

Alfred Edmund Falloway, Esq. & Co.

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"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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Review of the Week.

WE ACCUSE the House of Commons of *breach of trust*. It has acknowledged its duty to the country, only to forfeit that duty. The session is within three weeks of the close, and Ministers succeed in staving off any attempt at interference with the course they are pursuing towards America. The House of Commons has at last been induced to move, but it has been set aside with ease, and has practically pronounced itself incapable of vindicating the public interests, of acting on behalf of the nation which it professes to represent. How stand the facts? Ministers agreed to a plan for enlisting soldiers in North America; they permitted Mr. JOSEPH HOWE to go out as their agent to the United States, they placed him in communication with Mr. CRAMPTON. Mr. CRAMPTON and he employed HERTZ, STROBEL, and other persons, to induce men to leave the United States for the purpose of enlisting at Halifax. The Neutrality Act of the United States forbids the enlistment of persons by foreign powers within the Union, or the "inducing" of persons to leave the territory in order to enlist. Mr. JOSEPH HOWE was authorized to proceed to the United States for the purpose of breaking the law; Mr. CRAMPTON was instructed to assist him; Mr. HOWE and his agents did break the law. But our officials then tried to back out. In effect, Ministers declared to the American Government, We did not intend to break the law, we only intended to evade it. We forgive you, cries the American Government, since on your word of honour you disclaim the intention of breaking the law; but Mr. CRAMPTON and the Consuls under him have broken it, and therefore we shall kick them out. The English Government puts up with that treatment, but still bears a grudge against the American Government. Before the HOWE expedition, Ministers were warned that they were about to act illegally, and that the act would get us into hot water; a lawyer of the Union, who was consulted, stated that the proceedings would be an infraction of the American statutes; the Governor-General of Canada is said specially to have warned Mr. CRAMPTON of the effects of his conduct: Ministers, therefore, were deliberately misconducting themselves, getting us into difficulties with the Union, incurring disgrace for themselves, and risking the friendship of the two countries, the immense commerce of the two,

the property of citizens in both, the employment of our factory population; but when the question was put to them in the House of Commons, the officials said, These matters are in progress, and it is against the rule to interrupt the Executive. Thus members were silenced. The affair is now in great part over; we have the facts before us, we have ascertained that Ministers and their agents did worse than we supposed them to have done; but now, when they are questioned, they say, Do not meddle with this subject, because it is purely retrospective, and the interest has past. This is the way the House of Commons is always bamboozled—no other word will fit the process.

But Ministers cannot desire to bamboozle the House of Commons half so much as the House of Commons desires to be bamboozled. Notwithstanding this plan of dodging dates, Mr. MOORE, who has an old grudge against Lord CLARENDON, resolved to have it out with him, and brought before the House of Commons a resolution censuring Ministers for their conduct in the enlistment business. Now there are a dozen men so called Liberals, who are extremely anxious to maintain friendly relations with America. Ministers have told those persons that if they would keep quiet, and help to keep the House of Commons quiet, the Ministers were only anxious to avoid conflict with the United States. The baker's dozen of independent members have been talked over; and on Monday night up rose Mr. WILLIAM BROWN and Mr. EWART to beg off the debate.

The conduct of Ministers was correctly described by several of the speakers, but by none so correctly as Mr. GLADSTONE. They could not, he says, separate themselves from Mr. CRAMPTON. Mr. GLADSTONE, indeed, might have challenged them to produce their *private* communications with Mr. CRAMPTON if they affected to separate themselves from that diplomat. For their private communications would in fact show the real character of the instructions sent out. Mr. GLADSTONE, while characterizing the conduct of Ministers correctly,—while making them responsible for breaking the American law and becoming entangled in a partnership with STROBEL, the Russian spy,—declared he would not vote for the resolution, because it was "abstract,"—because, if carried, it ought to turn out the Government; and he was not prepared to find a Government in the place! The House of Commons declared, through the mouth of Mr. GLADSTONE, that this Government is a bad Government which breaks

the laws of a valuable ally; but the House of Commons, the grand inquest of the nation, the agent for the people, equally avows by its vote that it cannot help itself, and that it is quite willing to go home for the holidays, leaving that bad Ministry in office, unchecked by any debates in Parliament. The House of Commons negatived Mr. MOORE's motion by 274 to 80; and that is the meaning of the division.

The Government had had another success, as we explained last week. Mr. DALLAS has placed himself at the mercy of the present Ministers. If they have broken the law of the United States, they must have equally broken the spirit of the gentleman representing the United States; and he must be a convenient instrument, by which they may either gain some advantage over the Union, or get up a little rupture with the Union. He, that committed Minister, is "authorized," as Lord PALMERSTON has stated this week, "to negotiate on the Central American question." Now a large portion of the public unquestionably desires that question, which is of no *English* importance, to be closed at once. We assert, and shall be prepared to prove it, that opportunities of closing have been presented. Those opportunities have been deliberately passed by. Let one peculiarity in the last official manifesto on the subject be noticed. The American Government propose to refer the questions of political geography upon which it turns to scientific men, the men whose business it has been, irrespectively of the litigation, to ascertain how the real facts are, in point of geography, colonization, and history. Lord CLARENDON replies that our Government agrees to refer the subject to "arbitration," implying that the arbitrator must be some other power, *not* a scientific man to pronounce upon the facts. Now the American Government has already said that no European Government would be in a position to pronounce a satisfactory judgment. While professing willingness to refer the subject, therefore, Lord CLARENDON only consents to refer it in a manner which he knows the Americans will refuse. This is of a piece with all the rest.

Since the question can only be decided on the strength of facts, justice, and good sense, there can be no disadvantage whatever in bringing the whole of the negotiation before the public. There is a great disadvantage in their being secret, since, if our Ministers desire more to embroil the matter, and not to close it, secrecy will enable them to

imitate in South America the same kind of "friendly" transactions which we have disclosed in the enlistment affair. Secrecy, therefore, may prevent a closing, but cannot assist it; publicity cannot prevent it, but would unquestionably assist at once both the American public and the English public to have the question settled. Yet the House of Commons, whose active members ascertain the truth of these statements, stand by and leaves the whole matter in the hands of the Executive, exposed as the Executive has been in North America! If this is not breach of trust, we do not know why STRAHAN, PAUL, and BATES are now undergoing penal servitude.

The House of Commons is parting with its control over Ministers, at the very time when the affairs of the Continent are becoming more embroiled than ever. There have been rapid intercommunications between the Emperor NAPOLEON and the Emperor FRANCIS-JOSEPH of Austria; we gather from the *Presse Belge* that France and Austria are quite agreed as to the course to be pursued in Italy; while it is affirmed, that our Government resolves to stand by and do nothing. Certainly this is not the position that our public understand the Government to take. If this was the intention, then the encouragement given to Sardinia at the Conference in Paris, and by the speeches of our Ministers in Parliament, was an excitement to a course of action which might lead to an immense sacrifice of life, and, what is worse, of liberty in Italy. Naples is pursuing her course of oppression in a manner which implies that she has no regard for the formal remonstrances of France and England: does that imply that she is conscious of support, and does not feel any necessity for yielding before these dramatic representations? In Parma the people can scarcely be prevented from rising against the Austrians, because it is understood that the Government itself is in opposition to Austria. In Lombardy there is the same impatience to move. And, in fact, from the Alps to Naples the people are awaiting the signal.

In fact, the House of Commons is scarcely worth proroguing; but Ministers object to even this amount of interruption, and Parliament is to be dismissed about a month before the usual time: the 24th of this month is the day fixed. We all know, therefore, what is to become of those measures that now amuse the two Houses. The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill, amended by Lord LYNDHURST, the Wills Bill, or any other bill, will be shuffled aside; why should Parliament remain together when the state of parties will not let it legislate, and Ministers will not let it ask what the Government is about abroad?

We are referred to the state of the revenue; and because the tables show an increase of 422,000l. on the quarter, and of 4,100,000l. on the year, we are told that the country is prosperous, and the people contented. As to the contentment, there is some truth. Society is becoming again divided into those classes who are well to do, and who take up almost as fast as they are built the high-rented houses of the eligible districts about London, and those classes who are now showing their discontent among the miners, among the iron trades, among the shipbuilders, and among the railway hands, by strikes. It is not that in any one of these strikes actual poverty or extreme depression of wages is pleaded; but the people feel that while the "prosperity of the country" is increasing at an enormous rate, with the revenue and with the power of the Executive, those who make it, the prosperity—the working hands—do not get their proportion of the increase.

The people, however, are quite content to be without a representation, or without any hold of power of any kind, civil or military, and they see the consequences. We shall hear of more sacrifices of public interest before Parliament meets again.

Our prosperity, in fact, is getting dangerous. The *Times* gives us a string of forty-five new companies, with a collective capital of 23,490,000l.—part of it to be sent abroad—creations of the spirit of speculation, which are likely to dispose of immense masses of capital far greater than any set down in this list. Some persons will make fabulous profits; some will incur fabulous liabilities, and we shall have a crash—for the working classes to suffer by.

The Emperor NAPOLEON is awkwardly trying to strengthen his position, and the reverses that he has just experienced show that he must rely more and more upon extraneous support. The Legis-

lative Body has exhibited a marvellous amount of independence in refusing to let him take hold of the pensions, to distribute them with his own hand, as the first NAPOLEON did. The Body implies, that, at this day, although there are no representative institutions, there is no autocrat in Paris, and that no one can have it all his own way. He proposed lately, out of his mere notion and magnanimity, to give annual allowances to the Princesses of the ORLEANS family. There is one Princess who might receive 8000l. a year as the compensation for the confiscation of the ORLEANS property—the Duchess of SAXE-COBURG. She refuses it. MONTALEMBERT addresses to the Emperor, through the Legislature, an eloquent protest against spoliation. The Count of PARIS, too, has declined to join in the combination of the ORLEANS family with the Count of CHAMBORD, because the Count of PARIS calculates that he has chances which it is not worth while to surrender.

There appears to be something strange in the chances of military fate. Sir WILLIAM WILLIAMS OF KARS has become the pet of the public and he is likely to be as satiated with "freedoms of the City" as with cakes; while Sir COLIN CAMPBELL, one of the stoutest and most chivalrous knights of modern days, finds his recognition only in commercial Glasgow, where ANTHONY STELLING tells the plain truth to the British public, and is cheered—yes, cheered; but the British public at present stops its action with cheering good things, and letting bad things go on in passive indifference.

A proof of this is the trick that was almost played upon the public and upon the QUEEN by that "sippant official," as the *Globe* calls him, Sir RICHARD AIREY. Lord PALMERSTON had promised that the Guards returning to London, their garrison, should make a public entry, at such time and by such route as the whole metropolis might welcome them. But AIREY, who has been criticised, and probably hates the public, press, and everything that has passed judgment upon him, took the matter into his Quartermaster-General mind, and resolved to snub PALMERSTON, Parliament, Press, and Public. The public, however, got scent of the matter; the papers furnished a thunderstorm which strengthened the hands of one department against another, and Lords PALMERSTON and PANMURE prevail over AIREY. So the public will have its pageant; for pageants are things which it is not thought safe even for the highest power of departmental Cæsars to withhold.

We have already mentioned the huge mass of speculation which is breeding in London: there is the same speculation enjoying an over-growth in Paris. M. GOUVEY cannot recover the losses which he sustained under the operations of the *Crédit Mobilier*, because he has participated in the speculation. As if to remind people in the City of what they are doing, Sir JOHN DEAN PAUL has reappeared from prison, like his own ghost, a witness to give evidence forming one of the most curious chapters in his history under the cognizance of the Court of Common Pleas; while the Commissioners of Chancery in Ireland have been laying bare the entanglement of poor Lord KINGSTON, in the case of JOHN SADLER, who had offered to manage the Irish peer's difficulties for him. The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the DYCE SOMBRE will, which is set aside in favour of the rights of his widow against his vindictive charity bequests in India, may perhaps operate as a warning to the King of Oude, who is coming with all his rupees, that Eastern potentates cannot have their own way in the United Kingdom exactly as they have been wont to do in the barbaric regions of farthest India.

SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—The anniversary of this Society was held on Monday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the Presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury. After the report had been read, the Rev. J. B. Owen, Mr. Slaney, and Mr. Twining spoke to a resolution which was to the effect that "the meeting had heard with great satisfaction of the spreading of the society's doctrines and example abroad and at home," model lodging-houses having been, or being about to be, erected in Paris, on the Boulevard Mazas; in Boston, United States; in Hobart Town, Tasmania; and in Gottenburg, Sweden; while similar societies have lately been formed in Marylebone, Hampstead, Worcester, Norwich, Lambeth, and Bath, and there is every probability of the long-contemplated labourers' houses in the City being constructed before the termination of another twelvemonth.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, June 30th.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Royal Assent was given by commission to several bills.

THE NEAPOLITAN GOVERNMENT.

In reply to a question from Lord LYNDHURST, the Earl of CLARENDON stated that it was not yet in the power of the Government to lay before the House the correspondence which had passed with other Governments on the Italian question. No reply had yet been received from Naples to a note communicated to the King by the English and French Governments, but there was reason to believe that one would shortly arrive. Under these circumstances, he did not think it would answer any public purpose to lay papers on the subject before the House; but Lord Lyndhurst might rely upon it that the Government would leave no means untried to put a stop to the occupation of Italy by foreign troops.

OATH OF ABJURATION BILL.

Lord DERBY moved for permission to discharge the order for the third reading of this bill, which stood for the ensuing Thursday. He said his motives for bringing forward the measure had been so misconstrued, and the remarks which Lord Lyndhurst had made on the second reading (of which he thought he had some cause to complain) had so entirely deprived it of its mission, which was one of peace and conciliation, that he felt there was no chance for the bill in "another place."

After a brief desultory conversation, in which Lord LYNDHURST defended the course he had taken, and some remarks were offered by Lords CAMPBELL, MALMESBURY, and CLANRICARDE, the motion was agreed to.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S GRANT TO THE SUFFERERS FROM THE FRENCH FLOODS.

The Duke of ARGYLL, in answer to the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, stated that the 500l. contributed by the East India Company towards the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the inundations in France, had been sanctioned by the President of the Board of Control.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH conceived that the subscriptions were illegal, and that no sanction by the President of the Board of Control could alter the case. No expenditure could be justified which was not for the service of the Government of India; and he (the Earl of Ellenborough) was of opinion that the moneys expended by the Company in giving dinners upon various occasions, were also illegally employed. "What would they say if the Secretary of State for War, upon the occasion of an examination of the cadets at Sandhurst or Woolwich, invited some fifty officers to be present at the examination, paid all the expenses of their journey there and back, gave them a magnificent dinner in the bargain, and charged the expenses in the war estimates?"

The BANKRUPTCY (SCOTLAND) BILL, the JOINT STOCK COMPANIES BILL, the INDUSTRIAL PROVIDENT SOCIETIES BILL, and the SEAMEN'S SAVINGS BANKS BILL, were respectively read a third time, and passed.

The House then adjourned.

THE AFFAIRS OF GREECE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, in answer to Mr. JAMES M'GREGOR, Lord PALMERSTON said that there had been no questions between the Government of this country and that of Greece since May, 1854. There had been a great many reports of cases relating to brigandage, but no question which required that papers should be laid before Parliament.

DESTRUCTION OF TURKISH FORTS BY THE RUSSIANS.

Replying to Colonel DUNNE, Lord PALMERSTON said it was not possible to give any official information as to the destruction of the forts of Ismail and Reni; but, from what passed at the Paris Conference, the Russians conceived they were at liberty to destroy those works; and the only effect would be, that their demolition would impose upon the Turkish Government some expense in restoring them.

On the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, the order for the second reading of the NATIONAL GALLERY SITE BILL was discharged.

RETIREMENT OF BISHOPS.

Mr. GREGSON inquired whether it was in the contemplation of Government to propose any plan for the retirement of bishops on pensions.—Lord PALMERSTON replied that it was not his intention to introduce any general measure, but, as the Bishops of London and Durham had signified their wish to retire, owing to infirmity, he should have to propose a bill limited to those two cases.

OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, Mr. APSLEY PELLATT, Mr. JOSEPH EWART, Mr. CHEETHAM, and Mr. SPOONER, appealed to Mr. G. H. Moore not to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice on the subject of our relations with the United States.—Mr. MOORE declined to accede, and observed, amidst much laughter, that the opinion of Mr. Spooner must necessarily have great weight with him, upon any subject, and more especially when it took the shape of a protest against his exciting ill-will against classes or sects of people. Conceiving the discussion to be necessary, he moved:—"That the conduct of her Majesty's Government, in the

differences that have arisen between them and the Government of the United States, on the question of enlistment, has not entitled them to the approbation of this House." Mr. Moore then recapitulated all the facts of the case, as set forth in the diplomatic papers, and contended that Mr. Crampton was all along acting with the sanction, and under the directions, of his Government, which contemplated and approved of the violations of American law. Mr. Crampton merely performed the duties dictated to him by Lord Clarendon. So far from his being enjoined to conceal nothing from the United States Government, concealment was the very key-stone of the whole proceeding. "Strobel and his fellow-mercenaries were informed by Mr. Crampton that they were not to adopt any public means of 'disseminating' (curious word) their information, as the attention of the American authorities might be called to it. At that very moment, Mr. Crampton was instructing those men in cypher, and drawing up rules for their guidance. (Hear, hear.) He then proceeded to Canada in all haste to carry out his measures of enlistment in the United States, and, during his absence, Mr. Lumley, the Chargé d'Affaires, was giving explanations to the American Minister, and denying all participation in these illegal proceedings. Mr. Marcy expressed the regret of the American Government at Mr. Crampton's absence, and naturally judged that he had proceeded to Canada on the subject of the enlistments. Mr. Lumley, who had assured Mr. Marcy that the mission of Mr. Crampton to Canada was to prevent any infraction of the treaty between the two countries, wrote to the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint him of his interview with Mr. Marcy, and of the explanations he had given him. Mr. Lumley showed Mr. Marcy the Earl of Clarendon's last despatch, expressing his approval of Mr. Crampton's having taken means to put a stop to the enlistment, whereas it really meant that he was to go on just as before. Now, whatever might be the faults of Englishmen, they prided themselves on their love of truth and plain speaking, and they deeply detested anything like that shuffling, quibbling, prevaricating form of speech that lied like truth." (Hear, hear.) Sir Gaspard La Marchant had invited Mr. Strobel—he begged pardon, Captain Strobel—to his table, and had written to him as an English officer; but now he and his companions were to be declared unworthy of belief. Mr. Moore then glanced retrospectively at a similar case:—"The House could surely not forget that at one time there was published in Dublin an infamous paper called the *World*, the editor of which was still more infamous than his paper; that that paper was employed by the Earl of Clarendon for years as the organ of his Government; that he was in most confidential communication with its editor; that he paid him large sums out of the public money, which he afterwards replaced; and that the Earl of Clarendon, though a man of the world, and acquainted with the Dublin world, and with Mr. Birch's *World* in particular, was not aware that he was a man of doubtful character. It was only when he was no longer useful that the Earl of Clarendon discovered that he was a man of most infamous character, and not to be believed on his oath." In the same manner, Palmer had impeached the character of the witnesses against him, had found fault with the Attorney-General ("No, no," from the Attorney-General, and laughter), and had arraigned the Chief Judge; but he was hanged. Lord Clarendon had been engaged in a petty intrigue, as he always was, and had been found out, as he always would be. Having inquired whether his Lordship intended to make scapegoats of the Crown, the Government, and the people of England, Mr. Moore concluded by moving his resolution, which was seconded, after a long pause, by an hon. member.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied on the part of the Government. Mr. Moore, he observed, must have felt somewhat shaken in his opinion of the propriety of bringing forward his motion when he observed the long pause that ensued before it found a seconder. He had remarked that this question should be discussed in a judicial spirit; but how had he carried that out? Was it possible to conceive that he had been animated with any other than a feeling of personal animosity against Lord Clarendon? (Loud cheers.) [Here Mr. Moore made a gesture of denial.] "I accept his denial," resumed the Attorney-General; "but I must say I never saw conduct that might so fairly lead to that conclusion. Was it judicial, was it just, was it common fairness, to drag into the debate allusions to the *World* newspaper? to refer to some obscure transactions, the import of which is not known to one single member amongst us, and to compare Lord Clarendon to a malefactor who only a few days ago paid the forfeit of his crimes on the scaffold?" (Great cheering.) The question between the United States and this country involved legal considerations to which Mr. Moore appeared to have given little attention. The persons meant to be enlisted were not American citizens in the proper sense of the term, but English subjects who had emigrated to America, and political refugees from Europe; and these men might, if they pleased, leave the United States, and enter our service without any infraction of the international law. It was never intended by this Government, that men should be enlisted on American soil, nor, in fact had that been done. No such illegal enlistment had taken place with the sanction of the English authorities. A hostile feeling, however, had been displayed towards England by the legal functionaries of the United States in con-

ducting the trial of Hertz, the object not being so much to find the accused guilty as to find England guilty. Looking at the infamous characters of the witnesses on whose evidence the American Government had taken its stand, it might be confidently asked whether the House would have expected the English Government to make scapegoats of Mr. Crampton and his colleagues. The Government had done its best to avoid a collision, and England could afford to be forbearing, conciliatory, and generous.—In the course of his exposition of the facts of the case, the Attorney-General was subjected to a rather sharp and somewhat unusual "cross-examination." After reading some extracts from the English minister's despatches, he went on to say:—"Mr. Crampton stated in two despatches, that he had distinctly brought to the knowledge of Mr. Marcy the fact that the British Government had established a depot at Halifax."

Mr. GLADSTONE: "Where does he state that?"

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL referred to the despatch he had just read. Mr. Crampton also stated the same thing farther on, at page 176, in a fuller despatch, of the date of March 3, 1856. It was perfectly clear that, unless Mr. Crampton had so far forgotten what was due to honour as to fabricate that statement, Mr. Marcy was made fully aware of the mode in which the British Government proposed to conduct the enlistment.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON: "Mr. Crampton says the reverse. He says, in the very same despatch: 'It is perfectly true that I did not enter into any details of the means which were to be adopted by her Majesty's Government to render available the services of those who tendered them to us in such numbers.'"

The SPEAKER: "Order, order!"

Mr. GLADSTONE (to the Attorney-General): "Where do you find any statement of Mr. Crampton to the effect you have mentioned?"

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he had just read two despatches to that effect; and the despatch of the 7th November contained the same statement in substance.

On the ATTORNEY-GENERAL remarking, in the course of his speech, that Mr. Moore had incorrectly implied that no communication with respect to enlistment had been made to Mr. Marcy, Mr. MOORE exclaimed, "Prove it!" which was met with cries of "Oh, oh!" and "Order!" To this, Sir ALEXANDER COCKBURN rejoined by saying that he knew how zeal would sometimes carry a person beyond the bounds of prudence, especially when it was wished to strike an individual home; but he thought the hon. gentleman had been altogether deficient in that courtesy to which every member of the House was entitled.

Sir FREDERICK THESIGER addressed himself to a consideration of the legal bearing of the case. He reminded the House that, by an act of Congress passed in 1818, it was made a misdemeanour to hire or retain any person to go out of the territory of the United States for the purpose of being enlisted in the service of any foreign country. Unfortunately, our Government had looked too closely to the provisions of that law, less to see how they could obey it than how they could effect their object without positively violating it. It is quite true that every American is free to quit the country, as has been laid down by Judge Ingersoll; but that does not at all touch the international question; for, if a foreign Government, or the agent of a foreign Government, lends itself to seduce, or induce, or allure, persons to leave the United States, although in that case there might be no breach of the municipal law, there would be a breach of international law, and a violation of that community of intercourse which ought to subsist between two nations. With regard to the particular agents employed for the purpose of carrying out the plan—Hertz and Strobel—he begged to observe that, if the case depended on their testimony alone, he would at once abandon it; but that was not so, for they had, under the hand of Mr. Crampton himself, the admission that he employed these two persons as agents for the purpose of enlisting men; and they had the cypher to which they, as well as other agents, had access. Quoting largely from the despatches, Sir Frederick argued that a perpetual attempt at concealment ran through the whole proceedings, and asked why these attempts should have been made if there had not been a desire to evade the American law. Yet, to the last, Lord Clarendon defended the conduct of Mr. Crampton and the consuls, and irritated the American Government by construing American law according to his own conception of what is right! England had been degraded, and placed in a position which was viewed with astonishment on the Continent; but, being in the wrong, she must accept her humiliation—must put up with the insult of having her ministers dismissed—and must confess that the American Government is justified in what it has done.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE contended that there had been no infraction of the American law, as the enlistments did not take place on the soil of the United States. Lord Clarendon had all along directed our ministers to take care not to infringe the laws; and, even allowing that any wrong had been inflicted, it was clearly not with the sanction or knowledge of the Foreign Secretary. Again, the evidence of the witnesses against the English Government was worthless, owing to the character of those witnesses.—Mr. HENRY BAILLIE insisted on the fact of the American law having been evaded. The same thing had been done in Prussia, Switzerland, and the

Hanse Towns; so that England might well be called a European nuisance; but in the case of small Powers, we always behaved with insolent indifference, if any remonstrances were made, though we were ready enough to submit to a strong and important state. That had always been the policy of Lord Palmerston; and the old spirit still animated the Foreign Office. We had depended too much on foreign legions; so that our boasted army of the East had been mainly composed of Germans, Swiss, Poles, Sardinians, and Turks. The position of England had been altogether changed by the great invention of steam power; and, unless the Government and the people were prepared to adopt more efficient means of national defence than any carried out during the late war, they must be content to give up all hope in the future history of their country.

Sir GEORGE GREY remarked that Mr. Moore, Sir Frederick Thesiger, and Mr. Baillie, had occupied totally different positions in their attacks on the Government, against which it was quite clear that there was no real case. No doubt, it appeared that some persons had engaged themselves in the transactions who professed to act with an authority they never received, and whose proceedings were calculated to compromise our friendly relations with the United States Government. However, that scheme was stopped, and an ample apology was offered to, and accepted by, the American Ministry. The English Government had defended with zeal the honour and dignity of this country; but at the same time it had maintained friendly relations with the United States.

At midnight, Sir JOHN WALSH moved the adjournment of the debate.—Lord PALMERSTON opposed the motion.—On a division, the adjournment was negatived by 220 to 110.—Sir JOHN WALSH urged reasons for adjourning the debate, and was met with cries of "Go on, go on." Submitting to the feeling of the House, Sir JOHN proceeded to state the reasons which would induce him to vote for the motion. The only excuse which could be offered for the non-dissmissal of Mr. Dallas was, a conviction on the part of the Government that they were in the wrong.—Mr. MILNER GIBSON then moved the adjournment of the debate.

This was agreed to; the discussion to be resumed on the following day.

The GRAND JURY ASSESSMENTS (IRELAND) BILL, the EXCHEQUER BILLS (400,000,000L.) BILL, the DRAINAGE (IRELAND) BILL, the INTERESTS PERSONAL ESTATES BILL, and the DISSENTERS' MARRIAGES BILL, were respectively read a third time, and passed.

Tuesday, July 1st.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord PORTMAN intimated that the BURIAL ACTS AMENDMENT BILL was to be withdrawn.

On the motion of the Earl of DONOUGHMORE, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the causes which have augmented to their present extravagant degree the expense attending the election of an Irish Representative Peer.

Several bills having been advanced a stage, their Lordships adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, at the morning sitting, several bills passed through committee.—The DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE BILL, and the JURIES (IRELAND) BILL, were withdrawn by Mr. JOHN FITZGERALD—the opposition with which they were threatened, and the late period of the session, being assigned as the reasons.

AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.

In the evening sitting, Mr. HERWOOD postponed, until Tuesday, the 22nd instant, his notice for an address to the Crown, praying that her Majesty will be pleased to give directions for a revised translation of the Bible.

CUSTOMS OFFICERS AT LIVERPOOL.

In answer to Mr. EWART, Mr. WILSON said that some time ago he mentioned that the Commissioners of Customs had instituted an inquiry into the Customs establishment at Liverpool. The result of that inquiry had been, as he had stated it probably would be, an entire reconsideration of the service in that port, which would considerably improve the condition of the lower officers. He hoped that that revision which had been made, and which the Treasury had sanctioned, would prove satisfactory.

COLONELS LAKE AND TEESDALE.

Lord PALMERSTON, replying to Mr. OLIVEIRA, was understood to say that a mark of favour had been; or would be, extended to Colonels Lake and Teesdale, but that no pecuniary reward would be granted.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE ON THE AMERICAN QUESTION.

