

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, JULY 14, 1855.

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News of the Week.

THE "totum," says Lord PALMERSTON, includes the "pars," but sometimes the *pars* is the germ of the *totum*. Lord JOHN RUSSELL is "the ministerial crisis" which is now impending, and should he remain a member of the united Cabinet, it is probable that the Cabinet will be in the article of death on Monday night, when Sir EDWARD LYTTON brings the conduct of Lord JOHN to a positive vote. Events move rapidly in these days. Lord JOHN's relation to the Conference at Vienna was only understood on Friday night last week, and even then but imperfectly. He confessed to the House of Commons that he had, like M. DROUYN DE L'HUYS, approved of the Austrian proposition; that he had signified that approval to the English Cabinet, and had upheld it in council; but he somewhat obscurely intimated that, although he was prepared to support the Austrian compromise in April or May, he did not think that it could be sustained now; and he was favourable to "the vigorous prosecution of the war." Nevertheless, the public had some difficulty in understanding how a Minister who had been instructed to support a totally different proposition at Vienna could have returned the advocate of the counter-proposition, and, notwithstanding the rejection of the Austro-RUSSELL plan of equipoise, could still remain a member of the Cabinet that rejected that compromise. Either the Cabinet, it was inferred, must agree with Lord JOHN, and be thoroughly insincere, continuing the war only to keep up appearances and retain office; or Lord JOHN, compromising his own convictions as much as he had his office of Plenipotentiary, had so completely forfeited the character of an English statesman as to entail disgrace upon the Cabinet of which he still remained a member. This was the general impression early in the week.

Mr. ROEBUCK's motion for passing a vote of censure on all the members of the late Government connected with the war hung over Ministers as an opportunity for pronouncing judgment upon Lord JOHN, and upon the colleagues who tolerated him. In order to give greater solemnity to that vote, Mr. ROEBUCK moved on Tuesday that there should be a call of the House on the evening of the 17th, when his motion is to be brought forward. He presumed, however, as much earnestness in the House of Commons as there is in

Sheffield, as much boldness to do the work thoroughly amongst members around him as there is in his own breast; and the calculation was erroneous. A call of the House implies a great deal of inconvenience to members. It is true, as he said, that the means of locomotion in the present day render it easy to come up to town: but it also renders it easy for members to travel over the kingdom and every part of the habitable globe. There are many members in Paris, in India, America, and the Crimea. In fact, there is always a standing call of the House, only it is centrifugal rather than centripetal; and members would hold it a breach of privilege to bring them up to town for a small thing. Mr. ROEBUCK, therefore, was not permitted to give his vote of censure that paramount importance which a call of the House implies, and his motion was negatived by 133 to 108.

To a great extent the interest in his motion was superseded by the resolution of which Sir EDWARD LYTTON gave notice—a declaration that the conduct of Lord JOHN RUSSELL at Vienna, and his continuance in the Ministry, have deprived the Government of public confidence. That motion was to have been brought on last night; but when Sir EDWARD LYTTON asked a day for its discussion, Lord PALMERSTON declined to accommodate him; and even went so far as to declare that there should be no motion for a Committee of Supply on Friday night, according to the constant custom. The refusal was imputed to alarm, and Ministers were accused of fencing with a vote of censure. The implied answer is, that votes of censure have become so common that a day cannot be found for every honourable member who thinks it necessary to visit Ministers with his indignation. But, in truth, Lord PALMERSTON was only acting according to his constant habit. He has himself, on more than one occasion, taken his departure from a Government, but he has been conspicuous amongst leading statesmen for standing by a colleague in difficulties; and some humble public servants have favourably contrasted him even with the very man whom he was now shielding. The sense of the House of Commons and of the public, however, was too powerful: Ministers were at last obliged to plead, and they have consented to take their trial on Monday next.

In the meanwhile, the papers embodying the communications with the Austrian Government, in which Lord CLARENDON and Lord JOHN RUS-

SELL took part, have been laid before Parliament and the public. They are the connecting links between the published protocols, which they transcend in interest; and they throw a new light upon the whole subject of the Conferences—including the conduct of Lord JOHN RUSSELL, of Lord PALMERSTON, and of the Cabinet as a whole. The arrangement, like that of the last proposition at the Conferences, was suggested by Austria some time previously, in the private Conferences, which were alternating with the public Conferences. The basis was, that Russia should be restrained by a treaty with Turkey from increasing her naval force to exceed that maintained by the Porte; the other powers having the freedom to enter the Black Sea on the summons of Turkey. As early as the 30th of April, Lord CLARENDON tells the Austrian ambassador that he receives the suggestion with "surprise and concern," since it was nothing less than an announcement that Austria did not intend to maintain her pledge on the Third Point. He showed that in fact it was to establish the status quo ante bellum, only giving to Turkey the permission to increase her naval force to an equality with that of Russia, and the Western Powers permission to enter the Black Sea—permission for which neither the Porte nor the Western Powers had waited.

The Western Powers had insisted upon putting an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, with a pledge that Turkey should not overwhelm her; while Austria proposed, not to terminate the preponderance of Russia, but to permit Turkey to equal her. Lord CLARENDON saw through this dodge, and Lord PALMERSTON'S Cabinet refused to fall in with it.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL appears to have gone to Vienna fully charged with the duty entrusted to him. In the earlier communications with Count BUOL and Baron PROKESCH, he faithfully represented the arguments on the English side; but by degrees, in long conversations—he passes over one with the parenthetical remark that it would be useless to report the details of a conversation that endured for four hours—he became impressed with the view of Count BUOL; and he thought that "if the Austrian proposal were made an ultimatum," "it ought to be accepted by the Western Powers." He admitted that this appeared to contradict his former opinions; but he denied that it did so really. "The system of limitation I believe to be far better than that of counterpoise;" but choosing

between Turkey and for Europe, and the continuance of the war, he accepted the former alternative. Now, if the Austrian proposal had been made an ultimatum, it would have amounted to insisting that Russia should be where she was before the war began, under pain of a war; and of course she must very readily have accepted an "ultimatum" of that kind. Lord JOHN could not see this; he could not see the ridicule of his position, when he came as plenipotentiary to enforce Lord CLAREN- DON'S arguments, and returned to enforce Count BUOL'S—already rejected by his chiefs in the Foreign Office and in the Cabinet! He had "a right" to uphold his own view as an individual member of the Cabinet, but it was only the right of being absurd. He was continually making little well-meaning suggestions, and everybody passed him over. He carried his peace-making so far that he acted as go-between to reconcile peace and war—the "standing menace to Europe" with the extinction of that menace—black with white. The public cannot understand paltering with the question of war, and is thoroughly disgusted; and Sir EDWARD LYTON only expresses the universal feeling when he proposes to declare that there can be no confidence in a Cabinet of which Lord JOHN is a member. It remains to be seen whether Lord PALMERSTON will make it a point of honour to lower his standard to the BEDFORD level.

In the presence of the Eastern question, to which is now added the Ministerial question, Parliament works at its ordinary business under a difficulty. It is hard to get up an interest on general topics; still harder to drag the House into questions of railway accidents or Scotch education. The temper of the House, however, is not entirely adverse to some degree of progress; for it is inclined, where it does not expunge the question with a rough hand, to let members who are in earnest have their way. Thus the LORD ADVOCATE does get on with Scotch education, notwithstanding amendments. The Partnership Bill proceeds, notwithstanding the shining lights of Liverpool. Lord BROUGHAM pushes forward a little unostentatious bill in the House of Lords, which will do much of what Lord DERBY prevented Lord SHAFTESBURY from doing, for it renders the registration of places of worship a ministerial act by the REGISTRAR-GENERAL, instead of an ecclesiastical act by a prelate. Lord LYN- DHURST even has hopes of a bill to abolish the abjuration oath! Sir WILLIAM CLAY'S Church-rates Abolition Bill is favoured by Ministers, but is obstructed by reactionaries, who talked against time on Wednesday, so that an adjournment which they lose on division is carried by the clock. When, however, Mr. VINCENT SCULLY moves an address to the Crown requiring examinations on admission to the public service to be open and public, the results of thoroughly conflicting opinions come out: Sir GEORGE LEWIS and Sir FRANCIS BARING hold literary qualifications to be no test of fitness for public work; Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE pleads the example of France, and the casuistical GLADSTONE lends to the literary test the damaging support of his refined argument; while Lord PALMERSTON asks that the present system of an examination without publicity should have a fair trial. The House prefers by 140 to 125 the PALMERSTON to the SCULLY view.

The penalties of war are coming out in a new financial demand. The French taxes and loan are followed by a hint from our own Government that a supplemental estimate of expenditure will be produced, and a new plan of raising the requisite amount, while a Turkish loan of 5,000,000l. under an Anglo-Gallican guarantee is already in the English market. The splendid weather, however, the certainty of fine crops from all parts of the world, the unequivocally good accounts of the cotton crops in America, the

prospect of a recovery from the bad state of the wool crop during the gold fever in Australia, and a general recovery of credit, contribute to check the effect of these loans by decreasing the pressure on the money market.

From Vienna as well as from the Crimea we have little to report. The rapprochement between Austria and Prussia advances. Count BUOL projecting into space a new circular, assures the universe that Austria intends to abide by her pledges, present appearances and the undue pretensions of the Western Powers notwithstanding.

From the Crimea the Allied Generals report two things,—an effective bombardment of the Redan, and a decrease in the disease afflicting the troops. From Asia we learn with satisfaction that the Russian army has been repulsed in an attack upon Kars.

There is a war that we have too long forgotten—that in Spain. The report of ESPARTERO'S resignation, superseded, not by the tears of the Queen, but by the entreaties of O'DONNELL, is followed up by the report of a weavers' insurrection in Barcelona, mingled with some Carlist agitation in the North of Spain. Lord HOWDEN has had tangible proof of the Carlists, who have stopped his carriage on his way home; and if Barcelona has somewhat recovered from the state of riot in which it was on the 28th of last month, Spain has not recovered from that anarchical condition in which the only popular Minister finds his position untenable, yet consents to hold it, and is obliged to ask a new loan from a country which is bankrupt in means and mutinous in spirit.

With Hyde-park rioting we hope we have done. Last Sunday's parade of naughty boys was a grand anti-climax which we distinctly disclaim on the part of the working classes; and we call upon them to substantiate our disclaimer by their own marked absence to-morrow. The concession demanded on the two previous Sundays in the withdrawal of the Sunday Trading Bill had been granted. The object of the demonstration was satisfied. Even the Beer Act, which was for a moment the pretext for more meetings, is under examination by a committee of the Commons, with every prospect that the evidence will condemn it. And Ministers, not too voluntarily, nor too soon, but still in time for justice, have granted a commission to inquire into the conduct of the police during the second Sunday. Every man who now prolongs riotous assemblages is a traitor to the working classes, who does his worst to confirm the calumny of their foes, and to justify measures of rigour.

Two concessions Ministers have made to the spirit of obstruction, and the spirit of corruption rewards them. Charmed with the extent to which the Commons have let him carry his measures, Sir BENJAMIN HALL repays the favour by letting them off in regard to the Public Health Act, postponed till next year; and the Thames, meanwhile, grows more absolutely and foully a sewer. Professor FARADAY lately found it to be literally so, and he pronounces it to be un-navigable for its pestilential properties. For another year, therefore, at least the Commons are allowed to have cholera wafted under their noses by the ebb and flow. The pondering LORD CHANCELLOR postpones his Testamentary and Divorce Bills; the Lords are at their work divorcing the rich; while the Clerkenwell magistrate is protecting ladies whose house is invaded by the friends of a husband in search of a fugitive wife; and the poor, who cannot enter into the refinements and ambiguities of good society, go on divorcing themselves as usual.

THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE.—On Monday, a meeting took place in the Literary Institution, John-street, Tottenham-court-road, when a petition condemning the proceedings of Sir George Grey, and calling upon the House of Commons to inquire into his conduct, and, if found guilty, to punish him, was unanimously adopted with great cheering.

STATE OF TRADE.—The manufacturing towns continue to show, upon the whole, a degree of steadiness, the prospects of a good harvest tending to sustain the renewed feeling of confidence. Manchester and Nottingham, however, are exceptions to the rule, as dulness still prevails in those localities.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Earl GRANVILLE, in answer to Lord LYNTHURST, said it was the intention of Government to lay on the table various papers relative to the recent conferences at Vienna, including those relating to the proposals made by Count BUOL.—A similar declaration was made in the Commons by Lord PALMERSTON.

JEWISH DISABILITIES.

Lord LYNTHURST declined to accede to the suggestion of the Earl of DERBY to withdraw his bill for repealing the Abjuration Oath; and the second reading was fixed for Tuesday, the 17th inst.

THE MAYNOOTH COMMISSION.

The Earl of WINCHILSEA moved "that the recognition of those ecclesiastical titles prohibited to the Roman Catholic prelates by the Act of 1829, in the Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the management and government of the College of Maynooth, is a direct violation of that Act; and that an amended copy of that Report be placed upon the table of this house, with those illegal titles omitted."—The Earl of HARROWBY, while acknowledging that, as he had stated on a previous occasion, the insertion of the titles was improper and accidental, hoped their Lordships would not adopt the resolution.—It being the general opinion of the House that it would be inexpedient to press the motion, the Earl of WINCHILSEA, after some hesitation, withdrew it.

THE ACCIDENTS ON RAILWAYS BILL was read a third time, and passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

In the House of Commons, Sir BENJAMIN HALL stated that, considering the late period of the session, he thought it advisable not to persevere with the Public Health Bill this session. It would, however, be necessary to provide by a short bill for the continuance of the General Board of Health for one year.

MR. ROEBUCK'S MOTION.

Mr. H. ADAIR gave notice on behalf of the member for Cambridge (Colonel Shafto Adair), that when Mr. Roebuck brings forward his motion, his Colonel Adair's intention to move as an amendment the following resolution:—"That this House is of opinion that the counsels which determined the expedition to the Crimea were consistent with a bold and sagacious policy, just to our allies, and commensurate with the objects of the war; and, further, that a perseverance in a similar policy can alone afford the hope of ensuring an honourable and permanent peace."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF CALABAR.

Sir CHARLES WOOD, in answer to Mr. ANDERSON, stated that the Government had received despatches informing them of the bombardment, if they might call it so, of the Old Town of Calabar, by the Antelope. It had been done at the special request of the British Consul; and the reason assigned was that the Chief had been guilty of infringing a treaty by which he was bound to abstain from murdering persons by means of what was called the poison nut. The Consul had therefore requested the commander of the Antelope to bombard the town, and he had done so in consequence of the representations made to him by the merchants and missionaries there. Sir Charles Wood was not aware that the rebuilding of the town had been forbidden.

THE SUNDAY RIOTS.

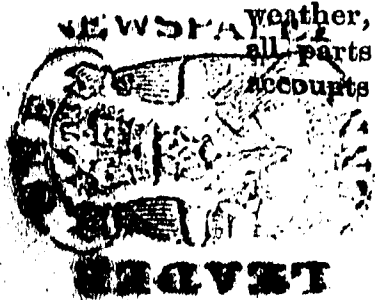
Sir GEORGE GREY, in answer to Sir JOHN PARKINGTON, stated that he had given no orders that the ordinary protection of the police should be withdrawn on Sunday last. The acts of violence in Belgrave-square, and other places, were so sudden that the police were taken by surprise.—Replying to a further question by Mr. ADDERLEY, Sir George Grey said that the orders given to the police were to hold in readiness a large reserve, in order that they might be prepared to act wherever there should be any disturbance. In the event of such disgraceful proceedings being renewed next Sunday, every step would be taken by the police to resist them; and the authorities would be most happy to concur with the inhabitants of the district, and to receive their assistance.

STATE OF THE RIVER THAMES.

In answer to Mr. WALTER, Sir BENJAMIN HALL said he was sorry that at present there existed no power whatever, either in the Government or in any other authority, to remedy the nuisance which had been so justly complained of as arising from the state of the river Thames.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

This bill was brought up for consideration as amended in committee. Several additional amendments were agreed to; one providing for inquiry by the school committees into the religious and moral teaching of the masters, in case of complaints; another declaring that the schoolmasters under the act shall be entitled to the funds for the benefit of



the widows and children of burgh and parochial schoolmasters in Scotland; and a third giving additional powers to reformatory schools in Scotland for vagrant children.—The third reading was on Thursday night opposed by Sir J. FERGUSON, who, conceiving that the measure would trench on the influence of the church in Scotland, moved that it be read a third time that day three months. The third reading, however, was affirmed by 105 to 102. The declaration of this narrow majority elicited much cheering from the opponents of the bill, and was subsequently made the ground of many appeals to the LORD ADVOCATE to abandon his measure. Many supplemental clauses and additional amendments were afterwards discussed, some serious complaints being urged by Lord PALMERSTON respecting an alleged conversion, under the sudden pressure of constituencies, of a large section of Scotch members into opponents of the bill. Ultimately a division was taken on the question that the bill should pass, which was carried by a majority of 130 to 115.

PARTNERSHIP AMENDMENT BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, Mr. HASTIE moved to postpone the committee for three months. He quoted largely from Mr. Macculloch, to show that the principle of limited liability, which the bill sought to authorise, would lead to great recklessness of trading.—Mr. MITCHELL seconded the motion, being of opinion that too much capital is already embarked in rash enterprises, and that the bill would lead to an increase of the evil.—Mr. W. BROWN and Mr. MARJORIBANKS also supported the amendment.—The original motion was supported by Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR, Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. CARDWELL, and Mr. MALINS; and the amendment having been negatived without a division, the House went into committee and agreed to the two first clauses.

THE RAGLAN ANNUITIES BILL was read a second time, Mr. WILLIAMS interposing a brief remonstrance respecting the amount of the grant.

THIRD READINGS.

The Commons Inclosure (No 2) Bill; the Public Libraries and Museums Bill; the Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes Bill; and the Burial of Poor Persons Bill; were respectively read a third time and passed.

THE HANGO MASSACRE.

The Earl of MALMESBURY, on Tuesday, called the attention of Lord Clarendon to the Russian vindication of the Hango massacre, and desired to know the intentions of Government.—The Earl of CLARENDON replied, that the Government thought the letter of General De Berg most unsatisfactory. Admiral Dundas had been ordered to demand the immediate release of the prisoners, and a communication had been made through the Danish Government with the Russians on the subject. Until answers had been received to these demands, the Government could not say what course it would adopt.—In answer to a further question from Lord Malmesbury, Lord Clarendon said there was hope of a speedy cartel for the exchange of prisoners between the allies and the enemy.—Lord CAMPBELL, speaking from his knowledge of international law, said that, according to General De Berg's own account, the Russians had clearly violated that law.—Lord COLCHESTER, without wishing to excuse the enemy, trusted we should be more careful in future with regard to flags of truce.

VICTORIA GOVERNMENT BILL.

On the motion of Earl GRANVILLE, this bill was read a second time, after some objections by Lord MONTEAGLE, who urged that the bill was not the same bill as that sent home by the Colonial Legislature, and who conceived that the measure did not properly deal with the question of the waste lands, which, contrary to the original promise of Government, were still to be kept under Imperial control, instead of being placed under the dominion of the Colonial Parliament. He made no formal opposition, however, to the second reading, which was therefore taken.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS REGISTRATION BILL.

Lord BROUGHAM, in moving the second reading of this bill, said that, owing to a most extraordinary blunder in a previous bill on the same subject, passed in 1852, the registration of Dissenting chapels registered since that period is null and void; that penalties might be enforced in every case, and that marriages contracted in such chapels are invalid.—The Lord CHANCELLOR was not quite certain that Lord Brougham's interpretation was correct; but it was better to remove all doubt.—The bill was then read a second time.

THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for a return of all persons employed in the diplomatic service, and expressed an opinion that the attacks so frequently made on that branch of the public service were unfair and unfounded. Instead of deserving blame, our diplomats are worthy of praise for the way in which they discharge their duties in positions neither easy nor lucrative.—The Earl of CLARENDON,

in acceding to the production of the returns, said he concurred in everything which Lord Clanricarde had just said.—Earl GRANVILLE, in reference to a charge reported to have been made by Mr. Layard, that he (Lord Granville), while he held the office of Foreign Secretary, had made appointments and promotions in the diplomatic service from motives of favouritism, said he had been assured by Mr. Layard within the last week, that in his opinion the appointments he made were all excellent.—After a desultory conversation, the subject dropped.

NUISANCES REMOVAL BILL.

The House of Commons, at its morning sitting, was occupied in committee with the details of this bill, several clauses of which were agreed to.—Other clauses, relating to poisonous manufactures, were adopted on Thursday night.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

Sir E. BULWER LYTTON gave notice that on Friday night, on the order of the day for going into committee of supply, or otherwise when opportunity might be afforded to him, he should move a resolution to the following effect: "That the conduct of our Minister in the recent negotiations at Vienna has, in the opinion of this House, shaken the confidence of the country in those to whom its affairs are entrusted."

DR. ANDREW SMITH AND DR. HALL.

In the evening, questions put by Mr. STAFFORD—whether Dr. Andrew Smith has retired, and whether Dr. Hall still continues Medical Inspector-General of the Army in the East—gave rise to a conversation, in the course of which Mr. FREDERICK PEEL stated that Dr. Andrew Smith continues to officiate until his successor is appointed, and that, with respect to Dr. Hall, during the time Lord Panmure had been at the head of the War Department, there had been no complaint as to the manner in which he had performed his duty, and that Lord Panmure had, therefore, not removed him from the headship of the medical department of the army in the East.—On Thursday evening, Mr. FREDERICK PEEL said a copy of the letter in the Times, with reference to the treatment of the wounded on the 18th, had been sent to Dr. Hall, and he had been directed to convene a committee of medical officers attached to divisions, not employed in the assault on the 18th of June, and therefore presumed to be impartial judges in the matter. They would examine all the medical officers attending to the wounded on that day. The evidence would be sent home with the report of the committee and with Dr. Hall's observations upon it; and a communication of the result would then be made to the House.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S STATEMENTS.

Mr. DISRAELI desired to know whether Lord John Russell had had her Majesty's gracious permission to make those communications to the House connected with the Austrian proposition, which they had heard the preceding Friday.—Lord John Russell not being present, no answer was returned.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

Mr. V. SCULLY rose to move "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, thanking her Majesty for her most gracious Order in Council of the 21st day of May last, by which certain persons were directed to examine into and certify the qualifications of all young men proposed to be appointed to junior situations in any department of the civil service; and praying that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct the examination to be an open one, and held in public, and that the examiners do have regard to superior qualifications and merit." Mr. Scully commented on the annoyance which members of Parliament suffer from the importunate applications of their constituents for places under Government.—The motion was seconded by Lord GODERICH, who concurred with Mr. Scully in thinking that the test should be confined to first appointments.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER thought Mr. Scully's proposal to make the examinations open to the public, and to allow any person without previous examination to offer himself as a candidate, would be attended with great evils. The effect of adopting such a plan would be that all civil servants under the Crown would be appointed without any reference to the Crown, or of persons appointed by the Crown, which would have no veto on their nomination. There were also other objections to the plan; and all that could be required in the way of Administrative Reform would be effected by the Order in Council of the 21st of May, under which order commissioners have been appointed, who have already entered on their duties. He, therefore, moved the previous question.—Mr. W. S. LINDSAY, in supporting the motion, again entered into statements personal to himself, with respect to the European, the Oneida, and other transport ships; in answer to which, Sir CHARLES WOOD produced documentary evidence in support of his version of the facts.—Mr. STAFFORD NORTHCOLE spoke in favour of the motion; and Sir FRANCIS BARIO against it. In the opinion of the

latter, the fault of the present system consists in allowing promotion to go by seniority, and in not permitting unfit men to be removed.—Mr. GLADSTONE was of opinion that the present system is radically false and bad; that it does not give us the best men; that the standard of remuneration does not distinguish between good and bad; that promotion by seniority is an evil; and that the plan of nomination should give place to competition, which would make merit the passport to admission.—Mr. TITE spoke in favour of the motion, but advised Mr. Scully not to divide the House.—Lord PALMERSTON hoped the House would give the present scheme a fair trial, and, if it failed, some further plan could be considered.—Mr. SCULLY, in reply, stated, amidst the continued laughter of the House, which he appeared to seek, that he had made some representations to the Government to the effect that there was no Irishman among them, and had pointed to the recent secessions as affording "an opportunity;" but that he was "not at all satisfied with the result."

On the House dividing, there appeared—For the resolution, 125; for the previous question, 140: majority against the resolution, 15.—The announcement of this bare majority elicited loud cheers from the supporters of the motion.

CALL OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. ROEBUCK moved that the House be called over on Tuesday next (the day appointed for his motion of want of confidence), in order that the whole House might be compelled to attend. On a division, however, the motion was lost by 133 to 108.

BARON ROTHSCHILD.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, leave was given, on the motion of Mr. WALPOLE, that counsel should be heard on behalf of Baron Rothschild before the Select Committee on the London writ.

CHURCH RATE ABOLITION (No. 2) BILL.

The motion for going into committee on this bill was opposed by Mr. FOLLETT, who objected to the measure as being a step towards the destruction of the Established Church.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL pointed out the incongruity of the existing law, and believed that the measure was nothing more than a just concession to the rights of the Dissenters.—The bill was further supported by Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE, Mr. EDWARD BALL, and Mr. FORSTER; and was opposed by Mr. ROBERT PHILLIMORE, Mr. WIGRAM, Mr. VERNON, Mr. GURNEY, and Mr. LLOYD DAVIES, the last of whom, while denouncing the principle of church rates, thought that all the worth had been taken out of the bill before the House. He was still speaking, when, a quarter to six having arrived, the House adjourned.

DWELLINGS FOR THE LABOURING CLASSES BILL.

This bill passed through a committee of the House of Lords on Thursday, when the remaining clauses were agreed to.—THE DWELLING HOUSES (SCOTLAND) BILL, the objects of which are similar to those of the preceding measure, was read a second time.

THE ENCUMBERED ESTATES (IRELAND) ACT CONTINUANCE BILL was read a second time. The object of the bill was simply to continue for one year the Encumbered Estates Act. Lord BROUGHAM intimated that, though originally opposed to that Act, he was bound to say he had been agreeably disappointed in its results.

THE OATH OF ABJURATION BILL, and the INTRAMURAL BURIALS (IRELAND) BILL, were withdrawn.

NEW MEMBER.

In the House of Commons, Mr. HOLLAND took the oaths and his seat for the borough of Evesham, in the room of Mr. C. G. Berkeley, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in answer to Sir JOHN PARKINGTON, stated that the plan submitted by Sir W. Denison to the governors of the Australian Colonies had not been received with approval.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES BILL.

Sir GEORGE GREY withdrew this bill; and at the same time stated that he proposed to insert a clause in the Charitable Trusts Bill, now before the House from the House of Lords, for the purpose of continuing for a limited period the exemption of Roman Catholic charities from the operation of the Charitable Trusts Bill.

THE LATE MR. STOWE.

Mr. FREDERICK PEEL, in answer to Mr. MILNES, said he had no official knowledge of the refusal to admit Mr. Stowe into the military hospital at the camp, but that there would be no objection to make an inquiry into the matter.

