

By Edmund Selous, Esq. & Co. Printers.

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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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1856.

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Review of the Week.

THE Bank of France has resolved to proceed under a winding-up act against the more extravagant part of speculation in France, and the Bank of England has followed. The rate of discount has been raised by the Paris Bank to 6 per cent., and it was expected that the Bank of England would follow by raising its rate of discount to 5½ per cent. on Thursday. This expectation, however, was not entirely fulfilled: the rise was not so high, the date was earlier. On the Tuesday there was a great rush of applicants for accommodation, in the hope that by obtaining good store at the 4½ per cent. rate, they might not only avoid some inconvenience arising from the constriction that was to come upon them, but they might even with money obtained at 4½ per cent. in hand realize the greater profit. The pressure was still more intense on the Wednesday, but the Bank of England encountered it with a piece of generalship not anticipated from that respectable body. It met a day too soon, and struck at the speculators with an instant rise of discount. The rise announced was one-half per cent.—from 4½ to 5; but no one expects that the Bank will be able to remain one per cent. below France. For if they did, capitalists could borrow from the Bank at 5 per cent., and lend to France at the higher rate, taking nearly one per cent. for the simple trouble of agency! This is so obvious, that a further rise must be expected.

In many respects the position is unprecedented. The English commercial public has to conduct its affairs parallel to France, where a speculation resembling that excited by the great JOHN LAW—only much more universal and varied—is sustained by an actual increase of *bond fide* trade throughout the whole community. At no period in France has there been so complete an imitation of the English practice of investing savings instead of lodging them in some store. And at no period, we can affirm, have the manufacturers and the traders in the commercial towns been so active in collecting capital for the prosecution and extension of their business. The consequence is, that the effect of most commercial movements which tend to a pressure in this country has been duplicated. The distractions arising from the stream of gold into France, the stream of silver outwards, and hence to the East, add to the dis-

turbance, while mistrust at the doubtful character of a large part of the speculation, and the belief that the Emperor will be unable to maintain his assistance of the working classes, add political to the commercial doubts, and aggravate both the alarm and the pressure in France. France, too, is subject to a drain towards other parts of the Continent which have caught the mania of speculation; so that it became an absolute necessity in Paris to raise the price of accommodation as the gentlest means of checking the outflow. It is probable that the rate of discount in Paris will be raised yet higher, and our Bank, whatever the usage, must follow.

The great potentates of the commercial world have for the moment thrown the royal potentates into the shade. The raising of discount is more important for our trading public than the raising of the Russian ire. Nevertheless, the manifesto issued from Moscow on the 2nd of September is one that will strike alarm in the Moderates of Europe—in those who hope to avoid extreme courses of positive action. It will be hailed by the Absolutist party; and we must confess for our own part, that we also hail it as the signal for a more sincere distribution of parties on the Continent. It is written by Prince GORTSCHAKOFF, the defeated of Sebastopol, the successor of NESSELDORF, the representative of military Russia, now selected by peaceful ALEXANDER to be his spokesman to the nations. It totally belies the pacific policy ascribed to the new Emperor. It roundly declares to the Western Powers that the CZAR views with hostility the continued occupation of Greece, that thorn in the side of Turkey; it scolds them for presuming to interfere in the internal affairs of Naples, whose king was governing his people "according to his own judgment." It affirms that proceedings of this kind overturn the compact which has regulated Europe during the peace. Russia will take no part in new combinations; she draws herself to herself, removing her assistance from Governments that thus betray the principles of 1815; and although she does not pledge herself to active interference, she implies that upon suitable opportunity she may strike in, to protect Greece, or Naples, or any other Power, that will act under her lead. This is a provisional declaration of war against the Western Powers. It is a declaration that Russia intends, if she can, to make Europe Cossack.

We have no corresponding declaration, and we cannot look for it, at least from the enthroned

monarchs: it is not *they* who will adopt CANNING'S counterpoise, and announce that they will make Europe "Cossack or Republican." They are, no doubt, pledged to act against Naples; and if they persevere, Russia will make them act against herself. But they flinch, both from adopting CANNING'S republican counterpoise, and from giving positive effect to their own principles of Constitutional Government and National Independence.

Thus the Western Powers still delay the fleet which was to have appeared in the waters of Naples, and to have given its 'moral support' to British and French residents, and their friends, on shore, while diplomatic support would be withdrawn from the intolerable FERDINAND. *Something* is going on at Paris which is not yet explained. Austria has thrown out more than one hint, that the French Government must become Conservative in Italy, or must expect Austria to take up arms against it. The French Emperor has lately given very positive assistance to the policy of Piedmont. But something still withholds any action from Paris: the reports are renewed that NAPOLEON is dissatisfied with the manner in which he is represented by his own Ministers; that on his return to Paris he will again take matters in his own hands, with more extensive changes than on his last return. Who can judge the value of reports where councils are divided, and the supreme President maintains unbroken silence? The one manifesto of the week at Paris is a reply in the *Moniteur* to LOUIS BLANC'S letters on Cayenne. If the prevarications of the official journal were not revolting, they would be ludicrous.

Turning to the opposite side of the world, we find a new movement in the United States: the Whigs have taken up with Mr. MILLARD FILLMORE, whose principal distinction is, that he got through an unexpected Presidency without mischance, and that he had the honour of dining with HER MAJESTY. The Whigs profess to dread a "geographical division" of parties, and they strike in as intermediators, offering a middle term—FILLMORE, the Unionist, pledged to the extremes of neither North nor South. It is most improbable that so negative a man can at this day collect a majority of votes. He must take them from one side or the other, unless, indeed, his party should ultimately give back to the majority that which they now abstract from it in a vain effort. The United States appear just now disposed, under the

influence of the excitement created by PRESTON BROOKS and his ferocious attack, to pay an extraordinary deference to foreign opinion, and, if present appearances can be trusted, they will rather sacrifice the Union than not pursue the crusade of Abolitionism. If they throw off this deference to foreign dictation, they will cast aside for the time these disturbances of faction, will seek the man that can best represent America as the most experienced and most distinguished American on the cards, and the most likely to carry the Administration through in harmony with American opinion and feeling. Some Americans see no alternative except to satisfy the English Court with MILLARD FILLMORE, or Exeter Hall with FREMONT.

At home, descending from the stage of a higher political action, we have had a few interesting demonstrations, or displays. MR. GLADSTONE has appeared as the spokesman in aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and of Church extension at home, speaking at Liverpool and at Mold in Flintshire. The great propositions of his speeches were, that in the colonies it is only human nature if the settlers do not make a first adequate provision for the maintenance of their Church, and that Societies at home must therefore begin by assisting them. But, he said, the colonization of the Anglo-Saxon race amounts to the propagation of Protestantism and Gospel throughout the world. So that he trusted to colonization even more than to direct ecclesiastical action. This was all eloquently said, but it is not hopeful for establishments or incorporated creeds!

Another colonization scheme promises to be a failure. The German Legion is invited to go to the Cape of Good Hope, on the easy conditions of a paid passage, an allowance of land, and a few days' military service in the year. The Legion has been disbanded as a preparative for its emigration. But, will it go? Of this there is the greatest doubt. Some may probably take the voyage, a few may ultimately become settlers; but many will linger about in the outskirts of Europe, in the hope of the next war. Really there seems to be some prospect that their hopes may be realized.

LORD STANLEY has been involved in another species of movement, or rather wool-gathering; though here he has succeeded in casting the wool back upon the responsible gatherers. The United Kingdom Alliance for the Suppression of the Liquor Traffic invited him to be one of its preachers on behalf of temperance, and to agitate for the enactment of something like a Maine Liquor Law in this country. LORD STANLEY objects, in the first place, that enactments which go against the public grain are only a premium to evasion. It is less a moral obligation to abstain from wine than to attend divine worship, yet the law compelling attendance on divine worship is a dead letter; and it is but a small minority that would compulsorily enforce abstinence. LORD STANLEY, therefore, declines to be the handle in the attempt to get a statute for regulating the dessert-table of the British family.

If we were to have a law on such subjects at all, it would appear that we should look for a statute to restrain the excessive drinking of laudanum and other poisons. A case before the police-court, this week, illustrates both the propensity to that form of drink and the facilities. A MR. HOPKINSON has a large connexion as a drug dealer in Derbyshire, and a shop in Broad-street, Ratcliffe-highway. He has wedded a wife who is now only twenty years of age; he is also, to use his own expression, "addicted to drinking;" the magistrate described him as "verging on delirium tremens." He travels about much. His wife is unhappy in his absence; unhappy, it would appear, in his presence. She has lately—so it was said at the police-court—accommodated her own habits to his. While he is wandering about Derbyshire or elsewhere, the shop is left in her charge, and the drugs were dispensed by a woman unlearned in chemistry, yielding to the temptations of intoxication, and so distracted in mind that at last she varies her stimulants with a dose of opium sufficient to kill ten people! The public instantly renews its cry for a law to restrain the sale of poison. Now it would be possible to require that all drugs should be sold with distinct statements as to their nature;

but if one set of drugs were enumerated in an Index expurgatorius as poisons, only to be sold under safe restrictions, the poison-seeking public would soon find out in the Pharmacopœia other drugs quite as deadly which can be extracted from the commonest articles in daily use, or even found among the domestic medicines.

AMERICA.

THE Presidential contest is now nearly absorbing the attention of the citizens of the United States. Mr. Johnston, the Know-nothing Free Soil candidate, has declined nomination, and given his adhesion to Mr. Fremont, according to one account, and to Mr. Dayton, according to another. It is thought that the Whigs of Baltimore will declare in favour of Mr. Fillmore. An attempt in Maryland (a slave-holding state) to organize a Fremont party, in the interests of the anti-slavery section, has ended in a riot. Mass meetings are being held in the interests of the various political bodies, and no efforts are spared by the candidates.

Placido de Castro, who has been on trial before the United States district court, charged with fitting out the slave brig Braman, has been acquitted.

California has returned to its normal state. The Vigilance Committee has disbanded, having discharged Judge Terry with a recommendation to resign. The termination of the existence of the committee was not marked by further disasters or violence. Their forces paraded in full strength, numbering from six to ten thousand men. Many were mounted, fully equipped for cavalry service, and bearing their colours and badges.

Judge Lecompte, of Kansas, has written a long letter in vindication of his course of action in sustaining the proceedings of the Missouri border ruffians. The civil war continues, and the Free State men have built a fort at Laurence, said to be capable of holding one thousand men. The state prisoners have been released on bail; an event which has been celebrated at Laurence by a great jubilee. Governor Geary has issued a proclamation, commanding all armed bands to disperse. Acting Governor Woodson, of Kansas, has been addressed by the Kansas State Central (Free Soil) Committee, who demanded the dismissal of the man-hunting parties in the territory. To this address he returned a reply, imputing all the calamities of the inhabitants to the conduct of General Lane and his partizans, and concluding by demanding implicit obedience to the pro-slavery laws of the territory.

Matters are still in suspense in Nicaragua. All the native inhabitants have resolved to terminate their political dissensions for a time, in order to unite for the expulsion of Walker, and Don Fernando Guzman has been unanimously appointed Provisional President. Rivas and Estrada, the heads of the conflicting native factions, have waived their claims so as not to obstruct the common cause. There have been no further attempts in Mexico against the Government; but Vidaurri is endeavouring to find partizans in Zacatecas. The Government has commissioned a scientific expedition to explore the mines in the peninsula of Lower California.

The convention between England and Honduras, relative to the Bay Islands, has been published. The contracting powers "agree to constitute and declare the islands of Ruatan, Bonacca, Helena, Utila, and Barbaretta, situated in the Bay of Honduras, a free territory under the sovereignty of the Republic of Honduras." All foreign domination is to cease, and the inhabitants are to have the right of self-government, freedom from taxation, excepting such as may be imposed by their own municipality, exemption from military service, except for the defence of the free territory and within its bounds, trial by jury in their own courts, and religious freedom. "The Republic of Honduras engages not to exercise its rights of sovereignty over the islands which are to constitute such free territory in any manner in violation of the rights and immunities specified. The Republic also engages not to erect nor to permit to be erected any fortification on the said islands or any other islands in the Bay of Honduras; nor to cede such islands or any of them, or the right of sovereignty over such islands, or any part of such sovereignty, to any nation or State whatever; and whereas slavery has not existed in the said islands, the Republic of Honduras hereby engages that slavery shall not at any time hereafter be permitted to exist therein."

The citizens of New York, Baltimore, Boston, and other cities, have given public receptions to Mr. G. Peabody, of London, on the occasion of his return to America. This distinguished citizen of the United States, who has exhibited, during his stay in England, the most sumptuous hospitality to his countrymen, and who has done much to encourage cordiality of intercourse between Americans and Englishmen, appears to have received quite an ovation in his native land.

Sir Henry Holland has arrived at New York. Money in that city is now comparatively easy. Exchange, 109½ to 109¾. The entire semi-monthly remittance from San Francisco amounted to about 2,000,000 dollars. Improvements are going on at New York with a rapidity and splendour which seem to rival the Napoleonic alterations in Paris. The city is also being greatly enlarged, and marble is used to a considerable extent in building houses and other edifices.

MR. GLADSTONE AT LIVERPOOL AND MOLD.

MR. GLADSTONE delivered two speeches in connexion with Church Missionary efforts on Monday. The second of these was at Liverpool, in the evening, at the annual meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, held at the Collegiate Institution. The Bishop of Chester was in the chair, and some remarks were made by the Dean of Cape Town, who said that "we had constructed, during the last war in Amall's country, a fort for observation, at an expense of 40,000, and called it Fort Waterloo. After the war was over, he had seen the Kaffirs dance upon the foundations of the fort. But on St. Luke's-day, two years since, the foundations of a school were laid, and to this the natives brought down the stones from Fort Waterloo." In the course of his speech, Mr. Gladstone (after reviewing the financial position of the Society, and approving of their plan of granting monetary assistance to the clergy of colonies in the first difficulties of early settlement, and of withholding it after those difficulties are over) made an historical retrospect, glancing back to the period when the Society was started. He said:—"It was founded at a time which, in reference to the best purposes of our nature, I am afraid we must call an evil time, for, undoubtedly, although the Revolution of 1688 was, in the hands of God, the means of preserving to us the inestimable blessings of our civil and religious freedom, yet we cannot but see, not in any just relation to that revolution or its causes, yet, as a matter of fact, during the last century, and from its very commencement, there came in a rapid decline in the religion and morality of the British people. As the consequence of that, a great relaxation of the discipline of the Church, a material lowering of the standard of its piety, and, as the last result again, or at least the necessary result of these lamentable circumstances, a great multiplication of the religious differences of the country. In full time, darkness had begun to gather in, and, while it was beginning to increase, this Society was founded by some of those who were the elect of their generation. The men who endeavoured to stem the tide of ungodliness at home were likewise the men who endeavoured to make provision for the interests of their fellow-subjects and fellow-Christians abroad. During all those generations—during those dreary years of the last century—this Society never ceased from its work." Referring to the great question of colonization, Mr. Gladstone observed that Spain, Germany, Italy, and France are not colonizing nations, and that England pre-eminently is. But, asked the speaker, "is it enough that you multiply the inhabitants of this earth? Is it enough that you provide them with the meat which perishes? Is it enough that you add wider and wider spaces to our dominions? Is it enough that you exult in thinking how many races of men there are that speak your language, that obey your laws, that own allegiance to your Sovereign, or that, in the essential particulars of social and human life, recall perpetually the origin from which they sprang? Is this enough or is it not? It was beautifully said, by a writer of great imagination, that, if you reared up men with cultivated tastes, with the knowledge and the habits of civilization, with the means of indulging these tastes, and of surrounding themselves with the comforts of life, and if at the same time they remained ignorant of that guidance which leads them heavenward, you were only preparing a more costly banquet to satiate the appetite of death. And that is true. Colonial empires, it is reasonable to believe, will exist—their cities will be reared, and will be in the closest relations with you, for the network of your commerce reaches over the whole earth. You know yourselves how incessantly both its extent and its relations are increasing; but shall these people be people rejoicing above all things in the knowledge of the living God? That is a question which, humanly speaking, we have to answer. It is the function of this Society—it is her especial privilege—that she manages to be peculiarly wanted at that season of weakness and of infancy to which I have already endeavoured to call your attention. It is her business to prevent a fatal interval during which the sound of the name of God should be forgotten. And well does it know how difficult it is to restore the dominion of society when once it has been extinguished. She calls on you to aid her in this great work. She shows you the nature of the rules by which she is governed (*hear, hear*); her voice comes to you, and, while sounding from her agents in this country, is likewise a voice that comes across every sea that compasses the four quarters of the globe; it is the voice of the settlers who live in the colonies, your children, your brothers, your greatest and your dearest friends (*tremendous cheering*); it is the voice of that devoted ministry which is now discharging all the spiritual duties in the British colonies, in such a manner as, without the smallest desire to create an invidious comparison, I would say draws down upon them the respect and the admiration of all among whom they live." He concluded by exhorting the assembly to inquire into the doings of the Society, and to support them.

The meeting at Mold, in Flintshire, in the morning, was presided over by the Bishop of St. Asaph. The speech made by Mr. Gladstone anticipated in a great degree the address delivered at Liverpool in the evening. Of the withdrawal of the Queen's letter he said:—"I

think it was a precipitate, ill-timed, and unwise act. I think there was in it an indication of a disposition much to be lamented and deprecated, to which I will not further allude. But I do not regret the withdrawal of the Queen's letter in behalf of, or in regard to, the interests of this Society; for I feel convinced that the withdrawal will have the effect of the former withdrawal of the Parliamentary grant. Since that withdrawal, the revenues have not only quadrupled, as was modestly stated in the report, but have multiplied tenfold. This increase is not only since the withdrawal of the grant, but in no small degree in consequence of it." Further on, Mr. Gladstone remarked:—"I confess I see, with great pleasure and satisfaction, a tendency in some of the colonies towards the introduction of a real system of discipline among the members of the Church, not founded upon the action of secular power, but representing the free inclination of the Christian minds of the people themselves. In point of fact, it seems to be the characteristic of those whom we call the savages of New Zealand, and of those converted from heathenism in India, that they do not understand belonging to a society in which there are no laws, no obligations, no means of preventing misconduct or repressing error. If, by their own free-will, therefore, they have established for themselves these rules—have placed upon themselves this yoke, not of arbitrary law, but of the law of Christian improvement—is there not in the fact something like a pattern to us at home?" (Applause.)

At both meetings, resolutions in favour of Church Missions, &c., were unanimously passed.

THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR ITALY.

WE have already printed the letter addressed to the Society of the Friends of Italy. That Society no longer existing as a body, a committee has been formed of some of its former members, for the purpose of circulating the letter throughout England, and receiving subscriptions for the "Emancipation of Italy." The members of the Committee are, at present, Douglas Jerrold, Esq., 26, Circus-road, St. John's-wood; W. H. Ashurst, Esq., 6, Old Jewry; John Bennett, Esq., Cheap-side; W. C. Bennett, Esq., Greenwich; Richard Moore, Esq., 25, Hart-street, Bloomsbury; James Stansfeld, Esq., Swan Brewery, Walham-green; George Dawson, Esq., Birmingham; Joseph Cowen, Jun., Esq., Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The Honorary Secretary is James Stansfeld, Esq., Office, 22, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge, London. In Leeds, Bradford, Derby, Chester, and Newcastle, the appeal has met with a ready response, and Felice Orsini is to lecture in these towns for the Italian cause.

On Tuesday, September 30, a public meeting was held in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to receive the Address from the Italian Working Men to the Working Men of England. Above 6000 working men attended. Joseph Cowen, Jun., Esq., of Blyden Burn, Mr. Josiah Thomas, Mr. Richard B. Reed, Smith, Mr. Joseph Southdown, Smith, Mr. Wm. Elder, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting. The following resolutions were moved and carried with "great unanimity and enthusiasm," and the following letter to the Italian Working Men of Genoa was adopted:—

"That this meeting desires to convey to the Italian working men (through the working men of Genoa) their sympathy with them in their struggles for emancipation, hitherto unsuccessful but always heroic. They desire to assure them that they watch their efforts for independence, for liberty, and for national sovereignty, with the warmest interest, and they look hopefully forward to the time when the noble Italian people shall renew their final conflict with their oppressors, and declare their country free."

"That this meeting recognizing the right of the Italian people to a national existence, and believing it to be the duty of all free nations to aid them in their struggle to obtain it, resolves to open forthwith a subscription, to be handed to the Italian National Committee, to be applied by them in such ways as they deem expedient, for assisting in the emancipation of their fatherland."

The English Working Men of Newcastle-upon-Tyne to the Italian Working Men of Genoa.

BROTHERS,—We have received your address, and we respond to it heartily and with pleasure.

The wrongs and sufferings of Italy we deplore, the cruelties of her tyrants we execrate, the heroism of her sons we admire, and we recognize the duty, so far as in our power lies, of aiding in the holy work of effecting her emancipation.

We know, Brothers, that with you, as with other oppressed peoples, that emancipation must be accomplished mainly by yourselves. As our great Byron said to the enslaved: "By your own arms the conquest must be wrought." Nevertheless it is the duty of peoples as of individuals, to afford to each other whatever help they can in combating for that liberty, which is the chief of earthly blessing, the greatest privilege of our common humanity. Therefore we have assembled; therefore we have resolved to subscribe our humble pence towards swelling the coffers of the Italian National Treasury; therefore we will endeavour to arouse our fellow-workmen and our countrymen in general to do likewise, to co-operate in the performance of a great national duty.

Unhappily the mass of Englishmen have been too

prone to neglect 'foreign politics,' and have allowed aristocratical ministers and conspiring diplomatists to misrepresent British sentiments, and misapply British energies—moral and physical. Those sentiments (in spite of the tendency to ignore 'foreign politics') are unquestionably in favour of the 'oppressed Nationalities,' yet at this moment there appears to be imminent danger of intervention in the affairs of Naples, on the part of the English Government, in conjunction with that of the French despot, for the purpose, in reality, of preventing an insurrection, under the pretence of checking the King of Naples in the commission of his crimes. In this threatened intervention we have no confidence. Honest intervention, open and earnest war on the part of England against the tyrants of Italy; Austrian, Neapolitan, Papal, &c., &c., we would applaud and support; but as no such course is possible to England's present administrators, we mistrust and condemn their interference. We demand that to Italians be left the initiative of settling with King Bomba, and that greater curse, the brutal Austrian domination. It is for Englishmen to support that initiative by all moral and material means at their command.

We hope that in this holy work we shall meet with the general co-operation of our countrymen, but at least, we will do our duty.

And Italians will do theirs! They will perform the more onerous duty of combating foreign aggressors, and the mercenary troops of blood-stained tyrants, on the battle-field. May their arms be blessed, may victory attend their flag, and may Italy be free throughout her rich and lovely land, from the Alps to the Ocean. Meri of Genoa, Italians, Brothers, accept the assurance of our fraternal devotion, and our heartfelt aspirations for the speedy and enduring triumph of your glorious cause.

Evviva l'Italia! Evviva la Liberta!

Three Studies from the Vita Nuova of Dante—"The Salutation," "The Vision," "The Anniversary"—are to be raffled for, in 200 shares, at 5s. each. The proceeds to be devoted to the Italian Cause. On view, at 1-47, Fleet-street.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

MR. J. ASHBY, for several years one of the clerks at the New Palace, Westminster, fell into the river a few days ago in attempting to get on board a steamboat. A boat-hook was put out to him, but no other attempt at rescue seems to have been made, and Mr. Ashby sank to rise no more. The body has not been found.

An illustration of the imperfect administration of our poor laws is contained in an inquest held at Doncaster on the body of Elizabeth Duff, the wife of a small shopkeeper, who, after being missed for some days, was found drowned. She had been deranged in her mind, and, having been sent to Bingham, in Nottinghamshire, where her parents reside, application was made to the governor of the workhouse there and to the board of guardians, to put her into an asylum. This was refused on the ground that the woman did not belong to the parish. An application was then made to the board of guardians at Doncaster, but they also refused, saying that she was not resident there. The poor woman was therefore not placed under proper restraint, and having wandered from her home, met with her death. The coroner, who sent for the clerk of the Doncaster board of guardians, strongly criticized the conduct both of that body and of the Bingham board of guardians, and said he considered the case one of such a serious character, that he thought it his duty to forward the evidence taken at the inquest to the Poor Law Board. The jury returned a verdict of 'Found drowned,' accompanying it with a severe censure on the neglect the poor woman had experienced at the hands of the two boards.

The criminal folly of practical joking with dangerous weapons has led to the death of Thomas Burridge, a young man employed, together with some others, in thrashing corn in a field at Charter House, Hinton, a village about four miles from Bath. Burridge threw a bucket of water over Jacob Francis, one of the labourers, who immediately slung a barley fork (an instrument with three prongs, each upwards of a foot in length) at the young man with great force: this entered his back just below the shoulder and penetrated to so great a depth, that the handle remained horizontal. The poor fellow called to another labourer, who was standing by, "John, do pull it out!" Hales, the person spoken to, caught hold of the handle and pulled; but Burridge was only dragged back by the force, the fork remaining. A horrible scene then ensued. Putting his foot to Burridge's back, Hales, according to the account he gave before the magistrate, "pulled with a jerk, when the fork came out, and Burridge fell forward, blood at the same time gushing out of his mouth." Hales then went for assistance, but Francis did not make any attempt at succour. Death terminated the sufferings of Burridge, who was only nineteen years of age, in a very short time. There did not appear to have been any angry feeling between him and Francis; but they had been 'larking' together nearly the whole of the morning. Francis is in custody, and under remand.

Five men have been suffocated in an empty gin vat at Williams's distillery, Worcester, worked by Messrs. Gosnell. It was determined on the afternoon of Friday week to clean a large waste charger or vat, twelve feet

in depth and diameter, and capable of holding ten or fifteen thousand gallons of spirit. Mr. Green, the excise supervisor, entered the vat about three o'clock, for the purpose of examining it, and found nothing to excite alarm, though the air, as usual, was oppressive. He remained there a few minutes, and then ascended through the large orifice at the top. About a thousand gallons of water were then thrown in, stirred round for some time, and drawn off. Twenty minutes afterwards, a man named John Drew, fifty years of age, descended without a light, to assist in the cleansing; but, in a little while, a fellow-labourer, Henry Bough, perceived that he was struggling at the bottom. Bough entered, followed by Richard Powell and Henry Wilts, all of whom were instantly suffocated, and fell to the bottom of the vat. James Rogers then volunteered to go in, but was dissuaded by another of the workmen, who had just made the attempt, and had withdrawn, daunted by the strong smell of carbonic acid gas. Disregarding these dissuasions, Rogers entered, and immediately fell a victim to his courage and devotion. Benjamin Baker then made an attempt, but speedily drew back, and was followed by Mr. Swan, the manager, who likewise rapidly retreated. A lighted chafing-dish was then lowered into the vat, a hole was bored in the side, and air was pumped in by a large pair of bellows. Baker afterwards again descended, and brought up one of the men, who was quite dead. The other four were subsequently raised from the vessel, and were also found to be corpses. Medical aid was sent for, but it was of no avail. All the deceased men were married, and had families. The oldest of them (Powell) was sixty years of age.

A labouring man named Charles Harmsworth was employed with others on Saturday afternoon repairing the roof of a house in Tilney-street, Park-lane. While in the act of carrying a pailful of water along the parapet, he was either seized with a sudden giddiness or over-balanced himself, and, falling on the spikes of some iron railings between sixty and seventy feet below, he was impaled on them. He was removed to St. George's Hospital, but expired in a few minutes. He has left a widow and large family.

The engine and carriages of a train on the East Lancashire line parted company a few days ago at Bootle, the one continuing on the right rails, the other going on to the Southport branch. The coupling chains snapped, the wheels of one of the carriages were broken off, and two of the carriages had their ends stove in. The passengers were thrown into the greatest consternation, but no personal injuries were sustained beyond a few trivial contusions. A great many workmen being engaged close by at the time, the roadway was speedily cleared of its encumbrances, and the traffic was soon resumed.

A man living at Woodham Walter, named Isaac Lynn, has died from drinking a quantity of home-made wine with which arsenic had been accidentally mixed. The wine was produced by the man and his wife, on account of their being visited by some friends at their house, and all the company drank largely of it. On the same night every one of the guests was seized with fits of vomiting, and Lynn himself was attacked with headache and sickness the following morning. He nevertheless went to his work as usual, and in the evening two of the visitors of the previous day requested to taste the wine again, as they believed it to have been the cause of the nausea with which they had recently been troubled. The bottle out of which they had already drunk was produced, and, after the two men had tasted it, Lynn said that he was not afraid, as he had had so much, and would therefore drink the rest. He accordingly emptied the bottle, and he and the others were again taken ill the same night. Mrs. Lynn immediately sent for three bottles of mixture which she administered to the invalids, and her husband at first felt better, but the sickness speedily returned, accompanied by violent purging, and he died about a week afterwards. The bottles containing the wine which had caused his death, were bought at an auction about a year ago, and were carefully washed with cinder dirt. The contents of several of them had been drunk already and there were still some left. A bottle having been given to a medical gentleman to examine, he discovered a whitish sediment at the bottom of it, which, on analysing, he found to contain three drachms of white arsenic. He had no doubt that Lynn had died from their effect, but believed he might have recovered had he been a man of sound health. The bottle, probably, had originally contained a preparation of arsenic for sheep-dressing. An inquest was held, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence.

A case of experimental hanging in Half-Moon-street, Piccadilly, has terminated in the death of the young man who performed the foolish trick. He was found one night dead in a loft, hanging by a line attached to the skylight window. He had been seen alive and in good spirits a quarter of an hour before. It appeared that he was in the habit of hanging himself in sport, and at length he did so once too often.