The debate on Mr. MOORE's motion was resumed by Mr. MILNER GIBSON, who, while disavowing any feeling of hostility towards the English Government, conceived that the United States Government had great reason to be offended with the acts of our ministers and agents. The laws of America had been violated or disregarded; and Lord Clarendon, in some of his despatches, had used language towards the United States, insinuating a doubt of her good faith, which could not but have a very irritating effect.—Mr. BAXTER was inclined to a favourable impression as regards the United States; but he did not see any ground for passing a vote of censure on Ministers.—Mr. PEACOCK supported the motion, and, alluding to the different way in which the dismissal of Sir Henry Bulwer from Spain in 1848 had been met by Lord Palmerston, then Foreign Secre-

tary, remarked that he did not know whether the blood of the sexagenarian Secretary of 1848 were warmer than that of the septuagenarian Minister of 1856, but that he certainly took a different course in the former year to that which he had taken in the present. This allusion to Lord Palmerston's age was received with disapprobation by the House.—Mr. SPOONER defended the Government, and created some merriment by observing, that to resent an unintentional insult is a course which is "neither that of a Christian nor of a gentleman." He added, that he reserved to himself the right of expressing, on a fitting occasion, any further opinion of the conduct of Ministers.

Mr. GLADSTONE addressed the House at great length, and, quoting from some of the despatches, reviewed the chief facts connected with the disagreement. The two cardinal points which the House ought to keep in view he conceived to be these—peace and a cordial understanding with America on the one hand, and, on the other, the honour and fame of England. On neither of these points was he satisfied with the conduct of the Government. The honour of the country had been compromised. He was not one of those who set up a phantasm of honour in cases where it was not justified, nor would he consent to separate national honour from that honourable conduct of which it ought to be the symbol. But he could not help thinking that an insult—or, at least, a slight—had been offered to England. Still, though speaking one way, he should be compelled to vote another; for he could not support an abstract vote of censure, seeing that no party was prepared to meet the responsibility of success. The question, therefore, was not a party question. Still, he thought it would be advantageous to remove the affairs connected with America out of the hands of the Government, inasmuch as, from the position in which they are placed with regard to them, no persons could be less qualified to conduct those affairs with benefit to the nation. The policy which they had pursued had unfortunately been combined of obstinacy and weakness: and the recollection of the differences with reference to the enlistment question, kept alive by the course which they had taken in that debate, must, of necessity, form an unfortunate introduction to those negotiations in relation to Central America which are now pending. Concealment and deception had been practised on the American Government, and the municipal laws of the States were not only broken, but broken in defiance of a high legal opinion. And now what was the state of things? The American Government acquitted the English Government, but punished Mr. Crampton and the consuls; the English Government maintained the acts of Mr. Crampton and the consuls, but acquiesced in their punishment, and accepted with satisfaction and joy their own acquittal. ("Hear," and cheers.) That appeared to him to be a most unfortunate state of things, and one unparalleled in the history of the world. ("Cheers.") Either the Americans had a just cause of offence, and had a right to make the demand for the recall of Mr. Crampton and the consuls, which should have been complied with, or they had no just cause of offence, and therefore no right to make the dismissal, which ought not to have been accepted. But, whether they were right or wrong, he hoped the Government would not allow matters to remain in their present unsatisfactory state, permitting Mr. Dallas to remain, and yet keeping up some show of resentment by declining to appoint a successor to Mr. Crampton. He (Mr. Gladstone) admitted his own responsibility, as a member of the cabinet, as regards the establishment of a depot at Halifax; but the subject of complaint was the appointment of an agency in the United States for the purpose of inducing citizens to go beyond the States, to enlist in the British service.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL could not believe that Mr. Gladstone was in earnest in the speech he had delivered. His criticism must have been "a mere intellectual excitation;" for, if he believed what he had put forward, he was bound in consistency to follow Mr. Moore into the lobby. In opposition to Mr. Gladstone, the Solicitor-General contended that there had been no violation of American law, because men had not been enlisted on the territory of the United States. He then referred to the inflammatory language used by the United States district Attorney-General, Mr. Van Dyke, who, in open court, had made use of the words, "Honourable and generous Great Britain!" and "Oh, most faithful British Minister!" and who had accused Mr. Crampton of being "guilty of acts which, if committed by a private individual, would make him a felon." The American Ministry had accepted the assurances of the English Government, as they were bound to do. The Foreign Enlistment Act must be taken as the law of this country; and, that being so, to what country in the world could her Majesty's Government with greater propriety go for the enlistment of soldiers than to the United States of America, to which a great number of our natural born subjects owed no other obligation than that of residence? There was no place where they could seek with greater confidence to carry out the Foreign Enlistment Act, the municipal laws there being more easily relaxed than in any other country. And, such being the state of things, he trusted that the House would believe that the Government was under no obligation to recall Mr. Crampton upon the representation of the American Government.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON concurred that Mr. Gladstone

had exhausted the whole question, but he added a few remarks in vindication of what he had said on a former evening. As an English gentleman, he was ashamed of the conduct of the Government, and he felt humiliation at the consequences that had followed.—Mr. BENTINCK rose at midnight to move the adjournment of the debate; but

Lord PALMERSTON expressed a desire that the House would come to a decision at once. The question before the House was a vote of censure; for, although the blame had been thrown on Lord Clarendon, the conduct of that nobleman had the entire sanction of the whole Government, all the members of which participated to the fullest extent in his responsibility. Whatever violations of American law might have taken place were committed by persons wholly unauthorized by the English functionaries. Those persons had been prosecuted and punished for their offences; and, if our consuls had likewise offended, they were equally open to prosecution, being shielded by no diplomatic protection. "We have been told by the member for Manchester," continued his Lordship, "of the case of Consul Curtis in Prussia; but Consul Curtis was prosecuted. We thought the proceedings at his trial were not fair and just, and the Prussian Government so far concurred in that opinion that, though he was condemned, the King of Prussia released him." No concealment or deception had been practised towards the American Government; nothing was done of which it was not informed, or, at all events, might not have ascertained with perfect ease if the ministers had inquired. "When, at an early period of these proceedings, we found that they were likely to lead to embarrassments between this country and the United States, we stopped our arrangements. (Cheers.) But an honourable gentleman says, that, though the letter was dated the 2nd of July, it was not sent until the 2nd of August. Now, really, in matters of this kind, a few weeks' delay was not of much consideration. The fact still stands out that the Government, when they found that these proceedings were likely to lead to embarrassment, directed them to be stopped. (Hear, hear.) Then, an honourable member said that no apology was made. But, I ask, what greater or more acceptable apology could one Government make to another than at once putting an end to the ground of offence?" (Cheers.) The assertions, made chiefly by members of "the country party," that America had "insulted" England by dismissing Mr. Cramp-ton, were most injudicious, as tending to sow hostile feelings between the two nations. The speech of Mr. Moore had been full of calumnious attacks on Lord Clarendon, and it would have been more manly if he had come forward with a direct vote of censure, instead of refusing to the Government that approbation which was not asked for. "The right honourable gentleman the member for the University of Oxford," concluded Lord Palmerston, "says that he shall give us the benefit of his vote, and I trust that nothing I have said, or shall say, will induce him to change his mind. Sir, it has been said we should not look a gift horse in the mouth (a laugh), and I will not examine the reasons for my right honourable friend's vote. I only hope the reason given will induce those honourable members who have not already made up their minds which way they shall vote to go with him. (Hear, hear.) The reason he gives is, that at the present moment no new administration can be successfully formed upon a censure of the existing Government. That is not very complimentary to honourable gentlemen opposite; nevertheless, the difficulty might be easily removed if my right honourable friend who sits there will pass over to the honourable gentlemen who sit opposite to him. (A laugh.) A few minutes' conference would settle the difficulty which at present appears to be insurmountable. I will not, however, accept the reason, because it is founded on a great political misconception, while we stand upon what we think are better and higher grounds. (Cheers.) We are of opinion that the foresight with which, during a period of great difficulty, we have conducted the affairs of this country, has proved satisfactory to the nation and advantageous to the public interest. We believe that the confidence which the House has hitherto extended to us is shared by the country; and it is upon that ground—not upon the ground of any difficulty in finding other persons to fill our places—that we are prepared to go to a division."

Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR next addressed the House, but the cries of "Divide!" were so loud and incessant that his remarks were not audible.—Mr. BENTINCK again moved the adjournment of the debate; but, after a few words in reply from Mr. MOORE, who disavowed any personal hostility to Lord Clarendon, and characterized the assertions to the contrary as "simply unjust and untrue," the House divided.

After the division took place, but before the numbers were announced, Mr. HAYTER, who was one of the tellers, came to the table and informed the Speaker that there were three members present in the House who had not voted.—The SPEAKER ordered the three members to come to the table.—Sir BENJAMIN HALL, Mr. JACKSON, and Mr. TRAILL then came to the table, and, in answer to questions from the Speaker, stated that they were present when the question was put, and that they heard it.—The SPEAKER asked how they voted. They all said against the motion, and he ordered their names to be added to the division.—The cause of this accident is

thus stated in the daily papers:—Sir Benjamin Hall, Mr. Traill, and Mr. Jackson, were in the Members' Gallery on the right of the Chair; they came down into the lobby of the House to vote against Mr. Moore's motion, and found the doors of the Division-lobby closed. They therefore recorded their votes at the table.

The numbers, when announced, were—
For Mr. Moore's motion 80
Against it 274—194
The House shortly afterwards adjourned.

Wednesday, July 2nd.

RIBBONISM IN IRELAND IN NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. NAPIER asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland, whether certain masters of National schools in Ireland, in the county of Donegal, have been arrested on a charge of unlawful confederacy and ribbonism; and whether the said schools are in connexion with the National Board as non-vested schools?—Mr. HORSMAN said he had no information on the subject.

The JUDGMENTS EXECUTION BILL was read a second time, and committed, after a little opposition on the part of Colonel DUNNE and Mr. NAPIER.

BLEACHING, &c., WORKS (No. 2) BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of this bill having been resumed, considerable opposition to the further progress of the measure was offered by Mr. BAXTER, Mr. DUNCAN, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. CARDWELL, Mr. BAINES, Mr. KIRK, and Lord NAAS, upon the grounds that more inquiry into the alleged facts on which the bill was based was required; that the object of the measure (which was to shorten the working hours of children in bleaching establishments) would be fatal to the trade, since, on the admission of Mr. Tremeneere, from whose report the bill arose, to reduce the hours would add ten per cent. to the cost of production, while the competition with foreigners is even now very severe; that one of the immediate effects of the bill would be to substitute male for female labour; that the whole subject should be referred to a select committee; that the charges of cruelty against the masters are untrue; and that interference in such matters is extremely injudicious.—The second reading was supported by Colonel DUNNE, Mr. MURROUGH, Mr. DRUMMOND (who accused capitalists of "longing to see slavery restored to our West India sugar colonies," and remarked that, "simply because the greater part of our exports go to America, the House had eaten dirt with the Government"), Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, Mr. CORBETT (who mentioned instances of excessive work), Mr. MUNTZ, and Mr. WALTER, the last of whom, in answering the objection that bills of this kind interfere with manufactures, remarked that political economists overlook the 1,000,000 children yearly added to our population, by far the most interesting and important of our productions. The Legislature would, in his opinion, grossly neglect its duty if it did not take care that the youth of this country, upon whom its future strength and greatness depend, are so brought up that the development of their mental and bodily powers is not impeded by over-work.

The second reading was negatived by 109 to 65.

The REGISTRATION OF LEASES (SCOTLAND) BILL passed through committee, and the House then went into committee upon the SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES BILL, and was occupied with the consideration of its clauses during the greater part of the remainder of the sitting.

The order for the second reading of the RATING OF MINES BILL was discharged.—The DISTILLATION FROM RICE BILL, and the OXFORD COLLEGE ESTATES BILL, were respectively read a third time, and passed.

Thursday, July 3.

THE DIOCESES OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

Lord REDESDALE, after presenting a petition from the rural deanery of Stowe, praying for a division of the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, asked whether the Government intended to divide that diocese.—The Earl of HARROWBY said the Government was not prepared to alter the existing arrangement.

THE REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS BILL.

This bill having been read a third time, on the motion of Lord RAVENSWORTH, the Bishop of Oxford, on the question that the bill do pass, moved the addition of a clause, leaving it to the discretion of the magistrates whether the juvenile offender should be committed to prison for fourteen days before being sent to a reformatory school.—The motion, which gave rise to a short discussion, was carried, on a division, by 53 against 17, and the bill, so amended, was passed.

DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

On the question that the report of the amendments on this bill be received, the Bishop of Oxford moved the omission of clause 19 of the bill, which gives a right of divorce to a husband upon the adultery of his wife, and to a wife where the husband has been guilty of incestuous adultery, bigamy, adultery with cruelty, or adultery with desertion, without reasonable excuse, for four years or upwards. His reasons for taking this course he explained in terms similar to those which he employed on the previous reading.—The Lord CHANCELLOR opposed the motion, remarking that the objection to the effect that the lower classes would be unfairly dealt

with, as being unable to pay the expenses of a divorce, was of little worth, since all legal proceedings are necessarily expensive; but that ought not to shut out from redress those who can meet the expense. If the Bishop's motion were affirmed, he (the Lord Chancellor) hoped their Lordships would refuse to hear any of the petitions for divorce now pending in that House, and that in future they would listen to no petition for redress which might be sought under the existing law.

—Lord REDESDALE thought that it would be impossible to stop where the bill stopped, if the facilities for divorce which it contemplated were sanctioned.—Lord CAMPBELL opposed the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, which was supported by the Bishop of St. DAVID's and the Bishop of SALISBURY, the latter of whom quoted Scripture to show that the law of God is against the innovation proposed by the bill.—Lord DONOUGHMORE supported the bill as it stood, and Lords DESART and DUNGANNON opposed it, believing that the difficulties which have prevented the poorer classes obtaining divorces have tended to increase the happiness of the married state among them.—Lord DERBY, answering the Bishop of Salisbury, who had quoted some words of Christ, to the effect that, though a man might "put away" his wife, and *vice versa*, the parties were forbidden to marry again, remarked that he was quite unable to comprehend so nice a distinction. He should have thought that, if a man might put away his wife, he might also marry again. He believed the marriage tie to possess great sanctity, but not to be indissoluble. The question he looked upon as one with which human authority is competent to deal. Still, he thought there was some danger of the bill introducing a system of great laxity, and leading to collusion. He observed that the Bishop of Oxford had given notice of his intention to move a proviso, prohibiting a husband or wife who had been guilty of adultery, and divorced in consequence, from contracting marriage with the person with whom the adultery was committed. He thought such a clause was essentially necessary, with a view to prevent collusion, and he wished to hear from the Lord Chancellor whether or not it might be advantageously incorporated in the bill, as his vote upon the motion before the House would greatly depend upon the answer he got.—After some further brief conversation, the LORD CHANCELLOR said that such a clause had always been introduced into divorce bills before their Lordships' House; but he knew of no bill in which it had been retained, because it is universally felt that it clogs the parties with restrictions painful to themselves, and does not prevent collusion.—The motion of the Bishop of OXFORD for omitting clause 19 was negatived by 43 against 10.—The Bishop's proviso, prohibiting the parties committing adultery to marry one another after the divorce of the husband and wife, was then agreed to.—A motion of Lord DENMAN, for modifying clause 16, was negatived without a division.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving the second reading of this bill, said it was the same in principle as that passed last year with respect to the University of Oxford.—The bill was read a second time.

The ANNUITIES REDEMPTION BILL, and the STOCK-IN-TRADE EXEMPTION BILL, were respectively read a third time, and passed.

POOR-LAW AMENDMENT (No. 2) BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill, in the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Sir GEORGE PECHELL opposed it, and moved that the second reading be postponed to that day three months. He objected more especially to that part of the bill which repealed the 22nd of George III., and did away with the permission to single parishes, accorded by the Poor-Law Act, to become incorporated under the Gilbert Act.—Lord GALWAY seconded the amendment.—Mr. BOUVERIE, yielding so far to the opposition, promised that if the bill was read a second time he would withdraw all of it except that portion which related to extra-parochial places.—After some further discussion, the debate was interrupted by the near arrival of four o'clock, when, the morning sitting being at a close, the discussion was adjourned.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

In the evening, in answer to Mr. OTWAY, Mr. VERNON SMITH gave some explanations with respect to the sums subscribed by the East India Company for the relief of the sufferers by the French floods, similar to those put forth on a previous evening in the Upper House.

THE ENTRY OF THE GUARDS INTO LONDON.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Sir JOHN SHELLEY, stated that the day upon which the Guards would enter London was not yet fixed. The troops would proceed from Aldershot by the South-Western Railway; but the particular route by which they would proceed to Buckingham Palace, and on to Hyde Park, had not yet been arranged.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION.

In answer to Mr. BAILLIE, who put a question as to the diplomatic powers possessed by Mr. Dallas, Lord PALMERSTON remarked that Mr. Dallas has full powers to discuss the Central American question—powers which Mr. Buchanan did not possess.

PRIZE MONEY TO THE ARMY.

On the question that the House go into Committee of

Supply, Colonel DUNNE asked the intentions of the Government as to advising her Majesty to grant prize money to the army engaged in the siege, for stores, &c., taken in Sebastopol.—Lord PALMERSTON answered that the money value of the property taken was so small—not more than would allow half-a-crown to each officer and sixpence to each man—that any such payment would be deemed a mockery rather than a reward.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when the remaining Civil Service Estimates, and the Militia Estimates, were agreed to. The chief discussion was on the vote of 228,950*l.* for disembodied Militia, in connexion with which, Colonel NORTH said he observed with regret that the pay of non-commissioned officers on the permanent staff, already inadequate, was to be greatly reduced.—The same complaint was also urged by Mr. PELLATT, Lord CLAUD HAMILTON, and other members.—Mr. FREDERICK PEEL said that the rate of pay of the disembodied militia is different from that of the embodied militia. When embodied, all ranks receive the same rate of pay as the army; when disembodied, the pay of the various ranks is not the same. If we were to pay the staff of the disembodied militia the same as the embodied, it would follow as a necessary consequence that all ranks of the militia would claim to be paid the same. In that case, the disembodied militia would cost a much greater sum than they now do. They have other sources of income besides their disembodied pay. Most of them receive pay in the line, or pensions for their services in the line; and he saw no objection to a non-commissioned officer pursuing a trade in those intervals of time which are not required for military duty.—Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to objections urged by Colonel BUCK and others, contended that the "lines" lately constructed at Plymouth are necessary as works of defence. With regard to billeting in Scotland, he agreed with what had been advanced by Mr. Cowan, that if, consistently with a due regard to the national service, the exemption from billeting could be extended to public-houses, it would be desirable. But we could not carry on the service of the country otherwise. Still, it was most desirable not to billet the militia and young recruits in public-houses, if it could be avoided. He could assure the House that, as far as the means of putting the troops, whether regular or militia, into barracks was concerned, it was considered by the Government to be most desirable, though the expense, and consequently the difficulty, would be very great. The various suggestions which had been thrown out should receive due attention.

WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS BILL.

On the question that the House go into committee on this Bill, Mr. HENLEY criticised the measure, observing that it seemed to him to be the result of an illicit compact between Sir Fitzroy Kelly and the Solicitor-General. In reality, it established a new Court of Chancery, but under another name. He moved the postponement of the committee till Tuesday next.—After some discussion, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL humorously alluded to the total failure of his endeavour to please everybody. He had no alternative but to agree to the amendment.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM, after some sarcastic remarks, begged to ask the Solicitor-General if the bill, which had been printed a second time, really contained the ultimate views of the learned gentleman?—Mr. MALINS opposed the bill, which received the support of Sir ERSKINE PERRY and Mr. HADFIELD.—The amendment was then agreed to.

CHURCH BUILDING COMMISSION BILL.

The motion that this bill be considered in committee was opposed by Mr. HADFIELD, who moved the postponement of the committee for three months.—The amendment was negatived by 159 to 9, and the bill passed through committee.

The METROPOLIS LOCAL MANAGEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL, and the TURNPIKE ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL, were respectively read a third time, and passed.

BANQUET TO GENERAL WILLIAMS.

The Army and Navy Club, on Saturday last, gave a banquet to General Williams. The chair was taken by Colonel Daniell. To the right of the chair sat the hero of Kars; on the left, were his two high-spirited subordinates, Colonels Lake and Teesdale. After the usual routine toasts, the Chairman proposed "the health of the gallant Sir William Fenwick Williams, Bart.," accompanying the toast with a eulogy on their guest's achievements, in the course of which he quoted the remark of a Turk when Kars was given up to the Russians: "Williams Pacha is no end of a man." The toast was drunk with the utmost enthusiasm. Round after round of cheering followed in rapid succession, and the excitement continued for several minutes. Silence having been restored,

General Williams rose to return thanks. He began by alluding to his old friend, Colonel Daniell, and to his other old friends then gathered about him, adding that he was also glad to see "so many new and young faces—the heart's blood of the army"—gathered about to do him honour. "When," he observed, "I look around this room, and witness this scene, and then call to mind that I was one of the original members of this club—

that, out of the twenty-five years I have been in the army, I have passed twenty-three in foreign service, and that, whenever I returned to England, either for recreation or on account of ill-health, this has been my home—that in this room I have breakfasted and dined day by day—I say to myself that if, on the day I first put down my name as a member of this club, any man had told me I should live to see such a day as this, I should have conceived that he was whispering nonsense to me." Colonels Lake and Teesdale were alluded to in terms of warm esteem and friendship; and a tribute of regard was paid to the memory of the heroic Thompson. "Let me also point out to you," said the General, "my young secretary—a youth whom I took with me from his mother, and who proceeded step by step in his career until the eventful day when, taking command of a battery, he did, I assure you, most essential service to our cause. (*Cheers.*) I wish to associate myself with these my gallant companions in arms, and to share with them the honour which you have bestowed upon me." The despatches and private letters of Lord Clarendon were mentioned as having always produced an extraordinary and "electrical" effect in cheering on the garrison. "We were not at that time a melancholy crew: we were laughing, we were merry, we were like men that would not be extinguished. We were surrounded by very great difficulties; but, whenever the despatches and letters arrived, they produced a most extraordinary effect upon us." After acknowledging the kindness of Lord Palmerston, General Williams continued:—"I must now tell you about the glory of the Turkish army (*hear*)—men who, when I came to them, were starving, were without clothes, men without hope (*hear, hear*); but such was their confidence in the efforts which I was able to make for them that they stood by me in the most gallant manner. No troops on earth could have behaved better than those men; for instance, on one occasion, at the battle of the 29th of September, about which you have all read (*loud cheers*). They had been working all day and watching all night at the fortifications. They were not on that occasion an unruly, undisciplined force behind walls, but were disciplined soldiers, standing behind their entrenchments. Colonel Lake could tell you what they did, for no one could help admiring their courage, their discipline, their file fire, their rolling fire. I assure you that neither the Guards of London nor those of Paris could have surpassed them. From early dawn till an hour after mid-day, that fire continued—the noise of a thousand drums never ceased for a moment; therefore, you may suppose what soldiers they were. When the enemy got into these entrenchments, which, in consequence of the absolute necessity for protecting other points, were for the time unmanned, they were driven out again by those brave little fellows at the point of the bayonet." (*Enthusiastic applause.*) General Williams was of opinion that, "if Turkey be true to herself, and if foreign nations will hold a high tone towards her, she is safe from the power of Russia," as there is still some vitality in her. He then referred to Lord Raglan, whose last moments were embittered by his experience of "the total want of system" with which we began the war. "We had in fact been asleep for forty years, and, when we went into the war, we were sent out half awake." But when the intelligence reached Kars of our successive achievements before Sebastopol, "nothing could exceed the enthusiasm of those fine Turks; and," said General Williams, "you may easily suppose what our joy was at hearing the welcome news of the glories achieved by that brave infantry which never yet turned its back on a foe. (*Loud cheers.*) I say, that infantry which never turned its back, which, from the days of Wolfe, has been the foundation of our greatness, whose courage nothing can shake, or ever will shake." With a renewed expression of thanks for the honour done to him, General Williams sat down, after proposing the toast of "The Chairman, the Committee, and the Secretary" of the club.

Mr. Otway, M.P., proposed "The health of those gallant and distinguished officers who had acted on the staff of General Williams during his Eastern campaign." The toast was acknowledged by Colonel Lake. The toast of "The health of the officers of the army of the Crimea," proposed by General Williams, was acknowledged by the Chairman. General Proctor proposed "The health of General Mouravieff." In replying to this toast, Sir William Williams said:—"While rising to return thanks for the honour which you have done to my friend, General Mouravieff, I can assure you that I never performed a duty more grateful to my heart. I believe that in the military profession—and I will not except any country on the face of the earth—there is not one who adorns that profession more highly than General Mouravieff. . . . I wish also to say a word respecting the army of General Mouravieff—that splendid army—that army of polished steel. I assure you it was magnificent. It was with the greatest devotion to the sovereign that they came down upon us, from daydawn to sunset, for seven mortal hours: although they sustained the most severe losses, there was not a single moment of hesitation in the efforts and movements of that fine army. They came forward, attack after attack, in a manner which would have gladdened the heart of every soldier to have seen. When they were assailed by a fire as well directed, as beautifully directed, as ever

came from a position, they never recoiled until the moment when they were ordered to do so; and when the game was up, they treated us like friends and brothers. They sacrificed themselves in the most splendid, most beautiful manner; they detached themselves from the flanks of the columns, and came forward and made walls of themselves in front of their batteries. When we came to mix among them, only two months after this terrible infliction, 'there was not an evil eye among them,' as the Turks would say; there was the eye of friendship and the hand of a comrade from one end of Russia to another. (Cheers.) That was the feeling as we went along through the country. Of the Sovereign of that empire, I speak in the same strain, and, in fact, higher."

At the conclusion of the General's remarks (which were received with the greatest enthusiasm), Captain Murray shouted, "We have not had half enough cheering; let us have one cheer more for Mourayeff." This was done, and another officer immediately called for one cheer more for the Emperor of Russia—a call which was most heartily responded to by the company. The guests shortly afterwards separated. On Wednesday, "The Chairs" of the Hon. East India Company gave a splendid entertainment at the London Tavern to some of the most distinguished members of their civil and military services, at present in this country. Among others who were invited may be mentioned Sir William Gomm, the late commander-in-chief of the Indian army; Sir Fred. Currie; Sir Scudamore Steele, whose name is honourably connected with the late war in Burmah; Mr. Frere, Commissioner of Scinde; Sir John Login, the able and zealous tutor of the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh; Dr. Royle, who has paid much attention to the fibrous productions of India; Mr. R. Stephenson, the engineer of the great Indian Railway, and author of the projected line through Asia Minor, and along the banks of the Euphrates and the shores of the Persian sea to the capital of the Bombay Presidency; Mr. J. W. Kaye, favourably known by his valuable contributions to the history of modern India; Brigadier Mackenzie, &c. &c. The most honoured guests included Sir Lawrence Peel, late Chief Justice of Calcutta; the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor; Major General Sir W. F. Williams and "the men of Kars." The gallant baronet was naturally the lion of the evening, though his brave comrades had no reason to complain of their reception by their ancient brothers-in-arms. It is superfluous to remark that the dinner was in every way worthy of the long-established reputation of the London Tavern, as well as of the munificent entertainers. The various speeches were also full of point and appropriateness, and were received with much enthusiasm. And loud was the applause when General Williams acknowledged that he was mainly indebted for his knowledge of commissariat matters to the many excursions he had made into the Indian Empire, during the ten years he was stationed at Ceylon. No doubt this entertainment will give dire offence to Lord Ellenborough and Mr. Otway, who did not happen to be invited. But it is only in this manner that the Hon. Court is able to express its approbation of the conduct of its servants. There are no substantial rewards, not even honorary decorations, in its power to bestow upon men who are retiring into private life after devoting the best period of their mental and physical vigour to the administration of a mighty empire. It is true that the East India Company are now only trustees of the public revenues of India. But in that capacity they are bound to do their utmost to obtain efficient servants; and an honorary recompense at the close of an arduous and faithful career will always be prized and looked forward to as long the spirit of chivalry and gentlemanly feeling exist upon earth. If the censors of a judicious liberality are consistent, they should go still farther, and insist upon the sale of the Company's plate, and indeed of all the *suppellectilia* not absolutely required for the collection and distribution of revenue. The same principle of utilitarianism should be also applied to the government of this great country, and benches and a barn be provided for our hereditary and representative legislators. Until this come to pass, let not the Honourable Court be grudging the power of occasionally displaying a graceful and grateful hospitality.

General Williams has also been entertained at Woolwich, where he received a bouquet of flowers from the ladies, accompanied by an appropriate speech.

THE STORY OF THOMAS SCHOLEFIELD.

In consequence of the interest that has been excited by the case of Thomas Scholefield, the blind man, who recently walked from Bolton, in Lancashire, to London, in order to get into the St. George's Fields Blind School (the particulars of which appeared in the Leader of June 21st), a large sum of money has been collected for his use. Inquiries respecting his previous life and character have been set on foot by the Lambeth magistrates, Mr. Norton and Mr. Elliott. The former has received a letter from Mr. Hulton, a country magistrate, near Bolton, which contains some painfully interesting facts connected with Scholefield and his family. His father, whose sight appears to be fast falling, was formerly a silk-weaver at Bolton, but, in consequence of his advanced age, and of the defect in his vision, he is now

obliged to take to the weaving of only the coarser sort of material called "wrapping." The brother of Scholefield is an idiot, in support of whom his father is allowed a small sum of money from his township. Thomas (the blind son) was admitted in February, 1848, to Henshaw's Blind Asylum, near Manchester, where he remained until June, 1855, when "he was dismissed," says Mr. Hulton in his letter, "for breach of discipline, but not affecting his moral character." The offence alleged against Scholefield, for which he was discharged from the asylum, consisted in himself, and four or five of his fellow inmates, presenting a petition (written out by one of the officials of the asylum) to the committee, "setting forth what they considered might be some improvement in their condition," and also censuring the conduct of one of the superior officers of the establishment. As they refused, from a fellow feeling, to mention the name of the person who had embodied the petition, the men were dismissed.

