

Head and Tailor, 322 Strand.

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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Review of the Week.

AMERICA and Europe stand rather curiously contrasted in the aspect of this week's news. In America we see the republic master of the situation, prosperous, laying down its own course, and surmounting its domestic difficulties with the innate force of a great people. Europe is less torn by disorders than harassed by cross interests, the intrigues and treacheries of her official governments. The Message of President PIERCE is a picture of the Union, its prosperity, its incessant activity, and its victory over sectional interests. Kansas has been quieted. The conflict within the older states of the Union on the visionary question of extending slavery, or of placing a restraint upon the institutions of the South by the will of the North, has been overridden by the steady progress of material activity, and by the good sense of the great bulk of the Union. President PIERCE describes the attitude which the Union preserves towards foreign States—peaceful on all sides, declining to recognize the petty governments of Central America, watchful towards Mexico, whose feeble Government cannot maintain order at home or abroad. He justly points to the recent Presidential election as establishing the triumph of attachment to the Union over geographical distinctions.

We point, however, with peculiar satisfaction, to the address delivered by Mr. BUCHANAN to the students of Franklin and Marshall College, with which he is connected. A numerous band of youths went to congratulate him, on his election, at Wheatlands, his own house in Pennsylvania, and the reply of Mr. BUCHANAN, the first and only manifesto which he has made on the principles of his future administration, will be found to read like an echo of those views which, on a knowledge of his character and a long observation of his public services, we have already put forward. The object of his administration would be, he said, to destroy any sectional party, North or South, and to harmonize all sections of the Union under a national and conservative government, as it was fifty years ago; for JAMES BUCHANAN closely connected his own principles with those which were upheld by "the Father of his Country"—WASHINGTON.

And as a sign of the general spirit with which the American Republic is behaving in the world

we can take nothing better than the little incident of Captain HARTSTEIN's mission to present Queen VICTORIA her own ship—the Resolute. Our own Government has inflicted upon that of America incompatible wrongs—it has mistrusted her, and has at the same time treated her with bad faith. The United States have preserved their own course unaltered; they maintain a friendship which we had forfeited, and have taken their revenge in this return. It is not a bad example of results which flow from government by the people, as compared with government by Belgravia.

We are at war again. It is not Queen VICTORIA, indeed, that has declared war, but Lord CANNING has done so, as proconsul of the Indian Empire. War has been definitively proclaimed against Persia, and all pretences of a minor operation, a mere local suppression of disorder at Herat, have been abandoned. The grounds of war have been explained in our own columns; we are not, however, at the present moment dealing with the merits of the question; we are only noting the military fact that we are at war in Central Asia.

In Europe, too, the duration of the peace is virtually called in question by the practical impossibility of definitively executing the terms of the Treaty of Paris. We hear nothing more to reassure us on the subject of the 20th Article, which Russia has explained in a sense apparently more consistent with the actual terms of the article and with the geographical features of the proposed frontier, than our own plenipotentiaries and Ministers have done.

And while the plenipotentiaries are preparing to reassemble, our nearest ally, the one to whom we have most absolutely trusted, has struck out a new course, in a matter quite as interesting to Europe as the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, namely, the integrity of the Swiss republic. Neuchâtel is the principality of that Turkey, and Prussia plays there the part of Russia. The case is more paltry, but more barefaced. As Russia claimed to exercise some degree of protectorate over the Danubian Principalities, so the King of Prussia claims to exercise a lordship over the canton of Neuchâtel. The canton originally owned some kind of lordship in a French family, whose inheritance by the female line devolved upon the house of HOHENZOLLERN. The King appointed certain officers, and had a certain fee as lord or suzerain; which fee he entirely expended

in local purposes. In point of fact, the suzerainty was a mere augmentative of the Prussian dignity, the very troops being under restraint as to their service, especially against the interests of the republic. During the disturbances of 1848, the canton broke loose from its regal tie, so totally incompatible with its essentially republican relations; and the King so far condoned the proceeding as to give an express permission that the officers heretofore named by him, and the persons who professed some remaining allegiance—the scanty local Tory party—should execute their duties and obey their superiors in the canton or the republic, the severance notwithstanding. In May, 1852, during the distinguished residence of Lord MALMESBURY in the Foreign-office, the Chevalier BUNSEN made a formal declaration of King FREDERICK WILLIAM's rights as suzerain over the province of Neuchâtel; Lord MALMESBURY and certain foreign ministers sitting in the conference on other subjects, received this declaration on the part of the Chevalier BUNSEN, and in a protocol on their part, recorded the formal declaration that Prussia had made a statement. Everybody knows the POURTALES insurrection of this year—the ludicrous discomfiture of the insurgents, their imprisonment, and their trial, now actually commencing, on a charge of treasonable rebellion against the republican authority. FREDERICK WILLIAM has professed to be excessively reasonable on the point; he will do something gracious on one condition, and that is that the prisoners be released unconditionally. The ground for this preposterous claim is, that although they are traitors to the republic, they were only too faithful to him. That the authorities of the republic will deal leniently with the prisoners, is a matter of certainty; they have already treated them with striking indulgence; and King FREDERICK WILLIAM cannot possibly feel the slightest real anxiety on their account. He is only demanding an act of absolute deference from the republic as an inferior to himself as a monarch. The federal Government has replied to him with courtesy, and has even put forward distinct explanations for the purpose of proving that it has been regular, lawful, and lenient in its conduct towards the untutored insurgents. In this country there is nothing but sympathy and respect for men who so well understand their duty. Not so in some other European countries. We already know that King FREDERICK WILLIAM had obtained from the German states which lie between his



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ritories and Switzerland, permission to lead an army across; he has procured in Switzerland the strenuous remonstrances of Austria, Bavaria, and Baden; but now he has obtained a much more powerful support. The *Moniteur* of this week contains a paper, recording how the Emperor of the French had advised the republic to surrender the prisoners unconditionally, and trust to the magnanimous concessions of King FREDERICK WILLIAM hereafter; now the republic has not accepted that advice; and now, therefore, Switzerland must not be astonished, if, "in the course of events," she should fail to find any "good will" on the part of France. That means that France will not assist to maintain order in Central Europe, but will perhaps side with the despotic German Powers against Switzerland—against the very principles which are now at stake in Italy, and against all that Englishmen profess to hold dear. So much for the alliance which was to be so productive of moderate reforms in Europe!

At home, the Income-tax agitation is rising. It is decidedly becoming popular. Unlike some other agitations, good in themselves, it is engaging the active interest of the people. This appears in meetings like that at Stroud or that at Birmingham; for many of the provincial towns are accompanying London and Manchester. The Birmingham meeting was a thorough success. An attempt was made, in pursuance of the suggestion of an association, to mingle the question with one of property tax; but it is, probably, a good rule to leave the suggestion of taxes for the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the objection to the people. The suggestion of a tax necessarily requires a central position; the objections may be viewed almost from any side; and unless they can be contradicted from the centre, they ought to prevail. The Income-tax was imposed for a temporary purpose, it was provisionally kept up for a continuance of that temporary purpose—that is, the amendment of our tariff; it was kept up again for the temporary purpose of war, and augmented for that purpose. But the tax is not sound; in principle it is a delusion—it does not effectually or fairly reach the means of the citizen; and in working, it is the most oppressive, unjust, inquisitorial, and 'un-English' of any that could be invented, except, perhaps, that tax for which Wat Tyler killed the collector. We are not at present exactly subjected to an inquisition of the tax-collector into the evidence of our daughters' age; but the Surveyor of Taxes and the Commissioners thereof do make inquisitions into the Englishman's daily life and into the most sacred recesses of his home. The meetings at Birmingham and other places have not been unanimous; they have been better. Attempts have been made by intelligent persons to raise exceptions, and the result has been that the exceptions have been listened to, only to prove the rule, and to be brushed aside—recognized to be negatived. The people are right; it is not an acquiescence in the GLADSTONE lease of a partial Income-tax that we ought to permit. What we stand for is total and immediate repeal.

Another popular movement that moves well is education. The meetings at Manchester have been fruitful in a very simple and clear scheme for raising a general rate, and applying it to all schools, without distinction of sect, on the simple condition that any distinctive religious teaching should be limited to special times of day, with power for parents to withdraw their children, and that, in any rate-supported school, no child shall be excluded by reason of the religious faith of his parents.

The Board of Works has at last fallen upon an agreement with Sir BENJAMIN HALL. It has adopted the plan of B*, that is, it will carry what ought to be carried out of London just enough beyond the metropolitan boundary so that it can-

not come back again. The question of its further transport to the German Ocean, as Sir MORTON PERO proposes, with a comparatively small increase to the cost, a probable reimbursement, and a certain completeness, appears to stand over. In the meanwhile the Board of Works is amusing itself by naming some 600 streets of London which the Post-office finds inconvenient from the perpetual reduplication of the same name—seventeen names between 504 streets. We are henceforward all to live in places named after people great and good—as good, for example, as 'Eugene Aram,' and as great as Mr. 'Booker.'

But one of the most interesting events of the week has been the reception of a man who is really great and good—Dr. LIVINGSTONE, the African traveller. This man is a missionary, who considered it his duty to carry the blessings of Christianity to the heathen. He has employed sixteen years for the purpose, or rather, as he says, he has employed sixteen years in discovering what would be the right path for carrying that mission to the African in the midst of his own continent. To accomplish this mission he studied surgery; and his travels have been a school of languages. At the meeting of the Geographical Society, or of the Missionary Society, on Monday and Tuesday, the public might have seen that strange spectacle—an Englishman darkened to an African tint, a missionary wearing a large moustache, and very practically explaining how the heathen is unfit to receive 'the tidings' until his mind shall be opened by better instruction in worldly matters; his very belief being in the need of training. And yet, in that centre of Africa, Dr. LIVINGSTONE found an unconscious instinctive sarcasm, which reads like a passage in VOLTAIRE's moral tales. One chief; SICHELI, took greatly to the excellent missionary; and seeing how anxious LIVINGSTONE was that the Africans should believe, he offered to accomplish the effect by a summary process, and to beat his subjects into conviction. LIVINGSTONE objected. Imagine a priest objecting! On which, SICHELI asked, "But how do you expect they will believe, if I don't beat them?" It strikes us that the Africans have something to teach to Christians; for let us remember that in spirit the Inquisition is not an institution limited to Rome or Madrid.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S AFRICAN DISCOVERIES.

THE members of the Royal Geographical Society held a special meeting on Monday night to present the Society's gold medal to the Rev. Dr. Livingstone for his discoveries in Central Africa. The Society's rooms were crowded to excess. The proceedings excited unusual interest, and Dr. Livingstone, on entering the room, was warmly greeted by the distinguished assemblage. The chair was taken at half-past eight o'clock by Sir Roderick Murchison, President of the Society.

The President, in opening the proceedings, said "they had met to welcome Dr. Livingstone on his return from South Africa to his native country after an absence of sixteen years. What must be their estimate of his prowess when they knew that he had retraversed the vast regions which he first opened to their knowledge; nay, more, that, after reaching his old starting point at Linyanti, in the interior, he had followed the Zambesi, or continuation of the Leambye river, to its mouth on the shores of the Indian Ocean, passing through the Eastern Portuguese settlement of Tête, and thus completing the entire journey across South Africa? In short, it had been calculated that, putting together all his various journeys, Dr. Livingstone had not travelled over less than 11,000 miles of African territory; and he had come back as the pioneer of sound knowledge, who, by his astronomical observations, had determined the site of numerous places, hills, rivers, and lakes, nearly all hitherto unknown, while he had seized upon every opportunity of describing the physical features, climatology, and even the geological structure of the countries he had explored, and pointed out many new sources of commerce as yet unknown to the scope and enterprise of the British merchant." (Cheers.) The President expatiated at considerable length on the importance of Dr. Livingstone's discoveries, and then, turning to the distinguished traveller, said "it was now his duty and his pleasure to present to him their founder's medal, as a testimony of their regard and admiration." (Cheers.)

Dr. Livingstone briefly returned thanks, and, at the commencement of his remarks, said that he had been so long unused to speak his own language, that they must excuse his imperfect speechmaking. A vote of thanks to the Governors of the Portuguese settlements in Africa, for their kind treatment of Dr. Livingstone, was then unanimously carried, and acknowledged in French by Count Lavradio, the Portuguese Minister.

The Secretary then read extracts from three letters written to the Society by Dr. Livingstone, from different points in his travels—the first dated from Linyanti, on the river Chobe, in the interior, describing the country to the north; the second from the Zambesi river, and the third from Quillimane, in the Indian Ocean. The course taken by Dr. Livingstone was traced by red lines upon large maps which hung upon the walls. Starting from the western coast of Africa, the red line follows the river Congo in an easterly direction until it reaches the river Kasse, which runs from south to north, and reaches Lake Diloto, a considerable expanse of water in the centre of the continent. Another river, the Leambye, continues the great chain of water communication towards the south until within a short distance of Lake Ngami, when the river makes a sudden turn to the east and tumbles over the falls of Lakai, the most picturesque scene in Africa. The river afterwards makes a sudden bend, and flows in a northerly direction. It afterwards runs east again, and takes the name of the Zambesi, passing through the towns of Tête and Sena, until it empties itself into the Mozambique Channel at the town of Quillimane, and in the adjacent delta.

Dr. Livingstone, being called upon by the President, said that south of the 20th degree of south latitude the country is arid and contains very few rivers, but to the north of that line the country is well watered, and very unlike what the centre of Africa is popularly represented to be. The country which he had traversed, indeed, is covered with a network of waters, many of which are large and deep, and never dried up. The natives belong to the true negro family, having a good deal of very woolly hair, and being darker than the Bechuanas. They hold their women in high estimation, and many of them become chiefs. If a man were asked to go anywhere or to agree to any arrangement, he said, "I must go home and ask my wife." If she said "No," there was no possibility of getting him to move. Women sit in their councils, and, while a Bechuana swears by his father, these negroes swear by their mother. Ngami is not a deep lake, but is what is left of a large lake which existed before the fissure was made near the Lakai Falls. The interior of Africa abounds in fibrous substances of a strong tissue, like flax. Cincona and sarsaparilla are abundant; indigo grows in profusion; bees'-wax, coal, iron, and gold are also abundant. The inhabitants of the interior are kind, especially the women.

The meeting, which was of a most interesting character, did not separate until near midnight.

The London Missionary Society gave a reception to Dr. Livingstone, on Tuesday, at Freemasons' Hall. Lord Shaftesbury presided, and among other eminent men present were Sir Roderick Murchison, Colonel Rawlinson, and Sir Culling Eardley. On coming forward to address the meeting, the great traveller was received with loud applause, all present rising simultaneously. After thanking his friends for their reception of him, the rev. gentleman proceeded to say that "the majority of people have only a faint idea of what Africa is, and less of the nature of missionary labour. It is an enthusiastic occupation, certainly; but it is accompanied by much hard work, which goes some way towards keeping up the enthusiasm. The Africans are a very sceptical people; they require proof before they evince any disposition to believe; consequently, much labour and energy are required to achieve success. The natives of the South Sea Islands are quite a different kind of people. They have different habits to the Africans, and are easier to convince. He once remarked to an African chief on the difficulty he had in making the natives believe in anything he said to them. 'Believe!' exclaimed the chief; 'they never will believe unless you beat them. Let me beat it into them.' And that is the general opinion of the African nation. (Laughter.) But he had made many believe, nevertheless; and hoped to do so again. Perseverance and kindness are much better than cudgels to carry any point." (Hear, hear.) Dr. Livingstone then proceeded to give a detailed history of his travels. "He rejoiced to say that the justness of the English name was everywhere recognised in Africa, and the very fact that he was an Englishman induced the natives to treat him in a most kind and generous manner. (Hear, hear.) In some respects, Africa is superior to England. There is less disease, there is no consumption, no cancer, no hydrophobia, and very little madness, while other diseases from which people suffer in England are quite unknown in Africa. He deprecated the existence of slavery, which, however, he believed would be gradually repressed, owing to the great falling off in the price of slaves. There is much difficulty in getting the slaves out of the country; they are, consequently, taken into the interior, where they realize very little money. (Hear, hear.) Much money had been obtained by the sale of slaves; but it appeared to do no good—no one seemed able to keep it—it would not stay in the family—(Hear, hear, and laughter)—for many who had once been rich are now poor—poor in purse, and poor in salvation." The rev. doctor having adverted to other topics, resumed his seat, amidst much applause.

In the evening, he dined with the members of the Missionary Society, at the Milton Club, Ludgate-hill.

On Wednesday evening, Dr. Livingstone was presented to the Society of Arts, where, after a lecture by Professor Owen on the subject of ivory, the rev. doctor gave some particulars of elephant-hunting in Africa.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE RESOLUTE.

DECIDEDLY the great event of the week is the reception in England of the American officers who have brought over the Arctic ship *Resolute*—a ship whose history is a romance—and who, in presenting her to this country, after we had waived all claim in favour of the gallant seamen who found her abandoned and embedded in the ice, and brought her away from that dreary prison house, have become the bearers of a most noble and magnificent sign of that cordial desire to be on terms of affectionate intercourse with the old country which is felt by all Americans worthy of the name. The event is of the profoundest and the most touching interest; and we shall therefore be pardoned if we exceed our ordinary news limits in detailing the particulars of this great interchange of courtesies between the two chief nations of freemen.

The *Resolute* arrived off Portsmouth on Friday week. The passage was unusually quick, having been favoured by strong north-west gales on the other side of the Atlantic, and by a violent wind from the south-south-west, and afterwards from the south-south-east, on this side. The *Resolute* consequently reached our shores a week sooner than she was expected. The weather on the night previous to her arrival at Spithead (Thursday week) was awfully wild, there being squalls with rain and hail and very vivid lightning.

On Saturday morning (say the daily papers), Commander Hartstein was embarked by Mr. George Allen in her Majesty's steam tender *Sprightly*, and landed near the official residence of the United States' Consul, the Chevalier Vincent Pappalardo, at the Platform Battery, where he was met immediately by Commodore Sir Thomas Maitland, C.B., of her Majesty's ship *Excellent*, the Commander-in-Chief *pro tem.* of the port, Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour being absent at the funeral of his brother, and Rear-Admiral Martin being absent on leave. Sir Thomas offered Captain Hartstein, in the name of her Majesty's Government, everything in the way of ship's provisions, pilotage, and, indeed, whatever the officers or crew could require during their sojourn in England. For these hospitable courtesies, Captain Hartstein expressed his warmest acknowledgments.

After this interview, Chevalier Pappalardo presented Captain Hartstein, at the Government-house, to the Lieutenant-Governor (Major-General H. Breton), by whom he was warmly greeted; then to the Mayor of the Borough (Mr. Crowther), and then to Flag Captain G. H. Seymour, C.B., on board the flag-ship *Victory*. Captain Hartstein then accepted the invitation of the Mayor and Corporation to dine with them.

At eleven o'clock on the same morning, her Majesty's steam frigate *Shannon*, 51, Captain Peel, C.B., saluted the American ensign with twenty-one guns, after which the *Resolute* changed her colours to English, and the garrison battery (on the flagstaff of which was hoisted an American ensign) fired a salute of twenty-one guns thereupon.

Captain Hartstein and his second in command partook of an elegant breakfast at the Consulate, and the former left for London by the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, to deliver his despatches to the British Admiralty and the American Minister.

The Government sent down a special messenger on Friday week to Portsmouth to order suites of apartments, and every accommodation of the best class, for the American officers. Captain Daeres, C.B., the superintendent of the Royal Clarence Victualling Establishment, Gosport, sent off to the *Resolute* on Saturday morning, by the *Sprightly*, a full supply of Christmas beef and every other victualling necessary for the crew.

The Queen's visit to the *Resolute* on Tuesday excited much interest among the inhabitants of Portsmouth, Southampton, and Wight, and evidently afforded cordial gratification to the American officers in charge of the ship.

Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, Flag-Captain G. H. Seymour, and Flag-Lieutenant Malcomb, left Portsmouth at an early hour in the *Fire Queen* to make the necessary arrangements for the Royal reception.

Her Majesty's steamship *Retribution* came up from Spithead to fire the Royal salutes, and several gunboats and despatch vessels, together with her Majesty's yachts *Fairy* and *Elfin*, the latter under the command of Captain the Hon. James Denman, were stationed in the roads.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, left Osborne at a quarter past ten o'clock, and drove to the ship in an open carriage drawn by four grey ponies.

The *Resolute*, dressed in her colours, was lashed alongside of the Royal embarkation-place at Trinity-wharf. The English and American flags were flying at the peak, and as soon as the Queen set her foot on the deck the Royal standard was hoisted at the main. The *Retribution* fired a salute, the boats' crews 'tossed' their oars, and the ship's company, standing on the rail, received her Majesty with three rounds of cheers.

Captain Hartstein received the Royal party at the gangway, and the officers, in full uniform, were grouped on either side. They were Lieutenant C. H. Wells, Lieut-

tenant E. E. Stone, Lieutenant Hunter Davidson, Dr. R. T. Macown, and Dr. Otis, Acting-Secretary. The following gentlemen were also present:—Mr. Croskey, Consul for the United States; Chevalier Vincent Pappalardo, Vice-Consul; Mr. Harling, Vice-Consul for the United States at Cowes; Captain Higgins, commander of the United States mailship, *Hermann*; and Mr. Cornelius Grinnell, son of Mr. Henry Grinnell, of New York, the projector of the American Arctic expedition. All were presented to the Queen by Captain Hartstein, who then addressed her Majesty in the following words:—

"Allow me to welcome your Majesty on board the *Resolute*, and, in obedience to the will of my countrymen, and of the President of the United States, to restore her to you, not only as an evidence of a friendly feeling to your sovereignty, but as a token of love, admiration, and respect to your Majesty personally."

The Queen seemed touched by this address, and replied with a cordial smile, "I thank you, Sir."

The Royal party then went over the ship and examined her with manifest interest. Captain Hartstein traced her course on a map, and indicated the most important discoveries of the American Arctic expeditions. In the course of conversation Prince Albert observed that Lady Franklin was very anxious for another expedition, to which Captain Hartstein replied that he was not surprised that she should be so, for he thought it very possible that Franklin or some of his comrades might still be alive among the Esquimaux.

After completing the inspection of the ship, the Royal party retired amid the enthusiastic acclamations of the spectators.

It was originally intended to request her Majesty to take luncheon on board, but the idea was subsequently abandoned through a diffidence as to whether the proceeding would be quite *selon les régles*. After the withdrawal of the Royal party, however, there was an elegant *déjeuner* in the wardroom, at which the following toasts and sentiments were given among others:—"The Queen and the Royal Family," "The President of the United States," "The Union Jack and the Star-spangled Banner," "The Health of Mr. Cornelius Grinnell," "The future success of the *Resolute*, and may she be again employed in prosecuting the search for Sir John Franklin and his comrades." This last sentiment was proposed by Captain Higgins, seconded by Mr. Grinnell, and evoked cordial applause.

Captain Hartstein was invited by the Queen to dine and to spend the night at Osborne, and all the officers were invited to visit the grounds at Osborne, a privilege of which they availed themselves at three o'clock.

"As regards the arrangement of the furniture and the situation of each particular article," says a writer in the *Times*, "the Queen saw the captain's cabin in the precise state in which it was when the crew forsook the ship. In fact the ship is—so to express it—a floating Pompeii, and everything comes to light just as it was left. Captain Kellett's epaulettes are lying in a tin box on the table. Lieutenant Pim's musical box occupies its old place on the top of a 'what-not.' The 'logs' of the various officers are in their respective recesses on the book-shelves. The portmanteau containing the officers' great-coats is thrown heedlessly on a chair. On the wall hangs the picture of a ballet-girl pirouetting; and, as if in mockery of domestic comfort, a little kettle that should be singing songs 'full of family glee,' does nothing of the kind, but sits upon a fireless stove, as cold as a stone and as silent."