THE TURKISH LOAN.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Mr. COBDEN, said that the terms of the convention with Turkey would be laid on the table of the House as soon as the ratification of the treaty is exchanged. Replying to Mr. RICARDO, he said that the guarantee is a joint guarantee by France and England for the whole.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE AUSTRIAN PROPOSALS.

Lord PALMERSTON having brought up the supplementary papers relating to the late Vienna Conference, took the opportunity of stating that he should oppose a resolution of which Mr. Disraeli had given notice, designed to secure the discussion of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton's vote of censure on the following day. Some longer time should be allowed for the perusal and consideration of the documents just presented; but Government were willing to afford every facility for a debate on the question next week.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, replying to Mr. Disraeli's question on Tuesday night, said that, in his speech on Friday, the 6th inst., he had communicated nothing new in affirming that the last Austrian proposition had been discussed in the Cabinet, and been rejected, but that he had since obtained her Majesty's gracious sanction of the statement which he then made. Some erroneous inferences had been drawn from his speech, which he desired to correct. In April last, it was true that he considered the Austrian proposition offered a satisfactory basis for peace; but it was contrary to the fact to assert that he believed so now. His opinion on that point bore reference only to the bygone position of affairs. At present, he was convinced that the best prospect of peace could be obtained only through a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Mr. DISRAELI said he did not perceive that the statement which Lord John Russell had just made at all altered his situation with regard to the House. The people of this country had been greatly startled and disquieted at finding that one of the ministers of the Crown had recommended a project which his colleagues refused to adopt; that he had not thereupon resigned, but had remained in office, and had actually, shortly after recommending the Austrian proposal for peace, made a speech in that House, which conveyed to the country the impression that he was an uncompromising advocate of war. Under these circumstances, Mr. Disraeli did not think his lordship's present announcement to the same effect would go far towards reassuring the daunted spirit of the nation. The proceedings of Lord Palmerston, with respect to Sir E. B. Lytton's motion, were equally reprehensible. He (Mr. Disraeli) had received authentic information that it was originally the intention of Government to go into Committee of Supply the following (Friday) night, when Sir E. B. Lytton would have had an opportunity of bringing forward his motion; but the Premier had altered that intention in order to stave off the motion. As for studying the papers now presented, members might arrive at a much better judgment from the confessions of ministers themselves. He called upon Lord Palmerston to promise a motion for supply on Monday, so that the discussion on the vote of censure might come on.

Lord PALMERSTON reiterated his opinion that it was absolutely necessary that members should have time to read the official papers presented to them, and undertook to make an opening for the discussion on Monday next, if Mr. Roebuck, who had also a motion of censure, would agree to that arrangement.—Sir E. B. LYTTON and Mr. ROEBUCK having assented to the offer, the papers were ordered to be laid on the table.

TENANTS IMPROVEMENT COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

On the House going into committee on this bill, Mr. HORSMAN moved that the Chairman should at once report progress.—Mr. MALINS referred to the fact of a deputation of Irish members having waited on Lord Palmerston, and obtained from him a promise that, if any independent member reintroduced the 14th clause, which had been struck out, the Government would support it provided it were accompanied by the amendments of Mr. Horsman. This arrangement Mr. Malins attributed to the desire of the Government to obtain support on the coming motions of want of confidence.—Lord PALMERSTON said that, as he had always supported the amended 14th clause, there was nothing extraordinary in his attempting, if possible, to restore it; and he denied that any bargain had been made.—A long and angry discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. DISRAELI denounced the practice of transacting legislative business behind the back of the House of Commons; and Lord PALMERSTON, on the contrary, contended that there is nothing unusual or improper in deputations waiting on ministers.—Mr. HORSMAN said that the deputation was determined on before Sir E. B. Lytton gave notice of his motion; on which he was met with cries of "Roebuck!"—Mr. BRADY, as one of the deputation, bore testimony to no bargain having been made; and Mr. V. SOULY defended the conduct of the Irish members. It was, however, the opinion of several members that it was highly unconstitutional to endeavour to make a Prime Minister attempt to rescind a decision of the House. Mr. GUINNESS, in particular, denounced this proceeding as "disgraceful and disgusting." Ultimately, the Chairman was ordered to report progress.—THE COAL MINES INSPECTION BILL was read a third time and passed.

THE WAR.

THE war news of the past week has been slight; yet it contains one or two points of interest, showing satisfactory progress. On the 9th of July, the new Commander-in-Chief telegraphed that he intended to open a heavy fire on the Redan the following day; and on the 11th he communicated the fact that the fire of the preceding day had had good effect on the fort against which our special efforts are now directed. General Pelissier, writing at the same time, says:—"The firing has been very brisk all day between the English and the Great Redan. This evening, that work is sufficiently silent. In consequence, our allies will be able to advance their works." Whether, as a consequence of this "silencing" (real or apparent), we are to have another assault, or are to proceed by more cautious steps, is not at present revealed.

An alleged despatch of Pelissier, dated the 9th, conveys a brief notification of a defeat of the Russians on the preceding night, in a grand sortie made against the Mamelon and the Rifle Pits; but, as this despatch has not appeared in the *Moniteur*, the affair is involved in doubt.

The French works in Careening Bay are progressing, despite the heavy fire of the Russians. The new works of the English are also being pushed forward; and everything indicates the determination of the Generals and men not to flag in the smallest degree under temporary defeat.

"During our late attack on the Redan (says the *Daily News* Correspondent) we suffered sadly from a small six-gun battery on the immediate right of that work, towards the Malakoff, as it kept up an uninterrupted storm of grape upon our men, without being at all effectively commanded by any of our own guns. We have, therefore, begun the erection of a six (or eight) gun-battery slightly ahead of our old advance opposite the Redan, which will be able to give back a direct fire to this small work at an effective range of seven hundred yards, and also to bear upon the left flank of the Malakoff, at the distance of some fifty yards more."

The war in Asia continues, though languidly. The Russians have entered Asiatic Turkey, under the command of General Mouravieff; but advices from Kars of the 16th of June state that their demonstrations against that town had been repulsed, and that the assailants withdrew to Agdja-Kaleh.

The health of our troops before Sebastopol has latterly been such as to create considerable feelings of uneasiness. From the General-in-Chief to the humblest private, the fatal influence of cholera has passed like an Angel of Death, and has seemed to threaten a repetition of the fearful mortality which last year struck down so many of our men at Varna. But we are happy to see that, in his last despatch, General Simpson states that the cholera is on the decrease, and that the health of the army is satisfactory. General Simpson, in one of his recent communications, also speaks of a proposal from Prince Gortschakoff for an exchange of prisoners of war at Odessa. The Russians will no doubt be glad to get back all the men they can; for already the want of soldiers is being felt. As an evidence of this, we hear from Königsberg that a decree of the Czar orders the Governments of New Russia and Bessarabia to reinforce the army as soon as possible; and that the Cossacks acting on the banks of the Danube are enrolling volunteers from all classes.

A letter from Trebizond of the 24th ult., published in the *Moniteur*, contains an assertion which we would fain hope to be incorrect, though it is put forward as being positively true—namely, the death of the prophet warrior, Schamyl.

THE QUEEN'S SYMPATHY WITH HER TROOPS UNDER DEFEAT.

The annexed general order was promulgated a few hours before Lord Raglan's death:—

"The Field-Marshal has the satisfaction of publishing to the army the following extract from a telegraphic despatch from Lord Panmure, dated the 22nd of June:—

"I have her Majesty's commands to express her grief that so much bravery should not have been rewarded with merited success, and to assure her brave troops that her Majesty's confidence in them is entire."

THE LATE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Within a very few hours after this order had appeared, the electric telegraph brought the melancholy and startling intelligence from head-quarters to the various divisions that the Field-Marshal was dead. It would appear that he has lately—no doubt from the constant strain on his mental and bodily energies—been far from well, and the death of General Estcourt, to whom he was much attached, the unsatisfactory result of the attack on the 18th inst., and the unhealthy weather since, broke down a constitution already enfeebled by age and long service. The cause of his death is stated to have been diarrhoea, which terminated in cholera. The body is to be conveyed to England in her Majesty's ship Caradoc, and will leave very shortly. It will, I hear, be accompanied by the whole of his late lordship's personal staff, whose

duties will then, of course, cease. Colonel the Hon. W. L. Pakenham will conduct for the present the duties of the Adjutant-General's office.—*Times Correspondent*.

On the very morning of his death, Lord Raglan seemed so much better that his physicians thought all danger was past. But in the evening he was seized with a fainting fit; and two hours later he expired with great calmness.

A mistaken impression existed during last week that the deceased Field-Marshal would be buried at Balaklava. Such, however, was not the intention. The remains of Lord Raglan have been consigned to the family vault at Badminton. It would doubtless have been more in accordance with the wishes of the people of England, had they been placed side by side with the ashes of the General's great chief in St. Paul's cathedral; but family feelings in these matters ought to supersede national desires. The ship Caradoc was the vessel which conveyed Raglan first to Varna and afterwards to the Crimea, and with whose commander, Derrinane, he was on terms of affectionate friendship.

It is understood that the Emperor of the French has written a letter to Lady Raglan, in which more than ordinary feeling is displayed.

The Spanish Cortes have unanimously passed a resolution, in order that, "In remembrance of the services rendered by Lord Raglan, who defended in his youth Spanish independence, and to the day of his death the liberties of Europe, they may proclaim the regret with which they learned the melancholy death of that excellent General." The Minister who proposed this resolution, guarded against its being supposed that the Cortes desired to manifest any opinion concerning the present struggle in the Crimea. Yet the phrase, "defending the liberties of Europe until his death," can hardly be regarded in any other light than an expression of opinion, and against Russia.

A THUNDERSTORM AND HURRICANE AT BALAKLAVA.

June 23rd.—At eight o'clock this evening, a thunderstorm, advancing from the mountain ranges over Balaklava and Mackenzie's farm, burst on the valley of the Tchernaya and on the southern portion of the camp. I never beheld such incessant lightning. For two hours the sky was a blaze of fire. The rain fell like a great wall of water behind us. Not a drop descended over the camp in front, but we could see it in a steep glistening cascade, illuminated by the lightning, falling all across the camp from sea to land, just in front of Lord Raglan's, and nearly in a straight line, as if marked out by a ruler. The rain is a great relief to our parched reservoirs.

June 25th.—The storm which burst over the southeastern portion of the Chersonese on Saturday night has done more damage than we could have anticipated. Men were drowned in ravines converted by the tornado into angry watercourses, were carried off roads by mountain torrents, and dashed against hill-sides; beasts were swept away into the harbour and borne to sea; huts were broken up and floated out into the ocean; the burialgrounds near Balaklava were swept bare, and disclosed their grim army of dead in ghastly resurrection, washed into strange shapes from out their shallow graves; and, greatest calamity of all, the railway was in various places decomposed, ripped up and broken down so as to be unserviceable at our greatest need. Orders have been sent down to urge on the necessary repairs; for the demands of the batteries for shot and shell are pressing, and the electric telegraph has been repeatedly in use to-day to force on the attention of the authorities at Balaklava the necessity there is for their promptest exertions, and to order them to send up supplies of *matériel* for our fifth bombardment as speedily as possible.—*Times Correspondent*.

FLAGS OF TRUCE.

The Russian Minister of War, in a letter addressed to Admiral Dundas, lays down the following rules to which his Government has determined that flags of truce shall conform:—

"Flags of truce can only be sent to three places, namely, Cronstadt, Sweaborg, and Revel. Ships so presenting themselves will have to carry a white flag of a large size, to stop beyond the range of heavy ordnance, and to wait for a boat to put off from the place under a white flag, in order to receive a written message. I have to inform you, Monsieur l'Amiral, that the Imperial Government has decided on not recognising the flag of truce, should vessels be sent to other localities than those I have just stated, or should they fail to observe rigorously the regulations prescribed in this letter."

In reply to this, Admiral Dundas says that he leaves upon the Russian Government the responsibility of any disasters which may take place in consequence of the restrictions thus imposed; and that he regrets the Russian minister has not pointed out any specific case of misconduct on the part of English officers, as such would immediately be investigated.

DEATH OF A SARDINIAN OFFICER.

A telegraphic despatch received in Paris announces the death of one of the bravest officers in the Sardinian army, the Marquis Victor de Saint-Marsan-Carail, grandson of the French ambassador at Berlin under the Empire, and son of the First Equerry of the Emperor Napoleon I. He has been killed under the walls of Sebastopol in the midst of the French troops, having

been named Royal Piedmontese Commissioner to the camp of General Pelissier.

DESTRUCTION OF FORT ROTSHALM IN THE BALTIC.
Admiral Dundas communicates a report from Captain Yelverton, describing the blowing up of the fort of Rotshalm and of some large Russian barracks at Kotka.

WAR MISCELLANEA.

BRITISH RECRUITING IN AMERICA.—Mr. Charles H. Stanly, of the British Consulate, New York, has been arrested, and placed under one thousand dollars' bond, to answer a charge of enlisting recruits for the Crimea.

GREAT LOSS OF CATTLE INTENDED FOR THE CRIMEAN ARMY.—A letter from Smyrna, dated June 30, says:—"The Ganges (transport), Halpin, proceeded yesterday for the Crimea; two hundred head of cattle died during her detention at the castle."

NEW HOSPITAL FOR THE ARMY OF THE EAST.—*Galvani* publishes a Turin letter, stating that "His Majesty of the Sicilies has signified his consent to Sir W. Temple, that a hospital for convalescents from the East should be established on the Island of Ischia, where it is known the mineral springs possess rare powers in the cure of ague and rheumatism, and the air is particularly pure."

HEALTH OF THE ARMY.—From a report of Dr. Hall, addressed to the late Commander-in-Chief, we learn that "cholera and bowel complaints still prevail" (June 26), "and have been on the increase within the last two or three days; but neither the admissions nor the deaths have been so marked as to attract special attention, though numerous enough to create uneasiness." Dr. Hall speaks with great approval of the arrangements for the reception in hospital of the wounded after the action on the 18th. These arrangements, it will be recollected, have been seriously impugned by a medical correspondent of the *Times*, writing from the spot.

THE LOSSES IN THE LAND TRANSPORT CORPS by death would be extraordinary did we not find a parallel to them in the Sardinian army of Tchorgoun, which has lost in three weeks nearly 1000 men by cholera, dysentery, and diarrhoea. The Turks and French encamped in the valley suffer somewhat from the same diseases, but it is observable that the men who die are recruits and old men who are mostly unacclimatised. At Yenikaleh, the detachment of Land Transport Corps lost in a fortnight fifty men, of whom twenty-five were English and twenty-five native drivers. In its present state, it cannot supply all the wants of our army.—*Times Correspondent*.

RUSSIAN ADVANCE INTO ASIATIC TURKEY.—General Mouravieff, Commander-in-Chief of the Caucasian corps, announces, under date of June 13 and 14, that the Russian troops have crossed the Turkish frontier, and occupied a part of the Pachalic of Kars.

THE RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS sent into the Crimea have been compelled to return through want of provisions.

ANAPA.—The *Presse d'Orient* reports that the Circassian garrison of Anapa is harassed by a Russian force; that the Circassians have not been able to regain the military road, and that they are encamped to the number of fourteen battalions on the heights above Soujak-Kaleh.

SIR EDMUND LYONS has made himself unpopular by a series of rapid promotions of a son of Sir James Graham, a youth of nineteen, until lately a midshipman. A death vacancy having occurred among the lieutenants, Sir Edmund directed that a board should be held to pass young Mr. Graham to his next step, that of a mate; and, before he had been in that rank a dozen hours signalled for him to come to breakfast, and handed to him his commission as lieutenant. Such is the story as related by the *Times* Correspondent.

A CAMPAIGN ON THE DANUBE.—The *Austrian Gazette* is informed, from Galatz, that a campaign on the Danube and Pruth is expected there.

"THE GRAPES ARE SOUR."—A soldier writing to his cousin in Belfast, relates that after the attack on the 18th, one of the wounded men was asked by an officer if it was grape that caused his wound. "Yes, sir," he replied, "it was d—d sour grape to me."

DEPARTURE OF POLES FOR TURKEY.—A second transport of about one hundred of the Polish refugees, most of them young and able-bodied men, have sailed from Deptford, on board the screw steamer the *Victory*, under the command of a distinguished Polish officer, Captain Ordon. They are going to join the corps of the Turkish Cossacks, commanded by one of their countrymen, Czajkowski, now Saadyk Pacha.

A RUSSIAN COMPLIMENT.—The *Daily News* Correspondent relates that, after our repulse on the 18th, a Russian officer, during the armistice, said that we are "an army of lions led on by donkeys."

THE BALTIC.—Fifteen more infernal machines have been found, making, in all, a total of sixty-one discovered during a fortnight. Two deserters, who came on board the *Exmouth* on June the 30th, stated that two hundred of these "submarine exploders" had been laid down by the Russians on the south side of Cronstadt; and that they were so arranged that ten should explode at the same moment. Admiral Seymour, who was hurt

by the explosion of one of these contrivances, is progressing favourably.

"TIMID COUNSELS."—It is asserted in the camp that "one of the generals of division" ordered that the cemetery which we took on the 18th ult. should be given up. It was defended and fortified, however, by Lieutenant Donnelly, and we still retain it.

THE DITCH OF THE ABATTIS AT THE REDAN is said to have been filled with bayonets fixed firmly in the earth, on the occasion of our recent attack.

THE FRENCH LOSS FROM FIRST TO LAST.—The *Moniteur* says that it results from all the documents received at the War-office, that the number of military men who have fallen on the field of battle, or who have died in the ambulances and hospitals in consequence of wounds, cholera, or other diseases, amounts for the army in the East, from its departure from France up to the 1st of June, 1855, that is to say, during a period of thirteen months, to 14,205 men, and that, according to reports already received, the number of killed during the recent combats in June may be estimated, at the highest, at 2300.

THE SACK OF KERTCH.—Admiral Bruat writes to the French Minister of Marine, to say he does not think many articles of value have been destroyed at the Kertch Museum, the greater number having been removed previous to the occupation of the town.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BROWN has departed for England on medical certificate.

THE SUNDAY RIOTS.

THE masses seem determined to continue their Sunday demonstrations "until further notice;" so that Lord Robert Grosvenor's bill for "the better observance of the Sabbath" has led to a very singular method of "observing" the day of rest and devotion. There is no doubt, however, that the middle classes, and the more decent of the working-classes, stood aloof from the proceedings of last Sunday; since, as the obnoxious bill had been withdrawn, and the Government had promised inquiry into the misconduct of the police, there appeared no reasonable occasion for breaking her Majesty's peace, or her Majesty's policemen's heads, or her Majesty's aristocracy's windows.

It is pretty certain that the Government looked towards the day with much anxiety. They did not, indeed, plant a six-pounder in the park, nor were the mob stimulated by "the crash on the pavement" (of Pall Mall, or St. James's-street) "of the trail" of that gently-persuasive instrument; so that the pleasing vision in which Mr. Dundas indulged was not realised. But our frightened rulers thought proper to keep the soldiers under arms until the evening; and we understand that each man was furnished with twenty rounds of ball. Happily, however, there was no occasion for their services; for the demonstration, on the whole, was rather a tame affair.

The rioters consisted chiefly of boys and youths ranging from about fourteen to sixteen—mischievous ragamuffins, who of course had no idea of abstract principle in connexion with the matter, but who desired to have "a lark" after their own disreputable fashion. These congregated in Hyde Park, and, having amused themselves for an hour or two in hooting at those few carriages which were to be seen, adjourned to Belgravia, and made a brilliant *razzia* upon the windows, hundreds of which were smashed. The aristocracy are great sufferers in the matter of glass; and Admiral Sir George Seymour has been a personal sufferer in a rather considerable degree. His house in Eaton-square having been attacked, he sallied forth with all the courage and recklessness of a sailor, and literally thrashed one of the offenders with hearty good will. He was assailed, however, by a shower of stones, and, being badly cut on the head, was compelled to retire. Some of the rioters were subsequently captured, and about six o'clock the mob began to disperse. During the disturbances, Lord Palmerston, Lord Brougham, Lord Cardigan, and other noblemen, had to run the gauntlet of the populace. The hero of the light cavalry charge was loudly cheered, and bowed his acknowledgments. A quantity of straw, which was laid down in Belgrave-square, on account of illness, was piled up in heaps, and fired.

At the upper end of Grosvenor-place, a collision occurred between a small party of police and a large body of the rioters. The police had arrested a man, whom the crowd were determined to rescue; truncheons were used, and were opposed by sticks; and finally, the police, who were roughly used, were obliged to release their prisoner, and to make off, the inspector observing, "We are not among Englishmen, or they would not treat us so."

The conduct of the police was as praiseworthy and forbearing as on the previous Sunday it was reprehensible. The younger constables were draughted off, and none but experienced men were employed. Altogether, the proceedings of the day may be nearly summed up in one brief sentence:—There has been profitable work for the glaziers.

Two Grenadier Guardsmen, and six youths, have been remanded for a week at the Marylebone office, the

latter for breaking windows near the Regent's Park, and the former for inciting them. A little boy, aged fourteen, has been fined 40s. for breaking the windows of Lord Robert Grosvenor's house in Park-street. The police had a hard fight with the mob in taking him into custody. Other offenders have been punished at different offices.

Mr. Mair was on Tuesday discharged, on entering into recognizances. In consideration of the inquiry to be instituted by Government, he declined to press his charges against the policemen who had taken him into custody.

OUR CIVILISATION.

STEALING CHILDREN'S CLOTHES.—A low-looking hag of a woman, named Elizabeth Smith, was charged at Worship-street with having lured away and robbed a little girl named Jane Brooksbank, the only child of a tobacconist, living in Golden-lane, St. Luke's. From the evidence of the child's mother, it seemed that she had been sent out by her parent on an errand one morning, from which she did not return, and that after more than a fortnight's anxious search, she was brought home by one of the neighbours, half-starved and in dirty rags. The little girl stated to the magistrate that she had been seduced from her home by the prisoner, by whom she was afterwards stripped of her clothes, and, having been detained in the house of the woman nearly three weeks, was turned into the streets to beg. She was accidentally seen by a friend of the family crying on a door-step far from her home, and was taken by him back to her parents. The prisoner was subsequently traced out and apprehended in a disreputable house in Whitechapel. She denied the charge against her, and was remanded.

DIVORCE BILLS.—In the House of Lords, on Friday week, the Wyndham Divorce Bill, and the Ewing Divorce Bill, were read a second time, and ordered to be committed. The former has been before the House for a considerable time, and the facts have already appeared in the *Leader*. In the latter case, the divorce is asked for on the ground of adultery committed by Mrs. Ewing with Mr. Thomas Muir, a merchant of Calcutta.—A bill for divorcing Morton Cornish Sumner from Penelope Rubina Maria his wife, on the ground of adultery, was read a second time on Tuesday. The facts of the case were peculiarly revolting. Mr. Sumner, when twenty-four years of age, had married the daughter of Demetrius Count Valasamachi, senator of the Ionian Islands, her mother being the widow of the late Bishop Heber. The lady, at the time of her marriage, was eighteen. About five months after her marriage she was confined prematurely of a son owing to a fall; and after this, Mrs. Sumner took an unaccountable dislike to her husband, parted from him while abroad, and subsequently, in London, declared to Mr. Sumner, sen., that her husband was physically incapacitated from being the father of her child, and that "she could swear" to the infant being the offspring of another man. She made this declaration in the presence of her mother! There was reason to believe she had misconducted herself before her marriage; and in May, 1854, she was married at Corfu to a Greek gentleman, with whom she has since lived.

FORGERY BY A BOY.—On Friday, at the Mansion House, W. Shanley, a delicate-looking boy, not more than fifteen years of age, was brought before Sir R. W. Carden in the custody of Michael Haydon, the detective officer, charged with having forged and uttered a bill of exchange for 64l. 7s., with intent to defraud the Commercial Bank of London. It appeared that the boy had been very well conducted until last Easter, when he met some loose girls at Greenwich Fair, with whom he formed an acquaintanceship, and upon whom he spent most of the money derived from the forged bill. He was committed for trial.

SENDING A THREATENING LETTER.—Mr. William Corfield, solicitor, of 10, Gray's-in-square, appeared on a summons at the Clerkenwell Police-office for "threatening to print and publish certain matters and things with intent to extort money." Mr. Corfield had some real or alleged claims upon Mr. Radford, Jun., a young man who has recently been a student at Oxford, and who got considerably into debt while there. In consequence of this, he was compelled to leave the country. His father, however, undertook to settle his debts; but demurred to a claim for 250l. by Mr. Corfield, who subsequently offered to take one hundred pounds less. Mr. Radford, Sen., delayed sending the lesser sum, in order that he might make inquiries; and Mr. Corfield then threatened to issue a placard, offering a reward for the arrest of the young man on a charge of forgery, and describing him as having "frizzled brown hair, odd grey eyes, pink complexion, vulgar manners." Mr. Corfield was remanded, and bail was refused.

MURDER OF A SOLDIER AT SHEFFIELD.—A man named Thomas Jackson has been committed for trial, charged with the murder of George Lewis, a private of the 7th Hussars, now stationed at Sheffield. Jackson had been drinking, together with Lewis and some other soldiers, at a public-house. He was not sober; and he wished the soldiers to box with him on the following day. This they refused to do, and they all shortly left the house. On the road, Jackson renewed his challenge,

and subsequently pulled out a large clasp-knife, and made an attack on the soldiers, though his brother and a friend endeavoured to hold him back. Lewis, who was somewhat intoxicated, stumbled and fell in trying to get away; and Jackson then rushed on him and inflicted two mortal wounds.

GAMBLING TRANSACTIONS.—A recent action in the Court of Exchequer shows the extent to which secret gaming is carried on. Mr. Barnard, whose brother it would appear kept a "hell" at the corner of Piccadilly and St. James's-street, sued Major Percy Fielding of the Coldstream Guards (who had just returned wounded from the Crimea) for 300*l.* Major Fielding brought forward evidence to show that he had given a cheque for this sum as security for three hundred ivory counters which he had borrowed of Mr. Barnard for the purpose of illegally gaming; and the jury, instructed by Mr. Baron Martin, gave a verdict in his favour.

SUICIDE IN THE LONDON DOCKS.—A girl, about eighteen years of age, drowned herself in the London Docks on Monday morning. She is the fifth woman who has committed suicide in the docks within a fortnight.