A powder-mill at Maresfield, ten miles from Lewes, was the scene of an explosion on Friday week, when part of a wall was thrown down, and a workman named Ellis was killed. The other workmen were at their breakfast at the time, and thus escaped without injury.

A collision between a passenger train and some coal waggons occurred on Tuesday on the Woolwich line

near the Blackheath Tunnel. The waggons were being shunted across the line; the train was proceeding at the rate of from twenty to twenty-five miles an hour. Several of the carriages were shattered; but no lives were lost, although nine of the passengers were severely injured.

A poor Irish lad, named Rooney, who was in the habit of frequenting the stable-yard of the inn at Musselburgh, in Scotland, picking up a precarious livelihood, and sleeping in the vehicles or other shelter at night, has met with a horrible death, similar to that which forms the subject of the ballad of "The Mistletoe Bough." He had apparently gone into the box of a mail cart to pass the night, and closed upon himself the lid, which fastens with a self-acting spring. No one residing at hand, his cries and struggles were evidently unheard, but his agony must have been severe, as it was found that several blood-vessels had burst in his efforts to escape his appalling fate. When the box was opened, life was completely extinct.

Some men employed in sinking a well at 49, Rue des Amandiers Popincourt (says *Galignani*), complained to their employer, M. Levez, that at the depth at which they had arrived there was such an intolerable smell they could not continue their labour with safety. He reproached them with being too timid, and, to prove that they were so, caused himself to be let down into the well; but no sooner had he reached the bottom than he felt himself half suffocated by gas, and signalled to be pulled up. The men immediately proceeded to raise him; but, before he had got half way up, he was obliged to let go the rope, and he fell to the bottom. He was immediately got out, and a medical man was summoned; but death had already ensued.

An explosion took place at the paper mills of Messrs. Wansborough and Co., Watchet, Somerset, last Saturday, about seven o'clock in the morning. The proprietors had just erected an additional boiler, to act as an auxiliary to the one usually employed, which was not sufficiently powerful to drive the heavy machinery of the works. The second boiler was not a new one, and, before it was fixed, it was feared by some of the workmen employed there that it would not prove strong enough to resist the pressure required to be put upon it. Soon after the workpeople commenced operations on Saturday, their fears were realized. The boiler, weighing about four tons, was carried into the air to an immense height, and propelled over a cottage in which a family of children was in bed; but the workmen escaped with their lives, though one was driven about twenty yards by the force of the explosion, and sustained a few bruises. The loss to the owners is estimated at nearly 1000*l*.

The roof of a coal-mine at the Dunkirk Colliery, Guide-bridge, near Ashton-under-Lyne, fell on Tuesday upon a number of men at work. There was a fault in the seam of coal at the place, which is three hundred yards from the bottom of the shaft, and the working of such parts of a mine is always attended with danger, both on account of looseness in the roof and the collection of foul air. Six men were buried under the falling mass, which was twelve yards by seven in area, and in some places nine feet thick. By three o'clock in the afternoon, when a great portion of the fallen earth had been removed, the whole of the six persons were discovered, one of whom had not suffered any injury. One man sustained a fracture of the leg and a dislocation of the hip. The other four (who were all young men) were taken out dead.

James Beresford, a milkman residing at Woodside, Sheffield, was run over on Monday night by a train on the Midland railway. One foot was cut off, and the other very much crushed. He was discovered the following morning by the driver of a passing train, who sent assistance to him, and he was conveyed to the Sheffield Infirmary. Death, however, ensued in the course of a few hours.

A porter on the Eastern Counties Railway has been knocked down by an advancing train while signaling another train. It seems that the signal-post is dangerously near one of the lines of rail.

RUSSIAN DECLARATION OF POLICY.

The subjoined is a translation from the *Cologne Gazette* of the circular despatch which Prince Gortschakoff—the now Minister of Foreign Affairs for Russia—has addressed to the representatives of his sovereign at foreign courts:—

"Moscow, Sept. 2.

"The treaty signed at Paris on the 30th March, in putting an end to a struggle the proportions of which threatened to extend still further, and the final issue of which was beyond human calculation, had for its object to re-establish the normal state of international relations in Europe. The Powers which had coalesced against us had taken as their motto respect for the right and independence of Governments. We do not intend here to return anew to the historical examination of the question, nor to investigate how far the conduct of Russia would have endangered either the one or the other of these two principles. It is not our intention to raise a sterile discussion. Far otherwise, it is our wish to apply the principles which the great European Powers proclaimed at that time, when they took up a position direct or indirect as our adversaries, and we feel the greater pleasure in re-

adverting to those principles, seeing that they have never ceased to be our own. We have no wish to do any one of the European Powers the injustice of supposing that they made use at that time of mere words to suit the occasion, and that each of them may think itself authorized, now that the contest is over, in adopting a line of conduct in conformity with its own peculiar interests and calculations. We accuse no one of having used those words solely as a weapon momentarily taken up with a view to extend the seat of war, and which is then laid aside in the dust of the arsenal.

"On the contrary, we prefer to believe that all the Powers which recognized these fundamental principles did so with perfect loyalty and entire good faith, and with the genuine intention of conforming to these principles under all circumstances.

"Taking this for our starting point, we are bound to presuppose that all the Powers which took part in the last war had, like our august master, the intention of making the general peace serve as a fixed radical point for re-establishing relations based on a respect for the right and independence of Governments. Has this hope been realized? Do we see the normal state of the international relations re-established?

"Without wishing to enter into minute details connected with questions of secondary interest, we are compelled to state, with regret, that there are two countries forming part of the European family, where in one a regular state of things does not yet exist, and in the other it is threatened to be compromised. We wish to speak of Greece and the kingdom of Naples.

"As for the occupation of the Hellenic soil, consummated against the will of the sovereign and the feelings of the people, by foreign troops, there is now no longer the slightest reason for prolonging it. Political motives might to a certain extent explain the violence inflicted on the sovereign. The necessities of war, more or less real, might be alleged for giving a colour to this infringement on the authority of right. But at this moment, when none of these motives can any longer be invoked, it appears to us impossible to justify before the tribunal of equity the further presence of foreign troops on the soil of Greece. Thus, the first words pronounced by our august master when the re-establishment of peace had enabled the Emperor to raise his voice were clear and precise. We have never dissembled our opinion in the Councils of the Cabinets, and we shall continue that course.

"We consider it our duty, however, to add that, although the results have not fully answered our expectations, we retain a hope that we shall not remain isolated on a ground where right and justice are evidently in favour of the cause which we defend.

"As to the kingdom of Naples, if the question is not to find a remedy, it appears to us that it is time to seek a means of prevention. The King of Naples is the object of a pressure, not because his Majesty may have transgressed some of the engagements imposed on him by treaties with foreign courts, but because, in the exercise of his incontestable rights of sovereignty, he governs his subjects as he thinks proper.

"We can understand that, in consequence of a friendly foresight, one Government might offer to another advice inspired by kind interest, and that this advice might even assume the character of exhortation, but we think that that is the extreme limit at which it ought to stop. Less than ever is it now permitted in Europe to forget that sovereigns are equals among themselves; and that it is not extent of territory, but the sanctity of the rights of each, which regulates the relations existing between them. To wish to obtain from the King of Naples concessions as to the internal administration of his States by threatening demonstrations is to substitute one's self by violence in lieu of his authority, is to wish to govern in his place, is to proclaim without disguise the right of the strong over the weak.

"It is needless for us to point out to you the opinion that would be entertained by our august master respecting such pretensions. His Majesty desires to retain the hope that they will not be put in practice; and he is the more strongly imbued with this hope, as it is also the doctrine which the States where the principles of political liberty are the most fully developed have always advanced as their essential profession of faith, and, indeed, to such an extent that they have endeavoured to apply this doctrine even where circumstances did not admit of its being done, save by a forced interpretation.

"You will have the goodness to take care, whenever the two questions in point shall be raised at your place of residence, not to allow any doubt to hang over the view taken of them by our august master. This unreservedness is a natural consequence of the system which the Emperor adopted on the day he took possession of the throne of his ancestors.

"This system is not unknown to you. The Emperor wishes to live in good harmony with all Governments, and his Majesty thinks that the best means of attaining that object is not to conceal his ideas on any questions connected with public European right. The *laissez-aller* of those sovereigns who for long years have supported with us the principles to which Europe owes more than a quarter of a century of peace no longer exists in its ancient integrity. The will of our august master is foreign to this result. Circumstances have restored to us our full liberty of action. The Emperor has decided to devote by preference all his solicitude to the welfare

of his subjects, and to concentrate on the development of the internal resources of the country an activity which would not be diverted by things abroad, unless the positive interests of Russia should imperiously demand it.

"Russia is reproached with isolating herself, and keeping silent in presence of facts which do not accord with either law or equity, and it is said that Russia sulks. Russia does not sulk—she meditates. (*La Russie boude, dit-on. La Russie ne boude pas; la Russie se recueille.*) As to the silence of which we are accused, we may call to mind that a short time ago an artificial agitation was organized against us, because our voice was heard whenever we thought it necessary to support right. This action, tutelary for many Governments, and for which Russia herself derived no benefit, has been laid hold of to accuse us of tending to I know not what universal domination. We might shelter our silence under the impression of this *souvenir*. We do not, however, think that such an attitude befits a power to which Providence has assigned the position that Russia occupies.

"This despatch will prove to you that our august master does not confine himself to this character when he thinks it his duty to make known his opinion. It will be the same whenever the voice of Russia may be useful to the cause of right, or when it will not be for the dignity of the Emperor to let the world remain in ignorance of his views and opinions. As to the employment of our material forces, the Emperor reserves to himself the power of having recourse to them according to his unbiassed judgment.

"The policy of our august master is a national one; it is not egotistical; and if his Majesty makes the interest of his people paramount, he does not admit that the advancement of those interests can excuse the violation of the rights of others.—You are authorized, &c., "GORTSCHAKOFF."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE bull-fights which the Emperor has been endeavouring to introduce into France have been received by the French people in a spirit which does them honour. According to an excellent leading article in the *Daily News*, in which the writer points out the numerous efforts made by Louis Napoleon and the Empress to familiarize the nation with mediæval forms and customs, the people at one of the recent spectacles "hissed and mobbed the bull-fighters, and the police and soldiery were compelled to interfere, and disperse the assemblage. More than that—some of the people lay in wait for the bull-fighters and their animals at night, to force away the men and kill the animals. It is clear that the bull-fight will never obtain a footing in France."

Some French officers, it is said, have been permitted to take service in the Papal army, which is now being augmented and reformed.

A treaty has been concluded between France and Denmark, by which a strip of land in Iceland is ceded to France.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* contradicts a statement which has been made by several journals, that no more convicts are to be sent to Cayenne, and that the whole of those now there will be removed to New Caledonia. "The great distance of the latter from the mother country would," says the *Moniteur de la Flotte*, "produce financial impediments so such a step, even if no objections existed."

The Emperor on Monday reviewed at Bayonne the 35th and 46th Regiments of the line, recently returned from the Crimea.

With reference to the Neapolitan question, we read in the Paris correspondence of the *Morning Post*:—"The Governments of England and France, desirous, I am informed, of exhausting every chance which might prevent a hostile demonstration in the Bay of Naples, will not take any final step until they are convinced that the King and Neapolitan Cabinet are determined to brave European opinion and defy England and France. In the course of a day or two, I am told, the Cabinets of London and Paris will be in a position to apply the united policy they have determined to carry out with regard to the Neapolitan difficulties."

M. de Brunow, the Russian representative at Paris, had an interview with the Foreign Minister on Tuesday, and presented a note, having reference, it is supposed, to the Neapolitan question.

Prince Napoleon has had an audience with the King of Denmark, with whom he afterwards dined, and then attended the theatre.

The truth of the rumour that the Countess de Chambord is *enceinte* is denied at Vienna.

The statements of M. Louis Blanc with respect to the treatment of the prisoners at Cayenne have at length been answered, after a fashion, by the *Moniteur*. The alleged cruelties are of course denied by the official writer; but he makes the following awkward admissions:—"From the commencement of the transportation up to the present moment the number of individuals sent to Cayenne and belonging to the so-called political category has been 320, a number which, according to the last return, has been reduced to 180; the diminution caused—1, by numerous escapes; 2, by successive liberations; 3, by the death of 52 in the space of four years—a number surprisingly small when it is considered that

the yellow fever has been committing great ravages in Guiana in an epidemic form."

AUSTRIA.

A monetary panic exists at the present moment in Austria, owing to a decline in all kinds of Austrian stock, and to certain measures taken by the Credit and National Banks, the former of which has made a call on the shareholders for a further payment of the seventy per cent. of the capital subscribed for before the time at which it was stipulated that the demand should be made; while the latter (the National Bank) has notified that it has raised the rate of interest "on all discount and loan business" from four to five per cent.

The Emperor has been travelling into Hungary, as far as Temesvar.

A squadron of eight Austrian vessels has arrived at Malta.

The intentions of Austria with respect to the affairs of Naples are not precisely known; but it seems probable that she disapproves of the contemplated interference of France and England in the internal government of King Ferdinand, and that she has notified this disapproval to the Cabinets of Paris and London.

The Emperor and Empress go to Venice, and probably to Milan, in the beginning of November.

The Emperor has commenced his travels in Hungary, and is said to have been well received at Pesth.

PRUSSIA.

The Royal Bank of Prussia has again raised its rate of discount by one per cent. A great drain of silver specie from Prussia to England and Russia, by way of Hamburg, is now taking place; and it has been resolved by the directors of the Royal Bank not to take in any bills for discount, the proceeds of which there should be reason to believe would be exported in silver. The bankers of Leipzig, Cologne, and Frankfort have also made the same step, and have advanced their rate of discount. The latter course has likewise been pursued by the National Bank of Austria.

The late war in the East, while it brought Prussia no profit by any increased consumption of her manufactures or otherwise, caused her an outlay of 16,000,000 out of 30,000,000 thalers for the mere support of her army in a state of "preparedness for war." The whole of those 30,000,000 were raised in hard cash, and the unspent 14,000,000 are supposed to be still in the hands of the Government. To defray the interest of these 30,000,000, the nation has been for these two years and a half paying 25 per cent. increase on its entire direct taxation, the income-tax itself being, as must be borne in mind, of very recent introduction. It was also one of the results of the war, that, while various branches of industry and adventure were crippled, breadstuffs were made dearer by the abstraction of large quantities of grain for the wants of distant armies; then came bad harvests and inundations at home, so that in several parts of Prussia, and in the north and west of Poland, the scarcity has amounted as closely as possible to a famine, while the facilities of railway conveyance and steam navigation, by carrying off the best of meat and all other sorts of provisions, have fearfully run up the price of all that remained, no matter how inferior in quality. This dearness has pressed most severely of all on the subordinate officials of the Government, whose salaries, without exception, are unconscionably low. The excellent character for integrity and incorruptibility which the Prussian officials have hitherto justly enjoyed has of late years been impaired under the pressure of high prices and insufficient salaries, as has been more particularly evidenced in the service of the post-office, where the theft of money-letters some little time back had reached an incredible height; so that the Government sees itself compelled from this cause, as much as from the efforts of the majority of the House of Deputies, to prepare a bill, to be brought in next session, for improving the pecuniary position of its worst paid servants: This will cause a very considerable increase of State expenditure, for their name is legion.—*Times Berlin Correspondent.*

The Government has determined to enforce on the recruits in foot regiments their full term of three years' service, which for some time past has been commuted, in effect, to one year and a half, an injustice being thus done to the cavalry, the men in which were not similarly indulged. The army will not be reduced to its condition before the war, the Government choosing to maintain it in a state of effectiveness on a large scale. The King has also decreed, without proposing any reference to the Chambers, that the retiring pension of generals shall be higher than the three thousand thalers at which it was fixed at the time of the revolution.

In connexion with this strengthening of the forces, there are various rumours to the effect that Prussia designs to march an army into Neuschâtel for the recovery of that territory, which belonged to her up to the revolutionary era of 1848; and it is added that the object of Count Hatzfeldt's visit to the Emperor of the French at Biarritz is to procure his permission for Prussian troops to march through French territory in order to occupy the disputed province. Another rumour (fathered by *Le Nord*) states that Count Hatzfeldt is negotiating for a cession of Neuschâtel to France in exchange for a portion of land of similar extent adjoining the Prusso-French frontier at Saarbrücken; but these statements

are of course not reliable, though worth a passing notice. Russia and Austria have recognized the alleged right of Prussia to the territory in question. The trial of the in-urrectionists by the Swiss Federal authorities has not yet taken place; but, "for the sake of the prisoners," says a writer from Berlin, "it is very desirable that their fate should be decided without delay, for they are at present, to the number of about three hundred, kept in confinement in a church, without fire, without ventilation, and without any accommodation for the necessities of nature; while the peasantry at liberty, who are only suspected of Royalist sympathies, are being ruined rapidly by numbers of Swiss Federal troops quartered upon them."

BELGIUM.

The Belgian Government is at present engaged in a series of scientific inquiries, with a view to a vigorous prosecution of the deep-sea fishery on the east coast of Scotland. Beyond certain limits, foreigners are permitted to fish on the British coasts, and Belgium is determined to take advantage of the tracks by which the herrings reach the Scotch shores in order to deposit their spawn. A few weeks ago, the officers of the *Atalanta*, in pursuing their inquiries off the Orkney Islands, fell in with a shoal of herrings; information was speedily communicated to the nearest Belgian boat on the coast, the fishermen in which proceeded to the spot where the fish were seen, and at the first haul their deep-sea nets got sixty barrels of fish of the finest quality. The Belgian Government is determined, therefore, to take advantage of the wealthy mine thus opened.

DENMARK.

All the Ministers of the King, with the exception of M. Scheele, have resigned. The real cause of this split in the Cabinet is not yet known, but it is very generally rumoured that it is connected with certain proposals for changing the law of succession in order to unite eventually the three Scandinavian kingdoms under one dynasty.

SWEDEN.

A mixed commission of six Swedes and six Norwegians has been appointed to meet at Christiania, under the presidency of the Norwegian Viceroy, for the better determination of the act of union between the two countries. Among other uncertainties, the mutual obligations of the two countries in time of war are still undefined. This might prove a serious danger in the event of hostilities.

RUSSIA.

The first division of the Russian squadron of evolutions, under Vice-Admiral Schantz, has received orders to be ready for sea. Its destination is said to be the Bay of Naples, and its presence there is no doubt intended as a demonstration in favour of the King and against France and England.

The disagreement with Russia respecting Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents has led to the adoption of some rather hostile movements on the part of England. Admiral Houston Stewart is to return to the Black Sea, and the squadron of Admiral Lyons is to receive reinforcements.

The dinner of the Czar to the people has taken place.

ITALY.

It is said that a schism has recently manifested itself in the councils of the Viceregal Government at Milan between the civil and military authorities, the former being advocates of mild government and conciliatory measures, while the latter maintain the necessity of holding Italy as a conquered country.

The Papal Government (says the *Times* Turin correspondent) is taking active measures to suppress all such expressions of opinion as lately emanated from the municipal councils of Bologna and Ravenna. Monsignor Bernardi, the friend and under-secretary of Cardinal Antonelli, who was lately sent to Bologna to aid Monsignor Amici, the delegate there, with his advice, has now started on a tour through the Romagna and the Marches, charged, as I understand, with the mission of counselling the delegates to prevent or postpone by any means in their power the meetings of the municipal councils, and on no account to recognize officially such addresses as the councils of Bologna and Ravenna presented. At Pesaro, a small town on the Adriatic, a curious scene is reported to have occurred a few days ago. The delegate had received orders from Rome to collect the taxes on trades and professions in his district, and, in conformity with those instructions, he caused notices to be posted up on the walls of the town, warning the inhabitants that they would be called upon to pay the tax forthwith, together with the arrears due from former years; for it appears that, although the tax has been decreed for some years past, it has not been possible to collect it on account of the violent opposition of the people in some instances, and on account of their utter inability to pay in others. On this occasion, the people of Pesaro seem to have come to the determination of offering a passive resistance to the demands of the Government, the only active demonstration they made being the taking down of some of the notices and hissing the troops (part of a Papal Swiss regiment, but not those in motley) that were called out to assist the tax gatherers; and so effective did this opposition prove with the delegate, that ere midday he withdrew his forces, and left

the inhabitants in possession of the field—and of their money.

The Pope has received from the Emperor of the Burmans rich presents brought to him by a missionary. Those presents consist of a chalice of solid gold, a cross enriched with precious stones, and valuable rings, accompanied by a letter in which the Catholics inhabiting the Burman Empire convey to the chief of their Church the expression of their attachment. The cardinals and prelates belonging to the Congregation of Extraordinary Catholic Affairs have lately met at Rome to consider various questions connected with the religious affairs in the East. The Sultan has made propositions to the Pope, through the medium of Monsignor Hassoun, Latin Archbishop of Constantinople, for establishing diplomatic relations with Rome, which would be extremely advantageous to the Catholics of the Ottoman Empire.

The Governments of Parma and Modena have signified to the Cabinet of Vienna their intention to withdraw from the Customs League, which will expire in the course of the present month.

The re-examination of Captain Acuti in connexion with the statement he had made that the King had authorized the illegal lashing of some of the Neapolitan political prisoners, took place on the 23rd ult., when the witness said that either he had misunderstood the court, or the court had misunderstood him, but that it had been his intention to say exactly what the court had said. His meaning was, not that he had received a direct order from the King, but from the Minister in the name of the King, and that such an order was called a "rescript of the 4th class." The political trials have at length been concluded, the Attorney-General summing up the case for the Crown on the 24th. Against three of the prisoners—Mortati, Avitabile, and the priest—he declared the proofs to be insufficient. "The others," says the *Times* correspondent, "will probably be condemned to perpetual exile; but this will remain for the consideration of the judges. Already, however, be it remembered, they have suffered fourteen months' imprisonment. In the course of his speech, the Attorney-General denounced twice, as revolutionary in its character and tendencies, a work by Massimo d'Azeglio, entitled *I Lamenti dei Lombardi*. This book had been found in the cell of Padre Ruggiero. Whenever the term 'liberal' was introduced, it was evidently as a term of opprobrium."

Orders have been sent to Verona for several regiments and some batteries of artillery to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice. These troops are destined to reinforce those now in the Legations.

The Swiss troops employed by the Pope are said to be greatly disaffected, and several desertions have recently taken place. This is not the only source of uneasiness to the Papal Government. The all-powerful position of Cardinal Antonelli is viewed with great jealousy by a great many of the Cardinals, who object, among other things, to his upholding the monopoly of corn, by which the price of bread is made exceedingly high. Some of the malcontents recently brought their grievances before the Pope, by means of Cardinal d'Andrea; but he would not listen to the complaint, and sharply reproved the Cardinal.

A regularly organized confraternity of depredaters has just been discovered in Velletri, a large town eight and twenty miles from Rome, on the high road to Naples, and situated between the forest of Fajola and the Pontine marshes, both traditional strongholds of brigands.

It is rumoured that, should France and England persevere in sending an expedition to Naples, Austria will secretly get up republican insurrections in various parts of Italy, in order to show the Allies the danger of rousing the populace!

SPAIN.

The Government has determined to re-establish the original limits of the Spanish territory round the *presidios* and fortifications still retained by Spain on the coast of the Riff. An expedition will shortly be sent out.

A Cadiz journal announces that the sequestration on the property of the Queen-mother is to be shortly removed.

It is now stated that *all* the ministers at first agreed to the project of law with respect to Church property which the Queen has successfully opposed, and that it was only on hearing of that opposition that Rios Rosas, and the ministers who acted with him, resolved to separate themselves from the policy of O'Donnell and Cantero.

The commission appointed to draw up the project of law on the Council of State has completed its task. The project, unanimously adopted by the committee, will be shortly submitted to the approbation of the Government. It fixes the number of Councillors of State at thirty-three. The Government will be authorized to dispose of one-sixth of that number, to employ them on diplomatic missions abroad, or avail itself of their services in the interior. The council is to be divided into as many sections as there are ministerial departments.

The Spaniards on the African coast have had an encounter with the Riff pirates, provoked by the savages themselves, who were signally defeated, with a loss of forty-two killed. The Spanish loss was very small. A person named Mora has been arrested and im-

prisoned by the ecclesiastical authorities in Madrid on the charge of "professing the Protestant religion." He is described as a British subject, though it is doubtful whether such is the fact; he is also said to be an agent of one of the evangelical societies.

General Narvaez has received his passports, and was to leave for Madrid on the 2nd.

It is announced by the *Clamor Publico* that the state of siege will be taken off throughout the kingdom on the 10th inst., the Queen's birthday.

The different fractions of the Moderado party held on the 22nd ult. a general meeting at Albacete to consider the expediency of accepting the Liberal union. The majority rejected the proposition.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 24th ult. contains the decree which suspends the *désamortissement* of the estates of the Church in Spain. This decree is found to be without a preamble—a precaution, it is to be supposed, designed to exclude any admission of which the Court of Rome might take advantage in the approaching negotiations. The recent changes in the financial policy of the country have led to something like a panic in monetary circles.

GREECE.

Tranquillity reigns throughout Greece (says a despatch from Athens), and nothing more is heard of a Ministerial modification. Seventy law projects have been presented to the Chambers and adopted, and all the branches of the Administration have been entirely reorganized. It is announced as certain that the Allied forces will have evacuated the country before the end of January.

HOLLAND.

The Minister of Finance has presented to the Second Chamber the budget for 1857. The expenses amount to 72,746,458fl. (about 2fr. 15c. each), and the receipts to 72,784,421fl., making a presumable increase of 37,982fl. It is stated in the *exposé* of the financial state of the country that the current year is not so favourable as the one preceding, but that no deficit is to be feared. The principal point worthy of remark is that, since 1850, 56,500,000fl. of the public debt have been redeemed, making a reduction in the rente of 2,290,890fl.

TURKEY.

Two new shocks of earthquake have been experienced at Constantine and Setif.

The Turkish steamers, Malakhoff and Silistria, with Mehemed Pacha, the Turkish Governor-general of Bosnia, and four battalions of guards, on board, are expected at Antivari. There is also a great movement of troops in the Herzegovina and Turkish Servia. The Bosnian contingent is assembling at Mostar, under the command of Mehemed Pacha, and the Roumelian troops are marching to Monastir (Albania), where Abdi Pacha has his headquarters.

Mr. Churchill, the young secretary of Sir William Fenwick Williams during the siege of Kars, has been appointed English Consul-General in Bosnia.

SWITZERLAND.

M. de Sydow, the Prussian Envoy in Switzerland has replied to the note of the Federal Government in the following terms:—"In answer to the note of the High Council of the Swiss Confederation of the 10th, the undersigned Privy Councillor and Envoy of his Majesty the King of Prussia can only refer to the tenour of his note of the 5th, and to the reserves formerly made on the subject of the Principality of Neuchâtel."

The National Council of Switzerland, on the 27th ult., passed a vote unanimously that the Republicans of Neuchâtel had deserved well of their country, and that the Federal Government ought to persist in the conduct which it has hitherto followed. The Council of the States passed a similar vote, also without a dissentient voice.

The Grand Council of Neuchâtel has voted, by a majority of 48 to 31, the dissolution of the bourgeoisie, the creation of a municipality, the expulsion of the compromised clergy, and the dismissal of officials who had secretly or openly aided the late insurrection.

Swords of honour have been voted to Colonels Denzler and Girard.

MONTENEGRO.

The Prince of Montenegro has addressed to the European Powers a note demanding the recognition of his country as an independent state. He observes that, "for four hundred and sixty-six years, the Montenegrin people have refused to submit to any power, or to recognize the *suzeraineté* of any lord." He alludes to the long struggle for independence in the midst of surrounding empires and kingdoms, and proceeds:—"The European Powers know but imperfectly, or hardly at all, this people of the mountains. Kings have not concerned themselves about causing the independence of this nation to be recognized and to enter into the great family of the European states. One of the causes of this indifference—that which was inherent in the hierarchic organization of the government—was lately removed by the restoration of the old system. Receiving neither protection nor support from the Christian powers, who ought to have ameliorated their position in gratitude for the service they had rendered to Christendom, the Montenegrin people have seen themselves confined to a narrow space, and compelled to combat for the re-

acquisition of their ancient limits." The Prince complains that the Congress of 1814 compelled the Montenegrins to cede to Austria the entire coast of Cattaro, which they had conquered at the cost of their blood. "Without freedom of commerce," continues the Prince, "there is for the land and the people of Montenegro neither progress nor internal development, nor any basis fit for the establishment of a regular political organization, and suitable relations with neighbouring peoples. The necessity of possessing a free port has long been perceived by the Montenegrins. At the commencement of the eighteenth century, the Vladika Danilo endeavoured to restore to the Montenegrine territory the district of Antivari; an attempt that cost torrents of blood. . . . The claims of Montenegro are confined to the following points:—1. Diplomatic recognition of her independence; 2. Extension of her frontiers towards the Herzegovina and Albania; 3. Definitive settlement of the boundary line towards Turkey, such as it exists for the Austrian frontier; 4. Annexation of the port of Antivari to the Principality."

The English Government has recently brought forward a plan for the settlement of the Montenegrin question which finds favour with Austria and, as some state, with France. The plan is, that certain lowland districts, now belonging to Turkey Proper, shall be ceded to Montenegro, which shall then publicly recognize the *suzeraineté* of the Porte.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

"The news from the Principalities," says a correspondent of the *Morning Post*, "is not good. The effervescence there is very great. People are engaged in getting up petitions amongst different classes—all of course for the union. The Turkish commandant, not accustomed to political manifestations, has recommended the Kaimakans to prohibit all petitioning. But so natural a manifestation of wishes is difficult to prevent. An application has been made to the Kaimakans to send out of the country for a time about one hundred agitators, chiefly young men, and of the best families; but the Kaimakans have refused."