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

PRESIDENT PIERCE's annual message has reached this country. The chief magistrate commences by remarking that, in the performance of the constitutional duty of giving Congress information on the state of the Union, he does not merely express his personal convictions, but speaks as the Executive Minister of the Government. Since the last session, a Presidential election has taken place, the explicit and sole act of the sovereign authority of the Union. It is impossible (observes the Message) to misapprehend the great principles which the people have sanctioned and sustained; they have asserted the constitutional equality of the states and of the citizens, and have proclaimed their devotion to the rights of the different sections of the Union. In doing this, they have condemned emphatically the idea of organizing in the United States mere geographical parties. The long series of aggressions against the constitutional rights of one half the states are next reviewed: firstly, in the question of negro emancipation; secondly, in the proceedings relative to the extradition of fugitive slaves; and thirdly, in the question relating to the organization of territorial governments. In connexion with the latter is the Kansas question. The Message vindicates the action of Congress in relation to the organization of the Nebraska and Kansas territories; and goes over the causes of the difficulties connected with the latter, which (it is stated) were not owing to the provisions of organic laws, but to the unjust interference of persons who were not inhabitants of the territory. Such interference, wherever it has exhibited itself by acts of an insurrectionary character, or of obstruction to processes of law, has been repelled or suppressed by all the means which the constitution and the laws placed in the hands of the Executive. The Pre-

sident states that he has no authority to interfere in local elections. He has no more power in the territories than he has in the states. If he had such power, the Government might be republican in form, but it would be a monarchy in fact; and if he had undertaken to exercise it in the case of Kansas, he would have been justly subject to the charge of usurpation, and of violating the dearest rights of the people of the United States. This part of the Message closes by expressing a confident trust that, as the restored peace in Kansas affords opportunity for wise legislation, either the Legislative Assembly of the territory, or Congress, will see that no act shall remain on its statute-book violating the constitution, or subverting the objects for which it was ordained, and will take all other necessary steps to assure to its inhabitants the enjoyment, without obstruction or abridgment, of the rights of citizens of the United States, as contemplated by the organic law of the territory.

The financial statement is very satisfactory. The receipts into the treasury, from all sources, for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1855, were 76,918,141 dollars, which, with the balance then in hand, amounted to 92,250,117 dollars. The expenditures, including 12,776,390 dollars public debt, were 72,948,792 dollars. The total of the public debt is now reduced to 30,737,129 dollars. The whole of this might be paid in one year without embarrassment to the public service: but, being not yet due, the Government cannot press the holder of stock to part with it. The annual expenditures of the past five years have been 48,000,000 dollars, and the average expenditure for the next five years need not exceed this amount. The revenue from Customs has reached the great figure of 64,000,000 dollars, and the President recommends such a revision of revenue laws, according to the views of the Secretary of the Treasury, as will prevent the receipts from Customs from exceeding 50,000,000 dollars.

The army during the past year has found constant employment against the Indians in Oregon and Washington territories, and with so much effect as to warrant the hope of peace for the future. Additional legislation is recommended to remedy defects in organization, and to increase the military department. The navy exhibits gratifying evidence of increased vigour, the execution of the law of 1855 to promote its efficiency having been attended with advantageous results. Suggestions are made for its further improvement. The sales of the public lands last year amounted to 9,227,878 acres, yielding 8,821,414 dollars. Various improvements suggested by the Secretary of the Interior are recommended. The Post-office expenditure for the past year was 10,407,868 dollars; the receipts 71,620,801 dollars; he deficit 2,787,046 dollars. This deficit is ascribed to the law of 1854 giving increased compensation to postmasters, to the increase of mail routes and railroad service, and the reduced rates of postage. Recommendations are made for new mail contracts on the routes to the Pacific.

The Message next treats of foreign relations, and says that the United States are on terms of amity with all other nations. The relations with Great Britain are of a satisfactory character. The enlistment question is settled. A treaty just concluded by the American Minister at London, if ratified, will settle the Central American question. Before again establishing diplomatic relations with Nicaragua, the President awaits further developments as to which is the Government *de facto*. A naval force has been stationed at the Isthmus of Panama.

AMERICA.

THE chief news from the United States this week consists of the President's Message, an ample summary of which we have given in another column. The other intelligence is but brief. Congress assembled on the 1st inst. The credentials of Mr. Whitfield, as member for Kansas, were presented, and objected to on the ground of the illegality of the election; and the objection was sustained by a party vote.

Two foreigners, Negret and De Mena, the latter an extensive dealer in sugar, have been arrested at Boston on suspicion of being concerned in the slave trade. From Kansas it is reported that thirty-nine Free-state prisoners had escaped from Leecompton. The militia under Colonel Titus, it is said, will soon be disbanded. Governor Geary has quietly submitted to the action of Judge Leecompte issuing a writ of *habeas corpus* in the case of Hayes. It is reported that Colonel Titus, with 1000 men, will shortly leave the territory for Nicaragua. The sale of land was proceeding quietly.

In some parts of Texas, Arkansas, Alabama, and Louisiana, considerable apprehension existed of insurrections among the slaves. In Union county, Arkansas, a man was arrested on suspicion of exciting the slaves to rise upon their masters. He was tried and acquitted; but he afterwards professed to know all about the matter, and this getting to the ears of the citizens, they seized him, conveyed him to the woods, and shot him. Another man was hung after a trial on a similar charge.

According to the *New York Herald*, Walker will oppose the annexation of Nicaragua to the United States, and will be supported by England. Chili and Peru have agreed to contribute men and money to extirpate Walker and his 'filibusters.' Ecuador is also about to join the league; but New Granada will not do so.

A great battle has been fought in Mexico, and Vi-

daurri has triumphed over Garza. The whole country is in a most disorderly state, and the general uneasiness is increased by the fear of a blockade of the ports by Spain.

The difference between England and New Granada is said to be settled, the latter having conceded the claims of Mr. Mackintosh.

The American papers contain a remarkable account of two escapes of French political prisoners from Cayenne. "Watching their opportunity," says the *Times* New York correspondent, "the men made rafts of barrels, logs, and boards, stocked them with a small amount of provisions and water, and put to sea, without compass or other instruments, to make the coast of Dutch Guiana. After severe hardships, they landed upon that coast, and a detachment pushed forward to find the settlement, leaving the others with the raft. Those who remained were destroyed—their eyes eaten out and their hands devoured by crabs. Those who pushed forward, frequently wading through mud to the waist and water to the chin, arrived at length at the Dutch settlement, and were lodged in a prison. Released from this, they found their way to the British settlement, and were thence forwarded to the United States."

Another revolution has burst out in Peru: the revolutionists declare in favour of Vivanco. The towns of Santander and Andoas, in the district of Andoas on the Upper Amazon, have been destroyed by a tribe of savage Indians called Muratos; some of the inhabitants were killed and the rest fled to the woods. The Indians threatened to destroy all the settlements on the river Pastaza. The city of Jeberos is only saved by the presence of a garrison, and the people say that, if the Government do not soon afford them relief, they will place themselves under the protection of Ecuador.

THE ORIENT.

INDIA.

THE most profound tranquillity reigns throughout India, and there is not so much as a border foray or agrarian outrage to chronicle. The Governor-General and Governor of Bombay, at the last dates, were at the seats of administration. Lord Harris was expected at Sedasheghur on the 10th of November.

The Court of Directors have ordered an augmentation of the Indian army. It consists in the appointment of one additional captain and one additional lieutenant to every regiment of Light Cavalry and Native Infantry of the regular army, and of two additional captains and two additional lieutenants to each European regiment.

"An order," says the *Times* Bombay correspondent, "has just been promulgated by the magistrate of Poona, under instructions from Government, prohibiting hook-swinging and other barbarous practices throughout the Poona Zillah. Such a measure has long been desired by all who wish for the improvement of the natives. Suttee has long been suppressed. Female infanticide is no less strictly interdicted, and now Government sees its way to the abolition of hook-swinging at fairs and religious festivals. Another barbarous custom also prevalent at Jejooree, is interdicted by the proclamation of Mr. Davidson. A man runs a sword through the fleshy part of his leg for about a foot, and, drawing it out, sprinkles the blood on the entrance of the temple. For this feat he receives large free-will offerings; and the right to perform it is vested, as a valuable privilege, in a body of about fifteen families, to each individual of which it comes round once in about six or seven years. These men, however, long ago declared that they would be glad to discontinue the practice, if their incomes could be assured to them."

The Penal Code, or Macaulay's code revised, is to be enacted entire. This involves the subjection of Europeans to the Company's courts. Trial by jury is to be introduced throughout India: the jury will consist of five men—a number sanctioned by local usage.

The heir apparent of Delhi recently died of cholera; and some commotion has been caused by the King desiring that a younger son should succeed him, on the alleged ground that the elder is illegitimate.

PERSIA.

The heir to the throne of Persia, a boy six years old, has just died. The chief news from the Shah's dominions by the last mail has reference to the war between that country and England; but the details connected with this will be found under a separate head.

CHINA.

An awkward affair has occurred at Canton, according to a letter from that city, dated October 17th, and recently received at Manchester. The writer relates:—"On the 11th inst., a lorcha (or trading vessel), bearing the British flag and registered at Hongkong, was boarded by the crew of a junk bearing the imperial flag, and four of her men (Chinese) were taken into the city, where, it is said, three of them have been beheaded. After two days had been allowed for explanation and apology, which did not arrive, the imperial junk was taken possession of by armed boats from one of our men of war. A strong naval force is mustering at Whampoa, and some of the steamers and vessels of war have proceeded up the river as far as the depth of water will allow them."

WAR WITH PERSIA.

THE war with Persia has now fairly begun, and is already marked by a success on our side. A proclamation of war, setting forth the reason for hostilities, was published at Calcutta on the 1st of November. It is here stated:—

"In the month of January, 1853, certain articles of agreement were concluded between Lieutenant-Colonel Sheil, her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of the Shah of Persia, and his Highness the Sudr Azim, or Prime Minister of the Persian Government.

"By those articles the Persian Government engaged not to send troops to Herat on any account, unless foreign troops—that is, troops from the direction of Cabul or Candahar or other foreign country—should invade Herat. In the event of troops being sent, the Persian Government engaged that the said troops should not enter the city of Herat, and that, on the return of the foreign troops towards their own territory, the Persian troops should be immediately withdrawn from the neighbourhood of Herat to Persian soil.

"The Persian Government also engaged to abstain from all interference whatsoever in the internal affairs of Herat, whether 'in taking possession, or occupying, or assuming the sovereignty, or governing, except in so far as interference existed between the two parties during the lifetime of the late Yar Mahomed.'"

But, proceeds the Proclamation, Persia has not fulfilled her engagements:—

"So far back as December, 1855, the Persian Government, by an article in the *Teheran official Gazette*, announced its intention of despatching a force to Herat, alleging that the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, the ruler of Afghanistan, had been instigated by his 'neighbours' to possess himself of Kandahar; that, having with their assistance succeeded in that enterprise, he meditated an advance upon Herat; and that an armed demonstration in the direction of Herat was required for the preservation of tranquillity in Khorasan.

"This assertion, that the ruler of Afghanistan was instigated by his 'neighbours' to occupy Kandahar, or that he was assisted by them in possessing himself of that city, or that he received advice or encouragement from them to advance upon Herat, was, if by those 'neighbours' the British Government is indicated, wholly untrue. No such instigation or assistance, encouragement, direct or indirect, had been given by the British Government; nor, so far as the British Government is informed, had there been, when the assertion was made, any act on the part of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan evincing a design to advance upon Herat."

"The siege of Herat has now been carried on by the Persian army for many months. Before its commencement, and during its progress, the unfriendly sentiments of Persia towards the British Government have been scarcely veiled; and, recently, the movements of troops in different parts of Persia have indicated a determination to persist in an aggression which is as unprovoked as it is contrary to good faith.

"The conduct of the Persian Government has been pronounced by her Majesty's Government to constitute an act of open hostility against Great Britain. Reparation has been sought, but without success."

As to the ways and means of the enterprise, the *Calcutta Englishman* says that "Government has taken from the Bank of Bengal a loan of fifty lakhs of rupees, at the rate of four per cent. It is understood that this loan is only for three months, but of course it will either be renewed or converted into Government paper at the expiration of the term. A new loan at five per cent. is confidently anticipated by the native money dealers, and it is doubted whether money will be rapidly obtained even at that rate."

Six English ships have arrived at the island of Ormus, which they have occupied. Ormus, situate at the entrance of the Persian Gulf, is a small and almost uninhabited rocky island. Formerly it was a Portuguese depot of some importance; at present it belongs to the Imam of Muscat, a ruler in amity with England.

The English, according to the *Journal de Constantinople*, have taken possession of the island of Karrack. The Russian intervention, it is alleged, will be carried into effect as soon as Prince Bariatski, the Governor-General of the Caucasus, shall have been officially informed of the disembarkation of the English at Bushire.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR ITALY.

RECEIVED by J. Meriton White, 8, Percy-street, Bedford-square, 24l. 16s. 9d.:—Previously acknowledged, 21l. 3s.; Follow my Leader, 1l.; from the Mutual Improvement Association, by Mr. Bernard, 1l. Collected by C. Rogers (Wilton):—Yates, 2s. 6d.; S. Rogers, 6d.; Mrs. A. Tukes, 1s.; R. Elliot, 1s.; a Friend, 1s.; a Friend, 6d.; H. Lee, 1s.; Book, 1s. Collected by J. H. Holliday: G. Jaques, 1s.; H. Brown, 6d.; C. Sale, 6d.; J. Waylett, 6d.; W. Edwards, 6d.; J. Clayton, 6d.; J. Hunt, 6d.; W. Shaw, 3d.; T. Murphy, 6d.; W. Roe, 6d.; John P. Keen, 1s.; R. T. Resiaux, 1s.; J. M. Bull, 1s.;—Wheeler, 2d.; T. Pope, 3d.; M. Clayton, 6d.;—Rutherford, 6d.; F. Clayton, 4d.; A. Clayton, 3d.; M. Jaques, 6d.; W. T. H., 1s.; R. Young, 1s.; R. Young, jun., 6d.; T. Aubrey, 6d.; T.

Mulley, 6d.; T. Brockwray, 6d.; T. Munro, 6d.; Gustav Ferber, 2d.; William Brown, 2d.; Charles Tyler, 2d.; Crabaille, 1s.; Mawr, 6d.; Pas, 1s.; Borie, 6d.; Homburg, 6d.; Miss Day, 6d.; James Yeates, 6d.; Mrs. T. Yeates, 6d.; H. E. Pank, 6d.; John Combe, 3d.; Frederick Francis, 3d.; M. Jones, 2d.; H. Maple, 2d.; G. Halse, 2d.; G. Mole, 2d.; C. Taylor, 2d.; J. Wright, 2d.; Charles Salter, 6d.; Francis Smith, 6d.; Robert Ord, 6d.; Miss Holliday, 3d.; Miss Spencer, 3d.

Received by J. Stansfield, Esq., Secretary at the office, 22, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge:—Previously acknowledged, 107l. 6s. Collected by Percy Greg, B.A., and T. H. C. Payne, at University College: Professor Newman, 2s. 6d.; J. B. Baines, B.A., 2s. 6d.; Michael Foster, B.A., 2s. 6d.;—Philbrick, B.A., 2s. 6d.;—Whitaker, B.A., 2s. 6d.; Albert Greg, B.A., 2s. 6d.; T. B. Taunton, B.A., 2s. 6d.; W. Power, 2s. 6d.; J. Carafy, 2s. 6d.; J. M. Solomon, 2s. 6d.; J. Eccles, B.A., 2s. 6d.; Percy Greg, B.A., 2s. 6d.; J. H. C. Payne, 2s. 6d. Collected by W. R. Hawkes at Bishop's Stortford: J. W. Barker, 1s.; G. Ingold, 1s.; W. Green, 1s.; R. Lock, 1s.; C. Smith, 1s.;—Wigg, 1s.; R. Stiles, 1s.; Dodd and Burs, 2s.; G. Smith, 6d.; H. Stock, 6d.; H. Blyth, 6d.; H. Collings, 1s.; W. Phipp, 1s.; Y. Z., 1s.; B. Brazier, jun., 1s.; H. Heskin, 6d.; B. Fehrenback, 1s.;—Burs, 10s.;—Dillon, 5s.;—Tyrrell, 2s. 6d.;—Wilson, 2s. 6d.; Joseph Pasfield, 2s. 6d.;—Glasscock, 10s.;—West, 2s. 6d.; a Friend, 6d.;—Portway, 2s. 6d.; a Friend, 6d.;—Miller, 5s.; M. Stansfield (Yorkshire), 1l.; W. R. Hawkes, 1l. 1s.; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Biggs, 5l.; Miss Skeritt, 5s.; a Lady at Derby, 2s. 6d.; T. S. H., 5s.; Fanny Goans, 2s. 6d.; a Friend at Liverpool, 5l.; Rev. Gaskell (Manchester), 1l. 1s.; a Friend at Oldham, 1l. 1s.; Hensleigh Wedgwood 2l. Total, 128l. 16s.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor last Saturday reviewed, in the court of the Tuileries and on the Place du Carrousel, nine regiments of the line and three battalions of the Chasseurs à pied, who went through the Crimean campaign. He then distributed medals to the men. "During the review," says the *Moniteur*, "the Prince Imperial, who was leaving the Tuileries, passed through the lines of the soldiers, who loudly cheered him."

The Abbé Munier, the author of "*Philalète, ou la Recherche de la Vérité*," was lately sentenced to deprivation by his diocesan, the Bishop of Arras, as a punishment for writing that work, which has been condemned at Rome and placed in the Index. The Abbé not contesting the power of the episcopacy to interdict him from ministering in the churches, refuses to doff his clerical garments, although his Bishop has ordered him not to wear them. The Bishop has required the Procureur Impérial to prosecute the deposed priest for this disobedience, and the question whether the civil courts have power to enforce purely ecclesiastical decrees is likely to be solemnly tried.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

A landslip, which has caused an interruption in the arrival of the Paris mail, took place a few days ago at Pierre Aiguille a few yards from the railway station of Tain. An enormous mass of earth and rock, which was detached from the mountain in consequence of the torrents of rain which fell on the night of the 10th, fell on the railway, and covered it to the extent of more than one hundred yards.

An important article on the Neuchâtel question appears in the *Moniteur*. The official writer, after stating that, in obedience to the treaties by which she is bound, France has joined Prussia in demanding the release of the royalist prisoners, proceeds:—"The Government of the Emperor did not conceal the happy results which that concession might have, as it would become a sort of obligation on the part of France to prevent any armed conflict, and to exert itself to obtain from the King of Prussia a final settlement of the question conformable to the wishes of Switzerland. Unhappily, these wise considerations have not been appreciated; the counsels of France have been rejected, and the Federal Government has preferred to yield to democratical influences which are agitated around it, rather than to comply with well-meant counsels inspired solely by the desire of effecting an amicable settlement of a question which, pending too long already, might, if more complicated, disturb the peace of Europe. Thus France has met on the one hand, with moderation, the sincere desire of terminating a delicate question, and a courteous deference for her political situation; on the other hand, on the contrary, a lamentable obstinacy, an exaggerated susceptibility, and a complete indifference to her counsels. Switzerland must not, therefore, be astonished if, in the course of events, she should no longer find that goodwill which she might so easily have obtained at the cost of a very slight sacrifice."

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government is doing its best to crush the national language of Hungary. Very recently Count Leo Thun, the Minister for Public Instruction and Ecclesiastical Affairs, issued orders that on certain subjects the lectures delivered in the gymnasial schools and at the Universities should be in German, and that five

years hence all the lectures are to be in that language. This has created great discontent.

The chiefs of the provinces of Transylvania, Croatia, Slavonia, of the Temescher Banat, and of Dalmatia, are no longer to bear the title of "Civil and Military Governor," but of "Governor." In the civil administration, the expressions "Civil and Military Governments" are no longer to be employed, as in future there will be no separate departments bearing such titles.

The Emperor and Empress, on the 9th, crossed the Gulf of Venice to Pola, where they were received by the civil and military authorities of Istria, and, after visiting the chief objects of interest of the locality, returned at midnight to Venice.

"The Emperor," says the *Morning Post*, "has not yet decided on visiting Milan. His Majesty is said to be much disappointed with his reception in Italy, and complains of false representations having been made to him as to public feeling in Venice and Lombardy."

ITALY.

A Neapolitan gentleman, who has recently visited his native state after an absence of some years, and who has again quitted it, has communicated to the Paris correspondent of the *Times* some particulars of the present state of King Ferdinand's dominions. According to these statements, the Neapolitans are Federalists in their politics. They "are no longer the gay and noisy people travellers knew them to be not long ago. They have become serious, speak little and in a low voice; but whatever they do say they say without fear. The terror which hung over them no longer exists; you hear them speak of the incompatibility of Ferdinand II., of the Constitution, and of liberty, without apprehension or disguise. One would suppose they are anxious to go to prison, but the police dare not gratify their wish. They seem to wish that the police should commit excesses; but Bianchini does not venture, or does not wish, to gratify them. Bianchini is respected and honoured as an honest man; his police are tolerant, and even civil. The police are now divided into two parts—the old and the new, and these last detest the excesses of the agents of Mazza. Neither Morbelli, nor Campagna, nor Cressi, is now seen in the streets. They have disappeared, and are afraid to show themselves in public. . . . What the people want is a Constitution like that of Belgium. Reforms or amnesties no one seems to care about. In the Bagnio of Ischia there were forty-two political convicts. It was intimated to them that they should demand their pardon of the King. One demand only was made; and, two days after, the person who made it was found dead! When the King passes in the streets, few salute him. If the Queen and the children pass, the people turn their backs on them, and no one touches his hat. An amnesty is spoken of as on the point of appearing. Most of the persons included in it are unknown. . . . The population are armed, but they will not have recourse to arms, except at the last extremity. . . . The Hereditary Prince himself is discontented; he is hated by the Queen, and turned into ridicule by the King; he is prohibited from reading the newspapers, which, however, he feels the greatest anxiety to see. He is only allowed to see and converse with the priests. . . . When Poerio was transferred from Montefusco to Montesarchio, before the prison doors were found elegant carriages to convey him to his destination. They were the carriages of the proprietors in the province, who disputed among themselves the honour of conducting the prisoner."

The soldier who attempted to assassinate the King of Naples was hanged on Sunday morning. All remained quiet. When he was being examined by the military and police authorities, he demanded pen, ink, and paper, saying he would write his deposition. He then wrote down as follows:—"For six years I have cherished a hatred against Ferdinand II. I belong to the class of insurgents in Calabria in the year 1848. It was my intention to purge the earth of this monster. I have not the slightest intention of revealing the names of my brethren who conspire like me to rid the world of this tyrant; but the occasion will come when their daggers will avenge all."

From the 1st of next January, fine silver will be paid in currency in the kingdom of Naples. The ducat will be one hundred and thirty-two grains forty-five centimes per ounce.

Count Lavatelli has been assassinated at Bologna. The Milanese official journals of course say it was done by the Mazzinians.

SWEDEN.