A FIGHT WITH BURGLARS.—Some thieves recently entered the house of Mr. William Mellor, in the Potteries, Staffordshire, early in the morning. One of Mr. Mellor's sons, a youth about eighteen years of age, armed himself with a long knife, and attacked a tall ruffian of six feet in height, who discharged a pistol at him. An accomplice then appeared, struck the youth about the head, and knocked him down stairs. Upon some of the other inmates coming to his assistance, the thieves fled; but one was so severely wounded in the side by the knife, that it is almost certain he will be obliged to call in surgical aid, when of course he will be captured.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT SEA.—A frightful series of tragedies has occurred on board the brig *Her Majesty*, bound from Salonica to Queenstown, Ireland. One of the crew, an Irishman named Veale, had been very ill-conducted during the voyage, and on the day of the catastrophe was found asleep in the galley instead of being at work. The captain threw a bucket of water over him; on which Veale started up, and, drawing a knife, stabbed the captain in several places, then wounded the mate three times, and subsequently, as it is supposed, threw their bodies overboard. He afterwards stabbed two more seamen, who were asleep at the time, and one of whom he killed instantaneously. Another sailor, named Bald, who was advancing with a pistol, was wounded twice, and fell down the companion-ladder; and subsequently Veale was heard endeavouring to scuttle the ship with an axe. Bald then went up with a musket, and wounded the murderer in the leg. Retreating into the fore-castle, and there shutting himself up, Veale cut his throat, after in vain attempting to hang himself. The vessel was subsequently navigated into Queenstown by the ship *Isabella*. Rumours mentioned in the Cork papers point to the necessity for a more searching inquiry into these tragedies. It is stated that Veale was known on previous voyages to be a most quiet and inoffensive person, who never misconducted himself; and reports are in circulation, whether well or ill-founded, of treatment received by him which would afford a more natural explanation of his conduct than it has hitherto received.

DANIEL MITCHELL DAVIDSON AND COSMO WILLIAM GORDON were again examined at Guildhall on Tuesday, on which occasion John Windle Cole was placed at the dock, charged with conspiring with the other prisoners, and with one Maltby, now deceased, for the purposes of fraud. Cole was brought up on a habeas from Newgate, where he is now lying under sentence of four years' penal servitude. Evidence having been received, to show that Cole was a party to placing in the hands of Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., and other capitalists, certain spelter warrants for the advance of money, at a time when he knew there were no goods, at the wharf indicated, to answer the warrants, the investigation was once more adjourned.

WILLIAM WALKER, a labourer, was on Monday committed for trial on a charge of being concerned with another man not in custody in stealing five fowls, and also with violently assaulting and disabling a constable in the execution of his duty. The policeman met the prisoner during the night in St. John's Park, Holloway, and, suspecting the nature of the bundle which he had with him, took him in custody after a desperate struggle. The small bone of the policeman's arm was broken, and he was otherwise severely injured.

A BURGER "DETECTIVE."—A man named Thomas Clayton was charged at Worship-street with robbing Mr. Benjamin Levi, a butcher of Houndsditch, of his watch, in Whitechapel. Suspecting where the stolen property would be disposed of, Mr. Levi went on the following day, disguised, to a place called "Exchange Pass," in Petticoat-lane, where he met the prisoner, and, after asking him several ingeniously-framed questions, managed to draw certain self-criminatory revelations from the unsuspecting thief, whom he immediately gave into custody. The prisoner was remanded.

MURDER AT ROTHWELL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—Mr. Benjamin Cheney, a miller and farmer, upwards of eighty years of age, has been found dead near Kettering-market. He appeared to have been killed by blows on

the back of the head with a hatchet; and some gold and silver which he had about him were missing. Isaac Pinnock, a cripple of bad character, is in custody on suspicion.

THE CASE OF STRAHAN, PAUL, AND CO.—The proceedings in this case were resumed on Wednesday, at Bow-street, when Mr. Bodkin said he was sorry he was not able to proceed much farther, but that, as Mr. Strahan had misstated the fact when he said Sir J. D. Paul had negotiated Dr. Griffith's securities at Messrs. Overend and Gurney's, whereas the securities deposited with that firm were not Dr. Griffith's, the counsel for the prosecution had been put on an entirely wrong scent. Messrs. Overend and Gurney had given them every facility; but in seeking to know what had become of Dr. Griffith's securities, they had been obstructed by Mr. Bell, the official assignee, who refused to let them see the books. "But, happily," said Mr. Bodkin, "those who are superior in authority to Mr. Bell do not approve of that gentleman's conduct, and leave has now been given to inspect the books." Some evidence having been received relative to the purchase of stock by Messrs. Strahan and Co., the proceedings were again adjourned for a week.

A STRANGE CASE.—William Humphries, who described himself as a house-agent and appraiser, residing at 19, King's-road, Bedford-row, appeared at Clerkenwell, on Wednesday, on his own recognisance, for assaulting Miss Elizabeth Johnstone. The assault, it appeared, had been committed at the instigation of a man named Money, who had been married to Miss Johnstone's sister, from whom, however, he was separated by a decree of the Ecclesiastical Court. Money, believing that his child was kept from him at Miss Johnstone's house, went there late in the evening, in company (as it was alleged) with the prisoner, and with another man not in custody nor identified, except that he was a thin, pale man, and assaulted Miss Johnstone, under the belief, apparently, that she was Mrs. Money. Miss Johnstone is an invalid, and was much hurt and frightened. She declined to say whether her sister's child was in the house at the time, or not. Money, according to the prisoner, has gone to Crimea, having forfeited bail to the amount of 100*l.*, accepted on a previous day when he appeared in custody before the magistrate; but this assertion is believed to be false, and that he is concealed here. Humphries was remanded.

FLOGGING ENGLISH SEAMEN.—With reference to a statement made in London during last April, to the effect that Mr. Dalziel, police magistrate of Colombo, had illegally flogged some English seamen, that gentleman has communicated with the authorities at the Mansion House, stating that Thompson and Martin were charged with a common law offense, and that the law authorises the punishment awarded.

OBITUARY.

ONE OF THE LAST OF THE IRISH PARLIAMENT.—We read in the Irish papers of the death of Mr. John M'Clintock, of Drumcar, in the county of Louth, aged eighty-five. This gentleman had been Serjeant-at-Arms in the Irish House of Commons, and, on losing that office in consequence of the Union of England and Ireland, was granted a pension of 2000*l.* a year, which he enjoyed for more than half a century. Sir Jonah Barrington relates that, on the night the measure was passed, in March, 1800, M'Clintock was the last to leave the house, accompanied by the Speaker, and that, when at the door, they turned to take a farewell look at the house which had been "the glory and the protection of the country." He was twice married, and had, by his first wife, two sons; by his second wife, who survives him, he had a large family.

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN ACKWORTH OMBANEY died at his seat, Warblington-house, Havant, near Portsmouth, on Sunday night, aged eighty-five. His last appointment was that of commander-in-chief at Devonport, which he vacated in the spring of last year.

DEATH OF SIR EDWARD PARRY.—We regret to state that Sir W. E. Parry, Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital, died at Bms, in Germany, on Saturday last. Sir Edward had long been in declining health, and his death was not unexpected. He was in his sixty-sixth year, and had been twice married.

DEATH OF MR. PHILIP PUSEY, THE AGRICULTURIST.—Mr. Philip Pusey, of Pusey-park, Faringdon, Berks, and late M.P. for that county, expired on Monday afternoon, at the residence of his brother, the Rev. Dr. Pusey, Christ Church College, Oxford, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

Mr. Stowe, who was sent out by the *Times* to succeed Mr. Macdonald in the administration of the private fund under the special control of the leading journal, has died at Balaklava of cholera. When struck with illness, Mr. Stowe asked for admission into the military hospital at the camp; but an order not to admit civilians was enforced to the letter by Dr. Hall, and the patient had to be carried down in the hot sun to Balaklava. This decision appears the more ungracious, and even cruel, when we consider that Mr. Stowe was administering a charitable fund. Mr. Stowe was a first-class man of Oxford, and a fellow of Oxial

College. It was he who, in the absence of Mr. Russell, wrote that extraordinarily vivid description of the taking of the Green Mamelon and Quarries on the 7th of June, from which, but a few weeks since, we gave some extracts in the *Leader*. In consequence of the treatment of Mr. Stowe, the *Times* has resolved not to send out another commissioner.

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, on Monday afternoon, delivered the Crimean medal to about thirty of the invalided and wounded soldiers of the Scots Fusilier Guards at the Military Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge Road.

THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT.—The Queen, accompanied by the King of the Belgians, the Count of Flanders, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Duke of Cambridge, went on Tuesday to Aldershott, and reviewed the troops encamped there. General Knollys has resigned the command at the camp for a more important one at the seat of war. His successor is not yet appointed.

A DISAGREEABLE OCCURRENCE.—The captain of one of the largest English steamers in the port of Marseilles has been removed from his command at the request of a French official. The reason assigned for so harsh a proceeding is that the captain on his last voyage to the East, having a large transport laden with troops in tow, cast her off, and thus endangered the lives of a number of men. The captain says that, during a gale of wind and with a heavy sea running, he was forced to cast off the transport, otherwise a collision would have inevitably taken place, and the safety of the two vessels would have been endangered. To this explanation, the official, who is not a naval man, briefly replied that several similar acts had lately taken place, and that it is necessary to make an example.

THE LATE GENERAL STRANGWAYS AND ADMIRAL BOXER.—We are quite sure every one of our readers will hear with satisfaction that the Queen has given apartments in Hampton Court to the widows of General Strangways and Admiral Boxer.—*Times*.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE INSURRECTION IN CATALONIA appears to be assuming a serious character. It is a rising of workmen, ostensibly for the purpose of obtaining higher wages, but having in fact much deeper and more widely extended objects. The movement is believed to have been fomented by Russia, with a view to a restoration of the Carlists in Spain and the Legitimists in France; but the workmen have issued a manifesto, in which they declare that they are determined to support Espartero, and to put to death any Carlist who may exhibit himself. The Captain-General of Barcelona, Zapatero, is shut up in the fort of Atarazanas, and not in the citadel, as at first reported. The National Guard, for the present, continue faithful; and a deputation has been sent to Madrid. Several flags have been taken from the revolted workmen: on one of these, the words "Working Men's Association" were inscribed. Many thousand French Socialist refugees form part of the population of Barcelona; and it is very probable that they have aided in the present movement. A despatch from Madrid, dated July 10th, says:—"The Catalonian deputation has applied to the Cortes for a bill to organise labour. The Government refuses till the insurgents submit; and it is determined to act against the Carlists as well as against the workmen. More troops have marched for Catalonia."

Elio one of the chiefs of the late Carlist insurrection in Spain, still remains in France, though many of the other refugees have been expelled. The Emperor is aware of his presence, but refuses or omits to disturb him. Yet the Spanish Government but recently thanked the Emperor for the "loyal" manner in which he had refused to allow the conspirators against Queen Isabella to shelter themselves on his territory.

Espartero has withdrawn his resignation. Mr. Perry, Secretary of the American Legation at Madrid, has received his dismissal.

The rebels who stopped Lord Howden told him they were acting in defence of the King and of religion. Having found in his trunks a Cross of the Order of San Francisco, they remarked that he must have won it in the preceding civil war by combating Don Carlos. They at length told him that he might continue his journey.

From France we hear that at a meeting of the Legislative Body on Thursday week (Count de Morny in the chair), the President of the Chamber, in presenting a report on the bill relative to the loan, made a speech, in the course of which he said: "Your committee has thought that an adhesion seriously reflected on would be more honourable and more flattering for the Government than a blind and enthusiastic sentiment; and it thought it its duty to proceed to a conscientious examination of the present financial and political state of affairs. During the last six months, facts have taken place which have been the object of great anxiety in the public mind; and, without going beyond the limit of its functions, the committee has thought that it might examine some of these facts by itself, and ask on the

subject of some others explanations from the organs of the Government. Since the last session, Conferences have taken place on the general bases adopted in principle by all the contracting Powers, and which appeared calculated to lead to peace; these Conferences, however, have only led to the continuation of hostilities. Has too much jealousy of the honour of the country been shown, or have its permanent interests been sacrificed to an exaggerated susceptibility? These were certainly questions which it was our right and our duty to ask; but every one of us is convinced that the Emperor has replied to them beforehand." The President also stated that the committee wished to inquire into the financial affairs of the nation, a degree of uneasiness having been felt in consequence of a belief that a part of the new loan had been already expended in anticipation. This belief, it rejoices to learn, was fallacious. In short, the few faint objections which the committee ventures to hint soon pass off into vague generalities of approval; and finally the President observed: "To sum up—from all these considerations, your committee charges me, unanimously, to propose to you to adopt the bill." It is needless to add that this was done. So much for Parliamentary opposition in France.

The *Vienna Gazette* contains a semi-official article in reply to the Emperor Napoleon's speech, in so far as the latter touched upon Austria. The article in question maintains that Austria has fulfilled the obligations imposed on her by the treaty of December 2nd, and that she is not bound to take any further steps.

During his recent tour through his dominions, the Emperor of Austria is said to have shown particular attentions to the Poles. Is this in order to check-mate the French Emperor?

The Prince of Prussia is going to St. Petersburg on family business. The journey is alleged to have no political signification.

The disturbances in the Ukraine are said to be by no means suppressed. The peasants refuse their accustomed labour-tax, and demand liberty and land. Conspiracies have also been discovered at St. Petersburg, at Moscow, and in other parts of Russia. Several very high persons of what is called the Slavonic party are said to be mixed up in them.

The *Constitutionnel* says that the foreign policy of Napoleon III. is conservative, and not revolutionary.

The *Phare de la Loire*, of July 6, says that arrests to the number of thirty-four or thirty-five were effected in the night at Nantes. These arrests are supposed to be political, and connected with the discovery of a secret society. In Paris, several persons supposed to belong to the secret society of *La Marianne*—a cant name for the guillotine—have been apprehended.

Cholera is raging at Warsaw. A letter from that city states that the Russian soldiers there are in such a miserable state that they beg alms of passers by, even when standing sentry.

Prince Stirbey, the Hospodar of Wallachia, is thought to have entertained no less a design than to declare himself independent of the Sultan. But he has become exceedingly unpopular among the people of the Principalities, who, it is said, desire his expulsion, and a cessation of the execrable tyranny exercised by the Austrians.

A private letter from Berlin, from a Russian source, states positively that the health of the Emperor of Russia is in a bad state. It is believed that he is attacked by consumption, and a good deal of uneasiness is felt as to its progress.

PERSECUTION OF PROTESTANTS.

The Committee of the Protestant Alliance have submitted to Lord Clarendon the cases of Domenico Cecchetti, Borzinsky, Dr. Gomez, and other seceders from Roman Catholicism to Protestantism, who have fallen under the persecutions of the various continental states to which they belong; and have accompanied this statement with the expression of their earnest hope that the English Government will make some representation or remonstrance to the respective foreign Governments. To this document, Lord Clarendon, through his secretary, has replied that continental Governments are sometimes prevented by the fanaticism of their people from acting as liberally as they might intend, and that great caution is required in dealing with them on such matters. The reply then states that, "The Grand Duke of Tuscany has been made aware that he could do nothing more agreeable to the Government and people of England than to liberate Cecchetti. With respect to the cases in Austria of which the Earl of Clarendon had not heard, and which his lordship thanks the committee for making known to him, Lord Clarendon will make the necessary application to the Austrian Government through her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Vienna, and the committee shall be informed of the result. Instructions will also be sent to her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon, to afford such protection as may be in his power to Gomez; but Gomez is a Spanish subject, and as the treaty to which the committee alludes only provides for the free exercise of their religion by British subjects in Portugal, her Majesty's Government cannot interfere officially in his behalf."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen, Prince Albert, and the Princess Royal, together with the King of the Belgians and other notabilities, visited the Crystal Palace on Saturday afternoon, and dined there. On the same day, previous to starting, the Queen held an Investiture of the Order of the Bath at Buckingham Palace, when Admiral Dundas, the Duke of Cambridge, Sir De Lacy Evans, General Sir James Macdonell, and General Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, were made Knights Grand Cross; and Lord Lucan, Admiral Plumridge, Lord Cardigan, General Buller, Admiral Chads, and some others, were constituted Knights Commanders of the Order.—The Court have removed to the Isle of Wight.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO PARIS, which had at first been intended to take place on the 2nd of August, is now definitively fixed for the 17th. Parliament will, of course, be prorogued before her Majesty's departure.

EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL.—The quarterly returns of emigration from the port of Liverpool show a considerable falling off as compared with the departures in the corresponding quarter last year.

DISCOVERY OF THE BODY OF BALMAT, THE SWISS GUIDE.—Jacques Balmat, the celebrated guide of Chamouni, who was lost in the ascent of Mont Blanc about twenty years ago, while acting as guide to some travellers, was found a few days ago, according to the *Gazette de Lausanne*, in the broken-up ice which forms the arch (*voûte*) of Aveyron. To the astonishment of persons passing that way, the body of a man was discovered, the upper portion being still buried in its frozen tomb. After cautious efforts with pickaxes and other instruments, they succeeded in disengaging the remains of the old and popular guide, Jacques Balmat, in a state of the most perfect preservation. Jacques Balmat acquired some celebrity by being one of the guides to M. Saussure, the naturalist, in the year 1786.

MORE CHINESE ARRIVALS.—A son of a celebrated Chinese tea-merchant, named Whampo, has just arrived in this country by the Indian mail, having been sent here by his father to be educated. He is about sixteen, and, we are told, has a "very large head and most intellectual countenance." The latter, to judge from the specimens we already have over here, is a very remarkable thing for a Chinese. The youth is to remain in England four years, when his father will visit Europe, and take his son back to China.

THE CROPS.—We continue to read the most satisfactory accounts of the state of the crops, both in England and Ireland.

TWO YOUNG LADIES.—Miss Rees and Miss Anne Rees—were drowned the other day while bathing near Carmarthen. Their governess rushed into the water to save them, and was also drowned.

A POWDER-MILL at Glenlean, Scotland, has blown up, with a report, the shock of which was felt for several miles. Four of the men were killed. It is only three months since an explosion took place at the same works, and four explosions have taken place there in all, but none previously were attended with any fatal results.

AGAIN, MR. JEREMIAH SMITH, EX-MAYOR OF RYE.—Mr. Jeremiah Smith, who was recently tried and convicted of bribery at the Old Bailey, has just been tried at the Lewes Quarter Sessions, in conjunction with another person, named James Robertson, for a common assault. The charge was preferred by Mr. Payne, churchwarden and overseer, of Playden, near Rye. It appeared that, on the 8th of May, Mr. Smith applied at improper hours to see the parish books. Mr. Payne reluctantly produced them, and, directly he did so, Mr. Smith roughly seized the books, and threw them into a neighbouring garden, where they were picked up by Robertson. Smith was fined 10*l.*, and Robertson 4*s.*

SUNDAY LEGISLATION.—On Saturday, a meeting was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution, Doctors' Commons, in order to protest against Sunday legislation. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Ernest Jones, Mr. Nash, and Mr. Finley, who strongly recommended "mass meetings" in Hyde Park, but advised the populace not to infringe the law, and to behave respectfully to the authorities.

IRELAND.—Serious riots have occurred in Nenagh between the militia and the populace; but the exertions of the respectable inhabitants and the constabulary have restored order. A collision also took place between the country people and the police at Bellewstown races, the former having rescued a deserter out of the hands of the police.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM MOVEMENT IN BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, according to advertisement, it was arranged that the first annual meeting of the Administrative Reform Association of Birmingham should be held. At six o'clock, however—and, indeed, half an hour after that—only some half dozen persons attended; consequently no business was done, and the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

SOME ENGLISH PLOUGHS, which have been tried in France, have distanced all competitors.

THE CRIMEAN "NAVVIERS."—Repeated applications have recently been made at the police offices by poor women whose husbands are with the Land Transport Corps in the Crimea, and who have been unable to obtain their pay.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, July 14.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL has ceased to be a Minister. We believe we are correct in saying that Lord John Russell has resigned. By this act he has done, we will not say with the best grace, the best to repair the ill effects of his conduct upon his own character and upon the situation of his colleagues. Out of doors there was but one opinion on the position into which he had worked himself, and the House of Commons must have pronounced the verdict of the constituencies.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The only business done was forwarding several bills a stage, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LONDON WRIT.

A discussion arose on a motion that Lord Hotham be discharged from the Committee to inquire into the question of Baron Rothschild being allowed to sit for London in consequence of his having contracted for the loan, Lord Hotham having some scruples as to counsel being heard only on one side. At the request of Mr. T. Duncombe his lordship consented to remain on the Committee.

ARREARS OF PAY TO INVALID SOLDIERS.

In answer to Captain Knox, Mr. F. PEEL said that invalided soldiers at Chatham had not received arrears of pay, due to them since last January, in consequence of the pay-lists of their regiments not having been sent home from Scutari.

A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET.

In answer to Sir H. Willoughby, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that it was found that the expenditure of the navy for the year would be in excess of the sum already voted, and that it was probable a further sum would be required for the war generally. Supplemental estimates would therefore be proposed some time before the close of the session in Committee of Supply; and if they were agreed to he should have to propose the necessary means of raising the sum required in Committee of Ways and Means.

At a subsequent part of the evening, in answer to Mr. DISRAELI, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said, that it was not intended to ask for a loan of the same kind as that now in existence, at any rate before December.

INQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE IN HYDE PARK.

In answer to Mr. T. DUNCOMBE, Sir G. GREY said that a commission, consisting of the Recorder of London, the Recorder of Manchester, and the Recorder of Liverpool had been appointed to inquire into the conduct of the police in Hyde Park on Sunday week. They would have power to examine witnesses on oath, and it would be at their discretion whether the parties on both sides appeared by counsel or not; but every facility would be given to the parties aggrieved to make out their cases. In reference to an objection that a commission could not take evidence on oath except by Act of Parliament, he said that there were precedents for such a power being given.

THE WAR.

LORD PALMERSTON stated, in answer to Mr. PALK, that news was received every day from the army, but nothing of importance had arrived that day. The health of the army was satisfactory.

THE RIOT IN BELGRAVIA.

LORD H. VANE asked whether means would be taken to protect Belgravia against rioters next Sunday, or whether the inhabitants were to be allowed to defend themselves?

Sir G. GREY said that he had no reason to anticipate that any disturbance would take place on Sunday next, but every precaution would be taken to protect the districts in the neighbourhood of Hyde Park. He suggested whether these constant references to the probability of disturbances were not calculated to rouse the curiosity of many persons, and induce them to go to Hyde Park, thus causing a crowd which would not otherwise assemble, and producing the evil it was intended to prevent.

BILLETTING OF THE MILITIA.

Mr. COWAN complained of the evils arising from billeting the militia in Scotland, and Lord PALMERSTON stated that Lord Panmure was considering the best course of putting an end to the present state of things. The House then went into committee on the Tenants Compensation (Ireland) Bill. The discussion commenced at clause 15, and after debate it was moved that the clause be omitted; and on a division the numbers for the clause were 83; against, 84; the Government thus suffering a defeat by a majority of one. The greater part of the sitting was occupied with the committee on this bill; but the whole of the clauses were not gone through. The other orders of the day were disposed of; they contained nothing of interest.—The House adjourned at half-past one.

THE BALTIC.

The St. Petersburg journals of the 6th report that on the night between the 2nd and 3rd, the gunboats of the allied fleets destroyed a large number of Finland vessels near Grossischra; and that on the morning of the 3rd, Krasnagorka was bombarded for five hours, and the Telegraph barracks almost entirely destroyed.

A letter from Trebizonde in the *Moniteur* mentions the death of SCHAMYL as certain.

Vienna, July 11.

Marshal Radetzky has demanded reinforcements for the garrisons of Milan, Verona, Venice, and other Italian fortresses. 40,000 men will shortly leave for that destination.

By the last American mail we learn that Alvarez has defeated the Government troops near Mexico.

A telegraphic despatch from Barcelona, dated the 11th inst., announces that order reigns in that city.

FIVEPENCE is now the price for an UNSTAMPED copy of the *Leader*, and SIXPENCE if STAMPED.

A STAMPED copy of this Journal can be transmitted through the Post-office to any part of the United Kingdom as frequently as may be required, during fifteen days from its date, free of charge; but it is necessary that the paper should be folded in such a manner that the stamp be clearly visible on the outside.

The *Leader* has been "registered" at the General Post-office, according to the provisions of the New Act relating to Newspapers, and it has, therefore, the privilege of transmission through the post beyond the United Kingdom.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 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.

SHALL WE HAVE THE TORIES?

THE struggle for power between the two aristocratic parties which is taking place in the form of the different want-of-confidence motions, is not an edifying object of contemplation. The only point for sensible men to consider is, what we shall gain by exchanging Whigs for Tories.

There will be no change in the character or objects of the war. We shall still be left fighting for limitations of ships, modifications of protectorates, and the other authorised objects of monarchical diplomacy. The idea of a real crusade in favour of liberty under the leadership of Lord DERBY is simply preposterous. Mr. DISRAELI makes peace and war speeches in rapid alternation, according as the chance of beating the Government by a junction with the warlike Radicals or the pacific Radicals appears the best. He now denounces the expedition to the Crimea as ill-advised; but no one at the time was more active in decrying the Government for not undertaking it. It is clear that from such minds as this, acting under the pressure of a dozen opposite influences, no straightforward and manly counsels in war or peace can come. The probability is that if Lord DERBY and Mr. DISRAELI have any view in the matter beyond that of riding into office on the first wave, their view is favourable to peace; and we should not be surprised if the imitator of BOLINGBROKE were to follow in the steps of his model by crowning Alna and Inkerman with another treaty of Utrecht.

We have as little confidence in Tory promises of Administrative Reform. The Tories adopted Administrative Reform in the first instance, not for its own sake, but as an antidote to the desire for Parliamentary

Reform; and in that sinister sense alone they are its authors. They would probably, for the sake of place, graciously grant us some scanty measure. But they would not, and could not, touch the root of the evil. The root of the evil is aristocracy: and aristocracy is the very essence of Toryism. If the Tory Ministries appear less oligarchical than the Whigs, it is because the Tory Lords are more stupid than the RUSSELLS and GRANVILLES, and so are obliged to hire a DISRAELI. But the class character of a Tory Government based on "the laud," is far more oligarchical in essential respects than a Government of Whigs, which is compelled by its very want of support from the landlords to make concessions to the Liberals on whose votes it lives. Does any one suppose that the purity and efficiency of the public service are the real objects of the intriguers who figure in the scandalous chronicles of the Dockyard Committee? Does any one suppose that if Lord DERBY got into power he would throw open the great offices of state to men of the people? The last Tory Ministry was composed of the common ingredients of dull Tory Lords and Corn-law Squires. Even Mr. DISRAELI's private secretary was not a young aspirant of merit, whom a man, pretending himself to stand on his merits, might have been glad and proud to raise into public life, but a younger son of a particularly exclusive Duke. It matters not whether a man be a member of the privileged caste himself, or a hired and liveried flunkey of the privileged caste, no reliance can be placed on him for the promotion of unprivileged capacity. Through the whole of the Administrative Reform movement, and the debates arising from it, the Tory leaders have shown, that, however glad they may be to play a popular card, they shrink instinctively from earnest reformers, and from reformers whose mission is direct from the people.

On the general Radical programme which the more unscrupulous and ambitious Tories are inclined to put forth, we have spoken our mind. It is pure political Jesuitism of the worst kind. The grand experiment tried by LOUIS NAPOLEON has strengthened hopes, which, however, were entertained before, of turning the extended suffrage against liberty, and of crushing the intelligence of the country by its ignorance. This detestable scheme is congenial to men compared with whom the lowest demagogue of a pothouse, if there is a particle of honesty in his illusions, is a noble type of political morality. Fortunately in this country the case is totally different from what it was in France, and we should see the engineer on this side of the Channel "hoist with his own petard." In France they had got rid of their landlords and their tithes. Universal suffrage combined with landlordism and tithes would be an institution of a somewhat explosive kind, and produce results scarcely dreamed of in the gentle philosophy of Lord JOHN MANNERS.

