

The Leader.

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

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SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

EVENTS crowd upon one another so thick, that the striking incident of one day is obscured by the startling intelligence of the morrow. When the House of Commons assembled on Monday evening to resume the debate upon Mr. LAYARD's motion "on the state of the nation," the proceedings were suspended, in order that the report, fresh from the Sebastopol Committee, might be read at the table. Before the public has grown tired of discussing that long anticipated story, the *Morning Post* reports that the bombardment of Sebastopol has recommenced; and ere we learn the truth of that rumour, fresh accounts from Hango Sound disclose one of the bloodiest incidents of the war; then comes the report of the serious reverse before Sebastopol on the 18th; and then those humiliating details of outrages by the Allied soldiery at Kertch; and while we are roused by tales of this kind, we turn to note the sudden fall of the French Funds, consequent on the mysterious malady of the Emperor. The Government at home continues to meet the pressure of party and popular attacks by mustering every sign that it is active in reforms. And all the while our heaving commerce exhibits from time to time some of those startling irregularities which have this week placed three bankers before the criminal tribunal. Enough of news certainly for one week! Indeed, unless some crime bursts upon the public from the placid fields of fashion or commerce,—some bankrupt goes, not into the *Gazette*, but into the criminal courts,—some bloody encounter is reported from the seat of war, or some empire totters in the balance, the satiated reader, accustomed to be stimulated by "latest intelligence" three or four times in the day, declares that "the papers are dull."

The renewed bombardment of Sebastopol was announced early in the week, and yesterday we learned the result in a serious check to the Allies. The bombardment was renewed on the 18th; and the French and English made a fresh movement, to complete the real but still partial success of the 7th. An immense force of the French was flung forward to seize the Malakoff tower, the English threw themselves upon the Redan battery; but the Russians, who have never ceased to contest that part of the ground with unflinching courage and vigour, brought numbers

and daring to the resistance. And after a long and very bloody contest, the Allies were obliged to fall back, with an immense loss. They retreated in order to their old position; but, for the first time in the history of the war, they have been obliged to yield bodily before the Russians. So say the authentic accounts, but there is a strong suspicion that the real intelligence is worse. The event happened on the 18th; we first hear it on the 22nd—and nothing more! To account for this backwardness, it is surmised that the *French* Government wishes silence—on the Bourse. PELLISSIER is sustaining his repute as a "grand maitre en tuerie," but the slaughterous faculty is disastrously exhibited in its effects on his own men!

Next in interest is the tale of the Hango massacre. It is a short story, but one full of meaning. The British squadron has been filling up its time by harassing the coasts, suppressing anything like real commerce, and making the Russians feel that the crimes of their Government entail maritime imprisonment upon the Empire; for to such the possession of the Black and Baltic Sea amounts. Admiral Dundas, however, has carried out his hostilities with extreme leniency towards the poorest classes of inhabitants. Fishing boats were not molested; prisoners were restored to land, and it was in landing a small party of the prisoners on the shore at Hango that the tragedy took place. A few Finlanders remained on board the Cossack, and Captain FANSHAW was instructed to land them under a flag of truce. A boat was sent in command of Lieutenant GENESTE; he approached the shore without perceiving any signs of inhabitants; the weapons on board were not loaded, and a flag of truce was displayed. No sooner, however, had the party begun to land than a strong body of Russians started from an ambush, and the whole party were murderously attacked. One man alone escaped; and he reported that all the rest had been killed. The Russians did not know that this witness survived, and they have put forth their own story through the *Invalides*, representing that the boat's crew effected a hasty landing with all on board armed. From this version it would appear, however, that eleven of the party remained prisoners; and the Russian Government, unless it wishes to be branded with infamy, will at once bring forward these prisoners to confront the survivor who escaped. With respect to the honesty of our own officers there is no room for the

smallest doubt, and they appear to have taken all necessary precautions for apprising the Russians that they came upon a peaceful errand. It is possible that the traitors presumed treachery, and would not see the signs of peace, or even their own unarmed fellow-subjects.

The Russians also give us their account of the brilliant successes in the Sea of Azof. The St. Petersburg Journal describes it as the "awful desecration of the coasts, the destruction of a few small magazines, and a small number of vessels intended to carry provisions to the troops." This follows after General GORTSCHAKOFF's report, which reached this country last week, that the enemy had destroyed "all our ships," and it accompanies the report of Lieutenant-General KRASNOV that the enemy have kept up an infernal cannonade at Taganrog "for six hours and a half," being however repulsed by the courage of the Russians; who lost "a Cossack." The Russian official accounts have now quite a habit of admitting the loss of one man.

It is a miserable duty, however, to confess that in one respect they seem to be only too true. The acquisition of Kertch was disgraced by some of the worst excesses among the Turkish soldiers; and even French soldiers took part in the fiendish orgies which are reckoned among "the rights of the conqueror."

The bad news from the Crimea is not likely to influence our position with Austria very favourably. Already there are signs of backing out on the part of that Power. A despatch to M. HUNTER, written on the 20th of last month, is just published. It constitutes a kind of remonstrance with France for not having accepted the propositions of Austria at the last Vienna Conference; and while Austria still professes to stand to her pledges, she speaks in an apologetic tone, implying that she will do nothing until the Allies put themselves in a stronger position. The reduction of her forces at the same time is a hint that this announcement is not confined to words. From an ally, Austria is sinking into a neutral, and the Western Powers are told they are too weak to expect more assistance.

There is no wonder if the Emperor NAPOLEON's strong frame gives way under these anxieties. He has, it is said, suffered under an attack that is usually agonising, and always dangerous; and although he showed himself at a theatre on Monday evening with the Empress, it is not presumed in Paris that he is, therefore, quite restored. The

funds are down, as the funds were in London yesterday, on news getting abroad of the generally dark state of the continental horizon.

We seem to have drifted long past the period to which the Sebastopol report applies, and yet it may be said to suggest more future than even present or past interest. Confused as the evidence was, it is here brought to something like a concentrated result, and imperfect as the report confessedly is from the difficulty of summoning important witnesses, and the deliberate exclusion of military considerations connected with our allies, some important results are distinctly made out. The responsibility of the expedition to the Crimea is fastened upon the home Government; the confidence of success in the Ministers connected with the war, — Lord ABERDEEN, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, and the Duke of NEWCASTLE, — perhaps explains the want of provision for the protracted siege of Sebastopol, and the absence of clothing, shelter, and medical assistance, which left our forces to freeze, sicken, and die during the long winter. But the confusion is distinctly and chiefly traced to the total want of anything like systematic subordination of one officer to another, to imperfect authority and fear of responsibility. The bad tools, the bad arrangement of the cargoes, the want of a transport, the delays in organisation of the hospitals, are only so many specific results of that great cause. Some officers, like Admiral BOXER, are exonerated from much of the blame that has been cast upon them; but always because the machinery, either in organisation or in actual mechanical instruments, was withheld from them; and although the War Department has been reorganised at home, we have yet to learn that there has been that complete reconstruction of the whole body of civil and military authorities connected with the army which can impart unity to future movements. Has it been accomplished, or has it not? The report of the Committee does not answer the question. It was read with great interest; but are we to have another report in 1856 upon the disasters of 1855?

Excepting the Sebastopol report and the LAYARD debate, the Parliamentary budget is comparatively meagre. The Administrative Reformers have gained a decided step in advance. They could not, indeed, at the division on Monday night, muster more than 46 on their side against 359; but why? Because Mr. DISRAELI conspired with the Government to keep out the new competitors for public favour. Mr. DISRAELI was both parent and godfather of Administrative Reform — such is his own account. He began it when he was in office, he named it when he began; and he now allows Lord PALMERSTON to nurse it; but he will not allow LAYARD to adopt it. The popular party, however, is actually dictating at this moment the guiding policy both of the Government and of the ex-Government. On the dictate of Lord PALMERSTON and Mr. DISRAELI, Mr. LAYARD's motion was negatived; and Sir EDWARD LYTTON's amendment, generally recommending Administrative Reform, passed on Thursday undiscussed.

Of course the Hango Sound affair could not pass without notice. The Government was challenged to explain it in the House of Lords, where Lord BROUGHAM called aloud for retaliation and "blood." Before proceeding to extremities, however, said Lord CLARENDON, Government would, through Denmark, demand an explanation from the Czar.

Progress in the committee on the bill for authorising a marriage with the deceased wife's sister, and a select committee to determine what gratuity shall be given to Captain M'CLURE for determining the North-West passage, have been amongst the actual work done. Next week, Mr. BERKELEY is to move for a select committee on the working of the Beer Act — a very proper inquiry, which ought

to enlighten the House of Commons as to its domestic legislation. And some work that stood for this session is thrown over, such as the London Corporation Reform, and the amendment of the law of settlement. There are many signs that Ministers intend an early closing of Parliament — if possible. They have made great way with their finance, and have nothing to keep the Legislature in town of any paramount importance.

The Oxford commemoration has passed off gaily. The Chancellor, Lord DERBY, laid the first stone of a new museum, with a liberal speech in favour of physical science. A very successful *soirée* was given by Dr. ACLAND in the Radcliffe Library, that noble building which seems placed where it is to rebuke the pedantry of exclusive mediævalism. The uproarious fun of the theatre, as usual, degenerated into bad manners. An unpopular proctor was hissed before that great assembly with a pertinacity which is simply malignant; and one of the guests, on whom an honorary degree was conferred, was treated with what we must call most inhospitable rudeness, though "our own reporter" takes it for a capital jest. We may as well inform credulous "lions" that a great deal too much is commonly made of these theatre demonstrations. They are mere explosions of the idle animalism of the university, in which the real students take no part. M. DE MONTALEMBERT received an honorary degree, nominally as a member of the French Academy, really as an ultramontanist to please the Puseyites; the consolation is left for Liberals, that he represents the French Opposition, and is the only independent deputy in the Legislative Corps of the Second Empire.

Socially, the opposite ends of society have been brought together. Adversity, as it were, has made both ends meet in a painful manner; as the snake which emblems eternity is perpetually feeding upon his own tail. A fortnight back there was a bank at Temple Bar, quite respectable, with a dwelling-house near it, — an hereditary bank, aristocratic in its direct succession, the title of one of its partners, and its West-end connexions; adorned by associations with France and Italy; the depository used by fashionable and noble proprietors of deeds and securities, personal and corporate; a bank so respected as to confer distinction on its clients. The bank of STRAHAN, PAUL, and Co. was not a joint-stock bank, and therefore, of course, according to vulgar opinion, the safer; yet it is successively discovered that this bank has bills rather copiously in the market: then, that it is hampered with Italian railways and French railways; next a hint is whispered on Saturday that it will stop; and on Monday the creditors find the doors closed, and learn that 20,000*l.* was cleared away on the last day of opening. It is sharp work in such cases. The bank is ransacked; securities left under lock and key are supposed to be missing; the partners do not appear, and the creditors rush for justice to the Police Courts. Warrants are issued, and Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL and his partners, Mr. STRAHAN, and Mr. BATES, who recently commanded the entrée into any drawing-room at the West-end, stand before the magistrate at Bow-street, to take their trial under a statute which renders them liable to transportation for seven or fourteen years. The legends of Capel-court are here strangely mixed with the picturesque associations of continental enterprise, West-end fashion, and historical parallels of the FAUNTILER kind; only we trust less tragic.

Another strange picture of extremes is presented by the Court Circular. We do not allude to Queen VICTORIA's visit to Chatham, to see the wounded soldiers; for nothing can be more natural than the sovereign's visiting the humblest of her servants-in-arms who have suffered in the cause of a common country. We mean the ubiquity of the philosophical Prince ALBERT, whom we last saw moralising on the constitution from the banquet table of Trinity House, or congratulating the Lord Mayor and Corporation upon opening the cattle-market which they had refused to build: this week we see him attending the Statistical Society, and listening to inquiries into the comparative mortalities of naval war; and next we find him going to learn "life" at Cremorne.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

COUNTY COURT FEES.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord BROUGHAM called attention to the tariff of fees paid by suitors in the county courts, which, he contended, are exorbitant and destructive of the great purposes for which those tribunals are constituted, namely, the administration of cheap justice in actions for debts below a certain amount. — After a brief discussion, in which Lords PORTMAN, GRANVILLE, CAMPBELL, and the LORD CHANCELLOR took part, the subject dropped.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

The Select Committee on this Bill was appointed, on the motion of Lord HARROWBY, when the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, who was nominated one of the members, refused to serve.

REPORT OF THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

In the House of Commons, Mr. ROEBUCK brought up the Report of the Sebastopol Committee, which, on the motion of Mr. DISRAELI, was read *in extenso* by the Clerk at the table, and was subsequently ordered to be printed. An analysis of this document will be found in a subsequent column.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

The adjourned debate on Mr. LAYARD's motion was resumed by Lord GODERICH, who, replying to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's assertion on Friday night that the Government has already introduced, or is introducing, all necessary reforms in the departments, observed that ministers have only adopted two measures with that object — namely, the consolidation of the War Departments and the Order in Council of the 2nd of May; and neither of these was likely to be efficient. Mr. Layard's motion did not, as was asserted by the Government, imply a direct vote of want of confidence. — Mr. FREDERICK PEEL replied to Mr. Layard's assertions with respect to the favouritism and family influence which he alleged to rule in army promotion. The particular instances cited by Mr. Layard were incorrect, and his motion exaggerated the feeling of the country. Our prospects are now brightening, and all our calamities in the Crimea have passed away. — Mr. DRUMMOND, in a humorous speech, denounced the objects of the motion, and ridiculed the idea of the middle class furnishing any better statesmen than the aristocracy. The movement of the so-called Administrative Reformers was not directed against a Government, but against a class. It designed that the administration of the country should be taken out of the hands of the class which has conducted it for years past, and transferred to shipbrokers, stockbrokers, railway directors, and Heaven knows whom. — Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR spoke in favour of the motion, and Colonel LINDSAY and Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE against it.

Mr. DISRAELI entered into explanations as to the views of Lord Derby's Government with respect to Administrative Reform. That Government had resolved to introduce great changes into the public departments, the effect of which would have been to make the civil service more completely a profession, and to exempt it from the influences of favouritism. Nevertheless, there were great objections to Mr. Layard's motion, as diverting too much of the public indignation from the present Government; but the amendment of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton would secure the desired intention. Alluding to the promise held forth by Lord John Russell, when out of office, that he would construct "a broad-bottomed Administration," which should place "the men of the people in the Council-chamber of the Sovereign," Mr. Disraeli concluded by thus addressing the House: —

"What has happened? You turned us out of office when we were about to give you an exemplary measure of Administrative Reform. (*Cheers and laughter.*) Have you got such a reform? (*Cheers.*) You turned us out of office in a state of profound peace; and I declare most solemnly my conviction that our leaving office has entailed upon you a sad war. (*Cheers.*) But if you have lost your Administrative Reform, you have gained a dangerous, not to say disastrous, war. (*Cheers.*) Where too, is the Government on a broad basis that you have secured? Where is the Administration on an extended area you were promised? (*Hear, hear.*) Where are the men of the people in the Council-chamber of the Sovereign? (*Cheers.*) You have not only lost what you might have gained; you have not only gained what we lament and deplore — a dangerous war — but you have placed in power a Government framed on a most restricted and exclusive basis, and the principal occupation of your future careers will be to vote confidence in men who take every opportunity to treat you with the contumely you deserve." (*Loud cheers.*)

Lord PALMERSTON, before entering into the general question, made a few observations in reply to Mr. Layard's charge against him, at the Drury-lane Administrative Reform meeting, that he had jested with the sufferings of the people, and vilified them. He denied this charge, and told Mr. Layard

"to his face," that there was not one word of truth in it; adding—"I wonder that when the honourable gentleman made that statement a blush of shame did not suffuse his face at making charges which his conscience ought to have told him—if on points of this sort he have any conscience at all—were utterly and diametrically the reverse of truth. I shall now say no more about the Drury-lane private theatricals." With regard to Administrative Reform in the abstract, the present Government is in the act of pursuing the praiseworthy designs of Lord Derby's ministry. As a proof of their desire of following out all really necessary reforms, they would adopt with sincerity the amendment of Sir E. B. Lytton. They would make it their duty to look into all the public departments, and to adopt, which they would do with pride and pleasure, any practical improvements. They accepted the amendment as a pledge that there should be, not only a temporary, but a continued revision of the different offices of the civil service.

After an ineffectual effort on the part of Mr. LINDSAY to adjourn the debate, in order that he might have an opportunity of proving the charges he had made at the Drury-lane meeting, Mr. LAYARD made a few remarks in reply to the observations of Mr. Peel, Lord Palmerston, and others, and the House divided, when there appeared—For Mr. Layard's motion, 46; against, 359: majority, 313.—Sir E. B. Lytton's amendment was then put as a substantive motion; but it was ultimately agreed upon that the debate should be taken on Thursday.

THE CONSOLIDATED FUND (10,000,000*l.*) BILL, and the SPIRIT OF WINE BILL, were read a third time and passed.

THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

In the House of Lords, on Tuesday, Lord LYNDHURST postponed the motion on the Vienna negotiations, of which he had given notice, and stated that he would at some future time mention the day on which he would bring it forward.

THE EARLDOM OF SOUTHESK.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that some years ago Sir J. Carnegie presented a petition to their lordships' House, claiming the Earldom of Southesk, which having been referred to the Committee of Privileges, that Committee pronounced against the claim, on the ground of attainder. He had to inform the House that her Majesty had declared her pleasure to reverse that attainder, and a bill for that purpose he now begged to lay on the table.—The bill was then read a first time.

TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

The House of Commons was occupied during the morning sitting with the details of this bill, which were discussed in committee, after considerable opposition from Lord GALWAY, Mr. PEACOCKE, and others, who conceived that the bill would legalise the principle of confiscation. Two motions for adjournment having been defeated, the preamble, and clauses 1, 2, and 3 were agreed to. On Thursday, the House again went into committee on the bill, when considerable discussion ensued on the 4th clause, the object of which is to give compensation for the improvement of waste lands. The clause was opposed by Mr. FRENCH, and by Mr. HORSMAN on the part of the Government; and was negatived by 93 to 47. Other attempts to effect a similar object were defeated.

CAPTAIN M'CLURE.

Mr. MACKINNON, in the evening, moved for a select committee to inquire into the circumstances of the expedition to the Arctic Seas, commanded by Captain M'Clure, with a view to ascertain whether any and what reward may be due for the services rendered on that occasion.—Lord PALMERSTON gave his cordial assent to the motion, and it was agreed to.

THE STATUTE LAW.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved a series of resolutions referring to the appointment, in 1853, of a paid commission to proceed without delay in the work of the consolidation of the statute law, and to the fact that no bill for the repeal of expired, obsolete, or unnecessary statutes, as recommended in a report of the Commission, had yet been prepared, and expressing the opinion of the House that it would greatly conduce to the improvement of the statute law if the preparation of "a declaratory bill, of which the special and detailed report shall form the groundwork," were no longer to be delayed, and that such bill ought to be forthwith prepared.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, he concurred in a great deal of what had been said by Mr. King, and agreed that the statute-book required revision; but the expurgatory list was not yet in so perfect a state as to admit of its being made the groundwork of a bill.—After a brief discussion, the motion was carried by 43 to 26.

ARMY COMMISSIONS.

Mr. HEADLAM moved that this house resolve itself into a committee to consider of an humble address to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to direct alterations to be made in the rules

of the military service to the effect that the regulation value of the commissions of officers in the army dying or having died in active service during the present war may be paid to their representatives, and deemed part of their personal estate, and to assure her Majesty that this House will make good the same.—The motion was opposed by Mr. FREDERICK PEELE, who conceived that, if the principle were a sound one, it should be applied to all cases, and not be confined to the present war. The granting of pensions to officers' families was a kind of compensation to them for not receiving the amount of the commissions; but these could not be given if the object of the motion were carried out, nor would it be easy to resist the demand for pensions to the families of common soldiers. He also objected to the motion, as recognizing a property in commissions; but an officer might at any time be deprived of his commission, and to admit that he has a right of property in it would be to interfere with the discipline of the army.—Colonel DUNNE, Lord ALFRED PAGET, Colonel NORTH, and Mr. RICE, supported the motion, which was objected to by Lord PALMERSTON, who, though denying that the family of an officer dying in battle had any right to claim from the State the value of his commission, offered to compromise the matter after this fashion—that an officer might choose beforehand whether his family should receive their pensions and compassionate allowances, as at present, or, in lieu of them, should be entitled to claim from the public the value of his commission in case of his being killed in action. If Mr. Headlam would be satisfied to leave the question in the hands of Government, they would be willing to carry out such an arrangement.—Upon this understanding, the motion was withdrawn.

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

The House of Commons, on Wednesday, having resolved itself into a committee upon the Marriage Law Amendment Bill, Sir FREDERICK THESIGER moved an amendment of the first clause, with a view to taking away the retrospective operation of the bill. He contended that this was the first time Parliament had sanctioned a wilful violation of the law by securing to the offenders the very fruits of their offence, and rendering lawful that which had been unlawful for twenty years.—Mr. HEYWOOD resisted this amendment, citing precedents which he considered to be exactly in point.—The amendment was supported by Lord R. CECIL, Mr. NAPIER, Mr. FRESHFIELD, Mr. WALPOLE, and Mr. HENLEY; and opposed by Mr. B. DENISON, Mr. COLLIER, Lord EBRINGTON, Lord SEYMOUR, and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL. Upon a division, it was negatived by 130 to 83.—A further attempt to annul the retrospective operation of the bill was made by Sir FREDERICK THESIGER, but with no better success; and, the first three clauses of the bill being then affirmed by the House, he intimated his intention of withdrawing his other amendments, which had been constructed with the same design as the first two. Finally it was ordered that the committee be resumed on the 10th of July.

THE HANGO MASSACRE.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of MALMESBURY inquired whether any, and what, official notice was to be taken of the late outrage committed by the Russians at Hango Head; and the Earl of CLARENDON expressed his persuasion that a crime so horrible in its character, and so utterly repugnant to the laws of civilised nations, could not have been perpetrated with the cognisance of the Russian Government, but must have been the act of reckless subordinates. The British Minister at Copenhagen had already been instructed to communicate, through the medium of the Danish Government, with the Russian envoys on the subject, with the view of securing the punishment of the guilty parties. If no notice were taken of these representations, the severest reprisals would become justifiable in expiation of the outrage.—A desultory conversation followed, in the course of which Lord BROUGHAM remarked that he had no doubt the Russian Government would disclaim the act, but that they must be required to punish the guilty parties. If ever the land cried for blood, it is now.—Lord MALMESBURY objected to the principle of reprisals; but he should like to see the Government apply to every civilised sovereign and every civilised nation for a universal protest against the Court of St. Petersburg, should it venture to defend so atrocious an act.

The second reading of the MEASUREMENT OF MERCHANT STEAMERS BILL having been moved by Lord HARDWICKE, it was opposed by Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, and was negatived by 28 to 21. The bill was therefore lost.

The CINQUE PORTS BILL was read a third time, and passed.

METROPOLIS LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

Further progress was made with this bill in the morning sitting of the House of Commons, which resolved itself into a Committee for the purpose.

THE CRIMEA.

In the evening, in reply to Captain KNOX, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the telegraphic communication with the Crimea had been interrupted for two or three days, which was the reason why no intelligence had been received. Information, however, had been received that day that the communication was re-established, and the last accounts were that there had been a considerable amount of firing between the batteries and the works on the other side, but there was no result of any importance. This dispatch was dated at eleven o'clock in the evening of the 17th, and was received at four o'clock that day. [Our War news shows that during the night the Government received intelligence of a very unfortunate nature.]

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

The order of the day for the adjourned debate having been read, and no member rising to address the House, the SPEAKER put the question on Sir E. B. LYTTON's amendment, which was carried without a division amidst considerable laughter.

THE SPIRITS (IRELAND) ACT AMENDMENT BILL was read a third time, and passed.

THE REPORT OF THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

THE result of the protracted investigations of the Sebastopol Committee was on Monday evening presented to the House of Commons in the shape of a lay Report, which occupied close upon an hour and a half in reading. This elaborate document contains a recapitulation of the chief facts in the evidence, and may thus be of service in concentrating and epitomising the main statements and counter-statements elicited during the investigation; but the Committee have on many points found it impossible to come to any verdict as to the persons who should be held responsible, and we are, therefore, again thrown back upon "the system" as the chief culprit, or, at any rate, as the offenders most easily indictable.

The Committee decline passing any opinion as to the policy of the Government in ordering the expedition to the Crimea; but they point out the fact that the Cabinet, according to the statement of Lord Aberdeen, had an idea "that Sebastopol would fall almost immediately by a *coup de main*." The late Government is held to have been blamable in not following up the changes in the War Department which they initiated by the separation of the Secretaryships of War and of the Colonies, and the transference of the Commissariat from the Treasury to the Secretary for War. The Committee also "notice with regret that the Cabinet did not meet in August or September," in order to repair omissions which had already been made. "Any evils that may have resulted from delay" in the final arrangements of the War Department, it is added, "are properly laid to the charge of the Cabinet." Another error is found in the fact that, on the expedition to the Crimea being determined on, "no reserve was provided at home adequate to the undertaking." "The order to attack Sebastopol was sent to Lord Raglan on the 29th of June; the formation of a reserve at Malta was not determined upon until early in November." The recruits, also, that were sent out at the request of Lord Raglan, were too young, and were soon destroyed by disease and over-fatigue.

"Your Committee must express their regret that the formation of a large reserve at home, and also in the proximity of the seat of war, was not considered at a much earlier period, and that the Government, well knowing the limited numbers of the British army, the nature of the climate in the East, as well as the Power we were about to encounter, did not at the commencement of the war take means to augment the ranks of the army beyond the ordinary recruiting, and also that earlier steps were not taken to render the militia available both for the purpose of obtaining supplies of men, and also, in case of necessity, for the relief of regiments of the line stationed in garrisons in the Mediterranean—measures which they found themselves compelled to adopt at a later period."

The Duke of Newcastle, in the opinion of the Committee, was placed in a disadvantageous position upon assuming the Secretaryship for War, the departments not being "officially informed of their relative position, or of their new duties."

"His interference was sought for in matters of detail, wherein his time should not have been occupied, and he was left unacquainted with transactions of which he should have received official cognisance. Feeling his large responsibilities, he took upon himself to remedy innumerable deficiencies which were brought to his notice, and, in the meantime, matters of paramount importance were postponed."

The Duke, moreover, was for a long time left uninformed of the state of affairs in the East; and, with respect to the clothing of the troops, he had great doubt whether he had any right to interfere. The soldiers, accordingly, were ill clothed; and, "upon leaving hospital, men were exposed to a recurrence of sickness from insufficient clothing, and



no proper arrangements were made to furnish this supply." The absence of Lord Raglan from his post of Master-General of the Ordnance the Committee consider to have been the cause of much mismanagement, since the Lieutenant-General, appointed for the occasion, though believed by the Government to possess all the powers of his superior, had not in fact equal authority. The Surveyor-General of the Ordnance was also employed abroad; so that, in time of war, "two officers were wanting whose functions the most economical administrations had been unable to dispense with in times of peace." The evidence is then referred to for instances of the disorganisation which resulted from this absence of the legitimate head of the department—Mr. Monsell interfering with Sir Thomas Hastings, and the work of one member being often thwarted by the will of another.

"In noticing the unseemly conduct of this board (that of the Ordnance), and the differences which were brought prominently forward in the evidence, your Committee observe with regret that the public service has suffered from the want of judgment and temper on the part of officers who were entrusted during a critical period with important public duties."

The Committee are further of opinion that "a vague intention of remodelling the Ordnance Office affords no justification" of the maintenance of Lord Raglan at its head when he could no longer discharge the duties. The contract system of the Ordnance is also condemned; and the wretched character of the tools supplied to the army is pointed out, without any person or department being charged with the blame. Side by side with this, however the Committee acknowledge "the admirable equipment of the corps of the artillery," and "the efficient armament provided for the navy."

With respect to the transmission of stores to the East, various instances of mismanagement are quoted from the evidence, and "the unnecessary sufferings of the soldiers" are held to be "directly referable" to these causes; "but on what department the blame should rest—whether on the office of the Commander-in-Chief, or of the Secretary at War, or of the Secretary of State for War—the Committee are unable to decide." Dr. Menzies, and Dr. Andrew Smith both called attention to the subject of transport ships; and the Government, about the end of October, directed Admiral Dundas to confer with Lord Raglan about having two large steamers fitted for this service. But the Admiral did not act upon this direction, because, as he stated, "every one expected to be in Sebastopol in a few days." "Thus," says the report, "it appears that the preparation of ships for the conveyance of the sick and wounded was at first forgotten, and subsequently neglected." It is thus shown that the deficiency of transport ships in the Black Sea was owing to the inability to decide who was responsible for their management. In the Bosphorus, Admiral Boxer, who had the ordering of all transports in that water, applied, as early as the 8th of September, for the services of a ship with artificers and mechanics; but the Admiralty refused the request. Some months later, they altered their determination; but it was then too late.

"Sir James Graham says he regrets that the first application was not acceded to; and when the hurricane of the 14th of November, with all its disastrous consequences, is remembered, it is obvious that this unfortunate decision may have increased the difficulties of that deplorable crisis, and may have subjected Rear-Admiral Boxer to some of the charges brought against him."

"Your Committee are of opinion that there was some unnecessary detention of transports at Constantinople, and that the arrangements for coaling were very deficient; but, as they have not been able to examine Admiral Boxer, they cannot pronounce an opinion as to his share of the responsibility. His letters in the Appendix show that he exerted himself strenuously to discharge duties for which it is admitted that his means were inadequate, and, if he failed under these difficulties, his subsequent endeavours in the harbour of Balaklava appear to have been successful."

With respect to the land transport, the Report observes:—

"The army landed in the Crimea without the animals necessary for the conveyance of the baggage, or for the removal of the sick and wounded; much inconvenience and suffering resulted from this deficiency; but if, as stated to your Committee, every available vessel was employed for other purposes, the Commissariat cannot be held responsible."