The London magistrates entirely concurred in thinking that Scholefield was none the less entitled to the sympathy that had been expressed in his favour on account of the disclosure concerning him.

LONDON VEGETATION AND LONDON SMOKE.

UNDER this head, the Times publishes a letter from Mr. S. Broome, gardener to the Inner Temple. The communication is very interesting, both with regard to its facts and to the fine, open, unsophisticated, breezy style in which it is written. Mr. Broome has been gardener to the Temple for three-and-twenty years, during which time the smoke from steamboats and from the Surrey river-side factories (until the act of 1854) increased to such an extent that roses and other flowers which used to bloom in the old learned gardens (roses associated with the wars called after them, and with Shakspeare's play of Henry VI.) refused to put forth a bud, and the trees would hardly issue into leaf. Since the Smoke Prevention Act has come into force, however, matters have been righted, and the Temple Gardens, in due season, have again flushed with their green and crimson shows. Mr. Broome writes with almost human compassion of his "poor roses" and his "poor forest-trees," but he has a manly pity for real human beings too—human beings equally blighted with the roses. He adds, in words that will do him honour:—

"There is another and far greater circumstances connected with these gardens than the vegetable world. The benchers and members very liberally, at a great sacrifice of comfort and expense, allow about two hundred families orders to walk in the gardens the whole year through. They also throw them open to the public after six o'clock in the evening; and on Sundays, on fine evenings, we average from 10,000 to 11,000 that pass in the course of the evening. The majority of these are poor little sickly-looking creatures, penned up in the close lanes and alleys round the neighbourhood, not old enough to get to the parks (as they would be tired in going there). I will tell you what they put me in mind of when they get on the lawn—a little dog that has been tied up all day, and let loose. They roll and tumble about, kicking up their little legs on the grass; it really does my heart good to see them; and I must confess that, out of such a number of little creatures, and no one to look after them except the officers of the gardens, I rarely have a flower plucked or a branch injured. Picture to yourself, Sir, these poor little children walking and rolling in clouds of smoke for three hours; what good can such an atmosphere do them, inflating their little lungs with beastly smoke such as it was here two years back? When they came out, they looked pale and tired; now, they go out with their little eyes sparkling with joy, running and jumping like so many kittens, refreshed from the change of air, and pleased with the treat. And all this is caused by suppressing the smoke nuisance."

THE REVENUE.

THE official returns for the quarter which closed on Monday, the 30th ult., were published on Tuesday. They show an increase of 422,052l. upon the produce of the corresponding quarter in last year. The chief details are as follow:—

INCREASE.	
Customs	£96,415
Excise	241,626
Property Tax	116,995
Crown Lands	1,000
	£456,036
DECREASE.	
Stamps	£16,895
Taxes	8,005
Post-office	9,000
Miscellaneous	8,084
	£39,984
Net increase	£422,052

The increase on the year ending with the 30th of June, 1856, is also satisfactory; it amounts to 4,101,620l. as compared with the year which closed on the 30th of June, 1855.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE trade reports for the week ending last Saturday, from the manufacturing towns, indicate great steadiness, together with increased confidence as to future prospects, owing to the weather and the state of the discount-market. At Manchester, there has been a fair general demand. The Birmingham advices describe no material alteration in iron, the orders for which are still rather limited, but the removal of all doubt as to the prices of last quarter being fully maintained has imparted a better tone to the course of operations. In the general manufactures of the town, there has been increased employment. A fall in copper has occurred unexpectedly. At Nottingham, there have been a large number of purchases, especially of lace. In the woollen districts, an absence of activity is still noticeable, but prices, on the whole, are well maintained. In the Irish linen-markets, animation continues.—Times.

Mr. Charles Magnay, of the firm of Young, Son, and Magnay, shipbuilders of Limehouse, whose men are now on strike, and who took proceedings against several of them in the course of last week (as reported in this paper), appeared before the Thames magistrate on Monday to lodge a complaint against a shipwright named Denton. The firm had prosecuted Denton on the previous Friday, for breaking a contract to work for them, under the new regulations, for six shillings per day for twelve months. The man, when before the magistrate, declared his willingness to fulfil the contract, but said he had been tampered with and intimidated by the Union men. On promising to commence work, he was released without any punishment; but, after working a few hours on Saturday, he left, and had not since returned. Mr. Selge, the magistrate, said he would grant a warrant for the apprehension of the man. Mr. Magnay added that nine shipwrights had entered into a contract with their agent at Southampton to work for them for twelve months at six shillings per day. The men came to London, were sought after by the Shipwrights' Union, and tampered with. They had not commenced work at all. In answer to Mr. Selge, who asked what reason they assigned for this conduct, Mr. Magnay replied, "None at all, Sir. When they signed the agreement, they said they were quite satisfied with our terms and our regulations; but we know that our yard is like a beleaguered fortress. Men are constantly watching from a publichouse window all that is going on within; there are spies and scouts at the corner of every street near the yard; the men we engage in the country are intercepted at the railway stations; and we believe intimidation has been practised. There are plenty of men anxious to work for us, but they are prevented by a tyrannical and inquisitorial tribunal which interferes with the freedom of labour, and has agents all over the kingdom." The names of the men exercising this influence were then read by Mr. Magnay, and the magistrate said he would issue warrants for their apprehension. Mr. Magnay rejoined that he would rather have summonses; he did not wish to have the men locked up. But Mr. Selge recommended warrants; and they were accordingly made out. The men were brought up on Wednesday, and, having promised to resume work, were discharged.

Between 300 and 400 miners employed at the Oaks Colliery, Barnsley, are on strike, alleging that the mine is not in a safe condition to work in.

The strike of the masons at Pembroke Dockyard has been in a great measure brought to a close by bringing over men from Dublin, which has caused many of the old hands to return at the former wages.

NAWAB OF SURAT TREATY BILL.

WE have been favoured with a copy of the petition of the East India Company to the House of Lords, praying to be heard by counsel at the bar of the House, against the second reading and further progress of the above bill. This bill, they say, has two distinct objects: to put a particular construction on a certain treaty, and to empower the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to re-hear questions relating to the private estate of the Nawab that have already been determined by the Legislative Council of India so far back as 1848. The petitioners object to the first part of the bill, as introducing "the practice of deciding on the disputed interpretation of a public and political treaty by a private bill." The treaty in question was made in 1800 by the Marquis Wellesley with the nearest relative of the last Nawab. The East India Company was thereby bound to allow the titular Nawab a pension for the maintenance of his unreal dignity as long as the title was transmitted in the male line, according to the Mahomedan usage. The last male heir of the Nawab with whom the treaty was made died in 1842, and consequently the title also became extinct. But he left one surviving daughter, married to Meer Juffier Ali, and certain collateral relatives, who disputed the legitimacy of the daughter. The East India Company therefore held themselves absolved from the further payment of the pension, but liberally consented to pay the same amount to the late Nawab's family, minus the expenditure incidental to keeping up the dignity. The preamble of the bill is

therefore incorrect in charging them with a refusal to pay any portion of the annuity to any of the alleged heirs of the late Nawab. They have, in fact, paid nearly 11,000*l.* a year in life pensions to these persons, including 6720*l.* per annum to Meer Jaffier Ali, his two daughters, and his mother-in-law, notwithstanding the imputation cast upon the legitimacy of his late wife. Consequently, should the terms of this provision be set aside, the collateral relatives of the promoter of the bill will be deprived of all means of support, without having been heard in their own defence. The tendency of private bills of this nature can only be to transfer the functions of Government to the tribunal of a committee, and to enable such committee to decide judicially on the construction and effect of any particular treaty. All questions hitherto determined by the Indian Government in a manner adverse to the interests and demands of opulent individuals become likewise unsettled, and liable to an application for a private Act of Parliament to reverse the decision. If the treaty in question be still a matter for consideration and inquiry, it should be referred to a judicial tribunal, and not to a Committee of either Houses of Legislature.

With regard to the second object of the bill, the petitioners protest against any decision being come to in the absence of the parties interested in the case. A tribunal, without appeal, was provided by Act No. 18 of 1848 of the Indian Legislature. The claimants upon the late Nawab's private property proceeded under that Act, and acted upon the faith of it. The promoter himself of this bill would have abided by the decision of that tribunal had it pronounced in his favour, and would have insisted upon its being final. Had he desired to secure a right of appeal, he should have applied before judgment was given. For these reasons the petitioners pray that the bill may not be proceeded with as a private bill; that due notice be given, before further proceedings are taken, to the individuals affected by it; and that they themselves may be heard at the bar of their Lordships' House by their counsels, agents, and witnesses, against the said bill, &c. &c.

THE ORIENT.

INDIA.

THE detailed news contained in the various Indian papers does not amount to much more than what was given in a brief telegraphic form last week. The stoppage of public works in India, which has been confidently asserted in several places, we (*Leader*) have authority for denying: at least, it has not taken place to the extent, and for the reasons, stated. Some degree of slackness may have ensued owing to the inevitable effect of the rainy season; but the stoppage, if any, has not been voluntary, or from want of funds. "A letter," says the *Bombay Times*, "has lately been published from the Marquis of Dalhousie to the King of Oude, a translation of which has been furnished to the press by Captain Wilberforce Bird, and has supplied food for no end of bitter comment. His Majesty's journey in quest of redress commences inauspiciously. He has scarcely well started when his progress is all but stopped till he settles his tavern bill. He no sooner engages one agent and sends him home, than he exchanges him for another, and the first step that other takes is to make the most disingenuous use of a state paper to which he had no right, with the contents of which he became acquainted, and which he annexed, in his previous capacity of assistant to the Resident."

There has been a heavy gale at Bengal.

The *Calcutta Englishman*, chronicling the arrival of the ex-King of Oude and the Queen Dowager his mother, adds:—"The good lady, who appears to possess the energy which her son wants, declares her intention of going to England. She considers that without her presence the King will fall into the hands of bad advisers. She means to face Lord Dalhousie at the foot of the throne."

CHINA.

From China, we hear that the rebels are progressing, and have gained several successes. Her Majesty's steamer *Encounter*, with Admiral Seymour on board, arrived off the English possessions. His Excellency has hoisted his flag on board the *Winchester* pending the arrival of the *Calcutta*.

EGYPT.

The ex-Grand Vizier of Turkey, Reschid Pacha, has arrived in Egypt. It is said that he is instructed to remonstrate with the Viceroy on the unnecessary size of his army, on his hostility to the Bedouins, and on his concentration of power into his own hands. Great numbers of Arabs from the coast of Barbary have been recently pouring into Egypt, fleeing their country, where famine and misery prevail to an extraordinary extent. The Viceroy has recently granted a great boon to the town of Alexandria by abolishing the *octroi* duties which were levied on all articles of consumption brought inside the walls. General Sir James Outram, who arrived at Alexandria by the last mail from India, was detained there by ill-health for a fortnight.

AMERICA.

A LULL has come over the state of affairs on the other side of the Atlantic; so that the news by the last steamers is not as important as that which has recently arrived. In the Senate, Mr. Adams (Democrat) has made a speech in support of his bill proposing to extend the term of naturalization to twenty-one years, and to exclude "foreign criminals and paupers from voting, in order to prevent these and European serfs from controlling elections, and thus perilling our liberties." Intelligence has been received of the loss of the *Pallas*, Captain Spillane, from Cork, for Quebec, with one hundred and twenty passengers. These, becoming alarmed, rushed into the boats, which immediately sank, and seventy-two persons were drowned. The remainder were rescued. "There is a plan in agitation here among the Southern members of Congress," says the *New York Herald*, "to abandon the Central American route to the Pacific, and to acquire the cession of the Tehuantepec route from Mexico in exchange for guaranteeing her territory against the threatened Spanish hostilities."

Mr. Butler, pro-slavery member for South Carolina, has made a speech in Congress with respect to the assault on Mr. Sumner. He said that "on some accounts it was fortunate he was not there at the time, for he did not know what he might have done. To be sure, it was thirty or forty years since he had been engaged in personal conflicts, and his hand was out of practice (*laughter*)—but he did not know but he might have had a trial at him. One thing he had no doubt of, namely, if he (Butler) were a younger man, he would have left him (Sumner) in a worse condition than he now is. The *New England papers*," continued Mr. Butler, "call this a specimen of southern violence and southern ruffianism; but the first congressional fight since the foundation of this Government took place between two New England men—Matthew Lyon and Roger Griswold. That did not take place outside the House; they fought with hickory sticks, spit-boxes, and tongs, all over the House of Representatives (*laughter*)—when it was in session, too; but the House did not turn them out. They said, 'Let them both go; they are disgraced enough already.'"

The *New York Journal of Commerce* states that the America, the searching of which vessel by a British naval officer at Rio, on the supposition that she was equipped as a privateer, was opposed by the United States Commodore, and which caused a good deal of indignation before the conclusion of the war with Russia, was, on her arrival, reported in the *San Francisco Shipping List* as Russian property. On leaving Rio, the United States Commodore towed the America above one hundred miles on her course, so as to protect her from seizure.

The trial of the negro Wilson for the murder of Captain Palmer, of the schooner *Eudora Imogene*, has terminated in a verdict of Guilty.

Kansas is again quiet. The Federal troops have disbanded the various unlawful military bodies, and tranquillity is restored for the present. Great atrocities appear to have been committed both by the pro-slavery and the anti-slavery parties. The position of General Walker at Nicaragua remains much the same. No fighting is going on, but sickness prevails among the troops. From the South Pacific the news is interesting. Peru is in a very disturbed state, and a revolutionary movement is anticipated. Bolivia and Chili are quiet. From the copper mines there were very cheering accounts, and a fine commerce is expected to spring up when the free-trade treaty with the Argentine Republic is perfected. The disagreement between Spain and Mexico continues. About the 2nd ult. there arrived at Vera Cruz a Spanish squadron of nine vessels of war, to demand payment of the money owing from the Mexican Government to Spain. In default, they threatened to land, take possession of the Custom-house, and pay themselves out of the receipts.

An anecdote of slave life is supplied by a Woodstock (U.S.) paper. The Rev. Ward Beecher, of Brooklyn, made an appeal from the pulpit one Sunday in favour of a slave girl, nearly white, who was about to be sold into infamy by her own father, a southern planter. Mr. Beecher said that one thousand dollars had been subscribed to rescue the girl, but five hundred dollars more were required. A gentleman, amidst loud applause, offered a cheque for the whole amount; but the others wished to subscribe, and eight hundred dollars were made up in a minute. The slave was thus rescued.

The *Louisville Journal* has the following nonchalant paragraph:—"We learn that a shooting affair came off at Lake Providence about a week ago. A man named Jones shot a man named Patterson, mistaking him for one Pennington. Patterson, after being shot twice, one of the balls lodging in his breast, drew a pistol and was about to shoot Jones, when the latter begged his pardon, saying he had mistaken his man. Patterson generously accepted the apology. His wounds are not mortal."

The state of things in California is reported as being most frightful. Anarchy and murder seem to have had completely their own way, and it has been found necessary to re-establish the Vigilance Committee of 1851, the members of which, perceiving that the laws are feebly or corruptly administered, have taken the punishment of prisoners into their own hands. James King, the editor of a newspaper, having been shot in the public

streets of San Francisco, the Vigilance Committee (which appears to be a body of militia) reassembled to the number of two thousand, who armed themselves, and marched in military order, with fixed bayonets, to the gaol where Casey, the murderer of Mr. King, was confined. A heavy piece of ordnance was planted at the great iron door of the prison, and a man stood beside it with a lighted match. It was then demanded that Casey and another man, who has murdered the United States Marshal Richardson, should be given up to them for punishment. Resistance being impossible, this was done. The two murderers were then taken away. Intelligence has not yet been received of their fate.

The President of Peru, General Castilla, irritated by the apathy exhibited by the Brazilian Government in not opening the River Amazon, has determined on making the navigation free. He has accordingly obtained from the Peruvian Chambers a grant of 100,000 piastres, which is to be given to the captain of the first European ship, whether a steam ship of war or a merchant ship, who shall force the blockade of the Amazon, and sail to the port of Nanta. This has been contradicted.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor has gone to Plombières to recruit himself, having, it is said, been very hard worked during the last six months. He also suffers from occasional attacks of the gout. The Empress does not accompany him, as it is thought that the sea air would be too sharp for the infant. During his three weeks' holiday, the Emperor will transact absolutely no business whatever. The rumoured interview with the Emperor of Austria on the shores of the Lake of Constance is denied. Count Walewski is also to take a holiday, and to stay at Homburg for about a month. The Cardinal Legate has departed on his return to Rome, after receiving from the Emperor the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour in diamonds. The Pope also has received a present from the Emperor, in the shape of a superb baptistry of Sèvres porcelain, accompanied by an autograph expression of the writer's filial affection for his Holiness, and his gratitude for the honour lately rendered to him. M. de Rayneval, the French Minister at Rome, is coming home on sick leave, his health being seriously impaired.

The Princes of Orleans have protested against the project of law by which it was designed to compensate them for the seizure of their property after the *coup d'état*. They write, under date Claremont, June 25:—"Having been informed some time since that a bill was under preparation with a view to modify the decrees of confiscation of the 22nd January, 1852, we confined ourselves to requesting our friends to decline in an absolute manner taking any steps that might make us participators in this feeble attempt at reparation. Reasons of delicacy and affection for foreign Princes allied to our family forbade us doing more. But, on reading the *exposé des motifs* of the bill which has been submitted to us, we found therein a word which our respect for the memory of our father and our own self-esteem would not allow us to leave without a reply. It is the word *bienveillance*. Benevolence can only be exercised where there is no rightful claim. Now, our claims are founded on the authority of the law, and the justice of the country confirmed it, until the day when justice itself had to cede to force. Benevolence, then, which denies a right, is therefore a new attack on the memory of our father, and we must repel it. In 1852, a policy accustomed to look upon money as an instrument of revolution tried to take precautions against us by confiscating the property of our family. It endeavoured to give a colouring to the injustice and violence of its proceedings by considerations revolting to the public conscience, and against which we protested at the time. To-day the word "benevolence," applied to the proposed measure, implies the same idea as those considerations, and this is why we renew our protest. Perhaps by so doing we may be obeying a sentiment of exaggerated susceptibility. When so much remains to France of the blessings of the government of our father, who dare say that he reigned only for narrow family interests? The Frenchman, ever devoted to his country, who in 1792 fought as a soldier to repel foreign invasion; the King who for eighteen years knew how to make France free as well as prosperous; the King who gave it that army, the heroism of which has just covered our flag with new glory,—that King is for ever above the attacks of calumny.

"P. D'ORLEANS (Duke de Nemours).
"F. D'ORLEANS (Prince de Joinville).
"H. D'ORLEANS (Duke d'Aumale)."

M. de Montalembert has addressed a letter to the President of the Legislative Body, denouncing the bill in question.

The long pending action brought by M. Goupy against the *Credit Mobilier* Company has been at length disposed of by the Civil Tribunal of the Seine. The judgment is in favour of the *Credit Mobilier*, but M. Berryer, the plaintiff's counsel, took occasion to pronounce a telling philippic against the principle and practices of that monster financial institution, and what is of more consequence, the Procureur Impérial's substitute, M. Pinard, followed a long way on the same side. The circumstances of the case are shortly these. In

August last year, the *Crédit Mobilier* announced, with much ado, that it was about to augment its capital, and that the dividend for the end of the year would amount to at least 200fr. upon 500fr. shares. It was at first said that new shares were to be issued; afterwards, the system of obligations was adopted; but in either case immense advantages were offered to the holders of shares in the company. Accordingly, the shares rose at the Bourse to an enormous extent—something like 300fr. or 400fr. in the course of a few days. The plaintiff, M. Goupy, led away by the flaming prospectuses, which, by the way, all appeared in the *Moniteur*, bought shares at nearly the highest prices. Two days before the settlement for the fortnight in the course of which the rise had taken place, the *Crédit Mobilier* announced that, in deference to the wishes of the Government, it would not issue any fresh obligations. Down dropped the shares, and poor M. Goupy was obliged to close his account by paying a tremendous difference. M. Goupy at first instituted a criminal prosecution against the *Crédit Mobilier* for a fraud upon the public; but this he was advised to abandon. He now brought an action for damages, alleging that the *Crédit Mobilier* was in no way compelled by Government to abandon its project of issuing the obligations, and that it had done so fraudulently, in order to make money at the expense of its dupes.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

"There is no possibility of doubting," says the Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post*, "that a coolness exists between the courts of the Tuileries and St. Petersburg."

The Count of Paris has addressed to M. Roger (du Nord) a letter which concludes thus:—"As for myself, the time is not far distant when I shall have the right to make known my principles and my views. In the meantime I am bound to inform some devoted friends, such as you, but only for yourself, that I have been informed of what has passed in our family only by my uncle, the Duke of Nemours, and that if I do not now declare myself, it is because my age does not yet permit me to interfere. I have remained absolutely out of the matter. I have only one object in view—to render myself worthy of a possible career, and in order to succeed I have incessantly before my eyes the will of my father, the conduct of my grandfather, and the sacred principles which founded the constitutional monarchy."

M. Barbès, the Red Republican, after being expelled from Spain, has come to London. It is said that he desires to be recognized as the head of the revolutionary party; but that Ledru-Rollin and M. Pyat object, and are jealous of him.

The Legislative Session has come to a close.

TURKEY.

The *Presse d'Orient*, of Constantinople, contains an article, "communicated by the Turkish Government, the object of which is to put public opinion on its guard against what are described as the false reports, which are continually put in circulation, of disturbances alleged to have taken place.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Some important news (if true) is communicated in a Vienna letter published in the *Paris Constitutionnel*, the writer of which says:—"The commission for readjusting the frontiers of Moldavia and Bessarabia finds itself absolutely compelled to ask from Russia a small portion of territory beyond what is stipulated for in the treaty of Paris. The Russian commissioners refuse, and have referred to St. Petersburg for further instructions. It is not thought that Russia will give away. The commission was at Bolgrad from the 9th to the 19th ult. It has come to the conclusion that it cannot possibly trace out the new frontier without comprising the town of Bolgrad, in the territory to be ceded by Russia to Moldavia."

Aali Pacha, during his stay at Vienna, has succeeded in having it determined that the Principalities should remain separated; but it appears that the Moldo-Wallachian population has declared itself in a sense opposed to this. Such, at least, is the latest news from Constantinople.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Federal Council has pronounced in favour of the declaration of the Congress of Paris regarding maritime rights in time of war.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria has recently shamed the English Government in a matter of religious tolerance and liberality. The ecclesiastics desired to suppress the amusements of the Viennese on the Sunday. They proposed that there should be no dance-music at the public gardens; that all the places of entertainment should be closed; and that the people should be kept in the city, instead of wandering, after their usual fashion, in the neighbouring fields and woods. In like manner, the Archbishop of Canterbury suggested that there should be no Sunday bands in Kensington Gardens. But Papal and despotic Austria has been more liberal than Protestant and free England. The Emperor refused to sour his people into religion, and matters remain as they were. A similar triumph has been achieved in Bavaria. Sunday amusements were forbidden for a time; but it was made so manifest that the effect had been hurtful rather than beneficial, that the Government resolved to return to the former system of rational recreation.

The King of Greece has arrived at Vienna. It is stated that he intends shortly to visit Paris.

The municipal laws of the Empire are about to receive certain modifications which will bring them back to very much the same state as that in which they existed in 1848. The magistracy is to be the supreme municipal authority. The councillors will be appointed by Government, but their salaries will be paid by the communities over which they preside. In general, Government will appoint the burgomasters, but in the capital and in the more important provincial cities, they will be nominated by the Emperor himself. The popular control over these functionaries which has existed during the last few years will thus be destroyed.

A Protestant died lately at Meran (says a letter from the Southern Tyrol in the *Magdeburg Gazette*), when the curé refused to allow the body to be interred amongst the Roman Catholics, and insisted that it should be buried in a separate portion of the cemetery. A great crowd then assembled to render the last honours to the deceased. The majority of the crowd consisted of Roman Catholics who conformed to the Protestant custom of walking with uncovered head after the coffin. On the following Sunday, the curé alluded in sharp terms to this circumstance, and complained of the manner in which the tendency towards Protestantism was gaining ground.

PRUSSIA.

Count Orloff has recently visited Berlin on his way back to St. Petersburg. While there, he dined with the King at Sans Souci.

The Russian General Rüdiger died at Karlsbad on the 22nd ult. of dropsy, without having had time to take a bath or drink any of the waters. His body has been embalmed, and is to be sent to Russia. Mr. Sidney Herbert was present at the religious ceremony in the Evangelical church.

RUSSIA.

Some inundations have taken place in certain districts of the interior of Russia. Few particulars are as yet known.

The Governments of Cherson, Ekaterinoslaff, and Podolia (says the *Times* Berlin correspondent), are declared to be no longer under martial law; in the Crimea, however, it continues to exist, but will there also shortly be dispensed with. The force that is to be permanently stationed in the Crimean peninsula, after its evacuation by the Allies, is to be the third *corps d'armée*, under General Wrangel, consisting of about 50,000 infantry and 8000 cavalry.

All the roads to Moscow are being put into a state of thorough repair. For the purposes of the coronation alone, they are constructing fresh houses in Moscow by dozens, and workmen are brought not only from all parts of the Empire, but even from abroad. It is computed that many of these houses will yield to their owners between twenty and thirty thousand roubles for the short period of the festivities. Whole streets are assuming a new look, as fresh stories are run up and the outsides adorned with gay decorations.

Southern Sebastopol is to be made a first-rate fortress, but on an entirely new plan. Nicholaieff (says the *Kalisch* correspondent of the *Oesterreichische Zeitung*) being in immediate connexion with the continent, "is to be the war port for the future fleet." The Russian army in the Caucasus and on the Turkish frontiers in Asia has already been reinforced. The Guard and Grenadier corps will remain at St. Petersburg and Novgorod; Moscow will be the great dépôt for the reserves, and the six "active" army corps will form a great chain, extending from Odessa, across Warsaw, to the Baltic.

The Chevalier Louis de Tegoborski, the well-known writer on Russian statistics, is mentioned as the successor of the late M. Tourkull.

M. de Boutinieff is mentioned as likely to be appointed Ambassador from Russia to the Porte.

The English have evacuated Kertch.

The Emperor has empowered the Minister of Finance to issue two new series of State obligations, amounting to six millions of silver roubles, bearing interest from the 1st July.

ITALY.

The schoolmaster, Joseph Jacquet, whose case excited much sympathy in England a short time ago, from his having been condemned to six months' imprisonment by a tribunal at Chambéry, in Sardinia, for what was termed blasphemy in the indictment, but which was, in fact, nothing more than reading a verse from the New Testament (Matthew, xiii. 55), and therefrom deducing an argument adverse to the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, has received an unreserved pardon from the King.

The Duchy of Parma is now perfectly quiet. The state of siege will probably be raised in a short time hence.

The state of brigandage has become so intolerable in the Romagna that certain communes have determined on petitioning the Roman Government on the subject, and accompanying their petitions with a declaration that, unless the civil power is employed for the protection of their lives and property, they will not pay the Government taxes.

Cardinal Cosenza, Archbishop of Capua, and Cardinal

Priario Sforza, Archbishop of Naples, have both waited on the King of Naples to induce him to be more merciful in his political prosecutions, but in vain. Another prelate, the Bishop of Lecca, has been brought into Naples under an escort, accused of a plot against the state by the Commissary of Police, Creffi. Brought before the King, he was liberated, as he showed that his only crime was stating, what he knew to be the fact, viz., that all those people now suffering punishment accused by Creffi were entirely innocent. The Bishop was set at liberty, and the Commissary of Police retains his position.—*Letter in the Daily News*.

The Pope is said to be preparing a general amnesty in favour of political offenders. About the same time, it is added, sundry reforms are to be promulgated.

The political trials at Naples are not yet finished.

SPAIN.

The disturbances at Valladolid appear to have been of a serious character. They originated in an alarm of scarcity, under the influence of which the mob opposed the embarkation of grain and flour on the canal. The Civil Governor was wounded in the head and side, and the rioters paraded the streets, crying, "Death to the rich!" They burnt the city gates, attacked and pillaged several houses, and were only quelled by the proclamation of martial law—a step which was resorted to by the military authorities on their own responsibility, and in defiance of the directions of the civil authorities. Tranquillity is now restored. There were also riots at Rioseco, twelve leagues distant from Valladolid.

The Queen has completely recovered her health.

GREECE.

