Sexton. Admission, One Shilling.

N.B.—A Descriptive Pamphlet of the Niam-Niams, price Sixpence, with a plain engraving; ditto coloured, One Shilling. To be had at the Museum.

T O L O V E R S O F F I S H. 100 real Yarmouth Bloaters for 6s., package included. The above are forwarded to all parts on receipt of penny postage stamps, or P. O. O. (preferred) for the amount. Send plain address, county, and nearest station.—Address, Thomas Lettis, jun., fish-curer, Great Yarmouth.

T H E 16s. T R O U S E R S reduced to 14s.—Trousers and Waistcoat, 22s.—Coat, Waistcoat, and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all wool, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street. A perfect fit guaranteed.

B E N N E T T ' S M O D E L W A T C H. In gold cases from 10 guineas. In silver cases from 5 guineas.

Every watch is skilfully examined, timed, and its performance guaranteed.

B E N N E T T , W A T C H M A N U F A C T U R E R , 65, C H E A P S I D E .

F R E N C H M O D E R A T O R L A M P S .—A very large and superior stock now ON SALE at DEANE, DRAY, and Co.'s (Opening to the Monument), London Bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

P R E P A R E D for Medicinal Use in the Lofoten Isles, Norway, and put to the Test of Chemical Analysis. Prescribed by eminent Medical Men as the most effectual REMEDY for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, some DISEASES of the SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS—effecting a cure or alleviating suffering much more rapidly than any other kind.

PURE AND UNADULTERATED.

TESTIMONIAL FROM
ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D., F.L.S.,
Member of the Royal College of Physicians,
Physician to the Royal Free Hospital,
Author of "Food and its Adulterations," &c. &c.

"Dear Sir,—I beg to return my acknowledgments for the copy of your Work on Cod Liver Oil, with which you have favoured me. I was already acquainted with it, and had perused it some time previously with considerable gratification, especially the chapter devoted to the consideration of the adulteration of Cod Liver Oil.

"I have paid, as you are aware, much attention to the subject of the adulteration of drugs. Amongst the articles examined, I have not overlooked one so important as Cod Liver Oil, and this more particularly since it is a very favorite remedy with me, and is, moreover, so liable to deterioration by admixture with other, especially inferior Fish Oils. I may state that I have more than once, at different times, subjected your Light Brown Oil to chemical analysis, and this unknown to yourself, and I have always found it to be free from all impurity, and rich in the constituents of bile.

"So great is my confidence in the article, that I usually prescribe it in preference to any other, in order to make sure of obtaining the remedy in its purest and best condition.

"I remain, yours faithfully,
(Signed) "ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D.,
"Bennett-street, St. James's-street,
"1st December, 1854.

"To Dr. De Jongh, the Hague."

Sold in London by ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co., 77, Strand, Dr. De Jongh's sole accredited Consignees and Agents for the United Kingdom and the British Possessions, and sent by them, CARRIAGE FREE, to all parts of town.

May be obtained, in the Country, from respectable Chemists and Vendors of Medicine. Should any difficulty be experienced in procuring the Oil, Messrs. ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co. will forward four half-pint bottles to any part of England, CARRIAGE PAID, on receipt of a remittance of Ten Shillings.

Half pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s.—IMPERIAL MEASURE.

C A U T I O N .—The bottles are labelled with Dr. De Jongh's stamp and signature, without which none are genuine. The Public are specially cautioned against frequent attempts to induce them to purchase other kinds of Cod Liver Oil, under the pretence that they are the same as Dr. De Jongh's, or equally efficacious.

D E A F N E S S .—**I M P O R T A N T D I S C O V E R Y .**—Dr. MANFRED, M.R.C.S., has this day published, free by post, for eight postage stamps, a Physician's Guide for Country Patients, for the Perfect and Permanent Restoration of Hearing, by his invaluable New Treatment. Being a stop to quackery, cruel impositions on the suffering public, and exorbitant charges, this book will save thousands from the impositions of the self-styled doctors, insomuch as the hearing can be restored for life. Deafness of the most inveterate nature relieved in half an hour, cured in a few hours, almost instant cessation of noises in the ears and head, by painless treatment. Hundreds of letters may be seen, and persons referred to, who have heard the usual tone of conversation in a few hours. Patients received daily at Dr. Manfred's residence, 72, Regent-street, London (first door in Air-street) where all letters must be addressed.