The want of a proper road from Balaklava to the camp was partly owing to the contraction of our line of operations after the battle of Balaklava, owing to which we were obliged to abandon the fine Russian road called the Woronzoff-road. The Committee, however, think that, if a military force could not have been spared to create a new road, "measures should have been taken to obtain other labour in the East, or application should have been made to the Home Government, who might have sent labourers from England. The probable failure of the communication was not, however, brought to the notice of

the Duke of Newcastle until too late to enable him to take measures in England to prevent the serious calamities which subsequently arose."

As regards the transmission of fuel and other necessities, Deputy Commissary-General Smith is not held responsible, as he was unable to obtain transport vessels. The Report sketches the chief deficiencies in the supply of rations, and pertinently remarks that "any result derived from an average of rations issued is delusive, because privation on one day is not compensated by superfluity on another."

"To what extent the Commissariat is responsible for the deficiency in all these supplies is a question to which it is not easy to give a definite answer."

"Your Committee have not been able to examine Commissary-General Filder or Rear-Admiral Boxer; and they cannot therefore decide upon whom the blame should rest."

"Before closing their observations on the Commissariat Department in the East, your Committee notice with pleasure the willing testimony which many witnesses have borne to the zeal and energy which some subordinate officers of the Commissariat displayed in procuring supplies, and in relieving, as far as they were able, the distress of the troops during a period of trying exigencies."

The failure of the ambulance corps is attributed to Lord Raglan having overruled the suggestion of Dr. Andrew Smith, that the corps should consist of able-bodied soldiers; instead of whom, pensioners were employed. The Committee are of opinion that a too strict economy, and a fear of incurring responsibility, led probably to some evils. In connexion with the management of the hospitals, Dr. Menzies is acquitted of a considerable amount of the blame, on account of the too heavy and complicated duties which he had to perform. Nevertheless—

"Your Committee must declare it to be their opinion that blame attaches to Dr. Menzies, inasmuch as he did not report correctly the circumstances of the hospital; he stated that he wanted nothing in the shape of stores or medical comforts at the time when his patients were destitute of the commonest necessities."

Dr. Hall is also held to be reprehensible for having misled both Lord Raglan and the Government by reporting the hospitals at Scutari to be "in as good a state as could reasonably be expected," when, at that time (in the course of last October), they were in a most wretched condition. The Committee also conceive that "heavy responsibility attaches to the Commander-in-Chief, who retained Mr. Ward in his office (of purveyor) after he had been pronounced unfit to discharge its duties." They likewise refer to the apothecary's department at Scutari, where no accounts were kept from the 24th of September till the 28th of November. In connexion with the supply of medical necessities and comforts, the Report observes:—

"When the quantities of hospital stores which were sent from England are contrasted with the scarcity, or rather the absolute dearth, of them at Scutari, and when the state of the purveyor's accounts is remembered, it is impossible not to harbour a suspicion that some dishonesty has been practised in regard to these stores."

The instructions to the ambassador at Constantinople the Committee consider injudicious, since, "if the division and uncertainty of responsibility was a serious evil, the evil could only be increased by the interference of another authority, having neither relation to, nor connexion with, our military administration."

In conclusion, the Committee bear grateful testimony to the noble labours and valuable suggestions of Miss Nightingale and her band of nurses, of Mr. Macdonald (the *Times*' Commissioner), and of Mr. Augustus Stafford, the Hon. Joceline Percy, and the Hon. and Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne.

In the discussions which preceded the adoption by the Committee of the above Report, a motion was made from the chair to the effect that those whom the evidence pointed out as responsible for the calamities in the Crimea ought to be pointed out to the House. This was negatived by 9 to 1—Mr. Layard being the solitary voter. A vote of censure on Lord Raglan, proposed by the chairman (Mr. Roebuck) met with precisely the same fate—the one supporter being again Mr. Layard.

CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCHES.—The report of the Commissioners for inquiring into the state of Cathedral and Collegiate Churches recommends the erection of a new bishopric for Cornwall, to have its see at St. Columb-Major. The commissioners think that a better management of the episcopal estates, especially those in Cornwall, would be found to supply a large portion of the revenue necessary; and the Rev. E. S. Walker, rector of St. Columb-Major, offers further to facilitate the creation of the proposed see by resigning ecclesiastical preferments to the amount of 1600*l.* per annum, and to give besides three houses to the new bishop. The Bishop of Exeter cordially concurs in the division of his diocese, and offers to give up all patronage in Cornwall.

THE WAR.

DISASTER and temporary reverse have succeeded the successes of the last few weeks. On the anniversary of the greatest victory ever gained by English arms, an attack by the English on the Redan, and by the French on the Malakoff, was repulsed with great slaughter. It was daybreak on the morning of that memorable day that the sons of the bitter antagonists of forty years ago struggled side by side at no great distance, and poured out their blood with ferocity for the attainment of the same object. Warfare between 1815 and 1855! Did the memory of that day cross the minds of the soldiers of the Crimea? or was the conflict too hot and too thoughtless? One can almost imagine the English hanging over the smoke and leading on his countrymen—but not this victory.

The silence of the telegraphic wires during the greater part of the past week is thus accounted for, and the sinister rumours which floated up day after day, filling the minds of most people with undefined fears, have received a painful confirmation. The worst of the business, after the immediate relief, is the fresh encouragement it will give to the Russians, who were beginning to get disheartened by their recent reverses. It is not, however, for a moment supposed that we, in our turn, are disheartened. Disappointed and pained we are, but we are not accustomed to lose our spirit by temporary failure.

There is also a report—which, however, requires confirmation—of another reverse to the shape of the recapture by the Russians of the Redan, but, as the date of this rumour is Varna, July 1st, earlier than the attack on Sebastopol, it probably has certain intelligence of the fact had occurred—unless, indeed, the Government is attempting to suppress it. From the same source we learn that the Russians have been repulsed in their attack on Kars.

Altogether the war news of the week is gloomy. The deliberate murder of sixteen sailors under a flag of truce (the details will be found below) has excited in the minds of men a feeling of horror and indignation to which words can do justice. Universal history can find a parallel to that atrocious deed; for derailed men were engaged in performing kindness to their murderers. "We don't care for your flag of truce," exclaimed the head of the party, "we'll show you how the Russians can fight the butchery straightway commenced." This is how the fight. It is only a still further addition to the ledger we already possessed. The massacre—the torturing and hacking of wounded men lying helplessly on the ground—drunken soldiers of men turned into fiends by raki and wine—dogged resistance behind earthen stone walls, and flight before open attack—how the Russians fight, as we already know the murder at Hango but confirms their opinion of their mode of warfare. But the crime cannot pass unavenged. A dozen defeats will disharten our men so much as this act will. We must make the perpetrators repent. The collection of Hango will give intensity, and venom, to our future attacks.

A despatch from Marseilles, dated July 1st, says:—

"It appears that the Mamelon was defended by twenty Russian battalions. Two battalions penetrated into the Redan and the guns, but were obliged to retire. The French now occupy the Mamelon, and have fifteen of the Russian guns upon the enemy."

In a despatch from Constantinople, of July 1st, we read as follows:—

"The Turks have evacuated Batoum and Chonoussis Pacha has advanced with his general Kars. The French Consul has quitted Batoum. Russian forces have advanced and encamped at Redout-Kaleh. The recruiting for the British progresses slowly."

THE TAKING OF THE MAMELON AND THE QUARRY ACCOUNT FROM LORD RAGLAN
Before Sebastopol, June 9

My Lord,—I have the great satisfaction of informing your lordship that the assault which was made on the Mamelon in front of the Redan, from our advance in the right attack, on the evening of the 7th inst. attended with perfect success, and that the British who achieved this advantage with a gallantry and determination that does them infinite honour, in themselves on the ground they had acquired, standing that during the night, and in the morning, the enemy made repeated attempts to get them out, each attempt ending in failure, although supported by large bodies of troops, and by heavy fire of musketry, and every species of offensive missile. The French on our right had shortly before made

of their trenches and attacked the Ouvrages Blancs and the Mamelon. These they carried without the smallest check, and their leading column rushed forward and approached the Malakoff Tower; but this it had not been in contemplation to assail, and the troops were brought back and finally established in the enemy's works, from which the latter did not succeed in expelling them, though the fire of musketry and cannon which was brought to bear upon them was tremendous.

I never saw anything more spirited and rapid than the advance of our allies.

I am happy to say that the best feeling prevails between the two armies, and each is proud of and confident in the gallantry and high military qualities of the other.

I apprised your lordship, by telegraph on the 6th, that our batteries reopened that afternoon. The fire was kept up with the greatest energy until the day closed, when it was confined to vertical fire; but the next morning the guns resumed the work of destruction, and the effect was such that it was determined by General Pelissier and myself that the time had arrived for pushing our operations forward. Accordingly soon after six o'clock on the evening of the 7th, the signal was given for the assault of the works I have enumerated, and the result was most triumphant.

The troops employed in storming the Quarries were composed of detachments of the Light and Second Divisions, and at night they were supported by the 62nd Regiment.

The command of these troops was entrusted to Colonel Shirley, of the 88th, who was acting as general officer of the trenches; and he was assisted in the arrangements and guided as to the points of attack and distribution of the troops by Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, the directing engineer officer of the right attack.

Although nothing could be more spirited than the attack of the Quarries, or more creditable to every officer and man engaged in the operation, yet I cannot refrain from drawing your lordship's especial attention to the energy and determination which they all displayed in maintaining and establishing themselves after their first success in them. They were repeatedly attacked during the night, and again soon after daylight on the 8th, and it was in resisting these repeated efforts on the part of the enemy that a great portion of the heavy loss the army has to deplore was sustained.

The mode in which Colonel Shirley conducted this very arduous service, and carried out his orders, entitles him to my highest commendation. I have great pleasure in mentioning the following officers, who are stated to have distinguished themselves on the occasion, viz.: Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, of the 90th, who commanded the storming party; Major Mills, Royal Fusiliers; Major Villiers, 47th; Major Armstrong, 49th, who are all severely wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, of the 88th; Major Bayley, of the same regiment, who was unfortunately killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, 49th; Major Simpson of the 34th; Lieutenant-Colonel Johnstone, of the 23rd; Major Herbert, of the 23rd; Captain Lowry, of the 47th; Captain Turner, of the 7th; Captain Lowndes, of the 47th; Captain Nason, of the 49th; Captain Le Marchant, of the 49th, who was wounded; Captain Wolsey,* 90th; and Lieutenants Chatfield and Eustace, of the 49th; and Palmer, Irby, and Waddilove, of the 47th; and Captain Hunter, 47th; and Lance-Corporal Quinn, 47th, who took a Russian officer prisoner in the most gallant manner.

I also feel it my duty to solicit your lordship's notice to the eminent services of Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers; he has been indefatigable in the discharge of his peculiar duties from the commencement of the siege, and he has always been at hand to aid in the repulse of the enemy, when they have assaulted our trenches. He eulogises the conduct of Captain Browne, of the Royal Engineers; Lieutenant Elphinstone, of the same corps; Lieutenant Anderson, 96th Foot (Acting Engineer), who is wounded; and he laments the death of Lieutenant Lowry, R.E., who conducted the storming party, and was afterwards killed by a cannon shot.

Notwithstanding the frequency of the endeavours of the Russians to regain possession of the Quarries, and the interruptions to the work to which these attacks gave rise, Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden was enabled to effect the lodgment and to establish the communication with the advanced parallel, and this redounds greatly to his credit and that of the officers and men employed as the working party; and I cannot omit this opportunity to express my approbation of the conduct of the Sappers throughout the operations. The exertions of the Royal Artillery, under Brigadier-General Daeres, and those of the Naval Brigade, under Captain Lushington, R.N., in serving the guns, cannot be too warmly commended. The accuracy of their fire is the theme of universal admiration; and the constancy with which they applied themselves to their arduous duties under all circumstances, however dangerous, cannot be too strongly placed upon record.

* This officer is also recommended by Colonel Tylden.

It is deeply to be lamented that this success should have entailed so heavy a loss; but I have the assurance of the principal medical officers that many of the wounds are slight, and that by far the greater portion of the sufferers are progressing most favourably.

I have just learnt that the enemy have abandoned a work in the rear of the "Ouvrages Blancs," which they constructed at the commencement of the month of May. The French took possession of it on the 7th, but they did not retain it. In the other works they captured 62 pieces of artillery, and they have 14 officers and about 400 men prisoners.

We have a few prisoners, and amongst them a captain of infantry, who was wounded, and taken by Corporal Quinn, of the 47th regiment.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

Before Sebastopol, June 5.

My Lord,—I am deeply concerned to have to inform your Lordship that Rear-Admiral Boxer died on board the Jason last night, outside the harbour of Balaklava, after a very short illness.

He was removed to that ship in the hope that the pure sea air might prove beneficial to him; but this expectation was not fulfilled. His malady made rapid progress, and early in the afternoon of yesterday it was intimated to me that his life was despaired of.

His nephew died of cholera last week, and this melancholy event so deeply affected him that his health at once gave way, and he sank under the same disease.

It is well known that this officer devoted his whole life to the public service. Since he undertook the appointment of Admiral-Superintendent of the harbour of Balaklava, he has applied himself incessantly to the discharge of his arduous duties, exposing himself in all weathers; and he has rendered a most essential service to the army, by improving the landing-places and establishing wharfs on the west side of the port, whereby the disembarkation of stores and troops has been greatly accelerated, and communications with the shore have been rendered much easier.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Before Sebastopol, June 5.

My Lord,—I have great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that I received intelligence the night before last of the evacuation of Soudjak Kaleh by the Russians on the 28th ult.

It appears that previously to their retirement from the place the troops destroyed the principal buildings and the armament, which consisted of about sixty heavy guns and six mortars, and it is concluded that they have joined the garrison of Anapa, whence many of the inhabitants have removed.

Sir Edmund Lyons has been so good as to send me the detached report of the naval operations in the Sea of Azof, which will reach England either before or at the same time as this despatch. . . .

A body of French troops, under the command of General Morris and General Canrobert, and a column of the Sardinian corps, under General La Marmora, made a reconnaissance on Baidar on the morning of the 3rd. The former proceeded along the Woronzoff-road and pushed their cavalry several miles beyond Baidar; the latter operated on the left through a mountainous district, and advanced into Baidar, after a fatiguing march. Only a small number of Cossacks showed themselves.

Nothing has occurred in front of the town.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 3rd inst. inclusive.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Before Sebastopol, June 5.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, forwarding the weekly state of the sick of the army.

The cholera has sensibly diminished in the camps before Sebastopol, but it has attacked the Guards and the 31st Regiment, near Balaklava, and some of the new batteries, as well as the followers of the army in that town. It is hoped that the disease will pass from them as it has from the stations where it first appeared.

I am grieved to have to say that it has fallen heavily on the Sardinian Contingent, and that General La Marmora is in great anxiety about it. I am rendering him all the assistance in my power. While writing to your Lordship, an officer has brought me a letter from him, announcing that his brother, General La Marmora, who commands his second division, has been very severely attacked. He has been accommodated with a quarter at Kadikoi, and every attention shall be paid him.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Casualties.—1 sergeant, 7 rank and file, killed; 3 officers, 25 rank and file, wounded. Naval Brigade: 2 killed.

DEATH OF GENERAL DELLA MARMORA THE YOUNGER.

The Sardinian Government has received a telegraphic despatch from General Alphonso della Marmora, General Commanding-in-Chief of the Sardinian expedition, conveying the melancholy intelligence of the death of General Alessandro della Marmora, commanding the second division. The despatch does not mention the immediate cause of the gallant officer's death, but he had long been in a very impaired state of health, and it was in direct opposition to the wishes and advice of his friends that he encountered the fatigues of the camp, which in all probability have proved too much for him. At his own suggestion General Alessandro della Marmora was charged, in 1835, with the organisation of that corps of riflemen which has since done such good service, and is likely soon again to distinguish itself—the Sardinian Bersaglieri. When leading them at the battle of Goito he received a severe wound in the shoulder, which has given him constant pain ever since. For this and other services General della Marmora had been decorated with some of the highest orders in the kingdom. He had latterly been military commandant at Genoa, which office he held, in fact, at the time of his death, General Giacinto Collegno, the present commandant, having been only appointed temporarily "during the absence of General della Marmora on foreign service." The death of this officer is felt generally as a severe loss to the army, with whom he was most deservedly popular, and especially to the Bersaglieri, who naturally looked upon him as a father.—*Times Turin Correspondent.*

MASSACRE OF ENGLISH SAILORS UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE.

The Government on Monday received from Admiral Dundas, Commander of the Baltic Fleet, a despatch to the following effect. The substance was detailed by Sir Charles Wood on Monday evening to the House of Commons.

"A short time ago, her Majesty's ship Cossack took and destroyed some coasting vessels near Hango, and three persons—the captain of one of the vessels, his son, and another Finnish sailor—were taken prisoners. Admiral Dundas, anxious not unnecessarily to injure the trade of the country, directed the Cossack to bear up to Hango, in order to put on shore the persons who had been so captured, who had requested to be put on shore there, and four other persons, who had also been taken prisoners near St. Petersburg, and who had also requested that they might be put on shore there. The Cossack ventured to Hango in order to put these persons on shore, and at some distance from the place she anchored, and sent the cutter on shore with the seven prisoners and the ordinary boat's crew. A flag of truce was displayed for at least half an hour before she reached the jetty. Nobody was perceived but one person, who ran away at once. The boat arrived at the jetty, and landed the prisoners and their baggage. Every man remained in the boat. A body of Russians, who are reported to have amounted to from 300 to 400, came down to the jetty. Lieutenant Geneste, the officer, waved his flag of truce, and explained why they came on shore. The Finnish captain also took the flag of truce, and tried to explain, both in Finnish and English, the reason why they came on shore. The officer in command of the Russians not only understood English, but spoke it. He said, 'They did not care in the least for a flag of truce, and they would show how the Russians would fight,' whereupon some hundred Russian soldiers immediately fired upon the officer and the prisoners on the jetty, and killed them all. They then fired into the boat till every man in the boat fell. The Russians rushed into the boat, and threw some of the bodies overboard, dragged one wounded man out, threw him on the jetty, bayoneted him, and left five bodies for dead in the boat. The cutter not returning later in the day, the gig was sent in, and it was ascertained from a distance that the cutter was moored to the jetty, and that there were some dead bodies in it. In the night, a black man wounded with two balls through the arm and one through his shoulder, cut the fastenings, and tried to scull the cutter from the jetty to ship. In the meantime, the Cossack, standing in, in order to ascertain what had become of the men in the cutter, sent in a boat, and brought off the single survivor, on whose evidence the whole story rests."

Further official accounts have been received; but they do not contain any additional facts. The *Invalide Russe*, of the 15th, contains a faint attempt to justify the atrocity; and, which is of far more importance, makes a statement which allows us to hope that eleven of the crew are yet surviving:—

"The *Invalide Russe* (says the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*) describes the affair at Hango as in accordance with fair play, the Cossack's boat having effected an hostile landing, with all on board armed. The crew were, it is said, suddenly attacked by a body of Russians, secreted behind buildings. They at first defended themselves, but were forced to surrender to superior numbers. Five were killed, and one officer, one surgeon, and nine sailors, taken prisoners, of whom four were wounded. The boat was sunk, and the boat's flag, together with seven guns and seven cutlasses, taken."

* The Russians were thus unaware of the escape of the seaman, Brown, in the boat referred to.

"On the following day a frigate approached, and fired at the place ineffectually for two hours."

The Dantzie correspondent of the *Times* says:—

"The Lightning has arrived with the mails.

"Lieutenant Geneste, Dr. Easton, and Mr. Sullivan are prisoners, but wounded."

WAR MISCELLANEA.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF SEBASTOPOL.—The *Times* Berlin correspondent writes as follows:—"The official reports of the state of Sebastopol received in St. Petersburg at the beginning of this month no longer exhibit the same satisfactory picture of things as previous to the last bombardment. The south side of the town has suffered very considerably; a number of houses are piles of ruins; of others only the external walls are distinguishable; and the theatre, which is endeared to the Russians by so many recollections, has ceased to exist. The northern portion of the town has by no means suffered so much, but yet there is hardly a house there the walls or roof of which have not been perforated by grenade, shell, ball, or rocket, or the window-panes and frames of which have not been destroyed by fragments of exploding shells."

THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND ADMIRAL DUNDAS, the late Commander of the Black Sea Fleet, to which reference was made in the recent war debate, has been published. It shows that the Admiralty impressed upon Admiral Dundas, in the course of last October, the necessity of blockading the Bay of Kherson and the river Dniester, of obtaining an entrance into the Sea of Azof, of attacking all parts of the coast from the mouths of the Danube to the Isthmus of Perekop, and of bombarding Odessa. To these directions, the Admiral replied by stating that he had for some time desired to obtain possession of the Sea of Azof, by means of seizing Kertch, but that he could not obtain troops enough for the purpose; and that he designed to attack Odessa, but that General Canrobert and Lord Raglan conceived that such an expedition at that time would be disadvantageous rather than useful. Under date of December 8th, the Admiralty again express their desire that Odessa should be bombarded.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.—Mr. C. H. Bracebridge has sent home from Scutari, under date of the 7th, a brief narrative of Miss Nightingale's labours at Balaklava, and her return to Scutari in Lord Ward's yacht. At the date mentioned, she was extremely weak, but "had no remains of fever and no danger was apprehended." She trusts to be soon able to return to Balaklava. Miss Nightingale was visited while sick by Lord Raglan at the huts, and again on board the yacht. The house of the chaplain is placed at her disposal, and she has been offered the use of the British Palace at Pera by Lord and Lady Stratford de Redcliffe.

THE SAPPERS' CHURCH IN THE CRIMEA.—This edifice is constructed in a very singular manner, being composed wholly of siege apparatus. The articles employed in the construction are scaling-ladders, gabions, fascines, timber ready cut and shaped for gun-platforms, a few planks, and some pieces of rope. Two scaling ladders locked into each other at the top, so as to give and derive mutual support, form at certain intervals the columns which separate the aisles from the body of the church, and bear the roof. As these articles are not rendered unfit for their original and more legitimate use, they may be said to be laid up in store, ready at a moment's notice to be brought into active instead of passive service.

RUSSIA STILL CRAVING FOR PEACE.—The effect of our recent successes is becoming evident even in the Russian capital. It would appear, from an article in a recent number of the *Journal of St. Petersburg*—an article which, though put forward as an answer to the last-published circular of Count Walewski, is very pacific in its tone—that Russia still leaves a door open for honourable reconciliation. It must be borne in mind that this journal is the recognised mouthpiece of the Russian Government. A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 5th, in the *Neus of Hamburg*, says:—"The Synod of St. Petersburg has presented an address to the Emperor, earnestly praying him to show himself more disposed towards conferences of peace, in so far as the political interests of the state would permit. It is not known how the Emperor has received this address."

WINTER STATION AT GOTHILAND.—Negotiations have been opened with the Swedish Government for ceding the island of Gothland to England and France, in order to form a winter station for the fleets, which would then be able to anchor in the safe and commodious harbour of Faro Sound, and not be obliged to return home at the end of the campaign.—*Daily News*.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.—At Altona, a royal proclamation has been published, forbidding enlistments for the Foreign Legion. The penalty for disobedience is eight years' imprisonment and hard labour.

THE BALTIC FLEET.—The Berlin Correspondent of the *Times*, writing on June 21st, says:—"The detachment of the fleet under Rear-Admiral Baynes, consisting of five liners, two frigates, and ten gunboats, left Kiel harbour early on Wednesday, the 20th of June, for Cronstadt." Diarrhoea, we regret to say, is still prevalent in the fleet.

A MONUMENT AT SCUTARI.—We understand that it

is the intention of the Government to apply to Parliament for a vote of public money, which is to be applied in erecting a monument in commemoration of our soldiers who have died at Scutari. A design for the monument has already been prepared by the Baron Marochetti. This tribute of respect to the memory of so many brave men, the victims of disease and neglect, will, we are sure, be willingly rendered by the nation. It was suggested some time ago by Miss Nightingale, and her Majesty is said to feel a lively interest in its realisation.—*Times*.

THE STRUGGLE AT THE QUARRIES AND THE MAMELON.—The *Times* correspondent, in detailing the incidents of the memorable 7th of June, makes the following singularly vivid comparisons:—"The attempt to retake the pits was desperately pushed, the Russians pouring in a most terrific discharge of musketry, which caused us no small loss, and, as it came up the gorge, contending with the fresh wind, sounded in the distance like water gulped simultaneously from a thousand bottles. . . . A new crop of battle grew up over all the intervening hollow between the Round Tower and the Mamelon; and the ripple of musket-shots plashed and leaped all over the broad hill-side. . . . The tower itself, or rather the inglorious stump of what was the Round Tower, took and gave shot and shell and musketry with the most savage ardour and rapidity. The fire of its musketry was like one shelf of flame, rolling backwards and forwards with a dancing movement, and, dwarfed as it was by the distance, and seen by us in profile, could scarcely be compared to any thing small or large, except the notes of a piano flashed into fire throughout some rapid tune."

SAD DOINGS AT KERTCH.—A letter from Kertch in the *Times* gives some humiliating details of the excesses committed by the Turkish troops, and, in a few instances, by the French and English in the late occupation of that town. Some horrible atrocities were committed upon women and children by the soldiers of the Sultan, aided occasionally by the more evil-disposed among their allies; and it was not until the French put several of the miscreants to death that order was restored. The Russians, upon our entering the town, offered bread and salt in token of submission; but the cruelty and lust of the more ruffianly part of the army were not to be appeased. A great many very interesting antiquities were utterly destroyed in wanton malice; and we are ashamed to add that some English merchant seamen were concerned in the devastation. The writer from whom we derive the foregoing facts says that Kertch has been all but sacked, and that to the apathy or neglect of Sir George Brown is to be attributed these disgraceful excesses. In the face of such facts, we are the less able to impugn the barbarity of the Russians.

LETTERS FROM THE BALTIC.

(Extract from Private Correspondence.)

H. M. S. —, off Cronstadt, June 11.

. . . The blockade of '55 will annoy the inhabitants of St. Petersburg far more than that of '54, as this year all the coasting as well as sea-going traffic has been stopped. The line-of-battle ships, moored in a single line about two miles west of the Tolbouken lighthouse, sweep the gulf from shore to shore, and hermetically seal the entrance to the Neva. Astern of each line-of-battle ship is her steam-gunboat. Closer in to Cronstadt are the frigates and sloops, which however are seldom at anchor, as nearly every day two or three of them weigh and chase small sloops which endeavour to break the blockade; others hover about the gulf, picking up every craft which leaves either shore. About thirty of these small coasters have been taken, most of them laden with wood, two or three of them with cut stone for the new batteries at Cronstadt, and one with tallow for the same place—probably a delicious meal for the garrison. The firewood came in handy for the fleet; the prizes were sunk, as not being of sufficient value to send home.

Apropos to firewood, I am glad to tell you Admiral Dundas has partially adopted the hint I gave the Admiralty last March in the columns of your excellent paper. Orders have been issued for every ship to cut wood on Nargen whenever an opportunity occurs, but the admiral has not thought proper to direct any allowance to be made for such extra work. A shilling a ton would be little enough for the wear and tear of clothing to which the men of our corps (Royal Marines) are subjected by this new duty.

A barbarous murder has been committed at Hango Head. The Cossack, 21 guns, having some masters of merchant vessels, prisoners of war, on board, was off the Point on the 5th inst. Captain Fanshawe, not wishing to detain the prisoners, who were in bad health, landed them with a flag of truce. The officers' stewards, who were assured by the prisoners that the country people would gladly sell them provisions, accompanied the prisoners. On Lieutenant Geneste landing with seven of his crew, the surgeon and a master's assistant, he was met by an officer who said in English, "We don't want any of your d—d flags of truce." A fire from a party in ambush

dropped immediately all the English and their prisoners, some say ten in number. Five men had been left in the boat, but a second volley finished these, all but one, who, insensible and desperately wounded, managed shortly afterwards to paddle off from the shore. The next morning he was picked up by the Cossack. Comment on this dark deed is unnecessary. The voice of Europe will condemn it. I trust our admiral will avenge it. The humanity system of war-making must now end. Captain Fanshawe is blamed by many for want of caution, and for testing the good faith of the barbarians with a flag of truce. He has erred in common with others, and must feel more acutely, but not more justly than Lord John Russell at Vienna, that English honour and confidence are no match for Muscovite cunning.

What are we to do? No one can answer. Three English line-of-battle ships watch Sweaborg, where the Russians have five ready for sea. Ten English and three French liners are here, where we can make out eleven line-of-battle ships, six frigates, and six steamers, ready for sea, with about nineteen dismantled liners. At Revel we have one line-of-battle ship; the Russians several gunboats. The latter have also some other steam-gunboats in Cronstadt, two of which came out last Saturday, when the Russians exploded one of Jacobi's infernal machines under the Merlin, but with no success.* Two other caissons were equally effective; and so the gunboats, having maintained a spirited fire at the short range of five miles, returned to report their victory to the governor. I have estimated the amount of the Russian naval force as nearly as a spy-glass will allow me to do, but I cannot inform you as to the seaworthiness of the vessels, or the composition of the crews. The majority of the ships, I am inclined to think, cannot go to sea, while their crews may, for the most part, be distinguishing themselves at Odessa or Sebastopol. Our want of information is our weak point. Break through routine for once, and send a naval officer with 10,000*l.* secret service money to Stockholm, tell our ministers and consuls to mind their own business, we may then hope for a more correct account of the Russian fleets and armies in '56, perhaps in '55, and we shall be stronger than five line-of-battle ships more can make us. At present we know not the number, nor even the description of troops, in Northern Russia.

Yours, &c.,
P.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND SIR JAMES GRAHAM.