The Minister of Justice at Athens (says a writer in the *Times*) has given orders for the printer and editor of the *Minerva* newspaper to be arrested on the charge of forging an official document. The "official document" was a private circular alleged to have been sent to the Prefects and Mayors of the districts which Mr. Smith O'Brien was to visit, the object of which was to leave him with the impression that Greece, morally and materially, enjoys the same Arcadian tranquillity and happiness which the Bishop of Arras lately attributed to the people of the Roman States. The matter was at length traced to the Mayor of the Commune of Daphnesion, who has been arrested.

Brigandage continues rampant, and forty pirates have seized a Government vessel near the Isle of Scaphos.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

CURIOSITIES OF PRISON LIFE.

THE Nineteenth Report of the Inspectors of Prisons in the northern and eastern districts has just appeared. Glancing over the "separate" prison reports (says a summary in the *Times*), a few points are noticeable. At Cambridge, the separate system is highly approved, both at the town and county gaol. At Wisbeach, an absurd sacrifice of time is made by locking up the prisoners at dusk in unlighted cells. The consequence is that much time is passed in bed—hardly the best place for the correction of evils of which idleness is said to be the root. Opium-eating is very prevalent in this district, and the use of the drug is often apparent in its effect on the morals and intellect of the prisoners. Chester Gaol stands in need of many sanitary improvements. In Derby Gaol, the hopeless case of a young girl is noticed; she broke all the windows of her cell, and has been constantly recommitted to the prison for various offences. Huntingdon Gaol boasts of a literary turnkey, who acts as schoolmaster to the prisoners, to the entire satisfaction of the chaplain; taskwork appears to be much disliked in this gaol. At Kirkdale county gaol, an increase in the commitments of boys under fifteen is remarked, and there have been several recommitments. The separate stall system in the chapel of this prison has proved a failure, as it rather favours, than prevents, communication between the prisoners. In Lancaster Castle, an unfortunate debtor, like Mr. Dickens's "Chancery Prisoner" in the Fleet, obtained his "discharge" at last—by the hand of death. The age of the person and the circumstances of the case are not stated. Attempts by friends of prisoners to introduce spirits into the dungeon assigned to debtors are severely punished at Lancaster Castle. Indeed, the restrictions on debtors there appear to be unduly severe in comparison with other prisons. Thus, debtor M. C. is "locked up for smoking," and debtor W. A. has his ale stopped for two days for a similar indulgence. On one occasion, a bailiff of the Liverpool County Court was found dead drunk outside the Castle-gates at half-past twelve o'clock at night, and with him a man who requested the warder of the gate to take charge of the said bailiff. It turned out that this sober companion was actually a debtor in the custody of the inebriated catchpoll, who declined to avail himself of so excellent an opportunity for effecting his escape. On a second occasion, both bailiff and debtor arrived at the prison considerably the worse for alcohol. The want of suitable asylums to receive juvenile offenders on discharge, "young in years, but old in crime" is a remarkable feature in the report on the Liverpool borough gaol, where a prisoner was flogged for "feigning an attempt to hang himself." The system of overcrowding in this gaol is abominable, and the in-

spector witnessed "a most painful and degrading sight." The chaplain of Salford New Bailey denounces the number of beershops and licensed singing saloons as the "chief incitements to crime, especially with boys." The inspector of the Folkingham (Lincolnshire) Gaol suggests the addition to the library of a few books "not professedly of a religious character," as likely to be beneficial. At Kirton-Lindsey, the prisoners "pass too much time in bed." The same evil exists at Spilsby, where they are locked up in cells without light or means of employment at four P.M., and rise at seven A.M. So at Bury St. Edmund's and Ipswich. At Walsingham, the use of the bath in winter is strongly deprecated, as "fraught with many evils." At Northalerton, the common lodging-houses are reported as hotbeds of crime and foci of moral contamination.

THE ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER OF A LUNATIC.

A further examination into the facts connected with the case of Mr. Charles Snape, resident medical superintendent of the Surrey County Lunatic Asylum, who stands charged with having caused the death of Daniel Dolley, an insane inmate, under circumstances related in the *Leader* of June 21st, took place on Monday, before Mr. Henry, at Bow-street. Dr. Hugh Dimond, resident medical superintendent on the female side of the asylum, gave some important evidence. Mr. Snape, it appears, informed Dr. Dimond of the death of the lunatic in the course of the day; and Dr. Dimond suggested that it would be as well to avoid a coroner's inquest, as it would be "an unpleasant business," and he therefore advised Mr. Snape to write to the chairman of the visiting justices, and treat it as a case of sudden death. Having afterwards seen Dolley's body, which he found peculiarly white, he wrote a letter to Mr. Snape, which ran thus:—"I fear that Dolley's case is more unpleasant than at first appeared, and that you will be obliged to have an inquest—which will be disagreeable, but less so than otherwise." Mr. Snape agreed to this. Dr. Dimond taxed him with not having said anything about the emetic which had been given to Dolley after he was taken out of the shower-bath; but Mr. Snape asserted that he had mentioned the circumstance. It was then agreed that a *post mortem* examination should be made. Mr. Snape requested that Dr. Dimond's son, who had just passed the College of Surgeons, should conduct the examination; and this was assented to. On commencing the operation, it was found that the head and chest had been opened. Mr. Snape remarked that Sandy (one of the attendants at the dead-house) had done more than he was told to do; and Dr. Dimond observed that, owing to the head being opened, a portion of the fluid had drained out of it. When Mr. Dimond, junior, cut through the pericardium, Mr. Snape said, "There is evident disease of the heart." Dr. Dimond rejoined that he did not think so. On leaving the dead-house, Mr. Snape observed, "I suppose we may safely say that the man died of disease of the heart;" to which Dr. Dimond replied, "In my opinion, there was nothing there to shorten a man's life." A day or two afterwards—namely, on the 12th of April—Mr. Snape requested Dr. Dimond to attend the inquest. Dr. Dimond asked, "Now, do you not think that, if the man had not had the shower-bath, and the emetic afterwards, he would be alive now?" Mr. Snape answered, "I cannot say that." "That is my belief," rejoined Dr. Dimond.

In the examination on Monday at Bow-street, Dr. Dimond stated, as the result of various investigations into the state of the deceased's remains, that, in his judgment there was no disease to cause death: this he attributed to the shower-bath and the emetic. His son, Mr. Dimond, expressed the same opinion, and in cross-examination added:—"The thickening of the aortic valve is a disease, but insufficient to account for death. I cannot say whether I pointed it out to my father at the *post mortem* examination, saying, 'There is disease of the heart.'" Mr. John Pagot, surgeon, Mr. Henry Hancock, surgeon to Charing-cross Hospital, and Dr. Elliotson, gave evidence to the same effect, though with some degree of caution. The last-named witness said he had tried the bath for eight minutes and forty seconds, and was glad to get out again, as it was "very disagreeable." "But then," said Mr. Clarkson (who appeared for Mr. Snape), "you did not go in as an excited lunatic, I presume, which makes all the difference." Dr. Elliotson afterwards added that the effect, even in the comparatively high temperature of June, was "very dreadful." "It was not so agreeable as mesmerism," suggested Mr. Clarkson. "By no means," replied Dr. Elliotson. "I should like you to try the difference." Some laughter was elicited by these not very decent witticisms.

Mr. Snape was committed for trial, until which time his defence will be reserved. Bail was accepted.

In the course of Dr. Dimond's examination, it appeared that some of the patients had discussed the facts connected with Dolley's death, and that one had said he would never rest until he had got the shower-baths abolished.

THE CONVICT PALMER.—An improbable story with respect to the last hours of Palmer is told by the *Observer*, which states that, "at the ordinary meeting of the visiting justices of Stafford Gaol, on Thursday week,

the Reverend Mr. Goodacre, chaplain of the prison, presented a report respecting his interview with the convict. The report is made up of extracts from the diary of the reverend gentleman. No order has been given respecting the publication of it. We understand that the chaplain found Palmer not unfrequently suffering intense mental agony. He was particularly so on the Thursday morning previous to his execution. The reverend gentleman gave him the best advice he could, showing the distinction between private sins and public crimes, and pointed out that the latter demanded a confession before man. Palmer seemed to feel the force of the chaplain's remarks, and made use of the words:—"If it is necessary for my soul's sake to confess this murder, I ought also to confess the others," adding, after a short pause, "I mean my wife and my brother." He then threw himself on the pallet in the cell, and buried his face in the clothes. The chaplain proceeded to ask him whether he was guilty of the murder of his wife. Palmer made no reply. The reverend gentleman then asked him whether he was guilty of the murder of his brother. A significant silence again betokened the prisoner's guilt; and when the chaplain could not forbear uttering the ejaculatory prayer—"The Lord have mercy on you!" he responded with a deep sigh. He shortly afterwards somewhat rallied, and, evidently calling to mind what had passed, observed to the chaplain that he must not take advantage of what he had said, for he had neither denied nor admitted his guilt. An application has been made to the chaplain for permission to publish the report or some of the extracts." Pending the publication of these documents, we cannot avoid doubting the story, as being inconsistent with abstract probability, and wholly opposed to what we know of Palmer's character.

A DOG AND HIS MASTER.—Mr. Walter William Wombwell was charged at Clerkenwell with beating a boy named Israel Hyman, and setting a dog on him. The boy went by mistake into Wombwell's yard, and, when about to leave it, was pushed, struck, and kicked by the man, who finally set a dog at him. The dog leaped up at him twice—the first time striking him in the face, and the second time biting him in the ear. He bled very much, and was obliged to go to the hospital to have the wound dressed. It appeared from the evidence of one of the witnesses that the dog had bitten a boy once before, and that on this occasion also the master had set the animal on. The magistrate proposed to send the case before a jury; but it was arranged between the counsel on both sides that Mr. Wombwell should pay 5*l.* and all the expenses. The boy's father then presented a guinea to the poor-box.

A COMMERCIAL "TICKET OF LEAVE."—The pernicious system of issuing what are called "truck tickets" in payment for labour, received an illustration in an action brought on Monday in the Court of Queen's Bench. A bricklayer, named Ingram, sued one Barnes, a railway contractor, for the recovery of the sum of about 90*l.*, being the balance of an account of several hundred pounds due to Ingram for making bricks. Barnes supplied all the materials and Ingram all the labour, for which the latter was to be paid at the rate of so much per 1,000 bricks. Barnes set up a truck shop, and paid his creditor partly in tickets for provisions. One of these tickets was produced in court. It had the figures "2*s.* 6*d.*" on one side, and on the other the words—"This ticket is issued to the bearer, by request, for his accommodation, and is not compulsory." According to Ingram's evidence, the taking of the ticket was compulsory, for he several times applied to Barnes to be paid in money, but he could not get it. He had received 323*l.* in all, of which as much as 79*l.* had been paid by these truck tickets. The main question now was whether he could recover the sum of 79*l.*, which he had, in fact, been paid, but only in the form of truck tickets. After some legal arguing, a verdict was taken for 38*l.*, being about half the amount claimed; leave being reserved to the defendant to move the court to enter the verdict in his favour, if the court should be of opinion that the plaintiff was not within the act of William IV. bearing on the question.

THE ILKLEY MURDER.—The man Holmes, who has been in custody under suspicion of murdering Mrs. McKnight, has been committed for trial on a charge of robbing, with violence, a young girl, four days after the death of the lady. Mrs. McKnight's purse has been traced to a neighbouring town, but the chain of evidence against Holmes is not complete. The detective officer sent from London to investigate the case has gone in search of a gang of gypsies who were near Ilkley on the day of the murder. Holmes is a farm labourer. He has been discharged in connexion with Mrs. McKnight's case.

ANOTHER ROBBERY OF SPECTACLES.—Joseph Whitty, a ticket-of-leave man, has been committed for trial on a charge of snatching a pair of spectacles off the face of an elderly lady while walking in a street in Hackney during the afternoon. He was proved to have been sentenced in 1848 to ten years' imprisonment for felony. The singular feature of the case was that the accused spoke to an acquaintance of his, a hairdresser, on the subject of the robbery, the day following its commission, observing that the spectacles were only washed over with gold, and he could get no more than five shillings for them. The "friend" then gave information to the police.

THE MURDER AT SPONDON.—The two Irishmen and

a sailor in custody on suspicion of causing the death of Mr. Stone have been discharged, after examination before the magistrates, there not being sufficient testimony against them. Government has put forward a reward of 100*l.* for the detection of the murderer, in addition to the sum offered by the inhabitants of the locality. Sir George Grey also says that he will advise the grant of a pardon to an accomplice, not being actually the murderer, who shall give such information as shall lead to the desired result.

COLLUSION.—Thomas Smith was charged before the Lord Mayor with feloniously assisting a girl in stealing a purse, containing money, from Joseph Holman, a silversmith. The evidence of the prosecutor was interesting. He said:—"I was passing the Mansion-house at half-past twelve o'clock in the morning, and a girl came up and spoke to me. I would not speak to her, but she would not go away, and she took hold of me and pushed me into 'Change-alley. We then went into Abchurch-lane, and she pressed me against the wall, and I pushed her from me. The prisoner then came up and took hold of my coat, and said, 'Can you tell me the way to Cannon-street, City?' I told him I did not know Cannon-street, City, but I knew Cannon-street, Commercial-road, and as I was answering him the girl ran away. He then said, 'All right! I shall find it.' And he walked two steps from me and then began to run. Seeing him run, I felt in my trousers-pocket and missed my purse, and I ran after him and overtook him in Lombard-street, where I seized him and gave him in charge. While I was with the girl in 'Change-alley, she coughed as if for the purpose of drawing the attention of somebody, and it was then the prisoner came up and asked me for Cannon-street." The man was committed for trial.

A YOUNG FOOL.—A young man, of the name of Wharton, said to be the son of a clergyman, has been fined twenty shillings by the Lambeth magistrate for annoying a gentleman residing at Stockwell. The foolish youth was in the habit of going to the house in question, ringing the bell at unseasonable hours, firing pistols, and injuring the trees in the garden. There appeared to be no motive for these freaks, excepting what the young man himself called "a piece of fun, or a lark," the folly of which he admitted.

ROBBERY BY A HOTEL-KEEPER.—Augustus Hastier, manager of the Pavilion Hotel, Folkestone, is now under remand, charged with having absconded from the hotel, with money to the amount of 1600*l.*, the property of M. Alfred de la Motte, a French gentleman, who was staying at the hotel, and who placed the money, which was in a bag, in the hands of Hastier, for safe custody.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AT LIVERPOOL.—A quarrel took place a few days ago between two sailors at Liverpool, one of whom twitted the other with exhibiting a want of strength and skill in breaking up some old iron. It was ultimately agreed that the two should fight; and, after the exchange of a few blows, Mitchell—the man who had been mocked by the other—was struck down. He exclaimed, "I am stabbed!" and such proved to be the case. He had been wounded in the left breast with a knife, the progress of which was stopped by the ribs; so that the injury, though serious, was not fatal. The ruffian escaped in the confusion.

STARVATION WAGES.—A woman, employed by one of the "sweaters," or "middle-men," at starvation wages, has been charged before the Worship-street magistrate with attempting to drown herself. She employed a woman to assist her, who improperly disposed of some of the materials. Overcome with despair, the accused swallowed a large quantity of opium; but she was recovered by medical aid. The magistrate discharged her.

FRAUDS BY A SOLICITOR AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—The affairs of William Edward Brockett, a solicitor, recently practising in Newcastle-on-Tyne, but now an outlaw, have just been investigated before the Bankruptcy Court in that town. He appears to have misappropriated large sums of money entrusted to his care.

A RUFFIANLY POLICEMAN.—A policeman at Windsor has been fined 1*l.* 7*s.* and costs for falsely accusing a gentleman of passing bad coin, and for brutally ill-using him when on his way to the station-house.

STABBING AT DEVONPORT.—A coloured man at Devonport, while in a state of mad intoxication, stabbed an unoffending young man in the side. The wound is of a very serious character. The culprit is in custody.

MANSLAUGHTER NEAR STOURBRIDGE.—The Lye waste—a disreputable locality near Stourbridge—has been the scene of a shocking crime. A nailer, named John Phipson, had a quarrel with Elizabeth Millward, also a nailer, who had irritated the man by throwing some coal-dust in his face, in revenge for his having drunk some water belonging to her. Phipson, in a moment of passion, drew from the forge a piece of red-hot iron, about two feet in length, and pointed at the end, and either threw or thrust it at the woman, whose side it entered, to the depth of four inches, and, burning its way, dropped out upon the ground. Millward died very shortly afterwards. The magistrates have committed Phipson for trial on a charge of Wilful Murder; the coroner's jury on a verdict of Manslaughter.

A STREET SCENE.—Dennis Leary, a costermonger, has been examined at Bow-street, on suspicion of stealing a diamond ring from the body of one Robert Stocker,

killed in a fracas in the street. At about half-past four on Monday morning last, the deceased, who was an hydraulic engineer, carrying on business in Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, was observed by a lad named Edward Evans, in High-street, beating a man with a stick. The man was retreating backwards, and Stocker following him up. Having broken his stick over the man's head, the latter rushed upon him and felled him to the ground at one blow. Leary and two others of the bystanders went to the fallen man, and found that he was dead. Evans, who knew Stocker, told them where he lived, and they carried him home. Whilst they were waiting at the door for admission, Evans saw Leary search the pockets of the dead man, but, finding only a small key, he threw it under the scraper, and exclaimed with an oath—"Not a mag." It was afterwards discovered that a ring had been taken from the hand of the corpse. One witness proved that Stocker had the ring on his finger at the time he was struck down. Leary was remanded.

IRELAND.

THE SADLEIR LETTER.—Master Murphy made some statements on Friday week in the Irish Court of Chancery with reference to the extraordinary letter written by the late John Sadleir to his brother James on the 31st of last December. He said he wished it to be known that the letter ("whatever might have been its legal effects") was not before him during the hearing of the case in his court, and was not discovered till long after the arguments. This statement was made in connexion with an application to Master Murphy, to serve notices of appeal to the Lord Chancellor from the decision of the Rolls' Court in the matter of the English shareholders of the Tipperary Bank. Leave was granted.

THE MURDER OF MRS. KELLY.—It is reported that the case against Mr. George Stevens, the nephew of the late Mrs. Kelly, is so incomplete, that the Crown means not to send up the bills before the grand jury at Westmeath at the approaching Assizes. The case is still wrapped in mystery, and so is that of Mr. O'Callaghan, who was murdered last spring in the county of Galway, though it is said that the perpetrators are quietly pursuing their ordinary work in the vicinity, notwithstanding that many of the neighbours are fully aware of their guilt.

MURDER IN THE KING'S COUNTY.—A farmer, named William Curran, has been shot dead in his parlour while at supper. The shot was fired through the window. Suspicion falls on the relations of Curran's second wife, who disapproved of the match.

JOHN CARDEN.—The term of John Carden's imprisonment, for the abduction of Miss Arbuthnot, expired on Thursday.

JAMES SADLEIR, it is believed, has gone to America.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE GUARDS AT ALDERSHOTT.—The Coldstream Guards arrived at the Aldershot camp last Saturday. The rank and file (says a writer in the *Times*) were dressed in their new tunics, but many of the officers wore the tail-coats and epaulettes in which they quitted England. All were in heavy marching order; but seldom have they been seen in such gallant guise. They had bunches of roses in the muzzles of their firelocks, and in their hands bouquets presented to them by the ladies of Portsmouth. Some had Russian dogs, some had Turkish goats; one had a pet singing-bird, another a black hen, and a third—a veteran warrior, with a beard worthy of Esau—fondled in his bosom a little white kitten. A ragged old dog, which answers to the name of "Joss," is an object of fond solicitude to every man in the battalion, and very naturally so, for he smelt powder at the Alma, and Balaklava, and felt it, to his sorrow, at Inkerman, where he was shot through the leg. The faithful creature followed the regiment through the whole campaign.

THE ANGLO-SWISS LEGION.—The disbanding of the Anglo-Swiss Legion, formed at Schlestadt, continues without interruption. Every man receives 500fr. (20*l.*) to return to his country.

THE ANGLO-ITALIAN LEGION.—The officers and men of this legion, which is now being disbanded, complain that the terms on which the Government has ordered their discharge are not in accordance with the conditions on which they joined. They state that they were to have been employed for one year after the conclusion of the war; then to be taken back to their native land, or conveyed to some one of the colonies, and to receive one year's pay. These stipulations, they contend, are evaded.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL has received the freedom of the city of Glasgow (his native place) in a box of solid gold. He was also presented with a sword, the gift of six thousand of his countrymen. Sir Archibald Alison made an eloquent speech on the same occasion, in which he recounted the historical achievements of the General, and passed a high eulogium both on him and on the Highland Brigade which he commanded. Sir Colin has also been entertained at a banquet at Glasgow.

THE POLISH LEGION.—There has been some disturbance among the Polish Legion at Tchekmedji, owing, it is said, to an unwillingness of the soldiers to enter the Turkish service. Generals Storcks and Zamoycki went down and settled the affair.

GENERAL BEATSON.—A communication from General Beatson appears in the *Times*, stating that he received from Lord Panmure, in the course of last May, copies of letters from Generals Vivian and Smith, dated the 5th of March and the 5th of April, containing, in the form of a quotation, charges of the gravest nature against him. Knowing those charges to be false and malicious, General Beatson demanded a full and public investigation of them, and received various letters from Lord Panmure, postponing inquiry until further particulars shall have been received from Generals Vivian and Smith. The matter thus rests for the present.

OBITUARY.

CHARLES YOUNG.—This well known actor of the old classical school—an actor associated with the early play-going recollections of the grandfathers and grandmothers of the present "rising generation"—died last Sunday at his residence in Brighton, where he had resided for many years, and where he was universally regarded for the urbanity of his manners and the polished intelligence of his mind. He had acquired a handsome competence, and was highly popular in the choice society of the sea-side London where he had settled. He had been confined for a considerable period to his chamber by illness, but had solaced himself by literary and religious studies. We believe Mr. Young was not far short of eighty.

THE EARL OF CORK AND ORRERY, K.P.—Edmund Boyle, the eighth Earl of Cork and Orrery, died on Sunday evening last, at his house in Hamilton-place. At the time of his death he was the senior general officer in the army, and, with but one or two exceptions, the oldest member of the House of Peers. He was also the senior Knight of the Order of St. Patrick. He was born October 21, 1767, and was, consequently, in his eighty-ninth year. Though he entered the army in August, 1785, his Lordship does not appear to have seen active service until 1793, when he served in Flanders, and was present at the sieges of Valenciennes and Dunkirk, and formed one of those who took part in the storming of the former place. Since that time his services, though constant and meritorious, were not remarkable. His grandson, Viscount Dungarvon, succeeds to the earldom and estates, thus making a vacancy in the representation of Frome.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen gave a State Concert at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, when the new Ball and Concert room was opened for the first time. A spacious orchestra rises from the floor to the organ gallery.—A deputation from the Executive Committee of the Art Treasures Exhibition, 1857, consisting of the Mayor of Manchester, Mr. Thomas Fairbairn (Chairman), Mr. Entwisle, Mr. Stern, and Mr. Heron, with Mr. John C. Deane, the General Commissioner, had an interview with his Royal Highness Prince Albert at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, for the purpose of submitting the approved design for the Manchester Exhibition building.

PRINCE WILLIAM FREDERICK OF PRUSSIA took leave of the Queen and Prince Albert on Saturday, on his return to his own country.

THE LONDON DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION.—The annual meeting of this board was held at their house in Pall-mall on Wednesday, Archdeacon Sinclair presiding. The company present included Lord Radstock, a considerable number of clergymen, and several ladies. The Chairman in an opening address, gave a favourable account of the prospects of the society.

FIRE AT WOOLWICH.—A fire, attended with loss of life, broke out on Wednesday morning, about four o'clock, at the Canterbury-hall Tavern, Woolwich. Flames were discovered issuing from the concert-room of the tavern. This room had been used on the preceding evening for some performances, and a very numerous assemblage had remained there until a late hour. It is supposed that the accident originated from an escape of gas, which afterwards became ignited. The room was completely destroyed, but the rest of the house was saved. An elderly woman, however, perished in the flames. She had belonged to the establishment upwards of thirty years.

A DISPUTED POINT OF LAW.—The Judges in the Court of Criminal Appeal are not agreed as to a certain point of law. In the case of the Queen v. Benjamin Scott, there was a question whether the defendant's examination before the Court of Bankruptcy was properly admitted in evidence in a subsequent criminal trial before Mr. Justice Willes—the effect of the bankrupt's answers in the Bankruptcy Court being to criminate himself. Lord Campbell, Baron Alderson, and Baron Bramwell were of opinion that the evidence was properly admitted, and that such examinations are necessary to defeat fraud. Mr. Justice Coleridge was of a different opinion. He said: "I object to the evidence for the prosecution being made up by this new and un-English mode, the compulsory cross-examination of the prisoner, apart from the Judge and jury who are to try him—he very often being wholly unprotected. Even under the presidency of a Commissioner, it seems to me highly objectionable. But what if there be no

Commissioner, as sometimes is the case? The exposure and punishment of fraud may be purchased too dearly. I think they are, if, in order to arrive at them, we break down what I venture to call, after Lord Eldon, a sacred principle of our law." The majority of the Judges being of opinion that the conviction was right, it was confirmed accordingly.

A RAILWAY INCIDENT.—The train from Gloucester to Carmarthen, a few days ago, was brought to a sudden stand-still owing to the driver perceiving a little child sitting on the rails. Great promptitude was exhibited in bringing the train to a pause so quickly. The child was not in the least touched; but the escape was very narrow.

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.—A deputation from various metropolitan parishes, headed by Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., and Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., and accompanied by several members of the Metropolitan Board of Works, waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Wednesday, for the purpose of ascertaining how far Government would assist in the purchase of Hampstead-heath. What the deputation asked was, that the surplus which might be remaining at the expiration of the coal duties, in 1862, should be appropriated to the purchase of Hampstead-heath, the Government in the mean time advancing the money so as to secure the purchase at once. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could not give any promise upon the subject.

STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.—An action was brought in the Court of Common Pleas, on Wednesday, by the assignees and creditors of the estate of Strahan, Paul, and Bates, the late bankers in the Strand, against a Mr. Strickland; and the question raised was, whether the sum of 9800*l.*, paid by the bankrupts to the defendant on the 9th of June, 1855, the day of their stoppage, was a payment made by way of fraudulent preference, and in contemplation of bankruptcy. After the reception of a large body of evidence, Mr. Justice Willes summed up, and directed the jury that, in order to find for the plaintiff, they must be of opinion that the payment to Mr. Strickland had been voluntarily in contemplation of bankruptcy, and with intent to prefer him before the other creditors. The jury found a verdict for the defendant.

THE MASTERS IN CHANCERY.—The death of Mr. John E. Blunt, last Saturday morning, one of the Masters in Chancery, leaves only four surviving or continuing Masters in Southampton-buildings, viz., Sir George Rose, Mr. Richards, Mr. Tinney, and Mr. Humphry.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.—The Count of Flanders, and the Princess Charlotte, arrived at Dover on Tuesday afternoon, on a visit to the Queen.

CHURCH RATES.—Four parishes of Hertford, comprising the greater part of the town, have determined on not demanding church-rates from Dissenters.

THE CASE OF MR. DYCE SOMBRE.—Dr. Lushington, on Monday, in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, gave judgment in the case of Mr. Dyce Sombre, which came before him on appeal from the decision of the Prerogative Court, which pronounced against the validity of Mr. Sombre's will, on the ground that he was insane at the time he executed it. This decision was now affirmed by Dr. Lushington, who was perfectly satisfied of the testator's insanity. The only variation in the decree of the lower court was with respect to costs, which, it is now settled, are to be paid out of the estate. From the judgment now given there is no appeal. The leading facts of the case have appeared in the *Leader* of June 2nd, 1855, February 2nd, and April 5th, 1856.

A "MAN-HOLE."—Sixty-five pounds damages and costs have been awarded in the Court of Queen's Bench to a man named Barnett, for injuries received by his wife. She was proceeding one night last November along the foot-path in Mill-lane, Deptford, when she suddenly found herself in a hole, but suspended by her arms. A man below then called out, "Take care!" but the mischief was done. It appeared that the hole was what is called a "man-hole," and that one of the men engaged about the place had left the flap or grating open after descending. The poor woman was much hurt, and was obliged to have medical attendance. Her husband therefore brought an action against the proprietor of the premises, who, without making any defence, left the damages in the hands of the jury.

EXPLOSION IN A CHEMIST'S SHOP AT BRADFORD.—A chemist's apprentice was pounding some chemicals for blue lights in a pestle and mortar, when they exploded. The young man was so much hurt that he died shortly after his removal to the infirmary. The mortar was blown to pieces, and a great deal of property was damaged. Several persons narrowly escaped.

MR. ANDERSSON, THE TRAVELLER IN AFRICA.—The King of Sweden has conferred a gold medal, bearing the inscription "*Illis quorum meruere labores*," on Mr. Andersson, whose interesting work, entitled "Lake Ngami; or, Explorations and Discoveries in South-Western Africa," has recently been published in London.