THE REVENUE.

THE official returns for the quarter which ended on the 30th ult. show an increase to the extent of 1,114,288l., as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. Subjoined are the details:—

INCREASE.	
Excise.....	£309,000
Stamps.....	117,926
Taxes.....	3,000
Property Tax.....	752,378
Crown Lands.....	1,341

Gross Increase.....£1,183,645

DECREASE.	
Customs.....	£37,143
Miscellaneous.....	32,214
	69,357

Net increase.....£1,114,288

On the year, up to the 30th September, 1856, the increase amounts to 3,211,708l.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE expectation of a speedy advance in the rate of discount appears to have had little effect on the condition of the manufacturing trade of the kingdom, the accounts from all quarters being still satisfactory. At Manchester, during the week ending last Saturday, there has been a good average business, at steady prices. At Birmingham, the prospect is confirmed of the existing quotations for iron being maintained, while, as regards the general occupations of the district, considerable support has been received from an influx of foreign orders. The Nottingham advices describe rather less activity, but all classes are well employed. In the woollen districts confidence continues to prevail, and in the Irish linen markets the tendency of prices is still upward.—*Times*.

The shipping returns of the Board of Trade for the past month have been issued, and again show a great increase in the employment of vessels, in which, on this occasion, foreign as well as British have participated. The activity is in some degree attributable to the movements in the grain trade. The arrivals of Russian vessels have been 25, representing an aggregate of 5741 tons, and the clearances 17, representing 4012 tons. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered inward was 1,102,869 in the month of August, 1854; in 1855, it was 1,190,126, and in the present return it is 1,049,238, including 37 foreign vessels, of an aggregate burden of 6858 tons. The clearances outward were 1,266,933 in August 1854, 1,246,773 in 1855, and 1,148,176, including 3083 tons of foreign, in 1856. In the general business of the port of London there has been considerable activity during the week ending last Saturday, although the arrivals have not been numerous. The total number of vessels reported inward was 195, being 72 less than in the previous week, and the number cleared outward was 119, including 15 in ballast, showing a decrease of 9.—*Idem*.

The Board of Trade returns for August were issued

last Saturday morning, and are again of the most satisfactory character. In June, our exports, as compared with the corresponding month of last year, showed the extraordinary increase of 2,492,492l.; in July the improvement was 1,817,843l., and on the present occasion it is 1,861,819l. Not a single item of any importance appears on the adverse side. Cotton, linen, woollen, and silk manufactures each exhibit large totals. Haberdashery, hardwares, saddlery, &c., which depend in a great degree upon our colonial trade, likewise figure for a considerable augmentation. Metals, next to cotton manufactures, still keep the highest place upon the list. The total exports for the first eight months of the present year have amounted to 74,689,934l. against 60,154,178l., showing an increase of 14,535,756l., or about 24 per cent. As compared with the same period of 1854, the increase has been 7,293,575l.—With regard to imported commodities, the totals for the month are in many instances large, the arrivals of grain, flour, and rice having again been heavy. In the consumption of most articles there has been an increase, but the receipts of coffee, tea, wines, and spirits show a falling off.—*Idem*.

IRELAND.

SADLEIRISM.—It is absolutely certain that some of the shareholders of the Tipperary Bank now engaged in law processes, conceive (being altogether ignorant of the manner in which they were swindled, and of the flagrant uses to which their property and their names were converted) that they do right in resisting calls by every means the law leaves open to them. It is said that a great portion of the liabilities to which they now find themselves subjected were incurred by a practice introduced into the unfortunate bank by the Messrs. James and John Sadleir, of soliciting persons to deposit their spare cash in the concern, as well as by the false representations of the affairs of the bank made through the reports to which Mr. James Sadleir attached his signature, while he was aware at the time that the statement he signed was delusive and calculated to inflict detriment on all who confided in it. There is no doubt, we believe, as to the canvassings and solicitations for deposits, and as to the exertions to procure as many depositors as possible. In some cases, depositors who had withdrawn their money from the concern were induced to place their money again in the keeping of the bank by persuasion that they could not do better. Where the enormous sum of money went which was swindled away nobody can tell, except as to the estates purchased by the Messrs. Sadleir, and in these a sum of about 80,000l. was invested between the Cahir estates and the portion of the Kingston property in Tipperary and Cork, and the Coolnamuck and another estate. The electioneering proceedings of that unfortunate man in Carlow and Sligo are said to have taken from him a sum of between 6000l. and 8000l., not including banking accommodation to political partisans, which accommodation is stated to have been liberal, and for which accommodation the parties who obtained it are liable, if it has not been already discharged. The electioneering proceedings of Mr. James Sadleir must have cost him comparatively a trifle.—*Tipperary Vindicator*.

IRISH PROSPERITY.—As an illustration of the growing prosperity of Ireland, as compared with its condition in the year 1847, the *Cork Examiner* says:—"In the Fermoy union, in the worst period of the famine, the numbers relieved in the workhouse, or rather workhouses of Fermoy, amounted to upwards of 5000, while the guardians, on out-door relief, supported 13,000 paupers, making a total of 18,000 human beings dependent on the poor rates for their existence. The number at present receiving relief in the Fermoy union amounts to 261, and of those a large proportion are hospital patients."

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.—Sir Thomas Redington is to be Chief Commissioner of Lunacy; and Mr. Michael Joseph Barry, a member of the Young Ireland Confederation, who lately published some indifferent poems, called "Lays of the War" (noticed in the *Leader* of February 2nd), has been appointed to the Secretaryship.

MURDER.—A man, named Francis Conolly, has been murdered by one Patrick Conolly, who does not seem to be a relation, or even an acquaintance. There had been an altercation between the two in a public-house, and, on being put out, Patrick pulled forth a knife, and struck Francis on the back of the neck. The spinal marrow was divided, and the man was dead almost instantly. The murderer, who has been for some time in America, was afterwards arrested, and has been committed for trial.—A watchman at the District Lunatic Asylum in Clonmel has been murdered by some ruffians who crossed the outer wall for the purpose of plunder. Six men have been arrested as participators in the deed. One of them had been severely wounded by the watchman, who seems to have made a gallant defence.

LORD CARLISLE IN TIPPERARY.—Lord Carlisle, on his return to Dublin from Lismore Castle, passed through the town of Tipperary, on which occasion his Excellency was presented with an address from the inhabitants by a deputation composed of the most influential gentry in the town and neighbourhood.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

COLLISIONS IN THE MERSEY.—The screw steamer Silloth, Captain Acken, from Liverpool, bound for Whitehaven and Carlisle, came into collision on Tuesday morning with the ship Admiral Boxer, from Quebec for Liverpool, off the Formby Light-ship, and had her funnel, main and mizen masts, binnacle, and steering-wheel carried away. She at once returned to port. The Admiral Boxer had her figure-head carried away in the collision.—On the previous evening there was a collision between a Birkenhead ferry-boat and a Manx packet, when the port bow of the former was stove in. The vessels were rounding a ship at anchor, and were coming in opposite directions. Owing to the interposing object, they did not see each other till it was too late to avert a crash. No lives were lost.

FAREWELL REVIEW OF THE GERMAN LEGION.—The final review of the British-German Legion, previously to being disbanded, took place at Wyvanhoe Park, near Colchester, on Tuesday. The evolutions being completed, Baron Von Stutterheim, standing in a hollow square formed by the soldiers, spoke in the German language to the following effect:—"This, my friends, is the last great review of the German-British Legion in England. You may easily imagine, soldiers, how very sorry I feel in being obliged to part with so large a body of men, to whom I am under so many heartfelt obligations. However, I think I may be united with a good many of you for a longer period, as it is my intention to go out to the Cape of Good Hope, because I consider it a sacred duty to stick to you so long as I see I can do any good for you. The conditions under which you will be allowed to go to the Cape have been already made known to you. You may accept them or you may not, just as you freely choose. No man will be forced to go. No man will be persuaded to go. I, for my own part, consider the conditions very favourable, as they give every man an opportunity to gain a free and an independent existence. They are, I think, fair in every respect. You can only be obliged to do your own will. . . . Those of you who will agree to go to the Cape will be guaranteed 5*l.* each, as mentioned in Article 12 of the conditions, and you will receive an advance of 2*l.* while you remain in England, for the purpose of buying some trifling things for your comfort on the voyage, and I warn you not to spend that money in waste." The troops having given three cheers for the Queen and for the General, marched off the ground.—The terms to which the Baron alluded have been published. The men are to serve as military settlers for seven years, and to resist any attacks of an enemy. They will receive free rations for a year after their settlement, and pay up to the day of embarkation; each man's cottage and land become absolutely his own; any soldier wounded in the defence of the colony will receive a pension; the wives and families of married men will be sent out by the Government; and the land property of a married settler dying even before the completion of the seven years' service will descend to the wife and offspring.

COMPENSATION FOR THE PASSAGE OF HORSES.—A circular granting compensation to Crimean officers for the passage home of their horses has been issued. The circular states that the Secretary of State for War, having had under consideration the question of granting compensation to officers who were not provided with a free passage for their horses on the return home of the army from the East, has decided to allow 30*l.* per horse (exclusive of *bat* animals) in lieu of such free passage, and to cover any loss sustained by staff and regimental officers in disposing of their chargers with reference to the General Order issued on the subject dated Headquarters, Sebastopol, 26th of April last.

LORD CARDIGAN AGAIN.—Some letters which have passed between Lord Cardigan and Colonel Buck appear in the daily papers. His lordship is offended with the colonel for having insinuated doubts as to his courage in the famous Balaklava cavalry charge, in the course of a speech delivered at a dinner given at Torrington to Colonel Morris of the 17th Lancers, who was also concerned in the charge. Entering into a minute account of the affair, Lord Cardigan says:—"For myself, having led this brigade into the battery, I pursued my direct course as leader, a course which one horse could take, but in which a line of troops could not well follow from the number of guns, limber carriages, and other impediments which stood in the way. Thus, coming upon a large force of Russian cavalry, I was attacked by two Cossacks, slightly wounded, and nearly dismounted. The survivors of the brigade all went about as they came upon the masses of the Russian cavalry, and retreated. The whole of the remnant of the brigade was retreating at the same time, and a few minutes only intervened between the retreating from the line of guns which we had attacked, of all the parties engaged in the affair, including the supporting regiments which had come into the affray in succession under their respective commanding officers. I have further to observe that the confusion was so great after passing the battery, that the 17th Lancers and 18th Light Dragoons reversed their position in brigade, and the remnant of them came out in the retreat on the opposite side of the valley to that in which they had advanced." Colonel Buck asserts that the report in some measure misrepresented him.

THE POLISH LEGION.—A Polish journal, the *Widomosci Polskie*, contains an account, supplied by one of the officers, of the last days of the Polish Legion, and of their final reception at Scutari by General Storks, and at Constantinople by Lord and Lady Stratford de Redcliffe. They afterwards proceeded on board the Royal Albert, and were most cordially received by Lord Lyons. Having entered the Admiral's cabin, "the adjutant then requested us to sit down, and when we were all seated our gallant host rose, and, taking the General by the hand, thanked him for affording him an opportunity of making the acquaintance of Polish officers, expressed his regret that 'a peace, which we must not call unfortunate, and cannot call fortunate,' has thrown the sword from our hands; and ended by advising us to hope for better things in the future."

OUR CIVILIZATION.

DOMESTIC TRAGEDIES.

AN attempt, of a painful nature, to commit suicide by means of opium has been made by a Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Hopkinson, a very young woman, the wife of a chemist and druggist near Ratcliffe-highway. She obtained the poison from a surgeon who was in the habit of supplying her husband with drugs; but, the stomach-pump having been promptly used, her life was saved, though after much suffering and danger. She stated as her reason that she was unhappy at home; and, when brought before the Thames magistrate, it appeared that her husband was an habitual drunkard, and had induced her to drink to excess. Her husband, a young and rather small man, was put in the box. He exhibited great agitation, and stammeringly admitted that he was addicted to drink. It furthermore came out that he would often go into the country, on pretence of extending his business, and leave his wife at home to make up and dispense drugs, though she was quite ignorant of them. The poor woman was discharged.

Another woman has been brought before the Lord Mayor, charged with attempting to poison herself with laudanum. Desertion by the husband was the reason alleged for the act. In all these cases of self-poisoning, it has appeared that there has been an undue facility in obtaining the drug; and Mr. Burch, resident medical officer at the London Hospital, called attention to the fact, both in the present and the former case, in connexion with which he was examined. The Lord Mayor asked how many persons suffering from the effects of poison had been taken to the hospital lately; to which Mr. Burch replied:—"A great number lately, and four within the last few days. In all these cases the poison has been sold indiscriminately at different shops. I had a case only yesterday at the Thames police-court." (This was the case of Mrs. Hopkinson.) The woman now charged was dismissed on expressing contrition, and was supplied with money to take her to her friends in the country.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rawlings, the daughter of a gentleman, the wife of a captain in command of a large ship in the merchant service, and the near relative of a distinguished historian, was brought before the Lambeth magistrate on a charge of threatening to destroy her children. It appeared that the woman was parted from her husband; that she was a thorough drunkard, and that her mode of life was of the most disreputable kind. She was arrested in a house of ill fame, where she lived with her children. The magistrate called on her to find bail, herself in 40*l.* and two sureties in 20*l.* each, to be of good behaviour for one month; but, not being able to procure the necessary bail, she was sent to Horse-monger-lane gaol, and her children were removed without delay from the house where they had been living.

GAROTTE ROBBERY.—The practice of 'garotting,' as a means of robbing from the person, was practised in Doncaster, for the first time, a few nights ago. An inhabitant of Hexthorpe, situated about a mile from the former town, was returning home, when he was suddenly seized by the neck from behind, at the same time receiving a blow which knocked one of his teeth out. After being held until he became insensible, his pockets were rifled of their contents, which were of no great value.

THE ALLEGED THEFT BY A GUARDSMAN.—Robert Sindall, the private in the Guards, charged with stealing a 10*l.* note from Mr. John Cooke, a silk-merchant, under circumstances related in our last week's paper, was again brought up at Guildhall on Saturday, and was discharged, the prosecutor (who had probably departed on his voyage to one of the colonies) not appearing against him. It appeared from the statement of a City policeman that the Bank refuses to stop a stolen note unless the clerks are furnished with the date as well as the number; and, as Mr. Cooke could not recollect the date, his money has been irrecoverably lost to him.

A CRAZY GENTLEMAN.—An eccentric old gentleman named Alexander Lester Lawrence, a solicitor of thirty-two years' standing, and who is well known at Bow-street from his habit of pestering the magistrates with absurd applications for warrants to apprehend people for perjury, conspiracy, forgery, &c., was brought before

Mr. Jardine charged with having stolen a diamond ring from Messrs. Debenham and Storr's auction-rooms, in King-street, Covent-garden. He continually interrupted the witnesses with absurd and indecent questions, and repeatedly referred to "his friend Admiral Digby," and spoke of the firm whom he is alleged to have robbed as Machin and Debenham. He added, that he had bought all his clothes there for twenty years; "but, your worship," he said, "I have been obliged to change, for Machin and Debenham have got so very dear, and Moses in Russell-court is so very cheap; that I have gone to him, and my friend Admiral Digby was so pleased with this suit (complacently examining his ragged and dirty habiliments, amid roars of laughter, which the ushers with difficulty repressed), that he immediately transferred his patronage to Moses, and buys his clothes there now." There was no evidence of the accused abstracting the ring from the auction-rooms; but he had taken it to a shop to sell it. He alleged in his defence that he had found it, and had gone to Mr. Jardine, some days previously, to ask his advice, but had been ordered out of the court, and, as he had the greatest respect for the magistrates, he had gone. He conceived he had a right to apply the ring to his own uses. The testimony of the officers of the court in some measure confirmed this statement, the prisoner having applied, a few days before, to Mr. Hall, the other sitting magistrate, and been told to come again at a more fitting time. He was committed for trial.

WELL ENOUGH TO BE BEATEN.—A working man, named John Manby, was charged at Bow-street with an assault on his wife, and also on his landlord and a neighbour, who went in to rescue the poor woman. The neighbour was seized by the throat by Manby, who nearly throttled him, leaving him insensible on the floor, when he was at length dragged off by the police. The wife declined to confirm the evidence against her husband, and only admitted being struck once. Mr. Hall, the magistrate, asked if the man was in the habit of beating her, to which the landlord replied that such assaults were of almost daily occurrence, "when she was well enough to be beaten." Indeed, she had but recently been an out-patient of King's College Hospital ever since his last attack on her. Manby was fined 4*l.*; in default, six weeks' imprisonment.

A STRANGE ACT OF REVENGE.—The wife of a master butcher, in opulent circumstances, trading in High-street, Whitechapel, has been charged at the Thames police-court with setting fire to her husband's private house in Stepney. The flames were discovered, on Sunday evening, issuing from a coal-cellar under the stairs, where a quantity of chips saturated with turpentine were discovered. It also appeared that the stairs had been soaked with the same inflammable spirit. The fire was speedily extinguished; but Mrs. Ordway, the accused, on being spoken to in connexion with the affair, admitted that it was her act, and said she would do it again, as she was determined to burn the house down. She alleged as her reason that she did not like the house, and had attempted to destroy it because her husband would not get another for her. She was remanded.

A RUFFIANLY CABMAN.—Thomas Wiggins, a cab-driver, has been fined 18*s.* and costs by the Lambeth magistrate, for dishonest and violent conduct to a lady who was about to ride in his vehicle. He demanded from her 1*s.* 6*d.* above his right fare; and, being refused, he kicked in the panel of the street-door. On a constable being sent for, he offered to take the lady for nothing; but this was refused, and he then demanded one shilling for his trouble in coming from the cabstand. To get rid of him, this was paid. He then went away, but was afterwards summoned to the police-court, where the magistrate sentenced him as already stated.

A SCENE IN A BANKRUPTCY COURT.—A Mr. T. Olliver appeared in the Bristol Bankruptcy Court a few days ago for final examination respecting certain transactions which he had had with two other men and his sister, by means of bills of sale. The bankrupt, having failed to file his accounts, which ought to have been done ten days before the present examination, was called upon to explain the cause of his failure, which he did in a manner that was not at all satisfactory to the court; upon which the accountant whom Olliver had instructed to prepare his account stated that the property which had been made away with by the bills of sale that the bankrupt had given was not accounted for. The examination on behalf of the assignees was then proceeded with. In the course of the investigation, Olliver, who was subjected to a very close inquiry, admitted that some statements in connexion with his bill of sale transactions, to which he had sworn when under a previous examination at Ipswich, were false. Much sensation was created in the court by these admissions, and the Commissioner expressed his indignation in strong terms, being the more moved to do so as it was intimated that the bankrupt's object in making those statements was to mislead the court as to what was really sought to be done by the bills of sale. While the court was engaged for a few minutes in examining Olliver's papers, the bankrupt suddenly darted to the door, and hastily ran away. He was of course immediately pursued by the court messenger, but Olliver easily outran him, and got clear off. After a brief examination of his

sister (Miss Olliver) and a Mr. Packwood respecting the disposal of a bill of sale and a sum of money, which had been paid into the hands of each, the Commissioner ordered the last examination of the bankrupt to be adjourned *sine die*.

MURDER IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—A man named William Fisher, an excavator, living at Ogle Hay, near Shenstone, Staffordshire, has been murdered by his fellow-labourer, John Burrowes. Fisher had seen the other man put his arm round his wife's waist, through the window of a shop in which they both were, and, when the woman came out into the street, her husband, in a fit of passion at what he had witnessed, knocked her down and afterwards kicked her. He then struck Burrowes so violent a blow on the face that his lip was cut, in consequence of which he lay in wait for Fisher with a poker in his hand. With this weapon he felled his victim to the ground and beat his skull so as to drive one side completely in. Fisher died the next morning. An inquest was held, and a verdict of 'Wilful Murder' returned against Burrowes, who was committed for trial at the next Staffordshire Assizes.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER.—George Martin, of Oddington, farmer, was charged on the 18th ult., before the magistrates assembled in petty sessions at Oxford, with attempting to discharge a loaded gun at Captain William Polhill, with intent to murder him, on the 10th ult., at Broadwell. The man, who was drunk at the time he committed the offence, had been irritated by Captain Polhill refusing to let him shoot over his (the captain's) land.

ASSAULT BY A CHURCHWARDEN IN A CHURCH.—A Mr. John Mortimer, one of the churchwardens of Rippenden Church, near Halifax, has been fined 1*l.* 6*s.* for attempting to drag a Mrs. Helliwell out of a pew. He alleged that the pew belonged by right to some other persons; but this seemed to be doubtful.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE SHARE FRAUDS.—A petition in bankruptcy was opened on Tuesday in the Bankruptcy Court against William James Robson, lately in the service of the Crystal Palace Company, whose fraudulent transactions in the shares of that undertaking have attracted much public attention. He is described as an antimony smelter, of Bowling-green-mews, Kennington-oval; and the petitioning creditor is Mr. G. S. Clements, of Bank-buildings.—The Committee of the Stock Exchange, on Tuesday, after further deliberation upon the questions arising out of the recent frauds in Crystal Palace shares, adopted the following resolution: "Resolved—That where shares in the Crystal Palace Company have been duly registered and acknowledged by the company, the committee decline to interfere." As regards a considerable number of shares in respect of which, although transfers have been sent in to the company, certificates of registration have not been issued by the company's recognized officer, we understand (says the *Daily News*) that the committee have come to the resolution to trace such bargains to the original seller, who will then be required to supply other shares of acknowledged validity. The decision of the committee appears to be based upon the view that the buyer of these shares considered that he was buying the genuine stock of the company, and that consequently his right must be maintained.

THE NEWCASTLE COMMERCIAL BANK.—Trader debtor summons have, it is stated, been taken out against Mr. Alderman R. H. Kennedy and Mr. Farmery J. Law, with regard to an alleged claim of this banking company for 4000*l.* with interest. The summoning creditor is Mr. C. Garbutt, of Dunston-lodge, Durham, one of the registered officers of the Bank. The validity of the demand, however, has yet to be decided.

CLERICAL MISAPPROPRIATION.—A painful case has been heard at the close of the proceedings, in the Lancaster Insolvent Court, against the Rev. Arundel Verity, late incumbent of All Saints' Church, Habergham Eaves, near Burnley, Lancashire. The insolvent was opposed on the grounds that he had preached a sermon in his own church, in May, 1855, on behalf of the Patagonian Missions, and afterwards appropriated the amount of the collection made on that occasion to his own purposes; and that he had received 150*l.* from the Church Missionary Society, partly as salary in advance, and partly for his outfit. It would appear, moreover, that he had applied other moneys dishonestly to his own use. Among his debts were 26*l.* for wines, and 60*l.* for an outfit for the Crimea, to which he had gone. He was remanded by the Judge for six months.

EXTENSIVE FRAUDS BY THE SECRETARY TO AN ODD FELLOWS' LODGE.—Bills have been issued in Birmingham, offering a reward for the apprehension of a man named William Fowler, who had absconded, having plundered an Odd Fellows' Lodge of between 600*l.* and 700*l.*, partly by means of embezzlement, and partly through a fraudulent mortgage.

A BOY-THIEF AND HIS TEMPTER.—Henry Barclay, errand-boy to Messrs. Meyers, of Bow-lane, Cheapside, was brought before Mr. Alderman Cubitt, charged with having robbed his employers; and Thomas Griffin was charged with having received the goods, well knowing that they had been stolen. The errand-boy had been brought up on a former occasion, having been detected on the premises with two umbrellas concealed about his person, and subsequently Griffin, who kept a stall in a

street near the City-road, was apprehended in consequence of a statement made by the boy to the effect that Griffin had seen him passing one day near the stall, and, after treating him to rum, induced him to steal articles of the kind, which led to the commission of several other similar offences through the same instrumentality. Barclay was placed in the witness-box, to testify to these facts, which he did; and both he and the man Griffin were committed for trial. Bail was accepted in the case of the latter. The boy alleged in his defence that his wages (eight shillings a week) were not enough for him to exist upon.

A LAWYER AND A LADY.—Mr. Arthur Henry Welch, a member of the bar, residing in Stone's buildings, Lincoln's Inn, attended before Mr. Jardine upon a summons, charging him with a libel upon a Miss Colquhoun. Mr. Bodkin, who appeared in support of the summons, said, in his opening statement:—"The late Mr. Colquhoun, the father of the lady, admitted Mr. Welch to his house, regarded him as a friend, and became so attached to him that, when he died, he made Mr. Welch one of the executors to his will, in conjunction with his eldest son. There was at that time an understood or anticipated engagement between the defendant and the eldest daughter of Mr. Colquhoun. Shortly after the father's death, however, some circumstances occurred which made it desirable, in the estimation of the family, and with the entire consent of the lady, to break off the connexion. Mr. Welch was forbidden the house. In a spirit of revenge, he immediately threw the affairs of the family into Chancery. Finding that even this course of conduct failed to produce the effect anticipated, he commenced a system of annoying the family by every means in his power. He addressed letters to them; he waylaid them; indeed, he used every effort to interrupt their peace and happiness. Letters known to be in his handwriting were returned to him unopened; other letters, written in a feigned hand, were opened, and also returned on their authorship being ascertained. At last, on the 14th of July, there came a letter which forms the subject of these proceedings. To that infamous letter I will now direct your attention. Here, Mr. Welch, rising up, said,—“For God's sake, Mr. Bodkin, don't read that letter. Mr. Jardine, I do entreat you, for the sake of the lady, do not allow that letter to be read.” Mr. Bodkin replied that the disgrace rested on him, not on the lady. After a good deal of discussion, in the course of which Mr. Welch repeated that the case must be terminated rather than that the letter should be read, an agreement was drawn up, with the consent of Mr. Bodkin, which Mr. Welch promised to sign; but shortly afterwards he disappeared, and it was found necessary to let the summons stand over for a week.

HOMICIDE BY A SOLDIER.—A soldier, named Wilson, belonging to the 1st Dragoon Guards, now stationed at Exeter, has killed one of his comrades, who was also an old friend. The men were about to exchange into another regiment, and there was some trifling quarrel between them. Shaw, the man who has been killed, and who was slightly intoxicated on the occasion alluded to, struck Wilson a blow in the face. He, being irritated at this, seized a poker, and said that if Shaw repeated the blow he would knock him down. The other, however, advanced, and Wilson dealt him a severe blow with the poker on the head. Blood flowed from the wound, which was dressed by some of the men, and Shaw was put to bed, no serious consequences being apprehended; but, on the following morning (the occurrence took place on Monday evening), alarming symptoms set in, and the man died after being removed to the hospital. Wilson was then arrested.

CHARGE OF ROBBERING EMPLOYERS.—Benjamin Norris and William Kennedy, who have been charged at the Mansion House with having aided and abetted a man not in custody in robbing his employers, Messrs. White and Brice, wine-merchants in the City, of upwards of 100*l.*, have been discharged.

BURGLARY.—A burglary has been committed at the house of Mr. Kidson, at Essington Sneed, in the parish of Bushbury, near Wolverhampton. Four men, masked, entered the house, ransacked the premises, and departed. The inmates were not injured, though at one time a pistol (supposed to be without ball) was discharged at them.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.—A Mr. John Marsh, for twenty years a first-class weigher in the Customs, has been committed for trial on a charge of indecent conduct with a man who is not in custody, in the Borough-road on Monday night. He was set at liberty on bail.

FORGERY.—William Salt Hardwicke, mariner, and Henry Attwell, were brought up at the Mansion House, charged with uttering and forging a cheque for 410*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, with intent to defraud Messrs. Gosling and Co., bankers, Fleet-street. Evidence was tendered to show that false names and addresses had been given by the prisoners in their transactions with Mr. Turner, solicitor, Red Lion-square, by whom the false cheque purported to be signed; and it was also shown that a Mr. Wait, to whom Mr. Turner was instructed to write by Attwell for an I O U for 100*l.* (and which was paid in consequence), had never lived at 5, Melton-street, Euston-square, although he engaged a room there for a week, and called for and took away three letters which

arrived there addressed to him, but neither of the prisoners was the man so representing himself to be Mr. Hart. The prisoners were both committed for trial, Mr. Mullins, counsel for the prosecution, intimating his intention to prefer another charge against them on a future day.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Duchess of Kent leaves Abergeldie for England on the 8th, and it is expected that the Queen will leave Balmoral on the Wednesday or Thursday following, travelling by the Spittal of Glenshee to Coupar Angus, where the Royal train will be in waiting; but no positive arrangements have yet been made.

THE NEW LORD MAYOR.—In accordance with old-established custom, the Lord Mayor for the ensuing year was elected on Michaelmas-day. The choice fell on Mr. Thomas Quedest Finnis, alderman and bowyer. The present Lord Mayor, in returning thanks for the expression of the approbation of the liverymen, said:—"He hoped he might at least be regarded as one who in this country had done something for the Nonconformists. He did not mean for any particular section of Nonconformists, but for that large body some of whom were altogether separated from the communion of the Established Church, while others differed from that Church in various respects. He had endeavoured to show that a man might be a Nonconformist without offending the religious feelings of others. He had felt it his duty on all public occasions to pay that respect which he thought was due from a man in authority to the established religion of the country. He had endeavoured to evince on every occasion, not only the respect due to the established religion of the country, but also the regard due to the principle of religion; for he conceived that, unless a man's conduct were regulated by religious principle, he was utterly unfit to be a leader of others or to hold high office in this country. He must say that it had afforded him the greatest pleasure and delight to find himself so well supported as he had been by the clergy of various religious denominations."