Subjoined is an analysis of the principal provisions of a bill for the establishment of freedom of religious worship, which is about to be presented to the Swedish Diet:—"Art. 1 revokes the clauses and enactments of the Penal Code relative to the penalties attached to departure from the true Evangelical doctrine, and the profanation of another faith. These penalties were nothing less than exile and confiscation, and the persons who left the Swedish Church almost in every case merely became Protestants of another denomination. Every Swede, however, who leaves the national Swedish Church is obliged to make a formal declaration to that effect in the registers of his parish.—Art. 2 revokes the enactments of the same code which entail the penalty of exile for the propagation of erroneous doctrines, and changes the

punishment for that offence into a fine, varying from sixty-eight francs to four hundred francs, or imprisonment for from one to twelve months.—Art. 3 proposes that whoever shall seek by persuasion, threats, or other illicit means to lead to apostasy from the Swedish Church, shall be liable to a fine of from seventy francs to four hundred and forty francs, and for each repetition of the offence to imprisonment for from two to twelve months.—Art. 4 states that children born before their parents have changed are to be brought up in the doctrines of the Swedish Church, and the municipal councillors are ordered to see that this prescription is carefully carried out.—Art. 5 states that no one can, in consequence of his religious profession, be released from the observance of all the laws in vigour in the kingdom.—Art. 6 allows members of the Swedish Church to hold religious meetings in private houses, provided nothing takes place calculated to destroy public order. In every meeting for the purpose of religious worship, at which a clergyman does not officiate, entrance cannot be refused either to the clergyman of the parish or to the public functionaries of the neighbourhood; and these latter can, in case of illegality or disorder, dissolve the meeting. No such meetings, however, can in any case take place, unless by a special permission, under the penalty of a fine of from sixty-eight francs to one hundred and fifty francs for the person lending his house, and of fourteen francs for each person present."

PRUSSIA.

A Prussian note, on the subject of the Neufchâtel affair, was forwarded on the 10th instant to the Cabinets of Paris, London, Vienna, and St. Petersburg, as well as to the Germanic Diet. It is said that in this note Prussia declares its intention to have recourse to energetic and independent action.

A note signed by Baron Manteuffel, the Prussian Minister, and addressed to M. de Hatzfeldt, the Prussian Ambassador at Paris, has been published. It is to the effect that the Prussian Government shares the opinion of France and Russia that Conferences should be held for the settlement of the points under dispute, and informs him at the same time that he (Count Hatzfeldt) will have to represent Prussia. This note is dated as far back as the 8th of October.

It is said that Prussia is resolved on an armed intervention in Switzerland, in case the royalist prisoners shall be condemned. Military preparations are said to be already made.

GERMANY.

A fresh pastoral letter, published by Bishop Arnoldi, of Trier, contains several innovations which have not failed to make an unfavourable impression. Amongst them may be noticed the restriction of church music to the Latin language exclusively. The pastoral letter contains the following illiberal regulations:—"No sacred music the words of which are written in the language of the country can be permitted to be performed in any cathedral or church;" and in another place it goes on to say:—"It having come to our knowledge, and caused us sincere grief, that in various churches sacred music is sung in the vernacular, which is completely at variance with all Catholic piety and devotion, amongst which are certain odes written by profane and even heretical authors, we hereby prohibit their being sung in future in any Catholic church or chapel in this diocese."

The criminal tribunal of Frankfort-upon-the-Maine, within the last few days, has tried various persons who, on the 18th September, 1848, were arrested in the act of throwing up barricades in the streets of that city. They were condemned to various periods of imprisonment, none of which exceeds three years. These men have thus been detained in gaol awaiting their trial upwards of eight years!

TURKEY.

According to the *New Prussian Gazette*, a well-informed Berlin paper, the commission for the regulation of the navigation of the Danube have fixed upon the Kilia mouth of the river as that which would give the greatest facilities to improvements in the navigation. The Kilia is the most northern mouth, and that on which the destroyed fortresses belonging to Russia were situated.

The new Ministry, as finally settled, is thus composed:—Redschid Pacha, Grand Vizier; Arif Effendi, Sheikh ul Islam; Mehmed Ali Pacha, Minister of Marine; Mehmed Kibrisli, President of the Tanzimat Council; Riza Pacha, Seraskier; Ahmed Fethi Pacha, Grand Master of Artillery; Ali Ghalib Pacha, Minister of the Mint and Private Treasury; Chesik Pacha, President of the Council of State; Ethem Pacha, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Safeti Pacha, Minister of Commerce; Muchtar Pacha, Minister of Finance; Hassib Pacha, Minister of the Erkass or Pious Foundations; Izzet Pacha, Minister of Police; Safet Effendi, Mustachar of the Grand Vizier, and Minister of the Interior. Besides this, the regular Ministry, there are six members of the Ministerial Council without portfolios. These are:—Raouf Pacha, Aali Pacha, Mustapha Pacha, Kiamil Pacha, Fuad Pacha, and Arif Pacha.

Under the heading "Serious News," the *Journal de Constantinople* has the following intelligence:—"On the 22nd of November, the Russian General Philipson re-

took Soudjak Kaleh, and drove out the Circassians after an obstinate resistance. On the following day, the same General captured a Turkish brig and eighteen boats, under pretence that their papers were not regular. Some other boats escaped and got into Trebizonde, where the Consuls drew up reports of the affair."

RUSSIA.

The *Nord* of Brussels contains a leading article on the recent statement that a Russian army, 50,000 strong, was prepared to march on the Persian frontiers. The *Nord*, whilst expressing its doubts of this intelligence, alludes to an article in the treaty of Gulistan, wherein Russia engaged herself to defend Persia in any case of urgent necessity.

The Russian memorandum on the Bolgrad and Isle of Serpents questions, which was made public last week, was originally communicated to Count Walewski, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, with a note, in which the French Government was invited to promote the reassembling of the Conferences.

GREECE.

A strange tale of Turkish atrocities is told in a Greek newspaper, called the *Sun (Helios)*. We append it, though it has so much of a romantic colouring in its complexion, and is so "raw-head and bloody-bones" in its details, that we give it with the same caution which we observed in connexion with the now world-famous story about railways and revolvers in Georgia (U. S.). Our Hellenic contemporary says:—"A certain Christian at Philippopolis celebrated the marriage of his son, to which he invited all his friends and relations. For six days they kept up the rejoicings with music and dancing. On the fifth day, the Pacha of Philippopolis unfortunately happened to pass by and saw the ladies elegantly dressed, adorned with flowers, jewels, and strings of pearls. On learning the occasion of the festivity from the father, with whom he was acquainted, his Excellency was angry because he had not been invited; he was therefore asked to come on the following day, when he was a spectator of the profusion and wealth of the family. About midnight, he attacked the house, carried off everything, and slaughtered twenty-five persons. On the following day, which was Sunday, the neighbours, consulting together, knocked at the door; but there was no reply, or sound of anything within. At last they broke open the doors, and became spectators of the twenty-five corpses, with their fingers mercilessly cut off—a sad sight for Philo-Turks. Immediately a statement of facts was drawn up, and the Pacha hastened to view the place with his own eyes. He then left, mounted his horse, uttering curses and imprecations on the perpetrators. He rode up and down, and set a guard over the house, and sent out his soldiers to pursue and take the midnight plunderers. But there is nothing done in secret that shall not one day be brought to light. One of the servants of the Pacha gave an account to the Christians of his share in the horrible murder. Upon this, immediate information was given to the Pacha of Adrianople, who, coming to the house of the Pacha of Philippopolis, instantly drew up before him all his soldiers, afterwards the soldiers of the place, so that the latter should have no guards, and, accompanying him, caused search to be made in the houses of the neighbours of the murdered man. Then he returned to the Pacha's house, when a large iron chest was discovered in a private apartment occupied by his servant; this he opened, and there were found heaped up bracelets, necklaces, and rings belonging to the amputated fingers, &c. The Pacha was taken to Adrianople, where he remains in custody. The other inhabitants are seeking out the terrified witnesses with all diligence; but the fear is that this Pacha will get off as the Pacha of Varna did. They have written to Constantinople, and are waiting orders from head-quarters."

PORTUGAL.

The produce of salt in Portugal has failed to an alarming extent, and the Government has felt compelled to issue a decree allowing the importation of foreign salt at a low duty. According to the uncontradicted reports of the Portuguese press, the Councillor of State, Felix Pereira Magalhaens, one of the Ministers in the last Thomar Cabinet, has had his carriage and horses confiscated, in consequence of having made them the vehicle for introducing within the town a petty contraband of beans, bacon, and oil from his country house, in order to evade the city dues, which barely amounted to three shillings.

SPAIN.

The official *Gazette* recently stated that no censorship of the press exists in Spain. The monstrous untruth of this assertion is shown by the fact that gendarmes are placed at the doors of the printing-offices, to control the circulation of the journals. One paper (the *Iberia*) advertizes for a large supply of editors, as it does not wish its readers to be a day without their paper: a plain hint that editors in Spain are now under continual liability of imprisonment.

The Duke of Osuna has arrived at St. Petersburg from Madrid, charged with a diplomatic mission from the Spanish to the Russian Government.

SWITZERLAND.

A very unhappy affray has taken place at the elections in the Swiss canton of Fribourg between the Con-

servatives and the Radicals. The Conservatives, who polled the majority, say they had to provide for protection during the poll, and on their return from the polling places parties of them were attacked with firearms, and two were killed. This canton contains two classes of people who never could agree. One professes the Catholic faith, and speaks the German language; the other the Protestant, and speaks French.

HOLLAND.

The Chamber of Representatives of Holland, which had twice given equal votes for and against the budget of the Interior, and afterwards equal votes on that of the War Department, proceeded to a second vote on this latter on Wednesday week, when the adoption was pronounced by 34 votes to 33. In consequence of the evident hostility of the Chamber to the Ministry, a ministerial crisis has been produced. The Ministers of War and of the Colonies have been summoned by the King, it is believed, to form a new Ministry. The Minister of the Interior is so seriously ill that he contemplates resigning office, no matter what turn the political crisis may take.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Some arrests have been made in Moldavia owing to a plot got up by an ex-officer of gendarmerie, who appears to be mad. The design was to assassinate the Kaimakan and the eight members composing the Council of Ministers.

BELGIUM.

The Belgian Chamber of Representatives commenced its discussion on Friday week on the budget of receipts for 1857. The total amounts to 138,354,990 francs. The discussion turned chiefly on the advisability of maintaining the standard of silver currency, and on the conduct of the Bank of Belgium in depreciating the value of French gold coins. The latter step was admitted by the Minister of Finance to have been a fault; but he defended the maintenance of the existing silver standard. The discussion was adjourned.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE GALES AT SEA.—Several casualties have occurred at sea owing to the extremely violent weather which prevailed during the whole of last week. The United States mail steamship *Hermann*, which left Southampton with the English, French and German mails for New York, on the 3rd inst., encountered some terrific weather in the Atlantic, the wind for the most part of the time blowing a hurricane, and being accompanied by seas running to a great height. When about nine hundred or one thousand miles from Southampton, the ship labouring heavily and but just able to make headway against the gale, the centre shaft carrying the side levers of one of the engines broke, and the shock entirely disabled the piston of the port engine, and made the ship dependent upon the power of the remaining engine. It would seem that the vessel itself was not injured; but it was found necessary to put back to Southampton, which was reached last Sunday afternoon.—In her passage from the Cape of Good Hope, the *Cleopatra*, on Tuesday week, when about one hundred miles north-west of Cape Finisterre, fell in with the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship *Azoff*, with ensign down, apparently in a sinking state. The lifeboat was immediately over the side; but the sea was too heavy to launch her, and, while the *Cleopatra* was lying to, with steam off, the *Azoff* ported her helm and carried away her bowsprit, which struck the *Cleopatra's* quarter. No help could be rendered on Wednesday, the 10th; but on Thursday night a marine named Banks, having twice volunteered, was followed by two other marines, Pine and Taylor, Bombardier Harding, R.A., James Morehouse, seaman passenger, and T. Riley, ship's steward, who were put on board in the ship's boat. The *Azoff* had lost her wheel, the engines were disabled, and she was quite unmanageable. Hawsers from the *Cleopatra* were broken twice on Wednesday by the tremendous sea which was running; and, at length, after the most praiseworthy exertions by Captain Paton, of the *Cleopatra*, the *Azoff* steamed out of sight, the wind by that time having become favourable. A steamer left Southampton in search of her, and shortly fell in with her a little to the westward of Portland. She was much damaged, but it is hoped that her engines are untouched. The crew suffered severely from the gale, but no lives were lost.

EXTRICATION OF TWO MORE POLAR SHIPS FROM THE ICE.—Some information relative to the discovery of two of the ships abandoned in the ice in the Polar regions, has been transmitted from Aberdeen to our contemporary, the *United Service Gazette*, where we read:—"Captain Paterson, of the Pacific whaler, who had been in Pond's-bay, Baffin's Straits, this past season, 1856, states that he had bartered with an Esquimaux there three copper bolts and a galvanized rod of iron about three and a quarter feet long. They are now in Captain Paterson's possession, and have been seen by our informant. The Esquimaux made signs that they were taken from a ship which had been pressed on shore in a gale of wind by the ice, and that she 'slept' there, meaning that she was there still. Captain Buchess, of the ship *Dundee*, saw a patent copper scoop in the hands of the Esquimaux; he wished to barter it, but the natives made off

without parting with the article. All this confirms the information obtained from Hull, through Captain J. B. Cator, who, writing to Captain Sherard Osborn, states that the Esquimaux of the west side of Baffin's-bay have been observed to have sledges this season of hard wood, with treenail holes through, and, in answer to questions put, assert that two ships have been discovered by them: one is on the beach broken up by the ice; the other, perfectly sound, and merely beset in some inlet west of Pond's-bay—either Admiralty or Prince Regent's Inlet, but most probably the former. Captain Penny, who, as well as Captain Parker, of the *Truelove*, wintered about Cumberland Straits in 1835-56, was puzzled by constant rumours of ships being somewhere to the north-west of his position. Captain Penny fancied at first that these reports referred to Franklin's ships locked up in King William's land; but we now understand what gave rise to these rumours, being nothing else than two more of Sir Edward Belcher's squadron which have floated from the spot where they were prematurely abandoned."

COLLISION IN THE MERSEY.—The screw steamer *Canadian*, in going into the Birkenhead Graving Dock on Tuesday afternoon, came into collision with the railway steamer *Nun*, striking on her stern starboard side, and severely damaging her. She had the railway passengers on board. They were at once landed, fortunately without injury, and transferred to another steamer, and the *Nun* was hauled into the graving dock.

CONFLAGRATION OF THE BRITISH SHIP ROYAL FAMILY, OF LONDON.—The complete destruction by fire of the fine ship *Royal Family*, Captain Harrison, master, of London, on the 13th of last October, in lat. 11 deg. north, long. 85 deg., while on a voyage from Calcutta, was announced on Tuesday at Lloyds. Luckily, a French vessel, the *Rosa*, Captain Cotineau, from the Mauritius to Calcutta, hove in sight before the fire had made much head, and keeping by the burning ship, the officers and men were all saved, most of them securing their effects, with the exception of the captain (who estimates his loss at 500*l.*) and the ship's carpenter.

SHIPWRECKS.—It is reported from Christiana that the Hull and Gottenburg steamer *Oscar* has been lost.—An American ship (supposed to be the *Prince de Joinville*) has foundered at sea on her voyage from Cagliari to the United States. It is feared that all hands have perished.

STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the week ending last Saturday describe general steadiness. At Manchester, the market is still characterized by a general firmness of quotations. The Birmingham report states that the iron trade continues to be supported by good foreign orders as well as by the home demand; and, although some persons are advocating a reduction of prices to meet the competition of the Welsh producers, there is little prospect of its being acceded to. In the general manufactures of the town there is fair employment. At Nottingham, business remains quiet. In the woollen districts, the purchases both for consumption and exportation have been on a full scale; and the Irish linen-markets are without alteration.—*Times*.

In the general business of the Port of London during the same week there has been little activity. The total number of vessels reported inward was 177, being 94 less than in the previous week; and the total cleared outward was 117, showing an increase of 28, the number in ballast being 17.—*Idem*.

Judgment was given on Monday in the appeal before the Lords Justices against the decision of Mr. Commissioner Fane awarding a first-class certificate in bankruptcy to Mr. Mark Boyd. The certificate is to be suspended for five years, and is then to be only of the second class, and protection is not to commence till the 1st of next February. At the Court of Bankruptcy on the same day the choice of assignees under the estate of Leopold Redpath was perfected. The debts proved are about 3000*l.*

The suspension of the Kidderminster Bank, or Messrs. Farley, Turner, and Co., was announced on Saturday, in consequence of the death of Mr. Abraham Turner, its last representative. It was a bank of issue, with an authorized circulation of 14,300*l.*; but the amount of notes out is believed not to exceed 7000*l.* or 8000*l.* The general liabilities of the concern are said to be small, and it is thought the business will be resumed.

A new Belgian coal company (says the *Times* City article of Thursday) has been introduced under circumstances calculated to excite attention. Its title is the *Mons United Collieries Company*, and the capital is to be 1,000,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Albemarle, Mr. H. S. Thornton, of the firm of Williams, Deacon, and Co., and Mr. Weguelin, the Governor of the Bank of England, being trustees, while the board of directors is also composed of persons whose position or experience invites reliance. The object is to develop the resources of the most central part of the coal district of Mons, and operations are to be directed to two sections,—namely, a set of collieries already in full work, and yielding a *minimum* net profit of 40,000*l.* a year, and another set, of which a concession has been

granted by the Government on condition of their being forthwith opened. The payment for the whole is fixed at 454,000*l.*, of which 200,000*l.* is to be in shares not entitled to dividend until six per cent. shall have been paid on the general capital, and liable to cancellation to the extent of two-thirds in case the new mines should not yield coal of the anticipated commercial quality. Looking at the yearly profit already stated to be derived from the mine at present in work, and which, according to the reports of engineers, could be greatly increased by an outlay of 20,000*l.*, the unlimited demand for coal in Belgium and France, and the increasing facilities of railway carriage, the terms appear to be sound and liberal.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

EXECUTION OF MARLEY.

ROBERT MARLEY, the ticket-of-leave convict, was executed last Monday morning for the murder of Cope. For some days previously, he had shown signs of repentance and religious feeling, and his conduct is spoken of as being free from bravado on the one hand, or undue confidence with respect to his spiritual condition on the other. He is said to have been the illegitimate son of a person in good condition; but he seemed desirous of saying very little about his family, and he was only visited by a sister. He slept soundly during the greater part of Sunday night; and, rising about six on Monday morning, read the Scriptures for a considerable time with the chaplain. On the sheriff's presenting themselves, Marley, in answer to Mr. Sheriff Mechi, said he hoped he had made his peace with God. He acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and gave every facility to Calcraft in pinioning him. This is now done by means of straps, instead of ropes, to prevent a recurrence of the dreadful scene which occurred at the execution of Bousfield last April. Calcraft asked if the straps hurt the culprit; to which he replied with great coolness, "Oh, no!" Marley's firmness abided to the last. The crowd outside Newgate was very large, but was more orderly and decent in its demeanour than usual. The legs as well as the arms of the culprit were secured by a strong strap, and, as soon as the drop fell, he appeared to die at once. After the body was cut down, a cast was taken of the face, and the clothes were burnt, in order that they might not be sold for exhibition. The corpse was then buried in one of the passages of the gaol, by the side of Bousfield.

THE GREAT BULLION ROBBERY.

Pierce, Burgess, and Tester were re-examined at the Mansion House last Saturday. The most important part of the evidence was that which tended to show the complicity of Tester; but the statements of several of the witnesses also confirmed the charges against Pierce and Burgess, as well as the narrative given by Agar of his own share in the transaction. Agar and Pierce were often seen by one of the railway police inspectors hanging about the pier at Folkestone at the times when the bullion was being shipped, and they were generally together on the arrival and departure of the steamboats. This was in the month of May, 1854. The inspector, knowing that Agar was living under a false name, kept a watch upon him. In the following October, he was seen in the booking office at Folkestone, "peeping round the corner" at a Mr. Sharman, one of the company's servants, who was making up his money. The next day, Agar was observed in the company of Tester, and they walked together, talking as they went, in the direction of the Pavilion Hotel. They appeared, says the police inspector, to be on friendly terms with one another. In May, 1855, Tester was seen by one of the officials at the Reigate station with a black leather bag. The evidence of Mr. Russell, a booking clerk, was important. He said:—"I remember hearing of the bullion robbery in the month of May, 1855, and I recollect Tester coming to my office [at the London-bridge terminus] in that month. It was about ten minutes past ten at night. The 7.30 train from Dover arrives at the London terminus at five minutes past ten. At this time, Tester lived at Lewisham, and so did I. He came to the window of my office, and said to me, 'Good evening, Mr. Russell.' I replied, 'Good evening, Mr. Tester.' He then asked me if I was going home by the last Greenwich train which started at twenty minutes past ten. I told him that I was. He then said he had been to Redhill and back since office hours. I remarked to him that I thought it sharp work. He appeared rather excited, but seemed to congratulate himself upon being fortunate enough to catch the Greenwich train. He then opened the office door and brought in a black bag, which he placed in a corner, by the fireplace. Perry, a watchman, was in the office at the time of the conversation, but he left it before Tester came in. When Tester put the bag down, he said he would return in a few minutes, and went away. He was gone about ten minutes. During his absence, Perry returned and asked me whose bag it was. I told him it was Tester's. It was a new bag, or nearly so, and was from fifteen to eighteen inches long. I had never seen it before. When he returned, he took his bag, and told me he would join

me at the carriage. He did so, and we went down in the same carriage. I have no recollection of seeing the bag after he took it from my office." According to the statement of Perry, he (Perry) lifted up the bag, and remarked to Mr. Russell that it felt "very heavy and lumpy."

The guards, it appears, are placed upon certain trains for a month at a time, and then shifted, in order that they may have relief from night work. It was part of Tester's business to assist in drawing out the rota of the guards' duty; and, in making the arrangements for April, 1855, Tester added the words, "and May," so that Burgess might be guard of the train which brought the bullion during that month. Upon noticing this addition, Mr. Knight, the out-door superintendent, said he thought it was irregular; but Tester replied that it was of no consequence, and that it had been done before. The superintendent therefore took no further notice of it. In his cross-examination, he said he was present when the addition was made, and that it was done with his sanction. The card in question was produced and shown to Mr. Knight. A piece was cut off at the bottom, and Mr. Knight said he thought it was the signature of one of the superintendents that was removed. The only reason he could assign for this was that the rota might be made to fit into the frame in which such documents are generally placed.

It was then arranged that the prisoners should be remanded *pro forma* till Saturday (this day), and from that day till next Wednesday, when it is supposed the case will be completed.

A MURDER FOR LOVE.

A trial for murder, of a more than usually painful nature, has taken place at York, where John Hannah was charged with the wilful murder of Jane Banham at Armley, near Leeds.

The accused, a tall, fair-haired young man, who was neatly dressed, and by no means ill-looking, on being placed at the bar and called on to plead, appeared to be greatly distressed. After a paroxysm of grief, he flung his hands wildly above his head and cried out, "Oh, God! Not guilty." He was accommodated with a seat, but throughout the trial kept sobbing and beating his forehead with his hands, and seemed to be greatly distressed.