There is one condition on which we are ready, and more than ready, to have the Tories in power to-morrow—and that is, if those who put them in power see their way clearly to a purification and consolidation of the Liberal party, and a real hearty movement in advance for objects worth a grand political struggle. But how many men are there on the Liberal benches who have the courage to join in such a struggle, or a real appreciation of its ends? What sort of scene would the Liberal camp present on the morrow of the change—one of union and settled purpose, or of aimless recrimination and disorder? Do what you will in the interest of progress with the two aristocratic

factions; but act with your eyes open, and remember that the stationary Whigs are weak, that the retrograde Tories may be strong.

LORD JANUS RUSSELL.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL's last escapade has given the *coup de grace* to his repute and to the British constitution as it is in RUSSELL. "Contraries in extremes do often meet," and Lord JOHN has always been noted for an infirmity of purpose which amounts to inflexible audacity. He rushes from his resolve with a directness that nothing can turn aside, and takes flight with a rashness that no counsel can intimidate. SYDNEY SMITH, whose allusion to Lord JOHN's daring has often been misconceived, perfectly understood the character of the man. He did not mean that Lord JOHN would have taken the command of the Channel fleet in the face of the Spanish Armada, or have undertaken an operation in order to effect the rescue of a martyr; but that if it were distinctly his duty to conclude a peace at Vienna, we might expect to see him rushing to the command of the Channel fleet in order to lead an attack upon the commercial navy of the Austrian LLOYD'S; or, if it were his duty as British Minister to find bread for that fleet, we probably should discover him at Gux's, performing the operation in question, not for the sake of the sufferer, but for his own sake, as finding there the most opposite occupation into which, as British Minister, he could rush. It must have been on this principle that, being sent to Vienna for the purpose of dictating terms to Russia and controlling the vacillations of Austria, he accepted the propositions of Count BUOL, and returned to London an Austrian agent for sacrificing all the objects of the war to Russia. There is not another man in the country whom infirmity of purpose would have terrified into an act of such imperious effrontery.

It is Lord JOHN RUSSELL's peculiar talent to provide surprises for his friends by being always the opposite of what they expect him to be, and repaying their fidelity by betraying all their hopes. When he has been in office, he has often postponed the measures which they expected him to carry, until he had lost the power of carrying them; and then he proposed them with so much determination, that he resigned rather than give them up. The Irish Appropriation clause was a splendid means of beating the Tory party—the boast of the Whigs while they were in power and capable of carrying it; but never carried. Lord JOHN was the advocate of free trade, but not its promoter until PEEL was already coming into office, and then the penitent Whig leader offered to make a beginning, in order to shut out PEEL from that work which he accomplished. Subsequently, after having helped the Tory Protectionist deserters to turn PEEL out, and being again in office, in the full possession of power, of opportunity, and of party traditions, Lord JOHN suffered his own Cabinet to dwindle into an antiquarian relic, the mere counterfeit of what it had been; and he who, being neither so democratic, nor so free-trading, nor so thoroughgoing a minister as that old Tory, had usurped the place of PEEL, was at last obliged to give way to a Premier of no greater rank than DERBY. Lord JOHN was rescued from political superannuation by Lord ABERDEEN, who formed The Cabinet of the Elders, with a few recruits from the junior ranks of statesmanship.

And how did Lord JOHN repay *that* rescue? He professed a most patriotic willingness to unite for the purpose of rescuing the State from the disgrace into which it had fallen

through sinking to the DERBY level; that was Lord ABERDEEN's object, and Lord ABERDEEN was sincere. But let us learn Lord JOHN RUSSELL's genuine purpose from the sequel. It is quite evident that he kept at a distance from Lord ABERDEEN, who had regained for him the position of a Cabinet minister. For his own part, he trifled with that position, exchanging his seat like an uneasy boy in a room full of company; being, first, Foreign Minister, then Minister without office, then President of the Council; but he was unable to rest. Determined to make a separate position for himself in the House of Commons, he dictated to Lord ABERDEEN a reorganisation of the war department; endeavoured to hunt the Duke of NEWCASTLE out of place, but affected to be answered by Lord ABERDEEN's objections; then flung himself out of office into the back bench, threatened ministers with the opposition of his Whig contingent, threw the whole Government into confusion at a period when confusion on the Treasury bench was worse even than a Derby régime,—succeeded in shuffling the sincere ABERDEEN, the earnest NEWCASTLE, and the other Peelite members out of the Government,—and finally accepted the mission of going to Vienna for the purpose of carrying the Four Points according to the Western interpretation. Thus, he seemed to accept the Coalition Cabinet as a rescue for the credit of his class, but he really entered it on a separate scheme to break it up for regaining a more conspicuous position. He became the dogmatic advocate of reorganisation of the war departments, evidently before he had framed any distinct idea of the requisite reform, for the present change is totally unlike his own crude suggestion. He affected to be answered by Lord ABERDEEN while he persevered in the unavowed object of his contrivance; he retired from office in order to take a more advanced position in office; he accepted the post of envoy at Vienna in order to perform the manifest duty of a British minister; and he returned to London brimful of eagerness to carry out the objects of Austria.

His last turn was the *tour de force*, or rather the *tour d'impuissance*; for no man is such a master of incapacity as Lord JOHN. The work that he has achieved does not stop in defeating his own mission to Vienna; it does more than defeat the object of his re-admission to the British Cabinet; practically, it has destroyed the vital principle of Cabinets in general. When Ministerial responsibility was substituted for regal responsibility; when Ministers undertook to be the whipping-boys of Kings towards the State, and a peccant CHARLES I. was to lose his head by proxy in the person of his principal seal-bearer, the enforcement of Ministerial responsibility lay with the headsman. That is the object of the impeachment with which the War members of both the late and the present Cabinet are threatened by Mr. ROEBUCK. If the Member for Sheffield were to carry out his mission with theoretical perfection, Lord JOHN RUSSELL would have to be conducted to Tower Hill or to Guildhall, would lay his head on a piece of wood like that which we see in butchers' shops, and would permit some superior CALCRAFT to divide his neck. Mr. ROEBUCK, it is true, aims at all the heads who are challenged with the "conduct of the war;" but we have no case proved against any save Lord JOHN, and that by his own confession. In modern days, however, the practice of decapitating Ministers has sadly degenerated. The most capital punishment by which Ministerial responsibility has been enforced has been expulsion from office.

An adverse vote of the Commons depriving Ministers of the voting-machine, and therefore of the tax-compelling power, obliges them to leave the Treasury Bench. It was an *understanding* that no man should accept office to carry out measures which he could not conscientiously support; and while that was the case, the withholding of confidence in the House that regulates finance, was sufficient to dismiss a Minister. Lord JOHN has broken that understanding. He accepted a mission to Vienna for one purpose and executed another; he came back pledged to sustain the Austrian compromise, and, although it was rejected by his Cabinet, he continued to remain a Cabinet Minister. He has thus shown to other statesmen a trick worth knowing. If they will only consent to carry out measures of which they heartily disapprove, they may remain official agents and defeat the forms of the House of Commons. Henceforward it may be understood, that a man may have a set of official opinions distinct from his own opinions; as there is a set religion, and members of the House of Commons are expected to use oaths of abjuration, to attend the Speaker at prayers, and so forth. This establishes the convenient rule that Ministers who have no conscience need be under no responsibility. The House of Commons, indeed, might pass a direct vote of censure upon an individual, but the House has of late years grown so polite that it always frames votes of censure extremely abstract, general, and in impersonal terms. Nor would it exercise any power of compulsion: Lord JOHN has worked out for the public a double-faced demonstration—that no penalty now hangs over the British Minister save moral disgrace, and that the British Minister is callous to that species of attack. You cannot arraign him upon any course—since he is always for *both*. Neither Mr. COBDEN nor Mr. BRIGHT can impeach him for betraying the country into a war, since he has done his best to betray the country into a peace; Sir EDWARD LYTON cannot convict him of concluding a disgraceful peace, since he is as devout as any for war. He is a JANUS who closes his temple, and at the same time leaves the door open for war—greedy at once for the sacrifices both of honour and of bloodshed.

SURVEY OF THE WAR.

ALTHOUGH but little news had arrived from the seat of war up to last night, what little there is shows that, in spite of great obstacles, the Allies are not only repairing the disaster of the 18th, but pushing the attack with vigour. Nor is it from the Crimea alone that we hear good news. The campaign in Asia was opened by the Russians early in June, and at the latest advices MOURAVIEFF's army had sustained a repulse at Kars.

The Crimea.—The method pursued by the Allies since their repulse has been a development of that which has distinguished the operations of this year from those of last—namely, the accumulation of formidable masses of very heavy guns in positions close to the huge defences of the place. From the 18th of June to the 9th of July, in accordance with this plan, the French completed their parallels, uniting the Mamelon and Mount Sapoune, connecting at the same time their left with the advanced British right attack. In carrying forward these operations, with the double object of getting a command of the Russian ships, and establishing a flank fire upon the Russian left, they were subjected to considerable loss from the Russian batteries on the north side of Sebastopol bay, and our allies deserve the greatest credit for the steady and undaunted

manner in which they conducted their incessant labours. At the same time, the works in the quarry were perfected, new batteries constructed, and armed. A heavy storm of rain on the 23rd of June having broken up a portion of the railway, caused a temporary obstruction to the supplies of shot and shell. We presume, however, that this was rapidly overcome, for on the 10th of July the British right attack opened a terrific fire upon the Redan, and either silenced the enemy's guns, or caused him to withdraw them. In any case, the British troops were enabled, under cover of the night, and by favour of the damage inflicted on the enemy, to push their approaches in the direction of the Redan, as General PELISSIER informs us. On the extreme left of the main French attack upon the town face of Sebastopol, we believe a battery of very heavy and far-reaching mortars has been constructed by our allies. The object of this battery is to co-operate with the mortars in the Mamelon and the works on Mount Sapoune in destroying the Russian ships, and so to complete an imperfect kind of investment of the south side of the great bay. Thus, by degrees, the Allies draw gradually and steadily nearer the enemy, overcoming the inconceivable obstacles interposed by the ground, the fire of the enemy, the climate, and the mighty lines of earth which protect Sebastopol.

In the field we hear of no movements except constant reconnoissances made by the Turks, assisted by the 10th Hussars, into the valley of Baidar. Prince GORTSCHAKOFF boasts that he had received, or was about to receive, considerable reinforcements; but a letter from Warsaw in the *Constitutionnel*, purporting to be derived from the Prince, through Councillor of State DE KOTZEBU, who had recently arrived from the Crimea, gives a different colour to the boast. According to this statement the reinforcements arrived very slowly, and were decimated in their progress to and beyond Perekop by the want of water and provisions. The Russian covering force, including the garrison of the north side, is estimated at 93,000 men. But it is next to impossible to obtain any accurate information on such a subject. To all appearance no forward movement was contemplated by the chiefs; yet who shall say what an hour may bring forth?

Asia.—The Russians opened the Asian campaign by an invasion of Turkish Armenia, in three columns, on the 5th and 9th of June. Their forces were estimated on the spot at 20,000 men, including a due supply of guns and horsemen. Their base of operations was the fortress of Gumri; the object of their first movement the capture of Kars. The plan of campaign this year differs materially from that of last. Then, General BEBUTOFF advanced himself directly towards Kars, while General WRANGEL moved upon Bayazid with the view, as it seemed, of marching by Toprak Kaleh upon the road to Erzeroum, and cutting the line of communication between that town and Kars. The Turkish army moved at once upon BEBUTOFF, and met with defeat at Hadji velli Khoi. It will be remembered, however, that the Russians gained nothing by the victory beyond the glory of it, for a menacing advance of SHAMYL towards Tiflis drew the Russian reserves all to that side.

This year the plan has been different. General MOURAVIEFF directed the active army to move by its right, first taking Ardaghan before moving upon Zaïm, and thence upon Kars. The left and centre columns effected a junction near Zaïm on the 14th. By that time the right column, under KOVALEVSKY, had seized Ardaghan, which the Turks abandoned, and had blown up the

miserable works which did not defend it. On the 15th KOVALEVSKY moved upon Zaïm, and joined the main body for an attack upon Kars.

Fortunately for the interests of Turkey in Asia, the Turkish troops were under the control of British officers. Last year, at the instigation of GUYON, redoubts were erected upon the hills that command the town, fortress, and suburbs of Kars; and this year they have been further strengthened by Colonel LAKE, of the Madras engineers. Kars, therefore, is now a fortified place of considerable strength, and adequately occupied by 20,000 men, of whom some 12,000 are effective. On the 7th General WILLIAMS arrived at Kars, bringing with him Captain TEESDALE and Captain THOMPSON, who, by right of knowledge and valour, became the leaders of men. On the 14th, the Russians sent forward an advanced guard as far as Mastra, and, being in great force, drove in a few hundred Bashi-bazouks like sheep. This showed that the Russian army was upon them. They had chosen their time well. The fast of the Ramazan ended on the 15th; the feast of Bairam began on the 16th. The Russians expected to find the Turks lapped in festive idleness, and careless security. They were mistaken. The inhabitants had been armed, and under the appearance of gaiety there reigned a ceaseless vigilance. On the 16th, the enemy appeared, his dark masses moving over the flower-paven meadows, preceded by Cossack and Georgian cavalry. The brief combat was opened with a skirmish between the enemy and the Bashi-bazouks, ending in the rout and retreat of the latter. Then the guns of the Karadagh and Hafiz batteries, directed by gallant Englishmen, opened upon the enemy, who vainly replied with field-guns. The result of the cannonade was the repulse of the Russians, who retired to Adja-Kaleh.

Thus, there is reason to hope that Kars is safe for this year. At present it is impossible to judge whether the movement of the enemy was intended as the opening of a serious campaign, or as a diversion to show Europe that the Russians are still active in Asia. But we cannot imagine that any extensive operations are contemplated; because, now that Kars is so respectably fortified, and the Turkish army officered, however scantily, by Englishmen, it would require a larger force than it seems probable that Russia can dispose of, for an effective campaign in Asia.

SOME RESULTS OF CONVOCATION.

WE can pretty well predict the course which things will take at first in the revived convocation, if Dr. PHILPOTTS and Dr. WILBERFORCE retain their command over the movement which they have hitherto guided. Neither of these prelates is a theological fire-eater. Both are ambitious, and both are disposed to the safe and quiet elimination of Calvinistic curates; but we all remember that the HAMPDEN anathema was retracted, and that the Exeter Synod went off in most innocuous smoke. The alarming discussions of doctrine, and the condemnation of heresies, which the opponents of convocation apprehend, will at first be sedulously avoided. Quiet measures of Administrative Church Reform will be introduced. Services will be redivided and abbreviated. Humane regulations will be made for the benefit of curates. Everything will be popular and neutral: and the sacred conclave will present an unexpected aspect of practical moderation. Then, when everybody is so agreeably disappointed, will come the time for making the first approaches towards a better definition of Anglican doctrine, and the condemnation of "emergent

errors." Probably some decided rationalist, whose love of truth is equally offensive to all sections of bigots, Calvinistic as well as Puseyite, will be selected for the first experiment. Then, perhaps, an ultra-Calvinist will be meekly and reluctantly consigned to Satan. And so the good fathers will creep on, as they think, till the Church and doctrine of LAUD is again firmly seated upon the shoulders of the English people.

Such, we say, would be the course of things, for a time at least, if the leaders could keep the movement in their own hands. But they cannot do so long. Convocation, however laboriously it may be packed, will contain some of the more impetuous as well as the discreeter members of each of the heterogeneous sects which are embraced by the elastic formulæ of the Established Church. The sect which is represented by the *Guardian*, is politic and astute; but the sect which is represented by the *Record*, is, perhaps to its honour, devoid of these ecclesiastical qualities. If Archdeacon DENISON does not throw down the gauntlet, the DEAN OF BRISTOL will. Where there is such a mine and so many sparks, there must soon be an explosion. There are books published and sermons preached every day which would bring the great party questions to an issue. But there would scarcely be need of any particular question of doctrine to bring on the crisis. The missionary and educational functions of the Church, during the suspension of its organic life, have been provisionally discharged by private societies formed on a basis more or less partisan, such as the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Church Missionary Society, the National Society, and others of the same kind. These societies being merely private and provisional, scope has been allowed in them for the rival factions, and people have been able to ignore the fact that they represent a radical division in the Church. The revived Convocation, if it pretends to represent a united Church, must resume these missionary and educational functions, or at least amalgamate and control the societies by which they are exercised. A living Church, with two rival propagandas teaching opposite doctrines, and a private society directing religious education on its own account in correspondence with a godless Privy Council, would be too much even for the logic of Englishmen. Reorganisation must be attempted. Of course confusion would ensue the moment Puseyites laid their hand on the Church Missionary Society, or Evangelicals on the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, or either on the National Society; and the Church of PUSEY, HOWLEY, CLOSE, MAURICE, and DONALDSON, with its faith once delivered to the saints, would come weltering to the ground.

In short, to give the Church of England the power of self-definition and self-government is to give her the means of suicide. And she has demanded these powers. She has demanded them, and she has a right to have them. Nay, if, like her wiser and more worldly sons, she was unwilling to receive them, it would be the duty and interest of all lovers of truth to force them on her. The ability to use such powers without danger to her own existence is the test of her right to exist. Does she represent any real unity of conviction, any real spiritual communion, any real identity of religious objects among those who call themselves her members? If so, she need not fear, and her friends need not fear for her, the gift of organic life. If so, she will rise from her long torpor, and move forth at once with the free step of single purpose and harmonious faith. If this is not the case—if the unity, the communion, the identity are a fic-

tion—then she is a mere piece of statecraft, a cunning instrument of politic superstition; pleasing to the eye of the worldly politician, odious to the single-hearted lover of truth. Which of these hypotheses is the true one we need scarcely ask. What institution—what doctrine, we might almost say,—what historical fact connected with the Church of England is there which is not the subject of mortal quarrel between the parties within her pale? What peace or compromise can there be between the Church authority of the Puseyites, the Bibliolatry of the Evangelicals, and that free use of reason of which we have had recent specimens in the works of Dr. DONALDSON and Mr. BADEN POWELL?

The fall of a national Church, which is so much bound up with the religion and morality of the nation, will be a terrible event, especially as it is likely to come at a time of great political confusion. There are some amiable latitudinarians, as well as politicians, who feel this so deeply that they wish the old edifice to remain at any sacrifice of sincerity and logic. They fancy that under its shelter the new truth will grow, and that there will be a gradual transmutation instead of a disastrous fall. We sympathise, but we cannot agree with them. The hypocrisy which the present state of things involves eats deep into the very source of truth; and no truth, no honesty, no morality will grow under such a system though it last for ever.

THE CONFESSIONS OF MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD.

THE history of a public man is not to be faithfully written from official despatches. Marshal ST. ARNAUD had one version of the Eastern campaign for publication in the *Moniteur*, and another, somewhat different, for his family. The appearance of these private letters enables us to correct some views that are popularly entertained on the relative merits of the French and English military systems as exemplified by the expedition against Sebastopol. Perhaps the most injurious of these errors is that which imputes to the British Government alone the negligence, the delay, and the blundering by which our efforts were postponed, and our forces frittered away. We now know why the French Cabinet objected to Mr. ROEBUCK'S Committee. It was feared lest the witnesses might implicate the officials of Paris as well as those of London. Marshal ST. ARNAUD'S correspondence places the truth beyond controversy, for here we find the French general complaining, more bitterly than "Our Own Correspondent," of the imperfect preparations of his Government for carrying on the Russian war. It was a necessity of his character to hate diplomacy. He abhorred statesmanship, not because it gambles with great human interests, but because it interferes with the trade of the soldier. At Constantinople, therefore, when the Allied armies were assembling, in May, 1854, he wrote in sneering language about "policy and its caution," which held him back while he was impatient to be hurled against the Russians. But it was not of policy alone that he complained. The army, he said, is condemned to inactivity, because the departments at home are sluggish. While he gazed at the theatre of war on the Danube, he burned for action—"Oh, that I could give battle!"—but the forces at his command were even then scarcely organised. Nor has he a stronger illustration in proof of English backwardness and improvidence than—"they are not more prepared than ourselves." He was there, at the head of an army, "without artillery, without cavalry, or ambulances, or baggage, or means of transport, or provisions." "No one can conceive what it

is to conduct a distant expedition with this piecemeal system of supplies. Everything comes by bits and morsels; cannon without their carriages or horses;—horses, without carriages or cannon. I have forty-two teams instead of a hundred—a thousand ill-matched horses instead of three thousand." This picture of "destitution," resembling the worst evidence before the Sebastopol Committee, is shaded down by the phrase "more easily to be regretted than avoided;" yet the Marshal proves, by his own discontent, that the Imperial purveyors of the war were scarcely so apt at their tasks that they could with clean hands satirise, in official papers, the clumsiness of our constitutional operations.

Up to the end of May, 1854, the Crimea was, in the mind of St. ARNAUD, a distant dream. The idea of bearing to its shores an army fully equipped, "terrified" him. He knew that, if the Allies ventured on the attempt, they must be imperfectly provided. While an open arena remained on the Danube, he was satisfied to count the conquest of Sebastopol among things barely possible. When, however, the Bulgarian horizon had been closed, he resumed his scheme of "a grand coup-de-main," and pressed it on the British commander. Already the pains of death approached him. The long malady of his life became more afflicting; he feared lest fever should intercept his march, and even hoped that the activity of a real campaign would produce a favourable reaction. The armies, therefore, half clothed, and provided only for a summer campaign, were crowded on board vessels of war and transports, hurried across the Black Sea, and deposited on the coast of the Crimea. At Old Fort, three days before the battle of the Alma, Lord RAGLAN waited, apparently, to strengthen his field-trains, and to fortify the various arms of the service. But St. ARNAUD, sleepless and in torture, urged on, with desperate importunity, his more provident allies. He despatched incessant requests to the British head-quarters to march at once, to attack the Russians, to push forward to Sebastopol. His letters breathe an impatient frenzy. At last, in the agony of disease, he threatened Lord RAGLAN that, unless the English forces were ready within a few hours, he would advance with the French alone, "and that nothing should intercept him."

This, then, was the tone of councils in the Allied Camp before the united advance on the Alma. Lord RAGLAN was unprepared; Marshal St. ARNAUD was eager; and Marshal St. ARNAUD's eagerness overcoming Lord RAGLAN's caution, precipitated the two armies, first on the Alma, and then on Sebastopol.

It is a characteristic of this correspondence, that it ignores altogether the services of the British generals, both in the disposition of the enterprise and in the battle of the Alma. St. ARNAUD, who eulogised in public the "antique valour" of Lord RAGLAN, described the victory, as well as planned the future course of the war, without mentioning his name. "I shall be at Sebastopol"—"I may attack it on the south side"—"I completely defeated the Russians"—such is his invariable language. To the English troops he pays, indeed, the tribute due to their steadiness and solidity, but to their veteran chief he does not once refer. On the contrary, the "antique valour" is claimed for himself and his friends. "We shall surpass AGAMEMNON; but our siege will not be prolonged, like that of Troy. We have in our army more than one ACHILLES, many an AJAX, and many the equals of PATROCLUS. All goes well; my orders are given, and, God aiding us, France will in

October register one of the most splendid and intrepid feats of arms recorded in her military history." "My orders are given," and "France will register"—where was Lord RAGLAN, where Great Britain?

The character of Marshal St. ARNAUD, represented by his own pen, is that of a dashing, unscrupulous, egotistical soldier of fortune, thirsting to cry havoc, and disdain all suggestions of policy or caution. It seems to be established, also, that the Crimean expedition was proposed by him, carried forward by him in opposition to Lord RAGLAN's cooler judgment, and aimed by him as a series of rapid blows at the Russian power in the Crimea. At the siege of Constantine, in Algeria, he tells us, he led his soldiers through the breach into a gulf of ruins, in which, "on his conscience," he expected a mine to explode. One had exploded already, throwing an entire company into the air. Such was the French Commander-in-Chief, whose impetuosity—that of a hound in the leash—led forward the British troops and their more prudent Chief to the deadly Crimean campaign. In his mind, considerations of policy had no weight. As the War Minister of December, 1851, he yearned to embroil Europe in a war. He had written, long previously, these remarkable words: "It has always been my dream to make war, on a grand scale, in Europe." He had watched the Italian revolution, praying for an opportunity to dash in, at the head of a legion; and he had imagined a Russian war, as a superb satisfaction for his insatiable martial appetite. "I should like," he wrote in 1849, "to strike a blow at Russia, in company with England." How far these aspirations—these Zouave passions—affected the policy of the French Cabinet, the mutilated correspondence does not reveal; nor are we inclined to lay too much stress on the sanguinary enthusiasm of St. ARNAUD; but his acts, throughout his life, corresponded with these sentiments, and marked him, in the eye of the sworn President, as the desperate hero of the *coup d'état*.

The only trace of military policy to be discovered in these volumes, occurs in a letter dated April, 1854, which begins with a candid avowal: "What we want is success. A reverse would be disastrous, internally and externally." In the same epistle he writes: "You speak of the Crimea—it is a gem: I dream of it. . . . But we must make no premature declarations. We must deliberate with the Turks, and see the Russians a little nearer, to know what they will, and what they can do."

Glancing for a moment at St. ARNAUD in his personal relations, it is just to add, that his more intimate and familiar letters, always picturesque and vivid in expression, exhibit him as a man capable of strong and tender affections, retaining, to the close of his life, a certain winning warmth and simplicity of temperament, rather than of character. He was not so much a man of bad principles, as of no principles.

MRS. NORTON'S APPEAL FOR DIVORCE.

THERE is a skeleton, it is said, in every house, but by a peculiar hypocrisy, almost unparalleled in the history of mankind, English society agrees to ignore the domestic monstrosity, and affects to disbelieve in the existence of skeletons anywhere, except in disreputable neighbourhoods or ill-regulated families. In the main these subjects are treated only as cases of individual irregularity; instances that become known are pronounced to be "exceptional," and the very custom that discountenances the overt al-

lusion to all facts in such circumstances helps to render the disclosure exceptional, although the fact is little so. There is, indeed, not a tale which comes out which does not imply, if it does not absolutely prove, that many families are implicated in each of the so-called exceptional cases; and sometimes they are so ramified, that you might connect in the chain the larger part of the Peerage, a great province of the landed gentry, with no small contingents from the moneyed and the middle classes. We need say nothing about the working classes, because it is not the custom to consider them as belonging to "society;" and when we point to the flagrant departure from established law in whole sections of the great bulk of the people, the answer is that such occurrences belong only to the ignorant and vulgar. It is this extraordinary substitution of presumption, instead of positive knowledge, which sanctions the perpetuation of injustice. Sometimes from the penetralia of the household comes the ghastly cry, uttered by the living voice before the skeleton becomes ossified into an heirloom. But the cry is always stifled, if possible, or is politely disregarded. Hence it is the practice to maintain laws that have no relation to the actual state of society in this country; and this maintenance is obstinate, even after those who are the highest authorities on such subjects have made up their minds that the law cannot and ought not to be maintained. There is, for instance, no greater instance of flagrant injustice, violating every principle of equity, humanity, and decency, than the existing law with respect to divorce. The judges of the land, the chancellors and ex-chancellors, the Law Lords, the lawyers in the ecclesiastical courts, Bishops and lay saints, agree to report that some change ought to take place. One at least. They admit the causes of divorce existing as much amongst the poor as amongst the rich, yet, at present, divorce from the bond of marriage is not to be obtained without an Act of Parliament or the hundreds of pounds which that form of relief costs. The law is open to all men, and JABEZ STOCKPORT and DINAH his wife, the Manchester weavers, can obtain a divorce, if they will procure the witnesses, arrange the evidence, employ the counsel, and pay for the Act of Parliament. JABEZ and DINAH generally go a shorter way to work, and render themselves open to various criminal and civil proceedings.