THE NEW SHERIFFS. Messrs. Mechi and Keats, were sworn in at Guildhall last Saturday. The presentation to the Barons of the Exchequer, for the formal approval of her Majesty, took place on Tuesday, when the usual childish ceremonies of faggot-chopping and nail-counting were gone through, and the result was declared quite satisfactory. The Recorder, in addressing the Lord Chief Baron, gave a few particulars of the lives of the sheriffs. Those relating to Mr. Mechi are interesting on account of that gentleman's achievements as an agricultural reformer:—"Mr. John Joseph Mechi, senior sheriff, and citizen and lormer, who was connected with the eastern division of the metropolis, was a gentleman of Italian extraction, but although he had sprung from the Italian race, who were remarkable for the cultivation of the arts and sciences, he was proud to be enrolled amongst the merchants and men of business of this country. His father was born at Rome, but early in life changed the scene of his pursuits, and was for a long time employed in business in France. During the Reign of Terror, he, with many others, quitted that country and took refuge in England. In this country he attracted the attention of the royal family, and was soon afterwards enrolled in the royal household. His son, in consequence of his proficiency in the Italian language, was taken into a house in the City, and his career might offer an example to the young men of the present day: He pursued his business for twenty-nine years; he had been selected to preside over a large banking corporation, and he now stood on the footing of one of the first citizens of London." The inaugural banquet was given by Messrs. Mechi and Keats in the evening at the London Tavern.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.—The Commissioners named in the Cambridge University Act of last session held their first meeting last Saturday at No. 6, Adelphi-terrace. The commissioners present were—the Bishops of Lichfield and Chester, the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, the Right Hon. Sir L. Peel, the Dean of Ely, and Dr. Vaughan.

MRS. STOWE ON ENGLISH INTEMPERANCE.—An invitation was recently sent to Mrs. Stowe to attend a temperance meeting at Derby. She excused herself on the ground of her husband being about to leave England. In her reply to the Earl of Harrington, through whom the invitation had been sent, she says:—"It is my belief, from observation and travel in England and Scotland, that almost all the poverty and misery of the lower classes now arises from the traffic in intoxicating drinks. In no country has benevolence been more energetic and the progress of social reform more rapid. The benevolent works of England strike a stranger as really stupendous, yet this one cause seems to nullify all and keep up misery, vice, and distress. It seems to me that there is now scarcely any cause of poverty and distress which the suppression of the liquor traffic would not remove. Since emigration to the colonies has equalized the population, it would seem as if there might be money enough and work enough to support the whole labouring population, were it not for the enormous taxation and drain of ardent spirits. The view of your great cities flaming nightly with signs of 'Rum, brandy, and gin,' is to the eyes of an American as appalling as the slave-

market of our Southern States to an Englishman. With the majority of our respectable population in New England, these articles are considered as pertaining only to the department of medical practice, and, if we have them in our houses at all, it is with the same precaution and watchfulness that we use other medicines. When we see how they are publicly obtruded on the eye here every night, with all the attractions of brilliant lights and splendid shops, we wonder that there are any who escape such temptations. But let us hope that our two countries are both on the eve of new and better things. It is our hope that the cause of liberty in America is about to triumph—that the wise and good, who too long have slumbered and slept, are awaking in good earnest to wipe out the disgrace of past remissness by placing in our highest national seat a President who shall consistently uphold the principles of freedom." Mrs. Stowe will not get many persons in England, outside the narrow limits of teetotalism, to agree with her in thinking that poverty would vanish from these islands on the importation of the Maine Liquor Law. This opinion is no doubt very agreeable to noble lords and large landed proprietors; but it will not be ratified by the masses. However, there is no question that drunkenness is one of our national sins, and the sooner we get rid of it the better.—A long correspondence between Lord Stanley and Mr. Samuel Pope, Hon. Sec. of the United Kingdom Alliance for the suppression of the liquor traffic, with reference to the temperance question, has been published. It arose out of a request made by the society to his lordship that he would attend the annual meeting. Lord Stanley declined, and drew up a statement of his reasons against legislative suppression of drunkenness. To these Mr. Pope replies, Lord Stanley again defends his opinions, and the secretary makes another rejoinder, with which the correspondence closes. The documents are too voluminous for analysis within our limits; and our readers are already acquainted with the arguments on both sides of the general question.

THE INTERNATIONAL FREE TRADE CONGRESS.—The farewell banquet to wind up the business of the Congress came off, on the evening of Friday week, in the Gothic-hall of the Hôtel de Ville, under the presidency of Count C. Arrivabene. From two hundred to two hundred and fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner, and the banquet-hall was decorated with the flags of divers nations. Among the company were the Count John Arrivabene (Professor of the London University College, and adherent member of the Congress); MM. Corr Vandermaeren, De Molinari, Garnier, Pascal Duprat, Scialoja (delegate from Sardinia), Hertz (Hamburg), Masson, De Cocquiel, Ciersy Kowski, De Beaulieu, Lesoime, Campan, and Ackersdyk; Mr. Oliveira, M.P., Mr. Winkworth, Mr. C. Lawson, Mr. E. Chadwick, &c. Several toasts were drunk and speeches delivered, appropriate to the occasion. The toast of "the Delegates from Holland," proposed by M. Couvreur (a Belgian), was received with the utmost enthusiasm, several Belgian members rushing round the hall, and striking their glasses against those of their Dutch friends with great emphasis and cordiality. M. Lesoime excited some merriment by proposing "Our Auxiliaries, the Protectionists," whom he said M. Pascal Duprat had handled too roughly. By their predictions of ruin to native industry from competition—to which experience invariably gave the lie—the Protectionists did wonderful though unwilling service to the cause of free trade. Mr. Oliveira, M.P., took occasion to thank the Belgian authorities for their kindness in throwing open the museums, &c., to foreigners, and ventured to promise a similar courtesy to them when they should visit England.—"The Conference of 1856," says the *Times* reporter, "is now dissolved; but its work is intended to be taken up by a permanent international association ramifying the civilized world with its multiplied branches. Great activity has been shown by the committee of the local body, who on the very first day after the resolution to create a standing organization was passed, met and formed the nucleus of the projected Free Trade League. Such energy and promptitude augur well for the future."

SUNDAY BANDS.—A Parliamentary return has been issued, showing the number of memorials to the Queen for the stoppage of the Sunday bands. It appears that there were 111,309 signatures to 542 memorials, seven only of which came from public meetings, and but two from "associations." From different varieties of kirks in Scotland, assembly, free, synod, seceder, and presbyter, there were 26 memorials. While the Wesleyan Methodists sent no less than 98 memorials, the Primitive Methodists sent but one. The Church seems unrepresented in the list, unless that be done by two memorials from "clergy;" and from "clergy and others," 28 memorials. The "female inhabitants" of various places sent 377 different memorials. London, it might be supposed, would be largely represented, but 28 memorials, with under 8000 signatures out of the 111,309, are all that stand to the account of the metropolis. The report shows that 42 memorials, while asking for the stoppage of the military music on Sunday, ask also that the museums and Crystal Palace may be kept closed. Five only of these 42 memorials come from London and its neighbourhood, and two out of the five are described as from "mothers at Camberwell." There are some 27 memorials which pray her Majesty not only to withhold her sanction from the Sunday opening of the Museum,

&c., but also "to put a stop to the assemblage of the higher classes in their equipages in the parks on Sunday." For some unexplained reason, the "drive" in Hyde-park seems peculiarly interesting to the county of Derby; for, of the 27 memorials on the subject, above 20 are from various places in that county; the rest are from Scotland. Only 34 memorials add to their prayer for the stoppage of military bands on Sunday one for the closing of Kew Gardens, and two of these emanate from Bath, one with 3639 signatures; the 32 others come from all parts of Suffolk.

JOHN MACGREGOR, M.P.—Some of the most influential of the liberal electors of Glasgow have resolved to call upon Mr. John Macgregor to resign his seat in Parliament. The reason assigned, of course, is connected with the failure of the Royal British Bank. We hope the Glasgow Liberals will not act with precipitation, and condemn Mr. Macgregor unheard. It would be wiser to elicit from the ingenious John, a full, true, and particular account of his profits and losses in connexion with various projects, from the Eastern Archipelago Company, that monumental corporation which forfeited its charter, to the Royal British Bank, the latest example of neediness treading along the edge of legality.

THE PARKS.—Various improvements are now being made in the parks. The pieces of ornamental water have been cleansed, deodorized, and, in some instances, rendered shallower, in order to prevent those numerous accidents from drowning which are common in the skating season. The new entrance into St. James's Park from Pall-mall is completed; fresh gates have been added to the Green Park in three places along the Piccadilly line; the walks and carriage-ways in Hyde Park, close to the bridge over the Serpentine, have been widened; new plantations have been made in Victoria Park, where other improvements are effected; the entrances to the Regent's Park have been widened, and new footways are being laid down, as in the Green Park; and in all these public grounds a large addition to the number of seats has been made. The perpendicular bars have been removed from the foot-passenger gates; and cows are henceforth to be excluded from the Victoria and Regent's Parks, where, however, sheep may still be pastured.

LONDON MISSION OF THE AGAPEMONE.—Two members of the "Agapemone," near Bridgewater, appeared (says a daily contemporary) on Friday week, at the Hanover-square Rooms, for the purpose of publicly making known their tenets. The large room was densely crowded. Two respectably dressed men, having nothing peculiar in their appearance, spoke to the meeting, one after another, and urged the claims of their leader, "Brother Prince," to be regarded as the inspired author of a new revelation. They observed that "some persons had been so foolish as to say that his followers regarded Mr. Prince as God, or as the Messiah, or the Holy Ghost; but God forbid that any one, either in foolishness or in wickedness, should ever say such a thing. Brother Prince was by nature a child of wrath, but he had been made by grace a vessel of mercy. Some eleven years ago, the Holy Ghost fulfilled in Brother Prince all that he came to be and to do." The audience at this statement evinced much disapprobation and disgust, and some persons cried out that it was gross blasphemy, and worse than Mormonism. The speaker, who seemed quite imperturbable, and who calmly surveyed the meeting through a single glass stuck jauntily in one eye, proceeded to allude to a second spiritual manifestation which, he said, occurred at the Agapemone about five years ago, in which case the phenomenon was exhibited in the person of a woman—a prophetess—"not privately, but in the presence of us all." Some of the expressions used by the speaker in describing this transaction were probably misunderstood by many of his hearers, for they interrupted him indignantly, and at last stopped him with a very general howl of execration. The two strangers, who preserved their impassive demeanour, then retired from the room; upon which Mr. Newman, apparently a working man, rose and denounced the doctrines and practices of the Agapemone as impious. He moved, as a resolution, "that the statements which had been made by the two persons from the platform that evening were contrary to common sense, degrading to humanity, and blasphemous towards God." The resolution was carried with acclamation and amid vociferous cheers. A sergeant of police then stepped forward and good-humouredly said, "Now, gentlemen, the meeting is over," and the proceedings terminated.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S FAREWELL.—An address, signed by a large body of metropolitan clergymen, was presented to the Bishop of London at Fulham Palace last Saturday. In reply to the expressions of regret and esteem thus conveyed, the retiring prelate made some observations, in the course of which, after thanking the clergymen for their affection and good will, his Lordship said:—"An act of Parliament has been passed enabling me to resign my bishopric. For the provisions of that act I have great cause to be thankful; though I must confess that I would rather have seen a general measure applicable, with certain safeguards, to the cases of all bishops of our Church disabled by age or infirmity from the active discharge of their duties. . . . I am not conscious of having ever allowed any difference of opinion upon matters not affecting the foundation or essential doctrines of our holy faith, to influence my

conduct towards any individual of my clergy, but that I looked only to his faithfulness and diligence in winning souls to Christ. . . . Nothing can adequately supply the place of a zealous and active body of parochial clergymen, carrying the truths and consolations of religion to the homes of their neighbours, especially the poor, and so awakening them by degrees to a sense of their spiritual wants, and exciting in them a longing for the more solemn and authoritative teaching of the Church in her offices, and in the public preaching of God's Word. At present, there is little prospect of such an increase in the number of parochial clergymen as may fully supply this need: but I am thankful for what has already been done in the way of Church extension, and earnestly hope that the work may go forward with increasing energy and success, and it is one which I heartily recommend as deserving of your cordial co-operation and support. I believe we may look for assistance and encouragement from the Christian community, so long as they see that we are faithful to our ministerial trust, and to the principles of our Reformed Church; combating, on the one hand, infidelity, ignorance, and vice; and, on the other hand, guarding our flocks against the errors and superstitions of Rome, by whom the Church of England is justly regarded as the firmest bulwark of Protestantism."

THE NEW BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL was enthroned on Saturday in the cathedral of the last named city.

THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.—The specifications for the new public offices were delivered on Wednesday. The Chief Commissioner of Works (says the *Observer*) invites the preparation of designs for the concentration of the principal Government offices on the site lying between Whitehall and the New Palace of Westminster; and the other two designs are for buildings which the Government has determined to erect forthwith, as parts of the general scheme—one for the department of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the other for the Secretary of State for War. The general or block plans are intended to show the best mode of concentrating the principal Government offices on the site situated between Downing-street, Westminster Abbey, and St. James's Park and the Thames. The proposed new War and Foreign Offices are to be in Downing-street, on the vacant space of ground which the Government already possesses in that locality. The situation of the new Westminster-bridge must be considered in connexion with the designs. The prizes for the best designs are—for the two best designs for the Foreign Office and War Department, two premiums of 800*l.*; for the second best, two premiums of 500*l.*; for the third, two premiums of 300*l.*; and for the fifth, sixth, and seventh best, there are two premiums of 100*l.* each. If the architect to whom a premium may be awarded in respect of the designs, or any of them, shall be employed to superintend the execution of the work, he will not be entitled to receive such premium, but he will be paid a commission at the rate of five per cent. on the outlay, such commission to include all expenses for measuring, superintendence, &c., except the salaries of the clerks of the works.

GUILDHALL IMPROVEMENTS.—The improvements and alterations at the Guildhall are rapidly progressing, and principally comprehend two new law courts, with their necessary appendages, and the appropriation of a portion of the ancient crypt of the building for the purposes of a kitchen.—*Building News.*

SUSPENSION OF A GOODS TRAFFIC MANAGER.—In consequence of some irregularities in his department, Mr. Samuel Salt, goods manager of the London and North Western Railway Company (north-eastern division) at Manchester, has been for the present suspended.

THE HARVEST IN THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND.—A week of very bad weather has seriously interrupted harvest operations in the north of Scotland. Heavy rains have fallen, and a good deal of the uncut corn has been hopelessly laid, but, as a change for the better has taken place in the weather, it is expected that most of the grain will be secured.

THE WOMAN-FLOGGING IN MARYLEBONE WORKHOUSE.—A feud is now raging between the parochial directors and guardians of Marylebone, on the one hand, and the Poor-law Board, on the other, with respect to the recent flogging of women in the workhouse. The latter body, having instituted an inquiry into the facts of the case, called upon the directors and guardians to dismiss the master, but made no reference to the porters, Green and Brown being understood to have resigned. The directors and guardians, however, determined on setting the Board at defiance. The Board peremptorily insisted on its order being carried into effect: but the parish authorities are resolved to contest the point in the law courts.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The last display this season of the great fountains at the Sydenham Palace took place last Saturday.

LITERARY UNION.—Mr. John Forster, late editor of the *Examiner*, and Mrs. Colburn, widow of the late eminent publisher, were married on Thursday week. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Whitwell Elwyn, editor of the *Quarterly Review*.

NEW ZEALAND.—There has been some fighting among the native tribes, but it does not appear that any of the Europeans have been killed.

PARLIAMENTARY STATISTICS.—The Administrative

Reform Association has published the first of its promised statistical papers, in the form of a letter addressed by Mr. John P. Gassiot to Mr. Roebuck, and containing an analysis of votes given by metropolitan members. During last session, there were 198 divisions; and the following table shows the attendance of members generally in connexion with them:—

8 Members did not record their votes in any of the 198 divisions.	
86	were absent 180 times and upwards.
221	" " 150 " not exceeding 180
244	" " 100 " " 150
75	" " 50 " " 100
18	" " 10 " " 50
1	" " 1 " "
1	Speaker

654

In the largest division, 508 members voted; in the least, 58. 230 members who represent county constituencies, and 329 representing boroughs, were absent from 100 and upwards of the 198 divisions during the last session; and this shows how necessary it is that constituencies should enforce the attendance of their representatives, for even a single vote may determine the most important question." Mr. Gassiot then proceeds to consider the votes of the metropolitan members, and observes:—"It is clear that a constituency having two members is not fully represented when only one of them votes in a division; still less can it be said to be practically represented when they vote in opposite lobbies; consequently, one of the results at which we arrive by an examination is, that, in the 198 divisions of last session, London was represented fully on only three occasions; Westminster, six; Finsbury, eight; Tower Hamlets, thirteen; Greenwich, sixteen; Marylebone, nineteen; whilst Lambeth was represented by both members voting together seventy-five, and Southwark, from a similar cause, seventy-three times." A table having reference to the attendance of the metropolitan members is then appended, and Mr. Gassiot continues:—"For the City of London, only one member attended in 43, two in 29, and three in 3 divisions. Out of 29 times that two members voted, they opposed each other on 14 occasions. London was neutralized by absences 123, by opposition 14 (total, 137) times, out of the 198 divisions." Further on, we read:—"The localities enumerated in the preceding table contain a population of 2,132,812, represented by 132,776 electors, of whom 58,048 did not vote at the last general election. Many of those have hitherto, from mere apathy, neglected to record their votes." Speaking of election expenses, Mr. Gassiot writes:—"It is a disgraceful fact, that, in contesting for the honour of representing independent constituencies, such as Lambeth, the Tower Hamlets, and Marylebone, an expense of upwards of 6000*l.* has been sometimes incurred."

A GLIMPSE AT ALGERIA.—In vain does the French Government offer sixty acres of fruitful land to every husbandman who can show that he has 300*l.* to expend upon it; in vain does it give a free deck passage to all who will come over; in vain does it prove by the pen of M. Carotte that Algeria is nine times less populous than France, and sixteen times less populous than England; there are still less than 100,000 acres allotted, and the number of allottees, which in 1848 was but 3333, is but very gradually increasing. The candidates for the unappropriated 90,000,000 acres arrive very slowly. The *Caire*, which is now coming into port, brings ten families. They do not appear to be people whom an emigration agent would exactly choose. They nearly all consist of a worn-out, middle-aged man with a toothless wife, several young children, and a patriarchal female who has attained to an age and a state of mummyism which only French women dry to. However, twenty years hence, if the fevers do not kill or the dysentery does not destroy, or if the rains do not wash them away, perhaps the young children may grow wheat for the Marseilles market. As M. Carotte philosophically remarks, "Il est plus facile, quand on part de la côte de France, d'aller en Afrique que d'en revenir." Let us admit, however, that the work of colonization, or rather of conquest, has been bravely done. Algiers is a French city. It is lit with gas and peopled by Parisians. The roads are as safe as our roads over Hounslow-heath; and a circular letter from the authorities in Algiers will protect a traveller among all the wild tribes which tend their sheep and oxen in the Tel or the Sahara.—*Correspondent of the Times.*

SUICIDE.—Mr. George Whitehead, a gentleman of Beccles, Suffolk, has committed suicide at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Suffolk. He had been a builder, and for the last six months had exhibited great nervousness, owing, it is supposed, to a contemplated dissolution of partnership between himself and his brother. He arrived at the hotel already named on the morning of Tuesday week, and told the waiter he had travelled a long way, and was tired. He went to bed early, and on the following morning again complained of being fatigued, and became very sick after drinking a couple of glasses of sherry. About mid-day he retired to bed, taking with him some brandy-and-water, which he said would make him sleep better. No more was heard of him during that day; and at night the landlord, feeling rather uneasy, listened at the bedroom door, but could hear nothing. At eleven o'clock the following morning, as

Mr. Whitehead had not appeared, Mr. Smith, the proprietor of the hotel, knocked at the chamber door, but received no answer. He then placed a ladder against the bedroom window, and looked into the apartment, when, seeing a pistol lying on a book upon the table, he directed the 'boots' to enter the chamber through the window and unlock the room door. This was done, and, on entering the room, Mr. Smith beheld Mr. Whitehead lying on the floor, face downwards, in a pool of blood. His face was too much covered with clotted gore for any wound to be observable. He was quite dead, cold, and stiff, and his right hand firmly grasped a discharged pistol. On searching the pockets, a pocketbook and various other articles were found. In the book, which contained for the most part memoranda relating to Mr. Whitehead's business, the following entry was made:—"Mr. Smith, landlord.—Have the goodness to forward this melancholy intelligence to Mr. W. Wright, book-binder, of Beccles, Suffolk. He will break it to my dear wife. I scarcely know what I write." On the following leaf was written:—"My ever dear wife,—Ere you receive this melancholy intelligence, I shall be no more. What must have been your anxious hours since I left my house! I know that you have nothing to support yourself; only you have been too kind. God Almighty protect and support you, and forgive my worst enemies. Your affectionate, though wretched husband,—George Whitehead." An inquest was commenced on Friday week and concluded the following day, when, as it appeared that three or four of the suicide's relatives had been mentally deranged, a verdict of "Insanity" was returned.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND CRONSTADT.—Mr. Russell, writing to the *Times* from Moscow, says:—"Sir Charles Napier, in the account of his extraordinary experiences of Cronstadt, forgot one important fact—he talked much of the difficulties, and insinuated the impossibilities of an attack on the place, and mentioned especially the impediments created by the genius of Todleben in the passage at the north of the forts, but Sir Charles did not tell his countrymen what the Grand Duke is at no pains to conceal—that the passage was quite practicable when the Allied fleet first came off Cronstadt, and that the impediments to the passage of large ships were not formed till the winter of the second year of the war. The Russians were perfectly aware that the northern side could be forced, and that it was quite possible for a determined enemy to run past the forts, most of which are constructed on arcs of spheres, have their *maximum* amount of fire directed in front, and have only part of their guns available for an enemy passing their right flank. They had ever such a casualty in view, and the most desperate resolves were spoken of in case the fleets forced the Neva and St. Petersburg were at their mercy. The opportunity was lost, and the Grand Duke and Todleben took care it never should occur again. The moment the Allies retired before the grip of winter, thousands of men were set to work, who sank stones all along the northern channel, or heaped piles of hundreds of tons of blocks of granite on the ice, which went through to the bottom as it melted and formed a line of artificial rocks across the passage. On some of these rocks, batteries were erected, guns were placed to cover the approach, and the place was indeed rendered unassailable by large vessels. Why did not Sir Charles Napier tell us when this was done? Surely nothing of the kind took place till after his abortive demonstration in the summer of 1854."—Sir Charles Napier has published an answer to the foregoing, in which he denies the truth of the Russian statements, and repeats his old complaint that without gunboats (with which he was not provided) it was impossible for him to force the channels.

DESTRUCTIVE GALES AND FLOODS.—A violent hurricane has occurred in the west of England, devastating the town of Glastonbury and its environs. The gale was heralded by a few faint flashes of lightning and distant peals of thunder, accompanied by heavy rain, which immediately drove everybody indoors, and thus saved several lives, which would otherwise, in all probability, have been lost, in addition to the destruction of a considerable amount of property. Very shortly after the rain had begun to fall, a storm of wind arose from the south-west, which exceeded in violence anything that had hitherto been experienced in that part of the country. The tempest was confined within a very narrow sphere of action, as the extent of country over which it raged did not exceed two or three hundred yards in diameter; still, its violence was tremendous, the wind blowing with the fury of a tornado, and causing great havoc wherever it extended. Chimney-pots out of number were blown down, windows driven into the houses, and tiles dislodged from the roofs in large quantities. A pair of heavy gates was forcibly wrenched off the hinges, and carried away some distance. In one part of the town, the entire roof of a house was lifted off the walls and replaced almost immediately, occasioning great terror to the inhabitants, who escaped unhurt, while in another place the roof of an out-house adjoining one of the town inns was completely blown off and hurled into the yard below, without injuring any person. The gale elsewhere raged with destructive violence, and the whole of a large and thickly-planted orchard, and several fine timber trees, as well as the weather-vane and flag-staff of the church tower, were sacrificed to its fury. A wheat-stack and a stack of pea-haulm were also blown away and whirled

up in the air to a great height. No one, however, was killed or seriously injured. The gale has likewise been very violent at Dover, Brighton, Shields, and other marine places, where the sea has done great damage to property. A large number of vessels have been wrecked, and some lives lost, on various parts of the coast. Scotland also has been visited by very high winds, and heavy floods, which have thrown down portions of buildings, trees, &c., and carried away animals.—A violent storm of wind and rain has taken place in Dublin, which continued with unabated fury a whole night. The gale lessened at eleven o'clock the following morning, but the rain continued to pour in torrents. While the storm lasted, it was of almost unexampled violence. In the neighbourhood of the Irish metropolis, a large amount of agricultural produce has been swept away; trees were torn up by the roots, and many animals were carried off by the wind and floods. Several vessels which were moored in the harbour broke from their fastenings, and, running on shore, went to pieces. Some lives have been lost, and it is feared that many ships at sea have suffered wreck. On the northern coast, near Laytown, a vessel was wrecked, and, although within sight of shore, it was found impossible to rescue the crew at the time; but it was hoped they would be able to hold on. Ten fishermen's boats have greatly suffered.

AN ALDERMANIC OPINION ON THE HALF-HOLIDAY MOVEMENT.—Mr. Alderman Rose having, at a meeting on Monday of the Court of Aldermen, moved that the meetings of committees should be held on Fridays instead of on Saturdays, as an aid to the Saturday half-holiday movement, Alderman Copeland and Alderman Sidney said it would be quite impossible for them to attend to the duties of committees on Fridays, and took occasion to express their disapprobation of the movement now rapidly in advance as pregnant with mischief, and calculated to injure both employers and employed. The motion then fell to the ground.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, October 4.

THE NEAPOLITAN QUESTION.

The arrival of the Allied squadrons at Naples is expected daily. The English fleet has arrived at Ajaccio, the appointed rendezvous. The preparation of the batteries and defences goes on.

The Government has offered a pardon to Poerio and Settembrini, if they will solicit it. They have refused to do so.

"A telegraphic despatch from Ajaccio, of the 30th September," says the *Times* of this day, "announces the arrival of two English ships of war from Malta, and another despatch from Toulon informs us that the French fleet was still there. M. de Kisselef is expected soon in Paris with a letter from the Czar to the Emperor."

LATEST FROM AMERICA.

Dates from New York to the 20th ult. have been received by the last mail. Private advices from Mexico, *via* Havannah and Philadelphia, mention reports of a serious difficulty between the Mexican Government and the British Minister, and the latter has demanded his passports. The commander of the British steamer, *Tartar*, at Havannah, is collecting a naval force, and will sail immediately.

The disturbance in Kansas may be considered at an end. Governor Geary's inaugural address, delivered at Leecompton on the 11th inst., was brief and pointed. A proclamation was issued on the same day, ordering that the volunteer militia be discharged, and commanding that all armed bodies of men disband or quit the territory.

With respect to the Presidential elections, we learn from the Buchanan organs that "it is arranged to call the legislatures of Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia, to concert measures to withdraw from the Union before Fremont can get possession of the army and navy and the purse-strings of Government. Governor Wise is actively at work already in the matter. The South can rely on the President in the emergency contemplated."

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND EMPRESS returned from Biarritz on Thursday night.

COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—A partition, dividing some old from some new workings in the Bryn Mally mines, near Wrexham, has been forced in by a weight of accumulated water, and it is feared that upwards of twenty lives have been sacrificed.

MURDER AT OLDBURY.—A shocking murder has been committed at Oldbury. Some bickering and 'sparring' had taken place between Allmark, a collier, and Dunn, a blacksmith. The former told the latter he would "lay him straight before the day was out;" and subsequently he took up a heavy iron instrument, and struck Allmark violently on the head, remarking, "There! I told you I'd lay you straight." The man died in a few hours. The culprit has escaped.

ANOTHER CASE OF POISONING BY MISTAKE has occurred near Doncaster, where a child has been killed by a dose of laudanum sold at a small village shop in mistake for paregoric.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, October 3rd, 1856, including season ticket holders, 28,176.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

The Leader.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 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 EMBARRASSMENT.