NARROW ESCAPE AT BRIGHTON.—An accident, which nearly received a fatal termination, happened a few days ago to the carriage and horses of Mrs. Wilson, a lady living at Brighton. She was being driven through one of the streets of the town, when, in consequence of the coachman pulling up the horses rather suddenly, the pole of the carriage snapped in two. The horses became

restive, and, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the driver to control them, they started off at a furious pace in the direction of the Marine Parade. The fragments of the broken pole kept continually knocking against the sides of the frightened animals, which caused them to proceed at a still greater rate. Rushing across the Marine Parade, it appeared that the carriage and all its occupants must infallibly be thrown over the cliff. At this critical juncture, however, one of the horses fell against the kerb-stone bordering the footway of the esplanade; and the carriage was swung round by the force of the shock, and dashed against the iron lamp-post, which broke the windows, and also one of the wheels. While in this position, several persons ran to the assistance of Mrs. Wilson, whom they got safely out of the carriage. The horses, coachman, and footman were likewise extricated. No one appears to have been seriously hurt.

PROPOSED MONUMENT TO SIR WILLIAM WALLACE.—A great open air meeting was held in the King's Park, Stirling, on the anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, for the purpose of taking measures to raise a national monument to the memory of Sir William Wallace, to be erected on the summit of the Abbey Craig near that city. Committees were appointed to carry out the design of the meeting. The Earl of Elgin occupied the chair.

PRINCE NAPOLEON'S CRUISE.—Prince Napoleon is now in Orkney, on his way to Iceland. He has engaged several scientific gentlemen from the east coast of Scotland to accompany him in his voyage to the Arctic regions.

LORD ST. LEONARD'S has been confined to his room for several days by a severe accident to his left foot, on his way to the House of Lords. He is progressing favourably, but will not be able to leave the house for some time.

ERRATUM.—In the ninth line of the Miscellaneous paragraph in our last week's paper headed "Fire and Loss of Lives," for "Mrs. Isaac's," read "Mrs. Solomons."

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—A document has just been printed by order of the House of Lords of the pictures in the National Gallery which have been exhibited, but do not now form part of such exhibition; as also of the number of pictures bequeathed to or given, which are not now exhibited in the National Gallery. There are two pictures—"Leda," by Mr. P. F. Mola, and "Serena rescued by the Red Cross Knight Sir Calepine," by Mr. W. Hilton—which do not now form part of the exhibition. Both the pictures are damaged. The number of pictures bequeathed, or given to, or for the benefit of the nation which are not exhibited in the National Gallery, is thirty-four. There are three hundred and sixty-two pictures independently of drawings bequeathed to the nation by the late J. M. W. Turner, R.A. By the new act, power is given to the trustees to dispose of pictures left to the nation which are not selected for exhibition.

THE LOCAL DUES COMMITTEE has closed its proceedings. It will simply report the evidence of the House.

POISONING BY STRYCHNINE.—Messrs. J. E. D. Rodgers, lecturer on chemistry at St. George's School of Medicine, and G. P. Girdwood, Assistant Surgeon, Grenadier Guards, communicate to the *Times* the results of some experiments they have been making with reference to the detection of strychnine in the bodies of animals. They write:—"The scapula and large bones of the legs formed the subject of one experiment; the vertebrae, pelvis, and ribs formed the subject of a second experiment. In the first experiment, we did not obtain even the minute quantity of strychnine necessary to give a trustworthy result, but it is right to state that on the application of the colour test there was an appearance which led us to believe that, had we operated on a larger quantity of bones, the result would have been different. In the second experiment, the presence of strychnine was clearly demonstrated. In this instance, however, it should be understood that, while there was double the quantity of bones taken, those bones were of a more vascular character, and there were also contained in the vertebral canal the decomposed remains of the spinal cord. That strychnine can be detected under these circumstances is obviously of vast importance, as the bones would in all probability furnish the poison after the complete decomposition of all the other tissues. Without entering into details of the experiments, we would also state that we have found no difficulty in obtaining strychnine from the bodies and organs of animals to which antimony had been administered as well as strychnine, and that in those experiments the antimony was also detected; and the decomposition, so far from interfering with the separation of strychnine, rather facilitates it."

SALT-WATER PONDS.—We know that all kinds of sea-fish may be kept successfully in salt-water ponds, although we are not aware that their breeding and up-bringing have been yet attempted. As many curious facts in their character and constitution might be thereby ascertained, we regret that none of the many who possess both time and local appliances, should have availed themselves of their natural position to institute such an experimental course of observation as that now indicated. While we find soldier-crabs and cray-fish, snails,

aphroditae, and sea-anemones, all, if not "capering nimbly in a lady's chamber," at least placed in glass jars on drawing-room and other tables, for the sake of so-called scientific observation, we regret the more that a portion of the needful patience and expense is not here and there bestowed on objects of equal beauty and interest, and far greater value. Sea-ponds for the preservation of fresh fish for the supply of our tables have never been generally introduced among us, and, except as matters of amusement, are not now likely to increase in number. The great abundance of all kinds of fish along our infinitely varied coasts, their easy and incessant capture, and the largely increased means of rapid transport from place to place, have almost equalized their distribution, and made far inland market-places as redundant in their scaly spoils as those of the resounding shore. But still there are stations, even now, very far from both church and market, and a good store of fresh fish would surely make some amends at least for the latter half of the deprivation, while it in no way embittered the effect of the former.—*Blackwood.*

RICH LAWYERS.—The lawyers of Elizabeth's reign were rich and extortionate; thirteen or fourteen years' practice made them rich enough to turn wealthy landholders. 400l. was thought only fair profits for a serjeant-at-law's gains in a single term. The old habit of sitting on stools under the pillars of St. Paul's to receive clients had grown into desuetude, and lawyers could now seldom be induced to stir from their chambers without a fee. They were known to receive several angels, and yet never appear in court; and their grasping avarice and neglect of their poor clients were loudly denounced by poets, dramatists, and historians. In spite of the local Chancery courts of York and Ludlow, poor men toiled up to London to visit Westminster-hall, and willingly ruined themselves in hopes of dragging down their adversaries in their own destruction. Welshmen, proverbially litigious, walked up barefooted to the great city, with their stockings round about their necks, in hopes by begging from their richer countrymen to be able to carry back half a dozen writs in their satchels to vex and harrow their whole circle of neighbours. There were certain villains, called Promoters, who acted as negotiators between countrymen and the pettifoggers, who kindled quarrels and promoted law. Two of these men, named Dennis and Mainford, were known through all Essex. Another of these wretches, named John of Ludlow, in a few years brought many to beggary. One man he killed with a broken heart, and his son he reduced to pauperism.—*Shakspeare's England, by G. W. Thornbury.*

FIRE AT SOMERS TOWN.—On Thursday afternoon a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. J. Mansford, clothier and outfitter, 9, Skinner-street, Somers-town. Owing to the inflammable nature of the stock, the flames were not subdued until after two hours' active exertion. The whole of the stock in trade, furniture, &c., was destroyed, and the premises nearly gutted. Mr. Mansford was insured in the Sun Office. The cause of the fire is not known.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, July 5.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (INDIA).

THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE presented, and argued at length upon, a petition from the inhabitants of Bengal, complaining of the composition of the Legislative Council of India.

CHIMNEY SWEEPERS.

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY presented, and dilated upon, a petition complaining of the infringement of the Chimney Sweepers Act of 1843; boys being still employed in the occupation of climbing chimneys, to the great detriment of their health and limbs.

THE DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL was read a third time, and passed.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL.

THIS bill passed through Committee, Lord LYNDHURST having succeeded in carrying an amendment, by which Dissenters are made admissible into the governing body of the University. The numbers, on a division, were, for the amendment, 72; against it, 25: majority, 47.

The House adjourned at a quarter to seven.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW WRIT.

A new writ was ordered for the borough of Calne, the Earl of SHELBURNE having resigned his seat.

SALARIES OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

IN reply to Mr. GLADSTONE, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER promised to lay on the table an estimate of the charge on the Consolidated Fund, consequent on the change contemplated in the salaries of County Court Judges, by a bill now before the House.

BISHOPRIC OF NEW ZEALAND.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON brought forward the question of the salary of the Bishop of New Zealand, which had been withdrawn from the votes for two years, and urged that something should be done in the matter.—Mr. LABOUCHERE showed that the salary was withdrawn from the votes in consequence of a pledge given by Sir John Pakington himself, when he was Colonial Secretary.—Mr. GLADSTONE admitted that the Government was bound by that pledge, but urged that the House, as a body of gentlemen, ought to treat this as one of the moral claims which Parliament is accustomed to recognize.—Mr. DISRAELI denied that Sir John Pakington had given any distinct pledge on this subject.—Sir GEORGE GREY said that the Colony of New Zealand is self-supporting, and this country ought not to be called on to support ecclesiastical establishments there; especially after the pledge which had been given to discontinue the Bishop's salary on the estimates.—Mr. ROEBUCK suggested that Lord John Russell, who appointed the Bishop, should pay his salary.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

IN answer to Mr. LIDDELL, Lord PALMERSTON said that the last despatches from the Cape of Good Hope brought intelligence that an outbreak of Kaffirs on the frontier was anticipated, but no disturbance had actually taken place.

PARTNERSHIP AMENDMENT BILL.

ON the motion for going into committee on this bill, Mr. MUNTZ moved that it be read a second time that day six months.—A discussion arose, in which the bill was defended by a number of members, among whom were Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. SPOONER, Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. GLYNN, Mr. MALINS, &c.—Lord PALMERSTON defended the bill, urging that it was intended to abolish that unlimited liability of partners which had ruined so many innocent persons, among whom he instanced Sir Walter Scott.—After some further discussion, Mr. LOWE recited the provisions of the bill, showing that it is a fitting pendant to the Limited Liability Bill, its effect being to extend to private traders the advantages which commercial associations would enjoy under that measure.—Mr. CARDWELL urged that the bill would not work unless some registration was adopted.—After a further discussion, the House divided:

For going into committee	75
Against it.....	61
Majority.....	14

The House then went into committee on the bill, and the discussion occupied the greater part of the remainder of the sitting.

Several bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned to Monday.

LOSS OF THE AMERICAN BRIG COLUMBIA.

THE Madrid, with the Peninsular mails, brings intelligence of the total loss of the American brig Columbia, bound from New York for Malaga. The brig was off the Western Islands on the night of the 17th June, when she was run into by the barque Victoria, of Liverpool, and immediately sank. The whole of the crew were saved and conveyed to Lisbon in the Victoria. The night was dark, and there was no look-out on board the brig.

WARLIKE POSTURE OF CIRCASSIA AND ASIA MINOR.

A Russian corps of 40,000 men has been sent against Schamyl. The Turks have abandoned all the fortresses of the Asiatic coast and completely destroyed that of Shefketil. The whole population of Circassia is up in arms. The Turkish fleet has carried off the cannon of the forts of the Asiatic coast.

MANCHESTER EXHIBITION.—The approved design for the Exhibition building, which has recently been submitted to the Queen and Prince Albert, will remain on view, for a few days, at Messrs. Phillips Brothers, 23, Cockspur-street.

THE PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—It is not improbable that the prorogation of Parliament will take place on Thursday, the 24th instant. The Ministerial whitebait dinner, in all likelihood, will take place on Saturday, the 19th.—*Globe.*

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF THE GUARDS.—We have reason to anticipate that the general wish regarding the entry of the Guards will be complied with, and that those troops will march from the Waterloo Station to Buckingham Palace. The Fusiliers having arrived, the ceremony will probably take place on an early day next week.—*Idem.*

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, July 4th, 1856, including season ticket holders, 58,761.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.
We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1856.

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.

THE REFORM TO COME.

It is scarcely to be doubted that, if England be not diverted from national objects by foreign wars—like the Russian war, essentially unnational—the question of Reform will shortly become prominent. The leaven is working. In the North of England, and in Scotland, a stir is perceptible in the public mind which seems to indicate that, if an effective organization were prepared, it would carry with it the great body of the people. And this suggests the remark, by way of reminder, that a formidable liberal union was in course of construction when we were dragged into the quarrel with Russia. That quarrel disengaged the popular attention from home politics; political objects were abandoned; political opinions grew faint; parties were confused; we had a war upon our hands, and we wanted a War Government.

But it is not to be forgotten that the subject of a renovation of Parliament had been forced upon the Whig leaders. The country, recovered from the Chartist collapse and the Corn-law crisis, was prepared to resume the debate between Finality and Reform. So far had the manifestation gone, that Lord JOHN RUSSELL himself rescinded his notorious declaration, and admitted that the Act of 1832 represented no longer the political necessities of the nation. Here was the basis of a movement, and a movement was in progress, when French diplomacy involved the Ottoman Empire in its fatal dispute with Russia.

Conferences took place at the London Tavern, in April, 1850. It is not too much to say that they represented an intense solicitude on the part of the population of the great towns throughout the country. Great meetings had been held. The delegates were urged to be firm, energetic, united. The working classes seemed to feel that they were not deficient in positive strength; they were, and for several years had been strong; but their strength had been improperly directed. The anxiety displayed from 1850 to 1853 was, therefore, a new circumstance in the political history of the English people. They were not clamorous, fierce, quarrelsome, as during the Chartist agitation; but, unhappily, their solicitude took a false direction, and, instead of being only cautious, they became irresolute and faint-hearted. The body of the people was not roused; the agitation continued to be sectional, and ultimately proved a failure—mainly, no doubt, on account of the Russian war, but partially, also, because its leaders committed the mistake which was at first committed by the Anti-Corn-Law League. The League wanted a simple, complete, and definite object, and it was powerless; the League said "total repeal," and it was irresistible. Immense classes of the nation threw themselves into it heart and soul.

We do not infer from this undoubted truth that moderation is not a political virtue. Moderation is at once a virtue and a power; but not even moderate objects are attained by moderated zeal, by moderated faith, by moderated exertion. Let us have moderate purposes, resolutely carried out. If the case of Reform seems hopeless now, it seemed more hopeless in 1828, and yet more hopeless nine years later, before the working classes began that tremendous agitation, which resulted in a farce, through the ignorance and incapacity of its promoters. Nothing has happened to diminish the necessity or the chance of a New Reform Act, unless the interruption caused by the Russian war has congealed the blood of the English people. In 1850, we heard the Tories prophesying that, if Reform were not initiated by the country party, the Liberal party would remodel the House of Commons. Indeed, a strong current had set in. Vigorous though irregular and capricious influences were at work. The Associated Trades in the provinces were operating with signal effect upon the public mind in London. The sudden and astonishing success of the Freehold Land Movement, which, as the future may show, has not in a political sense, been altogether abortive, demonstrated the presence of political resolution and energy. We believe that not less than half a million of persons enrolled themselves in these Societies in the course of one year—many, no doubt, from purely speculative motives; but others because they had hope, and confidence, and courage.

The mistake of the popular party since 1832 has been its support of the Whigs. We have never urged the recognition of the Tories in preference to their hereditary opponents; but the Liberals ought to have formed a separate, solid, and independent party, instead of trusting to the Whigs, expecting assistance from them, and looking to them for the practical application of their principles. This has been, for years, the hopeless, unintelligible, infatuated policy of a number of Liberals, in and out of Parliament. Ever since the passing of the Reform Act they have had more to complain of Lord JOHN RUSSELL and his adherents, than of any other party in the House of Commons. Who have excluded them from power, stolen a part of their ideas without acknowledgment, and repudiated them without courtesy? The Whigs. Who have used them as their proxies on the popular platforms, employed them to defend Downing-street against the Tories, benefited by their votes, and discarded their principles? The Whigs. A parliamentary Liberal is often a Whig in his minority, a political fag, who may gain something for himself, but gains nothing for his party.

We have now one suggestion to offer. We believe the majority of the intelligent English people are liberal in opinion, and would favour a measure of political reform. It is said that parties are in abeyance. Neither the Whigs nor the Tories have a policy, only the Tories pretend that they can manage things as they are better than the Whigs. The class that has a policy must conquer. Let the reformers show that they have opinions and resolves, and the way is clear for a new political reformation.

WHY IS BREAD SO DEAR?

Why is bread so dear? Because those who have stocks of corn on hand think that they shall be able to make exorbitant profits out of those stocks, and hold them back from the people. That is the reason why bread is so dear.

The practice is customary at this season of the year; but this time it is aggravated by accidental causes.

Last week we ascribed a similar reason—the jobbing amongst graziers and even drovers—for the high price of meat, and we see that exception has been taken to our remarks. The *Mark-lane Express* points to the high price of the fodder for cattle and sheep as the true cause of the dearness of meat; but that is applying to the question one of the figures of poetry, synecdoche,—taking a part for the whole. It has also been stated that the exportation of meat for the troops, and the check upon importations from France and Belgium, have contributed to the dearness; we see it observed that the wealthy classes, who are making immense gains out of the gigantic expansion which our commerce has attained, also cause a large consumption for their own tables, and for their numerous retainers who share their prosperity. There is truth in all these statements; all these causes help to make meat dearer than it would be if the people, like the Americans, lived on their own land and enjoyed a larger proportion of direct supply with a less share of the indirect commerce that engenders jobbing. They are all causes why meat is dear, but not the causes why meat is so dear. It is the jobbing in the meat-market which screws the last halfpenny or penny out of the pocket of the poor consumer; while for the very poorest, it puts a prohibitory fine upon meat, and tells the hungry man that food of that kind is for his betters. Ten tons of meat were thrown away the other day, to keep up prices.

In like manner the organ of the corn trade is disclaiming for its clients their true share of the dearness of bread. Economists tell us, too, that merchants, who buy up stocks and make a profit by holding them in prospect of better prices, really equalize the supplies and prevent the alternations of abundance and dearth which in former times have taught the greatest nations to be as fearless of waste as insects in the sunshine, and as helpless in the winter of starvation. This also is true, and it is no contradiction of the fact that speculators carry their speculations too far, holding back corn when the people want it, in the hopes of getting an exorbitant profit. It is no satisfaction to us to tell us that speculators will overreach themselves and be punished by their own ruin. They do something worse than delay our supplies or raise the price for a few weeks. We are told by the same organ that one cause of the dearness of bread is the dearth in France. There is no dearth in France. People have talked about the inundations which have destroyed the crops in the South. The inundations have not destroyed the crops, for the corn proves to be as healthy as if no waters had submerged it. But even if the floods had entirely swept away the corn around Tours and in the neighbouring districts, that defalcation from the general stock of the world would have been unworthy of notice. The speculators have no doubt been at work in France, asking larger prices in the name of inundation and dearth; but the fact is, that the crops throughout France are in a splendid state. The harvest has commenced, and the holders of stocks, foreseeing what is about to come upon them, already begin to give way in their demands. Yet our speculators are still talking about "dearth in France!" This is one tangible and positive proof of the species of delusion which they attempt to pass upon the public.

Here is every prospect of immense abundance. For two years and more America has been growing corn for a market out of which Russia has been excluded by the war. Now it happens that adverse seasons had materially checked the produce in America, and the consequence has been, that prices have been kept

up. To the American grower, therefore, there has been a premium upon continually increasing production, and there is every sign that he has been influenced by that premium. One proof is the immediate effect of representations from Europe, and from the corn-growing districts of America, on the market of New York, where already, before corn has come, wheat and flour are moving off for sale. There is, therefore, an enormous supply to be expected from America, who did not expect to meet Russia in the market of Europe this year.

But while the Russian peasants have been fighting in the Crimea, their brethren and their wives have been tending the crops in Russia, and the season has been splendid. Something like the old crop is to be available for the markets of Europe this year. It is of course impossible exactly to measure the supply, so likely to be modified by the absence of the husbandman, and on the other hand so largely benefited by the fine season. But there is every reason to believe that it will be just what we have said,—“something like the old supply from Russia.” A Russian supply of the old scale will arrive in the market of Western Europe simultaneously with an American supply on the new scale; while the crops of France and England are both likely to be large. Such things imply an abundance unknown to this country since 1834.

Yet there are reasons for the present dearth. The consumption of corn has been much increased, like that of meat, by the comfortable condition of the wealthy classes; whose retainers and cattle have had to be kept in good condition at any price. Again, although the season has been fine, and the crops are in an excellent condition, the season is late—several weeks behind the usual time. There is therefore good reason for economizing the stores that we have on hand, and the holders of stocks have a right to an increased rent and an increased profit.

But they are going too far; they are asking too much. We prove it from the circumstances and from the false pretexts which they allege in their justification. They confess that they cannot justify the price, except by alleging dearth in France, the inundations, and so forth—pleas the falsehood of which proves the falsehood of their position. They will burn their fingers; and will be punished by the injury inflicted upon the public in the meanwhile. But what is practical effect of their conduct? Why, that they will keep their corn until the new supplies begin to come; in other words, they keep the bread which we want for this present season of dearth, to increase the supplies when we have abundance. They stint us while we are starving, to cram us when we are full. They will be punished, no doubt, for that offence against humanity as well as against their own interests; but is it true that the ruin of a few corn-dealers is commensurate with the pinching of multitudes?

TO THE KING OF OUDE.

A CARD.

WAJIB ALI SHAH, quondam King of Oude, is coming to England, with 200,000*l.* in hand, and 120,000*l.* a year to spend amongst us. He has but one professed object in coming—to recover his throne, of which he has been deprived by that base creature, the East India Company; and if he should fail in obtaining from the august Queen of the British Empire a reversal of the dethroning decree—if, as soon as he has kissed her hand, she does not say to him, “Rise, King of Oude, and return to your dominions”—he contemplates, or others contemplate for him, a grand out-

lay of cash, in order that what cannot be got in the one Oriental mode of begging, may be got by the other Oriental mode of buying; for the third mode, bowstringing, is not applicable to the case. These facts have been announced to the public, and they have created a great sensation, especially among those who see their way to a fulfilment of the King's desires.

Our own “strictly private” correspondence is unusually large this week in consequence. We hesitate, of course, to lay any of these letters before the public; still more to publish the conversations which we have been compelled to hold with excited visitors; both delicacy and space forbid our giving any idea of the projects which have been born of the announcement. The landlords of hotels who have laid out their capital with a special view to royal customers, are far more than could be supposed. One distinguished gentleman of this class testifies the magnificence of his apartments by the “little bill” which he sent in some time since to a distinguished visitor who stopped a few hours; and the grand total certainly shows that the intelligent and enterprising landlord does understand these things—it is 3000*l.* But in our day these masters of expenditure find many competitors, and we have only too many evidences that the SHAH will find no difficulty in melting his gold, wherever he may seek his ease at his inn.

But although he will have to spend several tens of thousands in board and lodging, something will, of course, remain for the purpose of his visit, and the most interesting part of our correspondence touches this portion of the subject. One gentleman sends us a very neat card, with only his name and residence; and follows his card in a manner which implies that we ought to know him; so much that we were ashamed to confess that we did not. Our confusion became the greater when he informed us that it was he who carried the Reform Bill; he carried Sir ROBERT PEEL's Free Trade; in fact, he carried most of the admirable measures of the last quarter of a century. He would have carried the Free-trade measures for Lord JOHN, or the Appropriation Clause, or the Parliamentary Representation Bill; but such is the insane ingratitude of man, that Lord JOHN had not thought fit to call in the very father of the Reform Bill. This experienced gentleman sympathized with the feelings of the King of OUDE on being ousted “through the shameless corruption of the East India Company and the servility of the Government, who had permitted themselves to be bullied by that back-stairs brute OUTRAM.” Of all these corrupt proceedings Mr. — has “proofs”—“for he is not a man to speak without documentary evidence.” Luckily, he has created several of the members of the present House of Commons, and he has several more whom he is going to introduce to Parliamentary life at the next election. Several peers are under the deepest obligations to him; and he has on hand a few East India proprietors. Should there be any necessity, he can command any supply of petitions from all parts of the country. The feelings of this gentleman are very estimable; he positively offers to undertake the whole affair, “for nothing!”—solely out of public spirit and the love of justice. But others will require to be paid. The members, especially, are the most expensive; “because, of course, it is necessary to respect their independence, and they can never be paid their bills in a vulgar way.” “But what should we have done with some of our railways, Sir, if we had not known how to get over that difficulty? Now I look upon the King of OUDE, Sir, as a fighting line.”

Another gentleman asks us to recommend him to the King as a lawyer; but the King, we told him, is already provided, and there is no doubt that a man with money to spend finds his lawyer faster than any one can recommend the thing to him.

Several ladies and gentlemen have sent in their cards, understanding that the King of OUDE is to be accompanied by a numerous wife. These ladies offer to supply their Majesty, in the best style, yet in most cases on the lowest terms, with shawls, bonnets, dresses in the first style of Paris—“*Ici on parle Français*”—boots à la Parisienne, riding-habits, soap, gloves, calisthenics, perfumery, Bibles at only one guinea, baths in the Eastern style, carriages of every description at per month, week, or day; dinners in every style on the shortest notice, suppers, &c.; furniture, marqueterie, mirrors in gilt frames; wines, dentistry, excursion vans for Richmond, Hampton Court, Epping Forest, or any other of those delightful, &c.; engravings of every description; circulating library, latest works, stationery, patent rammoneur, all kinds of baby linen, bottled ale and stout, “funerals performed.”

In short, there is everything that the human heart can desire; and as the SHAH is to import fourteen human hearts besides his own, to say nothing of secretary, assistant-secretary, servants, &c., it is evident that several of our respectable applicants will be of the greatest use to the King.

When they learned the object of his coming, they all said that in dealing with them, he would promote that object; not directly, they confessed. But in their fashionable shops he would have opportunities of meeting with influential customers; at the concerts he would be introduced to the *beau monde*; at the Star and Garter he would be in the favourite residence of the Legislature; at Cremorne he would find the Legislature, and royalty itself, in those hours of délassement, when more real business is done than in months of debate.

A gentleman in our own office, however, appears to us to take the most practical view of the subject. He says, that if the King will hand him over his income, he will undertake, even at that limited amount, to show him all that is really worth seeing in London, including the Crystal Palace, Madame Tussaud, EVANS's, the Royal Exchange, and the Department of Practical Art with the estate at Kensington Gore; and to obtain all that the King can obtain during his residence in England, including motions in the House of Commons, public dinners, and private parties. He makes a distinct tender of that contract; and if at the end of the term his Majesty should be dissatisfied, our subordinate will be willing to return the King the remains of his fortune—if any—with scrupulous exactitude, and will even pay the passage home for the King and all his baggage on terms similar to those authorized by her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners. We recommend this proposal to the King, confident that he will find it in the end by far the most economical.

HOW TO KILL YOUNG GIRLS.

MR. JOHN LILWALL, Secretary of the Early Closing Association, has published a fragment of personal history, which we commend to the attention of those who can bear to be told that the English social system is not altogether lovely and pure. It is the history of a young dressmaker.

She was born in London. Her mother was English, her father French—a goldsmith and jeweller. She was apprenticed to a Madame who did not care to grow rich by the profitable practice of cruelty, and never required

her apprentices to work after nine o'clock at night. They began, indeed, at seven—sometimes at six—in the morning, and were barely allowed time for the meals which milliners must have not less than the well-fed Graces of Rotten-row. Even this, to the young girl, seemed a hard life, and she exchanged it for that of a governess, in a school at Edmonton, and remained there seven weeks, teaching and disciplining the pupils, until the "establishment," unhappily, was broken up. Nothing now remained but to seek another Madame, as an employer, and, accordingly, in April of the present year, she engaged herself for 10*l.* to work for the season—that is, until the end of August.

The first week I was there we began to work at eight in the morning, and worked till between eleven and twelve o'clock at night. There was no fixed time for meals; we had to take them as fast as we could, and return to the workroom directly we had finished.

The second week there was a Drawing-room. We worked on Tuesday till twelve o'clock, and on Wednesday we continued at it till between three and four o'clock on the following morning. We then went to bed, but had to begin work again at eight o'clock, and continued at it till twelve. The following day (Friday) we worked from eight till between eleven and twelve o'clock at night. We always breakfasted before we began work—that is, before eight o'clock.

The third week we worked sometimes till one o'clock in the morning; sometimes only till twelve o'clock at night.

This continued until the Friday of the fourth week. Then, having commenced work after breakfast, at eight, the "young ladies" worked on, far into the night, far into the following morning. During the day their meals had been hurried. At midnight, a cup of coffee was brought to each, with "something improper" not mandragora, but a wakeful drug, stirred into it to prevent the poor girls from helplessly closing their eyes. Consequently, when at five o'clock they were allowed to go to their bedrooms, it was impossible to sleep. "This was invariably the case after having coffee at midnight; whereas the coffee which was given on those nights when we could retire to bed at eleven or twelve o'clock never produced the same effect." It would make a fine picture—the Madame who decorates ladies, drugging with deleterious stimulants the coffee of the young girls who enable her to live in mimicry of fashion, near the squares.

On that particular morning none of the girls could sleep. Some walked about their rooms; others wrote letters—perhaps dreamed wakefully of an ideal world; some looked over the contents of their boxes; others irritated themselves by attempting to rest. Five of them slept in one room—very close, and not very clean. The narrator could touch the ceiling with her hand.

We were so crowded, moreover, that we could not all move about and dress at one time; and what made it still worse, it adjoined another room in which two others slept. These young persons were so cramped for space that they literally could scarcely move. They were obliged to have the door kept open that led into our room, or they must have been stifled, as there was no other way of their getting air; we were thus as it were seven persons sleeping in one apartment. In their little room there was no fireplace; in ours there was, but there was a chest of drawers against it, for which there was no space in any other part of the room.