Hannah was a tailor, living at Manchester, and Jane Banham was the principal dancer in a travelling corps of performers, with whom she and her parents went to the chief towns of the West Riding. She had been married to one William Banham, who some time afterwards left her and proceeded to America. She then formed a connexion with Hannah. They lived together as man and wife, and had two children. The woman's father, John Hope, was at this time in India, whence he returned in May, 1855. About a fortnight before last Christmas, Hannah separated from Banham, who with the two children went to live with her father. In June, the company were performing at Halifax, to which place Hannah had walked over from Manchester, when, after a night exhibition, he followed them home and expressed a desire to speak to Jane. Her father said, "No," and that if he did not go away he would get a policeman and have him taken up. Hannah declared he must see her, and eventually he was told he might see her at nine the next morning. They then had an interview, and Hannah urged the woman to live with him again, adding that, if she did not mind, and would not do as he wished, he should be hung for it. In the course of September, he wrote a letter to Jane Banham, imploring her to return, speaking very affectionately of his children, and saying that he could not be withheld from seeing them. This letter was opened by the woman's father, Hope, and was afterwards destroyed by the woman herself. Hannah frequently talked with Hope about his daughter; and in these conversations he mingled expressions of affection with threats of violence. He induced several persons, on the 11th of September, to take messages from him to the woman, requesting her to meet him; and on that day he persuaded her to come to him in the parlour of the White Horse Inn, Armley, which was next door to where Banham and her father were lodging. A little previous to this, Hannah saw a child running past the house. He recognized it as his own, though he had not seen it for a long while; and, catching it up, he fondled it, and cried a great deal. The child did not know him, and seemed afraid of him. Jane Banham then came in, and he begged her, for the child's sake, to come and live with him; but she refused. He then entreated Hope to use his influence with his daughter; but the father said he would have nothing to do with the matter, and left the room. Hope at this time observed that there was an unnatural glassiness about Hannah's eyes. After a time, Jane Banham was about to leave, saying she "did not want to have anything more to do" with her former associate; but the man, speaking, as one of the witnesses stated, in a kind tone, said, "Come in again for a minute," and, seizing her by the arm, he pulled her in, and shut the door very sharply. A rattling of chairs was then heard, and a comedian, named Blanshard, went into the room, and saw Hannah on Jane Banham. He said, "What do you mean, you scoundrel?" to which Hannah, turning round, answered, "I mean mur-

der." Blanshard caught hold of his arm, saw an instrument in his hand (which was, in fact, a razor), and exclaimed, "Oh, God! murder! here's a knife!" The other, however, made two cuts at the woman's throat, "one up and one down," and then walked out of the room. He was followed by Blanshard, to whom he said, "I have done what I intended. What are you going to do?" At that moment, the murdered woman came staggering out of the room, with one hand on her throat, and looked wildly about for assistance. Blanshard ran off for a surgeon, and, when the latter arrived, Banham was unable to speak. She died in about two hours from the time the wounds were inflicted, and in her bosom was found the miniature of a man. That man was not Hannah.

Immediately after the departure of Blanshard for the surgeon, Hope and several other persons ran up to the place, and raised an outcry of "Murder!" and "Police!" At this, Hannah exclaimed, "Bring the policeman; I'm ready for him!" He also said, "I have had my revenge: they may do what they will, and I don't care how soon I am dead." This he was muttering to himself as he walked down the street, followed by several persons, who shouted "Stop him!" Two men who were coming along chased him, and he was secured, when his shirt-front and one hand were found to be bloody. On his way back to the inn, he was very talkative, and seemed to be speaking more to himself than to his captors, observing, among other things, "What I have done I don't care for; she should not have vexed me to do it." He also rambled a good deal, and talked about having taken the Alma; and he staggered in his gait, as if he was intoxicated. After he was in the custody of a policeman, he said to Blanshard, "That's a clean trick for a madman—a lunatic just come out of an asylum." To the policeman he stated that he was drunk, or he should not have done as he had; and subsequently, when in gaol, he said that he only meant to frighten the woman, not to hurt her. He cried when he made this statement, and "was agitated all over his body," according to the account given by the gaoler at the trial.

The defence only took the form of an endeavour to prove that the crime was manslaughter, not murder, and that Hannah had received great provocation. However, he was found guilty of murder, and condemned to death. He was carried out apparently fainting, and the dense crowd in court dispersed in silence.

ASSIZE CASES.

Four persons have been tried at the Exeter Assizes for uttering forged notes. Two of these were women, one of whom was the mistress of a man named Culliver, living at Bodmin, Cornwall, who appears to have been the manufacturer of the notes, while the two women and the two men now tried for uttering seem to have been the agents for putting them in circulation. Culliver was convicted at the last Bodmin Assizes; and his mistress, Elizabeth Clarke, who was now put on her trial, gave information to the police which led to the apprehension of Robert Reed and Sarah Davis, who were found in the possession of illicit notes. Clarke herself was shortly afterwards arrested for endeavouring to pass bad notes professing to be issued by the Bank of England. All three were found guilty, and sentenced to two years' hard labour. The fourth person charged with forgery—a man named Joseph Watson, who seems to have been connected with the others—was also convicted, and condemned to four years' penal servitude.

George Woodcock was found guilty of escaping from Dartmoor in August, 1855. He was in custody for a simple larceny, but since his escape he has committed a burglary in Yorkshire. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Thomas Burrow, a boy of fifteen, pleaded guilty to a charge of setting fire to the reformatory school at Bampton Speke, of which he was an inmate. He was sentenced to fourteen years' transportation.

John Godson, a youth of nineteen, has been tried at York for a rape on Elizabeth Sissons, a girl of thirteen, but looking older. The offence was committed with great violence; and the screams of the poor child, coming from a gravel pit into which she had been dragged, and being gradually stifled, apparently by a hand placed across her mouth, attracted the attention of some labourers, who, however, only arrived too late. The case was so clear against Godson that his counsel felt compelled to retire; and the accused, having been found guilty, was sentenced to fourteen years' transportation.

Henry Gollond and George Gollond were tried at Nottingham for night poaching. The offence having been proved, they were found guilty, and sentenced, Henry to four years' penal servitude, and George to eighteen months' imprisonment.—Four other men were then indicted for the same offence. They had formed part of a gang of thirteen or fourteen who, on the 5th of last September, encountered some of Lord Chesterfield's watchmen, whom they handled very roughly, not, however, until one of their number had been severely used by the gamekeepers. Two of the men were now convicted, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude; the other two were acquitted.

Joseph Bunney, a labourer, has been tried on a charge of setting fire to five stacks of wheat, one of bar-

ley, and one of beans, the property of Mr. Baker, of Colwick, near Nottingham. A suspicious circumstance against the man was that he had been turned out of a cottage which he had rented of Mr. Baker; but he appears to have been on very good terms with that gentleman after he had quitted, and some of the witnesses called for the prosecution actually proved an *alibi* in favour of the accused. Some equivocating expressions on the part of Bunney were adduced as evidence against him; but only one witness, a little boy, testified to seeing him in the neighbourhood of the stacks at the time of the fire, the others merely stating that they had seen a man similarly dressed. He was therefore Acquitted.

George Wilson, a private in the 1st Dragoons, was charged at Exeter with killing John Shaw, also a private in the same regiment, at the Cavalry Barracks, Exeter. They had been excellent friends, and had volunteered together from another regiment into the 1st Dragoons. One night, Shaw who had been drinking, quarrelled with Wilson, and struck him. Wilson said that if he did that again he would strike him with a poker. Shaw advanced for the purpose, as it appeared, of striking him, when Wilson felled him to the ground with a poker, and the next day he died from the effects of the blow. The jury were locked up all day, when, there being no chance of their agreeing, the Judge discharged them, and the prisoner, having entered into his own recognizance to come up when called on, was also discharged.

A ticket-of-leave man pleaded guilty at Derby to three charges of housebreaking. He had been convicted of the same offence in August, 1853, and was sentenced to seven years' transportation. In the August of the present year, he was set at liberty on ticket-of-leave, and twelve days afterwards he committed one of the robberies to which he now pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to twenty years' transportation.

Some strangely disproportioned sentences are generally observable among the Assize cases. An instance has recently occurred at Derby. Two men in a drunken frolic fell upon a woodman who was carrying a loaded gun, and, asserting that he had no right to the weapon, succeeded, after a struggle, in wresting it from him and carrying it away. It does not appear that the woodman was ill-used in the course of the scuffle; but the two men who took the gun were sentenced to *four years' penal servitude*. This case was followed by a charge against four young men of cutting and wounding one Matthew Hardy. One night, Hardy was passing by the accused, and, hearing them use some very disgusting language, he reproved them. They then attacked him, threw him down, and stabbed him in the side so seriously that he was confined to the house for several weeks, and was now obliged to sit down while he gave his evidence. The Judge stopped the case, as there was no evidence as to which of the young men gave the wound, nor any evidence of a common intent that the wound should be inflicted; and a verdict of Not Guilty was taken. The prisoners were then arraigned upon an indictment charging a common assault only, and pleaded guilty. Evidence having been given of their good character up to the present time, they were sentenced to *one week's imprisonment*.

The Derby grand jury, before they were discharged, made a presentment, alluding to the great increase of crime, and reprobating the ticket-of-leave system. The Judge promised to forward this to the proper quarter.

William Reaney and James Reddish were tried at Derby for the manslaughter of a man bearing the same names as the first-mentioned prisoner, but who was no relation. The three were going through a wood at night, when, as it would seem, the deceased was attacked by his two companions, and terribly injured. He got home as well as he could, and next day, when in a public-house, he met the prisoner Reaney, who was much scratched and bruised, and who said he had been attacked in the wood by some men, and that they had bitten his thumb. The deceased said he had bitten a man's thumb in the wood. The prisoner Reaney then accused his namesake of robbing him; but the latter was not given into custody, and some days afterwards he died. There is nothing to show that he really had made an attempt at robbery. Both the accused were found guilty; but sentence was postponed.

Thomas Mansell, a soldier of the 49th Regiment, has been found guilty at Maidstone of the murder of Alexander M'Burnie, lance-corporal in the same regiment, whom he shot one morning at Dover, the only motive appearing to be that he suspected (though it would seem without cause) that M'Burnie had stolen a pair of boots belonging to him, and wished to make it appear that Mansell had stolen some belonging to M'Burnie. The defence was that the accused was insane. He was sentenced to death.

Previous to the trial of this case, a singular scene took place, arising out of the objection entertained by many jurymen to capital punishment. When the jury was about to be empanelled, the counsel for the prisoner challenged every jurymen who was summoned out of Maidstone, to the extent allowed by law, the avowed object being to obtain a majority of jurymen from the town of Maidstone, where it is understood that an opinion adverse

to capital punishment prevails. These challenges being exhausted, a good deal of discussion ensued, and the jury was at length settled, one gentleman retiring on the plea that he objected to punishment by death. Before the case commenced, however, Mr. Baron Bramwell made some remarks to the effect that a jurymen is bound by his oath to give a verdict in accordance with the evidence, irrespective of consequences.

Frances Wallace was tried at the same Assizes on a charge of murdering her child by cutting its throat. The particulars of this painful case were published in the *Leader* of November 1. The accused was Acquitted on the ground of insanity.

Edward Chater, an engraver, has been found Guilty at Warwick of forging Bank of England notes, and was sentenced to be transported for life.

Dede Redanies, the foreigner charged with the murder of the sisters, Caroline and Maria Back, was placed in the dock at the Maidstone Assizes on Tuesday and Wednesday, on both of which occasions he pleaded Guilty to the murder of the first, and Not Guilty of killing the second. Mr. Baron Bramwell, thinking that the prisoner, as a foreigner, might be ignorant of the effect of his pleading Guilty, would not go on with the case either day, but gave the accused time to consider. He has elected to be tried by a jury entirely composed of Englishmen, instead of one-half selected from foreigners.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

The December sessions commenced on Monday. One of the persons tried on that day was John Dower, a labourer, charged with a garotte robbery committed near the Town Hall, in the Borough, with the aid of four other men, who are not in custody. The particulars have already appeared in this paper. Dower was sentenced to fifteen years' transportation.

William Snell, a gentlemanly-looking young man, pleaded Guilty to a charge of stealing an order for 500*l.*, the property of the Great Northern Railway Company, his masters. There were two other charges against the prisoner for embezzling and stealing money and cheques, the property of the same prosecutors, to which he pleaded Not Guilty. He subsequently retracted those pleas, and pleaded Guilty to the whole of the charges. He was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour.

Charles Clement Brooke, late a captain in the Osmanli Irregular Cavalry Turkish Contingent, surrendered to take his trial upon an indictment charging him with having published a false and malicious libel on Baron Mostyn. It appeared that he had married a natural daughter of Lord Mostyn's uncle, who, when he died, left her a sum of 20,000*l.*, to be raised by sale or mortgage out of certain estates devised to Lord Mostyn for life. Lord Mostyn entered into a voluntary undertaking to carry out the provisions of the will; but the estates were so deeply mortgaged that he found he had no funds equal to the payment of this particular sum and of various others which were chargeable on the property. The result was that the estates were thrown into Chancery nineteen years ago. Lord Mostyn was himself very largely in debt. Captain Brooke had been insolvent, and had parted with his life-interest in the property; but from time to time he had been relieved by Lord Mostyn, through his Lordship's solicitors. Mrs. Brooke is dead, but a child of hers is still living. It was under these circumstances that Captain Brooke wrote a letter to Lord Mostyn, threatening to kick him publicly, and to cause his ejection from the House of Peers. The jury found the Captain Guilty, but recommended him to mercy, on the ground that he had acted under great provocation. After some discussion, he was ordered to enter into his own recognizances to keep the peace, and to come up for judgment if called upon.

Mary Ann Davis, a woman of the town, has been found Guilty of killing Ann Cox, a person in the same sphere of life, by striking her on the head with a tumbler. Davis was intoxicated at the time, and she had contrived to pick a quarrel with her friend; but, after the act was committed, she expressed great sorrow. She was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

ANOTHER GREAT RAILWAY ROBBERY.—The police have received information that a vast number of gold watches, which were in a leathern box, have been stolen from the Coleraine and Londonderry Railway. The maker's name, 'Mottu,' of Geneva, is engraved upon the watches, and the numbers of them are known.

REDPATH, JUNIOR.—A boy, bearing the now celebrated name of Redpath, was charged at Guildhall with committing a fraud upon a Mrs. Pulling, a fancy-bag-maker, who employed him as an errand boy. He had sold some of the bags, appropriated the money, and absconded. The lad's mother said he was one of seven children she had to provide for, and her husband was lying ill of consumption. The person who had bought the bags consented to give them up on receiving his money (nineteen shillings) again. This was agreed to; the boy was discharged, and Alderman Musgrove gave the mother a sovereign from the poor-box on account of her distressed condition.

A CONVICT'S HISTORY.—A person apparently of great bodily strength, giving the name of John Summers, appeared before Alderman Humphery, at the

Mansion-house, on a charge of breaking a pane of glass in a jeweller's window, and stealing a large amount of property. He was caught in the act, and at once taken into custody. When at the police-office, he said:—"I have been ten years a convict, and I could get no work on account of being known." Alderman Humphery: "Are you a ticket-of-leave man?" Summers: "No. After nine years I was pardoned. I was at Norfolk Island, and from that place I went to Hobart Town, and thence to the gold diggings in Australia, where I laboured hard and made 150*l.* as my share. I paid 60*l.* for my passage from Adelaide to London, from other money that I made. I spent all the 150*l.* in London." Alderman Humphery: "When were you convicted?" Summers: "In the summer of 1846 I was tried at Maidstone for horse stealing, and found guilty. I am as industriously inclined as any man, and it is my wish to go abroad, where I can get my living by honourable industry. I have been obliged to sell my clothes, and, as I am known, I can get no employment at all. I tore up my discharge because I did not wish that any one should know I was a prisoner." He was then committed for trial.

THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.—A lecture by Mr. F. Hill was delivered by that gentleman at a meeting on Monday evening of the Law Amendment Society, Mr. M. D. Hill in the chair. The subject of the discourse was the present ticket-of-leave system, and its purpose was to show that that system has not yet been fairly tried. Mr. F. Hill thought that the terms of imprisonment should be made longer instead of shorter, but he was not inclined to abandon the incentive to good conduct held out by the prospect of a remittal of punishment. He showed the fallacy of the popular supposition that there are no means at home for employing all our criminals. The number of criminals is far less than is generally supposed; and, even if it were much greater, there would be plenty of opportunity in a country like this of finding employment for prisoners, without deranging the labour market. Mr. F. Hill proceeded:—"A perusal of the evidence lately taken on the subject by the Committee of the House of Commons—particularly of that given by Mr. Waddington and Mr. Matthew Hill—would quickly convince any person of calm judgment that in this matter there can have been neither failure nor success, since in fact there has been no real experiment. It is true, as we have seen, that that part of the general arrangement which consists in holding out a strong motive to industry and good conduct while in prison, has been brought into partial operation; and, I think, that a candid examination of the results, so far as means have been provided for their ascertainment, will show that to the extent to which this principle has been employed, they have been satisfactory; the recommissions having been fewer among the prisoners thus liberated in part by their own exertions, than among an equal number released by the mere lapse of time. But of the ticket of leave in the real sense of the term, namely, a permission to be at large during good behaviour only, there has evidently been no trial; for, although each ticket bears on its face a warning that the leave will be recalled if the bearer consort with bad company, or have no visible means of getting an honest livelihood, these conditions seem to have been almost a dead letter. It thus appears that an essential principle of the ticket-of-leave system has remained in abeyance; and, therefore, whatever causes may have been at work to produce the late burglaries and garotte robberies, these outrages cannot in justice be attributed to that system." The lecturer afterwards made some suggestions:—"Let five hundred prisoners at the end of their confinement be released with tickets of leave, and five hundred others, as nearly as possible under the same circumstances, be released unconditionally. Then let the recommissions which may take place in the two classes be carefully compared; and the result will be more trustworthy and conclusive than any amount of *a priori* speculation. . . . One way in which crime might be powerfully checked would be to render pecuniarily answerable, to some extent, for the crimes they assist in producing, the landlords and proprietors of the various dens of iniquity in which criminals meet to concert robberies, to turn booty into money, and to squander away their ill-gotten wealth—the flash-houses, the dwellings of receivers of stolen goods, the gambling houses, and the brothels." Considerable discussion followed the reading of this paper, and it was finally resolved that it should be received and referred to the Criminal Law Committee, to consider and report upon.

FATAL POACHING AFFRAY.—A conflict between a gang of poachers and some keepers in the employ of Mr. T. B. Vernon, of Hanbury, Worcestershire, about midnight on Wednesday week, has ended in the death of one of the poachers. A man named Harrison, employed at the Droitwich salt-works, went out with two of his companions to shoot in Mr. Vernon's preserves. They were encountered by two keepers; a struggle ensued, and a large dog was set upon Harrison, who seized a gun, and knocked the keeper down by the butt-end. There was then some further scuffling, and the gun accidentally exploded, lodging its contents in Harrison's abdomen. He died in about four-and-twenty hours. The fatal occasion was the first time he had ever been out poaching.

NEGLECT AT A BOARDING SCHOOL.—A singular case has been investigated at the Wandsworth police-office. A schoolmistress, named Sophia Myers, was charged with wilfully neglecting Maria Bailey, a little girl committed to her care. She kept a boarding school at Battersea, and the child's mother sent her daughter there for education. About a fortnight ago, Mrs. Bailey received information that her child was dying, and, going to Myers's house, she found such to be the case. The child was in a filthy condition, lying on an old and dirty couch. Another dying child was also in the house, which was in a revolting state of dirt, and almost entirely denuded of furniture. Two of Myers's daughters, four little children, and a young woman, were likewise discovered in different rooms by a policeman whom Mrs. Bailey called in; and they also were extremely dirty and wretched in their appearance. It appeared, however, that some necessities, which the parish doctor had ordered a few days before Mrs. Myers was given into custody, were supplied to the sick children; and several persons came forward to give a good character to the schoolmistress, who said it was only through the illness of the two children suffering from typhus fever that the others had been neglected. The magistrate discharged Mrs. Myers on her entering into recognizances to appear again on Monday. When the case came on again on that day, the accused was not forthcoming, and no further steps could be taken. It was mentioned in court that Mrs. Bailey's little girl had died since the previous examination.

BURGLARY AT CARDIFF.—The shop of Mr. Spiridon, a jeweller in Cardiff, has been broken into and plundered of a considerable quantity of its contents. The shop-keeper and his assistants left the place between nine and ten o'clock on the evening preceding the robbery, having first secured the premises; but, on returning the following morning, they found that the shop had been entered and ransacked of almost everything that was portable, including an immense amount of jewellery, watches, rings, pins, pencil-cases, &c. It is estimated that the total value of the stolen property cannot be much less than 300*l.* It was afterwards discovered that the thieves had entered the premises through the adjoining shop, where they had battered down a portion of the wall dividing the two houses, and so worked their way into Mr. Spiridon's shop, the floor of which was thickly sprinkled with bricks and plaster. It is conjectured that the burglars afterwards started for London by an early train. The metropolitan police were speedily informed of the robbery by electric telegraph, and the local police are likewise prosecuting an active search; but no clue has as yet been obtained of the thieves.

ROBBERY.—Three men recently went to a public-house in Jamaica-street, Bristol, at seven o'clock in the evening, and ordered some drink. The landlady, having supplied them, retired to the parlour behind the bar, upon which one of the men placed a chair against the parlour door, while another went into the side passage, and beckoned one of his comrades in from the street, when they both endeavoured to remove a desk which was placed near the bar. As, however, the desk was fastened by screws to a kind of counter, they found themselves obliged to wrench it off, and they immediately set to work. While they were so occupied, the landlady came out from the parlour into the passage, when she was knocked down by one of the ruffians, who struck her a blow on the head. She rose, and was again felled to the ground and kicked. The men, in the meanwhile, having succeeded in wrenching the desk from its hold, stole from it nearly 12*l.* in gold and silver, and then escaped with their booty. A description of the thieves has been forwarded by the landlady to the police, and steps are being taken for their apprehension.

A STABBING CASE.—The borough magistrates of Brighton were occupied on Wednesday in investigating a charge of stabbing brought against a youth, nineteen years of age, named Charles Henrich, who, it appears, is a son of Lady Girdlestone. The youth had been to the Casino on Tuesday night, and, on coming out late at night, he addressed a policeman, and, exhibiting a long-handled knife, which opened with a spring at the back, said, if he had the person who kept the Casino there, he would stab him to the heart. The policeman, who said he must be joking, took the knife from him, shut it up, and returned it. Henrich immediately opened it again, and said, "I will carry this home in my hand open, and will stab the first person who interrupts me." At the same time, he made use of very obscene language. Just at that moment, a woman of the town, named Julia Blundel Paine, came up, and Henrich exclaimed, "Halloa, old gal, how do you do?" again using several disgusting expressions. The woman answered, "I don't know you, sir;" on which, Henrich immediately stabbed her, saying, "How do you like this?" The woman stood for a moment, and then exclaimed, "Oh, you have murdered me!" The policeman then took the young man into custody, and the latter kept repeatedly exclaiming, "I am damned drunk, and I am a — blackguard." The woman was taken to the hospital, where it was found that the wound was not serious. Henrich was remanded to this day (Saturday), when it is expected that Julia Paine will be able to attend and give evidence.

MURDER OF A CHILD BY HIS MOTHER.—Elizabeth

Oram, a woman belonging to the town of Nantyglô, Glamorganshire, has been committed for trial on a charge of murdering her illegitimate son, a boy about ten years old. The evidence brought forward at the inquest showed that the boy had been starved and shockingly beaten until death resulted.

A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN IN DISTRESS.—A man recently left the subjoined letter with Mr. Bingham, the Marlborough-street magistrate:—"Sir,—I am a returned convict, released on a ticket-of-leave on the 8th of October last. Since that time I have used every means to get employment, but have not been able to succeed. I am now very badly off, and have no means of living except I have recourse to something dishonest, which I never will, though my circumstances should be worse than they are at present. My object in applying to you is this. I have the offer of a free passage to New York on Thursday next by the New York Town ship, Captain Meyer, but being without a friend and destitute, I am at a loss how to act except some humane person would assist me. I have therefore made bold to lay my case before you, trusting you will be kind enough to assist me under my unfortunate circumstances.—Your humble servant, WILLIAM PEARSON." Mr. Bingham caused inquiries to be made into the case, and found that the man's assertions were quite true; but it turned out that it would be impossible for him to go to America, as, by the United States laws, convicts are not allowed to be taken as passengers in American ships. Mr. Bingham suggested Australia to the man, and relieved him by ten shillings from the poor-box.