The subjoined singular and interesting correspondence was read at a meeting of the Sheffield Committee for investigating Foreign Affairs, held at the Council Hall of the town. The occasion was a motion requesting Mr. Roebuck to move the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the Baltic expedition of last year. Mr. Ironside, the originator of the motion, stated that, in consequence of hearing that the whole of the correspondence between Sir Charles Napier and Sir James Graham was in the hands of Mr. Grant of the *Morning Advertiser*, he wrote to that gentleman, and received the following reply:—

"London, June 11, 1855. Dear Sir,—I had in my possession for six weeks the whole correspondence—the originals—which passed between Sir James Graham and Sir Charles Napier, from the starting of the Baltic expedition, last year, to its return; but I returned it to Sir Charles Napier a month ago. I got the documents—which I need not say are of infinite importance—on the understanding that I should not give them out of my hands. I had, however, no prohibition as to showing them to friends, and had you chanced to call on me while they were in my possession, I should have had much pleasure in showing them to you. I have no hesitation in saying that, if I have any idea of what evidence is, these letters would suffice, with other facts of undoubted accuracy, to convict Sir James Graham of treason.—Yours, JAMES GRANT."

On receipt of this, Mr. Ironside wrote to Sir Charles Napier, asking permission to see the letters. He received the subjoined answer:—

"Merchiston Horndean, June 17, 1855. Sir,—Mr. Grant has told you the truth. I did not give those letters to him to publish, because I might have been accused of giving my plans of attack to the enemy; but when it is decided not to attack the parts I pointed out, and when there is no danger of publication, I shall go to Lord Palmerston, and ask him if he will give the papers to the House; and if he refuses, I shall then publish them—whatever is the consequence to myself. I have no

* Other accounts of the explosion state that the blow was as if the vessel had come against a sunken rock, causing it to quiver a good deal, and partly to turn round: all, however, agree that no material damage was done. Several articles of considerable weight were jerked out of their places, and some crockery was broken; but the result was of the most trifling kind.—*Ed. Leader*.

hesitation in saying, had I done what Sir James Graham wished me to do, plainly expressed in letters, both public and private, I should have lost her Majesty's fleet; and I think Sir James Graham deserves impeachment for goading me to do in the winter what he was advising me not to do in the summer. Roebuck was so successful with his Sebastopol Committee that he ought to take up the Baltic. Sir James Graham has been publicly accused by me of perverting my (query, his?) letters, and of endangering the Queen's fleet, and that accusation ought not to lie dormant. Were I in Parliament, it should not sleep for twenty-four hours. I do not think it right to send you the papers, but would be glad to show them to you had I an opportunity.—I remain, yours very truly, CHARLES NAPIER."

Mr. Ironside's motion was carried.

THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION.

THE past week has been Commemoration week at Oxford, and has been signalled by some events of note. Count Montalembert; Mr. Buchanan, the American minister; Sir John Burgoyne; Sir De Lacy Evans; Colonel Sabine; Dr. Adams, the discoverer of the new planet; Sir Charles Lyell; Mr. R. M. Milnes, M.P.; Alfred Tennyson; and some others of less note, have received honorary degrees; and Oxford has been even more than usually full of company illustrious in the aristocracy of mind.

On Monday, a bazaar was held at the Star Hotel, in aid of the funds for the restoration of the Abbey Church of Dorchester, Oxon. On Tuesday, a Horticultural Show took place in the gardens of Trinity College. The display is spoken of as not so good as on some previous occasions; but, the day being very fine, the attendance was large. In the evening, there was a *conversazione* in the Radcliffe Library; the electric light was exhibited on the dome of the Library, followed by a display of fireworks; and a Masonic ball was given at the Town Hall. Wednesday, however, was the great day—the Commemoration Day, emphatically—the day on which the annual commemoration of founders and benefactors to the University took place in the Sheldonian Theatre. At this Convocation, the honorary degrees above mentioned were conferred. Count Montalembert was well received by the large audience which crowded every part of the theatre; so was Mr. Buchanan, the American minister. Sir J. Burgoyne, the Crimean General, and still more Sir De Lacy Evans, met with a storm of applause, accompanied by waving of caps and hats. Sir Charles Lyell, Colonel Sabine, and others, were likewise received with cheers; and the name of Alfred Tennyson, which had already elicited tumultuous applause, was now once more greeted with acclamations so long and loud, that even the reception of Sir De Lacy Evans seemed to be surpassed. We are glad to see the Oxonians thus recognising the worth of the chief poet of this generation—the interpreter, in noble and harmonious language, of the highest aspirations of the nineteenth century.

After all the degrees had been conferred, an oration was made by the Public Orator; the Latin Essay and the Latin Poem, the English Essay and the English Poem, were read; and the Chancellor (Lord Derby) declared the Convocation dissolved.

In the afternoon, the first stone of the New Museum was laid by Lord Derby. The company then sang the National Anthem, and dispersed.

AMERICA.

THE Perry and Soulé quarrel proceeds, and seems likely to turn out "a very pretty quarrel" indeed. Mr. Soulé has published a letter stating that there is not a word of truth in Mr. Perry's assertions, charging Mr. Perry with hypocrisy and cowardice, and threatening to "show him up" in the history which Mr. Soulé is about to publish of his ambassadorship. A letter from Paris is said to assert that Mr. Perry has obtained from the Spanish government a very satisfactory settlement of certain matters in dispute. Nevertheless, Mr. Perry has been recalled.

The "rowdies" have again been finding vent for their energies. At Columbus, Ohio, a procession of German turners was attacked, stoned, and beaten, apparently without any provocation; and at Portland there has been a serious riot owing to a suspicion entertained by the people that the mayor had been purchasing liquor to resell. The military were called out; but the captain in command of them refused to order his men to fire. Ultimately, the door of the liquor-room was burst open by the mob; a portion of the military fired, by order of the mayor; and one person was killed, and six or seven wounded. At Baltimore, twenty-five persons belonging to a marriage-party, and including the bride, have been poisoned by eating custard with which arsenic had been mixed. They were not expected to live. The perpetrator has not been discovered.

The Kane Arctic expedition has departed. The cholera is raging at New Orleans.

OUR CIVILISATION.

A SWINDLER EXPOSED.—A short time since, the attention of Sir R. W. Carden, at the Mansion House, was directed to the proceedings of a most accomplished swindler. The practice of this worthy, who signs himself R. V. Fynn, is to insert advertisements in the newspapers for governesses to whom he promises large salaries, the opportunity of travelling through the greater part of the Continent, and other advantages. He pretends to be a married man, with children, whom the governess is required to instruct, and dates his letters and advertisements from Wiesbaden, Frankfort on-the-Maine, and Cologne. Having got his victims into the trap, he induces them to place in his hands any sum of money they may have with them, under pretence of his applying it to their travelling expenses; he then disappears. In this way he has sometimes got as much as between one and two hundred pounds from one governess alone. In several instances he has made attempts to ruin the poor creatures whom he has thus decoyed; and once he asked a young lady, on the first day of their meeting, to marry him. The young lady observed that she had understood him to represent himself as a married man; to which he replied, that such was the case, but that his wife was in a consumption, and could not live two months. He has been pursuing this system for several years; and the marvel is, not so much that he should have escaped punishment so long (which is what chiefly surprised Sir R. W. Carden), as that so many persons should be found simple enough to trust their money and their personal safety in the hands of a stranger. The father of one of the victims sent the man 60*l.* in addition to what his daughter had paid, simply upon Fynn writing to ask him for it; and it was only upon a still further application that the suspicions of the father were aroused. The subject has been twice since brought forward at the Mansion House, and several letters setting forth some of the foregoing facts have been read. From one of these we gather the subjoined particulars of the rascal's biography:—"The delinquent's real name is Robert Nicholas Fynn, a native of Galway, in the west of Ireland. He is a member of the Irish bar. After four or five years' practising as a briefless barrister, he was most unaccountably appointed about ten or twelve years ago to the office of chief justice of the island of Tobago, in the West Indies, through the influence of Lord Oranmore. At this time also, Fynn inserted in the papers a notice to governesses of something to the effect, as well as I recollect, that their position was to be more that of a lady in waiting than that of a governess, and that they were to have the same privileges as those attending on her Majesty. This having come to the ears of Lord John Russell, he immediately cancelled the appointment, after Fynn had all his luggage on board ship, and ready to sail, and emblazoned over with the broad R and the grand seal of Chief Justice of Tobago. Some time after this Fynn left London for Brussels, where he managed to get introduced to some highly respectable families, and he passed himself off as Count Fynn, with many other etceteras, and contrived to get married to a beautiful woman, niece of a member of the House of Commons."

BESIEGING AN ENGLISHMAN IN HIS CASTLE.—A case of disputed possession, or rather an assault arising out of it, recently came before the Judges at the Middlesex Sessions. Edwin Minter had married the daughter of a retired tradesman, one Mr. Knight, who gave him a house in Eversholt-street, Oakley-square. No legal instrument of assignment, however, was made; and Knight and his son-in-law speedily disputed as to who really owned the house. On the 10th of May, James Bucklin and Edward Baker, who were now indicted for assault and forcible entrance, went—it is presumed at the instigation of Mr. Knight—to the house occupied by Mr. Minter, and laid positive siege to it, ultimately obtaining ingress by scaling the balcony. Poles, hatchets, and other weapons were used, and personal injury was inflicted. The men having been arrested, Mr. Knight was applied to for bail, which he refused to give. The Assistant Judge recommended the parties to come to an amicable arrangement; but Mr. Knight denied having countenanced violence. Ultimately the prisoners were ordered to enter into their own recognizances to come up for judgment when called upon, it being understood that, if they did not interfere with Mr. Minter, they would hear no more of the matter.

A BLOW—AND A KISS.—A man was charged at Worship-street, on Saturday last, with such violent treatment of his wife, who was far advanced in pregnancy, that, when attending before the magistrate, she presented a pitiable spectacle, and was scarcely able to speak, owing to her lower jaw being injured by the blows she had sustained. The only provocation appeared to be that the wife had not got ready a clean shirt for her husband as soon as he desired. At the conclusion of her testimony, the woman who had been hysterical throughout, was seized with strong convulsions, and fainted. Having been taken out of court, and restored by means of wine and water, further evidence, on her return, was received, and the prisoner was remanded. While his wife was being carried away nearly senseless, he stooped over the chair in which she was sitting, and kissed her cheek.

SAMUEL SEAL, who has been from time to time remanded on a charge of stealing a quantity of granulated gold, was on Saturday last discharged from custody, no further evidence being produced against him.

THE MURDER IN LIMEHOUSE.—Jeremiah Foley, the Irishman charged with the murder of Hannah Bell, a woman of bad character, has been committed for trial. On the final examination at the Thames police-office, evidence was given which showed that the accused premeditated the destruction not only of Bell, but of her female companion Macaulay also; for he produced a hammer to a woman to whom he declared he would murder them both with it before he went to bed that night.

LOUISA HARRISON has been sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour on the second charge of perjury. The facts of this singular case we gave last week.

A RETURNED CONVICT AND HIS BROTHER.—At Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, Charles Henry Page, a fashionably-dressed young fellow, was charged with burglary, committed during the middle of the day on Sunday. Another man, giving the name of Williams, was also in custody as an accomplice; and one of the witnesses against the second prisoner, as connecting him with the first, was a police-sergeant, who on the day of the robbery, and about an hour before its occurrence, had travelled in the same railway carriage with both, and had seen them afterwards enter a City-road omnibus. Two or three hours later, the sergeant happened to call at the Islington police station, heard of the apprehension of Page, identified him on the following day, and at the same time saw Williams at the police court, and took him into custody. Before the magistrate, Page admitted his own guilt, but solemnly declared, as though he were "going before his God at that moment," that Williams was entirely innocent, adding, after a little questioning, "The fact of it is, your worship, we are brothers." (Here Williams burst into tears.) "I admit that I am a returned transport, and he has not seen me for years. My name is Isaac Williams, and I do not care what consequence it is to me so as you believe me that he is innocent of this. He is a hard-working young man with a family dependent on him. I know he has never done a wrong action, and I hope your worship will believe me, although I convict myself to save an innocent brother and father of a family." The magistrate expressed his belief that Page had drawn his brother into the affair, and therefore refused bail.—If the story be true, it is both singular and affecting.

HENRY PALMER, the escaped convict, who was remanded at Worship-street last week, has been committed for trial.

DANIEL MITCHELL DAVIDSON, AND COSMO WILLIAM GORDON, who carried on business as general merchants and colonial and metal brokers at Mincing-lane and Cousin-lane, City, and as distillers at West Ham-lane, Essex, were on Tuesday placed at the bar of Guildhall for final examination on the several charges of not surrendering before the Commissioners in Bankruptcy, of obtaining under false pretences large quantities of goods on credit within three months of their bankruptcy, of concealing a portion of their effects, and of feloniously uttering fictitious spelter warrants with intent to cheat and defraud their creditors. The case has extended over several weeks, the prisoners having been remanded from time to time for the production of further evidence; but the chief facts appear in the above statement of the charge. Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., are great losers by the affair. The forged spelter warrants were placed in their hands, and it has been asserted that they should have made the matter publicly known; but Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., who attended on their behalf, submitted that the warrants had all the appearance of being genuine, and that it would have been imprudent in his clients to raise a panic in the money market by expressing a suspicion of their validity. The prisoners were committed for trial upon the bankruptcy charges, but on the other charges were remanded for a week, to enable the City Solicitor to make inquiries with regard to the frauds not connected with the bankruptcy, and to decide whether the City would prosecute or not.

RIOTOUS "NAVIES."—Nine "navies" bound for the Crimea were on Thursday remanded at the Lambeth police office, on a charge of riotous conduct at Penge, near the Crystal Palace. Two policemen were severely wounded, the left arm of one being broken.

EMPTYING A PRIVATE BURIAL GROUND.—Mr. Henry Jones, the proprietor of a private burial ground called the New Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, was summoned at Clerkenwell on Thursday for having created a nuisance by removing the dead bodies, in consequence of the ground having been closed under Lord Palmerston's act. The details given by the witnesses of the horrible stench which infected the surrounding neighbourhood, and of the black slimy matter which was brought up from the graves, were most sickening. Mr. Jones was fined 40*s.* and costs.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

(Extracts from Private Correspondence.)

ON Saturday last after Bourse hours, the speculators who congregate in front of Tortoni's, were suddenly seized with a panic. The funds fell rapidly, and in

the space of one hour were selling at two francs below the closing prices of the day before.

There was no explanation of this sudden *dégringolade*, and people began to fancy that we had been beaten on the Tchernaya, when at length it was discovered that the sellers were speculating on the tremendous intelligence, that for twenty-four hours his Majesty had been afflicted with the "complaint of philosophers," as Montaigne, who was also a sufferer, called it.

When the authorities heard of this panic, his Majesty promised to go out for a drive on Sunday, and to the play on Monday, so as to persuade the funds to get up again: the elasticity of the funds depends so much on the elasticity of the Imperial constitution. But then again, the stockjobbers have another anxiety. Suppose his Majesty were to wear himself out with his endeavours to appear well! . . .

. . . M. Garnier, Professor of Political Economy, and, as such, under the jurisdiction of M. Rouher, Minister of Public Works, having presented, in the *Journal des Economistes*, some observations on the decree relative to the Institute, was sent for by the Minister to answer for his impudence. When he alleged the excessive moderation of those remarks which had offended the susceptibility of M. Fortoul, the Minister of Public Instruction, "We know," replied M. Rouher, "that your article is very measured in terms. Before 1852 there would have been no objection to it. But you cannot be ignorant that since 1852 any functionary who in any way censures an act of the Government is in hostility to (*en désaccord avec*) the system which the Government is determined to establish. Consider yourself warned, and for the future be circumspect."

(From another Letter.)

You remember that Napoleon (the First) honoured with his presence the tomb of Frederick the Great, and that Charles the Fifth paid a visit to the ashes of Charlemagne. The Charlemagne of the 2nd of December, the Napoleon of Boulogne, of Strasbourg, and of Satory has rendered the same honours to the tomb of the Duc d'Orléans. Last Thursday, June 14, a cabriolet stopped at the grille of the little monument of the *Chemin de la Révolte*; two private gentlemen in plain clothes got out: the one resembled a schoolboy, the other a sick perroquet—the one was the King of Portugal, the other the Emperor of the French. They had the chapel opened. The *conciierge* recognised them, and respected their incognito even to calling them *Messieurs*. Our Emperor deigned himself to do the honours of the chapel to his young companion, to whom he pointed out the painted windows of M. Ingres, and the singular resemblance of the late king to *Saint Philippe*. The Orleanists are scandalised at this invasion, the more so that the chapel is private property, and actually pays taxes as such. But it seems that this Government respects neither the living, nor the dead. The young King of Portugal is not so strictly watched by his guardian this time as he was on his last excursion. He has been permitted to disport himself, and he has taken full advantage of the permission.

. . . You ask me what I think of Ristori, and of the *Demi-Monde*. I have not yet found time to see Ristori; but my friends assure me that she has great dramatic power, and that she adorns that bestial tragedy of *Mirra*. Those who saw her at Rome admired her much less. Perhaps the public enthusiasm here is *un peu une niche faite à Mademoiselle Rachel*. Madame Ristori is going to play a *Maria Stuarda*, because one of Rachel's celebrated parts was the *Marie Stuart* of Lebrun. . . . The *Demi-Monde* is a success, because it is an exact daguerreotype of Parisian conversation. The style is lively and amusing, and the characters seem to be transported directly from the Boulevards to the stage. Just before young Dumas' piece was brought out, Emile Augier was preparing another on the same subject, founded on the true story of an officer attached to the household of the Emperor, M. de G——t, and a certain *Constance*. *Constance* had been a *fille en carte*. To save the young man who was mad to marry her, the police laid a trap for the poor girl and gave her a rendezvous in a *maison de passe*, where they came and arrested her, and lodged her at St. Lazare. Her lover, however, got her out, still resolved to marry her, and nothing could be done but to send him off to the Crimea, where he is still. I suppose M. Augier has given up his play. G——t is too like *Nanjac*.

Every hour of the day the telegraph has been asking for news, and receiving none. Great things are expected of Pelissier—*grand mattre en tuerie*.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

CONVOCAION OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.—By a decree in Thursday's *Moniteur*, the Senate and Legislative Body are convoked. This convocation, the official journal observes, is of no unforeseen character, as, ever since the close of last session, the Government had signified to the senators and deputies that financial measures would compel their speedy reunion.

A Parisian sculptor has been lately selling plaster casts of a bust of Béranger which he had made. For these casts he charged six sous a piece; and 10,000 have been sold in a fortnight—a fact which indicates the existence of a considerable residuum of republican feeling even in purpurate Paris. The idea of selling the casts at so low a rate originated in a desire to give an answer to some virulent attacks upon Béranger which have appeared in the *Univers*, the press organ of the Jesuits.

A French physician has just published a pamphlet under the title of "The Physical and Moral Degeneration of the Human Race caused by Vaccination." The startling theory that Jenner, who for more than half a century has enjoyed the reputation of one of the greatest benefactors of humanity, was in fact the principal author of cholera and a host of modern diseases, has been broached before, but without exciting much attention. Now, however, the Imperial Academy of Medicine has placed the subject on their paper for discussion.

The Queen's visit to Paris is said to be fixed for the 13th of August. It is held to be probable that the sovereign of England will be present at the Napoleon fêtes on the 15th of the same month. If so, this will perhaps be the strangest fruit of the Alliance which has yet been produced.

The French Emperor has been ill; and the consequence has been a serious fall on the *Bourse*. The story is, that, after leaving a rather long council of ministers on Saturday, he was seized with a strangury. The ailment, however, could not have lasted long in its intensity, as the Emperor received several visits at the Tuileries on Sunday morning. He lay in bed the latter half of Saturday.

The Turin journals state that during the visit of the King of Sardinia to Paris, the regency of the kingdom will be entrusted to H. R. H. Prince Eugène of Carignan.

The shock of an earthquake has been felt at Albano. It is thought to have been connected with the late eruption of Vesuvius.

Some severe floods have occurred in France. All the rivers in the neighbourhood of Toulouse rose considerably; the Garonne overflowed its banks; and the *Prairie des Filtres*, near Toulouse, was entirely under water. Trees, domestic animals, and articles of husbandry, were swept away; and the inhabitants of the surrounding country had to fly for their lives. Three piers of a suspension bridge were also destroyed; but it does not appear that any lives were lost. On the 2nd instant, a kind of waterspout burst over the town of Aubusson (Creuse); the rivers overflowed their banks, and the water rose to the height of ten feet round some of the buildings. The next day it subsided.

A correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from St. Petersburg, observes:—"The peaceable and bloodless conquest of the extensive territory to the north of the river Amur—a territory equal in size to the whole area of Germany—is now officially confirmed by the Irkutsk correspondent of the *Northern Bee*, and is considered as an event of great importance for the future; for, though at the present moment there exists only one solitary 'winter house,' there are two most excellent harbours, capable of becoming, when fortified, what Sebastopol is now in the Black Sea with reference to Turkey, as it will give Russia the command of the Sea of Japan, and open the door for the aggressive spirit of the Muscovites to pick a quarrel with, and finally subjugate, the vast empire of Japan, and possibly China."

Montenegro, after having been quiet for a long time, seems disposed to stir again, if we may rely upon a letter from Cettinge, of the 29th of May, which has been published in the *Austrian Gazette*, and which says:—"The ruling Prince and Princess of this country proceeded last week with the principal dignitaries of the country and the Senate to Rieka-Cernovic, where 6000 men in arms were assembled, that is to say, all those who had last year volunteered to fight against the Turks. The Prince passed them in review and then presented each with a cross, which is to be worn to intimate that the person displaying it had come forward voluntarily to battle with Turkey. Three salvoes of applause greeted the Prince when he addressed the troops, and the ceremony terminated."

The Carlist rebellion seems to be nearly at an end. Aragon and the Maestrazgo are referred to by the Government as completely tranquillised. The Carlist Colonel Puelles, together with Corales and seventy rebel horsemen, were shot at Agramunt on the 8th inst.

According to advices from Oporto, dated the 9th instant, the vine disease in the Douro is spreading with such intensity as to cause the worst apprehensions.

An Austrian note, addressed by Count Buol to Count Esterhazy, and dated the 31st ult., exhibits still more clearly than preceding documents the political coquetry that is now going forward between the two great German powers. Prussia, as well as the other Teutonic states, is complimented on having waived the discussion, in the Federal Diet of the Russian offer with respect to the two first Points. Count Buol concludes by observing that "events are taking such a turn that for the future we shall not have to act with reserve towards Prussia in pending negotiations."

A letter of the 12th from Burgos (says the *Times* Spanish correspondent) mentions that the mail which

left there on the 10th was burnt not far from Briviesca by ten mounted men, headed, it is believed, by the *Estudiante de Villasur*, who is said to have entered Spain from France five or six days ago. A French Cabinet courier was in the mail, carrying despatches from the French and English Embassies in Madrid. He earnestly entreated the brigands to respect the official correspondence, but in vain. It was soon after this exploit that the mail of the 9th from Paris came up, with correspondence from Marseilles, including, it is said, despatches from Senor Pacheco to the Spanish Government. These, according to the letter, were the only ones not burnt. The robbers carried them away, with what object it is difficult to conjecture.

A few details are given by the *Monitore Toscano*, of the late attempt against the life of Cardinal Antonelli. It appears that the Cardinal was issuing from the palace of the Vatican to enjoy a walk, when, while descending the steps before the entrance, a man named Defelicio, a hatmaker by trade, rushed on him, and attempted to stab him, but was stopped in time, and arrested.

The *Brussels Indépendance* has intelligence from Vienna that the reduction in the Austrian army will be of 140,000, and not of 100,000 men, as originally announced.—Significant comment on the intentions of the Court of Vienna with respect to the war!

The *Bürgerschaft* of Hamburg (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*) have rejected by a majority of 162 a new and liberal constitution laid before them by the Senate, and emanating from a mixed commission of the Senate and the people. This constitution is much more liberal than one which the same body accepted in 1850 by 347 to 149 votes.

A new constitution for Hanover is in process of construction. We gather the following particulars from a letter of the 16th inst. in the *Cologne Gazette*:—"According to the bill, the First Chamber will be again formed of the same elements as before 1848, with this difference, that the equestrian order will no longer have more than 26 deputies, by whose side will sit 18 landed proprietors having a net revenue of 600 thalers (the thaler is about 4 fr.), and chosen by electors designated by the assemblies of the *baillages*. The present representation of the legal profession, the schools, commerce, and manufactures, will be done away with. As far as regards the Second Chamber, the bill returns to the fundamental law of 1850. Notwithstanding the urgency of the Ministry, the bill appears likely to have but very little success with the Second Chamber."

Poor Poerio and his comrades are still languishing under the devilish tyranny of the Neapolitan despot. A correspondent of the *Morning Post* says:—"Owing to the great sympathy expressed by the inhabitants of the small village of Montefusco, where the political victims of 1848 had been long confined, fifty of them were some time since removed to Monte Sarchio. The mode in which Poerio and his companions were conveyed from the one place to the other is characteristic of the Neapolitan government. No less than 4000 soldiers were employed at different parts of the road to guard the closed vans containing the prisoners. All these unhappy men were made to travel in their chains, from which they suffered excessively. But the most painful event of the journey was caused by the overturning of one of the vans, which broke the arm of one prisoner and injured others. On this occasion, the military guard took upon themselves the responsibility to remove the iron from the prisoner, contrary to the strictest orders given on that subject."

A NEW CONVEYANCE ASSOCIATION.

THE reorganisation lately effected in Paris of the public conveyances under the direction of one vast Association, is about to be attempted, we are informed, in London. In Paris, the Association guarantees better carriages, better horses, cheaper fares, and a more regular service. If the projectors who have successfully realised their scheme in France, and who propose its adoption in London, can surmount the difficulties peculiar to our independence of Government control and to our unrestricted competition, can succeed in persuading the various interests engaged in the trade to merge their isolated profits into a monopoly which promises simplified expenses of management and increased receipts, and can convince the public that such a monopoly would conduce to the public advantage, the Association will deserve encouragement and support. Certainly our public conveyance system is susceptible of great improvement. If our cabs and omnibuses are better horsed, they are far inferior to those of Paris in comfort, and in that regularity of correspondence which is at once an economy of time and of space, by affording to even the most remote districts a continuous communication with the central thoroughfares.

THE FAILURE OF MESSRS. STRAIIAN, PAUL, & CO.

THIS commercial catastrophe turns out to be something more than was at first believed, and is transferred from the ground of simple bankruptcy to that of a criminal appropriation of other people's property. The police court is dividing with the Court of Bankruptcy the honours or dishonours of the

inquiry; and the public are at once startled, scandalised, and entertained, at finding the representatives of an old-established firm figuring before the bar at Bow-street.

On Wednesday, Mr. John Meakin Bates, the third partner in the fallen firm, was placed before Mr. Jardine, to answer the charge of having, in conjunction with Messrs. Strahan and Paul, unlawfully negotiated or otherwise disposed of certain deeds or securities of the value of 22,000*l.*, which had been entrusted to them for safe keeping by Dr. Griffiths.

Mr. Bates was apprehended on Tuesday evening in Norfolk-street, Strand; after which the officers proceeded by the Brighton railway to Nutfield, near Reigate, the country residence of Sir John Dean Paul.

They found Sir John at home, and succeeded in serving the warrant upon him; but, it being too late to return to London the same night, they allowed their prisoner to go to bed, and, sitting up all night themselves, within view of Sir John's room, arranged to accompany him to London by an early train the next morning. Accordingly, they conducted the prisoner, on Wednesday morning, from his residence at Nutfield to the Reigate Station, a distance of a few miles, arriving at the latter barely in time to save the train. Tickets were procured hurriedly for the three, and, according to the statements of the warrant officers, the train was actually in motion when Sir John took his seat in a second-class carriage. The constables were in the act of following him into the same carriage when a railway porter pulled them back, exclaiming, "The train is in motion, and you can't get in." The officers replied, "We are police-constables. He is our prisoner, and we must accompany him. Resist us at your peril." To this the porters merely rejoined that they were only carrying out their orders, "to prevent any one entering a carriage while the train was in motion;" and, having closed the carriage door against the officers, the train went off without them. The constables state that they immediately represented the facts to the superintendent and showed him their authority, but he refused to "signal" the train to stop, although consenting to send a telegraphic message to the London station. This was done by desire of the officers, who proceeded to town by the next up-train, which reached London-bridge only ten minutes after the one they had missed. On inquiry, however, of the stationmaster at London-bridge if their prisoner had been detained, he replied that he did not know Sir John Paul by sight, and, of course, therefore, had taken no steps in the matter.

Mr. Bates was remanded until Friday, and in the meanwhile was removed to the House of Detention.

The above proceedings were taken under the 7th and 8th of George IV., chap. 29, sect. 49, and any person convicted of unlawfully disposing of securities is liable, according to the words of the act, "to be transported beyond the seas for any term not exceeding fourteen years nor less than seven years, or to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three years, and, if a male, to be once, twice, or thrice publicly or privately whipped (if the Court should think fit) in addition to such imprisonment."

At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Strahan and Co., on Tuesday, at which between fifty and sixty persons were present, chiefly belonging to the legal profession, Mr. Lawrence, the representative of the petitioning creditor, stated that, through the run on the Friday and Saturday, the funds of the establishment had been diminished between 22,000*l.* and 24,000*l.*; and, notwithstanding their promptitude with the petition, the sheriff's officer entered on behalf of the Crown, and secured 2000*l.*, the remainder of the available cash, besides which it was necessary to give him an undertaking to pay 700*l.* or 800*l.* additional, to prevent him seizing the books and closing the premises altogether. An important question would arise as to the source of the hints which may have induced many to withdraw or reduce their balances; and, if it could be clearly proved that any intimation had been given, the Court would interpose its power and order restitution. At the close of the proceedings, it was agreed to support Messrs. Barwis, Montagu Tatham, and Appleyard, as assignees.

Another meeting of creditors of the bankruptcy was held on Wednesday at the office of Mr. Brandon, solicitor, Essex-street, Strand. On this occasion, several cases were referred to, showing that, while some favoured creditors had received private notice of the approaching collapse in time to draw out, others were allowed to pay in money within a few minutes of the stoppage being declared. One nobleman received the hint the day before, and managed to pay 5,000*l.* The solicitors of the neighbourhood, together with their clients, are great sufferers; and the meeting expressed its determination to sift the affairs of the bankruptcy with respect to no other feelings than those of the injured creditors.