What followed? They began work next morning at eight, and continued until twelve at night.

During the afternoon and evening, I had to leave the workroom several times to try and get relief by drinking, and by washing my face and forehead with cold water. We also had a smelling-bottle on the table, or we never could have kept awake. After retiring to my bedroom, I was in such a feverish state as to be obliged to apply wet linen to my head. On the Sunday morning, when I awoke, my tongue was so swollen that I could not speak. My eyes, also, were so bad that I could not see; and I was obliged to be helped out of bed. I afterwards managed, with great difficulty, to get to my uncle's, the distance not being far, or I could not have walked. He desired me to leave my situation at once, and would not allow me to go back to stay. I returned, however, in the

afternoon, and told Madame — of my determination to leave her. She said it was disgraceful on my part to do so, as I had engaged for the season.

The health of this young girl has been irreparably injured by the slavery of the dressmaking business; and her case is only one among numbers which have been well authenticated. A young girl from Calais, she tells us, entered the same establishment with a robust constitution, remained six months, toiling all day, and kept awake at night by that impure coffee, became seriously ill, entered the hospital, and died in three weeks. The names of several others who have worn out their lives in the workrooms of the fashionable dressmaker may be seen in the graveyard at Calais. Mr. LILWALL's comment which follows, deserves attention on account of his minute knowledge of the classes which prosper and the classes which perish, under the influence of this social slavery:—

It is but right to add, that my experience has taught me that a very large proportion of this class comprises persons of nearly equal refinement and respectability, very many of them being the daughters of clergymen, non-commissioned officers, decayed merchants, and such like, and who therefore feel so much the more keenly the brutal treatment to which they are subjected.

Lest the circumstance that the case here cited occurred in an establishment conducted by French persons should convey a wrong impression, justice requires I should state my belief that, upon the whole, greater kindness, or, more correctly speaking, *less inhumanity*, is practised in the French houses in London than in those kept by English women.

We know that the case is not overstated; and we have only to say further, that while City and Government clerks, and tradesmen's assistants, are beginning to enjoy the advantages, inestimable as we think them, of early hours and half-holidays, some attempt should be made for the relief of dressmakers and milliners. We even think, though this may be incendiarism, that it is not worth while to kill four or five young girls every season, that a Drawing-room may be as bright as a bed of flowers. Our ladies are like the lilies, "they toil not, neither do they spin;" but somebody spins and toils for them. While they are going home in the cold light of the morning from the French Embassy, Madame is drugging her assistants to keep an unnatural activity; for must not the youthful Countess be dressed like a Peri, "in gleam of satin and glimmer of pearl," for to-morrow's festivity? Meanwhile, the workgirl wastes away and dies.

COMMISSIONER GOULBURN AND HIS MARTYR.

Mr. COMMISSIONER GOULBURN has promoted a person, who had probably no claim to the position, to be a martyr. The declaration made on the subject of religious belief and consequent disabilities in this country by the Commissioner, is conspicuous equally for its outrageously tyrannical and bigoted character, and for its ludicrous impolicy as applied to the administration of the Commissioner's Court. The case immediately before the Judge was that of a Mr. BENNETT, a tailor at Camberwell, who had been made a bankrupt by Mr. WALLER, a local creditor. This Mr. WALLER found the bankrupt's shop occupied by a person of the name of CREED, who affected to be in possession; but as Mr. WALLER had seen both BENNETT and CREED sitting at work on the same board, he suspected connivance, and endeavoured to drag the whole subject of this connivance into court. Accordingly CREED was brought there; but a difficulty presented itself. Although CREED by name, he possesses no creed by nature or conviction. He declined to take the usual oath, or sign the usual examination-paper, "for he is not a Christian;" and, what is worse for oath-taking purposes, he had "no religious opinions whatever"—he was "an Atheist." How can

you make a man responsible for his duties in trade if he is actually destitute of religious opinions? This was the difficulty into which the Court was thrown, and we admit it.

There would indeed be no difficulty whatever, if the Legislature had not made the responsibility of a tradesman rest upon his sense of religious responsibility! It has been assumed by the House of Commons and the House of Lords, that a man cannot feel bound to tell the truth unless he believes certain facts. The two Houses make this assumption in the teeth of experience; for nobody believes that GIBBON would have told lies or given false evidence in Court,—he would have seen far too distinctly the social forfeiture and the penal consequences at law. The Legislature, however, has done all it can to disqualify Judges for dealing with reluctant witnesses, so long as those witnesses are exempt from the sense of religious liabilities; and here was a man shuffling off his responsibilities towards the laws respecting the tenure of a household property, on the pretext that he was "an Atheist."

It was of course the business of the Commissioner to show that however Mr. CREED might settle accounts with his Maker, he would be called upon to make a distinct reckoning with the landlord, or the creditors, or the Court of Bankruptcy, as the case might be. Mr. Commissioner GOULBURN, however, prefers to mix up the two questions—"This impious bravado will not avail you. By impious bravado I mean an attempt to make that prominent which every other man would wish to conceal. Unless you sign the customary examination-paper, or if you refuse to make a declaration, I shall commit you to prison." Now, it is evident that CREED did not want to sign, for obvious reasons. It is possible that he may have a conscientious objection, on the grounds that his signing would constitute a falsehood; but the Commissioner was dull enough to tell the man that unless he virtually told a falsehood under his sign manual, he should be subjected to punishment. CREED would have committed a punishable offence in refusing to give evidence; but he had not the opportunity of giving truthful evidence, until he had consented to tell a lie in writing. What is more, the Commissioner treated the refusal to tell a lie as the greater offence which included the lesser of refusing to tell the truth. "There will," said the Commissioner, "be an adjournment to Monday. In the mean time an order of commitment must be drawn up with great care, the commitment being under a highly penal statute. I have no idea of favour being shown to a man who ostentatiously proclaims himself an Atheist." Our idea of an English Judge is that he should show no "favour" to any man, Atheist, Deist, Papist, or Calvinist.

If Mr. CREED is an Atheist, why should he say that he is anything else? Commissioner GOULBURN tells him that he "ostentatiously proclaims what every other man would wish to conceal." But why should he wish to conceal it? The Judge of the Bankruptcy Court treats the statement of a plain matter of fact, which is extremely pertinent to the business in hand, as if it were an indecency for a man to expose his opinions! This is worse than ludicrous; for it implies that a man's religious belief not only constitutes a disability unrecognized by the law, but subjects him to something which is the reverse of favour when he is before an English Judge. His Honour, who refuses "favour" to an Atheist, implies that he would not have refused favour to a man who is the reverse of an Atheist. Perhaps Mr. GOULBURN's scale of favour corresponds with the degree of dogmatic Atheism in the witness before him.

Nor does he stand alone. We have no doubt that a degree of leniency will be shown to a JOHN DEAN PAUL, the fraudulent banker of Evangelical persuasion, which would be refused to a perfectly straightforward man avowing his insensibility to Evangelism.

This kind of administration frustrates justice both ways. CREED is subjected to an oppression which he does not deserve; but the public also is deprived of a protection to which it has a right. Mr. Commissioner GOULBURN has proclaimed, by his behaviour in this case, that if a witness who desires to evade giving evidence chooses to call himself "an Atheist," he can compel the Court to lose sight of his contumacy in his enormity as denier of the faith. Public opinion would naturally be enlisted on the side of enforcing the law for the purposes of justice to creditors, and of preventing anything like conspiracy; but here it is enlisted upon the side of the accused man, because he becomes a martyr under sectarian oppression. The Court totally confounds justice and injustice, and places itself below the very witness whose "impudence" it intends to check.

WHAT OUR YOUNG MEN ARE DOING.

We believe that, with a few exceptions—and these chiefly among the working classes—our young men are entirely disengaged from political agitation. The young men of the aristocracy consider the House of Commons, of course, the best club in London. The young men of the middle classes imitate the young men of the aristocracy as far as they can. You see them at the opera, or on the race-course, or at concerts or entertainments, or at wine parties, or in billiard-rooms, or in cricket-grounds, or at regattas; but, as a general rule, leaving out of view the body of young men on the London and provincial press, they are wanting in political knowledge and, as a natural result, in political enthusiasm. If we examine the leagues, committees, and associations that have been founded for public objects within the last few years, we find engaged our men of mature age. Almost all our Parliamentary Liberals are past their prime. There are, no doubt, men ripening to follow them; but they do not appear.

We say that our young men are occupied, principally, in amusing themselves, and in "getting on"—both very necessary and laudable occupations. But there have been days when men found it possible to be lively and prosperous, and, at the same time, to feel some public spirit stirring in their breasts. The history of the Reform Bill shows that a prodigious activity was manifested, at the crisis of that question, by bodies of young men, who associated, and brought all their strength and ardour into the contest. Now, come upon a thousand of these undeveloped citizens anywhere, and under any circumstances, and those who would be interested by a political discussion form a very small minority.

Mr. COBDEN, Mr. BRIGHT, Sir JOSHUA WALMESLEY, Mr. DUNCOMBE, Mr. MILLNER GIBSON—all our known and trusted Liberals in Parliament, have seen a generation grow since they entered public life; but who, in Parliament, could replace them?

And who out of Parliament? The class of agitators who ranted and roared during the Chartist agitation is practically—and happily—defunct; but even if they continued in existence, they must be passed over. We are speaking of serious politicians. Well, there are some steady and conscientious workers in behalf of Liberalism, but not many of them are young.

There is little doubt that a real movement

would bring out the political qualities of the English character; but, at present, the English character appears essentially non-political. We are almost fitted for paternal government. At home, our Ministers avoid opposition by attempting nothing. Abroad, their acts are thoroughly paternal, for they do all they please, and when it is done they tell us of it, with this remark,—that it cannot be undone.

INDIAN OFFICERS WITH THE TURKISH CONTINGENT.

It is understood that an animated discussion took place at the India House on Wednesday last, on a matter of some moment to the officers of the Native army who volunteered for the Turkish Contingent. It must be quite unnecessary to remind our readers that at the time when the British army was well-nigh annihilated, the Home Government looked about in all directions for means of repairing the consequences of their previous short-sightedness and neglect. We need not allude to what passed in North America—our business is with the East. Not unnaturally they cast a longing eye on the noble army in the service of the East India Company, but neither could those veteran troops be spared, nor were there means to transport them to the scene of war. There happened, however, to be many officers at home, who might render good service in disciplining the Turks, especially through their past experience of Mahomedan prejudices and modes of thought. The temptation was not to be resisted. The Court of Directors was, therefore, prevailed upon to promise brevet rank, on their return to India, to such of their officers as might be disposed to enter this Turkish Contingent. The bait was greedily swallowed, and a more than sufficient number of volunteers speedily presented themselves. It is a fallacy to suppose that these were more genuine soldiers than those who remained steadfast to their proper colours. The reverse was the case. Not a few of these volunteers had urgent private motives for not wishing to return to India, while others were eager to exchange the routine of regimental duty for the comparative licence of an irregular corps. Some, of course, were actuated by a truly martial spirit, but as a body these gentlemen were certainly not the *élite* of the officers of the Indian army. In that army promotion goes entirely by seniority, and brevet rank is never conferred, save for distinguished services in the field, in presence of the enemy. Now, the sudden termination of the late war inflicts an act of positive injustice on those officers of the Native army who were fulfilling their legitimate duties in their proper sphere of action. The junior captain of a regiment who has passed the last summer at Constantinople or Kertch, goes back to his corps as brevet-major, and under certain circumstances may be entitled to supersede all his senior captains, who, less fortunate than himself, have been exposed the while to the inconveniences of an Indian climate. To say the least of it, the latter are hardly dealt with, and such was the feeling of an influential portion of the Honourable Court. The majority, however, were of opinion that faith must be kept with those who may have been induced by their promises to take service in the Turkish Contingent. It was clearly a choice between two evils—between two acts of injustice. Either they must act unfairly towards the great body of their best and most faithful servants, or they must forfeit their pledge to General Vivian's gallant followers. In the olden times they might possibly have effected a pecuniary compromise, but in the present crippled state of their power, they cannot perform even an act of charity without being brought to task before one or other of the Houses of Legislature. They have decided, therefore, on committing the less unpopular act of injustice, to the detriment of the officers of their army and the subversion of the principle on which brevet rank has been hitherto bestowed.

MR. ALBANO'S CHARGES FOR CIVIL SERVICES.—The Select Committee, appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into certain charges made by Mr. Albano, the architect, for services at Paris and Madrid, and other items included in Class 7 of the Civil Service Estimates, have reported that they consider the charges are such as Mr. Albano was fairly and professionally entitled to make.

Open Council.

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

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

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

32, Nelson-street, Glasgow, June 30.

SIR,—In the "Open Council" department of the *Leader* of Saturday last, there is a letter from Mr. Thomas Winters, purporting to answer my remarks, which you so kindly gave a place to. Allow me, Sir, to say that Mr. Winters does not answer my letter at all; he completely hedges in the question. In my letter I denied the accusation of having adopted the title of National Trades, or any other resembling it, and stated distinctly that the title we adopted was the United Trades' Committee in aid of the Miners. Yet, with an unaccountable obtuseness, Mr. Winters confounds us with the proposed National Association of Miners. I again repeat that the United Trades' Committee in aid of the Miners was composed of delegates from twenty-six United Trades in Glasgow, and had no connexion with the miners otherwise than aiding them in their strike. During the strike I received a very kind and manly letter from a gentleman in London (who did not wish me to publish his name), enclosing two of the circulars of the National Association of United Trades, one of which I placed in the hands of the Editor of the *Commonwealth* here, the other I read to the committee; and on the painful conclusion of the miners' strike—and then only—we came to the conviction that in federal union alone was the hope of the working classes, and I was entrusted by the committee to draw up an address to the various organized bodies in Scotland, and to appoint a night for a meeting of trades' delegates on that question. Mr. Winters may have thought that we were wishing to rival the body to which he belongs, but if so he was very wrong; we only wished to imitate it. Our attempt may or may not be successful; if it is, Mr. Winters may have the satisfaction of knowing that our English friends have the credit of directing our attention to federation. Mr. Winters thinks, apparently, that I am a miner. I am not: I am a journeyman slater, and can assure him that I had no wish to assume the character of a correspondent of the press, which his hasty and ill-advised accusations have forced me to. The statement I made, that the delegates from this city were sent by a few of the United Trades here, and their expenses paid by those trades, is not, nor can it be, contradicted; and I have no doubt that Mr. Winters himself knows the perfect truth of it. I trust, for the sake of unanimity amongst the working classes of this country and of England, that Mr. Winters will permit me to close this controversy, which his hasty accusations have provoked; and I beg to assure him of my personal esteem, but would recommend him to adopt a little of our northern caution in future. I have a maxim that union is strength, and the greater the union the greater the strength. Does Mr. Winters not see how this maxim might be applied to the Proposed Scotch Federal Union and the existing National Association of United Trades? I may mention that I have received several letters from England, highly approving our efforts, and encouraging us to proceed, especially one from a long-tried friend of the working man, Mr. Alexander Campbell, of Oxford; and it affords us a very considerable gratification to find that we have enlisted the sympathies of so many of our friends in England, and I have no doubt that Mr. Winters himself, on reflection, will be both a sterling and zealous friend to us.

Allow me, Sir, to express my grateful thanks to you for the liberality you have displayed in giving space to a very humble, and to you unknown, correspondent, and believe me to be your obedient and obliged servant,

WM. B. CAMPBELL,
Secretary to the late United Trades' Committee in aid of the Miners.

THE CROPS.—Favourable reports have been received from all parts of the country as to the state of the crops. Wheat, oats, hay, beans, &c., all present a very healthy appearance, with only a few local exceptions, and a liberal yield is anticipated. The bright, warm sunshine of the last week or two has removed the bad symptoms consequent on the previous wet and cold. It is now thought that the harvest will not be delayed beyond the first week in August.

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.*

It is the fate of celebrated men to be expensive in printer's ink, and whenever much ink is used it will be the vehicle of not a small amount of nonsense. *Monstrari digito* may, or may not, be agreeable; all depends upon the digit. In the same way, to be written about, to have one's name, deeds, biography, and mistakes worked up into memoirs and criticisms, is doubtless a very questionable draft on that impalpable banker, Fame. Here, also, all depends on the digit. We do not imagine, for instance, that THOMAS BABINGTON MACAULAY will read with any satisfaction the "Biographical Notice" which is affixed to the Photographic Portrait of the Historian published by Messrs. MAULL and POLYBLANK. The portrait itself will be very acceptable, and the vast ignorance of the public will perhaps accept with gratitude the meagre details of the Memoir, learning with interest that MACAULAY is the son of ZACHARY MACAULAY, the anti-slavery advocate, and of SELINA MILLS, the Bristol bookseller's daughter—so that his love of liberty and love of books may be affiliated on his parents, assuming that the fair SELINA read what her father sold; a gratuitous assumption we admit, for, in general, pastrycooks do not eat largely of tarts. If this detail and the half-dozen dates interest the reader, he may forgive the style of the Memoir, although the price of this publication ought to command something more creditable.

Fraser opens this month with a paper of unusual interest, firstly to us southrons because it tells us of Scotch clergymen, and secondly to Scotchmen, because it tells them of their General Assembly, which they either love and reverence as dutiful sons of the Kirk, or abominate as schismatics. If any one of our readers wishes to get in an easy way a general idea and picture of "Edinburgh during the General Assembly," let him open *Fraser*:—

As the days lengthen towards the close of May, and the foliage grows thicker in the Princes-street and Queen-street gardens, an unusual influx of black coats and white neckcloths announces the season of the annual meeting of the Scottish Convocation, the supreme legislative and judicial court of the Kirk, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The ecclesiastics of Scotland have chosen for their meeting literally the "season atween June and May," twelve days divided between the latest of May and the earliest of June. It is a time of those delightful long twilights which Scotland gains over the southern counties of England, by some six or seven degrees of latitude farther towards the north. By the 25th or 26th of May the streets swarm with clergymen of every possible diversity of appearance, and from every corner of Scotland: old college friends, who had parted as striplings, meet again as responsible fathers of families; at the railway stations we are constantly being run against by men with white stocks and large portmanteaus; the lodging-houses are crammed with them; not only does the General Assembly of the Kirk meet at this time, but also that of the "Free Church," which has closely copied the organization of the national establishment: there are more clergymen, for the time, in Edinburgh, than there are priests in Rome.

A very minute and graphic description of the ceremonies follows, interspersed with criticisms and anecdotes. Of the former, we select that on Dr. ROBERTSON:—

The recollection of what Dr. Robertson has done for the Church in the way of founding new parishes, will always, we trust, cause him to be listened to with respect; and his speeches are really characterized by massive sense, great acuteness, and much piety and earnestness. But he seems to feel it incumbent upon him to speak at tremendous length on every question that comes before the Assembly; and he is beyond comparison the most insufferably diffuse and tedious speaker we ever listened to. He has a fatal fluency which enables him to speak on any subject for any given time. He generally sits at the table, and speaks standing, beside it. The stranger entering the Assembly Hall at any hour of any day, is quite sure in a little while to perceive a short, very stout old gentleman, with white hair, rise from his seat near the Moderator, and begin to speak in a fearfully harsh voice, with an awful Aberdeenshire accent. With a snuff-box in his hand, and turning on his axis like a roast before the fire, he gradually talks himself into a hurricane of loudness, the very driest metaphysical matter being apparently sufficient to excite him to the highest degree. Why on earth does he say K-k-k-royst when he would utter the Saviour's name? Why does he talk of athurratah when he means authority? and wherefore should he speak of ivvoorhlaaslan loife,—of poands, shullens, and panse,—of the Endoamunt skaim and its great object,—of the saying of the taxus and the advantage to the wurreeld that would follow if that skaim were maintained akkurding to the views of the reverend doctor on the other soyd of the house?

Of the latter, one on the unsuspected advantages of railway tunnels:—

We cannot help repeating a narrative, which we heard on one such occasion, told with infinite gravity by a clergyman whose name we at once inquired about, and of whom we shall only say that he is one of the best and worthiest of the sons of the Kirk, and knows when to be serious as well as when to jest. "Don't tell me," said he to a simple-looking Highland brother, who had apparently made his first trial of railway travelling in coming up to the Assembly, "don't tell me that tunnels on railways are an unmitigated evil; they serve high moral and æsthetical purposes. Only the other day I got into a railway carriage, and I had hardly taken my seat when the train started. On looking up, I saw sitting opposite me two of the most rapid Dissenters in Scotland. I felt at once that there could be no pleasure for me in that journey, and with gloomy heart and countenance I leaned back in my corner. But all at once we plunged into a long tunnel, black as night, and when we emerged at the other end, my brow was clear and my ill-humour was entirely dissipated. Shall I tell you how this came to be? All the way through the tunnel I was shaking my hat in the Dissenters' face, and making horrible mouths at them, and that relieved me and set me all right. Don't speak against tunnels again, my dear friend!"

Mr. CHARLES BONER, in the same Magazine, takes Sir EDWIN LANDSEER pleasantly to task for misrepresenting the red deer, by giving them two inches more of tail than they really possess; and this mistake appears to be always made by the artist, in spite of his general accuracy. The point was

quite worth insisting on, and Mr. BONER has done it in a friendly way. He also notices LANDSEER's treatment of antlers:—

We remember but one instance where an imperfect acquaintance with the formation of the feature in question is disclosed. It is in the otherwise charming plate which forms the frontispiece to Mr. SCOPE's *Deer-Stalking*. The antlers of the stag to the right are incorrect. Whatever number of points a stag may have besides those termed "brow," "bray," and "tray," they always belong to, and contribute to form, the group at top composing the crown. Below this group, between it and the bray antler, no point ever shoots out of the beam. In the instance in question there are two such supernumerary points: which, consequently, is wrong. It would not have been wrong, however, if the two, and half a dozen besides, had been added to the crown.

The following is worth extracting:—

The antlers, as Landseer gives them, always greatly heighten, sometimes indeed wholly make, the effect. He goes occasionally to the very utmost limits that he safely can. A step further, and the consequence would be bombast and caricature. There being such a diversity in the growth of antlers, their sweep and formation indeed often surpassing our most fanciful imaginings, we think it is to be regretted that Landseer should introduce, as the point of attraction or interest, the same "head" which has already figured in a former picture. Its mighty beam and long brow antlers may make it very effective; but others are to be found quite as much so, and there were no need for the "Monarch of the Glen" to wear the same royal diadem we had already seen tossed skywards by "The Stag at Bay." We may be called hypercritical in this, but be it remembered that the antlers of a stag are his badge, the feature by which he is known and identified year after year, on mountain, and in forest, among hundreds of his fellows. They are what a strongly-marked countenance is among men. For, as a sportsman, Sir Edwin will know that there is a personality in a stag as much as in the human race. He is recognized directly he is seen. To put the same stag therefore into several pictures, is as if Wilkie had introduced a characteristic well-known face—the Duke of Wellington's for instance—in his "Reading the Will," "Distraint for Rent," and again in two or three more of his best works.

Of all the animals we have seen by this great master, the stag also is the only one in representing which he ever seems to think of an "effect." We do not say it is always so; but neither is it always otherwise. Yet with his hands there is never a trace of such endeavour; they are as if daguerretyped from nature on to the very canvas itself.

But the stag of the Highlands is Landseer's hero; and where there is a trace of the "heroic" to be found in his picture, 'tis some Grampian royalty that is sure to be its representative. To us who have been among the red deer in their homes, who have watched them when scared, who have seen the stag keeping the maddened bloodhound at bay, and have heard, and followed the while, as he roared with passion, we confess he seems in Landseer's pictures occasionally a little theatrical. He puts himself into position, and "calls up a look." At such times there is that about him which we see in the portraits of actors; a certain unmistakable something, an evident pose which reminds us invariably of the stage. It is not merely a proud bearing, but rather an air of *hauteur*, which Sir Edwin gives his stags; they are evidently intended for effect, and, to borrow a phrase, are expected "to bring down the house." This is the more striking, because Landseer ever seems indifferent about such results; as careless of them as a child how it may have folded its pretty limbs in sleep.

We, to whom the stag is no unfamiliar sight, deem such imperious air to be out of character. The royal hart is always a magnificent presence, and in such hands as Landseer's cannot fail to be impressive. But when he stands at gaze, wondering, and at a loss to know what sounds disturb him, his bright widely-opened eye seems inquiring rather than defiant. If the breeze has borne towards him the taint of a foe, his sudden start then is marked by apprehension. If the head be flung back, it is to listen; not in pride or with a sense of his dignity. And when in the rutting season he dashes down upon the intruder, or, looking round, challenges him to the battle, there is in his own mien more of blinding frenzy than of calm conscious power.

Blackwood, besides two stories, and a continuation of "Travels in Circassia," contains three papers of general interest. "The Scot Abroad—The Man of Council," is another of that well-devised series of historical pictures, and notices the eminent Scotchmen who have played great political parts in foreign countries. "The Special Embassy in 1698" will be very attractive just now, when 'every one' has laid down MACAULAY's fourth volume. It is an account of the embassy of PORTLAND to represent WILLIAM OF ORANGE in negotiations respecting the Peace of Ryswick. PORTLAND took with him, as his secretary, MAR PRIOR, our once favourite poet; and it is from a manuscript diary kept by the poetic secretary that the writer in *Blackwood* draws the principal details of his curious paper. We have only space to mention in a line the interesting article on "Greece and Italy," in which the writer eloquently espouses the cause of the Greeks against the Turks.

THE SUBALPINE KINGDOM.

The Subalpine Kingdom; or, Experiences and Studies in Savoy, Piedmont, and Genoa.
By Bayle St. John. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

THIS is a book of pictures and opinions. As it is not our duty to criticize it, we will pass lightly over the pictures. They represent the town and country life of Savoy, Piedmont, and Genoa; the gambling saloons of Aix-les-Bains; the public and private manners of Turin; the forms and procedures of the new Italian Constitutional Government; palatial, parliamentary, villa, shop, and café interiors,—all things, indeed, that an Englishman, accustomed to travel, possessed of the language, habituated to political society, and provided with good introductions, might be expected to describe. Mr. Bayle St. John discourses of all these matters: how he discourses, his critics must say.

We prefer to offer a summary of his opinions, the results of his "experiences and studies." Adopting for the States of Sardinia the Italian appellation of the Subalpine Kingdom, he states at once his belief that the Piedmontese Government has, diplomatically speaking, placed itself in a false position. Its true policy would have been, not to have discontinued and discouraged the Italian democracy, but to have conciliated and assisted it. This, he thinks, the ministers of Victor Emmanuel have never done. They are resigned to their constitutionalism, not proud of it. They separate themselves from the national party of progress. While decrying Austrian tyranny, they flatter French usurpation. And this in the face of the historical fact that France, not Austria, has been the worse bane of Italy.

After preparing the reader by a series of historical retrospects—containing many anecdotes that will be new to the admirers of Gallenga—Mr. St. John commences his political exposition by a review of the press in Piedmont. The liberal journals of Turin have done us the honour to quote our writings

more extensively, perhaps, than those of any unofficial English paper, and we now learn that one of the ministerial writers, in order to cut off the point of the *Leader's* opinions, has explained to the Piedmontese that we are Hungarian refugees, and that ours is a purely foreign and revolutionary inspiration. We think the ingenuity of this idea is admirable, but then its audacity is also very fine. The press in Sardinia, however, is not completely free. Its political offences are liable to inquisition before a jury, but attacks on the dogmas of the Catholic Church may be punished by an irresponsible tribunal of judges. This distinction dates from 1852, being one of the novelties introduced at the instigation of the French Emperor. The Government would, apparently, be more liberal if it dared. When its own acts are criticized, it rarely interferes; but when reference is made to him who cannot bear criticism, but who is, nevertheless, the saviour of society, the police are called in, for the young civilization of Piedmont is dismally in fear of the power that rescued the ancient civilization in France. Mr. St. John notices *seriatim* the ministerial, liberal, reactionary, and ecclesiastical journals, indicating the origin and influence of each.

He then proceeds to religious matters—to the deep hold which Catholicism still has in Piedmont, to the fact that it is declared, by the first article of the Constitution, the religion of the state, that Protestant proselytism is illegal, that the Catholic propagand is exceedingly active, that Count Cavour is a believer in modern miracles, that the centre of oppression in Italy is not in the Legations, not in Naples, but in Rome, protected by the Empire of Morality:—

We all know that nothing but the presence of French troops prevents the Romans from rising and spurning the hated Papacy into the sea. But this means revolution,—this means democracy, republicanism; or else this means foreign conquest and iron tyranny! Who but a few dull diplomatists can imagine the quiet succession of a monarchical constitution with King, Lords, and Commons, all created by articles and clauses written on a piece of paper—to a Theocracy of fifteen hundred years' standing! Have we another Otho or Leopold to reign over the Transylvania? Is there a single human being who can imagine Victor Emmanuel II. son and widower of an Austrian princess, packing up his carpet-bag, leaving Turin, and going to reign in the City of the Seven Hills? What would the Turinese say? and what the Romans? We are told that the Liberal party of Piedmont and Italy, all but a few impracticable men, have rallied round Count Cavour. They have not opposed him, because it is not their cue to interfere with any attack on the Papacy; and they wish to compromise the Sardinian Government as far as possible in their war against the Church. But with the exception of a few dreamy exiles—made credulous by suffering—I am persuaded that the greatest anxiety and alarm is felt among the Liberals. They know what terrible consequences follow when Louis Napoleon Bonaparte writes liberal letters, suggests memoranda, and shows an interest in suffering nations!