ALLEGED IMPOSTURE.—Mary Anne Murphy, who was charged with obtaining various sums of money from a number of persons by fraudulently representing that she was the niece of the Bishop of Cloyne and Ross, and that she was entitled to a sum of 3000*l.* in the Bank of England, as heiress at law to her brother, Robert Murphy, to whose estate she was administering, was on Tuesday again brought up at Guildhall, for further examination relative to those charges. The witnesses necessary to substantiate them, however, not being in attendance, the case failed, and the accused was discharged, but was immediately rearrested upon a charge of obtaining a sovereign on false pretences. As this occurred at Clerkenwell, she was removed to the police-office of that court.

A GENTLEMAN WIFE-BEATER.—Mr. Frederick Ashley Thompson, a sharebroker, residing at Thorpe Cottage, Richmond-road, Dalston, was charged on Tuesday, at the Worship-street police-court, with having maltreated his wife. Mrs. Thompson, who has been married about five years, has been frequently ill-used by her husband; but on Monday evening his violence was so great, though he had no other provocation than that she had gone out shopping without his leave, that she felt compelled to go to the station-house, and place herself under the protection of the police. Here she was followed by Thompson, who was intoxicated, and who swore that he would do the same again. He was fined 5*l.*, and ordered to find substantial bail to keep the peace for three months.

REDPATH ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE.—The public have been taken somewhat by surprise by the details given in the Bankruptcy Court relative to the enormous speculative transactions in which Leopold Redpath was engaged. Between May and November, the amount of his account floating in the market appears to have varied from 70,000*l.* to 131,000*l.* Transactions to the extent of 30,000*l.* in Great Northern stock, and 10,000*l.* in Consols, are mentioned. Making every allowance for the position of Stock Exchange brokers, we cannot help thinking that the system of thus extending facilities for excessive speculation to the clerks of public companies and other employees is a serious evil.—*Daily News*, (City Article).

SACRILEGE.—The Church of St. Nicholas, Deptford, has been broken into, and the chest containing the sacramental plate stolen.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

THREE persons have been drowned close to Blackfriars-bridge. A party, consisting of four men and three women, hired a boat last Sunday for a row on the river. They remained on the water till darkness set in, when one of the rowers turned the boat round and was making for the bridge, when the end of the boat struck against the pier-head of one of the arches. The women, being alarmed, sprang up and leaned towards one side of the boat, which was thus overbalanced, and the seven occupants were immediately thrown into the water. Several boats put off to the rescue, and two men and two women were picked up in an exhausted state. The other three were carried away by the tide.

A ticket-taker on the Birkenhead and Chester Railway was run over last Saturday evening by an express train at Spittal, and was cut to pieces.

A man and his wife, occupying the cellar of a house in Raglan-street, Liverpool, were burnt to death in a fire which destroyed the premises on Sunday morning. They were both intoxicated when last seen.

A large sail-boat, with thirteen persons on board, was lost on Tuesday week on the Lower Shannon, Ireland, during the terrific gale which then raged. Every soul was drowned.

Five persons have been drowned near the Shetland Islands. Four men and two women were proceeding in a boat from Lerwick to Bressay. One of the rowers was a man named William Duncan; another was James Duncan, a son of the former. James was drunk, and it seems he is extremely passionate when intoxicated. Recollecting that he had left some things behind him at Lerwick, he wished his father to put back, but this was refused. He then attempted to pull the boat back, but was defeated by the others. He was held down for a time, and restrained. Directly he was set free, however, he leapt up, sprang towards his father, and attempted to strike him. In the commotion thus occasioned, the boat upset, and only one person out of the six—a man named Peter Hunter—escaped. He contrived to get back again to the boat, and drifted in about two hours to shore.

Two melancholy catastrophes have occurred in Devonshire. Four fishermen of Topsham went out to sea in a fishing boat, to follow their usual avocation, on Saturday last. They had not been out long before a stiff gale sprung up, and the boat was capsized near the Warren, on the south coast. Three of the poor fellows were drowned, and the other contrived, by the aid of one of the oars which he secured, to get safely on shore. The body of one of the men was washed ashore the same evening. The bodies of the other two have not yet been discovered. On the same day, a similar accident occurred at Appledore, in the north of Devon. A vessel was lying in the bay off Barnstaple Bar, which signalled for a pilot. Two boats, each manned by seven men, put off to her assistance. The weather was rough, and there was a heavy sea. On nearing the bar buoy, a breaker struck one of the boats and upset it. Four of the crew, three of whom were married men with large families, were drowned, and the remainder were rescued by the other boat.

A man was killed on the South-Western Railway on Thursday night. The up-train from Southampton had just passed the Woking station, when from some cause which remains unexplained it came in contact with a tender at Goldsworth cuttings. The engine sounded his whistle on observing the tender so close, and instantly turned off the steam; but a collision took place, and Michael Knight, foreman of the plate layers, who was standing on the tender, was thrown out. His skull was fractured, and he died in a few hours.

A dreadful catastrophe has occurred at the Bowling Iron-Works near Bradford, where a man has been crushed to death in the machinery.

IRELAND.

THE RAILWAY MURDER.—An engine-driver named Dowd, in the employment of the railway company, made a most important disclosure on Tuesday. He says that, after midnight on Friday night, the 12th inst., he had occasion to go into the yard at the rear of his house, which is situated near the carriage factory. While in the yard, he saw a man come to one of the windows in the side of the building where the money was found, open it, and shove a plank through it, and rest one end of it on the window stool, and the other on a high embankment in a garden into which the window looked. Dowd says that the man was muffled up, and he saw him pass along the plank leading into the garden. He was dressed in white, and carried a bundle in his hand tied up in a red handkerchief. After reaching the garden he got over the hedge, and proceeded in the direction of Phippsborough, when the plank was pulled into the building by some one inside. Such is the statement which Dowd made to the police. On being questioned as to why he did not give information of the circumstances earlier than Tuesday, he answered that he did not wish to bring any one into trouble, but, in consequence of a conversation he had with another engine-driver, to whom he told what he had seen, and who advised him not to conceal the matter, he gave information.—*Freeman*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh has arrived in this country on a visit to the Queen.—The Queen and Royal Family returned yesterday morning to Windsor Castle from the Isle of Wight.

THE RECORDERSHIP OF BRISTOL.—In consequence of representations made by the town-council of Bristol to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the salary of the Recorder, with the concurrence of Mr. Serjeant Kinglake (who recently succeeded Sir Alexander Cockburn in the office, and who left the matter entirely in the hands of Sir George Grey), has been reduced from 600*l.* to 500*l.* per annum.

REPRESENTATION OF HADDINGTONSHIRE.—Lord Elcho has intimated to his constituents in East Lothian that he has been ordered by his medical adviser to abstain from all business for the next twelve months, and that he is about to proceed to the continent in order to re-establish his health.

SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—Mr. Hall Maxwell, Secretary to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, under whose care and direction the agricultural statistics of Scotland have now for three years been collected, has just transmitted his concluding report for 1856 to the Board of Trade along with the

tabulated statistics for the year. In this document, Mr. Maxwell says:—"As regards details, the most prominent difference between the two years (1855-56) is the increased area under wheat. Indeed, the rapid extension of that crop during the three years the statistical inquiry has been in operation is remarkable, and, but for its operation, would comparatively have been unknown. In 1854, there were 168,216 acres of wheat; in 1855, 191,300 $\frac{3}{4}$; and in 1856, 263,328 acres—an increase upon last year of 72,027 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, and of 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the returns for 1854. The information afforded by the acreage table for the current year enables us to account for this great excess, not only consistently, with the circumstances of the times, but satisfactorily as regards the progress of agriculture. The remunerative prices which have been obtained for wheat make it natural that it should be substituted, where practicable, for barley and oats, and lead us to look for the conversion of grass land into grain. We may therefore seek to find the increase in wheat met by a corresponding decrease in the acreage of the other white crops, and of grass under rotation; as it would argue ill for the state of agriculture did any proportion appear to be a subtraction from the area under green crops."

FELONY-DE-SE IN PRISON.—An inquest has been held on the body of Johanna Gumsnager, a German, who committed suicide by hanging in a cell at the Collingwood station. He was given into custody on Sunday morning, charged with stealing a part of the communion service from St. Augustine's Roman Catholic chapel, Great Howard-street. He ate a hearty dinner in his cell at half-past two, and about a quarter to three he was found hanging by the neck from a handkerchief fastened to an iron bar behind the shutters. A verdict of *felo-de-se* was returned.

FIRE.—A very extensive fire burst out on Tuesday morning on the premises of a timber-merchant and cow-keeper in Somers Town. Five valuable cows who were confined in the cowhouses perished in the flames, and property to a very large amount was destroyed. The loss is covered by insurance.—A very fierce and extensive fire occurred on Wednesday morning at a surgical instrument maker's in Aldersgate-street, City, ending in the destruction of the premises and of the stock (insured); and, on the afternoon of the same day, the premises of an engineer and barge-builder, situated in Upper Fore-street-Lambeth, and stretching down to the river side, were the scene of a conflagration, attended with great loss of property, also insured.

THE GREENWICH ELECTION.—We understand that a requisition is in course of signature, calling on Major-General Sir William Codrington, K.C.B., to allow himself to be put in nomination for Greenwich. There is no doubt that General Codrington will comply with such a requisition, if it is as respectably signed as is expected.—*Times*.

ILLNESS OF THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY.—The Dean of Canterbury is suffering from a severe attack of paralysis, owing to which, he has been speechless for upwards of a fortnight.

THE INCOME-TAX MOVEMENT.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the various parishes comprised within the Holborn Union was held on Tuesday evening at the workhouse in Gray's inn-lane, to consider what steps should be taken to alleviate the excessive burden of the income-tax. After several speeches had been delivered a committee was appointed to prepare a petition to Parliament.—A large meeting to protest against the continuance of the war ninepence took place on Tuesday at the Court-house of Kilmainham, Ireland, the High Sheriff presiding. The meeting represented the whole county of Dublin. Resolutions condemning the proposed prolongation of the increase until April, 1858, and deciding that a petition shall be presented to Parliament, were adopted nem. con.—A meeting has also been held, with the like result, at Birmingham, at which Messrs. Muntz and Scholefield spoke.—A passive resistance to the payment of the income-tax has commenced at Drogheda.

THE ITALIAN COMMITTEE.—The Italian Committee in England is composed of the following gentlemen:—Douglas Jerrold, 26, Circus-road, St. John's Wood; George Dawson, M.A., Birmingham; Joseph Cowen, jun., Newcastle; W. S. Burton, 39, Oxford-street; P. A. Taylor, Carey-lane, Cheapside; W. C. Bennett, Greenwich; R. Moore, 25, Hart-street, Bloomsbury; W. H. Ashurst, 6, Old Jewry; Edmund Beales, 4, Stone-buildings, Lincoln's-inn; W. J. Etches, Derby; Dr. Epps, 89, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury; C. Furtado, 8, Percy-street, Bedford-square; Horace St. John, 352, Strand; W. Shaen, 8, Bedford-row; C. H. Elt, 18, Iligh-street, Islington; C. W. Dunford, 42, High-street, Notting-hill; T. Wilson, 6, Tottenham-street, Fitzroy-square; J. Stansfeld, Hon. Sec., Walham-green, Fulham; John Bennett, Cheapside.

NEW STREET NOMENCLATURE.—Mr. D'Iffanger and the other members of the committee appointed by the Board of Works to consider the best means of carrying out that portion of the section of the act which empowers the board to name all the streets in the metropolis, so as to prevent any two streets being called by the same name, produced at the meeting on Friday week the first fruits of their labours in the shape of a voluminous and interesting report. The suggestion put forth is to substitute, for the names which are now used with frequent repetition in various parts of the town, terms of distinc-

tion derived from the patronymics of eminent men in literature, science, art, statesmanship, arms, &c.

METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE.—The Metropolitan Board of Works resumed, on Tuesday, the consideration of the report and plan of the engineer upon the points of discharge for the drainage of the metropolis, suggested in Captain Burstall's letter, and approved of by the First Commissioner of Works. Mr. Few supported the motion moved by Mr. Carpmal on the last day the question was debated, namely, that the report of the engineer in respect of the outfalls suggested in Captain Burstall's report, and approved of by Sir Benjamin Hall, be adopted. Major Lyon proposed, as an amendment, that before adopting the plan, the board should take the opinion of some eminent engineer on such parts of it as might be deemed expedient. The amendment, after a long discussion, was negatived, and the resolution of Mr. Carpmal was carried by a majority of 23 to 13. A resolution to send up the plan to Sir Benjamin Hall by the Chairman, accompanied by the engineer and clerk, was carried by a majority of 21 to 13. A protest against the plan was handed in by Mr. Daulton.

THE GEORGIAN ROMANCE.—Mr. Arrowsmith has written another letter to the *Times*, again asserting the truth of his celebrated Georgian railway narrative, but without bringing forward any testimony to confirm his story. One or two more letters, *pro* and *con*., have likewise been published in the *Times* during the week. One of these contains a communication addressed to the *Savannah Republican*, and published in that journal of November 24th, the writer of which states that a "mail agent" has told him that the story was concocted by himself, and read by him to an English traveller, in the course of a conversation about "Southern atrocities." The traveller requested a copy of this production, and was supplied with one. This was afterwards published in the *Times* in the form of the letter which has given rise to so much controversy.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.—A letter has been addressed to Mr. Roebuck, Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association, by Mr. Gassiot, with an analysis of the divisions in the House of Commons during the last session of Parliament, as regards members for boroughs enfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832. In this letter Mr. Gassiot calls attention to the remissness of independent members of Parliament, as exhibited by their frequent non-attendance, the result being that bad Government measures have been passed which might have been thrown out, and many good popular measures been thrown out which might have been passed.

MR. BARON NATHAN, long known as "master of the ceremonies" at Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend, died on Saturday, the 6th inst., at his residence, Kennington-cross, from the rupture of a blood-vessel in the head. He was much respected by those who knew him.

M. KOSSTH has been presented with the freedom of the burgh of Hamilton.

THE SOUTHAMPTON ELECTION.—Mr. Andrews, the Mayor, having come forward as a candidate, addressed his supporters at a meeting held on Thursday evening. His opinions are liberal, and he is inclined to the principle of non-intervention. An attempt has been made to form a junction between the supporters of Mr. Weguelin and Mr. Andrews; but the former refused to come to terms, and each division of the Liberal party is now determined "to fight it out to the last man."

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE COURTS OF LAW.—A deputation from the council of the Incorporated Law Society waited on Thursday upon Sir Benjamin Hall, at his offices, Whitehall-place, relative to the removal of the courts of law from Westminster and the erection of a building in the neighbourhood of the inns of court, in which all the courts, both of law and equity, and all the law offices might be concentrated under one roof. Sir Benjamin concurred in the opinion that the courts at Westminster are highly inconvenient and insufficient, and advised the deputation to communicate with the Attorney-General.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—The President elect, Mr. Buchanan, having been the President of the Board of Trustees of the Franklin and Marshall College since its organization in 1853, the students, to the number of over one hundred, provided themselves with a band of music, and waited upon Mr. Buchanan at his residence, Wheatlands, for the purpose of congratulating him on his election. The visit was suggested and arranged among the students themselves, who laid aside for the occasion all their party preferences and prejudices. On their arrival at Wheatlands, they were received most cordially by Mr. Buchanan. He thanked his young friends for the visit, for he was sure that their congratulations were sincere, as they sprang from the warm hearts of youth which had not yet had time to become corrupted and hardened in the ways of the world. There were many little eccentricities in the life of a college student which might be pardoned or overlooked; but there was one habit which, if formed at college or in early youth, would cling to them through after life, and blight the fairest prospects. He referred to the use of intoxicating liquors. He urged them to learn thoroughly all they undertook to learn, to acquire knowledge distinctly, and then they would be able to use it to advantage in after life. He hoped his young friends would avoid the practice of having a smattering of everything. He thanked them for their congratula-

tions upon his election to the high and responsible office of President, but whether the event would prove to be a matter of congratulation time alone could determine. Without saying which party was right or which was wrong, the fears of the "father of his country" had at last been realized, and they now behold a sectional party—one portion of their Union arrayed in political hostility against the other. The object of his administration would be to destroy any sectional party, North or South, and harmonize all sections of the Union under a national and Conservative Government, as it was fifty years ago. Unless this were done, the time might come when the sectional animosities which now unhappily existed might break up the fairest and most perfect form of Government the sun ever shone upon. In conclusion, he said that if he could in any degree be the honoured instrument of allaying this sectional excitement and restoring the Government to the principles and policy of their fathers, he would then feel that he had not assumed the arduous duties of the office in vain.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR STEPHEN LAKEMAN was married on the 1st inst. at Bucharest, to the Princess Marie de Philippsco. Sir Stephen by his marriage will inherit a princely fortune; he also became a Wallachian noble, 'Boyard' of the first class.—*Court Circular*.

BURIALS IN MADEIRA.—About a month ago there appeared in the English papers a statement of the death of Rita Gomez, at Madeira, whose body had to be cast into the sea because the Romish authorities refused to allow a Protestant to be buried on shore. Public attention was called to this illiberal proceeding, and it has been announced by the Protestant Alliance that the Roman Catholic authorities in Madeira have been so far influenced as to permit the interment in the British cemetery of the body of Luisa Gomez, the sister of the deceased Protestant Rita Gomez. It is considered that after such a precedent has been conceded by the Madeira Government, the right to burial on shore may be considered secure for all Protestant inhabitants of the island.

JUDGE HALIBURTON ON OUR COLONIES.—The Hon. Judge Haliburton delivered a lecture on Tuesday evening at the Manchester Athenæum "On the British Colonies," alluding more especially to Canada. He showed the complete dependence of that colony on England for all manufactured articles, and concluded by recommending that it should be allowed to send representatives to the British Parliament.

REVISION OF THE BIBLE.—The Rev. Dr. Cumming delivered a lecture on Tuesday night in Exeter Hall on the revision of the Bible. After referring to some learned authorities on the subject, he remarked that they differed as much about the texts they impugned as the texts they approved of; and he maintained that so long as unanimity does not exist on the question, they would do well to stand fast by the Greek text they have, which had received the approval, not of half-a-dozen of persons, but of all the accomplished scholars of Christendom. He quoted the opinion of Canon Wordsworth in support of his views, and explained that what he (Dr. Cumming) contended for was, not that alteration or improvement was impossible, but that the present state of Greek scholarship is so unripe that they should not meddle with the matter until it has reached the culminating point of excellence, which he hoped it would very soon attain.

THE WESTMINSTER SCHOLARS' third performance of "Andria" took place on Thursday evening, before a crowded audience, among whom were the Turkish Ambassador, Sir Benjamin Hall, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Mr. R. Lowe, M.P., Mr. Forster, M.P., Dr. H. Phillimore, Mr. Slade, &c. The Winter Speeches at St. Paul's School were delivered on the same day.

A SADLEIR CASE.—The case of Fullerton v. Rhodes and Edmonds was heard in the Court of Exchequer on Thursday. The plaintiff is an iron merchant, and this was an action against two of the directors of the Royal Swedish Railway Company to recover 700*l.*, the amount of a bill of exchange drawn by Dunn, Hattersly, and Co., on the 28th of January, 1856, at three months' date, on the chairman and directors of the company, and accepted by the then chairman, John Sadleir, "pro self and co-directors," and endorsed to the plaintiff for value. To this action the defendants pleaded several pleas, and among them one denying their acceptance, which raised the following questions—viz., 1st, whether Sadleir had authority from the defendants so to accept bills; 2nd, whether, if he had not such authority, the defendants had rendered themselves liable by recognizing and ratifying his acts; and, 3rd, whether they were liable by reason of having held out to the public that such acts were adopted with their approbation. A verdict was given for the defendant Rhodes, and a verdict for the plaintiff for 718*l.* as against the defendant Edmonds.

THE FRENCH INUNDATIONS.—Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, the munificent merchant of Bombay, has transmitted, through the recent Lord Mayor, a sum of 500*l.* in aid of the sufferers by the French inundations last June.

THE LATE WALTER PALMER AND THE PRINCE OF WALES INSURANCE COMPANY.—Mr. Roundell Palmer, with whom was Mr. Hastings, moved in the Equity Court for the court to appoint a person to represent the estate of Walter Palmer, deceased. The bill was filed by the Prince of Wales Insurance Company, for the purpose

of being relieved from a policy on the life of Walter Palmer, to insure a sum of 13,000*l.*, for which a large premium, exceeding 1700*l.* was paid. Within a few days after the insurance was effected, an absolute assignment of it was executed by Walter Palmer to his brother William Palmer. Walter Palmer died some short time afterwards, and William Palmer has since been hung for murder. The consideration for the assignment was a debt alleged to be due from Walter Palmer to William Palmer, and which was less in amount than the sums paid for the premiums. A Mr. Pratt had had possession of the policy, and it was suggested in the bill that he claimed a lien upon it, but by his answer he disclaimed any such interest, and he appeared to admit the whole case made by the bill, which was that the policy was obtained by fraud. He had given up the policy which was now in the hands of the court. The other defendant was the Attorney-General, any property of William Palmer's at the time of his execution being vested in her Majesty. He was not in a situation to say whom they should desire to appoint. The court might, if it thought fit, appoint the widow of Walter Palmer. By her answer she disclaimed any interest. The court decided to appoint Mrs. Walter Palmer, upon Mr. Roundell Palmer promising that she should be indemnified against the costs.

THE OUTWARD INDIA MAILS.—Intelligence reached Southampton on Thursday, that the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Ripon, which left Southampton on the 4th instant with the India mails, encountered a succession of heavy gales from the south and west, and was obliged to run into Corunna. She kept close under the lee of the land, but on opening Cape Finisterre the wind became more violent; and the captain was anxious to get a safe anchorage.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, December 20.

NEUFCHATEL.

THE Royalist prisoners (says a despatch from Berne) now enjoy all liberty possible. People are admitted who come to visit them. Several of them, including M. de Pourtales, have obtained their provisional enlargement under security.

EARL GRANVILLE has been appointed Chancellor of the London University in succession to the Earl of Burlington, resigned.

ATTEMPTED MURDER BY A WIFE.—A woman, named Catherine Todd, was charged at Clerkenwell yesterday with murderously wounding her husband. The man came home on the previous night drunk, and, finding that his wife had fish for supper, he got out of temper, and took up a knife, with which he attempted to stab her. A quarrel ensued; and the wife, taking the knife away from him, plunged it into his temple. The police were called in, and the man was conveyed to the workhouse, where an operation was performed which may have the effect of saving his life, though he is still in a doubtful state. The woman was remanded.

THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE CHURCH CASE.—Sir John Dodson has announced, officially, to the Registrar of the Court of Arches, that he will deliver his long-pending judgment in these suits on this day (Saturday) at eleven o'clock.

RUN ON THE NATIONAL BANK OF TIPPERARY.—In consequence of the late decision of the Lord Chancellor with regard to banks, there was a run by the depositors on the National Bank, Tipperary, last Monday and Tuesday. The manager was obliged to send for a party of police to keep order while the depositors, who quite blocked up the place, were waiting to receive their respective amounts. On Tuesday and Wednesday, there was a similar run on the branch of the National Bank in Cashel.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Return of admissions for six days, ending Friday, December 19th, 1856, including season ticket holders, 6158.