Mr. William Strahan was apprehended on Wednesday evening at the residence of a friend in the neighbourhood of Grosvenor-square, and on Thursday appeared at Bow-street. The Rev. John Griffith, D.D., to whom the property belonged,

having given evidence, Mr. Ballantine, for the accused, stated that it had been the full intention of Mr. Strahan to surrender himself, but that he was captured before he could do so. He was remanded until Friday.

On Thursday night, Sir John Dean Paul surrendered himself at Bow-street. He stated that he had had no intention to elude the police officers, and that he thought they were following in another train.

The three prisoners were brought up for examination yesterday, when Mr. Bodkin, on behalf of Dr. Griffith, said:—

"With respect to Strahan, he (Mr. Bodkin) should prove that, in the hope—vain as it turned out to be—to arrest the progress of these proceedings, he saw Dr. Griffith after the warrant was taken out at that Court, and a conversation then took place, the object of which, on the part of Mr. Strahan, was to influence Dr. Griffith to abandon the prosecution. In the course of that conversation, Mr. Strahan voluntarily made a statement which was conclusive, morally speaking, as to the charge against the house. He stated that, about six weeks ago, those securities having been kept in some private place, Sir J. D. Paul and himself abstracted them and conveyed them to Overend, Gurney, and Co., or to some other house, where money was obtained, and 100,000*l.* securities lodged by different parties were there lodged as security for loans. But, of course, that statement, being made in Sir J. D. Paul's absence, could not be made legal evidence against him."

Dr. Griffith having stated these facts in his evidence, the prisoners were remanded till Wednesday, when it is thought they will be merely placed at the bar as a matter of form.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK

(From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.)

In the week that ended on Saturday, the deaths of 999 persons—viz., 529 males and 470 females, were registered in London. In the corresponding weeks of ten years, 1845-54, the average number was 915; and if, for the purpose of comparison, this be raised in proportion to increase of population, it becomes 1006. The number of deaths returned last week is, therefore, rather less than the estimated number—a more favourable result than the bills of mortality have for some time disclosed.

Last week, the deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory organs (exclusive of phthisis and hooping-cough) declined to 132, which is nearly the same as the corrected average of corresponding weeks. During the first quarter of this year, the deaths from this class of diseases were, on an average, to those from all causes, in the proportion of 1 to 4. Last week they were as 1 to 7. During the same quarter, the deaths from the zymotic class of diseases were to the whole number as 1 to 5; last week, when 207 died from zymotic complaints, they were in the proportion nearly of 1 to 4. Of those 207 deaths, 27 are due to small-pox, 18 to measles, 45 to scarlatina, 26 to hooping-cough, 10 to croup, 1 to thrush, 17 to diarrhoea, 1 to dysentery, 2 to cholera, 2 to influenza, 1 to purpura, 1 to infantile fever, 33 to typhus, 5 to puerperal fever, 1 to rheumatic fever, 12 to erysipelas, and 5 to syphilis. Four deaths from fever occurred in the sub-district of Hoxton New-town; 6 from scarlatina in Woolwich. One person died of disease caused by intemperance, besides 2 who were suffocated in a state of intoxication. One person died from want.

Last week, the births of 718 boys and 756 girls, in all 1474 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1345.

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

ALDERSHOT.—The Queen paid a private visit to the Camp at Aldershot on Saturday.

THE HOSPITALS AT FORT PITT AND ST. MARY'S BARRACKS, Chatham, were on Tuesday visited by the Queen and Prince Albert. About 520 wounded and invalided soldiers were present at the former hospital, and 270 at the latter.

LORD EUSTACE CECIL.—It will be recollected that when, some six or seven weeks ago, Mr. Layard adverted to Lord Eustace Cecil's promotion as an instance of mere aristocratical birth obtaining with ease what is denied to merit and service, Colonel Lindsay declared in the House of Commons that his lordship's promotion without purchase into the Guards, was on account of his anxious desire to see active service; that he had returned hastily from India to join the 88th, which was on its way to the Crimea, and that he had previously exchanged into the 43rd, to take a share in the Kaffir war. Colonel Lindsay further asserted that Lord Strafford, who made the selection, had scarcely any personal knowledge of Lord Salisbury, the father of Lord Eustace Cecil, and that signal merit alone had been his guide. A correspondent of the *Times*, writing under the signature of "An Englishman," pointed out at the time that these assertions were not correct; and Colonel Lindsay himself on Monday night, after a silence of several weeks, admitted that Lord Eustace did not exchange into the 43rd at all in order to engage in the Kaffir war, and that he returned from India after a sojourn there of a very

few months, not out of any desire to go to the Crimea, but because of a liver complaint from which he is suffering. The "Englishman," again writing to the *Times*, adds to this, that he is credibly assured, though he is not prepared to prove it, "that Lord Strafford, so far from being a comparative stranger to Lord Salisbury, has long been on terms of the most friendly intercourse with that nobleman." Colonel Lindsay now declares that he only gave the facts on the authority of others, without himself vouching for their authenticity; but no such disclaimer appears in published reports of his speech, and we have, at any rate, a right to ask whether such vague hearsay justified Colonel Lindsay in joining in the curish howl against Mr. Layard for a rashness of statement of which he was himself at that moment guilty in a very gross degree.

THE ARMY WORKS CORPS.—The Government have established an Army Works Corps. This body is 1000 strong at present, but will probably be increased if found to answer the objects for which it has been formed. There are 800 "navvies," organised into gangs of 25, 70 carpenters and smiths, and 65 artificers, including in that term shoemakers, tailors, harnessmakers, barbers, and other special crafts. The staff consists of a chief officer, Mr. Doyne, who is a civil engineer of high promise; a superintendent of works, Mr. Pope, who has participated in some of the most remarkable undertakings that have been executed in this country; six assistant-superintendents, all tried men; a superintendent of stores and commissariat supplies, a secretary, paymaster, chaplain, two surgeons, and a dresser; an assistant-storekeeper, five clerks, eleven foremen, and two gangers. The organisation of this corps is entirely the work of Sir Joseph Paxton, who has given his time, skill, and trouble gratuitously. Lord Panmure inspected the men at Sydenham on Wednesday, and expressed himself satisfied with the result.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FLOWERY FESTIVITIES AT ST. BARNABAS, PIMLICO.

—We read in the *Morning Post*:—"The anniversary of the dedication of the Church of St. Barnabas, Pimlico, was recently celebrated by an entertainment in the schoolroom adjoining the church. About four hundred of the poorer parishioners were supplied with an abundant dinner, by the subscriptions of the more wealthy, who also attended, and participated in the festivity. The schoolroom was tastefully decorated with garlands of flowers, evergreens, and coloured scrolls, containing texts from Scripture. In the centre of the principal table, an enormous plum-pudding was displayed, over which was erected the model of a temple, surmounted by a figure of St. Barnabas, the patron saint of the church and college. A portrait of the Rev. Mr. Bennett, suspended in this portion of the room, was crowned with a chaplet of white flowers. In the church adjoining, the screen, the pulpit front, and other portions of the furniture, were decorated with fresh flowers and green boughs. The Cross formed a prominent object in these pious adornments, and over the screen was inscribed, in letters formed of red carnations, on a white ground of pink blossoms, the words, 'Comfort ye, my people.' The Chair was taken by Mr. Liddell, who, on proposing the health of Mr. Bennett, said that that was "the toast of the day." Then Mr. Beresford Hope made what on the whole can only be designated as a funny speech, and was greeted with as much laughter as though he had been a member of Parliament "in his place." He concluded by proposing the health of Mr. Liddell, who, in reply, made a brief polemical discourse, in which he said that he was "no advocate for any extravagances in religion;" that his sect, so far from leading men to Rome, had led them from it; and that, though they are not Roman Catholics, they are not ashamed of the name of "Catholic" without the "Roman," because they are members of the universal church. After that, the Rev. Mr. Skinner took that festive occasion for publicly thanking the congregation for the earnest prayers which they had offered up for him during his late illness; and, having been a traveller, he said he had come to the "solemn conviction" that "there is nothing like St. Barnabas." "Nothing like leather." This was followed by another comic speech from the funny man, Mr. Hope, in reply to his health being drunk; and, shortly afterwards, the company parted. —There is a degree of charitable consideration for the poor, and of industrious labouring for their improvement, on the part of the Puseyites, which is much to their credit; but these showy vagaries, in which toast-drinking is combined with indelicate parades of the devotional aspirations of the heart, and with sectarian vauntings, move in us no other feeling than that of contempt.

A NEW FIRE ESCAPE.—A gentleman, who has lately been engaged in carrying on some successful experiments with a new projectile of his invention, has shown us a fire-escape of novel construction. He describes it as suitable to every house, and so contrived that even aged people or delicate females may preserve not only their lives, but also much of their most valuable property, at whatever time, or however suddenly, fire may break out in their residences. The superiority of this new fire-escape over others which have at various times been brought before the public, is said to consist in the perfect ease and security with which the very old or very young may use it—the privacy in which people may

be lowered, may lower each other, or lower themselves—and the fact of this means of rescue being always in the bedroom, and ready for instantaneous use. Moreover, in the event of fire breaking out suddenly, people provided with this escape would not have to be dependent, perhaps at a very late hour in the night, on the chance of getting any passer-by to run for assistance, even should he know where to obtain it. Nor would they be dependent on the still more doubtful contingency of aid arriving in time to save them from the most terrible of deaths. The weight of these little escapes is only 21lbs.; and they are enclosed in perfectly plain boxes, or fitted up as dressing seats or ottomans.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF PATENTS have presented a complete collection of their valuable series of copies of specifications of patents, with descriptive plates, indexes of patents, and all other works printed by them, embracing a period from 1617 to the present time, to the Marylebone Free Library, 27, Gloucester-place, New-road, on condition that they should be available for gratuitous consultation, and the taking of notes or sketches every day in the week from ten in the morning till ten at night. The series relating to Fire-Arms is exceedingly interesting at the present time.

THE ENCUMBERED ESTATES ACT.—The commissioners appointed to inquire into the working of the Encumbered Estates Court have presented their report to the Queen. They recommend that a Parliamentary title should be given to purchasers upon the transfer of land in Ireland under judicial sales, whether the estates be encumbered or unencumbered; that this jurisdiction should be vested in the Court of Chancery in Ireland, the Encumbered Estates Court thereupon ceasing to exist, and its powers being transferred to the Court of Chancery; that the office of Master of the Court of Chancery be abolished, and that the Court should consist of the Chancellor, the Master of the Rolls, and the two Vice-Chancellors; that a court of appeal be constituted, consisting of the Lord Chancellor and an additional judge; that each judge and officer of the Court of Chancery should annually make returns of the state and despatch of business before him to the Lord Chancellor; that it should be the duty of the judge, when the proceedings in any case or matter are not conducted with due despatch, to call upon the parties to explain the cause of the delay, the judge being invested with compulsory powers to expedite the cause or matter; and that stamps and fees upon all proceedings in Chancery should be abolished, or reduced as much as not to interfere with the despatch of business, or the publicity of the proceedings. These general recommendations are accompanied by others of a more technical character, relating to details.

A DESOLATED HAMLET.—A tragedy of singularly-extended action has occurred in the north of Scotland. A fishing-boat was overturned off Mabray Head, and the thirteen occupants went down in deep water, and were lost. They were all youths; and, as the village to which they belonged numbers not more than sixteen or twenty scattered houses, there was scarcely a family which was not darkened by the sudden presence of death. A person who passed through the village reports that the lamentations of the stricken people could be heard on the road. This terrible fact seems to realise, on a small scale, the awful devastations of the Angel of Death, of which we read in the Bible and other Eastern writings.

AN HEROIC WOMAN.—A Javanese paper contains the following matrimonial announcement:—"Married, Theodore Poland, pensioned titular colonel, knight of the two orders of the Netherlands, to the mother of his children, the Javanese woman Fien. This marriage he has contracted in gratitude and as a reward for the heroism she exhibited in his behalf in 1833, on his return from the fortress of Amerongen, when she rescued him, already severely wounded, from certain death, by carrying him, with the assistance of a servant, a distance of three furlongs, wrapped in a sheet and suspended to a bamboo, while pursued by an unmerciful enemy, and by subsequently bringing him safely through the lines of the enemy, while she herself was in an advanced state of pregnancy.—Poerworendjo, 21st March, 1855." Considering that this act of devotion and courage was performed two-and-twenty years ago, it must be admitted that Theodore Poland, pensioned titular colonel, &c., has been a long time making up his mind whether he shall gratefully sacrifice himself on the Hymeneal altar or not.

REFUSAL OF THE GOVERNOR OF CANADA TO SANCTION THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.—The home Government has received advices from the Government of the province of Canada, announcing that the Governor-General has refused to sanction the Maine Law Liquor Bill, brought up from the Legislative Assembly. His instructions being "to reserve, for the signification of the Queen's pleasure, every bill of an extraordinary or unusual character," he has availed himself of his privilege, and transferred the bill to the authorities in Downing-street.

COMBINATIONS OF MASTERS.—An action which was tried at the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday determines the right of masters to combine against their workpeople for the purpose of arranging amount of wages, periods of engagement, hours of work, &c. The defendant had entered into a bond with the plaintiff and several others, with a view to effecting, these objects;

but he now alleged that there was no consideration for the execution of the said bond, and that by reason of the premises, as being a bond in restraint of trade, it was illegal and void. To this plea, the plaintiff demurred. The case having been stated, and Mr. Justice Crompton having read his judgment in favour of the defendant, Mr. Justice Erle spoke in favour of the plaintiff, contending that the object of the bond was not the restraint but the protection of trade, which would otherwise be ruined by the combinations of workmen. He cited various legal reasons in support of his view. Lord Campbell's judgment, however, was in favour of the defendant; his lordship being of opinion that the effect of the bond would be mischievous, and that it might "establish a principle on which the fantastic and mischievous notion of a Labour Parliament might be realised, for regulating the wages and the hours of labour." Judgment was accordingly given for the defendant.

THE ARISTOCRATICAL SUNDAY.—The working men of London are invited to visit the right bank of the Serpentine in a body to-morrow (Sunday), and to take their wives and families with them, in order that they may see how the nobility spend their Sabbath.

IT MAY BE SATISFACTORY to many interested in the controversy to hear that an authenticated fac-simile of the letter signed "W. S.," on the authority of which the romance of *Moredun* is alleged to be by Sir Walter Scott, has been deposited in the Crystal Palace Free Library, and that it is now exhibited in the reading-room. The certificate accompanying the fac-simile states, that there are but three copies extant, one of which is deposited in the British Museum, one at the Crystal Palace, and one is retained by the proprietor.

LITERARY FUND.—A general meeting of the members of this Society was held in Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on Saturday, to take into consideration the Report of the Special Committee. This Report recommended the granting of revocable annuities to distressed men of letters and scientific writers; the granting of relief by way of loan; the holding of evening meetings and *conversazioni*; and the establishment of a library for purposes of reference; it being contemplated that the two latter suggestions, if successful, should at some future period be developed into "a hall or college for the honour of literature and the service of literary men."—Mr. Dickens, the Chairman of the Special Committee, in presenting this Report, moved that it should be adopted. The motion having been seconded by Mr. John Foster, Mr. Monckton Milnes proposed an amendment to the effect that the meeting, while acknowledging the value of some of these suggestions, was "not prepared to recommend the application for a new charter to carry them into effect." The adoption of the Report was urged by Mr. Dilke and Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and was opposed by Mr. Pollock, Lord Stanley, Sir John Forbes, and the Bishop of Oxford. Finally, the amendment was carried.

SIGNOR AND MADAME RONCONI.—Madame Ronconi, the wife of the celebrated singer, was on Friday week placed at the bar of the Tribunal of Correctional Police at Paris, charged by her husband with committing adultery with Vincent Cattabeni. The charge was admitted, both by Madame Ronconi and Cattabeni; but they pleaded that Ronconi was himself living in adultery with a Spanish courtesan, and that he had agreed with his wife that they should part, and that each should be free to live according to inclination. Madame Ronconi further accused her husband of not fulfilling an agreement which he had made, to allow her a certain yearly sum for support, and of leaving her in the most abject poverty. Portions of a letter from Signor Ronconi to Carmen, the Spanish courtesan, of whom he was enamoured, were read. The following extract with its passionate southern intensity, and its theatrical "points," we can almost imagine being wailed forth by the writer, to appropriate music, on the boards of the Italian stage:—"I find, Carmen of my heart, that I cannot live away from you. . . . Come to my arms—listen to my love! Leave Madrid on the very day on which you receive this letter! It is the letter of a man in despair—of a man who is lost without you—of a man who prefers death to living in such a way. Carmen of my heart, have pity on your poor George! Come to my arms, and I will render you more happy than you ever were! Yes, I promise that, and I will keep my word! Come! And, if you wish it, I will, after a time passed together, die with you! I have in my possession a terrible poison, which will cause the quickest death that can be imagined. We must fulfil our destiny! Do not suppose that I can be tranquil away from you—no! If you do not come to me, I will go to Madrid, see you once again, and then die beneath your balcony! I am quite decided—death if you will not be mine! My life and my happiness are in your hands. In the name of God and the Holy Virgin, listen to my prayers. . . . I am becoming mad! . . . Heart of my heart, light of my life, my divine love—listen to my prayers, and come to console me! Come and tell your poor George that you will be always his. Tears suffocate me. Come and console your sincere lover!" The Court postponed judgment on Madame Ronconi and her accomplice, but at the same time decided that the complaint of the former against her husband should be received.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 23.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

SEVERAL bills were forwarded a stage, the only one of any interest being a bill for the purpose of enabling assizes and sessions to be held more frequently, so as to prevent prisoners waiting for their trials being detained for a long time in prison before they were tried.

PLAN FOR ATTACKING THE FORTRESSES IN THE BALTIC.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked whether the Baltic fleet had been provided with the apparatus necessary to attack maritime fortresses in the manner recommended last year to the Admiralty and Board of Ordnance by Colonel Bethune.

Lord PANMURE replied that the plan had been submitted to Sir Charles Napier last year, who thought it impracticable; and afterwards it had been referred by the Ordnance to some scientific persons, who also reported that it was quite impracticable.

The House adjourned at seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE LATE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that he should, on the 3rd of July, move the following resolution:—"That this House, deeply lamenting the sufferings of our army during the winter campaign in the Crimea, and coinciding with the resolution of its Committee, that the conduct of the Administration was the chief cause of the calamities which befel that army, visits with its severest reprehension every member of the Cabinet whose counsels led to such disastrous results."

THE PRACTICAL JOKING AT CANTERBURY.

In answer to Mr. W. O. STANLEY, Mr. F. PEEL said that a further inquiry had been made into alleged misconduct of certain inferior officers in connexion with the military practical joking at Canterbury, but nothing had been elicited to implicate them.

THE MASSACRE AT HANGO.

Colonel HARCOURT interrogated the Admiralty as to whether any information had been received with regard to the officers of the Cossack attacked by the Russians at Hango. He wished to know whether there was any truth in the report that they were only wounded and prisoners; or if they had been killed, whether any demand had been made for their bodies.

Admiral BERKELEY said no further official information had reached the Admiralty than that contained in Admiral Dundas's despatches; and as to any demand for the bodies, he did not think it likely any other boat would be sent into Hango.

BUSINESS OF THE SESSION.

Mr. DISRAELI pointed out that there were now seventy-nine orders on the paper, and asked whether at this period of the session some arrangement should not be made with regard to which of them were to be proceeded with.

Lord PALMERSTON said there were some bills which the Government would pass; but with regard to many of those on the paper, they knew nothing about them, and were very indifferent about their fate. He would make a statement on the subject on Monday.

THE ARTILLERY OFFICERS IN THE CRIMEA.

Sir DE LACY EVANS alluded to some expressions of Mr. Layard in the debate last week, which it was supposed reflected on the conduct of Brigadier-General Dacres, commanding the Artillery in the Crimea, which were, he was sure, not intended. He had taken occasion on three several occasions to report General Dacres for distinguished conduct while he was in the Crimea, and when he returned to England he had stated to the Commander-in-Chief at home that General Dacres was the most able, most competent, and most energetic officer of artillery in the army of the East.

Mr. LAYARD said he wanted to cast no imputation on General Dacres, General Strangways, or Colonel Lake, with reference to guns of the Second Division not being got up at the time they were wanted at Inkerman. The fact was that the artillery of that division had lost almost all its horses, and it was impossible to get up the guns.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Sir J. PARKINGTON urged the early resumption of the Debate on National Education, and the settlement of the question.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL hoped an early day would be fixed for the purpose, but he thought it would be sufficient then to get the sanction of the House to the principle of the bills now before the House.

ARREARS OF PAY TO WOUNDED AND SICK SOLDIERS FROM THE CRIMEA.

Mr. STAFFORD having complained that the sick and wounded soldiers who had returned from the Crimea had been unable to obtain the arrears of their

pay, which had accumulated while they were in the hospital at Scutari.

Mr. PEEL replied that the Government could not pay the arrears, because, not having received proper returns from the paymasters of the different regiments, they did not know what was due to the men.

MR. LINDSAY AND THE ADMIRALTY.

Mr. LINDSAY then rose to repeat the statements which he had made at Drury Lane Theatre with regard to the blunder of the Admiralty on the conduct of the Transport Service. He referred to the attacks of Mr. Drummond upon him with respect to his emigrant ships, and he explained the circumstances connected with that matter. He then referred to the statements which he made on the former occasion, repeated his statements, and produced letters in confirmation of them. Taking the Transport system, he went into elaborate details and figures to prove that money had been wasted, showing that bad ships had been taken up at a high rate of tonnage, when magnificent vessels could be got at a much lower rate. He concluded with a strong remonstrance against a member of the Government endeavouring to "filch from him his good name" by impeaching his veracity, or accusing him of having been guilty of "virulent untruths."

Sir C. Wood in reply urged that Mr. Lindsay had very ingeniously mixed up fact with fiction. He showed that a statement of that gentleman, that Sir de Lacy Evans had said that 3000 horses were wanted for the Second Division in the Crimea, and no tonnage could be found for their conveyance, was quite incorrect. The Admiralty had at this moment transports for the conveyance of 5500 horses. He then, in a very elaborate and detailed manner, dealt with the statements of Mr. Lindsay with regard to the sending of the Robert Lowe transport from Portsmouth to Newcastle for an alleged twelve tons of combustibles, showing that the ship in question belonged to Mr. Lindsay himself, and that she was sent to Newcastle to take up certain cylinders weighing seventy tons, intended to blow up the sunken ships at Sebastopol. With regard to a vessel which Mr. Lindsay said was ordered from Woolwich to Deptford, in order that the engineer might walk on board, he showed that the reason she could not be moved was that her engines were unfit for service. Referring to Mr. Lindsay's emigrant ships, he went into details to show that of a number of those ships professing to have been elaborately prepared for passengers to Australia, only one had taken any passengers at all, and she had broken down before she got to Portsmouth. In the same minute manner the right honourable gentleman dealt with every fact and statement of the noble member, and produced, by the singular aptness of the answers to them, a great effect upon the House.

Sir DE LACY EVANS explained that Mr. Lindsay had mistaken the purport of a conversation he had with him in the House with reference to the tonnage required for horses to be sent to the Crimea.

After a few words from Mr. LINDSAY on one point relating to the vessel which he wished to be sent from Woolwich to Deptford, the subject dropped.

THE RECENT NEWS FROM SEBASTOPOL.

Mr. CRAUFORD inquired if any further intelligence had been received from Sebastopol by the Government.

LORD PALMERSTON said the only despatch that had been received was that the purport of which had been made public, but if any further despatches came in during the night, they would be instantly communicated to the press.

The House then went into Committee on the Scottish Education Bill with which they were occupied till a late hour.

THE FRENCH ACCOUNT OF OUR REVERSE.

Paris, Friday, June 22, 7.30 A.M.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Government received yesterday (Thursday), almost simultaneously, two telegraphic despatches from General Pelissier. The first, dated June 17, is as follows:—

"The combined movements agreed upon with our allies are being carried out. To-day the Turks and the brigade of Chasseurs made a reconnaissance towards Akhtiar. General Bosquet occupies the Tchernaya. To-morrow, at daybreak, in concert with the English, I attack the Grand Redan, the Malakoff Tower, and the batteries connected with them."

The other despatch is dated June 18, and contains the following:—

"The attack of to-day was not successful, although our troops, who showed very great intrepidity, gained a partial footing in the Malakoff works. I was obliged to order a retreat in the parallels. The retreat took place in order, without our being harassed. It is not possible for me to-day to state our precise loss."

A despatch from Bucharest, by way of Vienna, reasserts the statement that an expedition has been undertaken against Perekop.

General Andrianow, acting substitute of the Hetman of the Don Cossacks, has published a proclamation to the inhabitants of the banks of the Don, ordering the organisation of a sort of Landsturm. Fears are expressed of the enemy "ravaging the coasts," and the men are exhorted to take up arms in defence of the country. There is a tone of excitement and hurry in the address. General Rüdiger has published an order of the day to the corps of Grenadiers and Guards, in which he gives them instructions how to proceed in case of an invasion.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

During the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to find room for correspondence, even the briefest. 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.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855.

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.

HEREDITARY GOVERNMENT.

THE Administrative Reform movement has at least shown our noble contempt for logic. The leaders are profuse in their professions of love for the aristocracy, but they cannot tolerate a privileged class. They cherish the hereditary principle of Government with all their heart, but they must insist on having the offices of state filled by merit. This, without exaggeration, is the burden of their speeches. They wish the governing class to have a fair start for the offices of Government, but no favour. Let the privileged, they say, stand upon their personal merits, and we have no doubt they will hold their own. We have not the slightest desire to pull down the Peerage, but only to put all upon a level. The intelligent foreigner might think that there was something hypocritical or ironical here. We assure him that there is nothing of the kind. All is as honestly inconsistent as it is when a Radical contemporary calls upon the Crown to interfere, and, upon the Crown interfering in the only possible form, receives it with insinuations about German despotism and slaps upon the face. Mr. LINDSAY intimated in one of his speeches that, so far from hating the titled classes, he would gladly himself accept an hereditary coronet for his services in abolishing family influences, and we have no doubt that he would be as good as his word.

People must fairly face the question, whether the hereditary principle of government is worn out or not. We say this from no puerile craving for republican formulæ—from no abstract hatred of an institution which has everywhere played an important part in the education of society—much less from any mere personal antipathy to the English aristocracy in particular, whose history, on the contrary, we have maintained, and do maintain, to be a proud one for the nation. If the direct consequence of aristocracy, which no thoughtful man can doubt family influence in government to be, has become intolerable to the country, it is high time, if we would avert civil conflicts and confusion, to consider the position of the aristocracy itself. It is right to do so in the interest of the aristocrats, as well as in the interest of the nation at large. If there is one thing more abject and miserable than another, it is the struggle of power to prolong its existence beyond the destined term. There

is yet time for a quiet transition, and for the incorporation into the new institutions of all the best men who have risen under the old. But the solution of the political problem cannot be deferred even for an hour. We have been happy hitherto in the comparatively tranquil and gradual character of our political development. The spirit of feudalism in England died a natural death. The Bastille was razed; the Tower stands a reminiscence and a show. But if we would preserve this blessing, it is by foresight and discussion that it must be preserved.

To us it appears clear that the hereditary principle of government, in both its manifestations, is virtually condemned. We have jealously stripped our monarchy of every remnant of political power, the Tories outdoing the Whigs in their determination to prevent the slightest revival of royal influence: and no sane man dreams that any part of what has been taken away will ever be restored, though frantic radicals may make protestations and appeals, which, directly their appeal is answered, they belie. Nothing remains of the sovereignty of the Tudors but a social supremacy which is somewhat overtopped by the fine ladies of London, a Court Diplomacy, and an Erastian Church. But that social supremacy is the keystone of a false system of ostentatious luxury—that Court Diplomacy cost us the French War—that Erastian Church turns the religion of the country into an organised infidelity and hypocrisy. Introduce open negotiations and the Voluntary System, and you will take from the Monarchy the last rag of political significance. And how long do people expect the nation will cling to Vienna Conferences and a Church which believes and teaches its creed in half a dozen different and contradictory senses? Nay, the very breed of royalty itself may become extinct, if justice should ever overtake the petty Russianising despotisms of Germany.

Aristocracy is in pretty much the same condition. Where its influence was directly felt, it has been abolished. The Lords are allowed to be coy about Jews Bills and Marriage Bills, but they must register, however reluctantly, any edict which has really been passed in the Lower House by the will of the nation. To call them a check on precipitate legislation is absurd; since they are no check in the case of any important question. Social aristocracy and official aristocracy still remain, and we pay heavily for them both. Social aristocracy entails upon us separation of classes, pride, servility, and luxury, without any compensating advantage; for it is ridiculous to think that our nobility keep up any standard of manners or of honour higher than that which prevails among other educated men. To hold together the estates of the Peers, we submit to primogeniture and family settlements, and absolutely deny to those who till the land the possibility of ever owning it. Against official aristocracy the country is now breaking out into one vast clamour, which, though it may not carry its motions in the House of Commons, though it may even be beaten by overwhelming majorities, will never be put down again; and if the agitators do not themselves see the real tendency of their agitation, that is no reason why clearer-sighted men should refuse to see it.

If Providence has really spared mankind the moral and intellectual effort of choosing wise and good rulers for themselves, by ordaining, and commanding us for ever to preserve, a system of hereditary sortilege, it is well; but in this case the theory of divine right is true. If, on the other hand, hereditary government is not an everlasting law, but an institution which society needs, indeed,

in its early stages, but may outgrow in its later, reasonable cause must always be shown for its continuance; and the real treason is not to question it, but to forbid it to be questioned. The day may have come when the blind feelings of the patriarchal tent, of the Celtic clan, or of the feudal manor must give place, as the basis of authority and government, to political intelligence and political duty. If so, the lot of that generation on which the change, with all its difficulties and perils, has fallen may be a hard one, but it cannot be refused. Let the advocates of the hereditary principle demonstrate its necessity or utility. Let them show that government by capacity, for which all are now calling, is compatible with the existence of a governing caste which all profess to respect. We will owe them all the thanks due to those who convert contradiction into consistency and hypocrisy into faith.