One interested victim, Mrs. NORTON—groaning under a bondage where she is bound yet alone, enslaved yet protectionless—has put forth an eloquent appeal in "A Letter to the Queen,"* on that Divorce Bill with which Lord Chancellor CRANWORTH has tantalized parliament, and the hopes of her Majesty's lieges. Mrs. NORTON shows how in the existing state of the law a woman may be exposed to persecution of every kind. She was charged with infidelity to her husband in an action brought against Lord MELBOURNE, and although, as she affirms in the most solemn language, innocent, and prepared to establish her innocence, she was shut out from the court. She was separated from her husband by consent, and after separation he invades her separate property, examines the books at her banker's, subpoenas her publishers, and compels them to declare what are the copyrights they held, what the sums they paid Mrs. NORTON; thus making her feel that even the earnings of her pen are not her own in law: for, "amazing to say," she observes, "the copyright of my works, nay, my very soul and brains, are not my own." One of the tradesmen sued on a contract

* A Letter to the Queen on Lord Chancellor Cranworth's Marriage and Divorce Bill. By the Hon. Mrs. Norton. Longmans.

undertaken by Mr. NORTON to pay his wife; but it resulted from the trial that "the creditors cannot sue the 'non-existent' married woman; the husband cannot contract with a 'non-existent' married woman, and the 'non-existent' married woman cannot be compelled to pay if she refuses to discharge the debt." Mr. NORTON sent her letters signed "GREENACRE," inviting her to meet him in an empty house; and when she declined to return to him, he advertised her in the papers as having left him, her family and home. Her husband has stopped 1500*l.* of her year's income, and she cannot raise it. "No one would lend money to a married woman; she can give no security." But it is impossible to follow this amazing case into all the details of its injustice.

"I declare," says the injured wife, summing up her own case, "upon the holy sacraments of God, that I was not Lord Melbourne's mistress; and, what is more, I do not believe (and nothing shall ever make me believe) that Mr. Norton ever thought that I was. In that miserable fact is the root of all my bitterness, and of all his inconsistency! He never had a real conviction (not even an unjust one), to make him consistent. He wavered, because he was doing, not what he thought necessary and just, but what he imagined would "answer;" and sometimes one thing appeared likely to answer, and sometimes another. He thought the course he took respecting me and my children, in 1836, would answer; and so far it did answer, that he is two thousand a year the richer. He thought his defence to the tradesman's action, in 1853, would answer; and so far it did answer, that he is five hundred a year the richer. But he never believed the accusations on which he has twice founded his gainful measures of expediency. He acknowledged he did not believe them, to others who have published his acknowledgment.

"It ought not to be possible that any man, by mock invocations to justice, should serve a mere purpose of interest or vengeance; it ought not to be possible that any man should make 'the law' his minister, in seeking not that which is just, but that which may 'answer.'"

Ought this to be? That question is the gist of Mrs. NORTON's letter to the QUEEN. She establishes her case by reference to the testimony of Sir JOHN BAYLEY, Lord WYNFORD, and many other persons who are engaged, some of them on Mr. NORTON's own side. She is quite right when she says, that if she had committed the offence charged against her, she would have attained freedom from her husband, and an independent existence before the law. Nay, if her husband had been more successful, and had succeeded, however falsely, in establishing the charge against her, she would have been free. More than one story shows what may be done by breaking the law instead of obeying it.

There is a case before the House of Lords this week—SUMNER's divorce. In 1849, PENELOPE RUBINA MARIA VALSAMACHI was married to MORTON CORNISH SUMNER, only son of Mr. RICHARD SUMNER, of Puttenham Priory, in Surrey; and in 1855 MORTON seeks a divorce from his wife. The whole story has happened in the interval. In 1849, soon after their marriage at Corfu, PENELOPE writes to her husband's parents, telling them that MORTON has been severely ill under an attack of brain fever. She speaks kindly of him, and evidently she devoted herself to protect his shattered health. Some few months afterwards a fall brought on a premature confinement, and she gave birth to a child. The couple returned to the Ionian Islands, they travelled in Germany, they came to England; and here, in 1850, Mrs. MORTON meets her husband's parents. By this time she had conceived a repugnance to her husband, whom she declares to have been in such a state of health that, in point of fact, he had never been a husband to her. How then could she have given birth to a child? It is his father that asks the question. It must be remembered that the child was born within five months and one week

of the marriage. To the father's inquiry she answers that Mr. SUMNER was not the father of that child, and that she would swear to it. She leaves her husband; is lost to his view for some time; writes that she has procured a divorce in America, and in Corfu again marries a certain NICHOLAS KALLEGARI, with whom she is now, apparently, at Galatz or Bucharest. The summons to appear before the House of Lords pursues her to Turkey; and, throwing her arms around her second husband, she hopes that in any new marriage which MORTON may contract, he may be as happy as she is now. The story is told before the House of Lords this week, and on the deposition of their own messenger, the Lords have no doubt as to the adultery, since Mrs. MORTON SUMNER has married a second time. Sometimes we call this bigamy: to the House of Lords, viewing it technically, *pro hac vice*, it is adultery; and the LORD CHANCELLOR "moves that Sumner's Divorce Bill be read a second time." MORTON is free, and so is PENELOPE.

Mrs. NORTON might attain her object, if her husband were more unscrupulous than she paints him. Another story has already been told in print, although it does not stand very conspicuously before the public. A gentleman of property is married to a lady of good connexions, and of some attractions, but his desire for an heir is not gratified. He appears to be an attached husband, and certainly the lady is an attached wife. She is attentive to the household and watches over his interests as carefully as if he were not himself capitious and niggardly. Suddenly, however, he brings forward a story that she is too familiar with one of the grooms; that she has proceeded to the last familiarities, and has even made herself notorious in the stable-yard! This statement, accompanied by very circumstantial details, is told to her father, and is believed! The lady indignantly denies the calumny. Other servants are set to watch or to persecute her; the butler taking advantage of her position to become a suitor on his own account. The husband, told this fact, does not appear to disbelieve it, but does not remove the butler. Perhaps if the butler had succeeded, it would have been as useful as if the story about the groom had been true. Let the reader picture to himself a lady living in a country-house in Ireland, and subjected to treatment of this kind—her husband calumniating her, her own friends believing him, her servants conspiring against her, the butler insolently and alarmingly invading her very bedroom at night. The lady actually goes mad; and being mad, confesses that her husband's story is true. The untruth of the tale is proved by the circumstantial statement of one servant, and by a number of facts collected elsewhere, which are incompatible with the story. A judgment of the Ecclesiastical Court, however, has pronounced a divorce *à mensâ et thoro*; and the husband's way to a bill in Parliament appears to be clear. Such is the story told in a pamphlet by Mr. JOHN PAGET, the barrister acting on behalf of the lady in the case of "Talbot v. Talbot."

If the husband had succeeded, Mrs. TALBOT would at all events have been free. PENELOPE VALSAMACHI actually became so, and is a happy woman. No matrimonial offence has been proved against Mrs. NORTON; she is "non-existent" in law—in a condition worse than the slave's, for she is bond yet unprotected.

ITALIAN NECROLOGY. (From a Correspondent.)

ITALY is losing her eminent men—indeed her most eminent. Last year PELLICO, GROSSI, ROSSETTI,

RUBINI, and VISCONTI passed away; and this year, in the course of a few months only, the world has lost PAULO TOSCHI, the celebrated engraver; GIOVANNI ROSINI, the historian of Italian painting; CARLO MARENCO, the powerful dramatic writer; and last, the greatest of all, the philosopher ANTONIO ROSMINI LEBARTI. To the national mourning of the Italian people let us join our voice, for we feel deeply sorrowful that men so learned, so laborious, so faithfully devoted to the great traditions of their country, should not have secured a better fate for the nation to which they belonged.

Giordani, the most acute and severely æsthetic critic, of whom also Italy has been deprived within the last few years, said, that "as to Raphael alone was granted the power to unite boldness to sweetness, pride to modesty, vigour to grace, and strength to gentleness, so to TOSCHI only was conceded the power to imitate these qualities with the burin." All the frescoes of Correggio in Parma, and four of Parmigiano, with the Spasimo di Sicilia of Raphael, engraved by him, are the finest works the art of intaglio has ever produced.

The *Storia della Pittura Italiana*, by GIOVANNI ROSINI, Professor of Eloquence to the University of Pisa, has long been familiar to the English amateurs of Italian art, many of whom have used it as a manual to enable them, when travelling in Italy, to distinguish mediocrity from talent, and talent from genius; in fact, ROSINI's impartial criticism and refined taste have often caused him to be referred to by our own tourists. His loss, sensibly felt throughout the whole peninsula, but more especially at Pisa, will be painful even to his English admirers. ROSINI has also rendered great service to Italian literature by his typographical labours with regard to the corrections and variations of the classics. His edition of *Tasso*, of which only 250 copies were printed, is held in high estimation by literary men in Italy and abroad; while his three historical romances, *La Monaca di Monza*, *Luisa Strozzi*, and *Ugolino*, with a great number of comedies, essays, and poems, prove the versatility of his genius and the activity of his mind.

MARENCO largely contributed to the formation of a National Italian Drama, the subjects of which all tend to illustrate the History of Italy. Among the more celebrated of his long list of tragedies we may mention *Buondelmonte e gli Amedei*, *Adelisa*, and *Pia*. His full, energetic, and passionate style, though wanting in the harmony that distinguishes Nicolini, has not the occasional harshness of Alfieri. His life was tranquil, he was respected by all, and his death is deeply regretted.

To close this painful enumeration, ROSMINI's loss may be considered as the gravest for philosophical science, since from the present system of superficial acquirements and light studies he cannot easily be replaced. ROSMINI's mind was one of the strongest even among philosophers; and to this power of thought was added a fund of erudition, which he has copiously infused into all his works. The antagonism of Gioberti, who in three heavy volumes, entitled *Errori di Rosmini*, severely criticised his *Nuovo Saggio nell'Origine delle Idee*, did no harm to the great ideologist; and (whatever may be the opinions of the philosophical world on his social, political, and religious doctrines, which it is not my present object to discuss) no one can deny that he possessed the highest attributes of a great thinker. It would be well if some of our more important reviews would break the silence which has so unjustly suffered ROSMINI's contributions to the science of thought to remain unnoticed, as they would offer a fair criterion of the actual state of this branch of learning in the country of Vico, of Galileo, and of Macchiavelli. The works of this author are very voluminous (about sixteen vols. in royal 4to.), and are the result of forty years of study. Prominently among these, besides the one already mentioned, are *La Filosofia della Politica*, the *Principi della Scienza Morale*, and the *Filosofia del Diritto*.

Macaulay says, that during the gloomy and disastrous centuries which followed the downfall of the Roman Empire, Italy had preserved, in a far greater degree than any other part of Western Europe, the traces of ancient civilisation. "The night which descended on her was the night of an Arctic summer." Under the present unfavourable circumstances, it is remarkable that Italy not only does not shroud herself in the darkness of night,

but even sends forth a few great men, who, by their contributions to art, learning, and science, appeal to the world for the free development of Italian civilisation. When a nation is oppressed by foreign soldiers and by crowned tyrants—her soul crushed out by legions of Jesuits, by a sanhedrim of priests—when ignorance is fostered by state laws—when learning is a crime, and immorality and servility are regarded as virtues, is it not a good omen for the future if there are still men of genius who sacrifice their private means and cultivate the sciences without any public encouragement, without hope of praise or reward, and without honours, excepting those which posterity may assign to them?

AUSTRIAN FINANCE.

(From a Vienna Correspondent.)

The administrative year in Austria closes at the end of October; yet the report of the administrative year 1854 was not published by the *Vienna Official Gazette* till last June, that is to say, after a delay of eight months. It is true, from the chaos and mysterious confusion, in which these finances are enveloped, they require no less time to be arranged; for, though a certain degree of publicity is due to the people, who have to pay everything, still the imperial, ministerial, and inquisitorial spoliations must not be exposed too freely to the public gaze. But, in spite of great elaboration and ingenious manipulations, this report bears evidence of the administrative ability of the high-minded Emperor, who secures the happiness of his subjects by a progressive increase of taxes, of expenses, of deficit, and of debt. Ample proofs of this may be found in the comparative state of the finances during the last three years, which the tranquillity of the monarchy should have tended rather to improve than to depress.

In 1852 the total income of the empire amounted to ...	Florins.
...	226,365,108
The expenses to ...	279,812,439
Deficit ...	53,447,331
1853.—Income ...	237,136,893
Expenses... ...	293,960,628
Deficit ...	56,823,735
1854.—Income ...	245,333,724
Expenses ...	386,046,644
Deficit ...	140,712,920

Hence, if the income of 1853 exceeded that of the preceding years by ten millions and three-quarters, the expenses went beyond that increase by fourteen millions. The disproportion between the revenue and the augmentation of the expenses is even more perceptible in 1854. It is true that M. de Bruck, to palliate this indecorous waste of public money, attempts to represent the sum of 91,000,000 fl. as extraordinary expenses for the military establishment; but, putting aside the enormous exaggeration of this estimate, who compelled Austria to undertake an expense so burdensome to her finances, when she had firmly resolved not to interfere with the war in the East? Such deficiencies can only arise from a spendthrift Government, indifferent alike to its true interest and to the fate of its subjects. But, even granting all things, the inconsistency and carelessness of the Austrian financier even in his manipulation is remarkable. At the end of October, 1854, the expenses of the army are set down in his report as amounting to 117,000,000 fl., while, if we look into the reports of 1852 for the same object, we find the sum is 111,000,000 fl., and for 1853, 112,000,000 fl., &c., so that the difference at that period was very insignificant, consequently this excess of 91,000,000 fl. is not correct.

The extravagance of the imperial household affords another instance of the paternal administration of the young Emperor. The late Emperor Francis, although he had a numerous family of brothers, sons, and nephews to endow and maintain, never suffered his household expenditure to exceed 3,500,000 fl. The Emperor Ferdinand kept within the same limits. But the worthy son of Sophia considered this endowment far too mean for him, and has thus gradually increased his expenses:—

In 1852 to.....	6,000,000 fl.
1853 to.....	6,725,000
1854 to.....	7,500,000

The interest of the public debt has in the mean time increased in the same gradual proportion:—

In 1852 to.....	62,608,000 fl.
1853 to.....	66,819,000
1854 to.....	72,148,000

On the other hand, those branches of the revenue derived from productive sources, which are signs of increasing activity and commercial enterprise, and consequently of public prosperity, are gradually diminishing. Thus the Customs produced

In 1852.....	22,317,000 fl.
1853.....	20,728,000
1854.....	19,000,000

which shows an annual diminution of about 1,600,000 fl.

Hence the increase in the general revenue falls on the personal and territorial imposts, which are the most onerous to the contributors. These taxes are so heavy that many cannot pay them; they are, in fact, so disproportionate to the means of the landowners, as sometimes even to exceed their income; thus many small proprietors, totally unable to pay, and persecuted by fiscal exactions, have preferred to give up their estates to the Crown. Notwithstanding these increased burdens, the revenue derived from the land-tax was in arrear of 13,000,000 fl. in 1852, and of 12,000,000 fl. in 1853, making a total deficiency of 25,000,000 fl. in two years; to cover which, even with the aid of the above extortions, only 14,000,000 fl. could be raised. But the difficulty of payment continued in 1854, for in that administrative year no less than 21,000,000 fl. are represented as still owing; 12,000,000 fl. by Hungary, 7,000,000 fl. by the Slave-German Provinces, and 2,000,000 fl. by Lombardy and Venice. When it is remembered what Hungary, since her annexation to the Austrian Monarchy, has, through the abolition of the Custom dues, gained by the facility of selling at higher prices her wine, cattle, and corn, in the Austrian dominions, one can easily imagine how miserable must be the condition of the country, and how oppressive the fiscal regulations, if the people, even with these advantages, cannot pay their tribute. Most of the provinces of the Austrian Empire are very poor, and so isolated, that they can scarcely be said to form a part of civilised Europe. Among these are Galicia, Silesia, Croatia, Slavonia, the Tyrol, &c. So that all pecuniary exactions fall on Hungary, Italy, Bohemia, Moravia, and Austria Proper. Every one, therefore, may judge of the amount of discontent, and of the chances of tranquillity and credit which Austria has prepared for the future.

To resume her financial record: in 1854 we find a deficit of 140,712,920 fl., to which M. de Bruck's report adds 54,045,108 fl. for various expenses and urgent needs not explained, but probably for secret service and espionage, thus making the real deficit of the last year amount to 192,758,028 fl.

During these years Austria has contracted many loans at home and abroad, sometimes called voluntary, but at home always, in reality, compulsory.

	Florins.
A loan for a lottery at 4 per cent. gave ...	43,000,000
Another at 5 per cent. ...	11,000,000
The National Loan, which till that time had produced ...	27,500,000
A loan with the Bank ...	59,300,000
Issue of paper money to the amount of ...	53,000,000
By various financial operations ...	18,000,000
Total ...	212,187,034
Deficit extinguished ...	192,758,028
Remainder ...	19,429,006

A part of this, M. de Bruck said, has already been absorbed in various objects, and the remainder is left as a fund.

Now comes the deficit of 1855, which will by far exceed all that has gone before. Austria has endeavoured, through her organs in Germany, to spread a report that she maintains an army of 720,000 men (a number which she never reached, for even in the most critical times of 1848 and 1849, she never had more than from 350 to 400,000 men), that every thousand men cost her half a million of florins a year, and that her military expenses this year will be about 300,000,000 fl. more than usual. We will say nothing of this prodigious mystification—that will be a future question; all that it is important at the present to know is, that M. de Bruck is busily engaged in devising some new and effective scheme for raising money. The National Loan of 500,000,000 fl. has already been devoured, and a

war loan (what war? unless the eternal one with her own subjects) has been proposed by the President of the Ministry; M. de Bruck is, however, an able Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he has openly denounced every form of loan as destructive to industry, and contrary to economical science. But what does economical science suggest to the mind of M. de Bruck? Injustice and inhumanity. His favourite plan, which he warmly advocates, and which probably will be preferred, is to raise capital from the estates of benevolent institutions, hospitals, founding hospitals, workhouses, and charitable foundations of every kind throughout the empire, to vest these in the Government, which will indemnify them with paper money. This measure will weigh most heavily on Lombardy and Venice, for there even the villages have been provided with benevolent institutions, either by the hard-earned savings of the poorer classes, by the beneficence of the ancient independent municipalities, by the communities of the working people, or by the bequests of private individuals. That the holy legacy which the generous charity of ancestors had left to the poor should be thus wasted to uphold a spendthrift Government is a proof of the humanity and piety of the much bepraised and chivalrous Emperor, while M. De Bruck will prove himself a philanthropical statesman worthy of the master he serves. What could barbarism do more? May it not be the consciousness of the precarious tenure of their office that makes rulers thus boldly defy the sense of justice common alike to all mankind?

A PROBLEM FOR THE "PROFANE."

A STATISTICAL Correspondent, who appears to soar above the imputation of joking, submits to us the following problem, which we, in our turn, submit with all deference to the free and accepted members of that mysterious brotherhood whose good living is proverbial:—

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

In a periodical devoted to the craft of Masonry there are sixteen deaths recorded during the first six months of its publication. Nine of these were sudden deaths! What proportion does this number of sudden deaths among Freemasons bear to the sudden deaths in other societies in which the murder of a brother member is not regarded as an ancient privilege too sacred to be inquired into by the public, or investigated before a legal tribunal? Among the sudden deaths recorded in the *Masonic Mirror* is the assassination of Moore, the Freemason. Everybody knows that that affair has not yet been strictly inquired into, nor properly investigated before a legal tribunal.

REGULUS.

"Regulus" evidently considers that sixteen deaths in one fraternity during six months constitute an exceptional and alarming obituary. He is probably not aware that the number of Freemasons, connected, as subscribing or non-subscribing members, with Lodges in the British dominions alone, is something like two hundred and fifty thousand. We would respectfully suggest at once to the initiated and the uninitiated, another and more humane solution to this terrible problem:—

Query.—Does the good feeding for which Freemasons are justly celebrated cause the proportion of sudden deaths in the fraternity to be so great?

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 has 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 so for his adversary to write.—MILTON

"THE COMIC OLD GENTLEMAN."

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—France, in 1774, like England eighty-one years later, lacking wisdom to guide through difficulties, found a wit. The young Louis was inclined to grave counsels, but the Church became alarmed at the idea of austerity, and, by zeal of the ladies, the government was handed over to the Comte de Maurepas, a Cupid of eighty. "His easy disposition," says Segur, "his light and pleasing wit, had gained him many friends. A tendency to railery had drawn upon him a disgrace of long duration, which he endured with an indifference that was mistaken for philosophy. His advanced age gave him the credit of possessing a degree of experience that

inspired confidence, and thus, by the caprice of fortune, frivolity, concealed under hoary locks, became intrusted with the helm of the state in the midst of surrounding rocks, and on the approach of impending storms."

Monsieur de Maurepas, called to power at the age of eighty, was Minister sixty years before, but fell into disgrace as the supposed author of a song against Madame de Pompadour, who procured him five-and-twenty years of exile.

As the Minister grew older he grew more jocose. While France was indignant at the conduct of her naval commanders, the Minister made his country's losses the inexhaustible subject of his jests and witticisms. "Do you know," he exclaimed, "what a naval battle really is? I will tell you. Two squadrons set sail from two opposite ports; they manoeuvre, they engage, they fire a few cannon balls, they knock down a few masts and a few men, and tatter a few of the sails; a great deal of powder and shot is expended. At length both fleets sheer off, each pretending that it remained master of the field of battle; each claims the victory, and a *Te Deum* is sung on both sides, while the sea remains just as salt as before."

"Averse," adds Segur, "to all idea of reform that might excite complaints or intrigues, and to every plan of campaign in which great success is only to be purchased at the expense of great risk, he wished to play the terrible game of war without venturing large stakes; to parade, in short, but not to fight. He jested in treating even the most serious matters, and the sceptre, confided to his hands, seemed to be merely a toy to amuse his old childhood." History repeats itself.

From the Strand to St. Stephen's—from playwrights to Premiers—we cannot, it seems, be original even in our farces. The famous performances of Premier-buffoon turn out after all to be only adaptations.

May the parody turn out less tragic than the original play!

W. J.

THE SUNDAY OF THE SHOPMAN.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Betwixt Exeter Hall and the Hyde Park mob it seems as though the parties most really interested were completely forgotten. The poor shopkeeper, if he have a soul to be saved, has a body also to be enjoyed, as well as the "poorest" of the mob. The saints would shut him up in "little Bethel," and the mob will cope him up to the counter—tender mercies both.

If it is desirable to have a day of rest, a Holy-day, or a day of relaxation and pleasure, the shopkeeper can indeed lay good claim to it. With longer hours during the day (and no meal time), at more exhausting employment both of body and mind than that of the majority of the so-called working-class, he at least ought not to be debarred from that privilege or protection of law which has been so advantageously employed for the factory workers; and if a day is to be set aside, it ought to be a day of complete rest; and, to be uniformly kept, it must be enforced. If it be objected that it is not convenient to the poor, what then?—are they to be exceptions to a general good? Bankers close at four o'clock, and wholesale houses in good time. Business fits itself accordingly, —not the less is done,—and though a few have to contrive their arrangements at some inconvenience, surely the conveniences of the trading classes ought to be of some trifling weight.

In Leeds there is no Sunday trading, and the shopkeepers close at half-past ten on Saturday nights—the police say it works well, and the people are certainly no worse—and how is it, that in London, the "centre of civilisation," the same arrangements cannot be done?

The objections are specious—certainly not real. By one of those singular perversions of both feeling and logic papers are prone to publish, and the mob to yield to, it follows thus:—the mob hate the aristocracy for their enjoyments, therefore down with the shopkeeper, let him be deprived of any chance of either enjoyment or repose—a precious logic of facts this in the nineteenth century.

On behalf of my class I feel deeply indignant at the injustice they receive at the hands of the people.

Yours most respectfully,

JOHN HOLMES, shopkeeper.

NAVAL CADETS.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Lord Hardwicke's speech on the deficiencies of naval education, though calculated to call public attention to a matter of much importance, can hardly be said to grapple with the real difficulties of the subject. It is true that the education of a youth on board ship is usually very imperfect. But I am inclined to think that Lord Hardwicke exaggerates these imperfections, and does not trace them to their true origin. He considers that the instructions of the schoolmaster are perpetually interrupted by the duties of the ship, that the mind of the pupil is distracted from his studies by the variety of the

scenes he witnesses, and the exciting nature of the services on which he is employed. It is just possible that this objection may apply in war time. It certainly does not during peace. The excitement then met with in the navy is not of a kind that would disturb the hours of study. The time allotted to school in a man-of-war is never allowed to be broken in upon under any pretext. With regard to the variety of the duties, it is certain that the diversions thus occasioned rather predispose a youth to study than otherwise.

The real difficulty, however, is one that Lord Hardwicke did not mention, the want of any fixed standard of proficiency that shall entitle a cadet to pass for midshipman. It is left to the option of every captain and naval instructor to regulate the studies of the youths under their care. Each man may vary their education, according as he feels disposed. In this matter, *quot homines tot sententiae*. Every naval instructor has his own system, and unless the captain has also a theory about education the schoolmaster is left to experimentally talise upon the youngsters, and test practically the fitness of his hobby—Then there are captains who despise mathematics, and think naval cadets should be instructed only in the duties of their profession. Others take the opposite view. Some naval instructors shudder at the name of trigonometry, and prefer Euclid to the Bible itself. In fact, there are as many parties in education as in the English Church. If a cadet has received eighteen months' instruction under one system, and is then transferred to a ship where a totally different plan prevails, it follows that he will be turned back in his examination, and lose time, rank, and money, merely through the want of any fixed rule of education. To pass for midshipman, a youngster has to undergo an examination before the commander and naval instructor of the ship in which he is serving. What this examination is to be is not very clearly defined. My passing certificate speaks vaguely of "a due knowledge of arithmetic, geometry, and trigonometry, and a practical acquaintance with the use of the quadrant, and the manner of making observations for ascertaining the latitude and longitude therewith." It says, moreover, that I could "keep a ship's reckoning by the common rules usually called a day's work, and had a due knowledge of steering and managing a boat under sails and oars, and of knotting, splicing, &c. &c." But by many naval instructors, these things are not expected, and not taught. I lost a month's time by being schooled by a man who taught little, and examined by a man who expected much. Certificates in the navy mean nothing, so that no naval instructor has a scruple of conscience in granting a certificate for such knowledge as that set forth above to a youngster whose acquaintance with arithmetic does not extend beyond the four first rules, and who is proportionately ignorant of the other branches of navigation.