CAPTAIN HARTSTEIN.—We regret to announce that, owing to the immediate departure of Captain Hartstein and the American officers of her Majesty's ship *Resolute*, the invitations to dine with the President and Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society and other public bodies have necessarily been declined. Captain Hartstein and officers and crew will, we believe, return to the United States in her Majesty's steamer *Retribution*, now at Portsmouth.—*Times*.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—JUDGMENT.—Lord Justices Knight Bruce and Turner delivered judgment yesterday (Friday) in the case of Aitchison v. Lee. They arrived at the conclusion, that the injunction of the Vice-Chancellor below could not be dissolved, and that the proceedings in bankruptcy must go on as in the case of the effects of an ordinary individual or firm. All the money, books, &c., of the bankrupt estate are to be handed over to the official assignee, with the exception of 20,000*l.*, out of which the liabilities of the officers of the Court of Chancery are to be defrayed, and the balance, if any, is to be paid over in the same way as the estate. The decree is to take effect at once. With respect to the costs, they will be paid out of the estate; and the official manager's are to be reserved.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several articles and communications are unavoidably postponed until next week.
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. We do not undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 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 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

THE power of the United States resides in the intellectual, moral, and physical strength of the whole body of the people. In proportion as they are well-informed, energetic, free, and conscientious, the Government will be pure and direct, the community will be prosperous, the territory of civilization will extend, and the citizens of the United States will determine for themselves their own institutions. They accepted the constitution as it was proposed for them by WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, and their colleagues; they subsequently corrected that constitution, and they have copied it in the constitution of new states. But in all cases they have maintained and applied, if not extended, the original principles upon which the constitution rested. State after state has deliberately and distinctly repeated those principles each in its own enactments. Those who talk about the possibility that the freedom of America, as it was conceived by WASHINGTON and his coadjutors, may have declined with the lapse of time, forget these repeated acts of organization and legislation on the part of the Americans.

One difficult problem has proved to be too great for settlement hitherto. When the constitution was arranged, even the vigour of JEFFERSON failed to master the one difficulty. It was a problem thrust upon the colonies by England—thrust upon America indeed by the philanthropy of LAS CASAS. England imported Negro slaves into America, and left her Southern colonies burdened with a Black population. What should be done with those infantile human beings? was the question that most perplexed the authors of the constitution. They could not settle it. They procrastinated; they evaded any interference with "the domestic institution," and virtually left it to the individual states and to the future.

Since that time there have been various attempts to settle the difficulty. When the state of Missouri was admitted into the Union, and the question arose whether some bounds should not be put to the extension of this inconvenient element, a line was drawn, on the North of which White freedom should be uncontaminated, while on the South there should be freedom for the extension of the Black population. It is quite clear that this compromise was not based upon a strict logic; for the very principle of the constitution was, that the individual states should be free to choose their own institutions, so long as they were not incompatible with the constitution of the whole republic. Now, the peculiar institution was *ex facto* admitted to be compatible with the constitution of the republic, and therefore no state could, previously to its existence, be prohibited from adopting that inconvenient element, if it so

pleased. We need not go into all the motives which induced a citizen of the United States to override the conditions of that compromise, and to make the proposition of omitting in the provisional constitution of Nebraska and Kansas the restraint which had hitherto been imposed upon territories; but such was the fact. We may question the motives of that proceeding, but its strict accordance with logic is obvious. It leaves the territories and the states free to choose their own institutions, in accordance with the fundamental statute of the whole Union; a freedom which we believe to be most strictly conducive to the ultimate triumph of pure freedom in every sense of the word.

There are always in the world, however, those who desire to attain the end from the very beginning; there are citizens of the United States who have not the faith which we have in the steady working of their own institutions. They were animated with an impatience that Kansas should at once be free from the condemned element, and they strove to procure that freedom by certain means. Hence, a very extensive tampering with the free action of the inhabitants. There was a species of colonizing invasion for the very purpose of swamping the spontaneous colonizers of the state. Another movement was the consequence; the conservative protectors of slave extension replied to the irregular invasion from the North by extravagantly oppressive laws: statutes totally incompatible with the institutions of the republic, prohibiting discussion, and restraining all freedom of action. The lamentable incidents of the contest are too well known. A party in the Union called out for a sudden declaration against Negro slavery; people in this country joined in the cry; and "Abolition" was the sole remedy which these impatient persons saw for the dead lock which had ensued in Kansas. Luckily, there are in the Union, men who better understand the working of their national institutions; and even some who have been most severely censured in this country have persevered steadily with the sole course that could extricate either Kansas or Congress from the embroglio. The first step was to restore regularity to the elections and public proceedings of the territory. This has been done: Governor GEARY has established complete quiet. The people of the territory will now be in a condition to determine their own institutions; and if others choose to colonize the state in a regular way, there will be the freedom and quiet for them to do so. The next step was to revise the legislation. This cannot be done by riots in the streets or bloody conflicts in the fields, but it can be done by firm adhesion to the governing statute of the Union.

"I confidently trust," says President Pierce, in the message just delivered to Congress, "that now, when the peaceful condition of Kansas affords opportunity for calm reflection and wise legislation, either the legislative assembly of the territory, or Congress, will see that no act shall remain on its statute-book violative of the provisions of the Constitution, or subversive of the great objects for which that was ordained and established, and will take all other necessary steps to assure to its inhabitants the enjoyment, without obstruction or abridgment, of all the constitutional rights, privileges, and immunities of citizens of the United States, as contemplated by the organic law of the territory."

To the west of the United States stretch almost boundless lands. A portion of them partake of the heated climate which belongs to the Southern states, and which is scarcely fit for White labour. It is possible that the Black race may extend into those regions; but by far the larger portion of lands to the west become more changeable in climate, more liable to the rigours of winter, more and more unfitted to the physical constitution of the negro. They are peculiarly adapted to

the Anglo-American constitution. The march of emigration to the west proceeds with more breadth and rapidity than has ever been witnessed in the history of the world. Immense tracts of country are from time to time added to the list of states, where the Negro is not available as a servant; he is worthless as a servant whenever the cold numbs his energies; and in these states he is repelled by the natural repugnance of race. With perfect freedom secured by this firm action of the federal Government, by this natural increase of the free states, the Negro element inevitably becomes more fractional, until ultimately it shall be reduced to a subject which can be brought within the control of deliberate legislation. In short, secure freedom for the development of the White element in the Union, and that element must, by all the laws of ethnology, outgrow, overbear, and extinguish the Black element.

In these few sentences we have but moralized that portion of President PIERCE's Message to Congress which reports the proceedings taken by Government in reference to Kansas; but the rest of the Message in effect bears upon the same subject. The Union continues in the enjoyment of amicable relations with all foreign powers; the Central American question appears to be settled; the proposition of General PIERCE for an improvement in the maritime law has been respectfully received by the European Governments. It is the Spanish colonies alone which border on the Southern frontier of the Union that persevere in irritating hostilities and intrigue. The Spaniards, in fact, appear to be incapable of organizing settled government. As we well know, eminent citizens of the United States have distinctly declined to negotiate the cession of Mexico, which has been offered to them en bloc, because it would be difficult to incorporate with the Anglo-American Union a fully developed foreign state. But it is of course impossible that the republic should tolerate perpetual interference with its peaceful movement, or permit intrigues to damage the enterprise of its citizens. It is the insecurity and irregularity of the politically disorganized state of Mexico and the other American colonies that invite the entrance of men like HOUSTON and WALKER; and unless the Spaniards can at last be reduced to something like order and regularity in their proceedings, they must inevitably give way to the march of Anglo-American colonization. What would that, however, be, but substitution of a race capable of sustaining free institutions for one which has proved its incapacity?

In no country of the world do the same means exist for diffusing information as in the United States of America. An excellent school is opened for the children of every citizen, under a management which is the theme of admiration from every foreign visitor. A distribution of Congressional papers, in itself very useful, is but a drop in the ocean in comparison with the diffusion which books of all kinds—standard works as well as 'light' literature and newspapers—secured for the whole Union. The Americans have developed that system of printing and publishing at prices available for the million, to which England is coming by very slow degrees. The consequence is, that a map showing the expanse of settled districts exhibits the spread, not only of human beings in the wilderness, but of actual intelligence. The map of the Union is the map of a community educated, informed, trained to confront difficulties, and to govern itself. It is impossible that the progress of such a community should be arrested by the intrigues, the dogmas, or the dictates of any foreign

states whatsoever. It is impossible that it should not conduce to the march of intelligence and freedom for the entire world. The latest message of President PIERCE shows that the existing Government of the Union is alive to that mission, and that it has effectually preserved for the republic the condition of developing itself without restraint or intervention.

THE FOX AT THE TUILERIES.

Most persons, probably, are unconscious of the fact that a most dramatic political event has occurred. The parallel of CHARLES JAMES FOX has been at the Tuileries. The mind of LOUIS NAPOLEON has been thrown back to the period of more than half a century ago, when his uncle received, with profuse demonstrations of respect, a leader of the English parliamentary opposition. If his mind was thrown back at all, it was, in all likelihood, to the not very distant days when LOUIS NAPOLEON and BENJAMIN DISRAELI were soldiers of fortune in London—a sympathizing pair of adventurers. But the ludicrous analogy which has been discovered will remind every one of the gentleman who began a narrative by saying, "I once met a Frenchman in Paris;" whereupon a simple-hearted citizen exclaimed, "So did I! what a curious coincidence!" Mr. DISRAELI has been to the Tuileries. Singularly enough, CHARLES JAMES FOX went there also. Mr. DISRAELI is a leader of opposition. So was FOX. NAPOLEON I. was civil to FOX. NAPOLEON III. is civil to DISRAELI. Really, it is seldom that a parallel can be carried so far and so triumphantly. It is somewhat disappointing to find, however, that it is a parallel without an analogy. CHARLES JAMES FOX, the leader of English liberalism, the representative of English sympathy with the French revolution, the antagonist of the Tory faction, went to Paris after he had retired for a while from public affairs, to collect materials for his historical work. He was then proud to wear a blue coat and buff waistcoat in homage to the simplicity of the Jacobins. He had moved, in the House of Commons, five resolutions in favour of recognizing the French Republic. His policy had been to avoid a European war by conceding the right of the French nation to conduct its own internal affairs upon its own principles. The peace of Amiens had been partly brought about by his efforts. What had Mr. DISRAELI to do with the peace of Paris? Fox admired the brilliant military genius of the First Consul—who had not yet so far forsworn himself as to seize the empire. What brilliant genius has Mr. DISRAELI to flatter in the person of NAPOLEON III., whose ovations are at bull-fights, and whose campaigns are in the Champ de Mars? Fox invariably contended for an alliance with France as a nation; Mr. DISRAELI as invariably insults the French nation, by representing the despotism under which it languishes as a political necessity. Fox did not go Paris to receive the inspirations of a foreign government for his own guidance in Parliament; Mr. DISRAELI goes to bargain for French influence in aid of the failing faction that acquiesces in his leadership. To represent the existing alliance as the work of Lord DERBY is an impertinence that might easily be expected from the Tory organs; but to compare the visit of 1802 with that of 1856, and even to suggest that Mr. DISRAELI belongs to the same rank of statesmen as CHARLES JAMES FOX, is an exhibition of servility only equalled by the egotism that accepts it. Happily for him, Mr. DISRAELI has an organ to declare his own importance, which is forgotten by the independent press. While public at-

tention is entirely turned from him and his movements, he holds a little levee of his own, whereat he is called a distinguished statesman, the author of the recent treaty, one of the originators of the alliance, and the unpaid counsellor who stood by, during the war, and compelled Lord ABERDEEN and Lord PALMERSTON to act in a spirit of honour and moderation. Fox was a patriot in the days when 'patriot' was not a term of contempt; a liberal, when liberalism was not so safe as it now is; a statesman, who sympathized with the sufferings of oppressed nations; and a man of the highest character and the purest feelings, who would have disdained the use of scurrility, and scorned to be represented by a Figaro. To what did Mr. DISRAELI owe his political promotion, if not to the poison of his purchased lips? When did the nation ever receive a service at his hands, whether in the shape of a practical reform, or of a defence of useful principles against dangerous experiments? The only fragment of policy he ever projected was a Budget which would have thrown the finances of the country into confusion. To be reminded of Fox by seeing *him*, would be to be reminded of PASCAL by seeing PASQUIN.

Was it not enough that Mr. DISRAELI should seek in Paris the basis of jugglery he cannot find at home? Was it necessary to come forward with melodramatic comparisons, which can only have the effect of degrading him? If he be wise, he will institute a valuation of the different methods of advocacy, or of self-assertion, and he will find that to stand in the light and mimic the attitudes of a great and honoured statesman, may be an easy and a flattering process; but to the public it is disgusting. LOUIS NAPOLEON, probably, is well-inclined to the representative of Buckinghamshire, but, rely upon it, BENJAMIN DISRAELI has not reminded him of CHARLES JAMES FOX.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

DR. LIVINGSTONE's great achievement may be described in a few words:—he has explored the whole of the immense region of Southern Africa, from the Atlantic to the Eastern ocean. He has discovered rivers, lakes, cities, nations, even a new climate. First, he penetrated from the Cape of Good Hope upwards to Lake Ngami, and thence, by a direct route, to Linyanti, a point more than twenty-four degrees from the southern extremity of the continent. Being now within ten degrees of the Equator, he struck off to the west, and succeeded in reaching the Portuguese settlements on the coast. Following these indications on the map, the reader will immediately perceive what vast blanks of geography were removed in the course of this single journey. From the western coast, Dr. LIVINGSTONE returned to Linyanti, and followed the course of the Zambesi river to its junction with the eastern waters in the channel of Mozambique. Mark these routes upon the map with a red line, and it will intersect Africa from the south hundreds of miles beyond the limits of all former research; and from ocean to ocean, from west to east, through regions hitherto as unknown as America before the voyages of COLUMBUS. Moreover, Dr. LIVINGSTONE carried with him a proficient knowledge of at least five sciences, so that as he journeyed he made incessant observations, astronomical, geological, and geometrical, marked the varieties of climate, and took botanical and zoological notes innumerable. Still further, he collected a large store of information connected with the commercial products of the various territories he traversed, the industrial

habits of the natives, their disposition to trade. He has demonstrated the existence of a great line of water communication from the western settlements northwards, begun by the Coanga, continued by the Kasye, and completed by the Leambye, close to the navigable Lake Ngami. Thence another line, of equal importance, tends eastward along the course of the noble Zambesi, which, in fact, is identical with the Leambye, and which, running through the towns of Tête and Sena, breaks into several channels, forming the Delta of Quillimane, and is emptied into the Indian Ocean. For seventeen years, smitten by more than thirty attacks of fever, endangered by seven attempts upon his life, continually exposed to fatigue, hunger, and the chance of perishing miserably in a wilderness shut out from the knowledge of civilized men, the missionary pursued his way, an apostle and a pioneer, without fear, without egotism, without desire of reward. Such a work, accomplished by such a man, deserves all the eulogy that can be bestowed upon it, for nothing is more rare than brilliant and unsullied success.

More interesting, however, than the geographical delineation of interior Africa is effected by Dr. LIVINGSTONE, in his account of its varieties of climate and population. Turn to any Gazetteer, and we find the mysterious expanses of the south described as blazing in the rays of an insufferable sun, and only tolerable to the tropic constitution of the Ethiopian race. Many circumstances combined to perpetuate this illusion. As the Portuguese in the East, during the sixteenth century, were accustomed to describe the Spice Islands as inaccessible desolations, encompassed by rocks, shoals, and all the dangers of the sea, so the Boer settlers along the outskirts of African civilization were eager to build up a barrier of invisible terrors between the coast and the central kingdoms of the south. Their object was monopoly, of course. Had Dr. LIVINGSTONE been persuaded by their representations, he would never have ventured into a region swarming with black savages and poisonous snakes, and breathed over by burning winds, propagators of pestilence and corruption. But he refused to take alarm, and pushed on. Sixteen degrees of latitude were found as hot and arid as they had been pictured; the western coast was indeed a serpent-breeding maze of swamps and forests; the eastern coast was often uninhabitable by Europeans; but beyond the twentieth degree of south latitude, not only a different race, but a different country was found. It was elevated, it was cooled by pleasant breezes, it abounded in fruit and grain, it was watered by a perfect maze of rivers and streams of all sizes. Some of them were broad and deep, and never dry during the hottest season. This was the true home of the Nigritian family, not of the rusty Bechuana, but of the curly-headed, jet-black Negro, who was once transported from those remote kingdoms to the British West Indian settlements, and who is even now brought down, at times, to the coast, and shipped for Cuba or Brazil. These nations have never carried on, however, any direct communication with the sea, the maritime tribes and colonists having cut them off—a policy which it will be difficult to carry out after the researches of Dr. LIVINGSTONE have been made known to the commercial communities of Europe and America. It will no longer be possible to delude the natives by accounts of English cannibalism. The great river discovered by Dr. LIVINGSTONE, which intersects the southern region of the continent from one sea-board to another, traversing in the interior territories abounding in natural riches, and inhabited by an intel-

ligent though simple race of people, is a pledge to Africa of future intercourse with Europe, and of comparative civilization. The most extraordinary circumstance announced by Dr. LIVINGSTONE is the salubrity of these vast countries. "Some of the districts of the interior are perfect sanatoria, and among the pure Negro family many diseases that affected the people of Europe are unknown. Small-pox and consumption have not been known for twenty years, and consumption, scrofula, cancer, and hydrophobia are seldom heard of." So healthy are the natives, and so free from weakening taints, that pure-blooded Negroes from beyond the twentieth degree of south latitude are treasures in the Cuban or Brazilian market. They are brought down to the coast, men and women, in chains, and so far from being willing to quit their homes, are in most cases captured after a fierce and sanguinary battle with the tribe to which they belong. The traffic is becoming so difficult, and its profits so precarious, that numbers of the merchants are abandoning it for the culture of coffee, introduced by the Jesuits into Angola, and said to have been propagated by birds throughout the whole country, as spices are propagated in the East. Several fibrous substances of great strength, hitherto unknown to commerce—one of them resembling flax—were discovered by Dr. LIVINGSTONE, who adds that the southern interior abounds in the sugar-cane, though the natives have no idea of sugar, with indigo, quinine, senna, wax, and honey, as well as with very fine iron ore, and malachite, from which copper is extracted. "There are also coalfields, in working which gold is occasionally found. The people, indeed, have been washing gold from time immemorial, and are doing so still. Near the Portuguese settlement at Tête there are no fewer than eleven seams of coal, one of which is fifty-seven inches thick. The country is so fertile, that in the gardens cultivated by the natives a constant process of sowing and reaping goes on all the year round. It likewise grows immense quantities of grain." This picture will remind the reader acquainted with Eastern agriculture of the richest provinces of the richest island in the world, Java. Clearly, the poetical description of an African territory "whose soil is fire and wind a flame," does not apply to the regions discovered by Dr. LIVINGSTONE.

This great traveller deserves a monument, and will, probably, build one for himself. He will publish the record of his wanderings, and that book will be a more enduring and appropriate memorial of his unostentatious genius and simple heroism than any tablet, or statue, or emblem whatever. But he has not yet completed the great work of his life. He is again preparing to carry the sympathies of civilization into the depths of Africa.

PERSIA AND OUR NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

WAR has been formally proclaimed against Persia by the Indian Government, acting under instructions from the Ministers of the Crown, and as formally accepted by the King of Kings. The grounds for this declaration of hostilities against our former ally and protégé are clearly enunciated in the official document issued by the Governor-General in Council. The specific allegation in defence of this extreme measure is the violation, on the part of the SHAH, of a Convention concluded in 1853 between his Prime Minister and the English Ambassador. The Persian Government thereby pledged itself not to send any troops towards Herat, unless a hostile demonstration in that direction were made by the Affghans or any other foreign

Power. It also engaged to abstain from interfering in the internal administration of that free city, and to waive all pretensions to the rights of suzerainty. Twelve months, however, have already elapsed since the articles of this agreement were first infringed by a notification in the Teheran official *Gazette* that an armed demonstration in the direction of Herat was necessitated by the occupation of Kandahar by DOST MAHOMMED. A more flimsy pretext could hardly have been devised. Kandahar has all along been a feudatory of the Ameer, though under the immediate government of his brothers. Like the Western barons in the olden time, these vassals frequently proved contumacious, and indeed seldom adhered to their allegiance whenever the troubled state of public affairs favoured the assumption of independence. There can be no question as to the Ameer's right to reduce these refractory subjects to submission, and to consolidate his power by ruling from frontier to frontier with an iron hand. The Persian Government, indeed, alleges that he intended to advance upon Herat in compliance with the suggestions of his "neighbours," but this is a simple and gratuitous assertion, in support of which not the shadow of a proof has been adduced; and the Indian Government distinctly repudiates the insinuation that it administered fuel to the Ameer's ambition. The SHAH's army, however, in spite of friendly remonstrances and warnings, has for many months been engaged in prosecuting the siege of Herat, and probably by this time is in possession of that city. To permit such an infraction of Colonel SHEIL's convention to pass unnoticed and unpunished, would be to invite insult and outrage from every petty Power on the outskirts of our Indian Empire, and even within its bosom. There remained no alternative but to declare war, and this is admitted by even the jealous journalists of France. Other reasons equally cogent may be advanced in justification of this measure.

It was well said on the occasion of the former siege of Herat in 1837-38, that Russia had opened her first parallel against our Indian Empire. To counteract the hostile influence of that Power, the Indian Government instructed Captain, afterwards Sir ALEXANDER BURNES, to open friendly relations with DOST MAHOMMED, and conciliate the good-will of the other Affghan chiefs. It would be tedious, nor is it necessary, to recapitulate the various causes that combined to render that mission infructuous, and which finally induced the Ameer to turn a credulous ear to the insidious counsels of Captain VICOVICH. That untoward circumstance was the source of many misfortunes both to the Affghans and to ourselves. Had an alliance at that time been formed between the Indian Government and the Ameer, historians would have been spared the ungrateful task of recording the evanescent triumphs and subsequent annihilation of a British army. But it is useless to refer to the past unless to obtain a beacon to light our future path. Herat is the pivot on which turns the destiny of Affghanistan. It is, and, with rare intervals, ever has been, an Affghan city, into which, indeed, a Persian colony was introduced by NADIR SHAH. Within comparatively a few years after the death of that conqueror the majority of these settlers returned into their own country. A sufficient number, however, of Persian subjects have since continued to reside within the walls of Herat, to afford specious pretexts for interference on their behalf, on the same principle that Russia has pleaded to justify her intervention in the internal administration of Turkey. The Persians and the Affghans, though equally

followers of the Prophet, hate each other with as fervent a fanaticism as has ever been exhibited by the two great sections of Christendom. At Herat the Soonnees, being the more numerous and powerful, it naturally happened that the Sheahs were oftentimes subjected to insult, and occasionally to persecution. To protect his co-religionists is one of the professed motives of the SHAH for undertaking the siege of that city. Unfortunately, the possession of that city is of too much importance to the independence of Central Asia, as well as the security of our own frontier, to be abandoned to Persian caprice or Muscovite ambition. So long as Herat continues to be a free city of Affghanistan, so long will our north-west frontier be unassailable, provided that country remains on friendly terms with our Government. But so soon as Herat falls within the dominions of Russianized Persia, it will become imperative upon the rulers of British India to form a new line of defence. The demonstration in the Persian Gulf cannot be considered as anything more than a point. If Persia were unsupported by any European power, it might probably prove as effective as in 1838; but it may now be accepted as a moral certainty that the court of Teheran acts in full confidence of being succoured and strengthened from the north. It would be no arduous undertaking to transport a Russian auxiliary corps from Astrakan to Astrabad, and thence to march it upon Herat by way of Meshed; or to land it on the nearest point of the Caspian to Teheran, and thence direct it on Bushire. In the latter case reinforcements could, certainly, be rapidly despatched from Bombay, but not—as the anonymous pamphleteer well observes—without temporarily denuding the line of the Indus, and thereby weakening our frontier, and exposing it to the attack of an enterprising enemy. Supposing, however, that the British squadron in the Persian Gulf were left to its own devices, and the allied forces proceeded direct to Herat, the whole of Affghanistan might be overrun and occupied before the Anglo-Indian army had been set in motion. It is said, indeed, that arms and money have been, or are about to be, forwarded to the Khan of Khiva and the friendly chieftains of Affghanistan. We sincerely trust that this report is unfounded. We have had something too much of subsidies in our past wars. It is time that we relied solely on ourselves. For what is there to prevent these notable subsidiaries from turning against ourselves the very weapons we so fondly confided to their honour? In all emergencies, safety is best secured by a happy audacity. Our course, then, is clear. We must advance our frontier so far as to enclose the mountain passes that lead from Affghanistan into the plains of India. A river is no line of defence. It is impossible to occupy its banks throughout its entire length and military chronicles abound in instances of rivers being crossed almost in the face of equal, and not unfrequently of superior forces. The Indus is no insuperable barrier for a Europeanized army. Our advanced posts must hold the heads of the passes. "Establish a sufficiently large military body at some point immediately above the Bolan Pass, and a second at Peshawur; confide our diplomatic relations along the entire frontier to one good and able man, and then mark what would be the result. The gates themselves would be closed and defended; friendly relations would be gradually extended throughout Affghanistan; that vast tract of hilly country which lies between our frontier and the present position of the Persian army, along the line of Herat, would become our shield. Without assuming direct military control of the Affghan and

Belooch Irregulars, we might so leaven their mass as to render them a most formidable host of light cavalry, or Eastern Cossacks, and capable of destroying in detail, by force or famine, among their own mountain passes, any army that could be advanced from the westward."*

The occupation of the passes and the opening a line of communication between the heads of these passes, would render our north-west frontier permanently unassailable. Our moral influence would also be gradually extended throughout Afghanistan, where a friendly feeling towards the British has existed from the time we held sway at Cabul and Candahar; and where, as an unwilling witness—M. FERRIER—has admitted, very many still deplore the withdrawal of our army. Thus securely entrenched, we might patiently await the hour when the Muscovite hordes shall idly dash themselves against the unshaken bulwarks of our Indian Empire.