THE SEBASTOPOL REPORT.

THE Select Committee, in its Report, has tenderly treated the character of public men. It has presented a strong summary of its opinions, based on the twenty-one thousand questions, asked and answered. But, upon the whole, it has fairly stated the incidents of the Crimean campaign, and even by its suppressions, has heightened the effect of the recital. Disengaging ourselves from the recollection of all that had previously been said or written, and adopting as inferences only such as are justified by the exact substance of this Report, we ask what is the result? What would be the result in the mind of one who studied, in this record alone, the English method of making war upon a great and distant military power?

Some premises, however, are necessary. Forty years of peace had left Great Britain overflowing with affluence, free to draw for public services upon an unbounded fund of private wealth, possessed of arts and appliances unknown to any former period of war, and stimulated by the enthusiasm of a pugnacious and excited population. It was not a naval power that had engaged us in hostilities; the trade of our colonies, and of friendly states, was therefore uninterrupted. France was our ally; our enemy was one who had created amongst us a deep sentiment of anger and aversion; our fleet having blockaded the Baltic, left our army and a powerful squadron to concentrate themselves on one point of the Russian territory. Nothing was wanting, in the general condition of things, to support the expedition. The nation was rich. The war was popular. The seas were open. The factions were almost silent. The Government was left to prosecute its undertakings, and only a small section of politicians, little in favour with the country, desired to question its policy, or to restrict its means.

It is true that the nation and the press were as improvident as the Ministers. They were blustering, exulting in powers not yet displayed, defying the enemy, and trimming their lamps in anticipation of bonfires and victories. Few gave their thoughts or their counsels to moderate this braggadocio, or to keep the Government alive to a sense of its responsibilities, and so England made war—the England of free institutions, chivalrous aristocracy, opulent middle classes, contented populace, patriotic statesmen. The first blow to be struck was in the Crimea.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, therefore, directed Lord RAGLAN, commanding the army in the East, to collect information as to the military resources of the Russians in the Crimea. Before the siege of Sebastopol "could be attempted," he said, such informa-

tion must be obtained, for little or nothing was then known. Upon reports obtained—not from Lord RAGLAN, who was required to obtain them—but elsewhere, Ministers founded an eager confidence in the success of the attempt. Lord ABERDEEN relied on a *coup de main*; the Duke of NEWCASTLE talked of wintering the army in Sebastopol, of ordering it to the Bosphorus after that fortress had been dismantled; Sir JAMES GRAHAM thought he had found "a Crimean authority"—who must have been as ignorant as Sir JAMES GRAHAM was reckless—for all necessary information; but what did Lord RAGLAN say? That his own information as to the power of defence possessed by the enemy he was ordered to attack was not precise enough to justify such a resolution; but that he decided upon an invasion of the Crimea "in deference to the views of the (ignorant) British Government." As to our ambassadors at St. Petersburg and Constantinople, who should have been the best instructed, they dismissed the subject by replying that they knew nothing about it. We want lights in the cabinet of diplomacy, at least.

The desperate enterprise, undertaken by Lord RAGLAN, who confessed he was in the dark, was commenced, and ministers dispersed to their holiday recreations. Between six and seven months passed, involving important official changes, and no Cabinet deliberations in reference to them took place. But the Duke of NEWCASTLE was at his post, incessantly labouring, and suggesting improvements—with this difficulty, that he tried to repair a machine which he was forced to keep working, as though the engine-driver should at the same time handle the tools of the engineer. But, what with the delirium of the people, the delusion of the Ministers, and the hesitating acquiescence of the Commander-in-Chief, Sebastopol was attacked by an army which staked all on the event of one endeavour. For the success of that endeavour the excitement of the nation was well prepared. For its failure no one provided.

No adequate military reserve was kept at home. The army of the East was created by a strain on our entire establishments. From June to November, though it had become apparent that the enemy was powerful, the necessary preparations were neglected. When reinforcements reached the Crimea they were unorganised levies, as incapable of endurance as of action. No means beyond ordinary recruiting were adopted to restore the shattered regiments, or to render the militia available, until the crisis had arrived, and all had to be pushed forward with precipitation—the fruit of alarm. When a new Minister of War was created, the Minister had no office, no instructions, no experienced subordinates; he guessed at his duties, and paid the most feverish attention to those of least importance. Meanwhile the expedition was unfortunate; "the whole country was dismayed," but "the Cabinet was in darkness." Why? Because officials in the East deceived it, and it disbelieved the press. The Duke of NEWCASTLE "was not (officially) made acquainted until a late period" with "the horrible mode in which the sick and wounded were conveyed from Balaklava to the Bosphorus." An "indiscreet silence" on the part of functionaries kept our ignorant Government inactive, though it sent out a commission to inquire, which was issued in October, 1854, and reported in April, 1855. In the interval an army perished.

The Ordnance Department, to which is committed one of the most important charges in the service, was viciously constituted, and demoralised by the squabbles of its officers. There was "no able hand to guide it," and "two officers were wanting, whose functions

the most economical administration had been unable to dispense with in times of peace."

Hence, the series of errors and defaults is pursued by the Committee, from the blundering system of transport to the Bosphorus, and across the Black Sea, to the still more wretched service of land-carriage from the harbour to the camp—in spite of two good roads left by the Russians,—the neglect to establish depots in the Crimea, the recklessness of depending for forage on supplies found on the invaded territory, the insufficient stores of food, the entire failure of the medical department, and the pestilential hospitals. At Scutari, the Committee say, the first real improvements were effected through private benevolence. No private undertaking connected with the war has failed; scarcely one public operation has succeeded. The Government, ignorant of the country in which it made war, was deceived by the persons on whom it depended for information. In this double fact is contained the moral of the Report.

As to the exoneration and blame, the Duke of NEWCASTLE is treated favourably, in consideration of his efforts, though the Report does not exhibit him with the capacities of a statesman. The entire Cabinet is censured for omitting to concert its measures in Council at a time of public emergency. It is also implied that the Government acted with lamentable want of judgment in refusing to put faith in the unhappy narratives published by the press. On Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT no opinion is passed. The Board of Ordnance suffers under the direct and severe reprobation of the Committee. Lord ABERDEEN, personally, is accused of various omissions. Admiral BOXER, not having been examined, is not judged, nor is Mr. Commissary FILDEN. Upon the whole, little blame is imputed to particular individuals; but the essence of the Report is, that with nearly every circumstance in our favour, except our long inexperience in war and our ignorance of the Crimea, we carried on a mighty enterprise, with vast resources, in such a manner as to sacrifice thousands of British troops, to disgrace the nation, to throw a slur on constitutional government, and to risk a catastrophe which was only averted by the magnificent qualities of the army, to which the Committee refers in language of the most exalted eulogy.

CHURCH EXTENSION—CHURCH DIFFUSION.

THE Church of England is preparing a great effort of restoration. The movements of Lord SHAFTESBURY and of Archdeacon SINCLAIR are only parts, and not the most central parts, of a great whole. We do not mean that the entire body of the Church is acting with unity of purpose, but it is acting in the main from unity of motive. That motive is the restoration and extension of its own power—a power in which temporal influence and material guarantees subserve spiritual control. Its leading members are aiming to recover its unity of action through the hierarchy which presides over the discipline of the Church, for it is in this that the Church of England stands superior to the other sects of the country. It has an episcopal staff that possesses in some cases absolute power. Unlike the species of council which presides over the action of the Dissenters, even the most orthodox, the Bishops can agree upon certain proceedings, and carry them out; and this power many sections of the Church are labouring to restore. Lord BLANDFORD moves for a commission on Cathedrals and Collegiate Churches, for the purpose of using the buildings and the funds annexed to those build-

ings in establishing perpetual curates, and in carrying out a sort of permanent organised agitation—a low-church extension upon the Evangelical plan. There are, however, other parties in the Church besides the extremes of Puseyite and Methodist; the point of unity being that all desire to re-erect the establishment, with all its influences and powers. A commission has been appointed; it has examined into the cathedrals, their offices, funds, and territories, and it has made its report. It suggests a revision of the whole, and something more—that the lapsed duties be restored; that the canons again become active officers, and resident, the canonries being severed from colleges or archdeaconries; that cathedral worship be restored in full pomp and efficiency, the minor canons to assist in apostolical duties; that schools be kept up in connexion with the Cathedrals and Theological Colleges in the two provinces, the Bishop superintending the work of instruction, assisted by one of the canons. In short, the officers, down to the bedesmen, are to do work for their pay.

But it is calculated that in many cases the revenue can be so improved or redistributed as to provide for other purposes, and it is proposed therefore to erect new sees, probably some dozen in number, to begin with Bishops of Westminster; of St. Columb, for Cornwall; of Bristol, divided from Gloucester; and of Southwell; with Bishops suffragan or coadjutor to aid their superiors who have fallen into sickness or infirmity. A new corps of Bishops, with an active Cathedral staff in every Cathedral town; new Cathedrals made out of churches in other towns; and a general stir that would call the higher Bishops, the Archbishops included, to a much more active exercise of their duties of superintendence and discipline—such are the cardinal points of the measure proposed.

We view this redoubled activity in the leading men of the Church of England without jealousy, without fear; on the contrary, with hope and satisfaction. It is not that we are blind to the predominant advantages with which the Church of England enters into the competition against other sects. It is privileged by its possession of ministers, revenues, state offices, territorial standing, and prestige as the Church of State, court, and fashion. It is not yet deprived of laws which it can wield to coerce Dissenters—persons who absent themselves from public worship, or those who neglect its peculiar discipline. In the competition of sects it ought to win far beyond every other, infinitely beyond all that it now achieves.

It is not that we are prepared to concede to the Church of England, in its present form, a monopoly of claim to our respect as the great national church—the church of the Reformation; for if it led the van in the reign of HENRY THE EIGHTH to defy the Pope and facilitate the king's amours, it has subsequently proved reactionary; and Independents did us at least as good service as ever the Church of England did, when they put CROMWELL in the field to battle for the rights of the English gentry, a Commonwealth against an absolute monarchy with an aristocracy for its instruments. But we hope, and fear not, because the privileges of the Church of England have clogged it with State encumbrances, undermined it with routine weaknesses; and we desire to see it brought up to the level of other religious communities in zeal and working efficiency. There is not a portion of the establishment entrusted to the hierarchy that has not suffered from the indolence of privileged dignity. The very leaders who have been lodged in cathedrals under the superintendence of the ecclesiastical power have be-

come a generation of rats to feed upon the property of private subjects; and the private subjects have been revenged by veritable rats gnawing under the bounties of the Cathedral while the sleek incumbents were slumbering in indolent forgetfulness of their duties. The poor church therefore is not so superior in the competition of sects as it looks. Its case is even worse, as Archdeacon SINCLAIR showed, when he advised the clergy to set itself on a level with its own congregation, by studying the accident of ordinary information. The Church of England is far less furnished than any other church that we know for purposes of aggression or competition. It has no order of Jesuits, no *College de propagandâ fide*; no committees, like those of the Scotch Church, to spread its own version of the Gospel in all parts of the globe; no committees such as most dissenting bodies possess, animated with a missionary zeal. It has its missionary bodies, but they are fettered by the routine of the church incapacity, by its own withholding of licences; and its Convocation has become an annual ceremony, in which the very idea of conducting real business is considered a dangerous innovation.

While the Church thus shows signs of life in its central organisation, while Archdeacon SINCLAIR is exhorting it to adapt itself to the school of knowledge proper to the day, Lord SHAFTESBURY is proposing the break-down of the barrier between Churchman and Dissenter, by abolishing the licensing system. According to the Bishops, if Lord SHAFTESBURY's measure be carried, "any clergyman" will be competing with his brother pastor in the neighbouring parish, and "any gentleman" will be setting up against the clergy. This is probable; and we have already shown how, by such incidents, the Church of England would forfeit its exclusive position. There are, in fact, as many sects within the Church as there are without; and here would licence be given to have one and all fraternising with allies outside the bounds, while trying to gain the ascendancy within. What, however, would be the final and grand result of any such enlarging of the Church bounds, any such disruption of its frozen organisation? What but setting free the Church of England to merge itself in that Church which we have imagined as the Church of the Future in these islands—the Church of the People of England?

AUSTRIA STANDS AT EASE.

THE Western Powers are waiting on Austria; Austria is waiting on events. She gains her objects, and risks nothing. Having succeeded in her military plans on the Danube, and in her diplomatic game at Vienna, she has no further interest in the war. It is her historical policy not to oppose the schemes of Russia, except in so far as they interfere with her own. Beyond the mouths of the Danube she contemplates no development as to the Black Sea. To her the Crimea is as unimportant as Scotland. While the Principalities were occupied by Russia, Austrian interests, of hereditary recognition, were jeopardised; but CORONINI's march and the Conferences at Vienna put an end to this alarm. The statesmen, therefore, who have ceased to solicit at Berlin, may probably learn to withdraw their hopes from the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH. They rewarded him before he assisted them. They gave him the Principalities, which enabled his ministers to extort favourable terms from Russia; and now that his Wallachian and Bulgarian interests are secured, we are witnessing a reduction of that vast neutral army which, it was hoped, was prepared to fight for the general independence of Europe. "The independence of

Europe," is a phrase of no effect in German councils. "Preponderance on the Danube," however, has a political and commercial significance, and this, without the loss of a soldier, has been gained by the *Macchiavellisti* of Vienna.

The last report is that Russia, under the pressure of her military necessities, has consented to sacrifice some of her pretensions on the Danube, in exchange for Austrian neutrality. Austria, in consequence, is reducing her forces in Galicia, and thus relieves her treasury. This pacific change of attitude on her part set free a large Russian army to march from Poland southwards. It is difficult to believe that any official negotiations of such a tenor are passing between St. Petersburg and Vienna; yet the design on both sides is intelligible. In one empire financial exhaustion renders it important to diminish the drain of military expenditure. In the other, forces are required in the field, which are now employed as sentinels along a neutral frontier. At all events, the issue would closely resemble that which resulted from the Austrian descent on the Danube, when the Russian troops in Bessarabia were released, and transferred to Sebastopol. A perpetual movement is going on through the passes of Volhynia, Podolia, and Cherson, to the actual theatre of war, and Count BUOL's circular contains the record of a distinct engagement on the part of ALEXANDER THE SECOND to reward FRANCIS JOSEPH's neutrality by adhering to the concessions made at Vienna. These two circumstances point to one result: that Austria is to profit permanently by her cheap success, and that Russia is to struggle unmolested for objects which Austria does not care to oppose.

Plainly, when the Austrians were allowed to take possession of the Principalities, without a declaration of war, they were left without incentives to further action. At Bucharest their proceedings were those of conquerors, not allies; and all their efforts were directed to the supplanting of Russian influence by their own. By both armies of occupation the rights of the Porte were equally ignored. But the Austrians had this advantage: that they were upheld by France and England; that they literally fulfilled their obligations, when the invading power had retired, and removed the original ground of war; and that the Allies were bound to defend them, if attacked. For themselves, they only engaged to treat for peace, and then "to deliberate on the right means" of securing it. If they committed an act of deception, diplomacy sanctioned it.

When, towards the close of the last century, the Ottoman Empire ceased to be the object of respect in Europe, a frontier was opened to the ambition of bordering states. Russia and Austria at once commenced a career of rivalry on the Danube. Though the Porte continued to affect the language of power, and to give proofs of its sympathy with Poland, its territory became the arena of plans and speculations which Russia and Austria were equally eager to develop. Perhaps their jealousies saved the Ottoman Empire. The German historians, except the equivocal MENZEL, declare that "the Austrian Cabinet was resolved not to permit the Russians to penetrate beyond the Danube." It assumed such an attitude, when the treaty of Kainardji was signed, that, without doing more than it has done within the last year, it deprived CATHERINE of half the prize that had seemed within her reach. What she gained was principally in the Crimea, on the Black Sea, and in the Divan itself; what she was forced to refrain from touching was the Wallachian and Bulgarian frontier, though this had been successfully invaded. That geographical line,

though naturally weak, was guarded by the disunion of the river-bordering powers. Moreover, when POTESKIN commenced his wars, he sought an open field in the south; and when he carried his operations into Moldavia, the Austrians were speedily at his side, competing for victory. The triple treaty was a compromise, based on the inability of the rivals to enforce or relinquish their conflicting claims, and the principle of antagonism which was in action then existed after the restoration of the political system in Europe, and has determined the course of the two powers in the present war.

A conspicuous feature in the actual state of things is the alacrity with which German statesmen resent any slighting act or word on the part of France, and the promptitude with which they arm the federal fortresses on the Western frontier. This, especially in Austria, is a traditional art, for Austria has exhibited even precipitancy in her collisions with the French, while nothing has been more marked in her political conduct than reluctance to fall into real hostilities with Russia. And yet it is of Russia, and not of France, that Austria is jealous; but her objects in the east of Europe have been gained by delay, when the combatants have been worn out, and when, as a vigorous mediator, she has interposed between exhausted belligerents.

The progress of Russia in Poland was a more practical injury to Austria than her advance in Turkey. But when the armies of CATHERINE pressed on that unhappy state, the Austrian waited on the Russian, the Russian doubted the Austrian, and both took advantage of the result to secure by "demonstrations" a share of the prey. Austria, when the second partition was made, "allowed the robbery to be committed behind her back," but was content to accept her proportion of advantage. In 1834, her Ministers pretended to dread the dissolution of the dwindled kingdom, and offered to uphold Poland if it would accept the sway of a prince of the House of Austria—if it would invite a dynastic and diplomatic occupation. The scheme failed, and the Cabinet of Vienna was easily consoled.

But in 1829, when Marshal DIEBITCH carried on his successful Turkish campaign, Austria set an army on foot, though far in his rear, and remained—expectant. She was careful to avoid no collision; but her expectancy missed its aim, for the treaty of Adrianople gave to Russia that authority on the Danube which Austria only resumed after the breaking out of the present war.

This war has restored the balance of the two empires. The Austrians, compelled to purchase Russian aid in Hungary, are now solicited to lend their "neutral" aid to Russia. Their policy is identical, and the real contest has been in the Principalities, which each, in its turn, has attacked, and each defended. The conquest of the Banat was an Austrian precedent for the Russian attempt of last year, and it was designed as a stage towards the two disputed Principalities, which are not now for the first time occupied by an Austrian army. The policy of the Czars has been more direct and violent; that of the Emperors at Vienna has not been less persistent or grasping.

It seems to us that to expect Austrian aid, while Russia remains on her own side of the Pruth, is to expect a power which has gained all it desires from peace, and which might ruin itself by war, to fight for principles to which it attaches no value, under the stipulations of a treaty which it may evade. The real strength of the Western Alliance consists in the right which it possesses, in conjunction with the Porte, to maintain the independence

of the provinces along the Danube. Austria may be compelled, or tempted by events to decide on action, but the time has not come. She waits; she stands at ease and keeps the peace with Russia.

WANTED, ABLE CIVIL OFFICERS.

PRACTICAL Administrative Reform demands in the first place able civil officers. We want men having a clear conception of the work to be done and an inventive mind to discern or discover the best method of doing it. As a basis of such a character we must have a good general education—not the acquirement of mere knowledge or a mere literary training, but the education that teaches how to observe facts, how to apply principles to practice, how to act with decision: an education as often acquired out of school as within it. For his actual work, the civil servant requires habits of accuracy in remembrance, in record, in distinction of cases. A good style of composition is equally necessary, and even a bold, good penmanship is an almost essential requisite. These are the raw materials of a good civil servant. Experience must supply the mastery of the regular course of particular official work—but the mind of the official must be free and strong enough to be able to know when routine may be safely set aside, and when tact may retrench method as circumstances dictate. Independently of these qualities it is useful, almost necessary, that the young civil servant should have the principles of a man of honour and the feelings of a gentleman; for he is often placed in positions where mere "honesty and good conduct" (if by these words we understand an adherence to the letter of moral laws and an avoidance of unworthy demeanour) are not sufficient. That this enumeration of the necessary qualities of a civil official is not incorrect will be admitted by all who really know the duties of the service. These duties involve the correct record of various facts, the acute audit of very complicated accounts, the vigilant superintendence of subordinates, a talent for distinguishing official ability, for the preparation and composition of long reports for the summarising of statistics and results, for the honourable preservation of official secrets (such as may arise, for instance, in the case of competing tenders), and a willingness to work extra hours and with extra exertion when the State service requires. It is the belief of those who know the subject best that you cannot get men with these qualifications, natural and acquired, in every university, counting-house, or office. Few have the peculiar natural ability, fewer still the habits fitting them for the work. The question, then, arises whether we cannot find in the civil service itself, inspired anew, and worked on a better plan, the materials for an improved administration.

It will be said that by this plan we make the civil service a "close borough." Any rigid rule that would invariably exclude new men from responsible situations in the service would, no doubt, be injurious, as depriving the service of the undoubted advantages that accrue from the addition of fresh energy to some departments of the State. But we must not entirely ignore the sentiments of the present civil servants themselves, for on their zeal and *esprit de corps* the success of our reforms in the administration must for many years depend. It is doubtful whether the probable advantages of the introduction of new and clever men into high posts in Government offices is not often counterbalanced by the injury that is done to the working spirit of the subordinate officers by the removal from their hopes of

the high prizes of the service. The chief clerk, or assistant secretary, who has worked eagerly for years in the hope of being rewarded by the secretaryship, will scarcely continue to work with the same zeal under a new secretary whom he shall have to instruct and guide in the business of the department; and the sense of injustice will certainly spread downwards, with a tendency to produce that very apathy and want of hearty work so commonly attributed now to the whole civil service.

If the press and the public desire real reform of the civil service, they must not make this question a squabble for places between the middle and the higher classes, or a dispute as to the relative merits of men. We must go on some settled principle—some principle that will best balk the desires of trading politicians, and will most speedily secure an improved administration. That principle, we believe, resides in the practice of giving due promotion and reward to the good men already in the civil service, and of introducing new men only on extraordinary occasions, and when peculiar fitness, as in the case of ROWLAND HILL, makes the appointment unquestionable.

OXFORD, OLD AND NEW.

LORD DERBY's lightness of mind enables him to fill all situations—especially oratorical situations—with ease and grace. He has been at Oxford, gaily firing the old edifice of Tory education with his own hand, after a neat and appropriate homily on the wisdom of compliance with the utilitarian spirit of the age. Of course, in inaugurating the new studies, he expresses a dutiful hope that they will not displace the old, which are "the most important that can be pursued anywhere." (*Applause.*)

So, with decent rhetorical obsequies, the old ignorance goes out, and at the other door the new knowledge enters. ALDRICH's logic and "Porson's four" (the most important subjects that can be studied anywhere) give place, and the studies of nature and man succeed. *Le roi est mort—vive le roi!* Welcome the young age to its venerable and romantic home among those old grey walls and immemorial trees, to the cells of ROGER BACON and OCKHAM, to the courts of WYKEHAM and WOLSEY! The last intellectual revolution that took place at Oxford was of a rougher kind, when the old religious faith was cast out and the new faith thrust in with the strong hand. Then, the volumes of the Old School Divines, the intellectual tyrants of five centuries, were vengefully torn to pieces, and scattered over the quadrangles, and fierce proscriptions, and persecutions, sullied the dawning of the new era. This later change comes gently, scarcely lamented now that it has come, even by those who opposed it; though not without fears and misgivings, even in good and honest hearts, who dread the scepticism that goes with knowledge, and do not rely on the power of ACHILLES' spear to heal the wounds it makes.

Floreat Academia! May real student life and the love and pursuit of truth long flourish at Oxford! England does not want her universities to become utilitarian in their teaching or their objects. We have enough desire of money and activity in inventing spinning-jennies and steam-engines elsewhere. It is not in that way that Oxford and Cambridge are called on to accommodate themselves to the age, but by satisfying its nobler wants and cravings, by giving it a real education and a true philosophy of life. Let the universities find the nation truth, and the nation will find them bread. Their fault hitherto has been not to be too unworldly, as

they would fain flatter themselves, but to give themselves up to essentially worldly influences, to a political party and an ecclesiastical faction, and to forget their great spiritual office of seeking and keeping the truth for the whole people.

To seek and keep the truth—such will henceforth be their work. If they will, they may do that work well. They are rich in gold, and they are rich in what is better than gold to a student's heart, beauty, history, and the associations of a thousand years. They are rich in earnest, enthusiastic, unworldly minds, which will soon be weaned from sectarian propagandism to nobler aims. Let them know the world, love it, guide and enlighten it, but keep themselves from its factions, its strifes, its servility, its love of lucre; and the world which has hitherto looked on them with suspicion and mistrust, as alien censors which misunderstood and hated it, will honour and love them as its own better part for ever.

THE BALTIC.

THE Baltic fleet is in splendid condition, but what is it about to do? It is incomparably superior to the fleet of last year, which was a noble display of ships and of guns, but not of equipment nor of matured discipline such as now exists. This year the health of the men is excellent, the sick-list is under five per cent., and there is not one per cent. of the men unfit for duty, *if needed*. The commissariat is managed excellently: fresh provisions are sent from Elsinore, and are served out three days in the week, and provisions are brought from England once a week. With all respect for the name of NAPIER, there is a decided change for the better in the command of the fleet. We receive no complaints that the men are harassed by exercises and inspections; the discipline of each ship, we presume, being left to the captain; and as, upon the average, British captains and lieutenants are quite competent to maintain the discipline of their own decks, the change from the restless NAPIER to the somewhat reserved but dignified DUNDAS, is a decided advantage to the fleet.

But what is the fleet to do? The Baltic season is short; June, July, and August, are its extent. We are not aware that any sensible increase to the information respecting the state of affairs at St. Petersburg has been attained; but one thing appears to be tolerably certain—that the defences of Cronstadt have been vastly increased. Meanwhile, where is the boasted machinery for reducing them? where, above all, are the floating batteries and the reserve magazines? Have they gone out? We are not sure, indeed, that the floating batteries, however bomb-proof, would be workable. It is almost a question even with their own officers and crews, whether they will float with all that they must stow on board. But if they are to be the instruments for unlocking that gate, when are they to arrive? June is now wearing away, and there will soon be only two short months before the millpond of the Baltic will be torn by the storms that announce the coming equinox. No reliance can be placed upon the weather after the 1st of September; last year the returning fleet was detained five days at Bomarsund. The floating batteries will scarcely be able to keep to sea when the screw line-of-battle ships and the flying squadron of steam frigates are compelled to desist. From the Admiral to the A. B. all are eager for distinction, and it is cruel to tie the hands of brave men.

Certainly the fleet ought not to come back without some positive results. Russia must

be made to feel the pressure which she has not as yet felt in the Baltic. Is it impossible? There is the Island of Hogland, a long stride nearer to the capital than Aland, right in the middle of the Gulf of Finland; and there a British force might be established, and a new lesson might be taught to the enemy. A force of 20,000 would hold the island, which is healthy and well placed. Our picked men would not be required for the service; militia from Aldershot might be sent to occupy the post. The station would form an admirable school for foraging expeditions; the amphitheatre of the gulf would be the school play-ground; and from that central point miles of the coast could be kept in a state of uncertainty and incessant distraction. Thus a force of 20,000 men on the Island of Hogland would compel the Russian Government to keep, say, 150,000 on the opposite coasts; and a great diversion could be created at very moderate expense to the Allies. The results would probably be even more important, since the fact of our maintaining an outpost right in the face of Cronstadt would teach the Russian people how their Government can be bearded; and it would certainly increase that moral pressure which has evidently been felt in St. Petersburg already, but which can only be sustained by a constant tightening of the screw.

Russia may inveigle a score of unarmed men into an ambush, may violate the flag of truce, and murder a few of our countrymen defenceless and unprepared. Base and cowardly as such cruelty may be, blows of this kind may have some influence in restoring the energy of the people and their confidence in resistance; and it would be a false economy to let the CZAR pluck all the barbarous profit that he can out of this infamy. We can counteract him, and we ought to do so. We can prove to the Russians, that however insolent they may be in their slavish brutality, we are masters of the Baltic if we choose to remain so. If we cannot enter into the den of the robber, we can establish a sentinel at his inner gate, and forbid his coming forth. We are not surprised to hear that our gallant fellows burn with indignant impatience to avenge the crime of Hango, and it would be a treason to humanity as well as a disgrace to our flag if the present season were to pass away as fruitlessly as the last.

Open Council.

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

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

A NEW PARLIAMENT.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

June 12, 1855.

SIR,—Our loud Administrative Reformers lose sight of our great need—a new Parliament. Since the war began Englishmen have learnt much. They have had crowded into a few months the experience of a century of common political life. They have seen that the Constitution is not so almighty as they thought; that the hands to which, while they peacefully money-grubbed, they entrusted their enormous means and their important interests, are all too shaky for the charge; that three-fourths of the men in influence and power are Burleighs or Bumbles; that the man who, a little while since, was their First Minister, is more fit for the post of index-maker and general historical drudge to Mr. Macaulay or Mr. Grote than for the smallest post in the Government of this kingdom. Now that the English people have seen all this, can they be supposed so unchanged, so uninfluenced by the sudden discovery, that their feelings and wishes are adequately represented by a previously-elected and unchanged Parliament? And, if they do not represent the people,

what is the use of that assembly of elderly gentlemen of capital, solemnly sitting in their ludicrously-symbolic abode of petrified gingerbread? The fact is, nothing can be done with the present House of Commons. The first thing to be done is to change your Parliament. Done at once, we should stand a chance (now that the country is not quite so lethargic as usual) of a House of Commons which might, perhaps, be useful at home and respectable in Europe. At all hazards, let us get rid of our greatest national nuisance—the House of Palmerston, Pakington, and Twaddle.

A MOST CONSTANT READER.

THE HONESTY OF THE CLERGY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I have read with great interest the "Revelations of Archdeacon Sinclair," in the last *Leader*.

I fear the cause of the uselessness of the clergy lies deeper than either he or the *Leader* imagines.