THE Circular attributed to Prince GORTSCHAKOFF, though not yet authenticated, is believed to be a genuine document. There is no doubt whatever that it represents the views of the Russian Cabinet with regard to the coercion of Naples and the occupation of Greece. But the assumption that the Western Governments have been checked by the circulation of this manifesto is purely gratuitous. They had not to learn for the first time from Prince GORTSCHAKOFF in what light the Russian Cabinet would view their projected intervention in Italy. Neither Lord PALMERSTON nor Count WALEWSKI could have anticipated the assent of Russia. The real difficulty, so far as any reality can be discerned through the haze of diplomatic duplicity and mystification, was at Biarritz. The demonstration against Naples had certainly been determined upon and prepared; what is less certain, is the form of interruption which produced the delay; and what is utterly uncertain, is the political purpose of the French Emperor. Count WALEWSKI has felt the tightening of his master's hand, and there are changes talked of in Paris. Possibly the internal condition of France, the low ebb of her finances, the crumbling of the artificial schemes by which labour has been made abundant and food cheap, the mutterings of the urban populations, the exhaustion of the great gambling fund of the Bourse, has produced a state of anxiety which inclines the Emperor to pause at the outset of a European adventure. But even more probable than this, as a reason for the postponement of an act which had undoubtedly been decided upon between the Cabinets, is the obvious fact that the Governments are playing at cross-purposes, and only following the same course that they may outrun or obstruct each other. Such is the present value of the alliance. A prospect so confused has not been opened within the century. Here are four Governments ostensibly working to one end, the reclamation of the Government of Naples. England probably takes the initiative, and fits out a squadron for the Italian waters, Lord PALMERSTON being in these matters much in harmony with Lord NELSON, who thought that diplomacy was never so effectual as when heading a procession of ships of war. The objects of the British Government we may infer are of the Whig Constitutionalist character, humane, moderate, preventative, and backed by the preponderance-of-Great-Britain idea. France could not suffer the British squadron to depart on such a mission alone, could not assent to a stroke of hussar policy in the Mediterranean, and attached to the CLARENDON chariot the weight of Count WALEWSKI's co-operation. The Austrian semi-official journals state, in fact, that the French Government, desirous of breaking the force of Lord PALMERSTON's impetuosity,

proposed to act in concert with him, so that half the game might be taken out of his hands. In the meantime, Austria, which seems to have spoken to Naples in two of the varied dialects of diplomacy, hangs in the rear of the Western Powers, watches them, takes counsel with them, contributes to the general delay. While Russia is shaping the expression of her policy, Sardinia—which was excluded from the Tripartite Treaty—adopts the doctrine of liberal intervention, and increases the embarrassment by demanding to be associated with the other European Governments in the work of coercing that of Naples. Thus four Governments are engaged, professedly with the same object, yet, demonstrably, in different interests. What object can Austria pursue in Italy in common with Sardinia, or Sardinia in common with France, or France in common with Austria, or either France or Austria in common with England?

Assuming these Governments to make their representations successively to the King of NAPLES, it would be a strange satire upon their humanity, were he to propose a reciprocity of reform—to offer France the keys of his political prison, in exchange for the keys of Cayenne—to declare that he will release POERIO, when CICERVACCHIO is produced; and forbid the use of the bastinado in Naples when the use of the scourge for political offences is discontinued in Austria. It is not a little singular that the retorts in his recent stolid letter were addressed to England and not to France; otherwise, we might have been amused by FERDINAND OF NAPLES quoting LOUIS BLANC in refutation of a charge from Paris!

The position of the Russian Government is, at least, clear. The Circular places this fact before Europe,—that Russia attempted to intervene in the affairs of a neighbouring state, and was not only prevented, but forced to make a public renunciation of her claims. Now, however, Great Britain and France, the powers which prevented her, absolutely keep the King of GREECE in bondage, and threaten to coerce the King of NAPLES into the adoption of a particular line of domestic policy. If our own Government were sincere it would avow that, in the actual condition of the world, the doctrine of non-intervention is a chimera, and that particular acts must be determined by particular reasons. The affairs of Europe are in such a state that a liberal government must either exert its influence, or leave an aggregate of despotic governments to work their will by obliterating from one country after another every semblance of freedom, responsibility, and law. If, then, any reply be addressed to the Russian Government, it will be mere vanity to quibble away the truth, that intervention is allowable in some cases, and not in others. Europe has been submitted, indeed, to a system of intervention, so that only a few of its Governments can be described as independent. The smaller States exist by the sufferance and through the jealousies of the greater. Were England to retire from all active participation in the policy of the Continent, there would speedily be new boundaries and new partitions. We have no right to suffer this, and we have on interests inconsistent with the bold performance of our duty. The year that sees the Old World governed by even comparatively liberal institutions, will open to England a century of increasing commerce and sources of incalculable prosperity.

But before a decisive course is taken, the English public should be allowed to understand the grounds of the policy to which it will be committed. We have a right to ask that no step which may lead to revolution or

war should be adopted by our Ministers for secret reasons. Where are the official papers? We have the King of NAPLES' reply to the demand of the Western Powers. What were those demands, and in what form were they presented? What are the relations of our own Government with that of France? Above all, what are the agreed objects of their policy? They must know that, in spite of Conservatism, the encouragement of any liberal action in Italy is an encouragement to a revolutionary war. The policy of putting off is not more safe than creditable. For England, at least, it would be an unprofitable undertaking to be the plug in a dyke that must burst and break up the wretched imposture that prevails from the limits of Spain to the eastern borders of Europe. The occupation of Greece, for example, is a hopeless propping up of incompetency and bad faith. The attempt to mediate between the national party and the unnational Governments in Italy is practically an infatuation. Should five squadrons appear off the Italian coast, and should several provinces of Italy appear in insurrection, what will be done? Seize the King of NAPLES with one hand and the Revolution with the other, exasperating both, satisfying no one, and leaving the true objects of Italian national policy unfulfilled? If that be our design, it were better to abstain altogether; but, happily, there are forces in existence which cannot long be repressed by diplomacy. The Liberals in England ought at least to be powerful enough to determine what *their* Government shall do.

JUPITER TONANS AND THE THREE PERCENTS.

LOUIS NAPOLEON has undertaken more than he can perform, and we who go halves with him in some of his games are about to share some of his disasters. He is a man of much more ability than we gave him credit for possessing at first; but no man born of woman can be a second Providence to a great country, and he has broken down in the attempt to carry out an impious ambition. HENRY THE FIFTH professes to have the original right from Heaven to be King of the French people. He believes, and some Frenchmen who are neither lunatics nor knaves also believe, that if HENRY THE FIFTH were to sit upon a crimson cushion in Paris, the fact would be so pleasing to powers above kings, that France would be restored to prosperity and greatness, and the King and his people would live happy ever after. These are obsolete notions, inconsistent with the pretensions of the BONAPARTE family, and LOUIS NAPOLEON despises them even more than he despised the Republicans of 1848. He puts a different construction upon the ways of Providence. Like our great physiologists, he studies the laws of Providence in the working. He finds Democracy, Socialism, Commerce, and some other great agencies, moving the world; and he takes a leaf out of every man's book. With the Democrats, he appeals to universal suffrage; only he dictates to the Democracy the election of himself. With the Socialists, he admits that the State should find employment for the workmen, lodgings for the workmen, and that it shall arrange the combination of capitalists; only it must be the Elected of December who shall rule over all these things; while the expenses shall fall upon the Electors of December. The Joint-Stock Companies developed the commerce of England and her whole empire, and he will permit Joint-Stock Companies to commence a new commercial era in France; credit swells the wealth of England, and credit shall be organized in his own land.

But he will inspect all the Joint-Stock Companies, permit and forbid, guide and control the credit. England has a gold currency, and he will have a gold currency for France; sending away the silver displaced by the substitution. He has taught the parsimonious French to throw their savings upon the waters of commerce.

And what are the results of this special Providence, self-elected, claiming to rule all France, its mercantile, local, and individual affairs, from Paris? The effect has been an hysterical fit of speculation from one end of France to the other. The *Crédit Mobilier* is mocked in every quarter, till all France is bubbles. Paris is converted to a capital of palaces, 6500 houses substituted for 1500 pulled down. Employment was given to the workmen; but then the substitution of palaces for hotels raised the price of lodgings. Whole streets of magnificent palaces are to let at immense rents; but they remain 'to let.' The property has vastly increased in value—on paper; but the positive income is not proportionate. The work of construction must come to an end, and then there will be an end of wages; the workman must begin to hunger, and "Bread!" has been heard as the cry in one of those conspiracies which the French Government is so frequently putting down. But if the workmen begin to want bread, if the landlord of the building speculation begins to want tenants and rent, if the bubble companies begin to burst, even the sound trade that has been created in France will begin to share the pressure; and commerce, like the democracy, will find that no earthly Providence can secure the daily bread of the workman, or manage the trade of an entire country. The reaction has begun: the cry of "Bread!" has been heard, and while the Bank is raising its rate of discount to 6 per cent., shares are tumbling.

When the Royal British Bank closed its doors, Alderman KENNEDY, Mr. ESDALE, and several other very honest and substantial men found their property sacrificed and their name called in question. When the swindle of JOSEPH WINDLE COLE exploded, some of the most respectable and substantial houses in the City had somehow or other got mixed up in winking at strange practices. Mr. MALCOLM LAING, a merchant, came before the world with a romance of real life; the connexions of DAVIDSON and GORDON sustained painful family mortifications; and hundreds of honest people were driven to pain and penury by the fraud which, while it lasted, converted the perpetrators into temporary princes. JOHN SADLER was for a time a potentate of money; and when he lay with his face to the stars on Hampstead Heath, thousands who had honestly worked for their bread found ruin come upon them. What is true of individuals is true of States. If we have business transactions with those who are bankrupt and fraudulent, we shall suffer from bankruptcy and fraud. If the system explodes in France, those who have business relations with France will suffer from the explosion. We shall survive, of course, and France will exist after the shock is over; but the pain and suffering will fall upon those classes who are the least able to defeat it.

Men who are learned in money matters explain the nature of the crisis in the City, and show us that a time of prosperity will return after the pressure. Their explanation is true. The immense influx of gold from the new gold countries has altered the relations of the precious metals in Europe; has partly suggested and partly compelled the adoption of a gold circulation in France, as it will probably do in Belgium and Germany; both following the example previously set them by the Levant. There has been, how-

ever, a real extension of trade in France, and there has been a still more vast expansion of trade in this country. Silver has been demanded in the far East, to supply the wants of the native Hindoos, whose condition is much better than it was; to supply capital for an increasing British trade in India; to pay for more tea which our comfortable people at home want from China; to meet new trades in flax, hemp, and seeds, substituted for similar trades suppressed during the war with Russia. But it has been reckoned that the sending of 2,500,000*l.* of silver by the last three mails will have gone far to fill up that void. The demand for money in this country is occasioned partly by the want of 'accommodation' for the over-traders in France and Germany; but the major part of our trade is perfectly sound. We have extended it in immense proportions over the whole globe; we have to find more capital for shipping, for goods, for wages, in every quarter of the world, but the exchanges of commodities are substantial. The increase of our wealth is shown in the increase of the revenue beyond the proportion of taxes; in the increase of our exports; and, in short, in the amount which we produce and consume at home. All this is true; the present pressure *will* be only temporary. Those who have means will only be called upon to make sacrifices. If, for example, they have no income this year, they will only have to draw so much out of their capital. In France, after the panic, they will wind up, and the whole community will be richer than it was before.

But what of *the poor*? What of the industrious classes? What if wages stop, or are diminished to one-half during the extreme pressure? It is very easy to go without wine and pastry for six months, but it is not so easy to go without dinner for six days. The money pressure stabs into the very vitals of those who live from hand to mouth, upon money, and ready money too. The "period of prosperity" is all very well for those who will have to repair their fortunes; but how are some of these poor and helpless creatures to survive it at all? The Registrar-General will account for some of them; and in the number of those who are lost, we shall see the penalty incurred by France, and by her accomplice, official England, for letting one bold man undertake the duties of an earthly Providence.

ANECDOTES OF PATRONAGE.

It may be fairly objected to popular cries that they are apt to degenerate into mere cant phrases, or else to become converted into stalking-horses behind which political adventurers conceal their interested purposes. The old lady who held "REFORM" to be a removal of the tax upon sugar, may be a fair sample of the intelligence with which certain classes echo a party cry; but it must be admitted, nevertheless, that the thing was wanted none the less because some of its supporters understood it imperfectly, or not at all. Just so with this cry about Patronage, jobbery, in high places, the rottenness of our system, nepotism, and the thousand other forms which corruption assumes to work out its own selfish ends; the cry may be a little vague, the notions of the objectors somewhat loose as to the best method of bringing about a new order of things, Mr. LAYARD may make a blunder or two in details, and the Reform Association may bluster much and effect little; but a plain man, at all acquainted with the composition of public affairs in the present day, and having no special reason to think otherwise than as his unbiassed judgment points, can entertain no reasonable doubt that Reform, and that of the most complete,

radical, and searching nature, is imperatively demanded, and must, sooner or later, come to pass.

We are now in the still waters of the recess, and the House of Commons no longer rings with the indignant interpellations of honourable members engaged in the patriotic task of denouncing the corrupt manner in which patronage is used; but, because we hear nothing about the matter in this particular quarter, we are not, therefore, to conclude that the evil has ceased to exist, or that it is not ten times more active for the fact that the principal mouthpiece of this self-governed nation is gagged. We, casting about in our quiet way, and keeping our ears open to what is going on in the world, have picked up one or two little facts *à propos* of the matter, and without further preface shall proceed to serve them up for the delectation of our readers.

It is not the late appointments in the Church that we are about to refer to. It is just possible that the brother of Lord CLARENDON and the brother and brother-in-law of the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER were the very fittest persons in the Church for the lucrative offices to which they have lately been appointed, and, at any rate, we have no positive charge of unfitness to bring against them. Let them pass; the game at which we are pointing is of quite a different nature.

Here is our first story. Be it known that there is at the present moment a Board of Inspectors appointed to exercise certain functions, not very onerous in their nature, and consequently (for there is a sort of consistency in these matters) uncommonly well paid for. It should be admitted, however, that up to within a very short period, the gentlemen composing that Board exercised their duties with perfect propriety, and received their salaries with praiseworthy punctuality, until, the other day, they were startled out of their dignified composure by learning that two new colleagues had been appointed: seven men, in fact, to do what five had done all too easily. The previous members of the Board did not know how to take this. Was it a reflection upon the manner in which they had performed their duties? That could not be; for one of the gentlemen appointed was utterly ignorant of everything connected with his future duties. Inquiry brought light. One of the gentlemen on whose behalf the appointments had been made was professionally employed as electioneering agent by a member having great interest with the Government, who, doubtless, thought this the best way of discharging that document so troublesome to all rising politicians, his electioneering bill; the other was a naturalized foreigner, whose only qualification was that he was blessed with a pretty wife who had made herself agreeable to a certain noble lord dear to CUPID.

So much for the top of the tree; let us take a peep at what is going on at the roots. Not many weeks ago, a young gentleman, son of a respectable City merchant, startled his family by announcing that he did not intend to follow any longer the profession to which he had been bred, and in answer to an inquiry as to his intentions, replied that he "should like to have a government appointment, with four or five hundred a year." Further question elicited that a fair lady (whose character may best be indicated by stating that she lived as a spinster *sole*, without any visible means, in the neighbourhood of St. John's Wood) had offered to procure him such a place, on being presented with fifteen hundred pounds. It was also established beyond the shadow of a doubt that the lady promised no more than she could perform, or than

she had performed fifty times before. In answer to inquiries made, a reply was given with great *nonchalance*, that, if the friends of the young man were at all distrustful, good security would be accepted for the payment of the money *after* he had been inducted into the place. The offer was not accepted; but if any one doubts the authenticity of the facts, we shall be glad if he will supply us with some other key to the advertisements about "DOUCEURS" which are constantly appearing in the public journals. That is the way of it. Young SAMPSONS fresh from the arms of St. John's Wood DELILAHs, rend the British Lion, and eat the honey out of his entrails.

Everywhere it is the same. From under-secretaryships to tidewaiterships, kissing goes by favour. In the army it is rife as ever, in spite of Mr. LAYARD, whom we could supply with matter for a series of new Philippics. Here is a gallant young major of five-and-twenty, who has gathered all the laurels of the Crimean campaign without ever running the risk of a bullet, a youth who has been rocked and dandled into a warrior, who was made a sharpshooter in spite of a glass eye. And why? For no better reason than because his sister had the luck to make a good match.

One more case, and we have done. It is an humble incident compared with the rest; but sufficiently indicative of the existing state of things. A country squire of great interest had a son, who (whether through the force of example, or of original sin, or of a natural defect of intellect) manifested from his early youth the basest and most degraded tendencies. After having been expelled from several schools for the most ingrained and incorrigible wickedness, the lad was sent to the navy. Some cousin of his commanded a seventy-four, and the opportunity was not to be neglected for converting that noble service into a reformatory for scoundrels. As might have been expected, the experiment was not successful. With an indulgent relative for a driver, young Hopeful was not long in kicking over the traces. In a short time, he was disgraced apparently beyond redemption: not even cousinship could screen him. The offences of which he was convicted were, indeed, unusually shameful. Having robbed his messmates, he had contrived by means of false testimony to fix the crime upon an innocent sailor, who was flogged and dismissed the service in consequence. When his own culpability was discovered, of course there was nothing for it but to cut his epaulets and buttocks off, and set him upon the nearest shore. Surely one would have thought this enough to blast the prospects of any man, however great his interest! But no; the squire, his father, was a wise man in his generation, and bided his time. Under what disguise do we next find this young felon,—as unmitigated a felon as may now be found in Millbank Penitentiary? Why under the uniform of an officer of the British army; belonging to a profession whose proudest boast has ever been that its members are imbued with the untarnished soul of honour. After being drummed out of one branch of the public service, this son of Dives is permitted to creep into the other. The sequel might have been expected: drunkenness, insubordination, falsification of the roster, breach of all laws and principles of honour; such were the natural results of such a career, and once more an ignominious expulsion from an honourable position. The youth is dead now—drink and debauchery killed him; but the crime remains, and those who connived at it are chargeable with it.

POLITICAL QUIETISTS.

A LIMITED but respectable section of politicians have set themselves to the task of

persuading the English people not to concern itself with the politics of the Continent. The despotic governments are too powerful, the liberal governments are too insincere, the liberal party is too weak, to render probable any satisfactory result from a renewal of the great conflict suspended in 1849. It is not very clear whether reasoners of this class would recommend that England should have no foreign policy at all, or whether they insist on a policy of mere submission. The more logical of their representatives explain themselves by the simple formula "Hands off!" implying the old idea of intervention for the sake of enforcing non-intervention. It would seem a very intelligible proposition that England should abstain from all action on the continent of Europe until challenged by an aggressive course on the part of other Powers. It is difficult, however, to define the beginning of aggression. When did the Russian aggression upon Turkey begin—when she uttered her menaces, or when she crossed the Pruth? In the first instance, a vigorous intervention on the part of the Western Powers might have been so successful as to seem unnecessary; but then it would have been denounced by Quietist politicians as premature. Being delayed until the Russian and Turkish Empires were in actual collision, it was too late to prevent a war. At present has Austria made any aggression on Sardinia, or against what remains of the national independence of Italy? If she has, it is time, even according to the rationalistic pacificators, to exclaim "Hands off!" if she has not, she must continue strengthening her forces, increasing her preparation, lengthening the line of her intrusion into Italy, and a war must arise in Europe before a liberal government can interfere in the interest of peace. This would be a strange policy. So with Naples. We hear the scheme of intervention complained of. But on what grounds? Is there a possibility that Naples, as its affairs are at present administered, can long enjoy, or rather endure, its abject peace? You must cast the world into a trance before it can be tranquil under torture. If, then, an insurrectionary movement is inevitable in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies—a movement that will spread through the peninsula—the question for English politicians, even the coldest, is, whether it is for their interest, or for the general interest of Europe, that the movement should fail, and be succeeded by still more infamous excesses of despotism, which, in their turn, must lead, finally, to revolt after revolt, until the nation is ruined or the Government reformed. Whatever England may determine to do France *will* meddle; Austria will work her way down the centre of the peninsula, and fortify the Adriatic coasts; the Italian people will be forced more bitterly into antagonism with their rulers; Piedmont will become more and more isolated; and the national party will recognize its only hope in a general revolution. Then will come interventions from all sides, and it is not difficult to foretell the result if Quietism is to stifle the intellect and the humanity of the English nation.

The vain strugglings of diplomacy have shown that Europe has nothing to hope from the voluntary actions of the several military Governments. After 1849 there was a loud report of reforms in Hungary and Lombardy, undertaken by Austria. The illusion has vanished, and the Concordat in one country, and military violence in another, are in convulsive conflict with the national spirit. Austrian Italy has been converted into a vast camp; the frontiers are armed, as if to oppose an invasion; the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH is in terror lest Venice and Milan, upon the occasion of his projected visit,

should make a sullen protest against his authority. The municipalities of those cities have been *invited* to vote money, which they had steadily withheld; and many a Lombard and Venetian noble has been warned that his absence from the Opera on the night of an Imperial 'bespeak' will be construed into a hint of treason.

Between the Western Powers, Naples, and Russia, between Austria and Piedmont, between Piedmont, and Rome, and Tuscany, between the people of Rome, and the Legations, and France, between Muratism and the National Party, such irreconcilable differences exist, such a play of contending interests has arisen, such passions are at work, that it seems to us utterly fatuous to count with any confidence on a prolongation of the peace of Italy beyond next spring.

It appears to us, then, that the initiation of a public movement at Newcastle-on-Tyne, in favour of Italy, has not been premature. The Government is active, and the nation should be active also, in order that the Government may feel the pressure of real liberal opinion. We may do some service, at the outset, by stating the exact views of the National Italian Party, after which we may explain the position of those who, friendly to the Italian cause, hesitate to promote the new movement, on account of the imperfect understanding between M. MAZZINI and Count CAVOUR.

The National Party has not, in this instance, made the first appeal to England. It has been invited to accept English assistance; but it affirms that the first period of English agitation ought to be now closed. Even diplomacy has paved the way for an agitation of a positive character. That the Italians are a wronged and oppressed people, that they feel their oppression, that they are actively preparing to emancipate themselves, "has been publicly and officially acknowledged by friends and foes, by the European Governments, as well as by the European press." That they can only emancipate themselves by insurrection is the central maxim of the party. The wants of Italy are political and national, and these wants no local and administrative reforms can satisfy. "Neither Pope, nor King, nor Emperor, can grant anything without turning regicide. Every concession would now be a weapon in our hands; and they know it. It is too late. They must be tyrants or fall." These words will be recognized by some of the Friends of Italy.

The whole burden of the national movement cannot be thrown upon Piedmont. That kingdom, forming an integral part of the European system, bound by treaties, and limited by circumstances of territory and population, may bring an army to the support of the Italian cause, but cannot be expected, alone and unassisted, to stand forward and confront Austria, at the risk of being confronted by France. With reference to her future position, it should be known that a compromise has been effected between the different sections of the Italian party, which have agreed to leave undiscussed for the present all questions connected with forms of government, and to assert the one principle of The Nation for the Nation.

THE NEW POINT OF HONOUR.

SOME new point of honour has been adopted among gentlemen. Will any of our correspondents inform us what it is? for the behaviour of gentlemen before the public has completely thrown us out in our reckoning. Our difficulty is the greater, since these gentlemen should be gentlemen *par excellence*, for they are all soldiers, and some of them

even rich. Not long since, a dinner was given to Colonel MORRIS, who, as senior captain, commanded the Seventeenth Lancers in the charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at Balaklava. There were speeches, and they were reported; and in the report of Colonel BUCK's speech was this passage:—

"Their gallant guest was not placed in the same position as Lord Cardigan, who, it was said, had paid 40,000*l.* for the present position he held in the army, and who, when he met his friends at Leeds the other day, was obliged to 'try back,' and first explain his conduct in the charge of Balaklava. There had been nothing in the conduct of their gallant guest so equivocal as to require such an explanation about the duties of cavalry officers as that made by the Earl of Cardigan at Leeds."

LORD CARDIGAN calls upon Colonel GEORGE STANLEY BUCK to explain. "Did you," he asks, "give utterance to such an uncalled-for allusion to me, expressed in such unwarrantable terms, and conveying such an offensive insinuation with regard to my conduct?" Colonel BUCK replies that the report of his speech is very incorrect:—

"I referred to your Lordship's public speech at Leeds, which I simply stated as unsatisfactory to me. I gave no reason for my opinion; nor did I mention anything about 'trying back,' or 'Balaklava,' or 'equivocal conduct.' I alluded to what I understood to have been the case—that your Lordship's commission had cost you between 30,000*l.* and 40,000*l.*"

Colonel MORRIS had no necessity to explain his conduct at Balaklava, says Lord CARDIGAN, "because he had never been attacked by anonymous libellers." Colonel MORRIS had been promoted since the charge of the Light Cavalry at Balaklava; "which is certainly a much more agreeable way of obtaining promotion than by paying 40,000*l.*, supposing that statement to be true." And his promotion, Lord CARDIGAN naïvely remarks, "proves that officers in our service do not obtain promotion by money alone." But "nothing," he affirms, "can be more unsatisfactory, unstraightforward, or evasive than your reply." Now, evidently Lord CARDIGAN thinks that it is more honourable to obtain promotion by merit than money; the 40,000*l.* is the sting of the "insinuation;" yet he does not say that he did *not* pay the money! Again he explains the charge at Balaklava, but he does not explain his own part in the *retreat*, unless he does so in this very vague expression:—

"For myself, having led this brigade into the battery, I pursued my direct course as leader, a course which one horse could take, but in which a line of troops could not well follow from the number of guns, limber carriages, and other impediments which stood in the way."

It perplexes us to discover what is the point of honour to which Lord CARDIGAN adheres. He accuses others of insinuations, but we do not find that his own language is more direct. He is full and explicit about the charge, when the question is concerning the *retreat*. He is angry at being said to have spent 40,000*l.*, yet he does not deny the 'imputation.' Is it thought honourable in the army to purchase your commission, but dishonourable to talk about it?

Another great British officer increases our perplexity. Lord LUCAN threatens to bring an action of libel against the *Daily News*, for a general criticism on Crimean affairs in which the Earl figured. "Through our means," says the *Daily News*, "Lord LUCAN seeks to obtain the opinion of a Jury of Englishmen on the part he played in the Russian war, and in the controversies which arose out of his removal by the QUEEN, on the recommendation of Lord HARDINGE, from the command of the Cavalry Division in the Crimea: we feel that we have a great public duty to perform; and, however indisposed generally to appear as defendants in courts of law, we will enable him to take that opinion." The beauty of this reference, however, is, that Lord LUCAN distinctly refuses to state the particular point which consti-

tutes the libel, and for which he demands either an apology or damages. He demands an apology, without saying what for! Is the complaint too absurd to be stated? Lord LUCAN published a little book—*English Cavalry in the Army in the East*—containing correspondence of his own; in the course of this book, it appears that upon one or two occasions he had been compelled to perform duties which he would have left to others. Some light is thrown on his pretension to be exempt from duty by his subsequent complaint to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

"With many officers in this army, a sense of duty and an ambition of professional distinction are the sole inducement to hold commands of great responsibility under no ordinary difficulties. How mortifying and how great must be the disappointment of any such officer," &c. &c.

Now, what was the point of honour *here*? Lord LUCAN evidently thought he had a right not to take the foremost post in the hardships of the Crimea, because he was a person of "distinction." When a drink of water was brought to Sir PHILIP SIDNEY as he lay dying, he pointed to a common soldier who needed it more, and should have it first. According to the modern and therefore educated view, Sir PHILIP should have said, "Bring it to me first, or to me only, for I am a person of distinction."

A contemporary journal is rather severe upon Lieutenant MASSY, because the public has dubbed him 'Redan MASSY,' for the share which he took in the attack upon the Redan. There were other men quite as heroically doing their daily duty in the trenches; but if we understand some passages which we have quoted above, those trenchmen had their motive; they were *paid* for it. The English public, like all great publics, will always feel a powerful impulse to applaud a man who voluntarily seeks a very conspicuous post of danger; a gallant young officer who dashes forward to confront death where numbers are falling around him is naturally admired by the English public. We now understand, however, that this conduct was not so very admirable on the part of MASSY: he had no natural claim to be in the rear, since he was not a person of distinction.

These facts explain the distribution of honours. Officers of rank get the rewards for the sacrifices they make; but what sacrifices are made by non-commissioned officers and privates?

One of the most chivalrous men who won renown in the war was Sir WILLIAM WILLIAMS OF KARS, and certainly we should have looked to a man so gallant for the very perfection of chivalry. Yet again we are perplexed. Civilization has made such progress that our calculations are at fault. In all his speeches, amid the glow of welcome and applause, Sir WILLIAM OF KARS has never so much as mentioned his patriotic, chivalrous, but less fortunate companion in arms, KMETY!

Perhaps some of our gallant correspondents may be able to inform us what really is the point of honour at the present day amongst 'officers and gentlemen.' If not, perhaps we may issue a commission to inquire into and report what is the point of honour, if any, among the recognized modern British chivalry.

THE ENGLISH HARVEST is now nearly completed—in some districts, quite so. Upon the whole, the result, as regards wheat, seems to be about an average. Barley will probably fall a little below. Beans have yielded well; so has mangold wurzel; oats are plentiful and abundant; and the root crops are in admirable condition, with the exception of potatoes, which are again diseased. Thrashing is now being actively conducted in the midland and southern districts; but in the north the harvest has been delayed, and in some degree injured, by the heavy equinoctial gales and torrents of rain. Prices in general have been well maintained.

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.

CHARTISM AND SOCIALISM.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I confess myself one of those inclined to favour the Charter as a measure of reform, and wish now to draw the attention of its advocates to the two evils that menace their cause—a leadership without virtue, and a smattering of communism in the ranks.