I believe that the difficulties mentioned by Lord Hardwicke would be overcome if a rule of education was devised and strictly adhered to. As for youngsters not having time to learn on board ship, that is perfectly absurd, a few hours' application every day would soon give them a start. By diminishing the hours on which they waste their time on deck, keeping watch—that is to say, walking about doing nothing—you could add a daily period of time to their schooling. This is habitually done by some captains in the navy, though only few have the courage to break through the established routine even in so small a matter. Captains who are courageous enough to do so have found their efforts generally crowned with success, and youths who have been made to learn against their will find such advantages accrue from it in after-life, that they are actually led to look upon the navy as a good profession.

Your obedient servant,

MID.

STATE OF THE THAMES.—Under this heading, a remarkable letter from Professor Faraday appears in the *Times* of Monday. The Professor writes:—"I traversed this day by steamboat the space between London and Hungerford bridges between half-past one and two o'clock; it was low water, and I think the tide must have been near the turn. The appearance and the smell of the water forced themselves at once on my attention. The whole of the river was an opaque pale brown fluid. In order to test the degree of opacity, I tore up some white cards into pieces, moistened them so as to make them sink easily below the surface, and then dropped some of these pieces into the water at every pier the boat came to. Before they had sunk an inch below the surface, they were indistinguishable, though the sun shone brightly at the time; and when the pieces fell edgeways, the lower part was hidden from sight before the upper part was under water. Near the bridges, the feculence rolled up in clouds so dense that they were visible at the surface, even in water of this kind."

DISCOVERY OF A ROMAN CAMP IN NORTHUMBRIA.—A Roman *castrum*, or military station, has been excavated at High Rochester, in Northumberland. The walls consist of very massive masonry, twelve feet and a

half thick, and solid with the exception of about two feet in the centre, which is filled in with clay. A cell built in the thickness of this wall was likewise discovered, with three layers of ashes on the floor, indicating that the camp had been partially destroyed by fire. A Roman inscription, having reference to the erection of the camp, appeared on one of the slabs. Some excavations on the same spot, about three years ago, laid bare remains of the streets and houses of the ancient Roman town of Bremenium.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The deaths registered in London, which in May rose to nearly 1200 in a week, and in June to nearly 1100, fell to 926 in the week that ended last Saturday. The average number in the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, when corrected for increase of population, is 1058. The present return is therefore of a favourable character. Diarrhoea was, however, fatal in 28 instances, cholera in 6; and one of the cases of cholera was of a severe type, as in eleven hours it killed a labourer in the Battersea Workhouse on Friday, 6th of July. One warning of diarrhoea preceded the cholera.—The health of London during the three months of April, May, and June has been better than it was in the corresponding seasons of the two previous years; but the mortality is still higher than it was some years ago, and the deaths in thirteen weeks were 14,997, or more by some thousands probably than would have happened had the sanitary arrangements of London been in a satisfactory state.—From the Registrar-General's Return.

THE TURKISH LOAN (says *Galignani*) is to be under the conjoint guarantees of France and England. To that end, a convention was signed on the 27th ult. between the Emperor of the French and the Queen of England on the one hand, and the Sultan on the other, fixing the conditions on which the loan is to be contracted. The interest is fixed at four per cent., with a sinking fund of one per cent. additional. The amount of the loan is to be appropriated exclusively to the necessities of the war; and a mixed commission, composed of French, English, and Turks, is to watch over the manner in which it is to be employed, so as to prevent any portion of it from being diverted from its legitimate destination. Lastly, in order to prevent any confusion in the Paris money market, from a French and a Turkish loan being brought forward about the same time, the Turkish one is to be raised solely in England.

TORTURE IN THE EAST INDIES.—Further papers relating to torture in India refer to a minute of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal dated April 9, 1855, showing the measures pursued for ascertaining the correctness of the statement made by Mr. Theobald regarding the alleged case of torture in Behar, "the result of which," observes the secretary to the Government of Bengal, "leaves no reason for doubting that the particulars, as stated by Mr. Theobald in his letter of the 18th of October last, are wholly incorrect." In other words, there is no reason to believe that torture is employed in India under any circumstances.

THE OLD ITALIAN OPERA-HOUSE has, we understand, been taken by the Bank of England for a West-end branch. If this be true, there is an end to all doubts about the existence of two Italian Opera-houses. For mere association sake, the regrets of all opera-goers will attend upon this change. The south-end of the Haymarket has been the site of an Italian Opera-house for, if we mistake not, a century and a half; but now

Apollo from his shrine

Can no more divine.

THE HOUNDSDITCH CLOTHES MART.—On Tuesday morning, a deputation of tradesmen connected with the Houndsditch Clothes Mart, including Mr. Levy, its proprietor, had an interview, by appointment, with Lord Robert Grosvenor, to call his attention to the injurious misrepresentations to which they had been exposed, in connexion with his recently abandoned Sunday Trading Bill, and to deny that the dealers in that locality are thieves.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON has interdicted a concert of sacred music, which it was proposed to give in a church in Queenhithe. The public were to be admitted on payment of one shilling and two shillings, and the funds thus raised were to be devoted to school charities and repairs of the organ. Could the wildest infidelity conceive a greater insult to a place of worship than to turn it into a concert-room, with money taken at the doors?

THE LETTERS OF THE "TIMES" CRIMEAN CORRESPONDENT.—It is with very great satisfaction that we hear of the approaching publication, by Messrs. Routledge and Co., of the entire series of Mr. William Howard Russell's letters from the Crimea, which for upwards of a year have been one of the main attractions of the *Times* newspaper. The series will extend from the departure of the army from Southampton to the death of Lord Raglan—events which mark a clearly defined epoch of the war; and it is impossible to conceive a more vivid, picturesque, or vital history of that struggle in which every Englishman is so deeply, though painfully interested. The volume, we understand, is to be published at a moderate price.

THE AUSTRIAN PROPOSITION.—The diplomatic papers connected with the Austrian proposition were published yesterday. A statement of their chief contents will be found in our Weekly Summary of News.

Literature.

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

THE function of the Quarterly Reviews has long ceased to be a reviewing function. Instead of pronouncing verdicts on new books, a Review rarely devotes its space to a new work, and when it does so, makes the work the excuse for an essay. The change has been gradual, and has mainly grown up from a feeling that the weekly and monthly organs of criticism anticipate and take from the hands of a Quarterly its ancient office. But there are certain things which the Quarterly can, and its smaller rivals cannot do: its greater space, and more deliberate publication, enables it to perform many offices in Literature, among which must be reckoned that of retrospective reviewing. From time to time it is well that the great names of literature should be reconsidered in an essay; and a Review is the only medium for such retrospective studies. No one would read a pamphlet published about DRYDEN, but hundreds will be glad to read such an essay as that which opens the new *Edinburgh*; no one would buy a volume of criticism on COWPER, but even the busiest may spare half an hour to read the delightful paper on COWPER in the *National Review*. It would be well if editors contrived in each number to give at least one such retrospective article; the space so filled would be better filled than with so many pages of mere political speculation and declamation.

The *Edinburgh* is decidedly more agreeable this quarter than usual. Besides the article on DRYDEN, there is a pleasant paper on VILLEMEN'S "Recollections of History and Literature;" an interesting paper on the deaf and dumb—"The Land of Silence;" no lack of political matter, which we pass over; and a paper of the highest importance just now on "Modern Fortification," which is treated in a style so masterly and so popular, that the intensest civilian will be able to understand it. This is the great art of review-writing: to get a subject of interest, and to know how to interest readers in it who would be repelled by technical language! This art the writer of "Modern Fortification" possesses. Nothing can be clearer than his exposition. He records how and why the Russians failed before Silistria, and the Allies before Sebastopol; and how the Allies smashed Bomarsund:—

On comparing the siege with that of Silistria, we find the results so widely different as to shake our faith entirely in a science which could produce effects so strangely opposite. In the one instance, we find a miserable earthwork, which, with all its material and the ground it stood upon, could not have cost 1000*l.*, resisting for thirty-two days an army ten times more numerous than its garrison, and from before which they were ultimately beaten off with great slaughter. In the other case, a great fortress, which could not have cost less than 200,000*l.*, falls ingloriously before a body of men only half as numerous as its garrison, in about the same number of hours! and this, not because there was anything new or unexpected in the mode of carrying on these sieges—for everything happened as it had always happened before—but simply because the art was at a dead lock, and no one knew what was right and what was wrong. If any service was prepared for these results, it ought to have been our own, for they knew well that the Castle of Burgos, which was a mere earth-work like the Arab Tabia, with a garrison of only 2000 men, defeated as fine an English army as ever took the field; while the regular fortifications of Ciudad Rodrigo, of Badajoz, and San Sebastian fell inevitably before the attack of the same men.

The result of all this experience on our engineers has been, that after the siege of Silistria was raised, and Bomarsund had fallen, they came to Parliament for increased estimates to erect masonry towers à la Bomarsund along our coasts, choosing especially places where the water was deepest close in shore, and where they were most completely commanded from the high lands behind; and, as is usually the case, the House of Commons passed these estimates without asking a single question.

He shows how the Russians availed themselves at Sebastopol of the lessons learnt to their cost at Silistria. The whole paper should be carefully studied by military and civil readers.

SIDNEY SMITH is the favourite topic with reviewers just now, and we expected from the *Edinburgh* a brilliant article, rich with new matter. It turns out to be an article of no peculiar value, and of only average ability, bringing nothing new as its contribution, and inferior in treatment to the very lively and able article in the *British Quarterly*, which is written with unusual vivacity and discrimination. Another paper in this Review also deserves warm commendation: it is on the works of Dr. THOMAS YOUNG—an elaborate, yet popular exposition of his discoveries and achievements—the sort of paper we look for in a Review, because unattainable elsewhere. Otherwise, the number is heavy with politics and polemics. "Russian Aggression and British Statesmanship" is vigorous and useful as an historical survey.

Heavy also is the new Review, *The National*; with one exception, the articles belong to the respectable, but not inviting class; that exception is an agreeable study of COWPER, written with vivacity and out of love of the subject. It is happily said that—

If all other information as to Cowper had perished save what his poems contain, the attention of the critics would be diverted from the special examination of their interior characteristics to a conjectural dissertation on the personal fortunes of the author. The Germans would have much to say. It would be debated in Tübingen who were the three hares, why "The Sofa" was written, why John Gilpin was not called William. Halle would show with great clearness that there was no reason why he should be called William; that it appeared by the bills of mortality that several other persons born about the same period had also been called John; and the

ablest of all the professors would finish the subject with a monograph showing that there was a special fitness in the name John, and that any one with the æsthetic sense who (like the professor) had devoted many years exclusively to the perusal of the poem, would be certain that any other name would be quite "paralogistic, and in every manner impossible and inappropriate." *It would take a German to write upon the hares.*

The editor of this Review made as fortunate a selection when he chose the "Cowper" as he was unfortunate when he chose the paper on "The Planets." In the present state of the discussion, a Review which occupies twenty pages with rambling remarks on a topic so abundantly written about, and in these remarks presents no new facts, no new arguments, nor even a new mode of considering the subject, commits a serious mistake. The article is written by an able man; but it is the article of an able man writing about and about a subject. The review of "Ewald's Life of Christ" is useful as a good account of the book, but in itself is a second-rate article, although by a writer admirable when in his happiest moods. "Goethe and Werther" is a somewhat meagre account of the recently-published correspondence between GOETHE and KESTNER. "The Novels and Poems of Kingsley" are discussed by an admirer; and this concludes the list of the articles we have read. What may be the merits of the "Administrative Problem," "Romanism, Protestantism, and Anglicanism," and "International Duties," we cannot say.

The *London Quarterly* has a very attractive programme. It opens with a sketch of the "Influence of the Reformation upon English Literature," which carries us agreeably over the successive epochs of taste; it is succeeded by an essay on "Robert Newton," specially addressed to the sect to which the Review appeals. "Animal Organisation is a rambling paper not distinguished by first-hand knowledge; the "Science and Poetry of Art" is an interesting æsthetic essay; and the "Chemical Researches in Common Life" will be read for its curious facts and illustrations.

The *Journal of Psychological Medicine* contains a good criticism on Mr. SWAN, in a paper on the "Brain in Relation to Mind;" a paper of harrowing interest, entitled "Autobiography of the Insane," in which are given some extracts from a work describing the sensations which preceded an attack of insanity, and the experience of an insane man in an asylum. Metaphysicians will be interested with the article the "Psychology of Berkeley;" but the most important article in the number is the "Case of Buranelli," by Dr. FORBES WINSLOW, which must remain as evidence of our Medical Jurisprudence. We cannot here enter upon so complicated a case; we notice it for the sake of noticing the appalling ignorance which medical men in our country may publicly display without loss of caste. Nor is the word "appalling" a word let drop at random; it expresses no more than our meaning; for surely ignorance becomes appalling when the lives of our fellow-creatures depend on it? We select, therefore, Dr. A. J. SUTHERLAND as an example. He is one of the physicians whose opinion was demanded on the important question of whether the murderer BURANELLI was or was not insane. His opinion carried a life with it. That he gave it conscientiously, we do not for an instant doubt. That he gave it with appalling ignorance we will now proceed to show. Let the reader understand that we have ourselves no opinion on the question of BURANELLI's insanity; he may have been insane, he may have been sane; our indignation is not with Dr. SUTHERLAND's verdict, but with the culpable ignorance of Physiology upon which he bases his verdict. On being interrogated, he declared it to be his opinion that BURANELLI was labouring under an illusion produced by hypochondriasis, but not under a delusion produced by insanity. He was then asked, "Where is the seat of hypochondriasis?" and he gives a sufficiently vague answer—"In the nervous system." This not being precise enough for the questioner, he is asked, "Is it not in the mind?" And now listen to his answer: "It is seated generally in the stomach; it is the effect of the nerves of the stomach conveying false notices generally through the system to the brain." In the first place hypochondriasis, a mental condition, is said to be "seated" in the stomach; a proposition which ARISTOTLE might have received with favour, and GALEN with a smile, but which every physiologist of the last two centuries would condemn as "ignorance too gross for refutation, too obvious for detection." In the second place, if, allowing every latitude to the language of a man whose conceptions are so vague, we follow his explanation, we learn that hypochondriasis is the effect of the gastric nerves conveying false notices. Now the nerves convey nothing but stimulus, as a telegraph wire conveys the electric current; that stimulus may be strong or weak, the sensation produced may be agreeable or disagreeable; but to suppose that a "message" is conveyed from the stomach along the telegraph wires of the brain, and that under certain conditions this message will be false, to suppose this was left to Dr. A. J. SUTHERLAND, who is ignorant enough of physiology to be the dupe of gross metaphors! We speak metaphorically of the stomach conveying notices to the brain, but Dr. SUTHERLAND has realised the metaphor, and argues that these notices may in some cases be "false," and when they are false, hypochondriasis is the effect of the falsehood; because the brain deceived by the notices thus falsely conveyed, labours under an illusion respecting things with which neither the stomach nor its "notices" has anything to do! This is the first time we ever heard the name of Dr. A. J. SUTHERLAND. If ever it should appear again in a trial for insanity, we may know what to expect.

PLINY AS A NATURALIST.

The Natural History of Pliny. Translated, with Copious Notes and Illustrations, by the late John Bostock, M.D., and H. T. Riley, Esq. Vol. II. (Bohn's Classical Library.) H. G. Bohn.

Among the many false notions which antiquity has stereotyped for us, and from which we strive in vain to free ourselves, is one to the effect that Pliny was a considerable person in science,—his *Natural History* an admirable work. Admirable the work is in some respects: it is elegantly written, laboriously compiled; contains what no other work contains with equal fulness—namely, a survey of the ignorance of the ancients on matters of *Natural History*, and is, moreover, to be admired as an amusing collection of fables, extravagances, credulities, and good stories. But as a work of science it is every way contemptible; and in saying this we do not look down from supercilious heights of modern achievements, but from the heights to which Aristotle had previously raised the science. Compared with the *History of Animals* by Aristotle, the work of his successor (long considered his rival) is not more contemptible in its want of the *a b c* of natural investigation than in its want of philosophic conception, either of method or classification. Pliny was in truth neither Thinker nor Observer. He was a Compiler—a Compiler without sagacity, without criticism, without practical knowledge.

He was incessantly reading, and making extracts from what he read. On quitting his bath a slave read to him; he never walked, but went in his litter, because in his litter he could read; and he reproached his nephew with losing so much time in walking. His faith in what was written seems to have been unshakable. It is enough for him that he finds a fact recorded; the record is proof. Thus he says:—

Mentor, a native of Syracuse, was met in Syria by a lion, who rolled before him in a suppliant manner; though smitten with fear and desirous to escape, the wild beast on every side opposed his flight, and licked his feet with a fawning air. Upon this, Mentor observed on the paw of the lion a swelling and a wound; from which, after extracting a splinter, he relieved the creature's pain. *There is a picture at Syracuse which bears witness to the truth of this transaction.*

The mind ready to accept such proof would of course never question a favourite author; accordingly we have a collection of the absurdest stories gravely put forth as facts, and these are made to substantiate things even more outrageous. *E.g.*—

Facts such as these induce us to give some credit to what Democritus relates, who says that a man, called Thoas, was preserved in Arcadia by a dragon. When a boy, he had become much attached to it, and had reared it very tenderly; but his father, being alarmed at the nature and monstrous size of the reptile, had taken and left it in the desert. Thoas being here attacked by some robbers who lay in ambush, he was delivered from them by the dragon, which recognised his voice, and came to his assistance.

Or this deliciously humorous instance:—

We must also make mention here of another marvellous story that is related by Phylarchus about the asp. He tells us that in Egypt one of these animals, after having received its daily nourishment at the table of a certain person, brought forth, and that it so happened that the son of its entertainer was killed by one of its young ones; upon which, returning to its food as usual, and becoming sensible of the crime, it immediately killed the young one, and returned to the house no more.

The dragon becoming sensible of the crime is perfect!

The ignorance which Pliny's credulity implies is quite amazing when he treats of animals familiar to the world. Conceive this case being gravely recorded:—

When Alexander the Great was on his Indian expedition, he was presented by the King of Albania with a dog of unusual size; being greatly delighted with its noble appearance, he ordered bears, and after them wild boars, and then deer, to be let loose before it; but the dog lay down, and regarded them with a kind of immovable contempt. The noble spirit of the general became irritated by the sluggishness thus manifested by an animal of such vast bulk, and he ordered it to be killed. The report of this reached the king, who accordingly sent another dog, and at the same time sent word that its powers were to be tried, not upon small animals, but upon the lion or the elephant; adding, that he had had originally but two, and that if this one were put to death, the race would be extinct. Alexander, without delay, procured a lion, which in his presence was instantly torn to pieces. He then ordered an elephant to be brought, and never was he more delighted with any spectacle; for the dog, bristling up its hair all over the body, began by thundering forth a loud barking, and then attacked the animal, leaping at it first on one side and then on the other, attacking it in the most skillful manner, and then again retreating at the opportune moment, until at last the elephant, being rendered quite giddy by turning round and round, fell to the earth, and made it quite re-echo with his fall.

Or this:—

It is well known that in Lusitania, in the vicinity of the town of Ollsipo and the river Tagus, the mares, by turning their faces towards the west wind as it blows, become impregnated by its breezes, and that the foals which are conceived in this way are remarkable for their extreme fleetness; but they never live beyond three years.

This also is notable:—

The stag, too, fights with the serpent: it traces out the serpent's hole, and draws it forth by the breath of its nostrils, and hence it is that the smell of burnt stags' horn has the remarkable power of driving away serpents. The very best remedy for the bite of a serpent is the rennet of a fawn that has been killed in the womb of its mother.

The logic of the passage in italics must not be passed over. "We find it stated in many authors," he says, "that a serpent is produced from the spinal marrow of man." One of the editors of this volume is kind enough to inform us that Ovid "makes mention of the belief;" but he is not kind enough to add that the belief is an old woman's belief. Indeed, the editors, who have been liberal in their notes, for which the reader will thank them, have not had the knowledge requisite to control such a mass of mistakes as these books of Pliny offer.

Although in the preceding observations we have spoken of Pliny's pretensions in no admiration, let us not conclude without insisting on what are his claims to the attention of our age. No more instructive book can easily be named, if rightly used. It gives us the *nescience* of antiquity, which may help to throw light on our science. It tells us what men thought, how they observed, with what evidence they were satisfied. Besides this, it is a very amusing book. Open where you will, and you light on passages like this:—

Scorpions live on earth. Serpents, when an opportunity presents itself, show an especial liking for wine, although in other respects they need but very little drink. These animals, also, when kept shut up, require but little aliment, hardly any at all, in fact. The same is the case also with spiders, which at other times live by suction. Hence it is, that no venomous animal will die of hunger or thirst; it being the fact that they have neither heat, blood, nor sweat; all which humours, from their natural saltness, increase the animal's voracity. In this class of animals all those are the most deadly, which have eaten some of their own kind just before they inflict the wound.

Or this:—

When the lioness is defending her whelps, it is said that she fixes her eyes steadily on the ground, that she may not be frightened at the spears of the hunters. In all other respects, these animals are equally free from deceit and suspicion. They never look at an object obliquely, and they dislike being looked at themselves in such a manner. It is generally believed, that, when the lion is dying, he bites at the earth, and sheds tears at his fate. Powerful, however, and fierce as this animal is, he is terrified by the motion of wheels or of an empty chariot, and still more so on seeing the crest or hearing the crowing of a cock; but most of all, is he afraid of fire. The only malady to which the lion is subject, is loss of appetite; this, however, is cured by putting insults upon him, by means of the pranks of monkeys placed about him, a thing which rouses his anger; immediately he tastes their blood, he is relieved.

The only caution requisite is: Believe nothing which you there find stated. "Barring that," as the Irishman says, the book is as pretty a book as you could desire.

VARIETIES.

SOME time ago we noticed the first of a series of small but solid stories, published by Mr. J. H. Parker, each pointed with a moral for the day. Two more of them are before us, *The Recruit* and *The Strike*—a tale of the political war in the East, and a tale of the social conflict ever continuing, with short truces, between those who have the willingness to work and those who have the power to pay. The teachings implied are not of a very practical character; they are resolved into the old, old exhortations: be frugal, be temperate, be persevering, and trust to the law. All good and true, no doubt, but nothing more. The writer, who illustrates the nature and effects of a strike in his romance of political economy, has sympathy for the industrious orders, and urges a strong appeal in their favour. They are generally composed of good citizens, he believes, who, in their most desperate hours, love peace, and are loyal to the state. In parallel with them he alludes to the class of masters, and affirms that many a factory is a bed of thorns to choke the lessons of the school. Ear has not heard, and pen has not described, the vicious life of an ill-regulated mill. This springs from the moral apathy of the cotton lords, and their indifference produces, or perpetuates, the corruption of their workmen. Up to this point, then, education is the author's desire. But he goes further, and asks for limited liability, to open a prospect of independence to the operative. When the spinner, the weaver, and the engineer, possess this power of profitable combination, they will desist from strikes; they will cease to fight with the cross-bow of Agincourt when they can use the artillery of Alma. Meanwhile, the theory spreads out in cold platitudes, and does not sharpen to a point, or lay bare the vital parts of our social anatomy. What is wanted now is, not a salvo of loose rattle and flash, but steady and precise firing,—logic at close quarters, a descent from generalisation to analysis. The fictions in Mr. Parker's series are more amiable than telling; they draw portraits of the poor with little satire or idealism; but they add not a word to the argument by which this world is at last to be persuaded, that while engines are perfected, while pendulums are watched like sacred vestal flames, and while looms are anxiously improved, men are not to remain as they were when steam only sang out of the kettle. In *The Recruit* there is less opportunity for social discussion, yet it touches on the fretting topics of the day, on the inducements which bring troops to our army, on the career they follow in its ranks, and on the channel through which the mental energies of our younger sectaries are encouraged to flow.

The writer's satire on debating societies is ill-directed, and provokes a suspicion of his sincerity. At the same time he deals temperately with the subject, though entirely missing an obvious opportunity for saying a little on the other side. There was probably in Wayford another place, besides the "Young Men's Union," in which "sound and fury, signifying nothing," was poured forth. A reference to this was necessary, for the sake of reason and truth. We make the allusion, because it seems to us that *The Recruit* is occupied too exclusively with a Jeremiad on the weaknesses of wayward and uncultivated young debaters. There are two sets of our fellow-creatures whose existence is equally to be deplored;—men who pass their youth without education; and men who receive education without benefit to themselves or others. Here is matter for satire also, or better, for plain and earnest writing.

Not so ambitiously, yet in a similarly didactic style, Mr. Herbert Byng Hall writes *Soldiers and Sailors, in Peace as in War*. (Chapman and Hall.) In his opinion the qualities of the common soldier and sailor are habitually underrated. The seaman of mock-naval novels and minor theatres is a good-humoured, lively, random being, never very selfish, never very sober, always a child, and rarely with a soul above a quid in piping times of peace, or a long shot in war. As for the ranks,—they are supposed to be filled from "the scum of people." These two ideas, kindred and coeval, are set down by Mr. Hall as wrong, and he makes out a part of his case. Few readers, however, are persuaded by narratives which, however based on truth, have the dress of fiction. They are to plain facts what figures of speech are to reasonings: they aid and adorn the forms of rhetoric, but are not convincing in themselves. The incidents amplified by Mr. Hall, himself an old campaigner, are, nevertheless, suggestive as well as interesting. They are pleasingly related, and varied judiciously.

Again a book on war; but the war of Prophecies. One sign of a perturbed social state is the appearance of writers who pretend to unveil the future, and to disclose the secrets of that which has not been. We have little partiality for dogmas on the affairs of ages anterior to history; we even doubt the value of disputes on the fashions worn in the Sun; but

weaker than all, and worse than all, are the controversialists who smite one another in a battle about things that are to be when myriads of centuries have come and gone. The Rev. Mr. Godfrey indites a work called *The Conflict and the Triumph*. (Partridge and Oakey.) It is written with fury, and not corrected with phlegm. The writer is like James I., composing a "counterblast against tobacco" when he should have regulated the disorders of the realm. He thinks this is a time to explain the Book of Daniel. He has a right to think so, and his inquiries lead him to some profound conclusions. He has been convinced that the Turkish Empire is not the River Euphrates, in which we think Wild's Map and Guy's Geography concur with him. Further, Louis Napoleon is not the Man of Sin—intelligence which will, probably, be agreeable to Louis Napoleon. We ourselves are gladdened to find that so luminous a critic as Mr. Godfrey abandons to its fate Dr. Cumming's theory of tails,—not that of Lord Monboddoo or of Dr. Kahn, but a special theory of his own. In the "Revelations" occurs a passage descriptive of an army of horsemen, "whose power is in their mouth and in their tails." Whereupon the Scotch Presbyterian, who does a great stroke of business in the Apocalyptic line, sees a connexion between this verse and the horse-tail standards of the Ottoman cavalry. With all gravity does Mr. Godfrey disprove this hypothesis; "the power of the Turks is not in their dead horse tails." Here is logic, which encourages us to proceed. There is next a vigorous refutation of the argument that because *Arbe* in Hebrew means an Arab, and *Arba* means a locust, therefore, every locust is an Arab. The locusts eaten by John in the desert could not have been Arabs, says Mr. Godfrey. Certainly not, though Dr. Cumming may suppose that the Baptist was a cannibal. If we were not shocked, we should be amused by this frivolity; but we are forced to remember that two religious ministers are playing parts in the burlesque. Once more, Mr. Godfrey denies that Nicholas I. of Russia was a hailstone. Dr. Cumming says he was, but Mr. Godfrey has a fixed belief on that point. Indeed, it acts as yeast to his wrath, for he foams up until he is tempted to write, "Were I an infidel, and had the points of Dr. Cumming's book conceded to me, I would overthrow the whole system of Christianity." Is there a fit audience for Mr. Godfrey? Is this incoherent nonsense consumed by any class of readers? Undeniably; but a synopsis of English minds would classify them into many different orders. There were some who admired Goldsmith when he "wrote like an angel," and others who adored him when he "talked like poor Poll."