In the same number of the *Leader* I see a clergyman confessing that he considers the "whole tenor of geology as in entire contradiction to the cosmogony delivered from Sinai."

I know it to be a fact that large numbers of the clergy perceive that the creeds and articles, which they so hastily subscribed in their younger days, are in entire contradiction to the teaching of Scripture.

Now, I ask, when a clergyman of the Church of England is conscious of being secretly an Arian or a Deist, yet continues to make profession of "orthodoxy," what is to be expected? Must he not become a lifeless functionary, at best?

The clergy of the Church of England are entangled in the trammels of *soi-disant* "orthodoxy" at an early age—they are called on to subscribe too rashly those creeds and articles which prevent them from teaching what in after life they find out and *feel* to be true—they cannot teach "orthodoxy" with the same animation, warmth, and love of their subject as they could preach what they know and *feel* to be true—to be their *own* principles, their *own* hope. The consciousness of teaching falsehood, or doubtful truth, must take away all heart from themselves, all spirit from their teaching, and all good from their ministry. Would you not be paralysed yourself if compelled to employ the *Leader* in the defence of a system which in secret you wholly repudiated, or but half approved?

Among the fruitful causes of the evils of "our Civilisation," I know of none which is more widely spread, more corrupting in its nature, or the eradication of which would do more good; yet it is precisely because of its fundamental character, because of its tendency to emancipate both clergy and laity, that Church reform in every shape is so much opposed by our oligarchy.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

LAICUS.

DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor on Thursday evening entertained at the Egyptian-hall the bishops and the heads of the two universities, with a large party of distinguished guests whom, according to the usual custom, he had invited to meet them.

MR. GEORGE CURZON, cousin of Earl Howe, and heir presumptive of the Barony of Scarsdale, has just met with a fatal accident. Mr. Curzon was on Saturday evening riding in Hyde Park, when his horse, in passing two carriages, became restive and threw him on his head against the kerb-stone of the footway. He was removed to St. George's Hospital, where two medical men were in attendance; but the case was hopeless, and he expired about seven o'clock on Sunday morning. He was in the twenty-ninth year of his age.

FALL OF STONEWORK IN THE CITY.—A serious accident, attended with loss of life, took place last Saturday morning in the City. The entire ornamental stone cornice of a Manchester warehouse in Wood-street, Cheapside, now in course of completion, suddenly fell down, and not only destroyed the scaffolding, and the fronts of the opposite warehouses, but also broke the sewer in the road, and killed a man who was standing before the house at the time, unloading a cart. Fortunately, no one was passing when the accident occurred, nor were the workmen on the premises.—An inquest on the man who was killed has resulted in a verdict of Accidental Death, to which the jury added their opinion that the work was not properly secured, and that such large projections are dangerous in narrow thoroughfares.

MURDER OF AN ENGLISH OFFICER IN AFRICA.—Lieutenant Richard Burton (an officer of great scientific knowledge and experience as a traveller), Lieutenant Stroyan, of the Indian navy, Lieutenant Speke, of the Bengal army, and Lieutenant Herne, of the 1st Bombay Fusiliers, in the course of a geographical expedition to Somali, a district in North-western Africa, opposite Aden, were attacked by about a hundred of the Somalis. Lieutenant Stroyan was murdered, Lieutenants Burton and Speke were dreadfully wounded, and Lieutenant Herne escaped unhurt.

SI IMHAMMED has succeeded to the Beyship of Tunis, on the death of his cousin Si Ehmed, who had reigned for the last eighteen years.

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*.

THERE is a book which even MACAULAY has not read; or, if he has read it, he has not been conscious of the fact: we mean the *Book of Jashar*, referred to by some writers in the Old Testament as a popular work of their day. There are many reasons why even large appetites are kept away from certain books: there is difficulty adding its weight to worthlessness (as in the case of LYCOPHRON'S *Cassandra*), there is insipidity (as in SILIUS ITALICUS), and finally there is the fact of non-existence, which perhaps may rank as a chief impediment. In this class ranks the *Book of Jashar*: it is non-existent; or was until lately, when Dr. DONALDSON, in a Latin treatise published at Berlin, proved to his own satisfaction that the book was extant and not extant, that in fact it was wrought up into various parts of the Bible. He undertakes to reconstruct the book out of the fragments which have been worked up in the canonical writings. He undertakes to fix the date of the work, as the age of SOLOMON. He undertakes to point out the influence of MILTON in modifying our traditional theology. He undertakes many other things, among them to prove that the Serpent is to be understood as a Phallic symbol; with all of which we do not presume to meddle, leaving competent scholars to debate such intricate questions. We allude to the work because it has passed out of the circle of Biblical criticism into the wider notoriety of scandal and theological acrimony. Dr. DONALDSON has been attacked for heresy and indelicacy: heresy, because he takes the truly bold step of attempting to criticise the canonical writings as he would the writings of LIVY or DIODORUS; heresy, because he treats the third chapter of Genesis as an allegory; and indelicacy, because he has spoken of things which the Bible speaks of with unhesitating plainness. In answer to one of his assailants, the Rev. JOHN J. S. PEROWNE, he publishes a pamphlet, hot in temper, indignant in orthodoxy, and peremptory in refutation. Respecting the charge of indelicacy, he says:—

Now I have not only employed a dead language, which removes the discussion from the cognizance of the English public, but I have expressed the great reluctance with which I felt myself obliged, as an honest interpreter, to enter into anatomical details, which, though revolting to us, were familiar to the ancient Jews. As Gesenius says of the metaphor in Numbers xxiv. 7, these things are "ex nostro sensu obscena, sed orientalibus familiaria;" and theological learning, like medical science, looks with calm, cold gaze on all the operations of nature. Those who can really understand the Hebrew words, which we render "male and female created He them," (Gen. i. 27), will find nothing more shocking in all the mysteries of oriental allegory. Mr. Perowne, however, must allow me to remind him that "unto the pure all things are pure" (Tit. i. 15); that prudishness is too often the result of a purient imagination; and that perfect innocence knows not the blush of shame. A well-regulated mind is not affected by the grossness of a primitive people; at any rate it would be the height of absurdity to maintain that a repugnance to modern ideas of delicacy detracts from the probability of an interpretation of this Hebrew text. The plain-spokenness of the Old Testament, in matters which we never mention, afforded Voltaire a ready plea for his scoffing depreciation, and it cannot be denied that, according to Mr. Perowne's view of the matter, the English Bible must be the most indecent book in the English language!

The *Book of Jashar*, by a natural transition, leads us to the *Etudes sur l'Art Judaique*, by M. DE SAULCY, the tenth and last article on this subject appearing in the new number of *La Revue Contemporaine*. A treatise on Jewish Art will sound to most readers like a description of the hair of a bald man; the Mosaic Arabs, whatever their excellences, not being celebrated in the department of Art. M. DE SAULCY, well known for his learning and ingenuity, has ransacked the Bible for indications, and by dint of a liberal use of the term Art, has contrived to get materials for a small book, curious enough to those curious in such matters. The same number of the *Revue* (which, by the way, is decidedly superior to the preceding number) contains a paper on the "Legend of Adam," as treated in the middle ages, and an analysis of a recently-discovered miracle-play of the twelfth century, entitled *Adam*; a paper well worth reading. SAINTE BEUVE contributes an article on "Werther" à propos of the correspondence between GOETHE and KESTNER; but the absence of any knowledge of the period and of German literature prevents him from touching this subject with his accustomed felicity. One remark we are led to make, because the trait is characteristic of the nation, and is not a mere trait of the writer. It is this: In a note referring to the French translation of the work he reviews, M. SAINTE BEUVE has the effrontery to say that this translation has "preserved the perfect exactitude and the character of the original." Now we beg the reader to observe that SAINTE BEUVE is entirely and confessedly ignorant of German, yet this ignorance is no impediment to his judgment, it never suggests to him a doubt of his capacity in discriminating between an exact translation and one inexact, it does not even make him qualify his assertion by any modest disclaimer. He pronounces as if the evidence were before him. Had he known German, and had he read the original, he would have seen (as the extracts given in his article prove) that the translation is by no means exact; but had it been literally accurate, how should SAINTE BEUVE know it? This is French. In no German or English work will you find anything so palpably, unblushingly, naïvely impudent. If a German or an Englishman is ignorant of mathematics, he never thinks of pronouncing on mathematical questions; if he confessedly knows nothing of Latin or

Italian, he never commits the imprudence of an opinion on a translation from these languages; he may deceive himself as to the extent of his knowledge, he may try to deceive others as to its extent, but when he confesses ignorance he never assumes the right of passing judgments. Among Frenchmen this prudence is rare. What they do not know, they divine. They fly even in vacuo.

The *Revue Contemporaine* has an article from which we learn more of the doctrines of the "new school" in poetry which M. MAXIME DU CAMP hopes to found. As an energetic reaction against Imitation, especially imitation of classic ideas, there is truth in the new programme, almost amounting to truism. But a great mistake is committed when in advocating the Poetry of the Present an attempt is made to idealise the uses and the usages of the Present. It is the thoughts and feelings which stir within our souls, the hopes and aspirations, not the machinery and inventions of our day, which can form poetic material. Locomotives and Cotton Mills are wondrous things, but so are the Differential Calculus, and the Aerometer: they are children of our day, but they will not furnish the poet with subjects for his art. The distinction between Use and Beauty is fundamental; it is as wide as the distinction between Speech and Song.

EUSTACE CONYERS.

Eustace Conyers. A Novel. By James Hannay.

Hurst and Blackett.

THE reason why Mr. Hannay—though essentially superior to all other naval novelists in the possession of genuine wit, subtle feeling, and delicate scholarship—always insists on taking to the sea when he wants to fit a story to a novel, is suggested in this pleasant passage from the present work:—

Nights like these make a man meditative; and sailors are more serious than is generally supposed; being serious just as they are gay because they give themselves up to natural impressions more readily than other people. At this moment, the least conventional men now living are probably afloat. If you would know how your ancestors looked and talked, before towns became Babylonish, or trade despotic, you must go and have a cruise on salt water. For the sea's business is to keep the earth fresh; and it preserves character as it preserves meat.

But we cannot declare that he altogether takes advantage of these opportunities of picking up character, for, while admitting that he is the only one of the naval writers who gives an accurate conception of the actual condition of the "service" of our day, his characters appear to us to be somewhat characterless, mere machines for the elucidation of Mr. Hannay's mots, and at any rate are characters that would seem more at home in May Fair than on the quarter-deck. We should be sorry if our literature were without Mr. Hannay's sea sketches; they are true as to facts; they give a noble aspect to sea-life that cannot but renew our national pride as a sailor-race, and so do a better sort of Dibden work in taking our young braves from the counting-house to the coast. But we rather think that, so far, this brilliant writer has not selected the best form for the development of his best faculties. This is a novel without a story; and why should a man, having something to say, encumber himself with a machinery which he cannot or does not choose to manage? We have said that Mr. Hannay's way is to fit his story to his moral, in which sense his novel has as little of the dramatic effect as a religious novel; and is it not evident that a didactic sea novel is as great a difficulty as Miss Martineau undertook to surmount when she decided on combining, in novelettes, the passions and political economy? Mr. Disraeli, in *Coningsby*, *Sybil*, and *Tancred*, three books which have produced a profound impression in our day, has set a fashion which Mr. Hannay, with a fascinating aptitude for taking generalisations and an eager tendency to political satire, has been perhaps glad to avail himself of. But the fate of Plumer Ward's books, so imposing in their day, ought to warn men of his class of mind that their chances of literary fame would be better in the biography and the essay. Novels are the proper domain of the story teller; and the philosopher ought not to poach.

Whatever may be said of the novel, there can be but one opinion that the book is full of first-class writing; and greater praise we may offer in the opinion that the work is healthy, dealing with a rosy phase of existence, leading to enjoyable conclusions, and compelling us, even when we laugh at too much Conservative affectation of the feudal point of view, to laugh without sneering. That those who may come to the reading this novel without a distinct conviction that the disorganisations of our civilised life are to be set right by our falling back on the "old families" will laugh consumedly at numberless insinuations in these pages in favour of our friend the oligarchy we guarantee them; but we can also assure them that Mr. Hannay is a very pleasant sort of Tory, and that he is partial to the aristocracy, not for the snob's but for the herald's reasons, only because a lord is more likely than his lordship's tailor to be of good blood. And, undoubtedly, the young Conservatives, if they might feel more intensely antagonistic to plutocracy, and on the whole, fiercer Tories, after reading *Eustace Conyers*—are likely to come to the end of the book with the sensation of a clearer and more serviceable consciousness of what a Conservative party ought to be at. In this respect the novel, which is perhaps more political than naval, does useful political work.

The best character in the book is that of a captain who "gets on." The sketch is strained—but the hand is very strong:—

An essay has yet to be written on the "success of mediocrities." When that essay is written, Captain Mogglestonlough will occupy a corner in it. Without any superiority of talent, and (what is stranger) without any very great advantages of connexion, he was notorious for his professional good fortune, and when he got the "Hildebrand," people did not wonder, though many were angry enough—as some, indeed, are angry when anybody gets anything. What was the secret of the captain's success? Doubtless, his star (Saturn, though a leaden, is a lucky star) had something to do with it; but the truth is, there was a kind of bland and oily facility about the man, which had been as serviceable to him in life's struggle, as oil was to the ancient wrestlers. He had risen, entirely, by availing himself of this personal

advantage, and by winning the favour of individuals. He had inspired personal attachments. This is the way to rise in life. To rise by what you do is a slow process; to rise by making yourself agreeable (you must not be too nice how) to those who can be of service to you, is a far easier and more safer one. Mogglestonleugh was so facile, pleasant a person, that his very enemies could not hurt him; he was safe from them, as the pig in rural sports is safe, by having his tail greased.

Very early had this character of the captain displayed itself. As a handsome, good-humoured midshipman, "Moggy" (as he was shortly called) had been the pet of his superiors. There was no harm in Moggy; he offended nobody's vanity; he had the inestimable quality of never being bored. The greatest blockhead in the three kingdoms, whoever he may be, could not have made Moggy yawn. If Moggy's good-nature, somehow, had a tendency to win him the favour of the rich, the well-connected, and the powerful—he never, like some foolish fellows, allowed his success to make him negligent of the humble; he had a smile and a hearty shake of the hands for everybody; he grinned so pleasantly when you met him, that you fancied he had been thinking of you all the way along. It came naturally with him to make himself agreeable, and to rise in the world, and to be a good man, and a good father, and all the rest of it. Adair of the "Python" (who was always quoting Rochefoucauld) shook his head when people praised the captain, and nick-named him "virtue made easy." Other fellows circulated the soubriquet; for no man wins everybody; and there were some who hinted that the truth about "old Moggy" (as he grew up his name was changed to this) was, that his *bonhomie* was all his temperament, and his good digestion—that he lived on his fat as the bears do in winter time, and that few men now living had a more sagacious, or more constant eye to the pot!

Mogglestonleugh got his lieutenantancy by winning the love of a young gentleman of rank, in whose watch he was, who asked him down to Cheshire, when the ship was paid off, where he went out shooting with a Lord of the Admiralty, and bagged his promotion along with several brace of partridges. We have said that he was a handsome youth; this quality caused him to be selected as lieutenant for all services where an ornamental officer was required. Now-a-days, these are so much more numerous than in the coarser days of poor old Benbow, that the "ornamental" department may be said to be established permanently; for what with carrying swell passengers, entertaining archduchesses, giving balls, &c., our vessels obviously require functionaries of highly attractive personal appearance. Mogglestonleugh in command of the "Princess Charlotte's" barge, was in his element; he fitted her up, at his own expense, in elegant style; and soon, in fact, became recognised as the *distingué* lieutenant of the vessel. When the late Admiral Velveteen hoisted his flag on the Mediterranean station, Mogglestonleugh was appointed his flag-lieutenant; this position introduced him to a rich, beautiful, and childless widow, whose husband, a person of rank and of very mature years, died at Malta, and left her every sixpence he possessed. When Velveteen's flag was hauled down, Mogglestonleugh was made a commander. Soon after, appeared in all the papers, the marriage of "Captain Mogglestonleugh, R.N., of Diamond Castle, Devon, to Amelia Wilhelmina, widow of the late Colonel Trevor, of Trevor, formerly of the —Dragoons." What could be more imposing than such an announcement? When you looked into it a little closely, it lost somewhat, however; "Diamond Castle" was only rented for three months, that he might have the designation when he married; and Amelia Wilhelmina, though she inherited the dead Colonel's money, and had been his wife, was not a young lady originally, of the "Trevor" status, by any means; but her marriages, and her money, and her new husband's popularity were quite sufficient to set up the couple on the substantial footing of local aristocracy. "Dear Captain Mogglestonleugh and his charming wife" were no small persons in their neighbourhood; they travelled with excellent letters of introduction, for a year or two; and when they returned, he, in due time, attained his post rank, and the command of the "Thunderbolt."

"Moggy" had now gradually grown up to beyond fifty, and passed through the various stages of a "good young fellow;" a "useful and agreeable officer;" and "a worthy gentleman" to his present one, of "a highly respected officer, and a model husband and parent." In this stage he was gazetted to the "Hildebrand." He had no politics, (that is to say, he was open to good things from all quarters); there was nobody in particular, "with claims," just at the time; and some good old personal friends put their shoulders to the wheel, and obtained for him this fine eighty-gun ship, the "Hildebrand." He took up his station during the fitting of the vessel in a very handsome house. The walls were covered with "Men wanted for the 'Hildebrand!'" "Old 'Thunderbolts,' rally round your old captain!" These appeals were the first things which our hero, Eustace Conyers, saw when he arrived, very excited and very weary, at Plymouth. "Poynder for the County" seemed dull, in comparison, to Eustace. He was too young, yet, to make a philosophical comparison of these appeals; otherwise, he might perhaps have reflected, that when a man, in any way, wants to use "the People," for his own purposes, he generally affects to court them, and pretends that they are, or ought to be "self-governed;" and that to choose for themselves is the best condition for them!

Captain Montfichet is a contrast, and in the portrait many will recognise a R.N. personage, who beguiles his leisure afloat by compilations of the lives of his ancestors,—earls of course:—

"Why he is a member of one of the most ancient and illustrious houses of the nobility of England," said Lindsay, smacking his lips, when he talked of old blood, as men do over old wine. "They have very little money, to be sure; but, bless you, they're one of the regular families; might be Scotch, my boy! He quarters Plantagenet. No mysterious ancestors crawling out, about Henry the Eighth's time, after the Reformation, like toadstools sprouting after a thunder-shower! If you tell your father, you're sailing with Montfichet, he will send you an extra twenty," said Lindsay, laughing. "He is *Normannus Normannorum*."

"Have you ever seen him?"

"Yes; he was on board here one day. Gave Mogglestonleugh a finger; he only gives Pipton himself two; and Grey, of the 'Grampus,' three. I suppose there is nobody in Europe to whom he would give his whole hand—except, perhaps, Henry the Fifth."

This is a good description of character, and this sentence is a specimen of the style of the book:—

By nature and constitution, Lindsay was a healthy and lively man; and he rang so cheerfully (if a bold metaphor may be pardoned) just because he was of sound metal.

In this passage, we get most of Mr. Hannay's Tory theory:—

"I wonder if Montfichet will get another ship?" says Eustace, in the intervals of a sandwich.

"It's by no means certain," answered Lindsay. "The fact is, these swells, unless they are among the political sets—which amounts to saying, unless they are rich—are little better off than you and I, who are worse off than a rich sausage-maker's sons, if he (the sausage-maker) dabbles in elections. Wasn't there Lord Clarion, who could not get promoted in our time, though the C's are of the *haute noblesse*? It is not aristocracy which keeps the middle classes down; it's plutocracy—money worship. There is much misconception abroad in all these matters," continued Lindsay

refreshing himself. "As for birth, first of all, the ruling political families are not the best-descended as a general rule; but, secondly, it is absurd to say that birth is justly attacked, for it does so happen that of the leading public men, the ablest are the best-descended of the batch. Who are the most brilliant men, now, among the nobility? Lord S., the G's., P., and so forth—all of aristocratic descent. Then, of the last two, or three, or four generations, you have Byron, Erskine, Mansfield, Chesterfield, Carteret, Lyttelton; of the later peerages, what men will compare with these? But, as aristocracy is not a matter of title, but of feudal ancestry, we may take in Shelley, Scott, Collingwood, the Napiers, &c., &c., and claim for old families an honourable degree of excellence. The great scholar, Fynes Clinton, for instance, would come under this head. I, for one, didn't grumble at the advancement of Montfichet, or Clarion. I know that some classes will always predominate, and I prefer the predominance of a historical element—something that appeals to the sentiment of mankind, to its imagination. Everything in the age tends to the predominance of property; but let us have property *plus* traditions. What we are coming to is, a government of mere capital—land being viewed as one form of capital—than which, nothing can more effectually separate upper and lower classes. In the decline of nations, mere money sways everything. Under the Roman Emperors, the old nobles got knocked on the head. Slaves and sons of slaves were the prosperous dogs. Trimalchio was not a noble," said Lindsay, laughing.

"There are hideous jobs in our profession, too, Walter, my boy!" quoth Eustace.

"True, oh Conyers! Didn't they pack a court-martial to try Captain Catt, of the 'Flagellant,' because he was a Whig swell? Didn't somebody get off very cheap, after bringing his ship home without leave, for the sake of the freight, because he was a swell? I won't wink at a doo of the kind, while I carry the chequy fess, young man. There is a great deal of jobbery in this our age, you see. There's Hoffal, the contractor, who nearly killed me with his dainties when I was in the 'Flamingo'—but Hoffal is not an aristocrat. There's all kinds of adulteration in food and drink in London. The fact is, it is not a brilliantly moral period. But don't let us make any class pay the piper for other people's sins. Old 'Podger,' of the 'Sprout,' was devilish severe about Catt's Case; but, bless you! Podger's little 'jobs' in the Pot-borough election were quite as bad; though I candidly admit" (Lindsay laughed) "I never saw a fellow less like an aristocrat in my life than Podger! No, no. Officering the navy with gentlemen is one of the wisest things that can be done. The seamen like it. The warrant-officers like it. It's British liberty with its elections and its spouting which fills the country with corruption. I wonder the men of parts don't see that the money-bag worship is fatal to them. Look at those Oxford men we met at Witch-Elms—fellows of high culture and small means—the flower of the professional classes. Young Hoffal buys over them in the army. Hoffal *secundus* does ditto in the Church. Hoffal *tertius* buys into a borough. Parliament is more shut to them than it was before the Reform Bill. They are driven into demagogism.

Party is here well described; and we might suggest the application to those young Tories who theorise about Conservative principles and then make the acquaintance of W. B. or Forbes Mackenzie:—

Few more ticklish tasks can be imposed on a man than to deal with a party. A party is like a mermaid; the head and face may enchant and attract you, and yet in a moment, you shall be frightened off by a wag of the cold, scaly, and slimy tail.

With this sketch of "Life in the Hildebrand" we conclude—having only to suggest that Studds might not fight the worse for talking epigrams:—

Breakfast is on the gun-room table of the "Hildebrand," and mates, midshipmen, and youngsters are partaking of it. Eustace's appetite was tremendous in those days. He was up every morning by daylight, and in the sea air till breakfast-time. Think of that in London, and sigh!

"Did the man bring my eggs?" inquired a languid voice, addressing one of the mess-servants.

"He did, sir."

"I dreamed that he tumbled down the after-ladder, and broke them," said the voice.

"Bring my omelette."

"Affected ass," mutters Mr. Corduroy, the second master.

"Any news?" inquired Mr. Sudder, mate, of the table generally.

"Yes," said the languid voice.

"What?" asked three or four men eagerly.

"Bobilini's coming over next season."

Mr. Corduroy expressed a wish for Bobilini's departure, where Orpheus went before her.

"I mean news about the ship, Studds," said Sudder, sharply.

Pearl Studds, Esq., shrugged his shoulders. "My dear fellow, you asked the news. I give you my news; let everybody else give you his."

Intense polish had made Studds so slippery, that you could not lay hold of him anywhere. He eluded the grasp of indignant superiors, triumphantly.

"Who's to have the Channel squadron?"

"The *Morning Post* says Pipton will," answered a midshipman.

"Pooh! his wife circulated that. She set going a rumour, last year, that he was to be made a peer," said Frogley Fox.

"So there was a rumour, in his own family, I dare say," said Walter Lindsay.

"They should begin by making him a gentleman, and advance gradually," said Pearl Studds, with his sweetest voice.

"He stopped your leave when he had the 'Orion,'" growled Mr. Corduroy.

"So he did," said the unabashed Studds. "He stopped my leave for a month, because I would not dine with him; I was indisposed. You're perfectly right, Corduroy. Few men have such tenacious memories as you, or such a courtly way of using them."

"No, Pipton won't have it. What do you say to Rude Boreyass, K.B.?" asked a mate.

"The age of Benbow is past," said Mr. Studds, making his favourite observation.

"Boreyass!" cried a mate, "he's——"

"He's an uncle of mine," said a quiet gentleman, who had only the day before joined.

"A brave officer!" finished the mate, very readily.

"Why should the age of Benbow be past?" asked Mr. Eustace Conyers, modestly.

"Why? youngster! Because it has done its work, and——"

"The age of Studds is come in—eh, Pearl?" said Lindsay.

"Precisely so. It was the function of Benbow to be Benbow, but why should I try to be Benbow?"

"Very true," said Lindsay, who loved to draw Mr. Studds out; "certainly in our times his pigtail would be——"

"Pigtail! a capital thing—for a pig! But if things are used up, why, you know,

why should we imitate them, who live in a different age?"

"Confound the age! more you talk about it, less you're fit for it," broke in Buin

bridge, the senior mate. "Who's going to the dockyard in the pinnace?"

A BATCH OF BOOKS.

The Sabbath. By Sir William Domville, Bart.

Notes on Duels and Duelling. By Lorenzo Sabine.

Imperial Paris. By W. Blanchard Jerrold.

Notes on Some Pictures in the Royal Academy Exhibition. By the Author of "Modern Painters."

Synopsis of the Painters of the Dutch and Flemish Schools. By George Stanley.

Art Hints. By James Jackson Jarves.

Moore's Poetical Works. Ruby Edition.

Printing. By Adam Stark.

The Occult Sciences. (Encyclopædia Metropolitana.)

Handbook of Domestic Medicine.

Chapman and Hall.

Sampson, Low, and Son.

Bradbury and Evans.

By the Author of "Modern Smith and Elder.

Bohr.

Sampson, Lowe, and Son.

Longman and Co.

Longman and Co.

Griffin and Co.

Bohn.

SIR WILLIAM DOMVILLE may claim the credit of meeting the Sabbatarians boldly on their own ground, and vanquishing them triumphantly with their own weapons. His very learned and elaborate work on the *Sabbath* occupies two volumes. The first is devoted to an examination of the six texts commonly adduced from the New Testament in proof of a Christian Sabbath; and includes, towards the end of the book, some consideration of the non-scriptural evidence to which our religious despots are in the habit of appealing, with a chapter besides on the Origin of Sunday Observance. The second volume is devoted to an inquiry into the supposed obligation of the Sabbaths of the Old Testament. The main positions which Sir William Domville takes up—and which he defends with singular courage, earnestness, and ability—may be most fitly described in his own words. He asserts, on purely Scriptural grounds it must be remembered, that the day which we call Sunday, is *not* the day which the Fourth Commandment ordains to be kept holy—not the day which God blessed and sanctified at the creation—not the day which God has at any time set apart to be kept holy—and *not* the day which Christ or his Apostles either commanded or recommended to be kept holy. Arriving at these conclusions, Sir William Domville argues from them that "there can be no necessity for the exclusion of recreations and amusements on the Sunday in order to render the religious services of that day profitable to piety and good morals." If the Sabbatarians were to be reached by reasoning—perfectly reverent, as well as perfectly logical reasoning—this book ought, to say the least of it, to shake them a little in their convictions. But we are ourselves, after rendering the best service in our power to the good cause, persuaded that it is throwing away time to reason with them at all. The writers on the tolerant side of this question have done their part of the work in which the discussion involved them—and now it remains for the people to do theirs. If they are willing to remain content with mere grumbling and talking, they are unworthy of emancipation from Sabbath restrictions. If they are determined to free themselves, let them bring the question to an issue before the closed gates of the Palace at Sydenham. Let all the excursionists who wish to spend their Sunday afternoon in that wonderful building, collect quietly, march together up to the gates and peaceably demand to be let in. The voices of a few earnest writers and speakers have failed to produce any effect on the deaf ears of the Sabbatarians—perhaps the voices of twenty or thirty thousand people will be heard.

Notes on Duels and Duelling is a very curious book, being nothing less than a Biographical Dictionary of Duellists. The author starts with David and Goliath, and ends with the duel between the unfortunate Courmet and the murderer Barthelemy. All duellists of all times and all nations have their names, quarrels, and manner of fighting, recited at greater or less length, in this extraordinary record. The arrangement, we should add, is alphabetical, so that the reader can turn to any particular duel, and get his information about it, at a moment's notice. The volume also contains an Appendix, and some preliminary moral observations on the folly and criminality of duelling; but its "speciality" (as the French would say) consists in the biographical portion. The work should have been called "The Duelling Dictionary."

Mr. Blanchard Jerrold's little volume on Paris does credit, both in spirit and execution, to the name he bears. Part of it originally appeared in the columns of *Household Words*; part is now published for the first time. The book is full of curious and most interesting information on the subject of social life in Paris. French waiters, French dinners, French rag-pickers, French omnibuses, and French funerals, are among the subjects which supply Mr. Blanchard Jerrold with materials for chapters conveying, in a lively and graphic style, information which all visitors to Paris are interested in acquiring. Excursionists to the *Grande Exposition* will find this little book as useful and pleasant a travelling companion as they can possibly take with them on their journey.