N O T A B E N E .—The writer of the series of articles signed "Pastel," and published during last Summer, under the above title, in the HOME COMPANION, feels compelled to state that he has no part or interest whatever in the articles which the new proprietors of that Journal are now publishing with the same title and signature.

T R E L O A R ' S C O C O A - N U T F I B R E M A T T I N G .—Door Mats, Mattresses, Cushions, Has-socks, Brushes, Netting, &c., &c. Catalogues free by post. WAREHOUSE, 42, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON.

T H E O N L Y S T O V E W I T H O U T A F L U E . Joyce's Patent, for warming halls, shops, greenhouses, storerooms, and all other places. Price from 12s. To be seen in action at the proprietor's, SWAN NASH, 253, Oxford-street, and the CITY DEPOT, 119, Newgate-street, London. PATENT PREPARED FUEL, 2s. 6d. per bushel. JOYCE'S PORTABLE LAUNDRY STOVE will heat for 12 hours six flat and Italian irons with one pennyworth of coke or cinders. GAS STOVES in great variety. MODERATOR LAMPS, complete, from 12s. to 6 guineas. SWAN NASH solicits an inspection of his new and elegant SHOW-ROOMS, in which he has an assortment of the above lamps, unequalled for price and quality in London. Refined Rape Oil, 5s. per gallon. Prospectuses, with drawings, free.

C H U B B ' S L O C K S , with all the recent improvements. Strong Fire-proof Safes, Cash and Deed Boxes. Complete lists of sizes and prices may be had on application.

C H U B B and SON, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley-fields, Wolverhampton.

K E A T I N G ' S C O U G H L O Z E N G E S .—A certain remedy for disorders of the Pulmonary Organs. In difficulty of breathing, in redundancy of phlegm, in incipient consumption (of which cough is the most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In asthma, and in winter cough, they have never been known to fail. Sold in boxes, 1s. 1d., and tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., &c. No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London, and by all Druggists.

IMPORTANT TO CLERGYMEN, PUBLIC SPEAKERS, &c.

St. Paul's Cathedral, 30th Nov., 1849.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in recommending your Lo-zenges to those who may be distressed with hoarseness. They have afforded me relief on several occasions when scarcely able to sing from the effects of catarrh. I think they would be very useful to Clergymen, Barristers, and Public Orators.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
To Mr. Keating.

THOMAS FRANCIS, Vicar Choral.

K E A T I N G ' S C O D L I V E R O I L , imported direct from Newfoundland, of the finest quality, pale, purified, and nearly tasteless. Imperial Measure half-pints, 2s.; pints, 3s. 6d.; quarts, 6s. 6d.; five-pint bottles, 16s.

** Orders from the country should expressly state "KEATING'S COD LIVER OIL."

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

T H E M O C - M A I N L E V E R T R U S S is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

E L A S T I C S T O C K I N G S , K N E E C A P S , &c. f o r V A R I C O S E V I E N S , and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. Postage, 6d.

A M E R I C A N S A R S A P A R I L L A . OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAVAPILLA. This is, of all known remedies, the most pure, safe, active, and efficacious in the purification of the blood of all morbid matter, of bile, urea, acids, scrofulous substances, humours of all kinds, which produce rashes, eruptions, salt rheum, erysipelas, scald head, sore eyes and ears, sore throat and ulcers, and sores on any part of the body. It is unsurpassed in its action upon the liver, the lungs, and the stomach, removing any cause of disease from those organs, and expelling all humours from the system. By cleansing the blood, it for ever prevents pustules, scabs, pimples and every variety of sores on the face and breast. It is a great tonic, and imparts strength and vigour to the debilitated and weak, gives rest and refreshing sleep to the nervous and restless invalid. It is a great female medicine, and will cure more complaints peculiar to the sex than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 373, Strand, adjoining Exeter-Hall; POMEROY, ANDREWS and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 4s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mammoths, 11s.