So universal is the denunciation of the late mock-triumph, that it is evident political bias has had little weight in the public judgment. The mere moral sense of the people, a sense as true and trustworthy as is their political instinct, prompted them to hold aloof from a demonstration that outraged common propriety and good feeling. The lesson conveyed in this truth surely cannot be lost on the select knot of gentlemen who in a carriage-and-four paraded our dingy thoroughfares on that occasion. If not dazzled by their temporary elevation, they must have seen that the crowds of artizans that stood gaping at the doors they passed neither took the trouble to remove pipes from their mouths nor doff their caps in the presence of the majesty of the people, made manifest in the persons of Mr. Frost and the persons who followed at his heels. They must have felt they were stared at not as leaders of the people, but as the delegates of some fraction apart, some sect bound, perhaps, by community of opinion to the democracy they dishonoured, but certainly by no community of principle. Should Mr. Jones, or Mr. Finley, or their companions have the laudable ambition to keep well in front of the masses they attempt to move, let them remember this unmistakable proof they have received, that an English crowd at least has healthful moral instincts to consult as well as political sentiments to guide. Assuredly if they forget this, at the first rush in advance they will find their pretensions most unceremoniously dashed aside. It is some comfort to think, in spite of this breach of good manners and good feeling on the part of the lowest of its advocates, that the Charter is still an open question. People may dispute the wisdom of paying our representatives, or we may not be of one mind as to the degree we should extend the suffrage, but no one will deny the probability that the points of the Charter, with some modifications, will be embraced in any comprehensive scheme of reform; and we may depend upon it, that when reform is insisted upon, the day of mere concessions is past, and it will be comprehensive. In the ridicule which the public press has heaped upon the tawdry paraphernalia of a congress of 'roughs' on an idle Monday, some people will doubtless see the salvation of abuses, conservative organs will make merry on the strength of it, and timid pioneers of reform will hustle back into the crowd. But if honest Chartists will learn wisdom from this folly of their pseudo champions they will be the real gainers. They will not be easily turned aside from the conviction that the power of a phalanx of honestly-elected representatives of the people is the only legal, as it is the only practicable, engine to break up that concrete mass of prejudice that exists amongst our respectable classes, in which lays the mere *vis inertiae* of our body politic. It is the selfish and ungenerous remark of people well to do in the world, that when the lower classes keep quiet there is no grievance to redress. There is no more dangerous consolation for respectability than this. There are not wanting signs and portents abroad that a periodic flow of the tide of democracy is about due. It is just in these days of slack water that the small fry among political reformers wax fat on the refuse of the last ebb. It is such gentry who give currency to the socialistic jargon we now hear mixed with the once specific language of the Charter. An evil sign. 'Solidarity' and 'individualism' may be terms suggesting great truths to the political philosopher, but in the mouths of spouters they serve only to frighten the unreflecting and disgust men of sense. Any mind of perhaps small calibre, but imaginative and quick instincts, can appreciate an abstract truth, and faithfully point out the spot where the root of a political evil exists. But it is a hard head only that can get at it and show us how patiently to remove one by one the difficulties in our way. The tool with which we are to work is direct popular agency. The Charter, and less than the Charter, will give us this. In the name, then, of all that is judicious, let us for the present confine our aims to such specific ends; and should there be a latent truth in socialist principles when wiser heads than are in the 'International Association' have proved their practicability, we shall have the means at least in our hands of carrying them out.

T. G.

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*.

TOLERATION is one of those virtues which the intellect at once recognizes to be necessary, to be even indispensable; but few virtues are so hard to practise; few permit so many sophistications to obstruct their action. As a general proposition, the necessity of toleration commands assent; when a particular case falls under our jurisdiction, who of us can say that his egoistic impulses do not overmaster the intellectual conclusion, darkening it with sophisms, dismissing it with vehement contempt? We are all impatient of differences. The truth so clear to us *must* be clear to you; if you do not see it, that is because you refuse to look in the right way (our own); and your refusal must spring from moral perversion.

Although the egoism from which this springs may be mitigated by culture, which, enlarging the mind, brings before us vividly and constantly the inevitable dissidences in men's opinions, it will not entirely disappear. Something, however, is gained by each particular lesson. To have given up persecuting the Jews, and roasting schismatics, are great particular gains. To have learned that 'infidels' are nothing like the monsters which acrimonious egoism, irritated at opposition, has so long been proclaiming, but that 'infidelity' is, in most cases, more genuine faithfulness and truthfulness than the orthodoxy it combats, is also a great gain. While, therefore, such intellectual feebleness and egoistic vehemence as the Rev. Mr. CONYBEARE displays in his novel of *Perversion*, which will assure him the contempt of most thinking minds, may serve to pander to the already vigorous hatred which the majority feels for its religious opponents, we have still the satisfaction of noting that the spirit of the age is becoming more and more tolerant. Toleration is the watchword of the *Leader*. Free speech for *all* free thought, is, and ever has been, our guiding principle. That we are not always tolerant—that on many points we are fiercely intolerant, is, alas! too well known to us. Our human infirmities must be confessed. But at any rate we *mean* to be tolerant; we strive after the ideal; and, if often failing, we still contrive to fight the battle in certain particular cases.

This is a long proem to the notice of a remarkable article in the *Oxford and Cambridge Magazine* for this month, entitled "The Sceptic and the Infidel." The Magazine is conducted by able young men belonging to the universities, and is interesting to those outside the universities who want to note the yeast fermenting in the minds of those who will shortly play parts in public life. But the article to which we now refer has no trace of youth in it, unless the generous ardour and courageous expression of some passages be attributed to the warmth of youth. It is a protest against Mr. CONYBEARE and the class of minds to which he belongs, written in a thoughtful and elevated tone, and our readers will do well to look after it. They will also do well to look after the article on "Bashi-Bazouks" in this month's *Fraser*, for distinct information respecting that curious body of irregular cavalry, about which we have heard so much from newspapers. The writer, besides thoroughly making us acquainted with these troops—and so picturesque are his descriptions that we seem to see the men galloping before us—also throws in various amusing touches, of which two shall be given here. What think you of this method of shopping?—

For the benefit of the shopping public, and especially those ladies who have a morbid tendency for at once appropriating any articles that suit their fancy, from the counter, and taking their chance of the bill being 'sent in' afterwards, we may as well describe the method by which a purchase is effected in that land of fraud and double dealing, the merchants of which are so fond of affirming that the first principle of their creed is abhorrence of a lie. You walk to the counter of a Turkish tradesman, on which he sits and smokes in somewhat provoking apathy. You take up what you require, and ask him, "Katch goroooh?" (how many piastres?) He answers, without moving a muscle of his countenance, "Fifty." You know it would cost much less in England, and if it is your first attempt you offer twenty-five, in hopes of his coming down a little, when, by your advancing in the same proportion you may effect a bargain. Somewhat to your discomfiture, he merely shrugs his shoulders, and gives vent to that well-known sound, "st, st," which marks so hopelessly the impracticability and imbecile helplessness of the Eastern tradesman. You might haggle all day long, you would never acquire possession of the article. There is but one thing to do, and custom bears you out fully in doing it. You take what you want, and put down on the counter such a sum as you think a sufficient price, and so walk away. The merchant is generally satisfied, and the deal is closed. Such is the plan adopted by all Europeans, such is the plan much affected by the French, who also take advantage of their decimal coinage to pay 'francs' where John Bull pays shillings, and such is the plan most admired by the Bashi-Bazouks, who certainly, unless closely watched, have a tendency to omit entirely the paying part of the ceremony, and walk away with their prize, leaving nothing on the counter in exchange.

The next shall be an admirable story of General WINDHAM, the hero of the Redan; a story intensely British:—

When a young Guardsman, he was spending his leave in a tour through Syria, and was journeying in the desert under convoy of an Arab scheik and some twenty or thirty retainers, swarthy, desperate-looking sons of the desert—himself and his servant, a stalwart 'Coldstreamer,' being the only two Europeans of the party. The route was dangerous, and beset by brigands. It was impossible to travel except under escort, and Captain Windham had engaged the services of his guides and guardians at a fair remuneration. For the first few days they went on amicably enough. The captain, with his short black pipe and frank handsome face, winning, as was his wont, golden opinions from all with whom he associated; but at the end of that time, and when so far advanced into the desert that it was equally dangerous to go forward or to return, behold the wily scheik bethinks him of a scheme by which he may yet worm out another thousand or two of piastres from his English friend. According-

at their evening halt he proceeds to the Guardsman's tent, and holds conversation with him, through the intervention of a rascally dragoman, to the following effect:—

Arab Scheik—"shawled to the eyes and bearded to the nose," enveloped, moreover, in dirty draperies, waving his pipe-stick courteously to dragoman—"Tell my brother that the way is long, our barley exhausted, our horses without water, we must return or perish."

Windham—in shirt-sleeves and much-worn inexpressibles, without removing the short black pipe from his mouth—"Tell him to be d—d."

Scheik—"Unless the effendi will pay us two thousand more piastres 'back-sheesh,' my men will be compelled to return."

Windham—"Ask him if he means to abide by his agreement or not?"

Dragoman—much alarmed, as is their wont—"Better give him the money; we shall be left here to die."

Windham—with a sign to Private W. Sykes, of the Light Company, whom nothing has ever astonished—"Bill! you catch hold of this chap whilst I leather him."

In a twinkling the Scheik's gravity is upset, by the summary process of tripping up his heels, performed *secundum artem* by the Captain, a powerful square-built man, no whit inferior in all athletic exercises to his illustrious ancestor and namesake, the famous statesman. Bill, a brawny front-rank man, holds the chief down by the shoulders, and his master, with a good-humoured smile the whole time upon his countenance, lays into the prostrate Arab 'with a will,' some twenty or thirty telling stripes from an honest English hunting-whip that has accompanied him through his travels—the Arab writhing, and abjectly intreating for mercy.

At the end of the performance, what does the wild son of the desert to avenge his disgrace? Does he call in his retainers and massacre the bold strangers on the spot, or does he spring like a tiger on the strong-armed Englishman, and bury his yataghan in the throat of his enemy? Not a bit of it. He crawls to the Captain's feet, he embraces his knees, he calls him "my father," he promises to do his bidding, "himself and his troop, and all that is his, in everything he shall require," and moreover, he keeps his promise; and to use Windham's own words, "behaves quite like a gentleman" till the end of the journey.

There is another curious article, "Protestantism from a Roman Catholic Point of View," in which a Catholic work written to warn Catholics against Protestantism, is analyzed at some length. It is a very foolish, wicked book, and, after exposing its misrepresentations, the writer wisely adds:—

In conclusion may we be allowed to hint that Protestants may learn a lesson from this book, which will not be unproductive of good if it lead them to compare the feelings of indignation and disgust with which its false and garbled statements cannot but have inspired them, with the sentiments experienced by Catholics when they find some among themselves misstating and exaggerating the doctrines and practices of their religion to an extent equal to anything we have met with even in Dr. Giovanni Perrone's precious production.

Will the lesson be taken? We doubt it. The Protestant who indulges his egoism by making false and garbled statements is not the man to profit by such hints.

There are other articles in this varied Magazine we should like to pause over—especially one on "Shakspeare and his Native County"—but must hurry on to the gem of the number, the article called "The Angel in the House." This is scarcely a criticism of the poem so named; but, taking the suggestion from the poem, the writer discourses on the predominance given in poetry and fiction to Love, and especially to Love before Marriage, and points out the advantages of varying this monotony by the more difficult but more fruitful topic of married love. The article bears no signature, but every page is the signature of a high, pure, and subtly-reflective mind; one keen in its insight into social life, as it is delicate in its literary susceptibilities. It bears reading and rereading. We can only squeeze in two extracts:—

The romance of life is over, it is said, with marriage; nothing like marriage, is the congenial reply, for destroying illusions and nonsense. In which notable specimens of "the wisdom of many men expressed in the wit of one," as a lordly living statesman defines a proverb, there are two remarkable assertions involved. The first is that love is an illusion; the second, that marriage destroys it. We may concede to the wisdom of the market-place thus much of truth, that the love which marriage destroys is unquestionably an illusion. We may also concede to it this further truth, that the love of husband and wife is no more the love of the man and woman in the days of their courtship, than the blossom of the peach is the peach, or the green shoots of corn that peep above the snows of February are the harvest that waves its broad billows of red and gold in the autumn sun. If indeed there are persons so silly as to dream, in their days of courtship, that life can be an Arcadian paradise, where caution, self-restraint, and self-denial are needless; where inexhaustible blisses fall like dew on human lilies that have only to be lovely; a world from the conception of which pain and imperfection, sin, discipline, and moral growth are excluded, marriage undoubtedly does destroy this illusion, as life would destroy it were marriage out of the question. If, too, attracted originally to each other by some slight and indefinable charm, by some chord of sympathy vibrating in harmony at a moment's accidental touch, often by the mere force of the tendency at a particular age to what the great Florentine calls—

"Amor che al cor gentil ratto s'apprende,
Amor che a nullo amato amar perdona,"

two young persons fancy that this subtle charm, this mysterious attraction, is endowed with eternal strength to stand the shocks of time, the temptations of fresh attractions, the more fatal because more continual sap of unresting egotism, ever active to throw down the outworks and undermine the citadel of love; and trusting to it alone, think that wedded happiness can be maintained without self-discipline, mutual esteem and forbearance; without the charity which covers the defects it silently studies to remove; without the wisdom and the mutual understanding of character to which profound and patient love can alone attain—this is another illusion which marriage will destroy.

Again:—

The romance of life gone! when with the humblest and most sordid cares of life are intimately associated the calm delights, the settled bliss of home; when upon duties, in themselves perhaps often wearisome and uninteresting, hang the prosperity and the happiness of wife and children; when there is no mean hope, because there is no hope in which regard for others does not largely mingle—no base fear, because suffering and distress cannot affect self alone; when the selfishness which turns honest industry to greed and noble ambition to egotistical lust of power is exorcised; when life becomes a perpetual exercise of duties which are delights, and delights which are duties.

But the whole must be read.

Blackwood gives us Part V. of "The Athelings," and Part III. of "Seaside Studies," which closes the series. We are tempted to borrow one bit of "useful information" from this last paper, namely, that Cleopatra's celebrated extravagance of dissolving a pearl in her wine is open as an historical fact to this slight objection, that wine will not dissolve pearls: "the most powerful vinegar attacks them but very slowly, and never entirely dissolves them, for the organic matter remains behind in the shape of a spongy mass larger than the original pearl." Alas! for History, if Science is to apply its retorts!

"Wayside Songs" is a series of poems, original and translated, strung on a thread of prose and quotations. "Mr. Buttle's Review," is a notice of some poems by means of a fiction, the humour of which does not strike us: perhaps because we labour under the misfortune, indicated by Professor FERRIER, of having been born south of the Tweed. "Our Tour in the Interior of the Crimea" will be certain to attract readers, and "Family History" is a pleasant review essay.

THE CHEMISTRY OF FOOD.

The Chemistry of Food and Diet, with a Chapter on Food Adulterations. ("Orr's Circle of the Sciences.") Houlston and Stoneman.

EIGHTEENPENCE will be well bestowed on this volume of popular science. It consists of a translation of Moleschott's admirable *Lehre der Nahrungsmittel für das Volk*, and a chapter on "Adulterations," by Dr. Scoffern. As a question of literary etiquette and commercial propriety, the fact of the translation should have been more emphatically acknowledged; a line of small type on a crowded titlepage, which few will read, or, having read, remember, is not sufficient announcement. Moleschott will have reason to complain of this, should the translation meet his eye; and still more wrath will be excited in him by glancing at the first page, where he will find himself made to express opinions diametrically opposed to those for which he has fought and suffered. It is difficult to believe that the translator was ignorant of Moleschott's outspoken materialism—which has cost him his professorship—and which he loses no opportunity of enforcing; yet the translator makes him, by a verbal alteration, express himself in the language of the most orthodox immaterialists. Here is the whole passage:—

It is a well-known fact, that change of food has transformed the wild cat into the domestic fireside companion: from a carnivorous creature with short intestines, it has, by gradually becoming accustomed to another food, become transformed into another being, enabled by a long intestinal canal to digest vegetable food, which in its natural state it never touches.

Food, therefore, makes of the most rapacious and perfidious animal in the world an inmate with man, agreeing with children, and rarely, except to a very close observer, revealing its former guileful character. Are we then to wonder that tribes of men become ardent or phlegmatic, strong or feeble, courageous or cowardly, thoughtful or unintelligent, according to the different kinds of aliment they take?

If food is transformed into blood, blood into nerve and muscle, bone and brain, must not the ardour of the heart, the strength of the muscles, the firmness of the bones, the activity of the brain, be dependent upon the constituents of food?

Who does not know the debilitating effects of hunger if of long continuance, the uneasiness caused by strong coffee, the stimulus imparted by a good tea? Who is ignorant how many noble poetical productions owe their origin to draughts of generous wine?

The time is past when it was believed that the mind was perfectly independent of material conditions; but those times are also passing away in which the immaterial is thought to be degraded, because it manifests itself only by means of the material.

The last paragraph will make Moleschott justly indignant. What did he say? "*Die Zeiten sind vorbei in welchen man den Geist unabhängig wähnte vom Stoff*," literally, "The times are past in which men conceived Mind as independent of Matter." The translator's substitution of "material conditions" seems but slight; it however paves the way for the next sentence: "But those times also are disappearing in which men fancied that Mind was degraded because it manifested itself only as dependent on Matter—*das Geistige erniedrigt glaubte, weil es nur am Stoff sich äussert*"—which is directly opposed to the translator's phrase, where we find "the immaterial" (denied altogether by Moleschott) used as the equivalent of Mind; and this immaterial is said to manifest itself only by means of the material, which is precisely what immaterialists maintain, and what Moleschott fiercely opposes.

The public, however, will have reason to thank the translator for the excellent work he has placed within their reach. It begins with a popular exposition of the nature of food, and the physiology of digestion, secretion, hunger and thirst. It then examines in detail the composition of various kinds of food and their relative nutritiveness: first solid food, next liquid food, and finally condiments such as salt, butter, cheese, vinegar, sugar, spices, &c. Having thus laid a scientific basis, Moleschott proceeds to apply the results to practice, and treats of Diet—first of diet in general, and next of childhood, youth, maturity, age, of women, of artizans, of literary men, and of invalids. Very interesting to all persons will these pages be. We extract a specimen:—

DRINKING AT DINNER.

Not seldom do we hear the opinion advanced, that drinking during a meal is an obnoxious habit, but quite wrongfully; for the gastric juice may be diluted with a considerable quantity of water without losing its dissolving power in the slightest degree. Only a superabundance of water would diminish or arrest the peculiar action of the matters contained in the digestive fluids.

Large draughts of water, therefore, would be the most injurious with aliments difficult of digestion, like the fats; and hence the drinking of too much water after fat pork, for instance, is properly avoided; but, in countries where soup does not constitute a regular part of the meal, drinking water is positively to be recommended.

Beer and wine at dinner are also hurtful only if taken in excess; for in the latter case, the alcohol coagulates the albuminous substances not only of the food, but also of the digestive fluids, and thus disturbs digestion. If taken in a moderate quantity, these beverages are calculated to cause the meal to hold out longer; for the fact that we are not so soon hungry again after a meal with wine, than if we have taken only water with it, is to be accounted for by the slower combustion of the constituents of our

body, inasmuch as the alcohol we have imbibed takes possession of the inhaled oxygen. Hence, wine with a meal is extremely useful when a long journey or work in hand renders it impossible to take food again at the usual time; so much the more so, as such detention from food itself usually causes an acceleration of the metamorphosis of the tissues, which beer and wine efficiently obviate.

The subject of "Adulterations" has been so constantly before the public of late that Dr. Scoffern's chapter will be read with curiosity. It is very good, and very temperate. Let us hear him on

CHICORY.

Chicory cannot be said, I believe, to be more deleterious than coffee, taken dose for dose: coffee, indeed, is the more active substance of the two; its effects on certain delicate constitutions are so strongly manifested, that, without a violation of language, it may almost be designated a weak poison. To raise a special outcry against chicory because of its injurious character on the constitution, is simply absurd; nor would it ever have been raised, had not the customs receipts on coffee experienced a decrease incompatible with the necessities of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Unquestionably some palates like chicory, others detest it. The philosophic, and indeed the only practical, way of dealing with chicory would be to permit its sale—of course, seeing that it is not injurious—but not to permit its sale when mixed with coffee, except the percentage quantity of the mixture be strictly defined. At present the sale of chicory-coffee mixture is regulated on a very objectionable basis. If a purchaser demand to be supplied with coffee, the retailer may deliver a mixture of chicory and coffee, provided a label expressive of such mixture be attached to the parcel. If the purchaser, however, ask for pure coffee, or coffee unmixed with chicory, then it is incumbent on the retailer to heed the request. All this is very objectionable; it is an example of the ill-effects of legislating in detail. If, instead of legislating in the specific matter of coffee, some scheme had been adopted of generalizing on adulterations—a scheme based on some principle which should apply to every case of adulteration whatever—much confusion would have been avoided, and public morality, as well as public hygiene, would have been promoted. The present regulations effecting the sale of mixtures of coffee and chicory are very unjust to the purchaser, and provocative of deceit to the retail dealer. Not only is the latter allowed to take advantage of the purchaser who does not think it necessary to qualify the word coffee by the expletive "pure," but provided the chicory-coffee sold be enveloped in a paper duly labelled, the dealer may raise the percentage amount of chicory as high as he pleases; he is under no legal restraint whatever.

And further on:—

Shortly after the chicory-mixing practice became adopted in this country, certain contemplative men began to reflect on the impermeability of tin-plate canisters. Everybody knows how desirable it is to retain the aroma in coffee. The best plan of accomplishing this consists in roasting the coffee when wanted, but the practice hardly accords with our domestic habits and cuisine. The next best plan consists, perhaps, in hermetically soldering the coffee in tin-plate cases; accordingly the canister project was based upon the principles of true philosophy—the idea was attractive, its practical application easy: here are sound reasons, therefore, in favour of the canister scheme. But its dénouement was heralded by other recommendations. Curiously enough, the exaltation of chicory was contemporaneous with decadence of alcohol—canister coffee was the agent by force of which total abstinence aspired to domination. Evil-minded people, who, knowing that the tin-plate costs money, marvelled not a little that a pound of coffee in tin should be sold for less than an equal weight of coffee in paper, were told that they knew not the power or the extent of Christian benevolence in well-ordered minds. The coffee canisters, people were made to understand, originated in no sordid motive of vulgar gain, but sprang, Minerva-like, from the teeming brain of spirit-hating abstainers—men who so little cared for profits, that they were content to live by the loss. But I seriously doubt whether tin-canisters, if they could speak, would not proclaim themselves innocent of protecting the virtues of any one sample of pure coffee. They are, in sober earnest, mere chicory traps; and frequently they are filled in accordance with a nicely calculated scheme of deception,—chicory almost pure at the bottom, and coffee almost pure at the top.

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF FULLER.

An Essay on the Life and Genius of Thomas Fuller. With Selections from his Writings. By Henry Rogers. Longman and Co.

IF we were called upon to lay the first stone of a Mechanics' Institute or Book Society's Collection, it should be composed of the hundred and two parts of the *Traveller's Library*. It is the best shilling series extant. The *Home and Colonial* ranks with it in value, not in cheapness. Here are Mr. Macaulay's best writings, the anthologia of Sydney Smith, some admirable literary essays by different authors, several excellent volumes of science, narratives of travel in eight European, four American, four African, and three Asiatic countries, and examples from the works of Souvestre and Dumas. Bound together, they form twenty-five convenient volumes, which any society of a hundred and five members may possess, upon payment of one shilling each. An association of this kind, formed in every small town, would thus create sufficient basis for a free library upon a modest scale. Good books are not beyond the reach of working men, if working men will combine to obtain them.

Mr. Henry Rogers brings up the rear of about fifty contributors to the *Traveller's Library*. His *Essay on the Life and Genius of Thomas Fuller*, reprinted from the *Edinburgh Review*, consists of a biographical sketch, an analytical criticism, and a *spicilegium* from the various writings of 'his author.' During ten years, from 1831, Fuller enjoyed a revival. All his principal works were republished in London, and filled nine goodly volumes. At no time, indeed, did he ever fall into disrepute, though he suffered occasionally from the praise of uncritical admirers. Coleridge, we are afraid, raised many a laugh against the Aldwinckle worthy when he drew a comparison between him and Shakspeare. Mr. Rogers very properly disclaims this suggestion, though, if he blames the extravagance of Coleridge, he censures the neglect of Hallam, who only alludes incidentally, in his *History of European literature*, to the works of Thomas Fuller. But 'Henry Rogers' does not care to be as sharp upon Mr. Hallam as 'we' of the *Edinburgh Review*. Therefore, a note is added, to present a contrast to this fragment of dispraise, in a paragraph of apologetic eulogy. The addendum is not out of place. It would have appeared more gracefully in the original review.

Thomas Fuller, born at Aldwinckle in 1608, was among those men who have not to wait upon fortune. Fortune waited upon him. At twelve years of age he entered college; at fifteen was a Bachelor, at eighteen a Master of Arts, and at twenty-one a Prebend of Salisbury. If his prosperity was not always equally rapid, it was on account of the disturbed state of

civil affairs, and of a certain rashness on Fuller's part, which made his sermons at once offensive to the parliament and the king. However, when his property had been sequestrated, and while wandering through the country in search of materials for *The Worthies of England*, he chanced to be at Basing when Sir William Waller was before it, and the garrison was so inspired by the drum ecclesiastic of Fuller, that the enemy abandoned the siege. He was present, also, at the siege of Exeter, concerning which he relates a story:—

"When the city of Exeter was besieged by the parliamentary forces, so that only the south side thereof, towards the sea, was open unto it, incredible numbers of larks were found in that open quarter, for multitude like *quails* in the *wilderness*, though (blessed be God!) unlike them both in *cause* and *effect*, as not desired with man's destruction, nor sent with God's anger, as appeared by their safe digestion into wholesome nourishment: hereof I was an *eye* and a *mouth* witness. I will save my credit in not conjecturing any number, knowing that herein, though I should *stoop* beneath the *truth*, I should *mount* above *belief*. They were as fat as plentiful; so that, being sold for twopence a dozen, and under, the poor, who could have no *cheaper*, as the rich no *better meat*, used to make pottage of them, boiling them down therein. Several natural causes were assigned hereof. . . . However, the *cause of causes* was *Divine Providence*."

His first wife having died, he married in 1654 the sister of Lord Balinglass, and was permitted by Cromwell to continue preaching as though he had not been an adherent of the late king. Being summoned before the Council of Triers, however, he was perplexed in search of ambiguities for the forthcoming examination, and applied for advice to one of Oliver's chaplains. "You may observe, sir, that I am a somewhat corpulent man, and I am to go through a very strait passage. I beg you would be so good as to give me a shove, and help me through." When the Restoration took place, he was restored to his former ecclesiastical honours, and was in sight of a bishopric "when death brought all his earthly prospects to a close in 1661."

We can scarcely agree with Mr. Rogers when he says that Fuller, though a voluminous writer, is never tedious. His tediousness is not that of Peter d'Alva, or Hans Sachs, but we confess to having felt the monotony of certain chapters in the *Church History* and even in the *History of the Holy War*. His very playfulness is sometimes fatiguing. Nor can we recognize the analogy, explained and limited as it is, between the writings of Fuller and those of Jeremy Taylor and Edmund Burke. We do not think there is a passage, in Burke especially, which justifies any parallel between him and the quaint divine, who sported even with Gilgal, Og, and Gaza. But Mr. Rogers deserves the gratitude of the reader for having picked out and put together the flowers of Fuller. Nowhere could be found a pleasanter page than this:—

Speaking of the Jesuits he says, "such is the charity of the Jesuits, that they never owe any man any ill-will—making present payment thereof." Of certain prudent canons, in which virtue is in imminent danger of being tainted by impure descriptions of purity, he shrewdly remarks—"One may justly admire how these canonists, being pretended virgins, could arrive at the knowledge of the criticisms of all obscenity." Touching the miraculous coffin in which St. André was deposited, he slyly says—"Under the ruined walls of Grantchester or Cambridge, a coffin was found, with a cover correspondent, both of white marble, which did fit her body so exactly, as if (which one may believe was true) it was *made* for it." On Machiavel's saying, "that he who undertakes to write a history must be of no religion," he observes, "if so, Machiavel himself was the best qualified of any in his age to be a good historian." On the unusual conjunction of great learning and great wealth in the case of Selden, he remarks, "Mr. Selden had some coins of the Roman emperors, and a great many more of our English kings." After commenting on the old story of St. Dunstan's pinching the Devil's nose with the red-hot tongs, he drolly cries out—"But away with all suspicions and queries. None need to doubt of the truth thereof, finding it in a sign painted in Fleet-street, near Temple Bar." The bare, bald style of the schoolmen, he tells us, some have attributed to design "lest any of the vermin of equivocation should hide themselves under the *nap* of their words."

Fuller, Mr. Rogers says, though often caustic, was seldom satirical. Sometimes, however, he ventured to shake his humour at a friend. In confirmation of this, every one, of course, will expect the story of his question to a Mr. Sparrowhawk, "What was the difference between a sparrowhawk and an owl?" To which Mr. Sparrowhawk replied that "an owl was *fuller* in the head, and *fuller* in the face, and *fuller* all over." But, unhappily, the anecdote seems apocryphal. Its truth was denied by Fuller himself, and is not affirmed by any credible testimony. Had the joke been uttered, it would probably have been uttered by himself. He was a man to suggest a new reading for every name, and word, and thing, so fluently did his imagination colour all objects whatever with tints of variegated light. Speaking of false epitaphs in connexion with that suggested for Camden—"Camden's Remains"—he says "the red veins in the marble seem to blush at the falsehoods written on it:—"

He was a witty man that first taught a stone to speak, but he was a wicked man that taught it first to lie.

We break the string that we may take off a few of the pearls:—

Acquaint thyself with reading poets, for there fancy is on her throne.

It rather loads than raises a wren, to fasten the feathers of an ostrich to her wings.

Almost twenty years since, I heard a profane jest, and still remember it. How many pious passages of far later date have I forgotten! It seems my soul is like a filthy pond wherein fish die soon, and frogs live long.