It is worthy of note, however, what a singularly felicitous illustration of our system of self-government is afforded by the circumstances preceding this new war. The convention, of which so much is said in the Governor-General's Proclamation, has not yet been submitted to Parliament, though three years have elapsed since it was entered into. It might be worth while to inquire how many of these promises to make war 'at sight' are still in circulation. The cost of the present 'liability' will be no trifling sum, and in a great measure will have to be defrayed from the revenues of India, although the Government of that country was not so much as consulted as to the terms of an agreement which continually exposed it to the chance of hostilities.

AMERICA'S GIFT TO ENGLAND'S QUEEN.

QUEEN VICTORIA is a woman, a lady, and the Chief of the State, and it would be impossible for her to take part in the unwonted ceremony of Tuesday last without many a strange thought. She received a present rarely matched in its grace and spontaneous kindness; and from whom? From the "rebels" with whom her grandfather, GEORGE III., found it so difficult to be reconciled. On the deck of her own ship the *Resolute*, she was the guest; her host was a plain sailor. Unquestionably no small degree of republican sobriety marked the mode of Captain HARTSTEIN's address. He said:—

"Allow me to welcome your Majesty on board the *Resolute*, and in obedience to the will of my countrymen and of the President of the United States, to restore her to you, not only as an evidence of a friendly feeling to your sovereignty, but as a token of love, admiration, and respect to your Majesty personally."

The Queen of the British Empire might have been struck with the democratic stubbornness which placed "my countrymen" even before "the President of the United States." The "welcome" given to HER MAJESTY was stripped of some of the servility which she might have perhaps encountered in the officers of almost any navy in Europe; in spirit, perhaps, we may except two—the Sardinian and the British. And yet from this very plainness, from this absence of imperial state, there must have been to Queen VICTORIA a peculiar delight and satisfaction in the whole ceremony. Before her stood a fair representative of the republic; for Captain HARTSTEIN represents its energies, its directness, and its independence; yet he is a perfect gentleman, and the great Queen might naturally ask herself at that moment, What man can be higher than a gentleman? Captain HARTSTEIN came to do a graceful duty, and he did it unquestion-

ably with a simplicity that is the very perfection of courtesy. He had come to present to her "a token of love, admiration, and respect," and in order to do it he had just passed through those fearful gales which have been sweeping the Atlantic with a force unfelt for years, in a sea not unfamiliar with those fearful storms which we know so well. He stood before her, therefore, the representative of a powerful republic, the representative of the most manly profession in the world, and the representative of manly success. He delivered his gift, not only as from one State to another, not only to the QUEEN as sovereign, but to herself "personally;" and in that little expression it may be said that the personal relations of Queen VICTORIA, the representative woman of the British Empire, are restored to the other Anglo-Saxon family across the Atlantic.

Other great states may present gifts to the British sovereign, but they are unable to achieve what the American republic has just accomplished. The sovereigns of those states possess a command of means which no one man in America can enjoy. The mere caprice of an Emperor could have bought up the *Resolute*, could have ordered her to be fitted at the expense of his subjects, could have sent her back by one of his obedient servants; and probably, on such an occasion, the ceremony on the deck would have been somewhat more studied in its courtliness. Nay, we will not deny that such an Emperor, if he pleased, might have chosen a manly, chivalrous officer to do his duty with grace and zest. Yet how could Queen VICTORIA have felt, in such a case, that "Germany" or "France" had presented to her a gift? How could she discriminate with perfect certainty between the court ceremony of her welcome, and the heartfelt desire to welcome and to please her. It is literally the people of America, "my countrymen," who have made her this gift, the whole republic of the West. It is absolutely impossible that any adulteration of craft or sycophancy can have mingled with the friendliness; and the "personal" feeling which is avowed is thoroughly genuine.

How can the gift be returned? It is returned already; every gift handsomely and spontaneously presented is returned when it is cordially and frankly accepted.

A QUESTION FOR MISSIONARIES.

It would gratify us highly if Lord SHAFTESBURY, or Sir CULLING EARDLEY, or the Rev. Dr. BINNEY, or some other distinguished person, who ought to know, would send us a little information. We should be glad to hear from anyone of these gentlemen, concerning a report of a most distressing character, which affects the honour of the London Missionary Society. Is it true that the natives of the Northern districts of Jamaica are returning to Fetichism? After all that has been said in Exeter Hall, and written in the *Earthen Vessel*, we should as soon have imagined that Lord SHAFTESBURY had become a Druid, or Dr. BINNEY a Fire-worshipper, as that the established churches of England and Scotland, the Wesleyans, Baptists, Scottish United Presbyterians, and Moravians have been unable to restrain the Jamaica natives from resuming the devilry of ancient times. Perhaps they will say that we are confounding the practice of Obeah, or magic, with the fetich ritual. Not at all. It is notorious that scarcely an assize takes place in Jamaica at which several cases of Obeah are not brought forward. We have become accustomed to the idea that it is worth while to expend immense sums of money upon bodies of men who so far operate upon

the intellect of the heathen that, after years of progress, he becomes a DOVE as well as a HARRISON. It is impossible to found an objection upon such a trifle. What we have to ask the missionaries is: How do they account for the revival of fetich? What has been the value of their stewardship? What has been the veracity of their reports? Good English public, which fill long lists with subscriptions for a most admirable and sacred purpose, be prudent enough not to rely upon missionary magazines alone, but put a question now and then to independent residents and travellers. You may find that your brother of Congo, whose white hat you have paid for, attends chapel by day, and by night pours out a bloody oblation to Mumbo-Jumbo; that your Singhalese convert has a secret allegiance to a demon, and that your Jamaican flock is gathered by the light of the moon to practise the most degraded form of worship known in heathendom.

"A BRITISH LIE."—Under this heading, Mr. Meagher, in his American journal called the *Irish News*, froths forth the following exquisite piece of Hibernian fury:—"A late number of *The London Times* charges the editor of this paper with having expressed a desire to become a slaveholder. The anonymous bully lies. The only slaves Mr. Meagher would wish to have are the kind his ancestors several hundred years ago possessed—light-haired, blue-eyed Saxon slaves." What paper can he allude to? We were not aware that there was any paper called "*The London Times*." Then, how supremely Irish is the assertion that Mr. Meagher does not desire to become a slaveholder, because "the only slaves" he wishes to have are light-haired and blue-eyed! Oh, grand reconciler of paradoxes, mother Irish wit!

SALARY OF THE RECORDER OF THE CITY OF LONDON.—A discussion took place on Monday at a Court of Common Council, on the salary of the Recorder. The Officers and Clerks Committee, to whom the subject had been referred, recommended that the salary should continue at 3000*l.* a year; but Mr. Cox moved that 2,500*l.* would be quite sufficient. In the course of the discussion it appeared that the remuneration was originally only 120*l.* a year; that in 1790, after much oscillation, it was fixed at 1000*l.*; and that since then it had gradually crept up to 3000*l.* It was the general opinion that the highest faculty could not be obtained under that sum; and the salary was accordingly fixed at the amount specified, with the addition of this proviso:—

"And if from any circumstance the duties of the Recorder shall be altered and diminished, and the salary reduced accordingly, we are of opinion that the Recorder should have no claim for compensation in respect of such reduction."—On Tuesday, in the Court of Aldermen, Mr. Russell Gurney was elected unanimously to the office of Recorder in place of Mr. Stuart Wortley, appointed to the Solicitor-Generalship, and a vote of thanks to the latter gentleman, expressing the high esteem of the Corporation was passed by acclamation.

REFORM IN THE CITY. Alderman Wire on Monday, brought two bills into the Court of Common Council, connected with the great question of corporation reform. The first was a bill for the final abolition of street tolls; and the second was a bill for the further repeal of the provisions of an act of Common Council made the 5th of April, 1606, for the prevention of trading by non-freemen, and of another act of Common Council made on the 4th of July, 1712, concerning foreigners, and prohibiting their selling within the City. Each of the bills was read a first and second time, and appointed to be read a third time. The Court was unanimous upon the subject.

THE MANCHESTER EXHIBITION.—We have authority for stating that the executive committee have reason to hope that the Queen may honour the Great Exhibition of next year at Manchester with a visit. We are informed that the committee are empowered to state that Prince Albert has expressed his intention of honouring the opening ceremonial of exhibition in May next with his presence.—*Times*.

CLARE-MARKET RAGGED SCHOOLS.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Clement Dunes and its vicinity was held on Wednesday night at the vestry-rooms, Pickett-street, in aid of the ragged schools established in Portugal-street. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided. The proceedings having been opened by prayer, a report was read, which showed most encouraging results from the operation of the school during the past year, no less than four hundred being the daily average of scholars in attendance. The report concluded by asking increased public aid, the expenditure being greater than the income.

GREAT FLOOD IN YORKSHIRE.—Owing to the rapid thaw in the north, acting upon the large accumulations of snow and ice, the Ouse, in Yorkshire, has overflowed its channel, and caused very serious floods.

* Our North-West Frontier. John Chapman.

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*.

VERY noticeable in Literature is that terrible *don de la familiarité* which moves men to speak with easy confidence on topics utterly and absolutely removed from their acquaintance—which urges them to decide on the opinions of an AUGUSTE COMTE, whose name they unsuspectingly spell COMTE; on the "dreams" of KANT, not a page of whose writings they have ever read; on the peculiar qualities of GOETHE, whom they persist in calling GOËTHE (not aware that such a name is impossible in German); on SOPHOCLES, without previously taking the trouble of mastering the Greek Alphabet; and on many other topics equally excluded from their studies. They talk like men accustomed to dine habitually at Stafford House, and they do not know the Duchess of SUTHERLAND, even by sight! They are absolute in their verdicts, because these verdicts are unhampered by any of those doubts which knowledge might suggest. M. PONSARD, in his reception at the French Academy, with equal innocence assures France and the 'Universe' that RACINE is more natural than GOETHE, "who is very affected," and talks with the same easy familiarity of SHAKESPEARE, whom he calls "the divine WILLIAMS" (*le divin Williams*), by way of pleasantly indicating the extent of his accomplishment in English. To be ignorant of German and English cannot, it seems, constitute any obstacle in the way of a correct appreciation of English and German poets; and yet to minds of more ordinary calibre the inability to read a poet appears a reasonable obstacle in the way of criticising that poet. Why should M. PONSARD thus deliberately go out of his way to make public statements on subjects of which he not only knew himself to be initially ignorant, but also knew that others knew it? What would M. PONSARD think of any Englishman's opinion of RACINE if that Englishman exhibited rudimentary ignorance of French? False judgment or rash judgment, founded on imperfect knowledge, cannot be guarded against. We are all incessantly making mistakes; but against the mistakes arising from absolute and conscious ignorance, we ought surely to be on our guard.

The despotism of the present Government in France is growing more and more odious. Unable to coax or terrify the men of intellect, it vainly tries, by the purchase of various journals and periodicals, to create organs for itself whereby to influence public opinion. It has purchased, recently, *La Vérité* and *La Voie de la Vérité* (what irony!), to add to its friends in the press. It has purchased *La Revue Contemporaine*, founded originally by the Fusionist party. But it is one thing to purchase a journal, another thing to get contributors; and Government finds, to its irritation, that contributors—anxious as they are to contribute—hold sternly aloof from *La Revue*. Government may buy up all the journals, and so place journalists in the alternative of writing for it, or not writing at all, but so odious is the Government that they actually prefer not writing at all. In this dilemma the Minister of the Interior bethought him of a cunning infamy. The great rival to the *Revue Contemporaine* was of course the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, which circulates all over Europe, because it is incomparably the best *Revue* in France. Among the writers in this review the greater number are more or less in the dependence of the Government, as professors, employés, &c. To these writers Government applies, demanding their assistance in the Governmental review, and demand it on the ground of their being public functionaries. The majority, and of course the better contributors, decline; whereupon they are threatened with the Minister's displeasure—and all know what that means. Nay, to one of these recalcitrant writers it was insolently said: "Your name is wanted; if you refuse your articles, I will, at all events, publish your name among my contributors." To render this tyranny more conspicuous, we should observe that the *Revue des Deux Mondes* stipulates with its contributors that they shall not contribute to any other periodical of a different political tendency; so that if the employé is intimidated, and gives his articles to the *Revue Contemporaine*, he ceases to have the *Revue des Deux Mondes* open to him; and inasmuch as the *Contemporaine* has no character, no circulation, whereas the *Deux Mondes* has a very high character, and a European circulation, the man of letters is asked, or rather forced, to choose the very inferior organ, and exclude himself from the superior organ. Imagine a man having the *Quarterly* open to him, and being told that he must give up the *Quarterly* (which expounds his views, and which gives his writings celebrity and influence) for the *Prospective Review*, which expounds views opposed to his own, and which nobody reads! What should we in England think of a Government which could only hope to sustain itself, and influence public opinion, by manœuvres such as this? Is not this despotism as despicable as it is oppressive? Not content with keeping its place behind bayonets, this miserable régime tries to extort from all men an avowal that the régime of bayonets is wisdom no less than force, is moral no less than potential, is respectable no less than brutal. But although France may be subdued by bayonets and the dread of socialism, it will not declare the régime wise, moral, and respectable.

THE LIFE OF SIR JOHN MALCOLM.

The Life and Correspondence of Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B. By John William Kaye. In 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

"I CAN answer for it," wrote the Duke of Wellington in 1824 to Sir John Malcolm, "that from the year 1796 no great transaction has taken place in the East in which you have not played a principal, most useful, conspicuous, and honourable part; and you have in many services, diplomatic as well as military, been distinguished by successes, any one of which in ordinary circumstances would have been deemed sufficient for the life of a man, and would have recommended him to the notice of his superiors." This was no mere idle compliment, or friendly exaggeration, but the honest testimony of one as little capable of flattery as was the other of being gratified by any such homage to his vanity. Malcolm's services, in truth, dated from early boyhood. He had not yet completed his thirteenth year when he first girded on his sword, and swore fealty to the East India Company. No man was ever truer to his allegiance. Though fully aware of his unpopularity at the India House, he never for a moment allowed any personal considerations to interfere with the discharge of his public duties. Throughout his long and arduous career he was ever booted and spurred, and ready for the saddle. Even in his temporary retirements from active employment, whether necessitated by ill health or the consequence of a reasonable desire to revisit his fatherland, his mind was still engaged in advancing the true interests of his 'honourable masters,' and the welfare and prosperity of his fellow subjects in the East. During his first visit to England we find him exerting himself in the cause of the Native Army, and demanding from the Crown the recognition of its just claims. On his second return to Europe he gave valuable evidence before the parliamentary committee touching the political, military, and commercial relations of the East India Company, and the invidious distinctions that prevailed between the officers of their army and those of his Majesty's service. The former bore the heat and burden of the day, while the latter carried off all the honours. His very death was mainly accelerated by over exertion in battling against the opponents of the Company's charter.

But it was in India that he achieved his title to an undying fame, and to the gratitude of many millions of human beings. His first public service, indeed, was singularly in harmony with the general character of his subsequent career. He was placed in command of the detachment ordered to the frontier of Mysore to receive the English prisoners released by Tippoo Sultan, shortly after his accession to the throne. At this period of his life John Malcolm was a wild, thoughtless boy, full of animal spirits, and rejoicing in a sanguine and healthy organization. The natural consequence was pecuniary embarrassment. But the cloud raised by the vapours of a too frank and joyous disposition, was quickly dispersed by the rays of a proud and honest heart. Before he was yet nineteen his reformation was complete, and, in the course of two years, he succeeded, by the exercise of the greatest self-denial, in discharging all his debts and liabilities. He was fortunate, too, in becoming acquainted with some of the most distinguished men of the diplomatic corps, who inspired him with a desire to enter the political department of the service. As a thorough and extensive knowledge of the native languages was an indispensable preliminary to obtaining employment in that capacity, young Malcolm assiduously applied himself to the acquisition of the various dialects in use in Central India, in addition to the courtly Persian. To this he was indebted for his first staff appointment, and his introduction into a sphere of activity for which he was peculiarly adapted. It is true, indeed, he sometimes regretted that his political duties prevented him from taking a prominent part in those field operations which afford the shortest cut to glory. But, on the other hand, he enjoyed special opportunities of rendering an equally honourable and more permanent good service to the empire, by diffusing confidence, tranquillity, and happiness throughout Central India. On one occasion, however, he had good reason to lament the mischance that confined him to a bed of sickness, while his friend Arthur Wellesley, with whom he was associated as political agent, was breaking down the power of the Mahrattas on the blood stained fields of Assye and Argaum. Later in life, he too knew "the joy that warriors feel," when at Mehidpoor he stormed the young Holkar's batteries, and drove his numerous host into headlong flight. But it was to peaceful missions rather than to martial exploits that Malcolm owed his wide reputation. The latter won for him the insignia of a Grand Cross of the Bath, and might possibly have gained for him a faint celebrity among students of military history. To the former he was indebted for the friendship of the foremost men of his day, for the affectionate gratitude of a people hitherto grievously oppressed, and for a conspicuous niche in the memory of future generations, so long as the British empire in the East shall live in men's minds.

The pacification of Central India was essentially his work. In this cause he laboured night and day. His tent was at all times open to prince or peasant. No one was ever denied access to his presence. He listened patiently to all their grievances, and sought earnestly to relieve them. Even when his decision was unfavourable, the unsuccessful applicant or defendant was the first to recognize his wisdom, justice, and love of truth. His unflinching good humour and warm, generous disposition, made him, besides, personally popular, and especially endeared him to those who were the most closely associated with him. In the many delicate negotiations with which he was charged, his intimate knowledge of the Oriental character enabled him to achieve his end without wounding the sensitive vanity of the native chiefs. The upright, high-minded English gentleman ever proved more than a match for Asiatic duplicity and craft, while his kindness of manner gained the hearts of those whom the sword had yet failed to subdue. He was conscious, indeed, that in the fulness of time the British Government must inevitably become, not only the paramount, but the sole power in Hindostan. But though he accepted the necessity, and admitted the expediency of such a contingency, he would have scorned to hasten its advent by the slightest exhibition of ill faith, or by an overbearing demeanour. He well knew that to render our ultimate possession of India safe and permanent, its heterogeneous elements must require the action of time to become thoroughly amalgamated and firmly wrought. He even conceived that the last

desirable consummation would most speedily be effected by leaving here and there an independent state, to serve as a contrast to the well-ordered territories of Great Britain. His political intercourse with the Mahratta leaders was consequently marked by liberality and forbearance. He respected their weakness, and was willing to conciliate where there was no longer anything to fear. His great teacher was the Marquis Wellesley, in whose glorious school he graduated with high honours. Until the late Governor-General no such ruler has ever appeared in India. His contemporaries were often unjust to him, for those were times when party feeling blinded the judgment, and even the Court of Directors frowned upon his system, because his policy was imperial rather than commercial. In those days the Court was far more anxious about the sales of their sugar and indigo than the extension of their dominions or the welfare of their subjects. They were strictly a trading corporation, and viewed all questions through a medium of 'profit and loss.' The half-year's dividend was of more value in their eyes than the happiness of some millions of unbelievers twenty years afterwards. Holding these narrow views of their relations with India, it is not surprising that they should have regarded Lord Wellesley's proceedings with terror and disapprobation. His Lordship remembered that he was the representative of a great nation, and not the mere agent of a commercial body. He gazed, therefore, earnestly into the future, at the same time that he endeavoured to impart a movement to his viceregal sphere which should bring it into a concentric circle with the mighty orbit of the mother country. To attain this object he needed the co-operation of fellow-workers of energy and intelligence, who should at times venture to throw off the shackles of routine and act on their own responsibility. Sir John Malcolm he had made ready to his hand, the very man of all others the best calculated to carry out his views. From the very first they understood each other, and a friendship arose between them, based on mutual respect, which, with one brief interval, never flagged till death intervened.

It was, no doubt, primarily owing to Lord Wellesley's friendship that Malcolm became unpopular in Leadenhall-street. But this will scarcely account for the disappointments he experienced in after life, when his own services entitled him to the highest rewards in the power of the Court to bestow. His biographer fails to throw any very clear light upon this point, or, rather, he purposely leaves it in obscurity. It would be absurd to look for perfection in any man. Not even Sir John Malcolm, with his many excellences, must be regarded as a perfect character. He had so long enjoyed the exercise of almost irresponsible power that his manners and demeanour must, in the common course of things, have acquired a degree of stateliness, however unconscious, that would hardly prove a good recommendation in the City. He was also addicted to the use of the pen, and was incessantly producing voluminous memoirs and pamphlets. Many of these possessed unquestionable merit, and will ever be considered as manuals of instruction for future 'politicals.' But in much writing, as in much speaking, there is certain to be mischief; and Malcolm expressed himself with the warmth natural to his impulsive disposition. No man, under such circumstances, can avoid sometimes giving offence, and the sore rankles and festers long after the hand that sped the dart has been again extended and grasped in token of forgiveness.