This chapter, on the religious question in Piedmont, is one that will probably be looked to with particular interest. The sum of it is, that the people in general "only desire to eradicate some of the abuses of the Church," and that the Government on every occasion has been a timid interpreter of these tendencies. In the chapter on education occurs the following passage:—

The small party that presumptuously calls itself Rationalist, is of course not recognized by statistics. It does not seem to be in great favour; but unfortunately a good many of the Liberal leaders have adopted that dreary doctrine, partly seduced by its name, partly driven irrevocably away from anything that has connexion with Christianity by the fearful crimes committed under cover of that faith by the friends of Rome. These persons make the same mistake as the French philosophers. They have undertaken to drain the human mind of religious ideas, and work for that purpose very industriously; but they have set up their pump by the margin of an ocean into which the rivers, and the torrents, and the rains of heaven are perpetually pouring, in defiance of their puny industry, which indeed has nowhere to put what it takes away, and is compelled to send it back by other channels whence it came. What learning, what eloquence, what courage, what perseverance, have been expended in this monstrous undertaking! Enough, certainly, to regenerate and moralize the world. They have been at it for three centuries, and the Jesuits are more powerful now than ever.

This is the view taken by the body of English liberals. The opposite doctrine, besides implying a contempt of the human understanding, has been the blight of liberal ideas.

"Crime and Punishments," "Piedmontese Workmen and the Anglo-Italian Legion," "The People and the Lottery," "The Piedmontese Theatre," and the "Traditions of Piedmont," lead up to a chapter on Constitutionalism in Piedmont. Before touching this a page must be quoted by the way:—

As speech affords the chief element in the definition of our species, I may be permitted to place merely "musical people" on the extreme verge of humanity towards the frontiers of beastdom. I know that in so saying I expose myself to all manner of sneers and witty retorts,—“The man that has no music,” &c. But I have all political philosophers and stern moralists on my side. Observe in private life: whenever you meet an individual whose occupation or chief pleasure is music; who talks much of Erard; who pesters you with his opinion that Beethoven and Shakspeare are on the same level; who produces a Jew's harp, or any other instrument, in the midst of conversation, and proposes a "little rational amusement," be sure he will take an opportunity of telling you that he does not care about politics,—that is to say, is indifferent to the general interests of humanity. It is my private conviction that every man in a free country who tells you that he doesn't care about politics, makes a profession of dishonesty—because he profits by the advantages without sharing the fatigues of freedom.

That we would wish to see taken as the text of incessant preaching. But Mr. Bayle St. John's special views—which will have to work against pre-conceived ideas in England—are apparent in his account of Italian constitutionalism:—

In Piedmont I am not content to see a *Re Galantuomo*, as they call him, with obstinate but limited virtue, abide by the letter of a Constitution which his father gave as a temporary expedient; and do nothing to make that Constitution loved. The impression produced by his conduct is, that he feels contempt and distaste for the forms which he so scrupulously maintains, as it is pertinaciously repeated, because he has sworn to do so. It is not his business, he seems to think, to assist in adapting them to the circumstances of the country. There they are, make what you can of them. He is a soldier, a mere soldier—cannot understand what all these babblers are about—is determined to let them do as they please, provided of course that his prerogatives and his civil list are not interfered with—but feels certain that in the end

the country will be tired and disgusted, and will fall back again for rest and comfort into the arms of a paternal monarchy!

This, probably, is the truth, and what Mr. St. John says of Count Cavour may also be true; but, though we are willing to adopt his report on the king's character, we have a serious difficulty in accepting his opinion of the minister. He compares him with Sir Robert Peel. Is that reproach, or flattery? Cavour is, at least, better than the ignominious ministers of oppression. He has been the author of benefit to Italy. He has not been an imitator of Metternich, on a small scale; he has not even been a petty reproduction of Guizot. If he has served the Savoyard dynasty, and has been unable to comprehend the higher and purer aims of the Liberal party, that is little surprising or disgraceful on the part of a statesman in a country where Constitutionalism is not yet ten years old. The Liberal party, disbelieving in monarchical patriotism, is, no doubt, that which reads history aright, and studies most philosophically the aims and aspirations of the Italian people; yet it is something to have an Italian minister devoted to the cause of an Italian dynasty, instead of being the impure sycophant of a foreign tyranny. Still, what follows cannot but engage our serious attention:—

Experience teaches me, however, that the Piedmontese politicians are more in want of criticism than praise. They have taken the panegyrics of our press and our statesmen far too literally; and instead of continuing the good work of regeneration, are inclined to stand still, admiring themselves, and giving the world an opportunity to admire likewise.

Of course, it is preposterous to imagine that Italy would ever consent to be governed from Turin. Brofferio's idea of "the United Italian" States seems a reasonable solution of the problem; Valerio's is different; for he thinks that the upper provinces might be united under a Constitutional sceptre, while Manin dreams of Unity and Unification. Mr. St. John inclines to the idea of a Constituent Assembly to found an Italian Constitution, adding:—

Perhaps it will be necessary, considering our love of compromise, as a temporary arrangement, to make Lombardy a province of the Sardinian monarchy. But why should we shut our eyes to the fact, that a very large proportion of the Lombards do not desire this consummation? Those who do desire it warmly are a fraction of the aristocratic classes, who nourish for very good reasons an undying hatred to Austria, but who are equally averse to democracy; and who expect to be protected from the one at the same time that they escape from the other, by rallying round an already established throne. The forms of a constitutional government are extremely agreeable to them. They look forward with pleasure to becoming senators, deputies, ministers, to holding places of high honour and emolument. Gold lace, ribbons, and decorations are an attraction to the less intellectual. The prospect of moderate freedom, the advantages and pleasures of which will be concentrated chiefly in one class, they consider very alluring. The odious prejudices of race and high birth are peculiarly developed among them. They do not hate a Croat more than they despise a plebeian, but fear has taught them to be as condescending to one as they are polite to another. Their manners, therefore, are not particularly haughty or offensive; but you should hear them speak of Mazzini, the great Italian of this century! Their tone is then as disgraceful and bitter as that of the Piedmontese courtiers themselves. For my part, I can feel little sympathy for men who are thus eager to repudiate a debt of gratitude. It is not necessary to share M. Mazzini's views on all points; but I heartily wish that any Italian who reviles that indefatigable worker in the cause of liberty may remain for ever under the despotism of a Radetzky or an Antonelli.

His course lies thenceforward through the political subjects connected with Italy, though these are developed, not disquisitionally but descriptively,—the several points being illustrated, rather than argued. What these subjects are the headings of chapters will show:—"The House of Savoy," "Representation and Royalty," "Parliamentary Studies," "Count Cavour and his Ministry," "The Reactionary Party," "Origin of Liberalism in Piedmont," "Angelo Brofferio," "Lorenzo Valerio," "Lombards in Piedmont," "Army and Navy of Piedmont," "Here and There in Piedmont," and "Genoa." These topics are discussed by Mr. St. John from the point of view of advanced Liberalism, the allusions to English affairs being in the sense of the new school of politicians, which seeks to invest the people at large with power, and to qualify them for its exercise. This is his commentary on the history of France, from 1851 to 1856:—

I leaped ashore at Genoa,—not at the Genoa of Charles Albert, but at the Genoa of Andreas Doria. There was his palace with its many pillars, dropping as it were in showers towards the waters of the port within the new mole. He had a fleet of his own, manned by soldiers and sailors and slaves of his own, always moored close at hand. A strange power for a citizen of a free state! But he never abused it—never attempted a *coup d'état* of any kind. That atrocity was planned in his time, however, by Fieschi, who did not succeed, and therefore did not become an idol. He was foolish enough to allow himself to be stifled in the mud, dragged down by the weight of his armour there in the arsenal—an appropriate fate for an emperor in embryo. Schiller represents him as drowned by a republican accomplice, to whom he muttered too soon about the purple. Whatever be the truth, anathema on him! He should have obtained the government of the republic—sworn to defend it against all enemies—thrust the state twenty times to the verge of ruin, in order to appear at the right moment as its saviour—bought and corrupted all officials—and, finally, have done the deed cleverly at night, when all honest citizens were in bed. He might then have founded a dynasty, and would most certainly have been styled, not an infamous wretch, not a pirate, not a parricide, but a "good and a great prince!"

We have now done with Mr. St. John's book. Upon its literary qualities, or the place that should be assigned it as a political study, we have preferred not to offer an opinion.

SINGER'S SHAKSPEARE.

The Dramatic Works of William Shakspeare, the Text carefully revised, with Notes.
By Samuel Weller Singer.—*The Life of the Poet, and Critical Essays on the Plays.*
By William Watkiss Lloyd. Bell and Daldy.

Six of the promised ten volumes enable us to form an opinion of this edition. First, as to externals: the type is good, the page small, and the volume pocketable—a very desirable thing with so companionable a poet. The illustrations are superbly bad; they are almost worth preserving as specimens. Of the text, all we venture to say is that it has undergone the revision of Mr. Singer's jealous eye, which means a great deal, both for good and bad; Mr. Singer being one of the learned Shakspearian students, and having the full

shape of extracts apparently inseparable from the commentating mind. No Shakspearian library would be complete without Mr. Singer's text; but readers will use their own discretion as to its adoption. The Notes are good of their kind, but the kind is detestable. Nineteen times out of twenty notes to Shakspeare are inflictions on the reader. If antiquarianism must have its lumber bound up with poetry, let the lumber be thrown into an appendix at the end of the volume, where those who are curious may seek it. To give the reader specimens of Mr. Singer's notes, we will open at random. Our chance has lighted on volume V., page 8. We there read in the text:—

Here is a dear and true-industrious friend,
Sir Walter Blunt, new lighted from his horse,
Stained with the variation of each soil.

Does any one feel the slightest need of a note here? And if he feels the need, does he find satisfaction in what Mr. Singer adds to the word *stained*?—

No circumstance could have been better chosen to mark the expedition of Sir Walter. It is used by Falstaff in a similar manner: "To stand *stained with travel*."

Surely this is slightly imbecile. No circumstance, it appears, better marks an expedition than the expression "*stained*!" We are favoured with Falstaff's use of the similar phrase, lest we should think the word strange.

Two pages further on Falstaff says, "Let us be Diana's foresters, gentlemen of the shade, minions of the moon;" whereupon we have this note:—

"Exile and slander are justly me awarded,
My wife and heirs lacke lands and lawful right;
And me their lord made dame *Diana's knight*."

This is the lament of Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, in The Mirror for Magistrates. Hall, in his Chronicles, says that certain persons who appeared as foresters in a pageant exhibited in the reign of King Henry VIII. were called *Diana's knights*.

It is needless to weary the reader with more specimens; these are typical of a large proportion of the notes. In justice to Mr. Singer, we will now quote two of the better kind; notes in which antiquarian knowledge is really brought to bear on obscure points. Falstaff says he is melancholy, and Prince Henry asks—"What sayest thou to a hare, or the melancholy of Moor-ditch?"—

The hare was esteemed a melancholy animal, from her solitary sitting in her form; and, according to the physic of the times, the flesh of it was supposed to generate melancholy. So in Vittoria Coromona, 1612:—

"Like your melancholy hare,
Feed after midnight."

And in Drayton's Polyolbion, Song 11:—

"The melancholy hare is form'd in brakes and briars."

Pierus, in his Hieroglyphics, lib. xii., says that the Egyptians expressed melancholy by a hare sitting in her form. *Moor-ditch*, a part of the ditch surrounding the city of London, between Bishopsgate and Cripplegate, opened to an unwholesome, impassable morass, and was consequently not frequented by the citizens, like other suburban fields, and therefore had an air of melancholy. Thus in Taylors Pennylesse Pilgrimage, 1618:—"My body being tired with travel, and my mind attired with moody muddy *Moor-ditch melancholy*."

This is elucidative, but it might just as well have been printed at the end of the volume; so might this:—

After all the discussion about Falstaff's favourite beverage, here mentioned for the first time, it appears to have been the Spanish wine which we now call *sherry*. Falstaff expressly calls it *sherris-sack*, that is, *sack* from *Xeres*. "*Sherry sack*, so called from *Xeres*, a sea-town of Corduba, in Spain, where that kind of *sack* is made."—*Blount's Glossographia*. It derives its name of *sack* probably from being a dry wine, *vin sec*. And it was anciently written *seck*. "Your best *sack*," says Gervase Markham, "are of *Seres* in Spaine."—*Engl. Housewife*. The difficulty about it has arisen from the later importation of sweet wines from Malaga, the Canaries, &c. which were at first called *Malaga* or *Canary sacks*; *sack* being by that time considered as a name applicable to all white wines. "I read in the reign of Henry VII. that no sweet wines were brought in to this reign but *Malmsyes*," says Howell, in his *Londinopolis*, p. 103. And soon after, "Moreover no *sacks* were sold but *Rumney*, and that for medicine more than for drink, but now many kinds of *sacks* are known and used." One of the sweet wines still retaining the name of *sack* has thrown an obscurity over the original *dry sack*; but if further proof were wanting, the following passage affords it abundantly:—"But what I have spoken of mixing *sugar* with *sack*, must be understood of *Sherris sack*, for to mix *sugar* with other wines, that in a common appellation are called *sack*, and are *sweeter in taste*, makes it unpleasant to the pallet, and fulsome to the taste."—*Venner's Via Recta ad Vitam Longam*, 1637. He afterwards carefully distinguishes *Canarie wine*, of some termed a *sack*, with this adjunct *sweete*, from the genuine *sack*.

Finally, with regard to Mr. Watkiss Lloyd's "Life of the Poet and Critical Essays on the Plays," we are obliged to say that duller writing we seldom remember, even on this subject—at least, when the writer had anything to say. Mr. Lloyd is very painstaking and very ponderous. He deals in moral truisms and elaborately worded commonplaces, but he has occasional passages of really good remark. The very best we have met with we will quote; it contains something on Falstaff and his relation to the Prince, which, if not novel nor very felicitously put, was worth saying:—

Falstaff, Bardolph and Poinc intercept to partition England, like the allies at Bangor; they look to obtain full share of the power of the future Henry V., impunity in all plunder and excess, and robbery legalized or honourable. For this they calculate on their hold on the prince, of which it must be clear to all that Falstaff is the main stay. The primary misconception is gross enough, and the world is now familiar with it; but men who know Horace by heart, have still been astonished at the treatment of Tom Moore or Sheridan, Mrs. Jordan or Lady Hamilton, by royalties and nobilities—to say nothing of the Drummels of meaner stamp. The prince never forgets that he is a prince, and evidently expects that others shall bear in mind that he is merely content to keep his dignity out of sight, and is playing at forgetting it.

Familiarity accepted under such conditions, whether from the first page in the page or the latest banger on upon the lowest round of the scale of titular honour, can have but one ending. Falstaff recognizes the condition and accepts it; he shows that he is fully aware of it by turning his allusions so repeatedly to the contrast of the princely dignity and the circumstances of the Boar's Head; but he is weak enough not to see the consequences. Like the rest he betrays his proper selfishness, by calumniating and undermining the others in the prince's favour; and thus each gives

him the sanction from precedent in their own conduct for sacrificing an associate,—which he fully applies. Jack announces Poinc as he approaches, for an omnipotent villain; Poinc carries favour for himself by a plot against Falstaff, who again seizes the occasion of the play extempore to suggest exclusive attachment of the prince to himself, and therefore fairly enough Bardolph and Peto tell the tale of the hacked sword with relish, and Bardolph betrays the threat about the copper ring. Lightness and frivolousness, however, as I have said, are dominant even over their insincerities. None of the group think it worth while to resent an attack, and in truth it is the last expression of idleness and shallowness of design and purpose, that while they back-bite they still retain a certain attachment to each other, despite mutual injuries of this kind, that might be expected to create entire coolness at least, if not enmity. But an infidelity in friendship, as in wedlock, meets with easy condonation from minds of a certain vulgar type, which, deficient in self-respect, do not severely, or with animosity, judge others who fail to respect them. There is among natures of the lower grade the same readiness to heal after a wound that is found among the lower organizations, and the tendency in truth, if not rather a vice than a virtue, is rather a defect than a faculty.

On the other hand, Falstaff's intellectual quickness is unrivalled—he far surpasses the prince, who is even less practised than Poinc; he suggests half the wit that seems the prince's; his bulk seems the ground tone of his character; it has overlaid a natural capacity of activity, and now his wits are the faculty that acquire abnormal vigour in compensation.

In the second part of Henry IV. Falstaff lets out the principle and secret of his sycophancy. "O it is much, he says, that a lie with a slight oath and a jest with a sad brow will do with a fellow that never had the ache in his shoulders." The rogue infallibly divines the prince's rejoinder to every remark he makes, grossly as he mistakes as to the main point of the ultimate hold he supposes himself to possess on his habits or sympathies. To supply the prince with mirth is his business and his enjoyment, and he gains his ludicrous points by exaggerating his personal unwieldiness and vices of mind and habit, ever with full reliance that the prince will fall into the trap and never discern the trick. When wit and mirth and nimbleness of imaginative suggestions are in question, Falstaff is as superior to the prince as the master to his instrument, and it is the very use of this superiority that misleads him into the belief that he has equal sway over his earnest purposes. The prince is even inferior to Poinc that he has equal sway over his earnest purposes. The prince is even inferior to Poinc in the imaginative design and conduct of a jest, and has to be led step by step over one obstacle after another in the scheme of robbing the robbers; the best he can do in this way is the perplexity of Francis, which by no means satisfies the aesthetic requirements of a pregnant jest as conceived by Poinc, Poinc who contrives the double robbery only as introductory to the amusing lies of Falstaff—"the virtue of the jest," and is fain to inquire of the bad imitation, "What cunning match have you made with this jest of the drawer? come, what's the issue?"

The prince is never so witty as at the beginning of his first scene, and even there our future knowledge of the knight teaches us that he asked the time of day with mock purposeful concern, with design to provoke the sense of an incongruity. After that, every one of the prince's rejoinders is fairly laid in his way by Falstaff, and he would have been dull indeed to miss them, as he is still dull enough to take all credit with himself for quickness and originality. When after Falstaff's avowal that he will be damned for never a king's son in Christendom, he responds briskly to the prince's proposal to take a purse, "Where thou wilt, lad, I'll make one;" of course he perceived the incongruity, and put on the utmost unconsciousness in order to heighten it; and so throughout, as when with lips scarce dry he protests that he is a rogue if he has drink to-day—a lie with a slight oath, or when he professes the vigilance as of a cat to steal cream. He has succeeded in exciting the prince to the perception of certain points of ludicrousness, and to these sensitive centres he addresses himself unremittingly; and the delicacy of the delineation consists in the exact expression of this finesse on his part, in endlessly diversified forms on the part of the prince, and of that precise form of apprehensiveness that enables him to find a relish in wit that he can scarcely be said to properly appreciate. Hal is keen enough to form a not inaccurate estimate of motives and character but not to suspect or penetrate to the secret of the management by which he is played upon and amused. Thus the prince in truth loses a large proportion of the wit, and that of the better kind, that the reader or spectator enjoys in the contemplation of the prince and Falstaff together. In fact, we may suspect that to Prince Hal, Falstaff was rather ludicrous than witty. Thus in the tavern scene after the robbery, he is amused at the gross bravadoes of a fat liar whom he anticipates the pleasure of surprising with exposure and conviction, but he loses the point of the jest that is salient to the spectator, who is amused by the wily quickness of Falstaff, who, beforehand with his expectations, goes on with daring presumption on his gullibility, to multiply two rogues in buckram into eleven with accumulative rapidity that one would say it argues dulness in the prince not to perceive to be conscious, but that so many readers since have been as blind as he is. In fact, we are left at last with a suspicion that the knight verily recognised the two rogues through their buckram, and ran and roared more heartily in order to hold the good jest up, and not only bragged so outrageously because he was aware of the effect he was producing, but hacked his sword and made his companions stain their clothes with blood from their own nose tips, on the certain calculation that he would be betrayed. Falstaff in this scene is to Prince Harry—"thou claybrained guts; thou knotty pated fool"—but this is a false estimate indeed of the spirit of the fat knight, and the prince himself was much more of a butt than the fool that he despised as a fool and laughed at. Falstaff may underrate the prince as grossly when he rates his capabilities as to be a pantler, "he would have chipped bread well;" but assuredly his wit is but of royal calibre, and such are the conditions of this quality that evidence of flatterers apart and deducting for the wonder of rarities and approximations, wit—sterling wit, is perhaps the single mental power and accomplishment that has most rarely been found on a throne, or approached so near to it as an heir-apparent.

SHAKSPEARE'S ENGLAND.

Shakspeare's England; or, Sketches of our Social History in the Reign of Elizabeth. By G. W. Thornbury. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

THE second volume of this amusing book opens with a chapter on the Theatre and Shakspeare, which although neither so full in detail nor so accurate as critical readers would desire it to be, will give the 'general reader' very acceptable information. Here, for instance, is a

PEEP INTO THE PLAYHOUSE.

The real beau never entered the theatre till the trumpets were blowing for the prologue, for when the house was only half full, the richness of his dress could not be sufficiently applauded; then, as if he was one of the proprietors, or had dropped from the hangings, he crept from behind the arras, a three-legged stool in one hand and the taster to pay the boy in the other. The real *blasé* man of fashion never appeared amused; the more miserable and unmoved, the more fashionable. His cue was, in the midst of the saddest scenes of Lear or Othello, to turn away, as if he had

seen the thing before at Court. The aim of such fools was to talk and laugh so loud that the eyes of the whole house should be drawn upon them—that the poets might be provoked into writing an epigram that would make them talked of, or that the players might recognize and point them out in the street.

The fashionable's great desire was not to seem to resort to the Globe or the Rose, as if hungry for such vulgar pleasures, but only as an idle gentleman, to waste a foolish hour or so when he could do nought else. Sometimes the gallant went to hiss and condemn an enemy's play; sometimes to appear literary, and induce a poet to dedicate some sonnet to him, to procure his favour and forbearance.

If the dramatist was one who had epigrammatized our friend, or brought his red beard or thin legs on the stage, his whole action from the first entrance would be scornful and contemptuous. At entrance he would draw out his three sorts of tobacco and his light; or pulling a pack of cards from his hose, fall to Primero, tearing up a court card or two in a rage, to the astonishment of the pit, just as the prologue entered.

If the actor was sitting on the stage, the critic would then bring out his tables (pocket-book) and write sneering notes of pointless passages; or, in the midst of the play, with a screwed and discontented face, would take up his stool to be gone, drawing away a whole troop of friends, who were lying round him. If he could not get out, or his companions were unwilling to join him, the malcontent would pick up a rush and tickle the ears of those who sat before him, till they laughed louder than the tragedian could sigh and groan. He would find fault with the music, declare the jests were stale, whistle at the songs, and curse the manager, because one of the actors wore a hat and feather just like that for which he (the fop) had but that morning given 40s.

Here is another:—

At the end of the performance the actors fell upon their knees and prayed for the health and prosperity of their patrons, or the Queen, a custom retained in the "God save the Queen" that forms the last line of our playbills.

Instead of visiting our acquaintances we now send our cards, and instead of actors falling on their knees to pray for the Queen, they print "God save the Queen" on the playbills.

Reflecting readers will notice with some surprise that the pages about Shakspeare are among the weakest in the volumes; yet even on Shakspeare Mr. Thornbury has sometimes something to catch attention; for instance:—

It is a staggering reflection that neither Bacon's works, nor those of Sir Thomas Browne, or Hall, or Donne, contain one word about Shakspeare. A few obscure and doubtful invectives of rivals, a few quoted words, a sneer of Jonson's that even Gifford cannot soften down, are all that we can gather from contemporary literature. What did Bacon and Burleigh, statesmen and scholars, think of a poet who turned Homer into a play and made Hector speak of Aristotle? Was their feeling indifference or contempt? The scholars' world and the players' world were different spheres, and, perhaps, to Bacon the plays the greasy mob roared at and applauded seemed mere occasional verse that would be forgotten when the curtain fell.

But the very worst chapter in the whole book is that on alchemy, which in an unlucky hour Mr. Thornbury was moved to "cram" for. He knows nothing of alchemy, and yet he writes a long chapter, not on the alchemy of Shakspeare's day, but on the Arabian and middle ages alchemists. "Of alchemy," he says, "as one of the strangest and least excusable of human delusions, we treat somewhat largely." Mr. Thornbury is wrong when he speaks of alchemy as one of the strangest of delusions, and wrong when he adds, "least excusable," and still more wrong when, ignorant of the subject, he crowds his pages with secondhand compilation, not laboriously compiled, and this too upon a subject not illustrating Shakspeare's England at all. The delusion was very natural and very excusable: nay, when we know that alchemy was the early stage indispensable to the maturity of our chemistry, we learn to speak of it with respect. But Mr. Thornbury—it is no disgrace to him—is unacquainted with chemistry; he is so purely a literary, and so little of a scientific man, that he speaks of furnaces for calcination, vials, crosslets, stillatories, &c., as "mystical utensils" used by the alchemists. Upon knowledge so slender he should have been more modest; yet on the next page we find him contemptuously asserting that the alchemical "theory is not yet dead; and theoretical Liebig himself argues, that as men make diamonds they may perhaps make gold." We know not to what passage in "theoretical Liebig" Mr. Thornbury refers, but are certain there is some confusion in his mind on the point. Men do not make diamonds, consequently Liebig could not have argued from their practice. Moreover, the opinion is now pretty general among chemists that gold may be made, although no one yet has discovered how it is to be done; and it is to this opinion we imagine Liebig refers. Mr. Thornbury, however, is unfortunate in his illustrations drawn from chemistry—so unfortunate that we are annoyed he should have ventured in that direction. "Who, a century ago," he asks, "supposed that gases could be mixed and turned into water, or that earth could be formed from water?" We repeat the Who? and we ask: Who in this century supposes such things?

It is unnecessary to continue. Yet at the close of his long chapter Mr. Thornbury, contradicting his previous contempt, exclaims:—

Let us not, however, join the foolish cry, and deride men who, however unsuccessful, however much associated with cheats and quacks, devoted their lives with such generous self-devotion, actuated by so noble an aspiration.

Just as the supposed fables of Herodotus have been found truths, and the legends of Marco Polo honest facts, so may maturer science discover that the alchemist had some better foundation for his belief than we can now understand. Who a few years since could have credited the almost universal presence of gold in Scotland, Wales, England, and Ireland, in Russia, California, and Australia?

The other chapters are: "Witchcraft"—also poor; "Wapping in 1588"—very amusing; "Elizabethan Country Life"—curious as well as amusing; "Revels and Progresses;" and "Education."

A BATCH OF BOOKS.

We must announce, and dismiss in a very few words, the miscellaneous publications that have accumulated on our table. They are, for the most part, books addressed to special readers, or books already known and now reprinted, or books aimed at all readers, and not likely to find many.

In the special list we have some religious essays of an elaborate controversial character. We have already referred to the *Oxford Sermons* preached against Mr. Jowett by Dr. Pusey, Mr. T. D. Bernard, Dr. Rigaud, the

Bishop of Oxford, Dr. Heurtley, Dr. Goulburn, Mr. Baring, and Mr. Meyrick, and have to report merely that they have been collected in a formidable volume (Parker), under the editorship of the Vice-Chancellor.

Another large and doctrinal book is Mr. Donald Macdonald's *Creation and Fall: a Defence and Exposition of the First Three Chapters of Genesis* (Constable). The object of this essay, which the author says is the natural result of his exegetical study of the Hebrew Scriptures, is to establish the authority of the early chapters of Genesis, as literal historical statements, in opposition to the philosophic interpretations of them as poems, allegories, or the exposition of a mythology. Mr. Macdonald confuses his argument at once by admitting that every word in the narrative he analyzes is not to be understood in its proper and grammatical sense. He adopts Mr. Holden's view that *Genesis* is an exact history, interspersed with figurative and tropical phrases. We can promise the reader who chooses to follow Mr. Macdonald's discourse, an abundance of learning more boldly than logically applied. For erudition, however, no volume that we have lately seen surpasses Dr. Wall's third "part" of *An Examination of the Ancient Orthography of the Jews, and of the Original State of the Text of the Hebrew Bible* (Whittaker). His intention is to show that the Sacred Text was originally written without letters, or any other signs whatever of the vocal, considered apart from the articulate composition of syllabic sound. As to the reality and value of Dr. Wall's "discovery," no opinion can yet be formed by scholars, since, in this volume, he has penetrated so profoundly into a discussion on the ancient methods of writing, the cuneiform especially, that he has left himself but one chapter for the development of his special thesis, and has been compelled to reserve his demonstrations for a separate essay. A new edition of William M'Combie's *Hours of Thought* has been published (Ward), with a second edition of *The Church of Christ not an Ecclesiasticism*, by Henry James (White), and an eighth volume of the *Select Works of Thomas Chalmers* (Constable). The wild and presumptuous book entitled *What is Truth? or, Revelation its own Nemesis* (John Chapman), professes to have reached a third edition.