Ha is the interjection of laughter; Ah is an interjection of sorrow. The difference betwixt them very small, as consisting only in the transposition of what is no substantial letter, but a bare aspiration. How quickly, in the age of a minute, in the very turning of a breath, is our mirth changed into mourning!

Scarf not at the natural defects of any, which are not in their power to amend.—O, it is cruelty to beat a cripple with his own crutches!

I have as much reason as a camel,—to rise when thou hast thy full load. Memory like a purse,—if it be over-full that it cannot shut, all will drop out of it.

Generally nature hangs out a sign of simplicity in the face of a fool.

The last is often quoted, and not always attributed to Fuller. We have seen this writer's aphorism, "Those who marry whom they do not love, will love those whom they do not marry," employed by a contemporary authoress and attributed to—herself.

Charity's eyes must be open as well as her hands.

He had a capacious head, with angles winding and roomy enough to lodge all controversial intricacies.

Imbrue not thy soul in bloody wishes of his death who parts thee and thy preferment.

Mr. Rogers' *spicilegium* is a piece of useful work, well performed. An introduction of this sort was necessary, since, though Fuller is read by every generation of students, he has never been popular. From some books that pretend to be biographical encyclopædias his name is omitted!

A VACATION IN BRITTANY.

A Vacation in Brittany. By Charles Richard Weld. With Illustrations.

Chapman and Hall.

TRAVELLERS are still packing up their trunks, and vexing the pages of Bradshaw. It is not too late to advise them to decide on Brittany for their ramble, and Mr. Charles Weld for their cicerone. Nor will this volume be without its charm to other less happier gents, who sit at home at ease and take imaginary voyages with very little expense and no sea-sickness. That more, much more, might have been made of such a tour by a brighter style and more suggestive mind, we will not deny; but Mr. Weld is a pleasant, unaffected companion, cleverer with his pencil, of which he speaks modestly, than with his pen, but accustomed to travel, and writing sensibly about it. He has adorned—really adorned—his pages with numerous sketches of houses, bridges, cathedrals, caps, peasants, and curiosities of all sorts, which greatly aid in bringing the country vividly before us. We cannot transfer them to our columns; instead thereof we will borrow a picture or two from his pen:—

A FÊTE.

There was no occasion to ask the way, as a stream of people was setting from the town to the festive scene. Ascending a long flight of steps on the verge of the houses, by the side of which a stream of water descended, I came upon the banks of a large lake bordered by a path leading to a valley, watered by the Leff. Having followed the path for about a mile, I entered a vast meadow, clothed by velvet sward, and fringed by noble trees, beneath which the river flowed. A more beautiful locality for a *fête* could not have been selected. A placard informed me that the meadow, justly called *Prairie Délicieuse*, belonged to a gentleman of Châtelaudren, who had for the third time allowed the fair to be held on his property, and added that, as on previous occasions no damage had been done, equal care would doubtless be now taken not to injure the trees or shrubs.

The large area was occupied by the holiday-makers and the usual booths found at country fairs; those devoted to refreshments displayed cakes, beer, and cider, the latter beverages being in great request. The dances, evidently the principal amusement at the *fête*, were most extraordinary performances, differing entirely from any dance I had previously seen; the strangest, called "La Ronde," was danced by upwards of a thousand persons. It consists in forming a gigantic ring, holding hands, and circling round sideways with a kind of hop-and-step jump, the arms being at the same time swung violently to and fro. The strain produced by the great number of dancers whirling round is so great as to make it extremely difficult to retain hold of each other's hands; many girls were obliged to give way; then followed shouts of laughter as the dancers endeavoured to close up and repair the breach by joining hands. The exercise was most violent; one round of the great ring sufficed to bathe the dancers' faces in perspiration, who however held out, literally,

"To tire each other down,"

for not until the girls could foot it no longer did their partners lead them away to the refreshment booths. Apart from the singularity of this dance, it is interesting from its great antiquity, being a relic of Celtic times, and is only met with in Brittany and Greece. The *Iliad* describes the dance precisely as you will see it performed to this day in those two countries. It is also worthy of remark that the voluptuous nature of the Ronde, which certainly recommended it to the impure manners of the ancients, is still one of the striking features of this dance in Brittany. The late Chanoine Mahé, whose curious and learned work on the Morbihan should be read by all tourists in Brittany, says that he considers the Ronde a very voluptuous dance, and highly dangerous to the morals of youth.

The music accompanying this wild dance was of a very primitive nature. In the centre of a ring, seated on a platform half a dozen feet from the ground, were three musicians, attired in fantastic garments; one played the *baniou*, or bagpipes, an essentially Breton instrument, another the *flageolet*, and the third whacked a cracked drum. From such materials melody was not to be expected, and the performers wisely abandoned attempting even to extract harmony from their instruments, contenting themselves with producing a series of groans and squeaks which, with the drum's rattling burden, sufficed to mark the time to the capering multitude around them. This rude music is the ancient and therefore legitimate accompaniment of the famous Breton Ronde; any improvement in the orchestra would be deemed out of character.

Brittany, the land of legend and superstition, affords him many a legend and many a half-painful, half-ludicrous illustration of credulity. Catholicism presents some noticeable points; we were particularly struck with the following:—

The Mass in honour of the Virgin was of course the great event of the day, and, judging from the jingling of money, I apprehend that the silver harvest must have been great; *sous*, however, were not rejected, and, indeed, as will be seen by the following copy of a document affixed in conspicuous localities within the church and on the doors, the priests do not regard centimes as beneath their notice.

"CATHOLIQUES DE FRANCE, voici une fondation assurée dans l'Eglise de l'Immaculée Conception. Une messe tous les jours! une messe à perpétuité! C'est une source intarissable de grâces pendant la vie. C'est un secours infiniment précieux après la mort. *Y voulez-vous une part?* Ce Trésor vous est offert pour une obole!! Heureux l'homme qui comprend ce que vaut une messe! Marie ne compte pas la somme qu'on lui apporte, elle considère le cœur qui la donne. Si donc vous n'avez que des centimes, donnez des centimes à votre mère. Envoyez votre offrande en un bon sur la poste!"

A post-office order in favour of the Virgin! Truly Voltaire never struck a harder blow against Popery than that contained in this advertisement.

To us who stand outside the superstition, merely spectators, it always seems incredible that credulity could continue against the suggestions of common sense. The most credulous are amazed at the credulity of others; the superstition which we do not admit into our minds seems so utterly unworthy of admission, whereas the superstition we *do* admit is "a very different thing!" And thus it is that the spectacle of another's folly only makes us pity him; it seldom makes us suspect ourselves.

Here is another curious passage :—

It is a strange fact that Tréguier, with its magnificent church and large ecclesiastical establishment, should possess a chapel dedicated to Notre Dame de la Haine. This stands on a bleak, unlovely hill near the town. Superstitious peasants imagine that three *Aves* repeated with particular fervour in this building will infallibly cause the death of the hated being within a year; and to this day, when night darkens the scene, the malignant peasant skulks to the chapel and offers up prayers against the object of his hatred. This is truly a relic of Paganism, and especially of the belief entertained by the ancient worshippers of Teutates, that a prayer offered to that god was more powerful than the sword.

Horrible, is it not? We, good Protestants, shudder at such superstition. Do we hate our brother Protestants a whit the less because our Church of Hatred is a private chapel?

Let us borrow from Mr. Weld's pages some account of the Pardon which he assisted at:—

Every church in Lower Brittany is supposed to be under the protection of a Patron Saint, who, unlike the dormant saints of churches generally, continues to work miracles in favour of the faithful, and has the power of procuring pardon for sinners.

The popularity of the Pardons varies entirely according to the reputed sanctity of the Saint, and the power with which he is supposed to be endowed. Some Saints are famed for their protection of men, others of women, others of children; while some, as St. Cornely, is believed to take cattle under his special care, and his Pardon is consequently attended by hundreds of beasts driven by their owners to his church in order that the animals may be touched by the saint's relics. Nor are inanimate objects without their patron saint. St. Fiacre, for example, is the protector of plants; the legend of his life declaring that he cultivated botany and the heavenly virtues with equal fervour.

On one day at least in each year the Saint's relics are displayed with great solemnity; and it is on these occasions that, after passing through a certain ordeal of church discipline, penitents are shrived, or, in other words, obtain pardon and remission of their sins.

If the Saint enjoys a reputation for great sanctity, his Pardon is resorted to by thousands of devotees, who crowd his church; and the priests, who are not antagonistic to these proceedings, find at the close of the Pardon that the Saint's *coffre*, or money-box, is heavy with the offerings of the multitude.

Great Pardons generally last three days. The night before they commence the church bells are tolled; the interior is decorated with flowers, and the effigies of the Saints are clothed in the Breton local costume. Then commence the religious observances; but, as we shall see, Pardons are not confined to these alone.

Fortunately, St. Kerdevot is particularly venerated, so I was enabled to see a Pardon to great advantage. As we drew near the village, the crowds of peasants increased in number, and the road was lined with beggars, vociferously demanding charity. These people form a prominent and very audible portion of a Breton Pardon. They travel on foot great distances to be present on any eminent saint's day; while the halt and blind are carried and led by their relations and friends, and laid upon rushes by the roadside, near the town, or around the church. Some attract attention, and reap a rich harvest of sous by chanting, in a lugubrious tone, a ballad-legend of the Saint's life and miraculous performances; or the life and death of our Saviour,—always popular subjects with the Breton peasant. These beggars are of a superior order to the tribe of mendicants generally. They invariably find ready and hearty welcome from the cottagers, who offer them the best seat by the fire, and a share of their frugal meal. This is requited by a liberal outpouring of the gossip gleaned in neighbouring villages; and they are careful to tell the girls how many young men have fallen in love with them, and what holy wells possess the greatest love-powers. . . .

If the beggar be rich in legends, and has the power to sing them, his company is particularly acceptable: for the Breton peasant has a great passion for legendary song. There was a striking illustration of this when Brittany was ravaged by cholera, and the peasants abandoned themselves to despair. In vain did the authorities print and circulate thousands of placards throughout the town and villages, advising the inhabitants how to act. They were treated as waste paper; and the disease was spreading fast, when a bookseller, who knew the power of ballads on the people, happily hit on the expedient of turning the medical men's advice, as set forth in their grave placards, into jingling rhymes, which were speedily circulated throughout Brittany: and with such good effect, that the cholera, to use their own words, was "*chansonné hors de la Bretagne*." This is, of course, a slight exaggeration, for the disease was fatal to thousands before its course was finally arrested; but the story shows the power of ballad-poetry over the Bretons, and the truth of the proverb, "The poet is stronger than the three strongest things—evil, fire, and tempest."

We had wormed our way along the narrow road, through a continually increasing crowd of peasants, who almost blocked up the way, when we were suddenly liberated from the pressure of our neighbours by emerging on an extensive meadow, planted with trees, which pleasantly screened the sun.

Within this area between two and three thousand peasants were assembled, dressed with few exceptions in quaint and gaudy costumes. The men wore felt hats with enormous brims, from beneath which long mane-like hair fell to their waists. The crowns of these large headpieces were trimmed with gay *chenille* and artificial flowers, and their shapes were very varied; for in Basse Bretagne there is nearly as great a variety in the form of the hat, as there is in that of the women's caps. Near Quimper a peculiar one-cornered hat is in vogue, which imparts information to the world according to the manner in which it is worn, and which must be particularly interesting to ladies; a bachelor places the corner of this queer hat over the right or left ear, a benedict behind, and a widower in front.

The jackets generally worn were light-blue, violet, or green cloth or cotton velvet, fitting tightly, and trimmed with rich gold and silver lace, and many bright brass buttons; beneath the jacket an equally gay waistcoat was worn, and the breeches of rich brown cloth were invariably of that kind known in Brittany by the name of *bragous*. A broad leather girdle, fastened by a rich metallic buckle of great size, confined this garment round the waist, which was tied at the knees by coloured ribbons terminating in tassels; the leggings were generally leather, decorated with a profusion of buttons; and the feet were encased in shoes adorned by huge silver buckles, for which as much as 4*l.* a pair is sometimes given. Dresses of this description are necessarily very expensive, frequently, as I was assured, costing 8*l.* to 12*l.* They are not to be purchased in the towns,—at least my endeavours to procure such costumes were fruitless,—but are made to order by itinerant tailors, who are boarded and lodged in the peasants' houses while at work on the gay garments. These tailors are a very characteristic feature of Brittany, and have many occupations on their hands besides that of stitching, not the least important being that of making love-matches as well as *bragous*.

Nearly every man carried a formidable stick or cudgel, one end of which terminated in a large knob. This terrible *casse-tête*, as it is called, is a constant companion of the Breton, and is used with great and sometimes deadly effect during rows. It may be observed, as a proof of the antiquity of Breton customs, that a cudgel of this description was carried by the Celts.

The men being so gaily dressed, it may be supposed that the costume of the women was not less gay or varied; indeed, looking at my notes, I am perplexed by the great number of styles and colours which I jotted down as the gaudy damsels passed before me, the bare enumeration of which would cause this page to resemble a leaf from a "*Magasin des Modes*" two centuries old, if such a fashionable publication existed at that date. Without attempting a detailed description, in which I frankly own I should break down, I may briefly state that while the close-fitting caps of all shapes and sizes displayed even stranger forms than those worn by the Norman peasants, the gowns were particularly conspicuous for their superabundance of gold and silver lace, the bodices, sleeves, and skirts being generally of different colours; while the person was still further adorned by rich lace-collars of very peculiar cut, and massive gold or silver crosses, and large silver rings. . . .

Many girls carried slender willow-sticks fastened by gay ribbons to their wrists, exhibiting by the carving of the bark curious devices. They were *gages d'amour*, and, as I was informed, a girl accepting such a wand from a youth paying his addresses to her, is regarded as willing to marry the donor. Although by far the majority of the peasants attending the Pardon were arrayed in gaudy and costly costumes, there were others clothed in far more sober garments, which however generally exhibited the peculiar forms of those worn by their richer neighbours.

Among the many strange customs which mark the Breton peasants, there is none more remarkable than that of wearing the hair; for while the men cultivate long tresses hanging down to their waists, and of which they are very proud, the women do not show a single lock, and the girl who might be tempted by the beauty of her *chevelure* to allow a ringlet to escape from beneath her closely-fitting cap, would not only lose all chance of obtaining a lover, but would be regarded by the young men as a *fille perdue*, that is, a coquettish girl unworthy of their affections. To this strange custom many London and Paris ladies are indebted for the magnificent hair which adorns their heads, but which was grown in the wilds of Brittany.

Such were the living features which presented themselves to me; but besides these, tents, booths, and stalls displaying refreshments, principally of an intoxicating nature, were ranged in semicircular lines round the meadow, while the background of the picture was filled by the church, a large, handsome structure, with a small chapel contiguous to it, and a rich calvary representing the death and passion of our Lord. Crowds of peasants were passing in and out of the sacred edifice, attracted by the relics of St. Kerdevot, consisting of fragments of bones, which my limited knowledge of comparative anatomy did not enable me to identify as human.

These relics, which were in a handsome reliquary, were exhibited by a priest to the people, who pressed eagerly forward to kiss the crystal shrine. At a convenient distance stood St. Kerdevot's money-box, into which silver and copper coins rained unceasingly, and the oblation being offered, the high-priest gave absolution for past sins.

Mr. Weld has succeeded in making us companions in his pleasant holiday, and in making us resolve to 'do' Brittany when occasion offers.

TWO NOVELS.

The Hills of the Shatemuc. By the Author of "*The Wide, Wide World*." Low and Co.; T. Hodgson; Routledge and Co.; Clarke and Co.

Old Memories: a Novel. By Julia Melville. 3 Vols. Newby.

FIVE hundred pages of narrative without an incident—such is this paradox by the Author of *The Wide, Wide World*. That was tedious enough; this is indescribably dull. It is an endless stream of talk, sometimes incoherent, always unnatural and repulsive. All Miss Warner's personages speak in an acidulated manner, the calm hero is defiant, the hero with the flashing eyes insolent, the heroine with the pouting lips saucy, the heroine with the steady brow insulting. An ordinary person could not live one day in such company. The best of Miss Warner's people, Winthrop, is a marionette, who makes up for his virtues by his offensive manners; her two heavy fathers are as cold as reptiles; her favourite daughter, Elizabeth, is a thin piece of asperity, and the climax of absurdity is, that she writes as foolishly as her puppets talk. She seems to have a notion that spasm is necessary to emphasis, and that little crisp sentences without beginning or end give point and character to her style! Her paragraphs, therefore, are continually broken into asthmatic fragments, the general rule with Miss Warner being to accumulate her solemn stops and changes in passages of the most trivial meaning. She describes potato-scraping as though it were capital punishment, and a proposal of marriage as though it were a Christmas cracker. Large dilutions of cant, also, are poured into the stagnant dialogue, sacred names and words being burlesqued by association with comically frivolous episodes of domestic life.

Perhaps, however, the attempt to elaborate a character-portrait of the real heroine, Elizabeth Haye, is the most painful failure of the book. This Elizabeth is literally a disgraceful shrew, impudently insolent to her father, despotic to her friends, imbecile in the presence of her lover. Scarcely is she introduced once without an exhibition of ill-humour, recorded by Miss Warner in a ludicrously inflated manner. We ought to explain that Rufus and Winthrop Landholm are the aspiring sons of a farmer, and that Elizabeth Haye and Rose Cadwallader are young ladies of 'gentle' birth, boarding awhile at the farm. Rose, who pouts in every page, is in the humour to rally her sister upon the courtesies of the plebeian Winthrop, and is accustomed to provoke ebullitions of this kind:—

The cheek of the other at that became like a thunder-cloud. She turned her back upon her cousin and walked from her to the house, with a step as fine and firm as that of the Belvidere Apollo and a figure like a young pine-tree.

Occasion the second:—

Miss Cadwallader's eye fairly gave way under the lightning. Elizabeth's words were delivered with an intensity that kept them quiet, though with the last degree of clear utterance; and turning, as Rufus came up, she gave him a glare of her dark brown eyes that astonished him.

Thirdly:—

Elizabeth laid down her book and looked over at her companion, with an eye the other just met and turned away from.

"Rose,—how dare you talk to me so!"

In the same page:—

Elizabeth took her candle and book and marched out of the room.

Next, her father suffers:—

Elizabeth had risen from the table, and now she stood on the rug before the fire, with her arms behind her, looking down at the breakfast-table and her father. Lite-

rally, looking down upon them. Her cheeks were very pale, but fires that were no heaven-lit were burning somewhere within her, shining out at her eye and now and then colouring her face with a sudden flare. There was a pause. Mr. Haye tried what he could do with his beefsteak; and his daughter's countenance showed the cloud and the flame of the volcano by turns.

"The volcanic fires leaping up higher" spoil the poor man's breakfast:—

Elizabeth in a whirl of feeling that like the smoke of the volcano hid everything but itself, went and stood in the window; present to nothing but herself; seeing neither the street without nor the house within. Wrapped in that smoke, she did not know when the servant went out, nor whether anybody else came in. She stood there pale, with lips set, her hands folded against her waist, and pressing there with a force the muscles never relaxed.

A subsequent conversation represents this beauty "disgorging foul her devilish glut" upon her father and young stepmother at once:—

She brought, as she spoke, her eye of fire to bear upon her cousin, who gave way before it and was mum.

Elizabeth favoured her with a look which effectually spiked that little gun for the time.

Her father warns her to take care of her eyes—a piece of advice as popular in America, it would seem, as in London:—

He might well tell her to take care of her eyes. They glowed in their sockets as she confronted him, while her cheek was as blanched as a fire at the heart could leave it.

The reader is now anxious to be relieved from the presence of Miss Warner and Miss Elizabeth Haye. We have only in reserve an ineffable originality, concerning ye way in which she consenteth to become ye wife of Winthrop Landholm:—

"Miss Haye, I have a great boon to ask of you."

"Well?" said Elizabeth, eagerly. "I am very glad you have!"

"Why?"

"Why?—why, because it's pleasant."

"You don't know what it is, yet."

"No," said Elizabeth, "but my words are safe."

"I want you to give me something."

"You preface it as if it were some great thing, and you look as if it was nothing," thought Elizabeth, a little in wonderment. But she said only,

"You may have it. What is it?"

"Guess."

"I can't possibly."

"You are incautious. You don't know what you are giving away."

"What is it?" said Elizabeth, a little impatiently.

"Yourself."

Many a book is pronounced "the most remarkable the season has produced," but the *Hills of the Shatemuc* is, without a rival, the silliest. It would have been scarcely worth while to say so were it not that several publishers at once are driving Miss Warner's heroes and heroines to market, so that the public is in danger of being deceived by the appearance of English popularity which can now be conferred, for trading purposes, upon any American author.

Old Memories is a far better novel than *The Hills of the Shatemuc*, but it will not attain a twentieth of its popularity. The three-volume fashion inflicts great injury upon English novel writers. Scarcely any romance published during the season, with circulating library aims, is worse than some of the pirated reprints that are sold by thousands in a cheap form. Miss Melville's, as we have said, is better than Miss Warner's—better in tone, in plot, in conduct; it is written more naturally, and is a good deal more interesting. It has been before remarked that three-volume novels may be tried by two standards, the standard of art and that of the circulating library. The test of art reduces the long lists of announcements, in fashionable and unfashionable quarters, to insignificance; that of the circulating library brings the generality of such productions to a level. Of course the writers are more or less proficient; there are the practised and the unpractised: artizans familiar with the machinery of their craft, and apprentices without the advantage of an overseer. Miss Julia Melville belongs to the latter class. She is young as a novelist. Her style wants hardening; she busies herself too industriously with pictures of mansions, gardens, and scenery; her sentiment is sky-blue, always pretty; and she has built some very old materials into her story. Towards the catastrophe, also, she seems to have been in want of an effect, and to have raised the dead for her necessity. At all events, no other reason is conceivable for bringing upon the stage, when the heroine is happily married, the apparition of a former friend—long supposed to have been trodden in the dust of Waterloo. He comes, shrieks, and goes, and the story glides on as before. But there are many pleasing qualities in this novel, which may be put into country parcels for the enlivenment of the lengthening evenings of this October.

EARLY LIFE OF WASHINGTON.

Life of Washington. By Washington Irving. Volumes I. II. III.

Bohn.

(FIRST NOTICE.)

Four years ago it was announced that Washington Irving was working at his home on the Hudson, upon a nearly completed History of General Washington. Subsequently a long absence in Europe and occasional ill health stayed the historian's graceful pen, but the long-strained expectations of the reading world have not been disappointed, for here is a large and excellent instalment of the promised work. Three such volumes as these make it a matter for congratulation that Irving has not adhered to his first intention of devoting himself only to the *novel* of American life. His present subject belongs rather to the domain of history than of biography, for as he observes, "Washington had very little private life, but was eminently a public character. All his actions and concerns almost from his boyhood were connected with the history of his country." Irving however takes especial pleasure in those glimpses of his hero's early days which enable us to surmise by what influences "his character was formed and he gradually trained up and prepared for his great destiny." Nor does the careful biographer fail to note any particular that tends to illustrate the personal habits

and characteristics of a later period. The more intimately we thus become acquainted with Washington, the more firmly he becomes fixed in our esteem. Even escapades of petulance, and the white hot passions which sometimes mastered him, are proofs of the man which no sensible reader would forego. They are touches of nature which quicken our sympathies a thousand times more than all the stately writings that are preserved as tributes to his memory.

The history opens with a genealogical chapter about the right ancient and loyal line from which the Washingtons descended. The first written record of the family occurs in 1183, in a document called the Bolden Book, wherein are recorded the lands belonging to the diocese of Durham. After this date the diversely written name of Wessington, Weshington, Weschington, Wasington, Washington, and Washington, is to be found in old historical documents of nearly every reign. The family is always mentioned with honour. Its members, whether knights, soldiers, or priests, lived up to the mark and maintained the respectability of their race. Two members of that branch of the family to which General Washington immediately belonged, distinguished themselves in the civil wars, in which they adhered to the royal cause with generous and unswerving devotedness. One of them was Sir Henry Washington, commandant of Worcester, and memorable for the heroic constancy with which he held that city for the king under desperate circumstances. "Those," says Irving, "who believe in hereditary virtues may see foreshadowed in the conduct of this Washington of Worcester the magnanimous constancy of purpose, the disposition to 'hope against hope' which bore our Washington triumphantly through the darkest days of our revolution." In 1657, two of Sir Henry's uncles emigrated to Virginia, and purchased lands in Westmoreland county, between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers. It was on these lands, in the homestead on Bridges Creek, on the 22nd of February, 1732, that George Washington was born.

He was the eldest son of a second marriage. His half-brother Lawrence, who was his senior by fourteen years, was, according to the fashion of the time, sent to England to complete his education. George enjoyed no such advantage; he received the rudiments of learning at an "old field school-house" kept by one of his father's tenants named Hobby, who moreover was sexton of the parish. He was afterwards removed to a superior school; but the scope of his education seems to have been confined to fitting him for ordinary business, and to that extent it was signally successful. "He never attempted the learned languages, nor manifested any inclination for rhetoric or belles lettres." His ignorance of the French language subsequently occasioned him much inconvenience. On one occasion he capitulated to the French under circumstances that were considered derogatory to his honour as a commander. The truth is that the articles of capitulation were blunderingly translated by his old master of fence Von Braam, who appears to have had a very imperfect knowledge either of French or English.

But however limited the range of his school instruction, George Washington had the benefit of a mental and moral culture of a high order at home. His excellent father "imbued him with a spirit of justice and generosity, and above all a scrupulous love of truth," and his eldest brother in a great measure supplied the place of that father, when George lost him at an early age:—

When George was about seven or eight years old, his brother Lawrence returned from England, a well-educated and accomplished youth. There was a difference of fourteen years in their ages, which may have been one cause of the strong attachment which took place between them. Lawrence looked down with a protecting eye upon the boy whose dawning intelligence and perfect rectitude won his regard; while George looked up to his manly and cultivated brother as a model in mind and manners. We call particular attention to this brotherly interchange of affection, from the influence it had on all the future career of the subject of this memoir.

His mother, also, was one of his best teachers. Her eldest son was eleven years old, when by her deceased husband's will she became sole guardian of the persons and large property of her children:—

She proved herself worthy of the trust. Endowed with plain, direct good sense, thorough conscientiousness, and prompt decision, she governed her family strictly, but kindly, exacting deference, while she inspired affection. George, being her eldest son, was thought to be her favourite, yet she never gave him undue preference, and the implicit deference exacted from him in childhood continued to be habitually observed by him to the day of her death. He inherited from her a high temper and a spirit of command, but her early precepts and example taught him to restrain and govern that temper, and to square his conduct on the exact principles of equity and justice.

Tradition gives an interesting picture of the widow, with her little flock gathered round her, as was her daily wont, reading to them lessons of religion and morality out of some standard work. Her favourite volume was Sir Matthew Hale's *Contemplations*, moral and divine. The admirable maxims therein contained, for outward action as well as self-government, sank deep into the mind of George, and, doubtless, had a great influence in forming his character. They certainly were exemplified in his conduct throughout life. This mother's manual, bearing his mother's name, Mary Washington, written with her own hand, was ever preserved by him with filial care, and may still be seen in the archives of Mount Vernon. A precious document! Let those who wish to know the moral foundation of his character consult its pages.

In 1740 Lawrence Washington obtained a captain's commission in a regiment raised in the colonies, and served with distinction in the joint expeditions of Admiral Vernon and General Wentworth against the Spaniards in South America. His example could not fail to develop in his younger brother that military instinct which had been hereditary in their line for six centuries:—

We have here the secret of that martial spirit so often cited of George in his boyish days. He had seen his brother fitted out for the wars. He had heard by letter and otherwise of the warlike scenes in which he was mingling. All his amusements took a military turn. He made soldiers of his schoolmates; they had their mimic parades, reviews, and sham fights; a boy named William Bustle was sometimes his competitor, but George was commander-in-chief of Hobby's school.

And his pre-eminence was also acknowledged by his compeers in the superior school to which he afterwards removed:—

He was a self-disciplinarian in physical as well as mental matters, and practised himself in all kinds of athletic exercises, such as running, leaping, wrestling, pitching quoits, and tossing bars. His frame, even in infancy, had been large and powerful, and he now excelled most of his playmates in contests of agility and strength. As a

proof of his muscular power, a place is still pointed out at Fredericksburg, near the lower ferry, where, when a boy, he flung a stone across the Rappahannock. In horsemanship, too, he already excelled, and was ready to back, and able to manage the most restive steed. Traditional anecdotes remain of his achievements in this respect.

Above all, his inherent probity and the principles of justice on which he regulated all his conduct, even at this early period of life, were soon appreciated by his school-mates; he was referred to as an umpire in their disputes, and his decisions were never reversed. As he had formerly been military chieftain, he was now legislator of the school; thus displaying in boyhood a type of the future man.

Washington's manuscript school books still exist. They are marvels of neatness and accuracy, and indicate those habits of perseverance and completeness in all his undertakings which in after life enabled him to keep perfectly in hand, under the most difficult circumstances, all the multifarious details of his public and private business. But—who would have thought it?

In one of these manuscript memorials of his practical studies and exercises, we have come upon some documents singularly in contrast with all that we have just cited, and with his apparently unromantic character. In a word, there are evidences in his own handwriting, that, before he was fifteen years of age, he had conceived a passion for some unknown beauty, so serious as to disturb his otherwise well-regulated mind, and to make him really unhappy. Why this juvenile attachment was a source of unhappiness we have no positive means of ascertaining. Perhaps the object of it may have considered him a mere schoolboy, and treated him as such; or his own shyness may have been in his way, and his "rules for behaviour and conversation" may as yet have sat awkwardly on him, and rendered him formal and ungainly when he most sought to please. Even in later years he was apt to be silent and embarrassed in female society. "He was a very bashful young man," said an old lady, whom he used to visit when they were both in their nonage. "I used often to wish he would talk more."