Mr. Ruskin's pamphlet on the present Royal Academy Exhibition is by this time in everybody's hands. We have merely to thank the author for giving us, upon the whole, a fearless and admirable example of what Art-criticism ought to be, and for promising more observations on future exhibitions. The only serious defect of the pamphlet is that it most unaccountably omits all mention of one of the most perfect works on the Academy walls—Mr. Leslie's "Scene from Don Quixote." Is it possible that Mr. Ruskin cannot relish the exquisitely delicate and genial humour of this picture? We could hardly believe our eyes when we looked through the *Notes*, and saw no mention of Mr. Leslie's name.

Mr. Stanley's *Painters of the Dutch and Flemish Schools* will be found a useful book for purposes of reference, and an intelligent guide to picture-galleries possessing specimens of the Old Masters of Holland. The volume contains brief particulars of the lives of the painters, remarks on their most striking peculiarities of style, and, in the cases of the principal men, lists of the galleries in which their pictures are placed. We may add, as a recommendation to our readers, that the book is portable and clearly printed.

The author of *Art Hints*, Mr. James Jackson Jarves, is an American. The purpose of his work is to "embrace both the abstract principles and rules of Art, and an outline of its historic progress and social relations." He desires to "treat of Art as a whole, embracing its general relations to man, not minutely, but in a suggestive form, and more as an aid to, than as forestalling, inquiry." And further, he earnestly begs his readers "to caudly

test and patiently prove the principles upon which his conclusions are founded;" at the same time, however, very frankly assuring them that he pre-tends to "no originality, or the elucidation of any new truth." Under these latter circumstances, we trust that Mr. James Jackson Jarves will excuse us if we thank him for sending us his book, and respectfully decline the business of reading it, as he directs that it should be read. It is our duty and pleasure to "candidly test and patiently probe the principles" of men who have something new to tell us. But when a man, on his own showing, has nothing to tell that has not been told before by others, although we are quite willing to believe that he may be a cultivated scholar and an elegant writer, we are not at all willing to lose our time in "testing" him; and we feel that the further operation of "probing" is quite out of the question. Accordingly, we give Mr. Jarves a place on our book-list, and leave him there untested and unprobed. If our readers like to "sit under" him, we are delighted to have shown them where the giver of *Art Hints* is to be found. For ourselves, we slip away from the sermon profoundly grateful to the preacher for informing us that we have heard it all, in one form or another, before.

We have to acknowledge from Messrs. Longman the new, or "Ruby Edition" of *Moore's Poetical Works*. The book is a marvel of the compactness which may be obtained by excellent printing; but at the same time, the type is necessarily so small that the edition may be described without any injustice as addressing itself almost exclusively to the young eyes of the present generation. Elderly people would be terrified at the sight of its elegantly but minutely-printed columns. However, this is probably an objection of no great consequence; we are strongly inclined to suspect that elderly people in general are not to be ranked now-a-days among the readers of Thomas Moore.

Mr. Stark's treatise on the antecedents, origin, history, and results of Printing, is a substantial contribution to the Travellers' Library. The author's manner is unpleasantly florid and pompous; but his matter is excellent. He is thoroughly well acquainted with the most important facts that are connected with his deeply and universally-interesting subject; and he is commendably careful and intelligent in the arrangement of his information. This book has one great recommendation, in addition to the merits already mentioned—it is not too long.

The Occult Sciences forms one of the Volumes of the Encyclopædia Metropolitana series. And here again, the subject, considering its vast extent, has been treated with admirable terseness. The volume, after sketching the Traditions and Superstitions of all past times, descends to the Marvels of the present day, and is thus well fitted to appeal successfully to readers of almost all classes.

The Handbook of Domestic Medicine, recommends itself at once by its title alone. We are not competent to pronounce upon it, medically; but, viewing it as general readers, we have found it complete in arrangement, intelligible, and free from all pedantry in style. The Siberian severity of the summer has also enabled us to test practically one section at least—the section of "Domestic Gargles"! We have reviewed two of the prescriptions, in this part of the book, in our own critical throat, and have found them excellent as remedies. The work forms part of Bohn's Scientific Library. Consequently, besides its usefulness, it has the additional recommendation of being cheap.

Portfolia.

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

FRENCH CRITICISM OF ENGLISH PICTURES.

[The following paper, and the sequel which we shall publish in a future number, ought to interest the reader beyond the simple fact of its being a French criticism on English painters. It is written by M. Edmond About, the author of that exquisite story of *Tolla*, which has lately attracted so much attention in the *Revue des deux Mondes*. M. About is about to publish a small volume of comparative criticism on the Fine Arts Galleries at the Exposition. Some chapters are devoted, of course, to the English pictures in the Exposition; and it is these chapters which we translate and reproduce here. It is English art from a French point of view; by a man, however, who, although, as the reader will perceive, strongly national in his feelings, is above national jealousies or narrowness of sympathy. The reader will remember, with reference to one or two of the pictures named below, that they are not recent productions of the artist in question. Martin has not only ceased to be among us to paint, but "Belshazzar's Feast," is one of the works that established his reputation; and many of our readers will remember seeing it some thirty-five years ago. Mulready may be eighty years of age, though he does not look so; but "The Wolf and the Lamb" was painted almost, if not quite as long ago as "Belshazzar's Feast."]

The English have long ago proved that they possess the genius of commerce. They have not waited for the Exhibition of 1855 to tell the world that they were born for the toil and discoveries of industry. What is far less known is that this nation of manufacturers and shopkeepers is passionately fond of art.

There are certain studios in Paris in which the belief still reigns that art has no more deadly enemies than industry and commerce. Every sculptor who folds his arms whilst waiting for an order; every painter who takes a mean advantage of the display in his colourman's shop to exhibit every year two or three unsaleable pictures; all those who run after fame without attaining it because she has wings and they have not even legs, unanimously declare it to be the fault of commerce, the fault of industry. Instead of attributing their want of success to their want of talent, they prefer abusing the shops in their street, the nearest manufactory, the railway which takes

them into the country, and the positive minds of their contemporaries. In the opinion of these gentlemen, the nineteenth century is a *bourgeois* century: if they knew a more opprobrious epithet they would make use of it.

It would be easy to refute this prejudice by the histories of the commercial republics of Greece, Italy, and the Low Countries. Art has never had more magnificent patrons than the rich merchants of Athens, of Venice, and of Antwerp. But, not to look for examples which are somewhat distant, I will content myself with mentioning one which is at present under all eyes and in all hands; the catalogue of the English exhibition.

Our most industrious neighbours, most commercial allies, and most positive friends, have a sufficiently original method of encouraging artists: they buy their works. With some few exceptions, all the pictures, sculpture, and drawings which England has exhibited in Paris belong to private collections, and it is said that on the other side of the Channel these small pieces of furniture are paid twenty-five and fifty thousand francs. Now let any one dare to traduce commerce and industry!

Every country has its customs: witness the catalogue. In France, Mr. So-and-So, a painter of talent, has obtained a third-class medal in 1810, a second-class medal in 1820, a first-class medal in 1830, and the cross in 1840. In Germany, a great artist, when one is to be found there, becomes a member of several academies, a knight of several orders, and sometimes a councillor. The highest aim of art is the Red Eagle of the third class with the knot. A good painter is not always rich, but he is always knighted: he may be in want of clothes—never of ribands. Decorations are the fruits which every cultivated German bears.

In England it is otherwise. English artists care but little for those watered ribands which prove that a man of forty has been a good boy. On the other hand they respect fortune and have a horror of dying of hunger. The public humours them and pays them in the change they prefer. They give them bank-notes instead of making honourable mention of them, and guineas instead of medals. Among the painters who have sent their works to Paris are several *millionnaires*. I could mention their names but will most certainly not do so: it would be to point out their works to the severity of the critics and the admiration of the Cockneys.

Is the talent of English artists equal to their fortune? And is there not a certain amount of patriotism in the metallic enthusiasm which they awaken in their own country? This is a question which it would have been difficult to solve a year ago. The English painters have not the habit of sending their works to our exhibitions, as the Belgians have. We knew their pictures through engravings only. Now engraving, especially wood-engraving, only reproduces composition and drawing: it hardly indicates colouring. A clever idea and correct drawing suffice to make an admirable vignette: something more is needed to make a picture.

Those who, on the faith of engravings, have conceived a high idea of English painting, will feel disappointed on entering the gallery of English painters. The first impression is feeble. The eye, attracted by no great work, is offended by a certain number of eccentric pictures, before it discovers some twenty or thirty pictures painted with perfect carefulness and success, of ingenious composition, exact drawing and irreproachable execution.

At the second view you become convinced that English painters have abundance of wit, of knowledge, and of dexterity. Witty ideas are abundant, I should almost say, superabundant; their technical knowledge is used with prodigious skill: if these two qualities sufficed to make a painter, the English school would be the first in the world.

But in art there is something superior to wit: it is simplicity. Something superior to dexterity: it is force. Who would venture to compare Sterne's wit with the genius of Shakspeare? The English school has several Sternes; it wants nothing but genius.

The large pictures which from their dimensions rank as historical paintings, namely, "the Battle of Meane," (739), by Mr. Armitage; the "Burial of Harold," by Mr. Pickersgill (914); Mr. Lucy's "Cromwell," are only to be distinguished from more unpretending pictures by their greater number of inches. The sturdy and somewhat pimply rogue (880) whom Mr. Lucy has set down upon a chair, may, with his wart, resemble the illustrious Protector of England; but his fault lies in not bearing the least resemblance to the Cromwell of our imagination. His clownish mask betrays neither Puritanical fanaticism, nor the concentrated ardour of ambition, nor the struggles of an unquiet conscience, nor the extraordinary mind which inspired Bossuet with such hatred and admiration. His leather boots are well painted, but the rest of his person is so trivial that, were it not for the catalogue, it would be impossible to know if he was meditating or digesting.

There is a hundred times more grandeur in a small painting of Mr. Martin's, representing "Belshazzar's Feast." The open hall, vast enough to contain a modern city, the massive granite pillars, the outlines of strange buildings on the horizon, the red light which envelops, and, so to speak, sets fire to all the figures, recall to the mind the monstrous grandeur and fantastic brilliancy of that Babylonian civilisation, the remains of which, scattered over Asia, still continue objects of wonder to the traveller.

The grand poetry of Oriental tradition has likewise happily inspired Mr. Poole, and if his figures were better drawn, his scene of "Job with the Messengers" (917) would be a real historical painting. All Christians and Orientals know the Arab chronicle of Job's misfortunes. Mr. Poole has chosen the moment when the patriarch, surrounded by his children and his wealth, learns by two successive messages that his enemies have entered his lands and that all his happiness is destroyed. The messengers, breathless and dusty, rush in hastily, pike in hand; the first is still speaking when the second rushes in; whilst Job's daughters are squeezing grapes into drinking cups, and a slave, in the centre of the picture, is quietly pouring out the contents of an amphora.

But the most important work of the English school, whether it is classed as an historical painting, or as belonging to the historical style, is a picture

which owes its greatness neither to the antiquity of the events nor to the strangeness of the costumes, nor to the light of foreign countries. It is the representation of a political and domestic drama, not celebrated in history, but very popular in England, and soon to be so amongst us. I mean the "Judgment of Lord Russell," by Sir G. Hayter, (821). M. Guizot has told, in an admirable little book* called: *L'Amour dans le Mariage*, the subject of Sir G. Hayter's picture. We are in the reign of Charles II., as an inscription placed behind the King's bench, by the side of the sword of Justice, informs us. Charles II. conspired against the liberties and religion of his subjects. That proud, impassible man standing at the bar of the accused, Lord William Russell, has conspired against Charles II. A well-drilled tribunal is about to sentence him to lose his head. His wife loves him passionately; after doing her utmost to prevent his conspiring, she insisted on being present at the trial.

Lord Russell asked for a pen, ink, and paper, to take notes with; they were given him.

"May I be allowed some one who can write in aid of my memory," said he.

"Yes, my lord; one of your servants."

"My wife is here, ready to do it."

Lady Russell rose to signify her assent, and a murmur of emotion and respect ran through the audience.

"If her ladyship will take the trouble, she is at liberty to do so," said the president; and during the whole trial Lady Russell was there, by her husband's side, his only secretary and most vigilant adviser.

Lord Russell was condemned. Up to the day of execution, his wife left no means untried of saving his life: she travelled, she entreated, she offered millions, she got Louis XIV. to speak in favour of this rebel and Protestant: all in vain. One way of escape presented itself; the condemned man was promised pardon if he would renounce his opinions. Nothing was asked of him except to declare that a free people has not the right to defend its religion and liberty. Placed between certain death and this denial of all his principles, he asked his wife's advice, and she counselled him to die. His wife was his living conscience.

Noble actions bear noble fruits. Lady Russell's heroism has produced a great book in France, a great picture in England. Sir G. Hayter's work will have with us as great and legitimate a success as M. Guizot's.

The picture is, so to speak, divided into two camps; on one side, the magistrates, the king's name, the sword of Justice; on the other, Lord Russell, his wife, their love and virtue. The tribunal in red is admirably painted; the stolid, indifferent faces of this heavy, salaried areopagus are terribly true. The draperies are treated with a masterly hand, and the light which falls on the wall is splendidly effective. Lord William Russell bears in his face that simple, quiet, almost *bourgeois* tranquillity, which is peculiar to the English nation. There is always a flourish of trumpets in our heroism, and we have never known how to triumph like Hampden or fall like Russell.

Lady Russell, in full dress, turns her head round to her husband that she may hear and see him; there is a sad and loving gracefulness in her movement. The painter has made her younger than her husband, although she was three years older. But artistic truth is not always in accordance with historic truth. The picture would lose too much if we saw Lady Russell bending under her forty-seven years, and the love of a woman of that age would interest the public less. It is not the first time that painting has arrived at truth through fiction. Although it is pretty nearly certain that Rizzio was an old guitar-player, a secret agent from the court of Rome to Mary Stuart, no artist will ever consent to paint him without youth and beauty. If Sully is represented by the side of Henry IV., it is always necessary for the king to be young and the minister old; yet Sully was younger than his master.

If the public places the judgment of Lord Russell in the first rank, the critics, the real connoisseurs, and all who value an artist in proportion to the merit of the execution and the difficulty overcome, will no doubt give the preference to a picture of "Ascot Hunt Meet," by Mr. Grant. Never, I think, has a knowledge of painting surmounted more happily an insurmountable difficulty. The problem was this:—"Given a flat country, fifty Englishmen in red coats, fifty English dogs, and fifty English horses—to make a picture which shall be neither monotonous, *criard*, dull, nor ridiculous. N.B. It is important that the landscape, men, dogs and horses should be striking likenesses."

On these data, Mr. Grant has painted a masterly work. I do not think there is another artist in the world, excepting M. Meissonnier, capable of contesting with him on this ground; and even M. Meissonnier has never assembled so many living beings on one canvas. The landscape is soft, delicate, moist; an imperceptible mist veils, without concealing, the background; the day will be fine, and the painter has given us delightful hunting weather. The huntsmen, some on foot, some on horseback, are talking quietly, after the fashion of the country: they are waiting for the Queen. All the faces are evidently portraits, for there is no resemblance between them but that of health and a florid complexion: in those points one Englishman is always like another. The horses and dogs are thorough-bred. Men and animals are painted delicately, surely, with minute touches, and yet with breadth. The exactness of the details is lost in the harmony of the whole, and Mr. Grant is, perhaps, the first painter who has known how to make a picture with a hundred and fifty portraits.

What is, perhaps, no less admirable, is the art with which the painter has managed his colouring. The public does not know how difficult it is to paint an assembly of men in red coats. And such a red, ye gods! pure vermilion. Every other man in Mr. Grant's place would have made a heap of lobsters of them. I do not know how he has contrived it, but I can affirm that the coats are red, and the picture is not so. The painter has juggled away his vermilion just as Lesueur sometimes knew how to juggle away his blue.

This is an accomplishment I should wish for Mr. Mulready, the oldest and chief of *genre* painters in England.

* *L'Amour dans le Mariage*, Etude historique par M. Guizot. Paris, 1855. Hachette et Co., Bibliothèque des Chemins de Fer.

Mr. Mulready, who is eighty, or thereabouts, has the privilege of furnishing Great Britain with delicately-conceived and cleverly-executed little pictures. His talent, which has neither fire nor inspiration, has resisted the action of age; his hand is firm, his drawing correct: a habit of care and precision is one of those never lost.

The picture which he has called "The Wolf and the Lamb" (893) is simply a little *chef-d'œuvre*. The frightened little lamb is very piteous and very comical; the two-legged little wolf (there are no others in England) is laughably stiff; his neck, his arms, his legs, his clothes are all stretched as if by machinery: one nick more, and his braces would break. The mother, who is coming to the rescue, is a capital bit of painting; you cannot fail to notice her likeness to her son. The Queen of England has given proof of good taste in buying this little picture; it is one of the best, most characteristic, and most English of the English school.

"The Mark" (891) is of less general interest, but still more decidedly national. Two unmistakably English little peasants are playing at a game which France has not had the honour of inventing, whilst a youthful beauty is looking on. One takes up large, fleshy, English cherries, breaks off their stalks, a useless ornament, and throws them like balls into the other's mouth. "The Mark" saves his eyes as best he can, opens a wide mouth, and bears with heroism the blows which stray upon his nose and stain his cheeks.

M. Alexandre Dumas describes an analogous game in his *Impressions de Voyage*. A tourist was boasting that he could hit any object, at the distance of fifteen feet, with the point of his iron-tipped stick. An American took the bet, and offered to serve as mark: the iron point entered his cheek. For my part, I should prefer Mr. Mulready's game; but the other, seen from a distance, has its charm. There is a relationship between the two games, as between the two nations; Americans are but exaggerated Englishmen.

Mr. Mulready delights in those innocent paintings which but slightly fatigue the artist, and give but slight emotions to the spectator. He likes to borrow his pictures from Goldsmith; the resemblance between the painter and the writer is evident. "Choosing the Wedding Gown" (889), and the "Discussion on the Principles of Doctor Whiston" (896), would make two wonderful illustrations for a royal edition of the *Vicar of Wakefield*.

But Mr. Mulready's colouring is mediocre. His little pictures are truthful and speaking; but "leur plumage ne se rapporte point à leur ramage." I have been assured that Mr. Mulready painted better in his youth. It is possible and even probable; we have made the same remark with regard to the paintings of M. Ingres. It appears that painters, like hair, lose their colour as they grow old.

In the four pictures I have mentioned, Mr. Mulready has only painted crimson faces. Pray why is this? Granted that he has chosen his models among a people notorious for its health; but let us make a distinction between health and apoplexy. I will not ensure those people another day's life if they are not bled at once. Send for Doctor Sangrado; there is not a moment to lose.

Mr. Mulready has tried to correct himself. I see red, he said, let us change the glasses. His picture of "Bathers" (896), painted *à la cire*, if I am not mistaken, is neither purple nor violet; it is green and blue. His "Blackheath Park," which has a right to be green, is deplorably yellow. I know that the trees he tried to paint are the trees of his own country, but nature is less various than she is supposed to be, and trees with lemon-coloured foliage are only to be met with in Fairyland. For my part, I never saw any in Windsor Park, nor even in the land where the lemons ripen.

Mr. Mulready's colouring is not only false but crude. If he was painting *en camaieu*, it might be excused, but there is something harsh and discordant in his admirable little pictures. In order to think them harmonious, you must place them by the side of one of Mr. Macclise's pictures (883, 884).

The Arts.

TWO PLAYS AT THE "FRANÇAIS."

It is so much the custom in France to see the names of two writers attached to the same dramatic performance, whether it be a vaudeville in one act and one scene, or a drama in five acts and twenty tableaux, that it becomes a fact worthy of remark, that two comedies, both new, and both clever, have been playing on the same night at the THEATRE FRANÇAIS, one wholly and solely under the responsibility of M. MERY, the other under that of M. LEON LAYA. The system of collaboration, or joint authorship, is a curious one. Very often two or even more writers do really contribute to the same piece, one inventing the plot and sketching the situations, the other being intrusted with the dialogue; one inventing the practical, and the other the verbal, wit. Still oftener, perhaps, the second name mentioned in the play-bill is that of the real author, who, because he is unknown to the public, requests the loan—not always gratuitous—of another person's celebrity. Very few, indeed, of the dramatic writers now known, have been able to work their way on without this kind of assistance.

The number of young aspirants for glory who have sheltered themselves under the broad wings of M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS, is immense; but that gentleman generally prefers keeping them always in obscurity, and taking the lion's share of the fame acquired, if not of the profit. These facts are so well known, that young writers who have been rebuffed in every other direction, are often led to throw themselves into his arms, and if they have any talent, public rumour says that they are always well received. "Fancy's fondness for the child it bears," however, often leads persons to put themselves into strange attitudes before this mighty monopolist. We remember the case of an author—whose name we charitably forget—who having produced a ponderous five-act tragedy, which was refused by every manager in Paris, at length determined to call in the assistance of M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS. Strong in the belief of his own genius, however, he could not stoop to write the humble letter which it seems is required, and did not even deign to forward his manuscript. He wrote simply to the effect that he had produced a dramatic work that was certain to meet with great

success; but that the public and their agents were such fools that they could not recognise talent unless it appeared under high patronage. "In these cases," he added, "I believe it is usual to apply to you, and that it is usual also to offer you one half of the proceeds. Waiting an answer, I am, &c." Shortly afterwards this blunt gentleman received a letter from M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS the Younger, stating that his father was away from town, but had left him permission to open his letters. "I have therefore become acquainted," he said, "with your generous offer; I must beg, in my father's name, to decline it. My father—I know the fact better than anybody—claims the responsibility of the parentage both of all his literary works, and all his children." This answer would have created shame or a smile in most persons, but the indignant author thought proper to print it, and give an account of the whole transaction, as if he had been an injured man. He was determined, moreover, that his piece should be performed, and having intercalated a violent tirade against M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS, hired the Theatre and the company of MONTMARTRE, and succeeded in having his tragedy damned, and in obtaining a lodging within the walls of Clichy.

M. MERY, then, is the sole author of the *Essai du Mariage*, a little piece sufficiently absurd and fantastical in design, but full of wit, good writing, and agreeable situations. It is laid in England, and for a wonder contains no remarkable geographical blunders, and no shocking mistakes about our manners and character. In fact, there is no attempt made at delineating national manners or character at all. The scene, though nominally near Birmingham, exists nowhere but in the realms of fancy. The action is an epigram worked out by means of a variety of small incidents. A M. de Lacy, of Parisian origin, and a young English widow named Lavinia, have taken up their residence in a country house, where they occupy two pavilions, separated by the whole breadth of the stage, and pass their time in studying each other's character as a preliminary to marriage. Making concessions to public opinion, however, they pretend to be already man and wife—a pretence which is seen through by a prying man-servant and an inquisitive soubrette, Vincent and Clotilde, who, on the other hand, are really married, and pretend not to be so. The young widow, played very gracefully by Madame Denain—whose English dress, however, is somewhat too décolleté—has drawn up a treaty full of elaborate stipulations, the slightest infraction of which is to deprive her suitor of all prospect of obtaining her hand. The *essai*, indeed, is entirely on her side. M. de Lacy has quite made up his mind, and after six months of trial under the provoking circumstances we have hinted at, is naturally more impassioned than ever. We find him in disgrace. He has committed a heinous fault. In the midst of a tender conversation he has actually presumed to turn aside to admire the beauty of a magnificent oak. Lavinia is jealous even of a tree, and is pacified with some difficulty. But her theory is, that if a lady may be jealous, her lover must not presume to be so. Annoyed at seeing M. de Lacy receive a letter without giving an explanation of its contents, she contrives to receive another, and raises her victim's suspicions and anger up to the boiling point. The denunciations of his valet, and various other suspicious circumstances, at length convince the lover that he is made a tool of. The lady reads *Othello* in his presence, and M. Maillard, who plays the part with great animation, has the opportunity of a fine sceni-tragic movement. Madame Lavinia, however, knows her power; she makes an eloquent speech on the danger of trusting to appearances, warns her aspirant husband that all through life he will be in danger of being made miserable by his own ingenuity, unless he sets out with absolute confidence, brings him to her feet, explains everything, and becomes his wife. As we have said, all this is mere phantasy, scarcely within the limits of genuine comedy, but it is well written and well acted. Monroe makes a capital part of the valet, and Madlle. Valérie, as usual, is agreeably saucy.

Les Jeunes Gens, by LEON LAYA, is on a much larger scale, but is not quite so skilfully constructed. The rich uncle from the Indies has become quite a bore, in modern French pieces especially, as he is now no longer crusty and odd, but a perfect magazine of moral sentences and chivalrous sentiments. This introduction in the first act of a comedy, instead of in the last, according to the old rule, was a dangerous experiment; but as soon as we became accustomed to look upon him in a serious light, we were obliged to admit that he was made good use of. There is much pathos—an element now indispensable in French comedies—in the scene between him and his nephew, both before and after their recognition. Indeed the first act is so good and effective, that the others barely sustain the interest excited. The fundamental idea of the play is, that rich fathers of the mercantile class are too apt, in endeavouring to keep their sons from bad habits and bad company, either to stupefy, or make them dissimulate, by almost entirely depriving them of funds. M. Rigand (Anselme) is a father of this class. He is extremely wealthy, and has brought up Francisque in habits of luxury. He gives him the use of his carriage, and pays his tailor's bill, but only allows him three hundred francs a month for his *menus plaisirs*. The consequence is, that the young man gets into debt and all manner of scrapes, and is at length sent off in disgrace to rusticate as a banker's clerk at Bordeaux. The author has missed several dramatic scenes in the career of this youth, who finds it necessary to deceive his father, but being a good fellow at bottom, comes in at the end to confess his fault, point the moral of the piece, and serve as a contrast to the real hero—we mean the elegant one who is in love with M. Rigand's daughter. Max (Delaunay) is the nephew of the aforesaid Indian uncle, who supplies him with ample money to spend, on two conditions: first, that he shall continue to study the arts; and second, that, if ever he commits any faults, he shall at once frankly confess them. We expected to follow him as well as Francisque through some of his trials. A very effective scene might have been introduced before the spectator, but it is only related—we mean that in which Max is saved from the clutches of an actress by the interference of his uncle. But this did not enter into the plan of the author, who is satisfied with presenting us with the premises of the thing in the first act, and with the conclusion in the second and third. In construction, therefore, the piece is deficient, and it is only sustained by the brilliance of separate scenes, the strength of the writing, and the excellence of the acting. Got, always a favourite with the audience of the THEATRE FRANÇAIS, makes the character of Francisque by far the most prominent, and in the last scene, by a mixture of humour and feeling, cleverly managed by the author, succeeds in eliciting rapturous applause. The character of Antoinette is so slightly sketched as to be insignificant, and is only made anything of by the graceful gestures and pretty face of Madame Dubois.

MONTI'S LECTURES ON SCULPTURE.

SIGNOR MONTI's fourth lecture, on Wednesday last, resumed and concluded his examination of Ancient Art. He took up the subject from the first phase of *demotic*, or national sculpture, when the creations of the great artists fully represented the noblest epoch of Greek thought; and by a series of illustrations of the second and inferior phase, he succeeded in showing how the more luxuriant, but

less ideal forms of SCOPAS and PRAXITELES represented the predominant characteristics of Greek society in their later time.

Pursuing the course of his exposition, the lecturer proceeded to indicate how the longing for extreme sensations in the epoch of Greek decadence sought a satisfaction in the works of the LYSIPPIAN and RHODIAN schools, which the lecturer illustrated with diagrams, dwelling with some particularity upon the COLOSSI OF MONTE CAVALLO, and the LAOCOON.

Signor MONTI then narrated the passing of Greek art into Roman Italy, where its function became almost exclusively decorative, and expression was unregarded. In fact, sculpture at Rome, limited to individual and material representations, entered upon the third and lowest of the three conditions under which the lecturer had classified all art—that of display.

Signor MONTI explained the technical processes of ancient sculpture, which appear to have been in the age of PHIDIAS what they were found to be at Pompeii, and what they are now; though devotion to the chisel was perhaps the characteristic and the secret of that exquisite severity of Athenian sculpture.

Referring accidentally to the controversy on the subject of the colouring of Greek sculpture, Signor MONTI contributed to the strong and undeniable evidence already existing in favour of that theory some new evidences, and he cited LUCIAN, who tells us that the Cnidian Venus was the first statue exhibited

in the pure marble. Signor MONTI, however, partly differing from the bolder theorists, considers the colouring of the ancient sculpture to have been, properly speaking, a strong tinting, fixed by the medium of wax, never permitting the characteristic of marble to be lost sight of.

The subject of the fifth lecture on Wednesday next will be the first period of Christian art, including the Byzantine, the Norman, the Lombard, and early Italian.

THE THEATRES.

BENEFITS have begun—a symptom of the advancing season. On Wednesday Madame CELESTE's night at the ADELPHI was signalised by the successful production of a new drama in two acts, called *Helping Hands*, by Mr. TOM TAYLOR. We shall report on this next week, and also on the revival of the *School for Scandal*, at the OLYMPIC last evening, for the benefit of Mr. WIGAN.

The *Trovatore* has resumed its triumphs. But all the opera-going world are asking after the *Etoile du Nord*, and the arrival of MEYERBEER in London makes it computable that the *Etoile* will appear within the next two years, supposing that the celebrated maestro can be content with less than six months' continuous rehearsals.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, June 22, 1855.

CONSOLS have been tolerably firm all the week until to-day when the telegraph from the Crimea has sent them down considerably. The market opened this morning at 90½ to 91, receded to 90½, and again recovered a little. There has been considerable speculative business in Turkish 6 per cent., but this stock continues to keep up; the holders hope to obtain some sort of guarantee from the Governments of England and France to the effect that the Egyptian tribute money may be secured for the payment of the interest. Shares in the heavy market, and indeed in the French markets, have been dull all the week, and a fall of 1 to 2 per cent. all round. Belgians maintain their ground. The failure of the West End Bank of Strahan & Co. has caused much distrust, and the state of other private Banks will be looked after; meanwhile shares in the leading Joint Stock Banks are at a great premium. In mines there is nothing doing. Great Western of Canada shares are lower by 2½ per share, many persons who bought in low having sold their shares to realise profits. Consols close at four o'clock, 90½, ½ firmer; the lowest price has been 90½. Turkish 6 per cent., 81½, 82. French rentes come 20 centimes better.