PICTURES OF PALESTINE.

Pictures of Palestine, Asia Minor, Sicily and Spain; or, the Lands of the Saracen By Bayard Taylor. Sampson Low.

MR. BAYARD TAYLOR has caught the spirit of the East, with which he gives life and truth to his pictures of travel. He is neither a philosopher nor an antiquarian; but essentially an artist, who depicts the varieties of form, light, and colour, in the groups, the landscapes, or the city scenes of Southern Europe, or Western Asia. And his book therefore is pictorial. A sea of sapphire waters—a field of crimson poppies—a tract of red sand—a blaze of flowers—a blue or purple sky—a range of Saracen pillars, and arches beaming with gold—or a dome of cedar foliage, is richly described by him, in that peculiar style, half fanciful, half serious, which he seems to have acquired from the study of Oriental poets, or from long familiarity with the social atmosphere of the East. He has been an untiring wanderer. We formerly traced with him the route from Alexandria to the White Nile; the title-page of his new volumes describes a large area of observation; and we are promised a further account of his experiences in China, India, the Loo-Choo Isles, and Japan. Writing in good humour, and in elegant, original, suggestive language, he pleases us far more than the common illustrated routine tourists, whose journals are made up, partly of curses, and partly of quotations. Even quarantine is not disagreeable to Mr. Bayard Taylor. His first letter, indited from the waterless hungry rock of detention at Beyrout, contains not a single murmur, and none but light-hearted maledictions. In fact, with soup, lamb cutlets, and Syrian larks, imported from a neighbouring hotel, he wiled the hours away in content, though noise and inconvenience surrounded him.

His journey thence to Jerusalem was a feast for the eye; it lay through a country enriched by the aspects of a Syrian spring, and enlivened by the motions and incidents of a half-patriarchal life. Reaching the central towns of Palestine, he visited the spots beloved by imagination, the Jordan, Jericho, Jehosaphat, the Mount of Olives, the Vale of Hinnion, and "that proud brook, the brook of Kedron." In the luxury of its vegetation, the Holy Land reminded him of California,—with its picturesque groves, its harvests of wild-growing grain, its plains fragrant with aromatic herbs, its skies without clouds, and its nights without dew. A similar exuberance clothed the slopes of the Anti-Lebanon, and the level country round Damascus,—so enchanting in a distant view, says Mr. Bayard Taylor, that nothing less than a city of palaces, with marble walls, and gates of ivory and pearl, could satisfy the traveller's mind, still full of beautiful illusion. Here, however, costumed as he was after the fashion of the East, he tasted the real flavour of Oriental life.

Too often, wherever you may wander, the hotels of Europe seem to follow you, so that among the cupolas of El-Islam, you appear to recognise the chambers and corridors you lately quitted at Paris. But in Mahomed's favourite city, an hotel is truly a thing of the East. You are ushered into a spacious court paved with marble; a stone basin full of water and surrounded by vases of flowers cools and perfumes it from the centre; lemon-trees shade the entrance and shake their sweetness into the air; a vine climbs about the house, which is coloured in bars of orange, blue, and white. On one side is a lofty apartment open in front, and brilliant with encaustic paint. A tessellated floor looks cool and pure, and a divan of heaped cushions invites the lazy frame to loll on it, as good Mussulmen do. In this luxurious place, Mr. Bayard Taylor was tempted, by a love of experience, to inhale the fumes of hasheesh, and to surrender himself to the dream-laden repose it produces. A fine, nervous, burning thrill shot through him; his

pulse throbbed; a sense of strange freedom succeeded; he felt his nature altered, and imagined that sparkles of light were passing from him into an immeasurable depth of darkness around. Then a crowd of visions, like an heraldic pageant, came before him; he was in Egypt; he was in Elysium; he was in Queen Mab's car of translucent pearl; he listened to wondrous music; sweet odours fed his sense; a curious land opened to his view; comic transformations forced him to laugh; pains and nervous trepidations, like those of madness, came after these sensations of mirth and pleasure; he seemed to take the altitude of human joys and sufferings; and finally, recovered from his delirium with a worn frame and a wandering consciousness enough to convince him that the Eastern sensualist, who steepes himself in the unreal raptures of hasheesh, must gradually decay, and become the slave of this horrible artifice.

A more pleasant chapter is supplied by Mr. Bayard Taylor on Bathing and Bodics. He affirms, what is true, that Europeans in general know not how to bathe. They only wash themselves, and scrub their skin to inflammation with barbarous towels. In the East, though stiff-jointed travellers complain of steam, heat, and dislocation, bathing is luxury. Our present tourist knew this when he went to the baths of Damascus, for he prepared himself, as for a festival of ceremonious pleasure. He duly kicked off his red slippers before mounting the divan, and submitted to the stripper's hand with uninquiring docility. All the processes were undergone with equal patience and appreciation, and he emerged from the bath a lighter and a happier man. *A propos*, there is a discussion introduced on the subject of human beauty, and Mr. Taylor tells us what he has observed. We must quote this passage, premising that we might dispute his notions of the old Greek sculptors and their inspirations:—

So far as female beauty is concerned, the Circassian women have no superiors. They have preserved in their mountain home the purity of the Grecian models, and still display the perfect physical loveliness, whose type has descended to us in the Venus de Medici. The Frank who is addicted to wandering about the streets of Oriental cities can hardly fail to be favoured with a sight of the faces of these beauties. More than once it has happened to me, in meeting a veiled lady, sailing along in her balloon-like feridjee, that she has allowed the veil to drop by a skilful accident, as she passed, and has startled me with the vision of her beauty, recalling the line of the Persian poet: "Astonishment! is this the dawn of the glorious sun, or is it the full moon?" The Circassian face is a pure oval; the forehead is low and fair, "an excellent thing in woman," and the skin of an ivory whiteness, except the faint pink of the cheeks and the ripe, roseate stain of the lips. The hair is dark, glossy, and luxuriant, exquisitely outlined on the temples; the eyebrows slightly arched, and drawn with a delicate pencil; while lashes like "rays of darkness" shade the large, dark, humid orbs below them. The alabaster of the face, so pure as scarcely to show the blue branching of the veins on the temples, is lighted by those superb eyes—

"Shining eyes, like antique jewels set in Parian statue-stone,"

—whose wells are so dark and deep, that you are cheated into the belief that a glorious soul looks out of them.

Once by an unforeseen chance, I beheld the Circassian form, in its most perfect development. I was on board an Austrian steamer in the harbour of Smyrna, when the harem of a Turkish pasha came out in a boat to embark for Alexandria. The sea was rather rough, and nearly all the officers of the steamer were ashore. There were six veiled and swaddled women, with a black eunuch as guard, in the boat, which lay tossing for some time at the foot of the gangway ladder, before the frightened passengers could summon courage to step out. At last the youngest of them—a Circassian girl of not more than fifteen or sixteen years of age—ventured upon the ladder, clasping the hand-rail with one hand, while with the other she held together the folds of her cumbersome feridjee. I was standing in the gangway, watching her, when a slight lurch of the steamer caused her to loose her hold of the garment, which, fastened at the neck, was blown back from her shoulders, leaving her body screened but by a single robe of light, gauzy silk. Through this, the marble whiteness of her skin, the roundness, the glorious symmetry of her form, flashed upon me, as a vision of Aphrodite, seen

"Through leagues of shimmering water, like a star."

It was but a momentary glimpse; yet that moment convinced me that forms of Phidian perfection are still nurtured in the vales of Caucasus.

The temples of Baalbec, the cedars of Lebanon, and the culture of the Syrian plains need not detain us from Mr. Taylor's dissertation on pipes and coffee. No one, he asserts, can understand the East without smoking as Easterns do; for the hookah is a new emblem added to the apes, ivory, and peacocks of Asia. Had the Greeks known tobacco, says the traveller, in the spirit of a devotee, they would have personified it in the shape of a god—a more Epicurean Apollo, a more indolent Bacchus; but, to people "who never smoke," and to women, he addresses some lines of reasonable expostulation. They are not to conjure up the idea of pigtail, bird's-eye, or cavendish; but to think of cakes of dried leaves and blossoms, exhaling an odour of crushed flowers, for these are the tender buds of Jebelee, which, for use, are moistened with rose-water. The smoke, drawn through a long cherry-stick pipe and amber mouthpiece, is pure, cool, and sweet, with an aromatic flavour. "It excites" (we quote emphatically) "no salivation, and leaves behind it no unpleasant, stale odour." What more is necessary to be said for any tobacco? As to coffee, it is the favourite of every Arabic Anaereon, who extols it as "the beverage of the people of God," giver of youth and beauty, and exhorts to "drink it with confidence, and to regard not the prattle of fools, who condemn it without foundation."

We pass from the valley of the Orontes with the travellers to Aleppo, to the plains of Antioch, to the fields of Issus, to Tarsus, through the Taurus, with its pastoral valleys, and through the heart of Asia Minor, by unworn routes, to Ladik, or Laodicea. Thence we proceed to Constantinople, across a territory rarely illustrated by narratives of travel, and we commend to readers in search of vivid and picturesque description Mr. Taylor's reminiscences of the Turkish capital. At present we will jump several chapters, and pick up, on a bridle path in Andalusia, a Spanish version of a familiar story. It will serve to exhibit the varied character of the book:—

As we were trotting along through the palmetto thickets, José asked me if I should not like to hear an Andalusian story. "Nothing would please me better," I replied. "Ride close beside me, then," said he, "that you may understand every word of it." I complied, and he gave me the following, just as I repeat it:—"There was once a very rich man, who had thousands of cattle in the Sierra Nevada, and hundreds of

houses in the city. Well: this man put a plate, with his name on it, on the door of the great house in which he lived, and the name was this: Don Pedro without Fear and without Care. Now when the King was making his *pasé*, he happened to ride by this house in his carriage, and saw the plate on the door. 'Read me the name on that plate!' said he to his officer. Then the officer read the name; 'Don Pedro without Fear and without Care.' 'I will see whether Don Pedro is without Fear and without Care,' said the King. The next day came a messenger to the house, and, when he saw Don Pedro, said he to him: 'Don Pedro without Fear and without Care, the King wants you!' 'What does the King want with me?' said Don Pedro. 'He sends you four questions which you must answer within four days, or he will have you shot; and the questions are:—How can the Sierra Nevada be cleared of snow? How can the sea be made smaller? How many arrobas does the moon weigh? And how many leagues from here to the Land of Heavenly Glory?' Then Don Pedro without Fear and without Care began to sweat from fright, and knew not what he should do. He called some of his *arrieros* and loaded twenty mules with money, and went up into the Sierra Nevada, where his herdsman tended his flocks; for, as I said, he had many thousand cattle. 'God keep you, my master!' said the chief herdsman, who was young, and *buen mozo*, and had as good a head as ever was set on two shoulders. 'Anda, hombre!' said Don Pedro, 'I am a dead man;' and so he told the herdsman all that the King had said. 'Oh, is that all?' said the knowing *mozo*. 'I can get you out of the scrape. Let me go and answer the questions in your name, my master!' 'Ah, you fool! what can you do?' said Don Pedro without Fear and without Care, throwing himself upon the earth, and ready to die.

"But nevertheless, the herdsman dressed himself up as a *caballero*, went down to the city, and, on the fourth day, presented himself at the King's palace. 'What do you want?' said the officers. 'I am Don Pedro without Fear and without Care, come to answer the questions which the King sent to me.' 'Well,' said the King, when he was brought before him, 'let me hear your answers, or I will have you shot this day.' 'Your Majesty,' said the herdsman, 'I think I can do it. If you were to set a million of children to playing among the snow of the Sierra Nevada, they would soon clear it all away; and if you were to dig a ditch as wide and as deep as all Spain, you would make the sea that much smaller.' 'But,' said the King, 'that makes only two questions; there are two more yet.' 'I think I can answer those, also,' said the herdsman: the moon contains four quarters, and therefore only weighs one arroba; and as for the last question, it is not even a single league to the Land of Heavenly Glory—for, if your Majesty were to die after breakfast, you would get there before you had an appetite for dinner.' 'Well done!' said the King; and he then made him Count, and Marquis, and I don't know how many other titles. In the meantime, Don Pedro without Fear and without Care had died of his fright; and, as he left no family, the herdsman took possession of all his estates, and, until the day of his death, was called Don Pedro without Fear and without Care."

Of such sketches, graphic and lively, is Mr. Bayard Taylor's volume composed. The author has a graceful style, and since he professes only to describe the lands in which he sojourned, in their picturesque aspects, we may accredit him as a successful traveller.

HISTORY OF THE CRIMEA.

The Crimea, its Ancient and Modern History: the Khans, the Sultans, and the Czars.
By the Rev. Thomas Milner, M.A., F.R.S. Longmans and Co.

MR. MILNER prefaces his work with a candid disclaimer of "literary exactness;" and the avowal is based on very just grounds, for it has seldom fallen to our lot to notice a greater amount of carelessness and laxity of style. But if the reverend gentleman was aware of this defect, there is no excuse for his negligence in not removing it. A slight application of the pumice-stone would have caused these unsightly disfigurements to disappear, and have materially added to the merit of a really praiseworthy compilation. That we may not be deemed too harsh, we adduce a few instances from the many that present themselves. We are told that Ovid was "relegated from Rome for not keeping a still tongue in his head, and using it in gossiping about a piece of court scandal." The Euxine has "been in bad odour throughout the world, conceived of by the popular imagination as a kind of enormous Styx, fit only for satyrs to visit and centaurs to navigate." We had always imagined that satyrs loved the woods rather than stormy waters, and it is certainly an original idea to navigate the Styx with horse-marines. It is pleasant, however, to remark that our author is superior to vulgar credulity, for he expresses his doubts as to the saying, that "a calf beginning to graze at the base of the Carpathian Mountains, might eat its way to the Wall of China, and arrive there a full-grown ox." The merit of plain speaking must also be accorded to him, for he thus relates the disgrace of Samoilo-vitch, the attaman of the Don Cossacks:—"This most puissant chief—the ordinary style of address—was seized at midnight, tried by court-martial in the morning, called the son of a —, and sent off to Siberia, where he perished miserably, along with his son." The check, too, now sustained by Muscovite ambition is expressed in language rather familiar than dignified. "Russia, aiming to keep the gate of the Black Sea, has now lost the basin, and can with difficulty catch a glimpse of its waters." There is something of caricature in the image of a great nation, as a woman, trying to close a gate, and dropping a basin while she strives on tip-toe to peep at certain waters beyond the aforesaid barrier.

But though inexact in style, it must be admitted that he has been quite the reverse in his adaptations—we love mild phraseology—from preceding writers. Thus we find whole pages copied, almost word for word, from Pallas, Dr. Clarke, Koch, and other travellers. And the moral reflections scattered through the book forcibly remind us of the wise saws we were wont to transcribe in our best running hand, *Consule Planco*.

After allowing, however, for these faults and failings, there remains much that is worthy of commendation. In one moderate-sized volume we are furnished with all the information that can be desired respecting the natural characteristics of the Crimea, its history and traditions. Following in the wake of the good ship *Argo*, as she sped through the dark *Symplegades* to the *Colechian* land, we behold, for the first time, the inhospitable waters of the Euxine. Again are we buffeted by its waves when sailing in

company with the storm-tossed chieftain, "fertile in expedients," who studied the manners and institutions of many peoples. We then mark the early settlements of the Cimmerians, ancestors of our own Cymry, and rejoice in the escape of Iphigenia from a land so fatal to strangers. The Kings of Pontus are next passed in review, and the many changes of rulers and the ruled are clearly and succinctly described. Alans, Goths, and Huns, Turks, Russians, and Tartars, appear in their turn upon this eventful stage, and add their quota of bloodshed and misery to the annals of all human race. At the present moment such a recital is full of interest for all whose eyes are turned to the scene of the valiant exploits and patient sufferings of our gallant army. A "dull elf" and heartless is he who does not long to know what manner of men they be who live in this Crimea, of which few had ever heard before the siege of Sebastopol. And then the very origin of Sebastopol is a matter worthy of record. It happened in this wise:—

Eighty years ago, two humble villages occupied the shores of the noble inlet,—Inkerman at the flat upper extremity, and Aktiar on one of the creeks of the southern side. Ruins in various directions, Byzantine and Genoese, spoke of bygone days of animation; but existing symptoms of it were few. Smoke rose from the dwellings of the natives, goats clambered about the rocks, herdsman, cattle, and sheep passed along the valley of the *Tchernaya*, and game birds nestled in the reeds of the river. While these were the chief signs of life upon land, the waters were seldom ruffled, except by the wind, the Tatars not being a maritime people. The scene began to change in the year 1778, and soon afterwards the change was total. At that time, the Crimea was still nominally independent, but occupied, or protected, as it was called, by Russian troops. It was in the morning of a hot July day, that a considerable body marched out of *Bakchi-serai*, and appeared at the head of the bay, to reconnoitre a small Turkish fleet which had cast anchor off Aktiar. Though peace subsisted between the two empires, there was suspicion, mistrust, and rancour on both sides. The officer in command of the detachment looked out upon the fine expanse from the summit of a cliff; and, for the first time, its capacities caught a competent military eye. It was Suwarrow. Determined to compel the Turks to quit the offing, in order to prevent communication with the Tatars and interference with Russian designs, he observed the most commanding positions; and, extending his troops during the night along the two sides of the basin, began to fortify the mouth of the port. Day put a stop to these labours, but they were resumed the night following. Upon being challenged as to the cause of his preparations, when they were perceived, Suwarrow alleged that the Turks, having disembarked to procure supplies, had killed a Cossack who approached them, and that a packet had been detained at Constantinople. Perceiving themselves in danger of being entrapped, the ships weighed anchor in the night and stood out to sea. The batteries hastily erected on this occasion antedated probably, on the same points, the existing grim forts of Alexander and Constantine.

We cannot however admire Mr. Milner's idea of "a righteous retribution" when he proposes "to render the port unserviceable for military purposes by closing up its mouth with the masonry of the citadels erected to be a terror, a menace, and an instrument of aggression." Such retribution as this would be the act only of a woman, or a coward, determined to wreak a petty revenge on unoffending stocks and stones, and content to disfigure nature's handiwork in the vain hope of arresting the ambition and malice of man. But Mr. Milner is neither a politician nor an economist. He is simply a narrator, a compiler of much varied and useful information, peculiarly acceptable at this moment.

DORKING AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

A Handbook of Dorking, &c.

George Willis.

Why should not a Guide Book be readable? When it has done its professional duty, and has lodged the weary wayfarer, let us say in the trim, smiling, modest parlour of a quiet and well-conducted inn, why should it not enter the social phase of authorship, and invite a pleasant intimacy? What other kind of book has an equal chance of being read on the very spot and at the very time an author would himself like to appoint for his first meeting with a judicious and appreciative reader?

As an excellent suggestion, if not a perfect example, of what a Guide Book ought to be, we recommend this anonymous *brochure* on the subject of Dorking. Within five-and-twenty miles of Fleet-street there is a country town, second to no other in England for internal beauty and cleanliness, or for situation, or for extent of surrounding scenery. From Malvern the view is not more enchanting than that which you gain from Leith Hill, near Dorking, in Surrey. Savage old John Dennis wrote a description of "this noble and wonderful prospect. . . the most delicious rural prospect in the world;" and the fierce old critic reviewed in a perfectly kind manner this praiseworthy effort of Nature's, and roared, for once, more gently than the most amiable of sucking doves. The favourable criticism in question is reproduced very effectively in this little volume, which is generally happy in its book-reminders. The author has a great faculty of quotation; and, seeing how well he has chosen the motto of his volume from Shakspeare, and how aptly he has brought forward illustrative passages from Coleridge, and Wordsworth, and Campbell, and Cowper, not to mention local poets innumerable, whose particularity of description atones for poetical shortcomings, we were surprised to find, at the head of a chapter on the geology of Dorking, the subjoined astounding piece of pretentious commonplace, from "Glimpses of the Obvious," or some platitudinarian work with a similar title:—

Search out the wisdom of Nature;
There is depth in all her doings.—TURPIN.

That a very numerous and potential class of readers, who cannot be at the pains to estimate the precise amount and value of original thought contained in sentences like these, should now and then be misled by the mere quality of sound, is not at all surprising. There is a great community of non-ideas. But that a man who has himself acquired a certain literary skill—who writes modestly and sensibly, often with elegance, and always with a meaning—should stoop to pick up a platitude, does make us open our eyes with wonder. "Que des sots, remplis d'estime pour eux-mêmes, tiennent de sots discours avec emphase, rien de plus naturel; mais que leurs maximes dirigent des gens d'esprit, c'est là ce que j'admire."

cassemieres, cashmerettes, alpacas, mohairs, &c. The Scotch tartan manufactures of Glasgow, Hawick, and Galashiels muster in strong force, and their display is very magnificent; but Paisley has but a single exponent of its noted shawls, and the entire Principality of Wales can find but one exhibitor of the national flannel, Messrs. Wall and Son, of Welshpool. Witney, with its blankets, has also but one exhibitor. Merely to give a list of the English special fabrics totally unrepresented at the Exposition would be no easy matter; but none who are acquainted with the trade can fail to miss the splendid "patent double cloths" of Messrs. Daniell and Wilkins, which elicited the warm commendations of the Jury at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

The important difference between the home and continental trade lies in the facilities enjoyed by the English manufacturers for obtaining the best wool, both of home growth and Australian,* and in the careful and expensive processes by which the Yorkshire and West of England manufacturers finish their unrivalled broadcloths. The Report of the Jury at the Great Exhibition of 1851 states that, "In England a new era for this trade may be said to have commenced, in the year 1824, by the introduction of what is called the *roll-boiling* process, which produces a permanent lustre on the face of the cloth, that neither spot by rain nor is removed by damp." This process was invented by Messrs. Daniell and Wilkins, and consisted in rolling the cloth upon a roller and immersing it for hours in scalding water. The continental processes are cheaper, and consequently not so durable and satisfactory.

From Verviers, the seat of the Belgian manufacture, some very fine satin cloths are exhibited. Brussels sends some good crinoline, plaids, trouserings, and flannels. De Keyser, of Brussels, has some excellent imitations of Irish frieze, quite equal to the original, and also a fabric of finer texture called *frisette*.

Spain, the aboriginal habitat of the Merino sheep, and which at one time had almost a monopoly in the supply of wools to all parts of Europe, now ranks very low in that respect; for, except in Spain itself, Spanish-grown wool is only used for spinning the very lowest quality of yarn. This can only be accounted for by the quality of the herbage having deteriorated in Spain in proportion as it has become better in other countries. Dr. Ure, referring to this point, says—"The ardent sun of Spain renders the fleece of the Merino breed harsher than in the milder climate of Saxony." The Spanish collection in the Exposition contains some very good satin cloths, coloured flannels, and zephyrs from Tarrasa; patins and beavers from Sabadell; and shawls, woollen prints, and mixed fabrics from Barcelona.

The pre-eminence of Saxony over the rest of continental Europe in the manufacture of broadcloth doubtless arises, as Dr. Ure suggests, from the superior softness, combined with durability, of the home-grown wool. From Glauchau and Chemnitz some very fine specimens of Saxony cloth are contributed: also from Lengenfeld and Grossenhayn.

The other collections do not call for much remark. Wurtemberg has a good display of mixed goods and coloured flannels. Baden sends a few pretty vestings, made in the Jacquard loom. A single exhibitor from the kingdom of Bavaria has some good buckskin. Switzerland sends a very small, but also very excellent, collection of cassinets, tartans, Orleans, and other light cloths. None of the other exhibiting nationalities show anything at all remarkable.

The Wool Series in the Exposition is doubtless, both for extent and variety, superior to that displayed in 1851; and the juries will probably discover in the continental displays many very marked improvements. The disgraceful poverty of the English collection makes it impossible to say how far our own manufactures have kept pace with the general advance; but we shall not be surprised to find that the foreign manufacturers have adopted every process which tended to give to Yorkshire and West of England fabrics their former undoubted superiority. The great fault heretofore urged against the best continental cloths has been a hardness and want of flexibility which rendered them liable to crease, if not to break easily in the wear; and the most superficial examination of the principal collections will serve to convince the visitor to the Exposition that this has been greatly obviated, and we will venture so say that some of the specimens exhibited from Sedan are quite equal, whether in point of quality, dye, finish, or wearing capabilities, to anything produced or producible from England. In return, it must be admitted that the English double-twilled merinos approach the fabrics of Tourcoing and Elbeuf much closer than ever they did before, although the latter still retain a decided superiority in dye, softness, and lustre. The poverty of the English collection in worsted stuffs prevents us from drawing any further contrast between her manufacturers and those of the Continent in that respect; but the Bradford manufacturers will feel an interest in hearing that since 1851 the use of alpaca and mohair has made immense strides in France, Austria, and Prussia. In spite of the conservative secrecy with which these gentlemen surround their works, their foreign competitors succeed in making those light, silky-grey fabrics, which are fast supplanting cotton prints, quite as well and as cheaply as they can. Far from seeing any matter for regret in this, we are rather disposed to look upon it hopefully, as likely to excite the English manufacturers into that competitive energy which is the spirit of Free Trade, and induce them to lay aside that island doggedness which is unfortunately too much their characteristic as a class.

The Arts.

PRIVATE THEATRICALS AT KENSINGTON.

The dramatic performance which took place last Tuesday evening, at Campden House, Kensington, for the benefit of the Consumption Hospital, was of a kind far too remarkable to pass without special notice in these columns.

Some weeks before a play, written by Mr. WILKIE COLLINS, and called *The Lighthouse*, had been got up privately at the house of Mr. CHARLES DICKENS. This play, with the same cast, the same scenes, painted expressly by Mr.

* Australian is the best wool in the world. It combines the strength of the English growth with the durability of the German. The staple is also uniformly good.

STANFIELD, in every respect the same, was repeated last Tuesday at the private theatre at Campden House, the residence of Colonel WAUGH, who very kindly lent it for the purpose.

The parting of the green curtain and the disclosure of an act-drop, most beautifully painted by Mr. STANFIELD, was the first relief to the curiosity of the audience, which had been considerably stimulated by the reports of those who had seen the play at Mr. DICKENS'S house.