Whatever may have been the reason, this early attachment seems to have been a source of poignant discomfort to him. It clung to him after he took a final leave of school in the autumn of 1747, and went to reside with his brother Lawrence at Mount Vernon. Here he continued his mathematical studies and his practice in surveying, disturbed at times by recurrences of his unlucky passion. Though by no means of a poetical temperament, the waste pages of his journal betray several attempts to pour forth his amorous sorrows in verse. They are mere commonplace rhymes, such as lovers at his age are apt to write, in which he bewails his "poor restless heart, wounded by Cupid's dart," and "bleeding for one who remains pitiless of his griefs and woes."

The tenor of some of his verses induce us to believe that he never told his love; but as we have already surmised, was prevented by his bashfulness.

"Ah, woe is me, that I should love and conceal;
Long have I wished and never dare reveal."

It is difficult to reconcile one's self to the idea of the cool and sedate Washington, the great champion of American liberty, a woe-worn lover in his youthful days, "sighing like furnace," and inditing plaintive verses about the groves of Mount Vernon. We are glad of an opportunity, however, of penetrating to his native feelings, and finding that under his studied decorum and reserve he had a heart of flesh throbbing with the warm impulses of human nature.

The name of Washington's first love is not positively known; but tradition states that she was a Miss Grimes, "afterwards Mrs. Lee, and mother of General Henry Lee, who figures in revolutionary history as Light Horse Harry, and was always a favourite with Washington, probably from the recollection of his early tenderness for the mother."

The marriage of Lawrence Washington with one of the daughters of Sir William Fairfax, of Belvoir, Virginia, introduced George to society which "could not but have a beneficial effect in moulding the character and manners of a somewhat homebred schoolboy." It had also a notable share in determining the course of his fortunes; for Lord Fairfax, Sir William's cousin, employed him to survey his vast estates in Virginia, and it was probably through the influence of the same nobleman that Washington was appointed public surveyor in his seventeenth year. He retained this lucrative office for three or four years, spending the greater part of his time in toilsome expeditions in the mountains, and his leisure with his cultivated brother at Mount Vernon, or with the Fairfax family. While he was thus occupied, the French and English were severally taking measures to enforce their conflicting claims to the Ohio valley, and war was becoming imminent. Virginia was divided into military districts, each having an adjutant-general, with the rank of major, and the pay of 150*l.* a year. One of these appointments was conferred on Washington, though he was but nineteen years of age, and he proved himself worthy of it. He at once applied himself with his usual assiduity to the acquirement of the necessary military knowledge, but his studies were interrupted by the illness and death of his favourite brother, Lawrence. At the end of October, in the following year (1753), he was sent on a mission to the French commander, and thenceforth he was constantly occupied in the preliminaries or the actual events of border warfare, until a few months before the termination of that contest between France and England for dominion in America in which the first gun was fired in his own encounter with De Jumonville. The manner in which he discharged the mission above mentioned established him at once in public estimation as qualified for important civil and military trust. "From that moment," says his biographer, "he was the rising hope of Virginia."

After his last campaign as commander of the Virginian forces, Washington was married, in January, 1759, to Mrs. Martha Curtis, and retired to Mount Vernon, "his harbour of repose, where he fancied himself anchored for life."

REPRINTS AND NEW EDITIONS.

We have some new editions and reprints to catalogue. The precedence due to age belongs to *Black's Picturesque Tourist of Scotland* (Edinburgh: Adam and Charles Black), which appears for the twelfth time, revised and corrected, and which certainly should be the companion of every Scottish tourist. Dr. Alexander Taylor's *Comparative Enquiry as to the Preventive and Curative Influence of the Climate of Pau and of Montpellier, Hyères, &c.* (J. W. Parker), has been considerably altered and enlarged. Mr. F. S. Carr has written a new preface to the third edition of his *History of Greece, Including its Geography, Literature, and Political Institutions* (Simpkin and Marshall), a book which all tutors should know. Among Mr. Bohn's latest

reprints are volumes of the *Memoirs of Sully*, *Thierry's Norman Conquest*, and the *Orations of Demosthenes*.

Mr. Bayle St. John has published in a pretty volume—the first of "Addey's Library for Old and Young"—his *Legends of the Christian East*, already so familiar to the readers of the *Household Words*. In a brief preface he mentions that, with one or two unimportant exceptions, they are based on narratives and suggestions gathered by himself in the East. Some of the titles have a very Oriental tone: "The Legend of the Weeping Chamber," the "Sister of the Spirits," the "Merchant's Heart," the "Secret of the Well," the "Little Flower," and the "Story of a Ring." We should remark that the new *Library* commenced by the Messrs. Addey is composed of attractive little volumes, neatly bound in cloth, with good illustrations in lithograph. Among recent issues must also be noted Mr. St. John's novel, *Maretino*, reprinted from *Chambers's Journal* (Chapman and Hall), and a third edition of his *Two Years' Residence in a Levantine Family*—forming volumes of Messrs. Chapman and Hall's Popular Libraries. Mrs. Gore has revived, in a quaint shape, her *Sketches of English Character*, being reprinted between covers of gaudy red and yellow (Ward and Lock). The same publishers have issued a volume of Mr. Albert Smith's miscellaneous writings, Mr. Horace Mayhew's *Wonderful People*—scarcely worth reprinting—and a batch of Mr. Angus Reach's light varieties, entitled *Men of the Hour*. Mr. George Raymond publishes *Drafts for Acceptance*—apparently a selection from the *Magazines*. We suppose we may include among reprints *Our Miscellany*, by E. Yates and R. Brough. This contains a number of fragmentary pieces in imitation of various authors. They should have been left, we think, in dead back numbers, or still better in MS. We should have been glad, at all events, not to have seen these authors' names (or portraits) on such a title-page. It was injudicious to become a candidate for failure, in emulation of the *Rejected Addresses*.

The Arts.

AUTHOR-ACTORS.—"PERDITA" AT THE LYCEUM.

AUTHORS, every now and then, take it into their heads to become actors, and, in connexion with such attempts, dramatic history records fewer successes than failures. Of SHAKSPEARE'S acting we hear little else than that he played the *Ghost* in his own *Hamlet* (not that this was his only part), and that he was never conspicuous for any remarkable or brilliant powers as a performer, though as a manager and dramatic author he made a fortune. He seems always to have ranked far below BURBAGE and ALLENE. So did BEN JONSON, MARLOWE, HEYWOOD, and the other literary actors of those times. SHAKSPEARE evidently hated appearing personally on the stage, as being a degradation to the loftiness of his poetical genius; and no doubt it is to this that he alludes when, in his *Sonnets*, he says:—

My nature is subdued
To what it works in, like the dyer's hand.

In our own days, we have seen two or three failures of a like nature, or rather of a much worse nature; and, although Mr. DICKENS, Mr. FERROLD, and others have achieved great things in semi-private theatricals, we do not know what even they might turn out if they were to take to the ordinary routine of professional acting. We recollect, some twenty years ago ("in the greener times of our youth," as SPENSER says), seeing SHERIDAN KNOWLES, during his brief career on the stage, perform *Marc Antony*, in *Julius Caesar*, with most lamentable inefficiency; the chief characteristic being an amount of rant which made him hoarse long before the fifth act. This capacity to roar has no doubt been useful to him in his subsequent exertions in the Baptist pulpit; but it failed on the COVENT GARDEN stage, where audiences are more critical, intelligent, and discriminating.

After these conspicuous instances, Mr. WILLIAM BROUGH will forgive us if we say that he succeeds better on foolscap than on "the boards"—wields his pen with more effect than his stage sceptre. His performance of *Polixenes* in his own burlesque of *Perdita, or the Royal Milkmaid*, founded on the story of SHAKSPEARE'S *Winter's Tale*, is not positively bad, for it is neither conceived nor executed in bad taste; but it is so tame, flat, and insipid, as to be simply nothing. It exhibits no peculiar features, has no salient points, brings no fresh conception into the conventionalities of the stage, lacks both point and breadth, is deficient in ease, assurance, and apparent spontaneity, and does not compensate the necessary want of experience in the execution by any rough vigour in the design. We have suspended our judgment till Mr. BROUGH has rubbed off the inevitable nervousness of the first few nights; but even now his actions want ease and appropriateness. He walks by jerks, stands with a certain irrelevance to the other performers, and exhibits an undue flurry in his exits and his entrances. His voice, however, is good, and his intonation not strained nor affected—two points in his favour; and, when he has got more accustomed to his new element, and has appeared in a better character (for he has modestly taken the least effective part in his own piece), it is very likely we may have to give him a heartier welcome.

The piece itself is much better than its author's acting. With the exception of a few vulgarities, more fitted for the ADELPHI than the LYCEUM, and which we should never have had under the management of the MATHEWSES, we can commend *Perdita* as a very bright, light, sparkling, amusing little trifle, some of the puns in which are worthy of the veteran PLANCHE; and, the travestie having reference more to the story than to SHAKSPEARE'S poetry, the disrespect to the great dramatist is minimized. Charming is it to see Miss WOOLGAR (as we must still beg leave to call her) appearing again in one of her favourite young prince parts. The other performers call for a passing word or two of comment. Mr. TOOLE, as *Autolycus*, shows a good deal of low humour, and his parody of "Bobbing Around" is admirable in the intensity of its Yankeeism. Miss HARRIET GORDON is smart and impudent in *Time, as Chorus*; Miss WILTON is pretty and engaging as *Perdita*; and Mrs. BUCKINGHAM WHITE makes a magnificent *Hermione*, and looks particularly handsome in the statue scene. Mr. S. O'NEILL, who performs *Leontes*, is a wild Irish gentleman, who, we should think, has been lately caught in the deserts of Connemara, and who is evidently possessed with the idea that he is emulating Mr. ROBSON in that actor's peculiar style of mingled tragedy and burlesque. The audience, however, do not share in that conception, nor can we. The piece is prettily put on the stage, and includes a pleasant little ballet among its other attractions.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—It is stated that the appointment of Mr. Harding as interim manager of the Royal British Bank is under the hand of the judge himself, Vice-Chancellor Kindersley, before whom all the proceedings in future will be conducted.

ILLEGAL INTERMENT IN A CONVENT.—A question of local and general importance came before the Derby Burial Board last Monday. One of the sisters of a convent situated in the town had died, and was buried in a piece of ground at the back of the premises. The interment being in direct violation of the order of council, dated October 18, 1854, it was reported to the clerk of the Board, and a special meeting was called on the day mentioned, to consider what proceedings should be taken in consequence. It was also stated that two other nuns had previously been buried in the same ground, without their deaths being registered. The Lady Superior admitted the alleged facts, but pleaded ignorance of the law. After a long discussion, it was decided by a majority of ten to lay the case before the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with a request that he would institute an inquiry. An amendment, to the effect that the parties be requested to remove the bodies within five months, was rejected.

AN ABISTOCRATIC ENGINE-DRIVER.—Lord Willoughby d'Eresby drove an engine on the Crieff Junction Railway, which he has made at his own cost, for the benefit of one of his estates. He has recently learnt the accomplishment of engine-driving, and he performed the down and up journey with great steadiness, and within the appointed time. Afterwards, he sent 3l. to be divided between the enginemen and porters.

CORONERS' INQUEST INTO FIRES.—Mr. Cooper, coroner of Portsmouth, has refused to hold an inquest into the causes of a fire at Portsea, because, according to Lord Chief Justice Jervis, such inquests, unless when there has been loss of life, are illegal.

THE HARDWICKE REFORMATORY.—Mr. Lloyd Baker, the originator and manager of the Hardwicke Reformatory, in Gloucestershire, one of the earliest of the establishments set on foot for the reformation of juvenile offenders, has addressed a circular to his brother magistrates of Gloucestershire, acknowledging the receipt of a sum of 290l., raised by them in answer to an appeal made by the grand jury at the Gloucestershire Lent Assizes. Mr. Baker takes the opportunity of noticing several points which induce him to hope that good has been effected.

PERSIA has proposed to submit her differences with England to the arbitration of a foreign Power. Dost Mohammed, at the head of 5000 men, has made an incursion into the province of Sistan. The Persians still occupy the environs of Herat. The Affghans have invaded the province of Candahar.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF WILLIAM TYSON.—The adjourned examination of this bankrupt, whose usurious interest on accommodation loans has been the subject of conversation in the monetary circles, took place on Monday. In the course of his examination, he admitted that he had made false entries in his books; asserted that he had "forgotten" that he had open accounts to the extent of 4000l.; and said that he "might have made payments to Mr. Humphreys (one of his creditors) without taking receipts," adding, "I have no receipt for 2000l. I handed back to him." This was a portion of some money which Mr. Humphreys had lent to the bankrupt. The examination was further adjourned, in order that Tyson might amend his balance-sheet.

THE LATE JOHN SADLER.—The affairs of the suicide were brought before the Prerogative Court on Thursday, when Dr. Deane made an application to the court, founded upon an original decree, granting administration of the effects of the deceased as having died a felon. It now appeared that he had property in Ireland, and it was considered necessary to apply for administration to it. The motion which he had to make was, that the court would be pleased to decree the original warrant to be delivered out of the registry to her Majesty's proctor, to be by him handed over to Mr. Norris for production in the Dublin Prerogative Court, a notarial copy thereof being first made and deposited in the registry. After some argument, it was agreed that the motion should stand over until the first session of next term, unless the Queen's proctor in the meantime apply for the warrant to be attended with by one officer of the court.

A SMALL WHALE was discovered last Saturday on Ulverston sands, and, after an exciting chase, was killed.

FUNERAL OF LORD HARDINGE.—The remains of Lord Hardinge were buried on Wednesday in the churchyard of the little village of Fordcomb. The foundation-stone of the district church there was laid by his lordship on his return from India, and he was the main contributor to its building fund. The funeral was strictly private.

MR. DISRAELI ON UNRESTRICTED COMPETITION.—The annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Association of Bucks took place on Tuesday in Buckingham. The Duke of Buckingham presided at the dinner, and addressed the company on the necessity of introducing modern scientific means into the cultivation of the land, and of exhibiting unwearied energy in farming operations. Mr. Disraeli also made some observations to the like effect, in acknowledging the toast of his health. He said:—"We should be blind to all the maxims of prudence if we reposed upon the present position of

affairs, and did not feel conscious that it is individual exertion, and aggregate enterprise, to which we can alone look forward for the maintenance of English supremacy in farming. We cannot conceal from ourselves that our soil is now subject to unrestricted competition. The time has passed when we can enter into any discussion as to the policy or impolicy of such a state of affairs, but we should be madmen if we shut our eyes to it, and did not resolve to meet it by the only means by which it can be successfully encountered and triumphantly vanquished, namely, by a continuation of the energy and enterprise which for years have distinguished the efforts of the farmers of this country. The British cultivator is favoured with a soil which, on the whole, is a fair soil, with a climate which, on the whole, is a favourable climate, and, in addition, he has the blessing to live in a land where there is a just administration of the law, and the enjoyment of a free constitution. Whatever may be the difficulties he may have to encounter, whatever may be the burdens he may have to bear, with those advantages, and with the spirit which they animate and sustain, he has a right to hope and believe that he can maintain the proud position which he at present occupies."

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AT RADNOR.—Sir G. Cornwall Lewis presided on Wednesday at the annual dinner of the Radnorshire Agricultural Society. In the course of his first speech, after dinner, he referred jestingly to the report that he had sent 5,000,000l. to America, to support Colonel Fremont's election. In his ignorance, he had thought that the 5,000,000l. loan was for the remaining expenses of the war. He could say that if the return of Colonel Fremont was to depend upon the application of this sum of 5,000,000l., he would not recommend that gentleman to be very sanguine about his success. (*Hear and laughter.*) After some other toasts had been drunk, Sir G. C. Lewis again addressed the company, referring to the peace, and quoting several historical instances to show that a treaty of peace is generally unpopular at first. He also spoke in favour of agricultural statistics.

THE LATE FALL OF A HOUSE IN THE CITY.—The report of the General Purposes Committee with reference to the recent fatal fall of a house in Little Swan-alley, was read before the City Commission of Sewers on Tuesday. The committee state that the house was repaired in 1845 by order of the Court of Aldermen, which then exercised authority over dangerous buildings in the City; that in 1851 it was registered as a common lodging-house, and that two years later it was thoroughly cleansed and further repaired. "We observe," say the committee, "that the inmates of the house that unfortunately fell state in their evidence at the inquest before the coroner, that they never called the attention of your officer, on his inspection, or of the police, to the dangerous condition of the house. Under these circumstances, it appears to us, that all you could in any way do in the case was done, and that the accident in question arose from causes that were not within the observation of your officers, which, indeed, is also distinctly stated by the district surveyor in his evidence at the inquest. It is the duty of your inspectors, who are practically conversant with building matters, in their general house survey for sanitary purposes, to remark and inform the district surveyors of any appearances of a dangerous character in the buildings they visit, and we have every reason to know that these officers do perform their duty in this respect." The report was unanimously agreed to.

ACCIDENT.—Captain Walters, of the brig Neptune, lying in the river off Wapping, met with a fatal accident yesterday (Friday) morning. Stepping across several vessels to reach his own, he fell between their sides. When released, he was found to be horribly mutilated, and died in a few hours at the London Hospital, after amputation of the left leg.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, September 30.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ISAAC BLANCKENSEE, Birmingham, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.—JOHN INCE, late of Eaton-terrace, Pimlico, surgeon—JAMES MARTIN, High-street, Borough, licensed victualler—JOHN THANG HARRADINE, Needingworth, Huntingdonshire, farmer—ISAAC PARSONS, Rye, Sussex, printer—LYDIA JOHNSON, Duffield, Derby, nail manufacturer—JOHN PHILLIPS, Crumlin, Monmouthshire, grocer—THOMAS COOLING and THOMAS BOWSER, Sheffield, joiners—WILLIAM GRAYBURN, Kingston-upon-Hull, grocer—RICHARD FLYNN, Liverpool, grocer—ANTHONY BENNETT, Ashton-under-Lyne, painter.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—R. YOUNG, Newton Stuart, ironmonger—M'LACHLAN and STOBO, Patrick, wrights—T. POWELL, Edinburgh, tobacconist.

Friday, October 3.

BANKRUPTS.—SMITH HASTINGS, Lime-street, wine-merchant—JOHN WHITAKER, Bridge End, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—THOMAS LAY, Wolverhampton, hop merchant—EDWARD PHILLIPS, Piggwally, Newport, Monmouth, innkeeper—DAVID ROSEWELL, Scarr Head, Halifax, machine maker—JOHN WOOD, Ashton-under-Lyne, corn dealer—JOHN SLOMAN, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant—JAMES SYMES, EDWARD BARNARD SYMES, and REUBEN RAPER, Strand, electro-platers—THOMAS HASSALL, Shoustone, Staffordshire, builder—DENNIS DENMAN, Hartlepool, licensed victualler—RICHARD JOHN MADDERS, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, licensed victualler.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—WILLIAM BLACK, Edinburgh, lessee and manager of the Queen's Theatre—STEWART and MURRAY, Glasgow, tailors.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BATEMAN.—On the 30th ult., at 37, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, the Lady Bateman: a son and heir.

POLLOCK.—On the 28th ult., at the Lord Chief Baron's, Guilford-street, Lady Pollock: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FORD-BRADRIDGE.—On the 29th ult., at Ugborough, Devon, by the Rev. John May, Richard Adams Ford, of London, to Eliza Anne, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Bradridge, of Cuttawalls, Ugborough, Devon.

KITCAT-PAUL.—On the 25th ult., at Tetbury, the Rev. David Kitcat, curate of Wilton, to Clara Frances Paul, eldest daughter of Josiah Paul, Esq., of Tetbury.

RUFFLE-AUCUTT.—On the 30th ult., at Foxearth, Suffolk, Thomas Richard Ruffle, son of the late Thomas Ruffle and grandson of Jeffery Golding Ruffle, Esq., of Waltham Abbey and Clare, Suffolk, to Caroline, daughter of the late Henry Aucutt, Esq., of Brighton.

DEATHS.

BERNERS.—On the 30th ult., at Keythorpe Hall, Leicestershire, the Right Hon. the Lady Berners, aged 56.

DAWSON.—On the 17th ult., at Castellamare, in Naples, after a long and painful illness, the Hon. Susan Agnes, the beloved wife of Francis Dennis Massy Dawson, Esq., and eldest daughter of Lord Sinclair.

GOUGER.—On the 26th ult., accidentally drowned, while bathing in the sea at Jersey, Robert, youngest son of the late Robert Gouger, Esq., of South Australia, aged 13.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, October 3, 1856.

SINCE our last, the English funds and other securities have undergone considerable fluctuations. Consols, which left off on Monday at 92½, fell on the following day (Tuesday) to 92¼, owing partly, no doubt, to the public confidence having been shaken by the aspect of affairs in Italy, but also in great measure to the state of the Continental Money Markets.

On Wednesday the Bank of England raised their rate of discount from 4½ per cent., at which it has now stood for some months, to 5 per cent. This increased the tendency to depression in the Consol market, the more, perhaps, that the step was taken the day before the usual meeting of the Bank Court.

On the following day (Thursday) the market opened with still increased heaviness, Consols falling to 92¼, owing to the impression that the Bank would, on the reassembling of the Court, make a still further advance in the rates. These anticipations, however, were not realized, and Consols recovered during the day ½ per cent., closing 92½.

This morning (Friday) French prices came much better, upon which Consols have advanced to 93¼, showing a rise of a clear 1 per cent. since yesterday morning.

The Six per Cent. Turks have experienced a great drop during the last few days, having been done at 98½ for 15th October account. They have, however, recovered with Consols, and are now at par.

A telegraphic announcement arrived yesterday that the Legislative Council have sanctioned a guarantee of 6 per cent. to the Ceylon Railway Company. This sent them up immediately from ½ 1 pm., at which they stood on the previous day, to 1½ 3 pm.

Consols closed to-day 92½.

Aberdeen, —; Caledonian, 54, 54½ x.d.; Chester and Holyhead, 15½, 16½; Eastern Counties, 8½, 9; Great Northern, 92½, 93½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 113, 115; Great Western, 64½, 65; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 95½, 96; London and Blackwall, 6½, 6½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 104, 106; London and North-Western, 101½, 102; London and South-Western, 103½, 104½; Midland, 76½, 77½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 79½, 80½; South Eastern (Dover), 69½, 70; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7, 7½; Dutch Rhenish, 1, 1½ pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 34½, 35; Great Central of France, 4½, 5 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 4, 4½; Northern of France, 37½, 38; Paris and Lyons, 50½, 51; Royal Danish, 19, 20; Royal Swedish, 7, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 11, 11½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, October 3, 1856.

THE supplies of new Wheat into London continue very moderate, and there being besides a general retail demand for old W heats, prices have slightly advanced both here and in the country markets. Cargoes off the coast, though rather increasing in number, find buyers at an advance of 1s. to 2s. from this day week. The sales reported are, Taganrog 62s. 6d., and 62s. 9d., hard Taganrog 58s. 6d., Galatz, very inferior, 40s. 6d., another 45s. warmer, and Kalafat with poor report 46s. 5s. and 56s. have been bid and refused for two cargoes of Sandomirka with imperfect reports. Saidi Wheat on passage has been sold at 44s. 9d., and 45s., and Beheira at 43s. Barley is firmer again; two cargoes of Egyptian have sold at 28s. Maize is also in better demand: the sales are, Foxanian 32s. 6d., Ibrail 32, Galatz 34s. arrived, and Galatz floating 35s. and 36s. 3d. cost, freight and insurance. Beans are very scarce, and there are not 10,000 qrs. on passage from Egypt to the United Kingdom; 35s. has been refused for a cargo just shipped.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5 per Cent. Con. An.	93½	92½	92	92½	93	93
Consols for Account	93½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 3 per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cent.	.....	.....	.....	77	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	.....	14 p	14 p	14 p	14 p
Ditto, under £1000	.....	.....	8 p	10 p	10 p	13 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	13 p	12 p	10 p	12 p	7 p	11 p
Ditto, £500	13 p	10 p	10 p	12 p	11 p	11 p
Ditto, Small	13 p	9 p	10 p	7 p	7 p	8 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds	99½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per	.....
Chilian 6 per Cents	100½	Cents	100
Dutch 3 per Cents	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents	96
Chilian 2½ per Cents	64	Spanish	42
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	95½	Spanish Committee Cer.	.....
Equador Bonds	.....	of Coup. not run	.....
Mexican Account	22½	Turkish 6 per Cents	99½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents	.....	Turkish New, 4 ditto	100½
Portuguese 3 per Cents	41	Venezuela 4½ per Cents	.....

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.—The public is respectfully informed that this theatre will open for the Season, on Monday the 13th October, with the favourite Comedy of **SPILL WATERS RUN DEEP.** In which Mrs. Alfred Wigan will make her first appearance since her late severe illness. To conclude with **THE FIRST NIGHT.**

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four P.M. precisely.—Admission, 1s.

COUGHS, COLDS, AND HOARSENESS ARE INSTANTLY RELIEVED BY

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.—From Mr. N. W. Thomas, Druggist, Fowey, January 6th.—“I do not approve of Patent Medicines generally, but in respect to Dr. Locock's Pulmonic Wafers, I recommend them strongly, and from experience can vouch for their efficacy in clearing the voice, and easing the action of the lungs. Their sedative qualities in diseases of the heart are also great, without irritation or the symptoms incident to the use of opium and other usual remedies.”

THEY HAVE A MOST PLEASANT TASTE. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all Druggists.

NATURE'S TRUE REMEDY.

DR. TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA. There are three principal avenues by which Nature expels from the body what is necessary should be expelled therefrom. These three are the Stool, the Urine, and the Pores. These must be kept in a healthy condition, or disease is certain. This is a fixed and positive law; and no human being can safely disregard it.

Now, when the system is diseased, it is the first grand object to set all these functions at work, both to expel Disease, and to restore the Health.

The bowels must be opened, cleansed, soothed, and strengthened; the urine must be made to flow healthfully and naturally, and to throw off the impurities of the blood; the liver and stomach must be regulated; and above all, the pores must be opened, and the skin made healthy. These things done, and Nature will go to her work; and ruddy health will sit smiling upon the cheek; and life will be again a luxury.

We will suppose the case of a person afflicted with a bilious complaint. His head aches, his appetite is poor, his bones and back ache, he is weak and nervous, his complexion is yellow, the skin dry, and his tongue furred. He goes to a doctor for relief, and is given a dose of medicine to purge him freely, and he gets some temporary relief. But he is not cured! In a few days the same symptoms return, and the same old purge is administered; and so on, until the poor man becomes a martyr to heavy, drastic purgatives. Now, what would be the true practice in such a case? What the practice that Nature herself points out? Why, to set in healthy operation ALL THE MEANS THAT NATURE POSSESSES TO THROW OUT OF THE SYSTEM THE CAUSES OF DISEASE. The bowels must of course be evacuated, but the work is but BEGUN AT THIS STAGE OF THE BUSINESS. The kidneys must be prompted to do their work, for they have a most important work to do; the stomach must be cleansed; and, above all, the PORES must be relieved and enabled to throw off the secretions which ought to pass off through them. We repeat, that by the Bowels, the Urine, the Pores, the disease must be expelled from the system, and not by the bowels alone, as is the usual practice.

And to effect all this, resort must be had to a remedy that is congenial to the human system—a remedy that strengthens while it subdues disease. Such is the remedy found in

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA AND PILLS.—WAREHOUSE, 373, STRAND, LONDON.

Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s.; Small Quarts, 4s. 6d. Quarts, 7s. 6d.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS.—DR. BARKER'S celebrated REMEDY is protected by three patents, of England, France, and Vienna; and from its great success in private practice is now made known as a public duty through the medium of the press. In every case of single or double rupture, in either sex, of any age, however bad or long standing, it is equally applicable, effecting a cure in a few days, without inconvenience, and will be hailed as a boon by all who have been tortured with trusses. Sent post free to any part of the world, with instructions for use, on receipt of 10s. 6d. by post-office order, or stamps, by CHARLES BARKER, M.D., 10, Brook-street, Holborn, London.—Any infringement of this triple patent will be proceeded against and restrained by injunction of the Lord High Chancellor.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so often hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep.

A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer,

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. Postage, 3d.

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They supply families properly introduced to them, or who can give them any respectable reference, upon the best trade terms, in parcels of any size exceeding 1lb. weight.

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Fine to very fine Pekoe Souchong.....3s. 6d to 3s. 8d. „
Very Choice Souchong.....4s 0d. „
Good Ceylon Coffee.....1s. 0d. „
Fine Costa Rica.....1s. 2d. „
The finest Mocha, old and very choice.....1s. 6d. „

For the convenience of their customers, the Company supply Sugars and Colonial Produce at a small per-centage on import prices.

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Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners in the treatment of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

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“Dr. DE JONGH gives the preference to the Light-Brown Oil over the Pale Oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil, no doubt, partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the Pale Oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. In the preference of the Light-Brown over the Pale Oil we fully concur. We have carefully tested a specimen of Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile.”

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TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.—By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the only patent for these preparations). Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession. ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS and BARLEY are manufactured by a process which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant flavour, so universally found in similar preparations. They produce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and, being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudding, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

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

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

“Messrs. Adnam and Co.” (Signed) A. S. TAYLOR.

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