D E A F N E S S A N D S I N G I N G N O I S E S .

Instant relief by Dr. HOUGHTON'S new and painless mode of cure. Any extremely deaf sufferer, by one visit, is permanently enabled to hear with ease the usual tone of conversation without operation, pain, or the use of instruments. Thirty-four patients cured last week; many totally deaf instantaneously restored to perfect hearing. Testimonials from the highest medical authority in London can be seen, and persons referred to.

The above discovery is known and practised only by Dr. Houghton, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons, May 2, 1845; L.A.C., April 30, 1846. Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall.

Just published, Self-Cure of Deafness, for country patients—a stop to empiricism, quackery, and exorbitant fees—sent on receipt of seven stamps, free.

HOT AIR, Gas, Vesta, Joyce's STOVES.—STOVES for the economical and safe heating of halls, shops, warehouses, passages, basements, and the like, being at this season demanded. WILLIAM S. BURTON invites attention to his unrivalled assortment, adapted (one or the other) to every conceivable requirement, at prices from 10s. each to 30 guineas. His variety of registrar and other stoves is the largest in existence.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.—The Real NICKEL SILVER, introduced 20 years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when PLATED by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamenteally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

Fiddle Pattern.	Thread or Brunswick Pattern.	King's Pattern.
Tea Spoons, per dozen	18s.	26s.
Dessert Forks	30s.	40s.
Dessert Spoons	30s.	42s.
Table Forks	40s.	56s.
Table Spoons	40s.	58s.
Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.	66s.	66s.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

Fiddle. Thread. King's. Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen. 12s. 28s. 30s.

Dessert ditto and ditto. 10s. 21s. 25s.

Tea ditto. 5s. 11s. 12s.

CUTLERY WARRANTED.—The most varied assortment of TABLE CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is on SALE at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales. 3½-inch ivory-handled table-knives, with high shoulders, 11s. per dozen; desserts to match, 10s.; if to balance, 1s. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 26s. per dozen; extra fine ivory, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. to 50s.; white bone table knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; desserts, 5s. 6d.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; desserts, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels, from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish carvers. Also, a large assortment of Razors, Penknives, Scissors, &c. of the best quality.

LAMPS of all SORTS and PATTERNS.—The Largest, as well as the Choicest, Assortment in existence of FRENCH and ENGLISH MODERATEUR, PALMER'S, CAMPHINE, ARGAND, SOLAR, and other LAMPS, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherché patterns, in ormolu, Bohemian, and plain glass, or papier maché, is at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, and they are arranged in one large room, so that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly selected.

Real French Colza Oil, 5s. per gallon.

Palmer's Candles, 9d., 9½d., and 10d. per lb.

DISH COVERS and HOT-WATER DISHES in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherché patterns. Tin Dish Covers, 6s. 6d. the set of six; Block Tin, 12s. 3d. to 28s. 9d. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 34s. to 58s. 6d. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 76s. 6d. to 110s. 6d. the set; Sheffield plated, 10s. to 16s. 10s. the set; Block Tin Hot-water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 36s.; Britannia Metal, 22s. to 77s.; Electro-plated on Nickel, full size, 11s. 11s.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS devoted to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including cutlery, nickel silver, plated and japan wares, iron and brass bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

39, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street); 1, 2, and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

TESTIMONIALS by PRESENTATION having become so much the custom, and in consequence of Messrs. FUTVOYE having been frequently applied to for suitable articles, they beg to state to all those who would pay such graceful tributes to public merit or private worth, that in all cases when it is clearly shown goods are required for such a purpose, and the amount exceeds 50%, they shall allow 10 per cent. from their regular marked prices.

154, Regent-street, August 23, 1854.

TEAS and COFFEES at MERCHANTS' PRICES.

Strong Congon Tea, 2s. 8d., 2s. 10d., and 3s.

Rich Souchong Tea, 3s. 2d., 3s. 4d., and 3s. 6d.

The Best Assam Pekoe Souchong Tea, 4s.

Prime Gunpowder Tea, 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 4d.

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