The other new editions in our list are numerous; some of them are important. Mr. Bohn's *Library of French Memoirs* contains two volumes of *The Memoirs of the Duke of Sully*, with the Preface attributed to Sir Walter Scott. The edition is to be completed in four volumes, with a minute general index. A second volume of Quintilian's *Institutes of Oratory* has been added to the *Classical Library*. We should be glad to hear that ten thousand persons were engaged in the study of these matchless essays. The *Classical Library* contains, also, *A Dictionary of Latin Quotations, Proverbs, Maxims, and Mottos, Classical and Mediæval, with a Selection of Fresh Quotations*, edited by H. T. Riley, B.A. It is on a large scale, and seems to have been carefully executed. *Blair's Chronological Tables*, revised, enlarged, and brought down to the Treaty of April, 1856, by J. W. Rosse, form a useful addition to the *Scientific Library*. In the *Standard Library* we find the completion of M. Guizot's *History of Civilisation, from the Fall of the Roman Empire to the French Revolution*—a scholarly work, written with much art and power; but not likely, we think, to obtain an English reputation. Mr. Edward Jesse has edited, for the *Illustrated Library*, a new edition of Izaak Walton's *Complete Angler*, to which Mr. H. G. Bohn has added papers on Fishing-tackle, Fishing Stations, &c., on which we are incompetent to offer an opinion. As to the *Complete Angler* itself, Mr. Jesse reminds us that it has been published by six different booksellers—that Scott, Sheridan, Hallam, Irving, and Lamb have praised it more or less extravagantly—that it has been annotated by Sir John Hawkins, Sir Harris Nicolas, Sir Henry Ellis, Browne, Bagster, and Rennie, and we need add, merely, that the illustrations are numerous and excellent. The concluding volume of *The Noctes Ambrosianæ* of Professor Wilson, edited by Professor Ferrier (Blackwood and Sons), has now appeared. We have nothing more to say about these Conversations, which we have not re-read, and never shall. Mr. James Donaldson has affixed to a third volume of *The Modern Scottish Minstrel*, edited by Dr. Charles Rogers, a comparative criticism on Hellenic and Scottish Minstrelsy. The result of his speculation is, that Scotch songs are unlike Greek songs, which may possibly be true. In connexion with the name of Greece, let us mention once more that J. H. and J. Parker are publishing a miniature Library of Classics, beautifully printed, with brief English notes, for the use of schools. The new volume contains the *Ajax*, *Electra*, *Edipus Rex*, *Edipus Coloneus*, *Antigone*, *Philoctetes*, and *Trachinæ* of Sophocles. As new editions, we must not forget *The Lion Hunter in South Africa*, by R. Gordon Cumming (Murray), a cheap issue, including the original illustrations, and Colonel W. N. Hutchinson's Treatise, which may be called a standard book *On Dog-breaking* (Murray). It is not merely a book for dog-breakers, but abounds in anecdotes and in general matter, at once instructive and amusing. But the palm, among new editions, must be given to the diamond series, *Moore's Lalla Rookh, Songs and Ballads, and Irish Melodies* (Longman and Co.). These three volumes—a dainty sisterhood, clad in pea-green, orange, and blue, and decorated with gold—are offered in a most enticing form, with frontispieces, for half-a-crown each. Who, then, that loves the melodious poet, will not be possessed of his works, so well printed, on such paper, with such graceful "getting up," and at such a price?

Shadows of the Past, by John Patterson (Edinburgh: Nimmo), are legendary, historical, and fanciful sketches, chiefly in illustration of Scottish life, though Mr. Patterson dares also to write dramatically of Sodom and Gomorrah. In *The Manchester Papers: a Series of Occasional Essays* (Whittaker), Mr. J. D. Morell writes on Modern German Philosophy, Mr. Pyngle Layne on Veils and Faces, the Rev. W. G. Barret on Rational and National Recreations, and Mr. Albany Fonblanque on Circuit Customs. Mr. R. Burchett has published, in a separate volume (Chapman and Hall) his course of *Lectures on Linear Perspective* delivered at the training school, Marlborough House. The exposition is simple and clear. For students also, *Vasey's Knowledge Made Easy* (Pitman), an eccentric Cyclopædia of "the elements," on a miniature scale; the *Seaside Lesson Book* (Groombridge), a manual of marine common things, by H. G. Adams; and the *Newspaper Readers' Companion*, which tells the believing scholar that "a

minimum of labour and a maximum of wages" means a very high rate of wages and a very low rate of labour. *A Catechism of Music*, by Gertrude Place (Bosworth); *Physicians and Physic*, by Dr. James G. Simpson (A. and C. Black); *A Vindication of the Ogun*, by the Rev. A. Cromar (A. and C. Black)—sensible and well-argued; and *Pictures of Nature Round Malvern*, by Edwin Lees (Malvern: Lamb), may be left to find their way into the particular circles which they are designed to please, inform, or trouble. As a literary fragment, Mr. C. Mitchell Charles's *Alfieri: his Life, Adventures, and Works* (Chapman and Hall), is worth the attention of the Italian scholar, and, generally, of readers of Italian literature. It is a pleasant, thoughtful essay, not graceful in style, or worth much as a criticism, but interesting as a sketch of biography. *Meister Karl's Sketch-Book*, by C. G. Leland (Lübner), is a fantastic amalgamation of prose and prosody, of legends, jokes, impertinences, random gossip, extracts, translations, quotations, amid which the reader may or may not find that which is good for his constitution. A second volume of *The Annals of England: an Epitome of English History* (Parker), compiled from contemporary writers, the rolls of Parliament, and other public records, may be noticed, with a third series of the work entitled *British Eloquence* (Griffin and Co.). This contains literary addresses by Mr. Layard, Mr. S. Warren, the Duke of Argyll, and other popular lecturers. Sir Robert Peel has not been invited to contribute his epic of Sea-sickness. *The United States: their Constitution and Power*, by Charles Browne (Kent and Co.), is a volume written for popularity, and likely to attain it. It gives the right sort of information, in the proper way, and at the proper time.

The Arts.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE LANDSCAPES.

This creation in which we live has no aspect present to our senses which has not its influence over our life; and it is through that manifold influence that we acknowledge a common life, even with the vegetable world, if not with the very elements that build the globe, or sway and change its unstable surface. The "powers of nature," as we vaguely call them, are apparent to us, momentarily, in the effect which they produce on what we call "inanimate nature," by which we mean nature with a life unlike our own. It is the business of the landscape painter to portray these effects; he is successful in his portraiture if he is faithful in copying what he sees, but to see correctly is not always an easy task. He is powerful in proportion as, by the help of simple pigments and plain fidelity to nature, he makes us conscious of the greatest of natural powers through their pictorial "effects."

We have never stood among the hills looking upon the stream that flows from Llyn Idwal in Carnarvonshire; but whether it is an exact portrait of the scene or not, it is quite certain that the cabinet picture by A. W. HUNT presents rock, grass, green mountain, air, and running water; and that the artist has so completely seized the effect produced by different texture, different position, altered shape, intervening air and glancing light, that within the space of the frame the pigments are entirely subdued, and the eye rests upon the rocky mountain side. The eye is cheated in its estimate of space and size exactly as it is in nature. On the grass lowland between the spectator and the mountain are sheep grazing; and by the miniature size to which the animals are reduced you see the distance that you span; and then the vast extent of the mountain expands upon the comprehension.

Something of this effect of space is produced in STANFIELD'S wreck in the open sea, "The Abandoned"—a nameless hulk drifting on the billows. STANFIELD has caught the varying shapes into which the water is tossed: you can see in one place the sullen roll of the swell; in another you can almost hear the sharp clash where two waves meet and toss the summit perpendicularly upwards; you seem to feel the sweep of wind that is driving the clouds in broken masses. But the artist—perhaps he now has a right to acknowledge the fatigue of lengthened years—has not been able so completely to subdue the pigment that its character is entirely lost. The touch of light upon the foam of the waves, especially where they are lost in the general glare of mist behind the hull, is too heavy. The texture of the medium usurps the place of natural effect; the eye rests upon a solid dead white; and, so far, the effect of the whole is marred.

The difficulty with which the artist has to contend consists mainly in following these endless changes in the form, position, tints, and shades of nature. The Naturalist style has introduced a manner of endeavouring to give an individuality even in the innumerable groups of weeds and foliage. REDGRAVE took up this manner some years back, and pursued it with much promise, but he has not been able to develop the manner into a complete masterhood. He fails in two particulars. In the first place, there is a great deal too much of uniformity in the set of the leaves and the stalks of the trees. In the picture entitled "Little Red Ridinghood," it will be observed that the stalks of the herbage on the ground are too parallel. The same tendency to parallelism is seen in the leaves of the apple-tree under which NEWTON is sitting in Mr. HANNAH'S clever picture, where the dull effect of an autumn is laudably attempted. The leaves which cluster round the branch to the right hand of the trunk of the tree fall into positions somewhat after the manner of the pot-hooks and hangers of the young writer. Now the leaves upon the stalk of an apple-tree are arranged, not only laterally upon the branch, but in a spiral form, causing to the view of the spectator an endless variety in the set of the leaves, whose stalks constantly depart from a new circle; and the varying in size completes the changefulness of the spiral arrangement. In such foliage, though there is a principle of regularity, nothing resembling parallelism is possible. In Mr. REDGRAVE'S "Little Red Ridinghood," again, the whole of the green foliage on the trees is upon a level tint, with comparatively little variation. We know that in a broad sense this levelness of tint will suggest itself to the spectator; but if he looks into the matter, he will find a diversity in the gradations which absolutely defy the measurement, almost defy conception by the mind, while the very eyes are looking.

Both these errors may be corrected by that great teacher the photograph. This beautiful instrument is becoming gradually applied to increased uses, but we are especially delighted to see the manner in which it is illustrating landscape. You may see specimens in many places; the walker in the streets can scarcely miss them in the windows of the printseller. Beautiful examples may be seen any day in the window of Mr. SPOONER, the printseller at the corner of South-

ampton-street, in the Strand. In that window, lately, there has been a photograph portrait of a piece of wall with a chesnut-tree hanging over it, and fern on the ground beneath. Here the artist who desires to note the endless variety, coupled with the regularity of vegetable life, can see it fixed for his more steady contemplation. In the same picture he will observe how the light of nature masses the light leaves together, here and there presenting the character of the individual forms, in other places merging the individual forms in broader heaps, and again separating the different masses of the foliage by broad distinctions of tint—full light, deep shade, and half-tint between.

One of the prettiest touches in Mr. WALLIS'S dead "Chatterton" is the distant landscape seen partly through the dull and dirty glass and partly through the pure air of the open lattice, with a flower interposed between the spectator and the light. It is in the flower that Mr. WALLIS'S apprehension of nature's endless variety has failed. The leaves of the rose-tree are in too many instances presented parallel to the plane of the picture, as they might be in a hortus siccus. In nature the leaf is presented in so many directions, that to the eye the form is incessantly altered and disguised. But the mind, constantly turning to the mechanical and the typical form of what it "knows" on reflection, is as often dragged back to give the leaf in its diagram shape; and the eye itself, which "sees," can scarcely restrain the mind, and therefore the hand, from that mechanical tendency to the inorganic in lieu of the organic. It is real mastery when the artist overcomes this tendency, and equals nature in its diversity. MILLAIS gives us the example, in his "Autumn Leaves,"—in which the effect of the autumn sunset grows upon us as we see it again: the dried leaves collected into masses have fallen into the same endless variety that they would show in nature—they display the same endless form, of tint, and of shade.

It is not to be expected that artists of established manner should entirely profit by the progress of schools that are rising up around them. The "Break-water of Plymouth," by F. R. LEE, has many excellences. In order to give that effect of space, in order to display the contrast between the vehement water outside and the calmer water within, it was necessary that the artist's mind should be able to conceive the motion of the winds and waters with their incessant change of shape and tint, even in the fixed things subject to their action, and he has in great part succeeded, but not entirely. The waters within, especially, are too regular, too much arranged diamond fashion for the truth; and the intractable white lead has not let him master it so completely as to imitate the driven foam of the broken wave. WITHERINGTON paints glens with peeps between the trunks of trees, and beneath the leaves, showing the distance beyond or the sky above; he too has profited by the incessant movement of the day, but he retains something of his set manner. Still "The Glen, Chudleigh, Devon," is amongst his best works, in a school that draws its life from the very genius of English landscape.

With all its power over contrasts of colouring, giving the effect of brilliancy, J. LINNELL cannot conquer a tendency to arrange all his forms in crumbled style, as if the texture of the world were a kind of pastry; while his tints have a metallic glare, as though he were compelled to work with pigments used in decorating tea-trays. His harvest sunset has a powerful effect, but the forms of the rutted road are all arranged like piecrust border, while road, and grass, and cloud, and water, and sky, glare like tinsel.

There is a far greater command of light in MILLAIS'S "Autumn Leaves;" still more in SIDNEY COOPER'S dark meadow scene with cattle, "After Sunset." COOPER lives abroad, among the elements; he does not study nature in cultivated gardens. He knows how the ever deviating surface of the earth defies the level of the engineer, and by faithfully copying just what nature shows him, he sets before us a surface ever changing, but changing not too violently—shadows that, dark and deep, are not black or impenetrable; glows of sunset, rich and red, but not either blood-stained or metallic. By coming as close to this as his palette will let him, he cheats the eye and makes us see the very distance,—know the very air of the breezy meadow, the damp of the evening dew,—almost feel the atmosphere that makes the cattle hang their heads with willingness for sleep. There is the skill which rewards the true piety of the artist, and makes us recognize in his work something of the divine.

MADLLE. JOHANNA WAGNER.

THE climax of Madlle. JOHANNA WAGNER'S reputation in England may be said to have been attained at the moment when a court of law condemned the celebrated prima donna of Berlin to silence in this metropolis, and when her high dramatic reputation, suspended between the two Opera houses, preserved all that enchantment which belongs to the distant, and all that splendour which is eagerly bestowed upon the unknown. We cannot say that the result of her actual appearance has been of a nature to satisfy expectation, or to justify the excitement and the litigation that signaled her conspicuous non-appearance some years ago. Apparently, the musical palate of a London audience is very differently formed from that of the Berlin public, who gave Madlle. JOHANNA WAGNER her fame, and, without pretending at this moment to decide on the superior acuteness of either, we will content ourselves with frankly confessing our entire sympathy with the taste of the London audience. The memorable and somewhat disrespectful letter of WAGNER père, in which that gentleman expressed his belief that the English were no judges of music, and only good for money, finds a melancholy comment in the fact that the enthusiastic admirers of JENNY LIND are the cold and astonished sufferers under JOHANNA WAGNER.

No one, it is true, would believe, from the tone of our most powerful organs of public criticism (with one signal and important exception), that Madlle. WAGNER had not created an extraordinary sensation in London. But it is not our fault that the criticism of almost all our contemporaries has degenerated into a dilution of vapid and unnecessary eulogy of all new singers, good, bad, or indifferent, who have found their way into the paradise of puffery. It is our humble but earnest duty to speak what we conceive to be the truth. We are, therefore, bound to record the fact that Madlle. JOHANNA WAGNER has narrowly escaped a total *fiasco* in this country. Whether the effect would have been the reverse had she made her first appearance in German opera we are not enabled to conjecture; we think it would have been impossible to have selected a more unfavourable introduction than *I Capuletti ed I Montecchi*. This feeble and trashy opera, with its meagre and effeminate pasticcio of worn-out reminiscences of tunes strung on to the silliest travesty of a beautiful story, is as dull and worthless a performance as any audience can desire.

The weakness of the opera is rendered monstrous by its Teutonic interpreters. Three Germans to sing BELLINI! Madlle. WAGNER looks like MINERVA in her armour, with her tall and lithesome figure, and the grace and ease of her bounding steps; but the incessant attitude-striking, after the manner not of sculpture, but of those prints of penny warriors so dear to children (1d. plain, 2d. coloured), fatigues the admiring, and diverts the doubtful critic. There has been so much nonsense talked about the statuesque, that it is time to

remind some dramatic artists that poses are a poor substitute for feeling and intelligence. We conscientiously avow that we fail to detect a breath of feeling or a gleam of emotion in that PALLAS face from the first scene to the last.

We hear it said that Madlle. WAGNER cannot be fairly judged by those who have not heard and seen her as Valentiné in the Huguenots, Fides in the Prophète; and of her Orfeo we have never heard but one, and that the highest, opinion.

THE LAST OF JENNY LIND.

MONDAY, at EXETER HALL, beheld at once a triumph and a sorrow. Madame JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND, who, for nearly ten years, has enchanted, in alternating seasons, the ears and hearts of England—who won and maintained an unparalleled position in the lyric drama, and who, driven thence by ecclesiastical

exhortations, conquered a new empire on the platform of the concert-room—JENNY LIND, who has held the East and the West, the Old and the New Worlds, alike, in the strong magic of her gentleness and her genius, and who, shining with a golden lustre on many charitable homes, has made Music almost synonymous with Benevolence—JENNY LIND, on that day, sang her last in England.

ANOTHER "genoioine Yankee gal"—Mrs. FLORENCE being the first—has shone forth on the conventional and jaded eyes of Londoners. Mrs. BARNY WILLIAMS is the lady's name, and the ADELPHI is her local habitation for the present.

THE OLYMPIC has produced a farce, called A Conjugal Lesson, in which Mr. ROBSON and Mrs. STIRLING perform a husband and wife mutually suspecting each other's fidelity. The reader may conceive the fun consequent on this leading idea. Enough for us to chronicle the complete success of the piece.

THE LICHFIELD BANK.—Mr. Commissioner Balguy, on Friday week, delivered judgment, in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, with respect to the affairs of Richard Greene, of the Lichfield Bank. In summing up the facts of the case, his Honour said:—"The bankrupt was in partnership originally with Mr. Scott and Mr. Palmer, the whole forming that banking establishment which existed in Lichfield for some years previous to 1850.

THE WEST INDIES.—The last advices from the West Indies bring scarcely any news of importance. The islands are for the most part healthy, and the crops are doing well. At Jamaica, the Legislature was not in session, and Major-General Bell had been sworn in to administer the Government during the absence of Governor Barkly, upon leave for six months.

IMPROVEMENT OF CHANCERY-LANE.—The building materials and fittings of nine houses in Chancery-lane, Bell-yard, and Pope's-head-alley, were publicly sold on Monday, for the purpose of clearing the site for the erection of the south wing of the hall of the Law Institution.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.—LEWIS BROCKLEBANK, Old Oak-common, Willesden, late of John-street, Cambridge-heath, Middlesex, nephthia manufacturer—THEODORE DIEDRICH WILHELM CHRISTIAN SKID, 39, Finsbury-square, and 13, Wilson-street, Middlesex, private hotel keeper—ROBERT HUDSON, late of 30, Great St. Helen's, City, now of Southampton-street, Strand, Middlesex, ship and insurance broker—JOHN HEWITT, the younger, Holvergate, Norfolk, miller and flour seller—HENRY AUGUSTUS HOPK, 40, West-street, Smithfield, City, and 13, Oxford-road, Islington, hay salesman—EDWARD YOUNG, Holt, Norfolk, bookseller, stationer, and printer—SAMUEL NEWMAN, Granville Hotel, Granville terrace, Lee, Kent, builder and publican—ISAAC THOMAS ROGERS, 54B, New Oxford-street, Middlesex, importer of American cloaks—GEORGE JOSEPH GREEN, Birmingham, glass manufacturer—THOMAS GOOLD, Birmingham, military ornament manufacturer—WILLIAM TYSON, Liverpool, corn and flour dealer and baker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES M'GLIBRON, Duke-street, Glasgow, miller—JOHN LITTLE and Co., Glasgow, ironmongers—WILLIAM MACFARLANE (deceased), Barossa-place, Perth, commission agent.

Friday, July 4. BANKRUPTS.—JOHN HEWITT, the younger, late of Holvergate, miller—WILLIAM WABING, Crown-street, Walworth-road, chemist and druggist—JOHN BRINDLEY, Chester, stationer—EDWARD GEE, Blackrod, near Wigan, coal dealer—STEPHEN MARGETTS, Birmingham, licensed victualler—HENRY BECK, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, linen draper—JULIUS ROBERTS, Poplar, engineer—WILLIAM HARBOP, Cullingworth, stuff manufacturer—JOSHUA CLAYTON, Bradford, commission agent.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—ROBERT KEAY, Perth, now deceased, jeweller—HUGH COLVILLE CHRISTIE, Tain, wine merchant—ROBERT ARMSTRONG and Co., Castle Douglas, grocers.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS. BURCHARDT.—On the 26th ult., the wife of O. Burchardt, Prussian Consul at Liverpool: a daughter. LUSHINGTON.—On the 26th ult., at 9, Mansfield-street, the wife of C. M. Lushington, Esq., M.P.: a daughter. MALDEN.—On the 28th ult., at 115, Eaton-square, the Viscountess Malden: a daughter. MINNSEN.—On the 26th ult., at Versailles, the wife of Professor Minssen, D.P.: a son. ROUTH.—On the 30th ult., at 52, Montagu-square, the wife of C. H. F. Routh, M.D.: a son. RUSDEN.—On the 27th ult., at Greenheys, Manchester, the wife of R. D. Rusden: a son.

MARRIAGES. BRIDGE-BRIDGE.—On the 15th of May last, at the Cathedral, St. John's, Newfoundland, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop, Edward Bridge, Esq., Royal Engineers, to Isabella Maria Hope, eldest daughter of the Ven. the late Archdeacon Bridge. LATIMER-WORMELEY.—On the 14th ult., in Trinity Church, Newport, R.I., Randolph Latimer, Esq., of Baltimore, Md., to Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Ralph Randolph Wormeley. LITTLEWOOD-GALLOWAY.—On the 1st inst., at the Cathedral, Manchester, by the Rev. H. H. Westmore, M.A., John Littlewood, Esq., of Foxhill-bank, Accrington, to Sarah, youngest daughter of W. Galloway, Esq., of Manchester.

DEATHS. CORK AND ORRERY.—On the 29th ult., at 3, Hamilton-place, General the Earl of Cork and Orrery, K.P., in his 80th year. DIGBY.—On the 25th ult., at Ramsgate, after an illness of a few days, Mary John Gerald Joseph Digby, aged eight years, the beloved child of Kenelm Henry and Jane Mary Digby. FELL.—On the 25th of February, on board the Marion, at sea, Commander William Fell, of the Indian Navy, aged 42. GOLDSMID.—On the 17th of May last, at Calcutta, Charles Goldsmid, Esq., aged 34, Resident Civil Engineer to the Indian Railway, and second son of M. A. Goldsmid, Esq., to the great grief of his family. GREGORY.—On the 28th ult., at White-street, Bethnal-green, Mr. Henry Gregory, Registrar of Births and Deaths, surviving his wife five months only. SHAW.—On the 27th ult., at her residence, 18, Baker-street, Portman-square, Anna, relict of Major-General Shaw, in the 82nd year of her age. ST. GERMANS.—On the 2nd inst., at 36, Dover-street, the Countess of St. Germans.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, July 4, 1856.

THE Bank of England has lowered its rate of discount, and the continued fine weather has had a very beneficial effect on the funds and share market. The settling which took place in shares for the end of the month on Monday, showed the sign Taurus to be in the ascendant. Heavy shares rose 2 and 3 per cent. Turkish Six per Cent. and Four per Cent. stock realized 107. To-day an article on speculation in the money paragraph of the Times has depressed the markets, and a rumour of the withdrawal by lottery of 30,000l. of the Turkish Six per Cent. stock, to be paid off at par, has given relief to the Bears. Heavy sales for realization were pressed, and this market closes heavily at a depression of 3 per cent. A considerable business has been done in Riga Railway and Ceylon and Eastern Bengal, both of them now undertakings. There is some truth in the Times article on the number of new enterprises started just now. One half of them, however, enumerated by the Times will never enter the Stock Exchange as recognized securities; and the amount of floating capital must be enormous, to judge from the applications for shares, with a considerable per centage deposited. Royal Swedes are in a healthier state, it may be presumed from the renewed purchases. Joint-Stock Banks are also

good—particularly National Discount and Western of London. Consols close at 4 o'clock, at 95½, 95½ for opening.

Aberdeen, 29, 31; Bristol and Exeter, 94, 96; Caledonian, 62½, 62½; Chester and Elyhead, 16½, 17½; East Anglian, 18½, 18½; Eastern Counties, 105, 104; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 65, 65; Great Northern, 94, 95½; Ditto, A stock, 78, 79; Ditto, B stock, 130, 132; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 110, 112; Great Western, 65, 63½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 72, 75; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 98½, 98½; London and Blackwall, 71, 71; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 109, 111; London and North-Western, 109, 109½; London and South Western, 104, 107½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 34½, 35½; Midland, 84, 84½; Birmingham and Derby, 55, 56; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 15½, 16½; North British, 39, 40; North Eastern (Berwick), 83½, 83½; Ditto, Extension, 34, 24 dis.; Ditto, Great North Eastern Purchase, 24, 2 dis.; Ditto, Leeds, 19, 20; Ditto, York, 63½, 64½; North Staffordshire, 5, 4½ dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 32, 34; Scottish Central, 109, 111; Scottish Midland, 79, 81; South Devon, 154, 164; South Eastern, 75½, 76½; South Wales, 79, 81; Vale of Neath, 20, 20½; West Cornwall, 61, 71; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 84, 84½; Bombay and Baroda, 21, 22 pm.; Dutch Bhenish, 28, 28 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 38, 38½; East Indian, 24½, 25; Ditto, Extension B, 24, 24½; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 144, 154; Great Central of France, 67, 7 pm.; Great Indian Peninsula, 23, 23½; Great Luxembourg, 57, 58; Great Western of Canada, 26½, 26½; Ditto, New, 34, 34 pm.; Great Western of Canada Bonds, payable 1857, 100, 102; Ditto, Bonds, payable 1873, without option, 111, 112; Madras 4½ per cent. guar., 21½, 21½; Namur and Liege, with interest, 9, 9½; Northern of France, 45½, 45½; Paris and Lyons, 60½, 60½; Paris and Orleans, 55, 57; Royal Danish, 20½, 21½; Sambre and Meuse, 12, 12½; Scinde, guar. 5 per cent., 3, 3½ pm.; West Flanders, 51, 51½; Western and North Western of France, 38, 39; Brazil Imperial, 24, 3; St. John del Rey, 22, 24; Cobre Copper, 66, 68; Great Polgooth, 1, 1; Great Wheel Vor, 1, 1 dis.; Linares, 84, 9; Pontgibaud, 11½, 12½; Santiago de Cuba, 32, 44; South Australian, 4, 4; Australasian, 103, 105; Bank of London 71, 73; London Chartered Australian, 21, 22 x. d.; Oriental Bank, 41½, 42½; Australian Agricultural, 30, 32; Canada Land, 130, 132 x. d.; Crystal Palace, 28, 28; Oriental Gas, 14, 14; Peel River Land, 34, 34; Scottish Australian Investment, 14, 14; South Australian Land, 37, 38 x. d.; Van Diemen's Land, 16½, 17½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, June 4, 1856. THE continuance of fine weather and the limited arrivals of Wheat and Flour into London cause buyers to hold off as much as possible; holders, however, are firm; and the little business doing is at Monday's rates. The arrivals of the coast, however, have been rather numerous, but a considerable proportion of the cargoes were previously sold. Several cargoes of Danube Wheat have been taken at 58s. and 63s., one of very prime Kalafat at 65s., and one of Saidi at 47s. Maize is less in request than last week, and to effect sales lower prices must be taken. A cargo of Ibrail Maize was sold early in the week at 30s. 6d., but on Wednesday 30s. was taken for one of Galatz, and 29s. for Salonica. Seeing that Maize at these prices is much cheaper, weight for weight, than any other description of feeding stuff, it is hardly possible that any considerable decline can take place. Barley and Oats, with small supplies, maintain their firmness.

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

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thur., Frid. and rows for Bank Stock, 3 per Cent. Red., 3 per Cent. Con. An., Consols for Account, New 3 per Cent. An., New 2½ per Cent., Long Ans. 1860, India Stock, Ditto Bonds, £1000, Ditto, under £1000, Ex. Bills, £1000, Ditto, £500, Ditto, Small.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Table with columns for Brazilian Bonds, Huonous Ayres 6 p. Cents, Chilean 6 per Cents, Chilean 3 per Cents, Dutch 2½ per Cents, Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif., Equador Bonds, Mexican Account, Peruvian 4½ per Cents, Portuguese 4 per Cents, Portuguese 4 per Cents., Russian Bonds, Russian 4½ per Cents., Spanish, Spanish Committee Cor. of Coup. not fun., Turkish 6 per Cents., Turkish Now, 4 ditto, Vonozucla, 4½ per Cents.

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