Caledonians, 62½, 63½; Eastern Counties, 12½, 12½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 58, 60; Great Northern, 92½, 93½; A Stock, 75, 77; ditto, B Stock, 126, 128; Great Western, 67½, 67½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 75, 80; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 81½, 82; London and South Western, 83, 84; London and North Western, 102½, 102½; London and Brighton, 102, 103; London and South Eastern, 61½, 62½; Midlands, 74½, 74½; North Eastern 74, 75; Oxford, 27, 29; South Devon, 13½, 14½; Antwerp, 9, 9½; Eastern of France, 35, 35½; East Indian, 25, 25½; ditto, Extension, 3½, 3½ pm.; Grand Trunk Canada, 5½, 5 dis.; Great Western of Canada, 21½, 21½; Great Central of France, 3½, 4½ pm.; Great Luxembourg, 3½, 4½; Lyons and Geneva, 5½, 5½ pm.; Northern of France, 35½, 36½; Paris and Lyons, 28½, 29½ pm.; Paris and Orleans, 40, 48; Paris and Rouen, 45, 47; Sambre and Meuse, 9½, 10½; Western of France, 9½, 9½ pm.; Agua Frias, 1½, 1½; Wallers, 1½, 1½; Brazilian Imperial, 2½, 3½; St. John del Rey, 23, 38 ex d.; Clarendon Copper, 1½, 1½ pm.; Pontgibauds, 16, 17; United Mexican, 3½, 4½; Santiago de Cuba, 5½, 6½; Linars, 7½, 7½; South Australian, 1½, 1½; Australasian, 84½, 85½; London Chartered of Australia, 20, 21; Oriental Bank, 38, 39; Union of Australia, 74, 75; London Bank, 24, 31; City Bank, 5, 6 pm.; Australian Agricultural, 30, 32; Canada 6 per Cent. Bonds, 113½, 114½; Crystal Palace, 2 15-16, 3 1-16; N. B. Australian, 1½, 1½; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½, 2; South Australian Land, 38, 39; British American Land, 57, 60.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, June 22, 1855.

THE supply of English and Foreign Wheat since Monday has been very limited. Holders are exceeding firm, and there is but a small amount of business doing. Oats have arrived rather liberally during the week, and to-day the trade is quiet, at about Monday's rates. Barley comes forward sparingly, and prices are maintained with great firmness. Very little has been done in floating or arrived cargoes. A fine little cargo of Saidi Wheat arrived in good condition, has been sold at 49s. cost, freight and insurance, and a cargo of Beans at 34s. 9d.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	210	210	211	211½	211½	211½
3 per Cent. Red.	92½	92½	92½	92½	92	91½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	shut	33	.....	.....	.....	91½
Consols for Account	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	90½
3½ per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cents.	.....	3½	4	4	4	15-16
Long An. 1800	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock	.....	.....	.....	28	30	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	29	30	.....	27	27	.....
Ditto, under £1000	26	26	.....	27	27	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	16	17	17	17	17	17s.
Ditto, £500	16	17	17	17	17	17s.
Ditto, Small	18	17	17	17	17	17s.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.

Brazilian Bonds	100½	Russian Bonds, 5 per	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cnts.	57½	Cents., 1822	99½
Chilian 3 per Cents	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents	.....
Danish 3 per Cents	82½	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def.	.....
Ecuador Bonds	.....	Spanish Committee Cert.	.....
Mexican 3 per Cents	21½	of Coup. not fun.	4½
Mexican 3 per Ct. for	.....	Venezuela 4½ per Cents	28
Acc. June 15	.....	Belgian 4½ per Cents	94½
Portuguese 4 per Cents	.....	Dutch 2½ per Cents	94½
Portuguese 3 p. Cents	.....	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	94½

THE PROGRESS OF THE AMERICAN SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—The American Telegraph Company expect to have telegraphic communication from Europe, via St. John's, Newfoundland, to New York, before the close of the season. In 1858, it is said, London and New York will communicate hourly by telegraph. — *Washington Intelligencer*.

BOYLE v. WISEMAN.—This wearisome cause is to be tried for the third time. In the Court of Exchequer, on Tuesday, an application was made before Mr. Baron Platt, who tried the case at the last Kingston Assizes, for a new trial on the ground of the improper rejection of evidence touching a certain letter of Cardinal Wiseman bearing on the case, and also on the ground of excess of damages. The plaintiff disputed the validity of this letter, and Mr. Serjeant Shee, for the defendant, tendered evidence to substantiate it. But this was refused at that period of the cause, the defendant being left to adduce it subsequently as part of his case to the jury. With respect to the present application, Mr. Baron Platt said that he felt at the time that he was right; but, as the majority of the court was clearly the other way, there must be a new trial.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 19.

BANKRUPTS.—FREDERICK TALLIS, Upper Chadwell-street, Clerkenwell, and Crane-court, Fleet-street, printer—JOHN MAYHEW, Clarence-villas, Mortimer-road, De Beauvoir-town, Kingsland, and Leadenhall-street, mine shareholder—JAMES WILLIAM WOOLDRIDGE, Wickham, Southampton, tanner—THOMAS SHEPHERD, King's Lynn, hop merchant—CHARLES GEORGE GRAY, Grantham, hosier—SAMUEL and ROBERT WILLY ROSE, Honiton, drapers—WILLIAM JONES, Hawarden, Flintshire, licensed victualler—SAMUEL and NOAH HOWARTH, Radcliffe, Lancashire, dyers—NEWYEAR LAWTY DYSON, Macclesfield, grocer—CHARLES TROT JUDKINS, Manchester, and Cannon-street-west, sewing-machine manufacturer—THOMAS KITTS, Bolton, cotton spinner.

Friday, June 22.

BANKRUPTS.—WILLIAM WATSON, York-terrace, Regent's-park, Middlesex, hotel keeper—JOHN DURRANT, High Holborn, victualler—WILLIAM AARON ROGERS, Sutton, Surrey, licensed victualler—CHARLES VINER, Barge yard, Bucklersbury, wholesale ironmonger—WILLIAM BATLEY, Northampton, engineer—FANNY LITTLEWOOD and SARAH LITTLEWOOD, Manchester, licensed victuallers—JOSEPH HARDEN, Webb-street, Southwark, bricklayer—RICHARD BARTLAM, Wolverhampton, grocer—JOHN PARKER MARSH, late of Salvador House, Bishopsgate-street, wool broker, SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES THOMSON, Edinburgh, family linen merchant—HENRY LAING, Glasgow, merchant.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

DOWN.—April 27, at sea, on board the ship Bangalor, on the passage from Sydney, to Point-de-Galle, the wife of Henry Down, Esq., Commander of the P. and O. S. S. Norna, prematurely: a son.
DURHAM.—June 19, at 122, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, the Countess of Durham; twin sons.
LAYCOCK.—June 16, at York, the wife of Thomas Laycock, Esq., M.D.: a son.
TIPPLE.—June 8, at Mitcham, Surrey, the wife of Albert Tipple, Esq., surgeon: a son.

MARRIAGES.

BACON—CAZALET.—June 19, at the parish church, Brighton, the Rev. Francis Bacon, M.A., son of Nicholas Bacon, Esq., and grandson of the late Sir Edmund Bacon, Bart., to Caroline Cecilia, third daughter of Peter Clement Cazale, Esq., of Kemp-town, Brighton.
PORTMAN—MILTON.—June 21, at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, the Hon. W. H. B. Portman, M.P., to the Hon. Mary S. C. Wentworth Fitzwilliam, only daughter of Selina, Viscountess Milton, and the late Viscount Milton.
WHITEHEAD—CAPERN.—June 17, at Bromley Church, Middlesex, James Whitehead, Esq., of Australia, to Emma Capern, youngest daughter of Samuel Capern, late of Tiverton, Devon.

DEATHS.

CATHCART.—June 14, at Southampton, at an early age; Alice, daughter of the late Lieut.-General the Hon. Sir George, and the Right Hon. Lady Georgiana Cathcart.
CHAVANNES.—June 17, at Bute Cottage, Leamington, after more than a year's severe illness, the Rev. Jean David Alexander Chavannes, minister of the Free Church of the Canton de Vaud.
NORTHEY.—April 29, at Yont-Kaleh, in the Crimea, of cholera, William Brook Northey, Lieut. in H.M. 71st Regiment of Highland Light Infantry, eldest son of Lieut.-Colonel Northey, late Coldstream Guards, aged twenty-one.
PEGG.—June 17, accidentally drowned by the upsetting of a boat during a squall of wind, in Chelsea-pond, Mr. George Pegg, second son of Wm. Pegg, Esq., of Birchgrove-place, near Swansan, aged twenty.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first number of a new Russian organ entitled *Le Nord*, published at Brussels, the metropolis of political mongrels and intriguers. The programme of *Le Nord* is written in a studiously-moderate and anodyne tone, professing to convince all rational and disinterested readers that Russia, although her civilisation is recent and distinct from that of Western Europe, is alone in the right in the present quarrel, and that France and England are the true aggressors. We hail the appearance of our new contemporary with all due courtesy and consideration. We can have no objection to our enemies entering into the field of bloodless controversy. The creation of *Le Nord* is in itself a tribute to civilisation, and a recognition of public opinion. The prospectus states that the journal is not to be considered an official organ of the Russian Government, although its founders and shareholders are principally Russian.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP BILL received the Royal assent, by commission, on Friday. It does not come into operation until fifteen days after this formal ratification; but one or two of the new cheap papers have anticipated the law.

DEATH OF THE MARGARET PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY AT CAMBRIDGE.—Professor Blunt expired at his house on Sunday afternoon. His health had been manifestly failing during the last six months, but his decline during the last month was very rapid.

STATE OF TRADE.—The accounts of the progress of trade in the manufacturing towns present no change of importance. At Manchester, owing to the caution excited by the recent movements at Liverpool, the transactions have been small, with a tendency towards lower prices. The Birmingham report shows the iron trade to be fairly maintained, although confidence is greatly checked by the apprehension that there are yet several speculative firms that must break up. In the other occupations of the place there has been no material alteration. At Nottingham, a moderate business has been carried on, and signs of improvement are observable in the foreign demand, but the stoppage of James Heywood and Co., a firm largely connected with ironworks, collieries, and quarries, both at Nottingham and Derby, has caused some anxiety. In the woollen districts there has been no reaction from the late increase of activity; and from the Irish linen markets the report describes an improvement in prices and a general increase of confidence. With respect to the prospects of the harvest throughout the United Kingdom, the accounts from all quarters are more unanimous and more strikingly favourable, looking at the doubts recently entertained, than on any former occasion.—*Times*.

IMPROVED CONDITION OF THE IRISH POOR.—The Eighth Annual Report of the Commissioners for administering the Poor-law in Ireland, exhibits some highly-gratifying facts. A rapid improvement in the prospects of labour has taken place since 1849, and still continues. "It is attested," say the Commissioners, "that universally throughout Ireland a more continuous state of employment of agricultural labour prevails, and that wages of 1s. per day are given where formerly the rate was 4d., 6d., or 8d.; while in most parts of the country a man's wages reach 1s. 6d. 2s., or 2s. 6d. per day, at certain seasons of the year. We believe that to these facts another important element of an improved condition may be added. We allude to the greatly increased demand for the labour of women, and young persons of both sexes, which materially assists in rendering the income of an average family more proportioned to their physical wants than it was formerly, notwithstanding the present very high price of the necessaries of life." From 1849 to 1854, both inclusive, considerably more than 200,000 young persons of both sexes have left the Irish workhouses, and have not since returned. Of these, many have gone to the United States, or to the colonies, or have sought work in England; "but," observes the Report, "the greater part, in all probability, has been absorbed by the local demand for labour in the districts adjoining the several workhouses." The Commissioners further report that visible signs of an improved condition of life are to be found in the appearance of the peasantry in all parts of the country, more especially in their clothing. There is some slight improvement, too, in the dwellings of the poor, but not commensurate with that in their apparel.

FRENCH PLAYS, St James's Theatre.—Last Representation but Five of Mons. LEVASSOR'S and MIDDLE. TEISSEIRE'S Performances, Monday Evening, June 25th; Wednesday Afternoon, June 27th; Friday Evening, June 29th; and Saturday Afternoon, June 30th.

Mons. LEVASSOR'S BENEFIT, and last Performance but One, will take place on Wednesday Evening, July, 4th. On which occasion he will have the honour of presenting an ATTRACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT comprising several novelties.

Doors open—Evening at Eight; Afternoon at Three.

Boxes and Stalls may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Box-office.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. WIGAN.

Monday, and during the week, will be performed
PERFECT CONFIDENCE.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Emery, G. Vining; Miss Marston, and Miss E. Ormonde.

After which,

STILL WATERS RUN DEEP.

To conclude with

THE GARRICK FEVER.

NOTICE.

Friday, June 22, 1855.

Many persons having been unable to obtain places this evening, the public are respectfully informed that

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

Will be repeated on Saturday next, June 30, for the Benefit of Mrs. ALFRED WIGAN.

GORE HOUSE KENSINGTON.

THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION of advanced Works by Students in Metropolitan and Provincial Schools of Art is now open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission free.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Exhibition of the finest English, French, and Italian Photographs is now open at the Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street. Open from 10 to 5. Admission, with catalogue, 1s.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL, LONG ACRE.—GRAND PANORAMA of CREATION, SCIENCE, and CIVILISATION, will be Opened, for a short time only, on MONDAY NEXT, developing a plan of PRACTICAL EDUCATION FOR THE MILLIONS, and NEW HOMES for the PEOPLE.—Daily at 3 and 8; Monday mornings only excepted, doors open Half an hour previous.—Admission, ONE SHILLING; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 3s. Children, Half-price.—MONDAYS, HALF-PRICE FOR ALL PARTS.

LITERARY INSTITUTION, JOHN-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE.

AN EXCURSION TO RYE HOUSE, by the Eastern Counties Railway, on Sunday, July 1.

The Train will leave the Shoreditch Station at 10 o'clock, and return at half-past 7. Tickets, 2s. Children, 1s. 6d.

N.B.—A Secretary wanted. Applications to be sent in to the Institution on or before Wednesday, July 4, 1855.

A CLEAR COMPLEXION.

GODFREY'S EXTRACT OF ELDER FLOWERS is strongly recommended for softening, improving, beautifying, and preserving the skin, and giving it a blooming and charming appearance, being at once a most fragrant perfume and delightful cosmetic. It will completely remove tan, sunburn, redness, &c., and by its balsamic and healing qualities render the skin soft, pliable, and free from dryness, scurf, &c., clear it from every humour, pimple, or eruption; and, by continuing its use only a short time, the skin will become and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion perfectly clear and beautiful. In the process of shaving it is invaluable, as it annihilates every pimple, and all roughness, and will afford great comfort if applied to the face during the prevalence of cold easterly winds.

Sold in Bottles, price 2s. 9d., with Directions for using it, by all Medicine Vendors and Perfumers.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS 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, lifting 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.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, 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.

30,000 NERVOUS MIND AND HEAD

SUFFERERS, from Noblemen to Mechanics, having tried all advertised and other remedies without a cure, have, during eighteen years, been obliged to apply to the Rev. Dr. Willis Mosely, 18, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, London, and 50 are not known to be uncured. Means of cure only to be paid for, and a relapse prevented for life. Novel Observations, a pamphlet on nervousness, franked to any address if one stamp is sent; or, for 3d. Twelve Chapters on the Only Means of Curing Nervous or Mind Complaints;—the best book on nervousness in our language.

THE "APPS" BREWERY, LITTLEHAM, BIDEFORD, NORTH DEVON.

"APPS" ALE—"APPS" PALE ALE.

The peculiar excellence of these Ales (independently of being, as says the *Lancet* in July, 1854, "clear, sparkling, and well brewed") is derived from the presence in the "APPS SPRING" from which they are brewed of the finest Saline and Tonic matter in singular combination.

The well-known Chemist, Herapath, in a letter to the Rev. J. L. Harding (owner of the "APPS" Estate), writes as follows:—

"Bristol, 1853.

"Sir,—I take it for granted you have received my report, in which I have stated your SPRING to be a good brewing water, with Tonic and other properties, &c., &c.

"WILLIAM HERAPATH, F.C.S."

The same great authority bears evidence to the purity and excellence of the Ale:—

"Bristol, 1854.

"To the Proprietor of the 'Apps' Brewery.
"Sir,—I have examined and analysed four specimens of your Beer of various strengths; I find them clear, sound, and well brewed, &c., &c. I have no doubt your Beers will become popular.

"WILLIAM HERAPATH, F.C.S."

The celebrated Dr. Ure expresses great satisfaction, and says:—

"Having submitted to chemical examination a sample of the 'APPS ALE,' I find it to be clear, sound, and well fermented, most grateful to the taste, and supplying a wholesome and invigorating beverage.

"London, 1855." "ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S.
Many other Medical Men in London have strongly recommended these Ales, on account of their purity and freedom from adulteration.

Dr. Bright writes:—

"I have examined a sample of the 'APPS ALE,' and can with great confidence recommend it as a most wholesome and nutritious beverage.

"London, 1855." "JAMES BRIGHT, M.D.

For particulars, apply to W. D. BRAGINTON, Esq. Bideford.

Accounts collected Monthly.

**FITCH & SON'S
CELEBRATED BREAKFAST BACON,
AND FIRST-CLASS PROVISIONS.**

"The City is the emporium for all good things; and the emporium for rich and delicious bacon is FITCH & SONS, 66, Bishopsgate-street."—*Vide United Service Gazette*, March 31st.

This celebrated Bacon has now been fifteen years before the public, and still retains its deserved pre-eminence. It is sold by the side, half-side, and separate pieces.

The half-side of 30lbs..... 9d. per lb.

The Middle-piece, 12lbs..... 10d. "

THE FINEST DESCRIPTIONS OF CHEESE,
Stilton, Cheshire, Parmesan, Somerset, North Wiltshire, and others.

HAMS—namely, the far-famed and still unrivalled Yorkshire, together with Somerset, Westphalia, and Brunswick.

OX TONGUES CURED UPON THE PREMISES, both pickled and smoked.

Wiltshire Chaps and Chines, Anglo-German Sausages.

FITCH & SON'S HOUSEHOLD PROVISIONS.

Fine rich Cheshire Cheese, by single Cheese...	Per lb.	s. d.
Good Sound ditto, ditto.....		0 8
Ditto Serviceable ditto, ditto.....		0 7 1/2
Fine New Salt Butter by Half Firkins.....		0 7
Very good ditto, ditto.....		0 11 1/2
Fine Small and Large Hams.....		9d. to 10 1/2
		8 to 9

A remittance is requested from correspondents unknown to the firm. Deliveries free to all the London Railway Termini, daily, and the suburbs twice a week. A priced List of the parts of a side of their celebrated Bacon free upon application.

**FITCH AND SON,
Provision Merchants and Importers,
No. 66, BISHOPSGATE WITHIN, LONDON.
Established 1784.**

ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley.

THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT.

And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.—The important object so desirable to be obtained has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. O. ADNAM, PATENTEES, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged.

To enumerate the many advantages derived by the Public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior Gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies, and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper.

The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It has also the distinguished character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each Package bears the Signature of the PATENTEES, J. and J. O. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Malden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c., in Town and Country.

HARRINGTON PARKER and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 51, Pall-mall, London, offer to the Public Old and Superior Wines, pure, and of the finest quality, at prices not exceeding those charged for ordinary Wines.

HARRINGTON PARKER and CO. would call especial attention to their PALE and GOLDEN DINNER SHERRIES, as under.

IMPERIAL PINTS, 29s. to 34s. per dozen; or bottled in Reputed Quarts, 38s. to 45s. per dozen.

Agents for ALLSOPP'S PALE AND INDIA ALE.

THE 16s. Trousers reduced to 14s.—Trousers and Waistcoat, 22s.—Coat, Waistcoat, and Trousers, 47s., made to order from Scotch Tweeds, all wool, and thoroughly shrunk.

The TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COAT, the Guinea Dress Trousers, and the Half-Guinea Waistcoat, made to order by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street. For quality, style, and workman's up, cannot be equalled by any house in the kingdom.

N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

RIPE FRUIT, STRAWBERRIES, AND SEED BEDS.

NEW TWINE NETTING, Tanned if required, 1 yard wide, 2d. per yard; 2 yards wide, 4d. per yard; 4 yards wide, 8d. per yard. Half-inch MESH ditto, 2 yards wide, 8d. per yard. The ELASTIC HEXAGON GARDEN NETTING, 76 Meshes to the square inch, effectually excludes birds, wasps, flies, &c., from fruit trees, flower or seed beds, 44d. per square yard. TANNED NETTING, 2 or 3 yards wide, 1 1/2d. per yard; 4 or 6 yards wide, 3d. per yard. At W. CULLINGFORD'S, 1, Edmund-terrace, Ball's-pond, Islington.

Samples exhibited, with prices attached, in the South-west Gallery of the Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

SISAL CIGARS.

H. N. GOODRICH, after 25 years' practical acquaintance with the business, will stake his reputation for ability and honour as a Cigar Merchant, upon the truth or falsehood of the assertion, that no Cigars as good as his Sisal Cigars have ever been sold so cheap. Box containing 14, of the finest quality, for 1s. 9d. Post free, six stamps extra. None are genuine unless signed, "H. N. Goodrich." 416, Oxford-street, London, nearly opposite Hanway-street.

CAUTION.—To Tradesmen, Merchants, Shippers, Outfitters, &c.—Whereas it has lately come to my knowledge that some unprincipled person or persons have, for some time past, been imposing upon the public by selling to the trade and others a spurious article under the name of BOND'S PERMANENT MARKING INK, this is to give notice, that I am the original and sole proprietor and manufacturer of the said article, and do not employ any traveller, or authorise any persons to represent themselves as coming from my establishment for the purpose of selling the said ink. This caution is published by me to prevent further imposition upon the public, and serious injury to myself. E. R. BOND, sole executrix and widow of the late John Bond, 28, Long-lane, West Smithfield.

* * To avoid disappointment from the substitution of counterfeits, be careful to ask for the genuine Bond's Permanent Marking Ink, and further to distinguish it, observe that NO SIXPENNY SIZE is, or has at any time, been prepared by him, the inventor and proprietor.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Prescribed with entire confidence by the Faculty for its purity, and superior, immediate, and regular efficacy.

EXTRACTS FROM MEDICAL TESTIMONIALS:—

ARTHUR H. HASSALL, M.D., F.L.S., M.R.C.P., Chief Analyst of the Sanitary Commission of the *Lancet*, Author of "Food and its Adulterations," &c., &c., &c.

"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."

The "MEDICAL CIRCULAR," May 10, 1854:—

"We unhesitatingly recommend Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil as the best for medical purposes, and well deserving the confidence of the profession."

Sold ONLY in bottles, capped and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77, STRAND, London, Dr. de Jongh's sole Consignees; and in the country by respectable Chemists.

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

TRIESEMAR.—PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT OF ENGLAND, and secured by the SEALS of the ECOLE de PHARMACIE de PARIS, and the IMPERIAL COLLEGE of MEDICINE, VIENNA. TRIESEMAR, No. 1, is a Remedy for Relaxation, Spasmodic, and Exhaustion of the System.

TRIESEMAR, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of Three Days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which Capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population.

TRIESEMAR, No. 3, is the Great Continental Remedy for that class of disorders which, unfortunately, the English physician treats with Mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the Patient's constitution, and which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove.

TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may be on the toilet-table without their use being suspected.

Sold in the cases, at 11s. each; free by post, 2s. extra, divided into separate doses, as administered by Welpen, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. To be had wholesale and retail, in London, of Robert Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; R. H. Ingham, Druggist, Market-street, Manchester; Priestley, Chemist, Lord-street, Liverpool; Winnall, Bookseller, High-street, Birmingham; and Powell, Bookseller, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.

Buyers of the above are requested, before finally deciding, to visit **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S SHOW-ROOMS**, 39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street), Nos. 1, 2, & 3, Newman-street, and 4 & 5, Perry's-place. They are the largest in the world, and contain such an assortment of **FENDERS, STOVES, RANGES, FIRE-IRONS**, and **GENERAL IRONMONGERY**, as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety, novelty, beauty of design, or exquisiteness of workmanship. Bright Stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, 2l. 14s. to 5l. 10s.; ditto with ormolu ornaments and two sets of bars, 5l. 10s. to 12l. 12s.; Bronzed Fenders complete, with standards, from 7s. to 37l.; Steel Fenders from 2l. 15s. to 6l.; ditto with rich ormolu ornaments, from 2l. 15s. to 7l. 7s.; Fire-irons from 1s. 9d. the set to 4l. 4s. Sylvester and all other Patent Stoves, with radiating hearth plates. All which he is enabled to sell at these very reduced charges—

Firstly—From the frequency and extent of his purchases and
Secondly—From those purchases being made exclusively for cash.

BATHS and TOILETTE WARE.—WIL-

LIAM S. BURTON has ONE LARGE SHOW-ROOM devoted exclusively to the **DISPLAY** of **BATHS** and **TOILETTE WARE**. The Stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices, proportionate with those that have tended to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country. Portable Showers, 7s. 6d.; Pillow Showers, 3l. to 5l.; Nursery, 15s. to 32s.; Sponging, 15s. to 32s.; Hip, 14s. to 31s. 6d. A large assortment of Gas Furnace, Hot and Cold Plunge, Vapour, and Camp Shower Baths.—Toilette Ware in great variety from 15s. 6d. to 45s. the Set of Three.

THE BEST SHOW of IRON BED-

STEADS in the **KINGDOM** is **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**. He has **TWO VERY LARGE ROOMS**, which are devoted to the **EXCLUSIVE SHOW** of **Iron and Brass Bedsteads** and **Children's Cots**, with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses. Common Iron Bedsteads, from 16s.; Portable Folding Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 17s. 6d.; and Cots, from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 2l. 13s. 6d. to 15l. 15s.

PAPIER MACHE AND IRON TEA-

TRAYS. An assortment of Tea Trays and Waiters wholly unprecedented, whether as to extent, variety, or novelty.

New Oval Papier Maché Trays, per set of three ... from 20s. 0d. to 10 guineas.
Ditto, Iron ditto ... from 13s. 0d. to 4 guineas.
Convex shape ditto ... from 7s. 6d.
Round and Gothic waiters, cake and bread baskets, equally low.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has **SIXTEEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS** devoted to the show of **GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY** (including cutlery, nickel silver, plated and japan wares, iron and brass bedsteads, and bedding), 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.

Established A. D. 1820.

GARDEN ENGINES, SYRINGES, &c.,

upon the best and most improved principle, manufactured only by the Patentee, **RICHARD READ**, 35, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, London.

* * * Descriptions sent post free.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT DEANE'S Ironmongery and Furnishing Warehouses. Established A.D. 1700. A Priced Furnishing List, free by post.

DEANE, DRAY, and CO. (Opening to the Monument), London-bridge.

CHILDREN'S BEDSTEADS and BED-

DING.—HEAL and SON'S Stock of Children's Cots, Cribs, and Bedsteads contains every Design and Size that is manufactured, both in Wood and Iron, which, together with their large assortment of every other description of Bedstead, will be found worthy of inspection. They also beg to call attention to their show of **BEDROOM FURNITURE**, of which their New Ware-Rooms enable them to keep such an assortment that Customers may select all the articles for the complete furnishing of a Bedroom. An **ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE** of **BEDSTEADS**, containing upwards of One Hundred different Designs, sent free by post.—**HEAL and SON**, Bedstead and Bedding, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham Court-road.

DEAFNESS and NOISES in the HEAD.—

Free of Charge, for the Protection and Instant Relief of the Deaf, a Book of 30 pages.—An extraordinary Discovery.—Just published, sent free by post to any deaf person writing for it, "A STOP TO EMPIRICISM and Exorbitant Fees." Sufferers extremely deaf, by means of this book, permanently cure themselves, in any distant part of the world, without pain or use of any instrument. Thousands have been restored to perfect hearing, and for ever rescued from the snares of the numerous advertising, dangerous, unqualified pretenders of the present day. It contains lists of startling cures, published by Dr. F. R. HOUGHTON, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons, May 2, 1845; L.A.C. April 30, 1846; Consulting Surgeon to the Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 9, Suffolk-place, Pall Mall, London, where all letters are to be addressed.—Personal consultations every day between 11 and 4 o'clock.—Sufferers deaf 40 or 50 years have their hearing perfectly restored in half an hour without a moment's inconvenience. Testimonials and certificates can be seen from all the leading members of the Faculty, and from Patients cured.

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK.

The Temple-Bar Branch of this Bank was OPENED on Friday the 15th instant, at the Temporary Offices, No. 211, Strand.

The Capital of the Bank is 5,000,000l. sterling, in 50,000 shares of 100l. each. The sum of 20l. has been paid on each share, so that the paid-up capital is 1,000,000l. sterling.

The Bank has about twelve hundred partners, whose names are registered at the Stamp Office, and are printed with the Annual Report of the Directors.

Current Accounts are received on the same principles as those observed by the London Bankers.

Sums from 10l. upwards are received upon interest. For these sums receipts are granted, called deposit receipts.

Circular notes are issued for the use of travellers on the Continent.

J. W. GILBART, General Manager.

Lothbury, June 19, 1855.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

The Court of Directors grant **LETTERS OF CREDIT** and **BILLS** upon the Company's Bank at **ADELAIDE** and **PAR.** Approved drafts negotiated and sent for collection.

Business with the Australian colonies generally conducted through the Bank's Agents.

Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street, London.

London, June, 1855.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

BANK OF DEPOSIT, NATIONAL ASSURANCE AND INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION,

No. 3, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.

Established A.D. 1844.

THE WARRANTS for the HALF-YEARLY

Interest, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on Deposit Accounts, to the 30th June, will be ready for delivery on and after July 10th, and payable daily between the hours of Eleven and Three o'clock.

Parties residing at a distance will, on application, have their Dividend Warrants forwarded for signature. The Warrants will be paid on presentation at the Head Office in London; or the amount may be received at the various Branches, or through Country Bankers.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

21st June, 1855.

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