The rising of the act-drop, which showed the outside of the lighthouse, at once took the spectator into the interior of the building.

Three lightkeepers—*Aaron Gurnock*, his son *Martin*, and *Jacob Dale*—live alone upon the dreary rock. *Martin Gurnock* and *Jacob Dale* are discovered on the stage. The father, *Aaron Gurnock*, is not seen.

A storm, protracted beyond all their calculations, has prevented the supply of provisions on which these men depend from reaching them. *Stanfield* is staring them in the face. A dense fog surrounds the lighthouse, and *Jacob Dale*, true to his duties to the last, leaves the stage to ascend the building, that he may warn any ship that may be near by striking the gong—for the light cannot be seen through the mist.

Left alone, with death apparently at hand, the thoughts of poor *Martin* turn to the pleasant shore, and to *Phoebe* (*Jacob Dale's* daughter), to whom he is betrothed. Thus occupied, he is unconscious of what is now attracting the attention of the audience. The curtain of a bed let into the wall, after the manner of ships' berths, is hastily torn down, and the figure of the half-starved father, *Aaron Gurnock*, steps into the room. With horror-struck looks, he rouses his son from his reflections, for he has that upon his mind which he must unburden before he can meet the death whose approach is now only a question of hours, and but few of them. The tale, disturbed at intervals with immense effect by the sounding of the gong above, is a sad one. He had not always been a lightkeeper. Years ago he lived in a cottage on the land. One night, when a thick sea mist darkened the country around, a lady riding on a pony having lost her servant and her way together, arrived at his door, begging shelter for the night. With gentle words, she tells him that they "will talk more of him and his poverty next day." She is taken to an upper room, and so accepts the shelter of his roof. Beneath that roof she is foully murdered. Not, indeed, by *Aaron* himself, but by a companion who was in the house with him, who, lifting the lady's saddle-bags from the pony, felt their weight, and resolved to make their contents his own. To *Aaron's* credit he refused all share in this gain, but he assisted to conceal the body of the lady, and the guilt of her murderer. During this long tale the storm abates, and the boat with provisions arrives. *Phoebe* herself is one of the crew. Of course the first thing to be done is to satisfy the hunger of the starving lightkeepers, and this is hardly done when a fresh incident occurs. The newly-arrived boatmen, who are on the look-out above, announce that a ship, wrecked in the storm which is now abating, is drifting with some of her passengers yet clinging to her, towards the lighthouse. Ropes are thrown to these by *Martin*, *Jacob Dale*, and others, from the lighthouse window, through which the spray is dashed by some contrivance which we have never before seen attempted. During this scene of confusion, *Aaron Gurnock* crouches over the embers, affording no help, and little noticing the occupation of the rest. He is evidently brooding over his share in the murder of "the *Lady Grace*" (for that was her name). But words shall be spoken shortly which shall not fail to rouse him. For now the brig has drifted so near the lighthouse that the name written on her stern can be seen, and *Phoebe's* young eyes are strained to read it. For a while she puzzles as the ship is tossed about, and then, "I see it now," she cries, "it is the *Lady Grace*." With *Aaron Gurnock's* scream of horror, as he recognises the name of his murdered guest, the curtain falls upon the first act.

It rises soon again. There is sunshine and calm now outside the lighthouse, but darkness and storm enough within. *Martin*, haunted by the thought of his unworthiness, through his father's sin to unite *Phoebe's* lot to his—perplexed and distracted—gives offence to honest *Jacob*, her father, by what seems neglect of his daughter. And now once more *Aaron Gurnock* and his son are left together, and *Aaron*, with death no longer staring him in the face, regrets that he has revealed the dreadful story, and pretends to his son that he had only told it him in the ravings of delirium. The bewilderment of *Martin* is at its height, whether he is to believe last night's story or this morning's. He solemnly adjures his father to set the horrid doubt at rest, and to tell him in one word whether the story of the lady's murder was true or false. "False," cries *Aaron*. But another voice says "True." Unperceived by father or son, a lady, one of the passengers rescued from the wreck, has stolen into the room, and as she speaks, *Aaron Gurnock* falls on his knees, for he recognises the voice and figure of the *Lady Grace*. To him it seems her spirit as he had seen it in his dreams, but it is indeed herself. When her supposed murderer and *Aaron* had concealed her body life was not wholly gone, and the story of her restoration follows. Hardly can her forgiveness reassure *Aaron*, but it gives him peace at last, and *Martin*, an honest man, can once more take his *Phoebe's* hand in his.

Having thus sketched the plot of this most original and poetical play, it only remains to speak of the acting. Mr. DICKENS'S *Aaron Gurnock* was a performance of the most unparalleled beauty and refinement. His marvellous embodiment of the character of the wild, rough, conscience-stricken man, the tender pathos with which he told how the poor neighbours of the *Lady Grace* travelled from their far-off homes to ask if her body had been found, and how the very children she had taught came there for tidings of her—the weary sighs with which he interrupted his own tale—the passion of his grief—the subtlety and discretion of his by-play—the transition from the man who, when death seemed near, proclaimed his guilt, to the man who, when life returned, denied it—his pleading with the apparition (as he thought it) of the *Lady Grace*, that it was hard to stand to truth when it made him despised by his own son—these and a thousand other beauties in his performance were done more justice to by the excitement and tears of his audience than by any praise we can bestow.

Mr. MARK LEMON performed the character of *Jacob Dale* with the finest pathos, and at the same time with consummate truth and reality; and Mr. EGG'S acting of the rough sailor's part was full of dry and genuine humour. Great credit is due, also, to Mr. WILKIE COLLINS, the author of the play, for the extreme finish and thoughtfulness of his acting. All these gentlemen we had seen on the stage before, and were prepared for their success; but there are yet to be spoken of two performers in this drama, whose powers we had not previously had an opportunity of estimating. Miss HOGARTH'S impersonation of the beautiful character of the *Lady Grace* will live in the memories of all who brought hearts with them to Campden House last Tuesday: the sweet dignity of her manner and appearance—the gentle and soothing accents of her voice—the *luxury* it was to her to forgive—these are things which we shall all remember, and often talk of with delight; and Miss DICKENS'S *Phoebe*—what a relief to hackneyed playgoers was that fresh performance! The innocence and purity of feeling with which she sang the beautiful ballad introduced by Mr. DICKENS, and the tender grace and simplicity of her whole embodiment of the part were simply

delicious. Mr. CHARLES DICKENS, junior, made much of a small part by his energetic acting, as did Messrs. EDWARD HOGARTH, WEBSTER, and ANGER. Nor must Mr. BERGER's admirable musical accompaniments to the piece be passed over without high praise.

The *Lighthouse* was followed by the play of *The Wonderful Woman*, acted with great care and completeness by another company of unmistakable amateurs, who performed fine ladies and gentlemen with agreeable relish and vivacity.

Mr. ASHE, however, who acted the *Cobbler*, is something more than a surprising copy of Compton; he displayed real comic instinct, and he sang a ballad on the Sunday trading question to the tune of "Villikins," the words his own, with genuine humour and gusto.

SIGNOR MONTI'S LECTURES.

Last Wednesday night, Signor MONTI concluded his series of lectures on Ancient and Modern Sculpture.

After having briefly adverted to the subject of the previous lecture, in which he had introduced the development of Christian art out of the Roman decadence, and the Byzantine sculpture that followed it—and having re-exhibited the diagrams with which he had illustrated those schools and their offshoots, the Romanesque, the Gothic, and Tosco-Italian sculpture—the lecturer resumed his analysis with the period of the Italian Cinquecento, where modern art ceased to be strictly Christian or religious, and embraced the wider field of history and poetry.

A rapid and brilliant sketch of the political and moral condition of Italy, introduced MICHAEL ANGELO. Upon this great master the lecturer dwelt at length, and in the enthusiastic affection with which he treated the character of the man and the works of the artist, it was easy and delightful to recognise the sympathies of the Italian patriot, and the kindred worship of the sculptor.

Having defended MICHAEL ANGELO from the accusation of causing the ruin of his art by the intense vitality with which he impressed his creations, by showing in the works of his immediate Italian imitators a great deal of animation but no excessive exaggeration—the lecturer traced the development of the French Renaissance, and examined the works of that period, both of France and of the Low Countries. Then, resuming the notice of Italian art with the excesses of BERNINI, and alluding to the similar deformities of taste in France and in England, as exemplified by PUGET and ROUBILLAC, the lecturer introduced the modern reform brought about by the efforts of PACETTI, CANOVA, THORWALDSEN, and FLAXMAN, to whose names Mr. MONTI associated those of the Roman critic MILIZIA, and the English painter HAMILTON.

The historical sketch concluded with a notice of the more modern masters, as RAUCH and the German School, the importance of which the lecturer took pains to impress upon his audience. GIBSON and the English sculptors of whose merits he spoke as the most warm and brotherly admiration, not unmerited, we trust;—PRADIER and the French Art, in which he lamented to find, with but few exceptions, so much *esprit* and skill, debased to subordinate decoration, or lost in trivial materialism;—and finally BARTOLINI and the new Italian, or romantic school, of which, by-the-by, Mr. MONTI himself is an adept. In a brief, but admirable summary of the course of lectures, Signor MONTI said that the symbolic phase of Art offered mere conventional representations, important only for the idea attached to them—that Art reaches its climax only when it is the unfettered embodiment of national free expression—and that it sinks into emasculated and meretricious display when serving despotism and bigotry.

Signor MONTI concluded by expressing his ardent desire for a new and more full opportunity of labouring to promote a just and liberal appreciation of his Art, a noble and unaffected wish, evidently shared by his audience, if we may trust the warm applause that crowned the lecturer as he retired from the desk.

THE MUSICAL UNION.

Mr. ELLA brought the eleventh season of this admirable Society to a close on Tuesday last successfully and brilliantly. Mr. ELLA is to the aristocracy what M. JULLIEN is to the democracy of music. We speak of the aristocracy of taste, culture, and accomplishment. M. JULLIEN, by infinite courage and ingenuity, and by a profound diagnosis of the popular temperament, has created a musical public in England. Mr. ELLA, by a sagacious union of zeal, discrimination, and refined experience has created a musical aristocracy, select, rather than exclusive, to which he administers only the choicest and most delicate fruits of art in the highest perfection. He has redeemed England from the vulgar presumption of foreigners, who are only now beginning to be aware that the finest music played by consummate artists is to be heard in London, and not only heard, but listened

to in religious silence by an audience of critics. But we cannot hope to express the obligations of the musical profession, we should say of all lovers of music, to Mr. ELLA, better than the illustrious MEYERBEER, who, after being present at a Concert of the Musical Union, addressed the following letter to the Director:—

(Translation.) "London, July 9, 1855.

"MY DEAR MR. ELLA,—I thank you with all my heart for the great pleasure you have afforded me in giving me the opportunity of being present at a séance of the "Musical Union." To hear admirable masterpieces executed in so admirable a manner that the most delicate beauties and the finest niceties are brought out into relief by the talent and the ensemble of the executants, this is a keen musical enjoyment. But to me it was quite as keen an enjoyment to remark with what intelligence and with what interest your numerous audience was listening, and to see so many ladies following the music score in hand. The analyses which you give of the works executed at your meetings are written with equal science and fine observation; and they contain excellent criticisms. They must powerfully aid such of the audience as are not professional musicians to note instantly the severer beauties of the *morceaux*, which, without that guide, would probably have escaped them at a first hearing. Let me add, that you deserve to be congratulated upon having created, and upon the direction of so noble an institution, which must have contributed already, and will yet contribute to the general propagation of a taste for the classical music of the immortal masters. Accept the expression of my most distinguished consideration,

"G. MEYERBEER."

Mr. ELLA may well deposit this letter with a just pride among the titled deeds of the "Musical Union."

OPERATIC GOSSIP.

We believe we may now confidently announce that the *Etoile du Nord* will be produced on Thursday next. It will certainly be in the bills for that day: it may possibly be deferred till the Saturday, if only out of consideration for the conscientious critics of the daily journals, but we incline to believe that Thursday evening next—nothing unforeseen occurring—will be a memorable evening, even for MEYERBEER, who must long ago have exhausted the sensations of success. The Maestro himself—who, we are assured by the early rising *Musical World*, is seen to be taking a "constitutional" every morning at seven, in the Park, to shake off the fatigues of the fêtes and compliments he has to encounter of an evening—MEYERBEER has been unremitting in his attention to the band rehearsals through the week. For some time the chief singers have been perfect in their parts, and the chorus has been efficiently drilled: the orchestra has been the admiration of the great composer.

We are glad to hear that he is equally surprised and delighted at the lavish splendour of the decorations and appointments, the marvellous series of life-like pictures contributed by Mr. BEVERLEY, and, not least, at the care and completeness of the *mise en scène*, under the superintendence of Mr. A. HARRIS, who has almost surpassed himself in that artist-like zeal and prodigious fertility of invention which almost convert himself into an astonished spectator of the illusions he creates. Among other flying rumours we hear that Madlle. JENNY BAUER, who performed *Catherine* in Mr. E. T. SMITH's diversion of the *Etoile du Nord*, is very graceful and piquante as one of the *Vivandières* in the tent scene, Madame RUDERSDORFF, a rather formidable *fille du régiment*, being the other assailant of *Peter's* virtue. We hear that LABLACHE's *Russian Corporal* is one of the finest creations even of that colossal buffo. We hear, too, that among *Peter's* army some of the actual heroes of Alma and Inkerman will appear as Russian soldiers. We hear—But we must not be too confidential, and we have said quite enough to sharpen the anticipations of our operatic readers.

Mademoiselle RACHEL will leave Europe for America early in August. Before her departure, the celebrated tragedian will give four performances at the St. JAMES'S THEATRE, commencing on the 28th inst., under the excellent auspices of Mr. MITCHELL.

M. JULLIEN announces a series of grand patriotic and military concerts at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, with all the effects (and none of the alarms) of war.

At the ADELPHI, the extravaganza of *Open Sesame*, translated from the LYCEUM, has been revived, by way of a relief to the dog days.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, July 10.

BANKRUPTS.—EMILIO PISTRUCI, late of Windsor-terrace, Picnic, general commission agent—JAMES HENRY LANGDON, Exeter, merchant—AARON MARKS and NAHUM SALAMON, Sheffield, merchants—THOMAS WADE, Newlay, Yorkshire, stone merchant—JOHN TAYLOR, Manchester, chemist—DAVID MACKECHNIE, West Hartlepool, Durham, chemist.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—N. MORRISON, Patrick, near Glasgow, provision merchant—J. NEILL and C. C. HERRUP, Leith, merchants—J. CHRISTIE, Glasgow, clothier—R. HODGE, late of Edinburgh, coppersmith—T. C. M'INDOE, Glasgow, commission agent—J. TARBAT, Dundee, merchant.

Friday, July 13.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—WILLIAM BRIDGE-WATER, Portland-street, Cheltenham, coal merchant.

BANKRUPTS.—EDWARD TITCOMB, Clewer, Berks, builder—WILLIAM WALTERS, Chester, coal and commission agent—THOMAS HICKERY, Bristol, brickmaker—WILLIAM MARSHALL and WILLIAM SMITH, Sheffield, tool manufacturers—WILLIAM GRANT, Brighton, news-vender, &c.—BRYAN HEBDEN, Pile, Yorkshire, innkeeper—CLARINDA KILNER, Walsall, Staffordshire, licensed victualler—EDWARD WHITAKER, Walsall, Staffordshire, draper—LOUIS WARD, London, merchant—JAMES EDWARD MITCHELL, DELORME, London, merchant—WILLIAM HENRY WILLIAMS, Whitstable, Kent, surgeon—WILLIAM EDGILL PATES, Wallingford, Berkshire, grocer—WILLIAM EDGILL COLES, Strand, dealer in waterproof clothing—THOMAS BARCLAY ARMSTRONG, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, fishmonger—ALBERT KING and Co., Chiswell-street, grocers—EDWARD OVER, Bethnal-green, oil and colourman.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CARTER.—July 10, at 8, Southwick-crescent, Hyde-park, the wife of J. Bonham Carter, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.

MILNE.—June 30, at Esher, the wife of William Milne, of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law: twin daughters.

SPOONER.—July 8, the wife of Professor Spooner, Royal Veterinary College, Camden-town: a son.

AMERICA.—The latest advices from America do not bring any news of great importance. The Know-nothing agitation progresses; the national party having held large and enthusiastic meetings at Baltimore, Washington, and Easton, at which places the Philadelphia "platform" of principles was adopted. The partisans of Know-nothingism, however, have met with some disastrous reverses in the municipal elections at San Francisco in California, where all factions combined to defeat them. The affairs of the bankrupt bankers, Page, Bacon, and Co., were undergoing investigation. Notwithstanding the efforts of Government, six hundred of Colonel Kinney's men have started for San Juan del Norte, and it is thought likely that they have effected a junction with three hundred sympathisers from California. Colonel Kinney is looked for hourly at Nicaragua. In Peru, the ministerial party have triumphed at the elections, and General Castilla is likely to be declared President. The accounts of the growing crops continue favourable. In New York, money is still very abundant, and of easy access at low rates.

THE ELECTION FOR THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY.—The work for the next Presidential election has seriously commenced between the three parties anxious for the succession. The champion of the American party is George Law, of New York; of the Steward Coalition party, W. H. Seward, of New York; and of the Democratic party, Henry A. Wise, of Virginia.

THE WANDSWORTH DISTILLERY was on fire for some hours on Saturday last. A corn-house, a granary, and the mills were destroyed. At the same time, a fire broke out at the goods department of the Brighton and South Coast Railway, near the Bricklayers' Arms Station. The premises were completely burned down.

IMPROVEMENTS IN INDIA-RUBBER.—An action has been brought in the Court of Queen's Bench against a Mr. Hancock, with a view to rescinding his patent in a certain improved kind of India-rubber. The allegation was, that a Mr. Moulton, an English gentleman residing in America, had left specimens of improved caoutchouc, made by Mr. Goodyear of New York, in the hands of Mr. Hancock, who is a partner in the house of Messrs. Macintosh of Manchester; and that from these specimens Mr. Hancock derived the principles of his own patent. On the other side, Mr. Hancock asserted that his discovery was the result of original investigations made by himself; but it would appear that he was put upon inquiring in a given direction by examining the specimens left with him. He obtained a verdict in his favour.

A CRYSTAL PALACE AT SUNDERLAND.—The *Gateshead Observer* informs us that Mr. Edward Backhouse, jun., contemplates erecting a Crystal Palace at Sunderland, which is to include, among its other features, a school of design, a museum, a large hall for bazaars and "tea meetings," and also a winter garden. A design for the edifice, which, it is said, will cost 7500*l.*, has been laid before the Building Hill Committee.

A FATAL ACCIDENT took place at the Camden-town station of the London and North-Western Railway on Saturday, when a porter, who was leading a horse across the line, was run down by a train of ballast waggons, and killed almost instantaneously.

Fossilized MAMMOTH BONES, of very great size, have been discovered at Kingston-on-Thames.

THE BRONZE STATUE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL, by Mr. Behnes, was on Monday placed on its pedestal at the west end of Cheapside, and was greeted with much cheering.

MARRIAGES.

ATKINSON—CHETWYND.—July 5, at Littleham, Devon, the Rev. James Augustus Atkinson, to the Hon. Charlotte Adelaide, third daughter of the Viscount Chetwynd.

DEATHS.

BEVAN.—July 3, at the Rectory, Burton Latimer, after a few days' illness, Agnes, wife of the Rev. D. Barclay Bevan, and third daughter of the Rev. W. Carus-Wilson, of Casterton Hall, aged 37.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, July 13, 1855.

THE Consols account has passed off most satisfactorily, there being no very heavy differences to adjust. The continuation prices were moderate, and it does not appear to have been a very heavy Bull account, as was at one time anticipated.

In the railway market prices have been well sustained, with the exception of Birmingham. Foreign lines are all good. A new scheme, called the Departmental Railway Company is afoot this week, for joining all the grand arterial lines by smaller connecting lines.

Closing prices, at four o'clock: Consols, 91 1/4; Turkish, 86 1/2; Caledonians, 62 1/2, 63; Eastern Counties, 11 1/2, 12 1/2; Great Northern, 91 1/2, 92 1/2; Ditto, A. stock, 91, 93; Ditto, B stock, 126, 128; Great South-Western, Ireland, 100, 102; Lancaster and Carlisle, 73, 78; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 81 1/2, 81 3/4; London and North-Western, 100, 100 1/2; London and Brighton, 100, 102; London and South Western, 84 1/2, 85 1/2; Midlands, 71 1/2, 71 3/4; Berwicks, 74, 75; Yorks, 50, 51, Oxfords, 26, 28; South Devon, 13 1/2, 14 1/2; Dovers, 61, 62; Antwerp, 9 1/2, 9 3/4; Bombay and Baroda, 2 1/2 pm.; Eastern of France, 35 1/2, 35 3/4; East Indian, 25 1/2, 26; Ditto, Extension, 3 1/2, 4 pm.; Grand Trunk of Canada, 6 1/2, 6 dis.; Central of France, 3 1/2, 4 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 3 1/2, 4; Great Western of Canada, 21, 21 1/2; Paris and Lyon 4 1/2, 4 3/4; Paris and Orleans, 47, 49; Rouen, 46, 48; Havre, 24, 26; Sambre and Meuse, 9 1/2, 10 1/2; Great Western of France, 10, 10 1/2; Agua Frias, 8 1/2, 8 3/4; Brazil Imperial, 2 1/2, 3; Cocoes, 3 1/2; St. John del Rey, 28, 30; Clarendon Copper, 1, 1 1/2; Linars, 3 1/2; Pontigibaud, 14 1/2, 15 1/2; Santiago de Cuba, 5, 6 South Australian Copper, 1, 1 1/2; United Mexican, 3 1/2, 4; Waller Gold, 1, 1 1/2; Australasian Bank, 84, 85; London Chartered Australian Bank, 19, 20; Oriental Corporation, 38, 39; Union of Australia, 74, 75; City Bank, 4, 5; Bank of London, 2 dis., par.; Australian Agricultural, 28 29; Peel Rivers, 2 1/2, 2 3/4; Canada Land, 118, 122; Canada 6 per Cent. Government Bonds, 113 1/2, 114 1/2; Crystal Palace, 2 1/2, 3; N. B. Australasian Land and Loan, 1 ex div.; Oriental Gas, 1 1/2; Scottish Australian Investment Land and Loan, 13, 2; South Australian Land, 36 1/2, 37 1/2.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, July 13, 1855.

FINE Wheat, both in London and in the country markets, continues to be salable at full prices, and the supplies from the farmers are falling off materially. During the week about 33 cargoes of Egyptian and 20 of other Wheat have arrived from the Mediterranean, many of the latter being sold before arrival. Among these was a cargo of Galatz, shipped at Constantinople, of 4500 qrs., which sold at 69s. cost, freight, and insurance, with measure and condition guaranteed. The Saidi has been partly sold at 42s. 6d. to 44s., and the Beheira at 40s.—some cargoes have been consigned, and others remain for sale at about those figures.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thur., Frid. and rows for various financial instruments like Bank Stock, 3 per Cent. Red., Consols for Account, etc.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Table listing foreign bonds and their prices: Brazilian Bonds, Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents, Chilean 3 per Cents, etc.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE

Monday, and Tuesday, PLOT AND PASSION. Characters by Messrs. Emery, F. Robson, Leslie, and G. Vining, Miss Bromley, and Mrs. Stirling.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM, 4, Coventry-street,

Leicester-square.—Open (for gentlemen only) daily, from half-past 11 till 5, and from 7 till 10. A new Series of Lectures by Dr. Sexton, F.R.G.S., &c., at 12, 2, 4, and half-past 7 in the evening. Admission, One Shilling.

JOHN B. GOUGH.—Farewell Orations will

be delivered in EXETER HALL on Monday, July 16; Thursday, 19; Monday, 23; and Monday, July 30. Doors open each evening at Seven o'clock. Tickets—Reserved Seats, 1s.; Body of the Hall, 6d.; Royal Gallery, 2s. 6d.

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. C. 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.

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Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, February 19, 1855.

I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley-meal and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley. There is no mineral or other impurity present; and, from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed) A. S. TAYLOR. Messrs. J. and J. C. ADNAM and Co."

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

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, Sperratorrhoea, 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.

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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 tin cases, at 11s. each; free by post, 2s. extra, divided into separate doses, to be administered by Welpau, Lallemand, Roux, &c., &c. To be had wholesale and retail, in London, of Robert Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hannay and Co., 68, 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.

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The magnitude of our legitimate business as Tea Dealers necessarily precludes our devoting a strict and essential supervision to the manufacture of Cocoa; we have therefore completed arrangements with the highly respectable firm of Messrs. HENRY THORNE and CO., Leeds, whose many years' successful experience in the preparation of this article, and the celebrity they have thereby acquired, together with their uncompromising determination to adhere to the principle they originally adopted, viz., to manufacture only from the choicest Nuts, and to rigidly eschew adulteration in any shape whatever, warrant us in recommending their "GENUINE TRINIDAD COCOA" to our numerous Friends, to the Medical Profession, and to the Public. Price—TENPENCE per POUND.

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

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JOYCE'S PATENT CAPS are equally certain in all weather, wet or dry, and if firmly pressed down on the nipples, will close the apertures and render the powder in the barrels air-tight, keeping it quite dry. Sportsmen are recommended to re-load as soon as possible in misty and wet weather, otherwise the moisture deposited inside the barrel damps the charge and occasions hang-fires.—Manufacturer of **WIRE CARTRIDGES and WADDINGS** of every description.
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HENRY D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

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This Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the current Premiums. Policy-holders participate in Profits after payment of five annual Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 30th of May, 1855, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that during the two last years, 1853 and 1854, between 800 and 900 new Assurances had been effected, producing an increase of Premium income amounting to 14,000l. per annum. It also appeared that, notwithstanding the extraordinary mortality which prevailed during the last year in consequence of the visitation of the cholera, it had not been found necessary to reduce, in the slightest, the allowance previously awarded to the Policy-holders.

The Members present at the Meeting were fully satisfied with the Report, and resolved unanimously that a Reduction of 3 1/2 per Cent. should be made in the current year's Premium payable by all Policy-holders now entitled to participate in the Profits.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction.

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium originally paid.	Allowance of 3 1/2 per cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 11 6	14 6 0
30	1000	25 13 4	8 1 8	17 11 8
40	1000	33 18 4	10 13 8	23 4 8
50	1000	48 16 8	15 7 8	33 9 0
60	1000	75 17 6	23 18 0	51 19 6

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Prospectuses, terms of agency, proposals, &c., can be had on application.

J. G. HUGHES, Secretary.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

—THE REGISTRATIONS.—The holders of Lots on the various estates who are not yet registered as voters, are particularly requested to forward without delay to the Solicitors, Messrs. Harrison and Lewis, of 14, New Boswell-court, Lincoln's Inn, the necessary instructions to prosecute their claims, which will be done free of expense to the members. It must be remembered that the 20th of July is the last day for sending in claims.

The allotment of the Hounslow, Brighton, and Reading estates will take place at the Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, London, on Thursday, the 19th inst.

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

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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, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

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