To the English public Sir John Malcolm has been best known as whilom ambassador to the Court of Teheran. On the first occasion he was sent by Lord Wellesley to avert the threatened invasion of India by Shah Zeman, by creating a diversion on the western frontier of his Afghan dominions. The danger, however, was magnified by its distance, and the subsequent deposition of that prince relieved the Governor-General from all anxiety on that head. There was also another object proposed in this embassy. At that time the bugbear of Indian statesmen was the dread of a descent upon the shores of India by a French army. The well-known ambition of Bonaparte, and the brilliant early achievements of the French in Egypt, furnished reasonable grounds for such apprehension. Captain Malcolm was, therefore, specially charged to alienate the Shah-i-Shah from an alliance with such a restless and wicked race, and to conciliate his good-will in favour of ourselves. The mission succeeded in every point, and the Persians long remembered the ungrudging largesses of the magnificent Elchee. But although the treaty concluded by Malcolm was highly approved of by the Governor-General, it does not appear that any steps were taken to give it effect. The Gallophobia gradually died away, and the Persians were left to struggle as best they might against the encroachments of Russia. Abandoned by its allies, the Court of Teheran had no alternative but to throw itself into the arms of the Emperor Napoleon. Its overtures were graciously received, and in due course of time a splendid French embassy entered Persia, the advanced guard—as Lord Minto believed—of a French army. Both the home and the Indian Governments now once more directed their attention to Central Asia, and, by an extraordinary absence of concert in their action, each appointed an envoy to the king of kings. The favoured of the Crown was Sir Harford Jones, formerly commercial agent at Bagdad; while Malcolm, with the local rank of brigadier-general, again represented the viceroyalty of India. It is unnecessary to relate how the brigadier, though first in the field, was for that very reason constrained to return "bootless back, and weather-beaten home;" while his rival, happy in the opportunity of his arrival, overthrew the French influence and established that of Great Britain. Writhing under his disappointment, Malcolm persuaded Lord Minto to fit out an expedition against the Persian Gulf, which would have actually taken place had not the unwelcome tidings arrived of Sir Harford's success. Its first operation would have been the occupation of Kurrack, of which Malcolm writes in the following words, in the journal of his proceedings kept for his wife's particular benefit:—

"H. M. Ship 'Doris,' near Kurrack, 8th July, 1808.

"The more I contemplate this island, the more I am satisfied it might be made one of the most prosperous settlements in Asia, situated within a few hours' sail of Bushire, Bunder Begh, Bassorah, Græne, Baherin, and Catiff. It would, if under a just and powerful Government, be the common resort of the merchants of Turkey, Arabia, and Persia, and though too small (only twelve square miles) to support a number of inhabitants, it would, when it became an emporium of commerce, become a granary also, and want would be unknown. The chief recommendations of this island are its fine climate and excellent water. It has no harbour; but a vessel has

protection from the prevalent gales in the gulf under either its south-east or north-west side, and they can shift their berth in the hardest gales without danger."

But although Malcolm was not destined to enter Persia at the head of an invading army, it was not long before he again revisited it in peaceful garb, to restore the prestige of the Indian Government so needlessly compromised by the direct interference of the Crown. He was accompanied on this occasion by a numerous suite of zealous and enterprising young officers, to whose talents and energy we are chiefly indebted for whatever knowledge we possess of the countries lying between the Euphrates and the mountains of Afghanistan. This time everything went pleasantly. Futeh Ali Shah welcomed Malcolm with the warmth and cordiality of an old friend. The Court were delighted with his presents, and the peasantry admired his bold bearing, gallant horsemanship, and cheerful affability. Still, it is acknowledged that this mission was less productive of political than of literary and scientific fruits. These, however, were of a very high order of excellence. Nor, as Mr. Kaye justly remarks, was the information thus obtained concerning countries previously almost unknown in Europe the only result:—

A literary tone and character was imparted to the Indian services generally by these eminent examples. Many were afterwards encouraged by the success of such performances to endeavour to imitate them. Literary research was no longer regarded as incompatible with active life; and men who before thought only of serving the Government, began to think whether, like Malcolm and Elphinstone, they might not at the same time promote the interests of literature, science, and the world.

There is no man better entitled to speak well of the literary labours of the Indian services than Mr. Kaye himself, for no man has contributed more to their illustration. His History of the Afghan War, his Lives of Lord Metcalfe and Mr. St. George Tucker, were at once accorded an honourable place in every gentleman's library throughout the land. But we question if they are not made to yield the palm to the latest effort of his pen. If it has not fallen to his own lot to sustain the well-earned honours of the Bengal Artillery in the field, he has certainly added to the literary reputation of that distinguished arm of the service. "Pulchrum est bene facere reipublice, etiam bene dicere laudem absurdum est. Vel pace, vel bello clarum fieri licet. Et qui fecere, et qui facta aliorum scripserunt, multi laudantur." The public will probably agree with us in thinking that Mr. Kaye has chosen the better part, if these are to be the fruits of his peaceful labours. And should he now, perchance, be looking around him for another subject, we would suggest a history of the various European adventurers who have, at different times, disciplined the battalions of native princes. It would, at least, be a work full of character and stirring adventure.

CONFESSIONS OF AN OPIUM EATER.

Confessions of an English Opium Eater. By Thomas De Quincey. Now first carefully revised by the author and greatly enlarged. Edinburgh: James Hogg.

LET us, before noticing this new edition of a very singular work, admit the error into which two weeks ago we fell in ascribing to De Quincey the opening paper of *Blackwood's Magazine* for this month. We learn that it is an imitation, not an authentic bit of De Quincey. We confess the mistake, and can only say that such an imitation would deceive us again.

This new edition of the *Opium Eater* is almost twice as large as the former editions, which, the author tells us, were never revised by him. "The main narrative," he says, "should naturally have moved through a succession of secondary incidents; and with leisure for recalling these, it might have been greatly inspired." These are now recalled, and all who are familiar with De Quincey's invincible tendency towards digression, how on the slightest pretence he rambles away into unprovoked discursiveness, digression within digression and notes on both, will at once understand that the new edition of the "Confessions" is mainly enlarged by wanderings from the narrative. These are so admirable, for the most part, that the De Quincey admirer will wish they had been longer and more numerous; but he must also admit that they considerably affect the interest of the narrative. To those who have never read the "Confessions," we should recommend an initiation through the original edition; having thus mastered the main points in a confused and fragmentary narrative, they may then with luxurious languor follow the narrative in this new edition.

That opium does not injuriously affect the intellect, whatever else it may do, is conspicuously displayed in this strange work, especially in the additions. Here is a man who must be seventy, or upwards, and who for half a century has been in the habit of taking large doses of opium, writing with a splendour and accuracy, with a prodigality and subtlety, surpassing even the style of his earlier years, and giving no evidence of intellectual failure, since the radical defect, the cause which has from the first prevented his marvellous talents exercising an equivalent influence on the minds of his generation, is that impossibility of controlling the current of his thoughts into any forecut channel, which makes his writing all *digression*, and this defect is as visible in his earlier as in his later writings.

That opium, besides being an anodyne superior to all yet discovered, is also a preventive of consumption, by stimulating and keeping up unintermittingly the insensible perspiration, is also taught in this work; but on that point we are less clear. The idea is worthy of medical inquiry, at any rate.

The literary critic will be pleasantly occupied in scrutinizing the excellences, the witcheries we may say, of De Quincey's style, and at the same time he will notice the wonderful pomp of diction with which he invests even the most trivial details. As a specimen of mighty exaggeration, of grandiloquent eloquence, hear him upon

TOOTHACHE.

Two things blunt the general sense of horror, which would else connect itself with toothache—viz., first, its enormous diffusion; hardly a household in Europe being clear of it, each in turn having some one chamber intermittently echoing the groans extorted by this cruel torture. There—viz., in its ubiquity—lies one cause of its slight valuation. A second cause is found in its immunity from danger. This latter ground of undervaluation is noticed in a saying ascribed (but on what authority I know not) to Sir Philip Sidney—viz., that supposing toothache liable in ever so small a proportion of its cases to a fatal issue, it would be generally ranked as the most dreadful maladies; whereas the certainty that it will in no extremity lead to death, and the knowledge that in the very midst of its storms sudden changes may be looked for, bringing long

halcyon calms, have an unfair effect in lowering the appreciation of this malady considered as a trial of fortitude and patience. No stronger expression of its intensity and scorching fierceness can be imagined than this fact—that within my private knowledge, two persons who had suffered alike under toothache and cancer, have pronounced the former to be, on the scale of torture, by many degrees the worse. In both, there are at times what surgeons call “lancinating” pangs—*keen, glancing, arrowy radiations of anguish*; and upon these the basis of comparison was rested—paroxysm against paroxysm—with the result that I have stated.

The rack could not be more thrillingly described; yet note how eloquent the passage really is, and how felicitous the language, if we abstract the toothache (painful enough, in all conscience) and consider some more formidable pain. Harken also to the roll of this:—

What was it that did in reality make me an opium-eater? That affection which, finally drove me into the *habitual* use of opium, what was it? Pain was it? No, but misery. Casual overcasting of sunshine was it? No, but blank desolation. Gloom was it that might have departed? No, but settled and abiding darkness—

“Total eclipse,
Without all hope of day!”

Yet whence derived? Caused by what? Caused, as I might truly plead, by youthful distresses in London; were it not that these distresses were due, in their ultimate origin, to my own unpardonable folly; and to that folly I trace many ruins. Oh, spirit of merciful interpretation, angel of forgiveness to youth and its aberrations, that hearkenest for ever as if to some sweet choir of far-off female intercessions! Will ye, choir that intercede—wilt thou, angel that forgivest—join together and charm away that *mighty phantom, born amidst the gathering mists of remorse, which strides after me in pursuit from forgotten days—towering for ever into proportions more and more colossal, overhanging and overshadowing my head as if close behind, yet dating its nativity from hours that are fled by more than half a century?* Oh heavens! that it should be possible for a child not seventeen years old, by a momentary blindness, by listening to a false, false whisper from his own bewildered heart, by one erring step, by a motion this way or that, to change the currents of his destiny, to poison the fountains of his peace, and in the twinkling of an eye to lay the foundations of a life-long repentance!

What a passage is that depicting the dying parent “when the faces of his children are disappearing amongst the vapours of death!” or the well-known apostrophe to Oxford-street, the stony-hearted stepmother; or this description of the ball-room of the Inn where he sat waiting the coach which was to convey him to London:—

The unusual dimensions of the rooms, especially their towering height, brought up continually and obstinately, through natural links of associated feelings or images, the mighty vision of London waiting for me afar off. An altitude of nineteen or twenty feet showed itself unavoidably upon an exaggerated scale in some of the smaller side-rooms—meant probably for cards or for refreshments. This single feature of the rooms—their unusual altitude, and the echoing hollowness which had become the exponent of that altitude—this one terrific feature (for terrific it was in the effect), together with crowding and evanescent images of the flying feet that so often had spread gladness through these halls on the wings of youth and hope at seasons when every room rang with music—all this, rising in tumultuous vision, whilst the dead hours of night were stealing along, all around me—household and town—sleeping, and whilst against the windows more and more the storm outside was raving, and to all appearance endlessly growing, threw me into the deadliest condition of nervous emotion under contradictory forces, high over which predominated horror recoiling from that unfathomed abyss in London into which I was now so wilfully precipitating myself. Often I looked out and examined the night. Wild it was beyond all description, and dark as “the inside of a wolf’s throat.” But at intervals, when the wind, shifting continually, swept in such a direction as to clear away the vast curtain of vapour, the stars shone out, though with a light unusually dim and distant. Still, as I turned inwards to the echoing chambers, or outwards to the wild, wild night, I saw London expanding her visionary gates to receive me, like some dreadful mouth of Acheron (*Acherontis avary*). Thou also, Whispering Gallery! once again in those moments of conscious and wilful desolation, didst to my ear utter monitorial sighs. For once again I was preparing to utter an irrevocable word, to enter upon one of those fatally tortuous paths of which the windings can never be unlinked.

Even when he has to translate a Latin quotation he cannot do so simply, but seems forced by the necessities of his intensely active intellect to embellish the original, as in the well-known

*Quicquid agunt homines, votum, timor, ira, voluptas,
Gaudia, discursus,*

which he renders, “All that is done by men—movements of prayer, panic, wrath, revels of the voluptuous, festivals of triumph, or gladiatorship of the intellect.”

Among the many passages we had marked for extract we can only find room for this one more, and we quote it for the justness of the remark, and the caution it suggests against too closely interpreting the expressions of uncultivated people; it is in explanation of the harsh and uncivil phrases often coming from uneducated persons, because their want of education has prevented their having an adequate command of language:—

They use phrases much stronger than naturally belong to their thoughts and meaning, simply because the narrowness of their vocabulary oftentimes suggests to their embarrassed choice no variation of expression wearing a character less offensive.

ENGLAND'S GREATNESS.

England's Greatness: its Rise and Progress in Government, Laws, Religion, and Social Life; Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, Science, Literature, and the Arts, from the Earliest Period to the Peace of Paris. By John Wade.

Longman and Co.

THE title-page of this volume, studded with heavy words, rolls back like the door of a prison. And within is discovered Mr. Wade and four hundred leaves of paper, thickly printed on both sides with Mr. Wade's ideas. “From the earliest period to the Peace of Paris!”—from original savagery to the Gortschnakoff juggle—from the Druids to Mr. Ruskin. The result is a melon-like rotundity of talk, which, if drained of its platitudes, would shrivel into a spectral fig. Chapter after chapter opens with a herald's flourish of philosophy—so that, whereas we are intent upon the study of England's greatness, the conviction is pressed upon us by slow degrees, that we are engaged in a general valuation of Mr. Wade's intellectual fixtures:—

1. The Science of Civilization is varied and extensive.
2. The origin of most communities is necessarily obscure.

3. The character of the laws of a community forms an important element in the progress of civilization.

4. It is with the beginning of communities as with the beginning of organic life.

5. Our national greatness is more the result of production than of inheritance.

6. The emotions arising from the external objects perceptible by the senses are mutable and fleeting impressions.

We have selected six specimens, and might select a thousand, similarly limpid; but these form one class of Mr. Wade's materials, and fill an ample space. The rest is indolently taken down from the lower shelves of the library—Hallam, Macaulay, Lingard, the transactions of two or three societies, a few recent memoirs, and some other works, accessible to every reader. Among the most frequently consulted are, *The Pictorial History of England*, and sundry books compiled by the author himself. Not a glimpse of original research, of far-extending studies, of rare or curious reading. The substance is as stale as the treatment is commonplace. And yet this dense volume is thrust upon us as an analytical history of British civilization, the writer professing “to supply a deficiency in English literature,” and “in sufficient breadth of facts and philosophy to exemplify to the historical student or more elaborate inquirer the mystery of England's power, diversified interests, and resplendent name.” Why, the historical student will have read every book which Mr. Wade has quoted, and the elaborate inquirer will certainly be able to sound the shallows of his philosophy. The truth is, that he has produced an irregular abstract of history which he has called *England's Greatness*, but which he might as well have called a *pot au feu*. He undertakes to instruct every one on every topic, from religion to literature, and from revolutions to gable ends and abutments. “Our love of the picturesque must not, however, transport us into the mistake or extravagance of a popular lecturer whose idolatry extends to the adoration of the gable ends, narrow streets, and cyclopean abutments of the middle ages. The picturesque is not the beautiful; there is utility in one, veneration or association only in the other. The aged are often picturesque.” Observe that the “popular lecturer” thus withered in three lines by Mr. John Wade, is Mr. John Ruskin. We are glad that Mr. Wade does not attempt to solve the education question, being saved by his reticence from the dull edge of a rust-eaten platitude; but what is the use of writing as follows, and not explaining it?—“The imperial spirit abroad has extended even to the great national universities; they comprised hoarded sweets, and long and deeply-cherished reminiscences.” What sweets did the universities comprise?

Mr. Wade is gentle in periphrasis. Thieving and cheating, he says “indicate less of depravity than of a culpable mode of acquiring those objects which are in general request.” “The direct tendency of affluence is to give additional force and scope to the human passions, not only in a more rapid evolution of saints and philosophers, but of thieves and swindlers.” When did he learn that a rapid evolution of saints and philosophers was equivalent to an enlarged development of the passions? And where are the “saints” who are now being so rapidly evolved? Mr. Wade affirms that Pope could not now find materials for a Dunciad. We think he could. It is a pleasure to escape from the sybilline to the commonplace chapters of this stupendous pamphlet. Here, however, Mr. Wade is again at sea. He tells us, while we are waiting for a second Conference to interpret the Treaty of Paris, that “its purport is clearly and distinctly brought out.” He remarks on the “hopes of rest” bestowed on France by the Empire, and glides over the *coup d'état* by saying, “Louis Napoleon bore away the prize.”

What has this to do with England's greatness? Nothing; but it is a part of Mr. Wade's book, which contains, also, a deplorably foolish section on the great revolution in France. Here he rabidly declaims about Jugger-naut, venomous plants, demons of terror, Molochs, bloody proscriptionists, and the exhausted parallel of liberty and licence. There was a Yorkshire gentleman, as Mr. Wade well knows, who kept a diary of occurrences that interested him during the civil wars in England, and never once alluded to Royalists, Roundheads, Cromwell, the King, or the Parliament, but talked of foxes, without ever mentioning a battle that happened on his own manor. There was also Charles Mathews, who never referred in his journal to the Reign of Terror, Marat, Robespierre, or Napoleon Bonaparte. How merciful if some people would now leave the revolutions in England and France alone! And Junius, too! Junius would have been a small topic in this Cyclopean book had he not supplied Mr. Wade with an opportunity of glorifying himself. Accordingly, the glorification rattles on through pages, and the modest author quotes “the fifth edition of my work,” &c. &c. &c.

This is the volume which Mr. Wade announces as a “national picture,” “a panoramic exhibition,” constructed upon carefully considered principles, in fulfilment of a mission to which he lays claim, consistently with the practices of the day. We cannot imagine to what class of readers Mr. Wade's work will be useful. It is a compilation, distended, dull, and loaded with truisms disfigured into absurdities.

THE CAMBRIDGE ESSAYS.

Cambridge Essays, contributed by Members of the University. 1856.

J. W. Parker and Son.

THE success of this scheme of annual publication on the part of Oxford and Cambridge men has been greater than we had anticipated; and as, to use Jules Janin's witticism, *rien ne réussit comme le succès*, we may expect better and better essays from members of the Universities. The present volume is various and interesting. It opens with a paper on “Roman Law and Legal Education” which we leave to legists and educators, not understanding more of that abstruse subject, the Law, than is requisite to keep us at as remote a distance from it as may be. The second essay is by Dr. Donaldson, and is on “English Ethnography,” an erudite and very curious examination of the influence of various races on the English language. The very old and much debated question of classical instruction is taken up by Mr. John Grote in “Old Studies and New,” an essay which not only exhibits independent thought, but contains a really wise and calm exposition of the *pros* and *cons* most worth attending to in the debate. The most interesting essay, to our tastes, is that of Mr. Cope on the love of the “Picturesque among the Greeks,” in which

he runs rapidly through Greek literature to substantiate what has been so energetically put by Mr. Ruskin respecting the indifference of the Greeks to picturesqueness; an opinion previously insisted on by Humboldt, and before Humboldt by Schiller, whose essay Mr. Cope seems to have overlooked. Mr. Cope has no scorn in his mind in thus bringing together the evidence:—

We in these latter days have learned to look upon the wilder sort of scenes as those in which Nature puts forth her highest powers of attraction; we have learned to prefer the ruin to the complete building, the mountain to the fertile plain, the foaming rapid to the smooth stream, the rough, bare precipice to the level down, and to regard as the *ne plus ultra* of the sublime and beautiful, the waste of desert glacier, walled in by its ramparts of towering rocks and peaks crowned with eternal snow, standing out in dazzling whiteness against the brilliant background of the Alpine sky. Far indeed am I from asserting that such objects are not deserving of all the admiration and regard that we can bestow upon them, or that they are incapable of exciting a genuine enthusiasm and love. I have not the smallest desire to run down the mountains in any but the most literal sense of the words; only if every Englishman would bear in mind how completely, in such matters, he is the creature of education and association—would consider what his feelings with regard to Nature would have been if Wordsworth, Scott, Shelley, Keats, Tennyson, had not written—if Turner and Stanfield had not painted, or Forbes, Agassiz, Sedgwick, and a host of naturalists carried their study of nature into the heart of her mountains—how easy it would have been for him, had he been born in the last century, to have pronounced Lincoln or Salisbury Cathedral barbarous, or to have improved either of them by substituting a flat ceiling for its groined roof—or, if he lived in la belle France, to regard the long, sweeping, monotonous undulations, and featureless but fruitful plains of its northern and central districts, as the only true beauty in landscape—we shall, perhaps, learn to look with less scorn upon a people who, for all that appears to the contrary, regarded a chain of mountains in no other light than as a convenient natural boundary, or a highly inconvenient obstacle to locomotion, according as their domestic or migratory propensities happened for the moment to be uppermost; and the sea less as a source of sublime and pleasurable emotions than as providing the readiest means for the importation of corn and colonial produce from Egypt or the Euxine.

It is, indeed, seldom borne in mind how very much we are influenced by the poets, how much our emotions depend on these subtle influences of verse and imagery, so that we cannot look upon mountains, streams, sunsets, uplands, or avenues of stately trees, without feeling something which the poets have formerly made us feel. Mr. Cope is disposed to attribute the absence of picturesqueness in the Greeks to some social and ethnical conditions, "the interest of the enlightened and cultivated Greeks—poets, artists, and people—centred in man, his nature and actions, and the love of the picturesque was not." But Englishmen in the age of Pope were equally deficient in this sense of the picturesque; and all Frenchmen, until the time of Rousseau, were dead to the influence of such poetry as external Nature inspires in Rousseau's descendants. A Cowper, a Rousseau, or a Wordsworth, poets with deep sensibilities, and having those sensibilities affected by scenery, are enough to change the whole current of a nation's thought; they make all hearers share their peculiar rapture; they teach others to see with their eyes. Had a poet of the requisite sensibility led a lonely life among the hills of Greece, he would have taught the Greeks to love those lonely hills.

We have not read Mr. Ellicott's essay on the "Apocryphal Gospels," nor Mr. Waddington's on the "Protestant Church and Religious Liberty in France;" but we can cordially commend Dr. Badham's very ingenious essay on the "Text of Shakspeare," and Mr. Francis's pleasant paper on "Fly-fishing." The subject of "Coleridge," treated by Mr. Hort, is too great to be opened in this rapid notice, and we content ourselves with referring the reader to the essay, on which he will form his own conclusions.

CHRISTMAS READING FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

We group together under this seasonable title a number of books, some of which are ostensibly published for festive, fireside reading, while others we choose arbitrarily to regard in that light, on account of their seeming to us peculiarly adapted to the time of year.

First on the list we place a new story by the Author "The Falcon Family," "The Bachelor of the Albany," &c. entitled *Clover Cottage; or, I Can't Get In: a Novellette* (Chapman and Hall). This is a little foolscap octavo volume, with illustrations by M'Connell, setting forth a narrative of an elderly bachelor (Mr. Windfall) and a charming young widow (Mrs. Wily), who are at odds about the possession of Clover Cottage, a transporting little paradise in Hampshire, owned by the gentleman but occupied by the lady. Mr. Windfall has invited a party of sporting friends to go down with him in September to the disputed Eden, and have a few days' shooting; but June has arrived, and the widow shows no sign of leaving, and Mr. Windfall is unmercifully joked by his friends, who begin to suspect that the cottage and grounds exist simply in his own imagination. How he appeals to lawyers in vain; how at length he goes down in the autumn to the spot itself, in company with his sporting friends; how they invade the widow's house just at the dinner hour, and are right cordially received; and how, finally, Mr. Windfall obtains possession, not only of the cottage, but of the fascinating widow also, the reader must find out for himself. The tale is pleasantly and amusingly told, though the dialogue is a little too much like that which we find in farces, and the characterization is somewhat conventional. The stage effect seems, indeed, to have been designed by the author; for he prefixes a list of *dramatis personæ*.

Pen and Pencil Pictures, by Thomas Hood (Hurst and Blackett), is a title which makes us fancy that we have floated back some twelve years or so, and that we have before us a new work by one of the brightest and most various-hued wits and poets whom the present century has produced—that we are about to open the pages on some new "Haunted House" and "Bridge of Sighs," interspersed with the quaintest of conceits and the most preposterous of puns. Such, however, is not the case; but the book, nevertheless, is worth looking into. When Thomas Hood died, he left behind him a collection of works which will not die, and a son who bears his father's name, and exhibits something of his father's faculty. The volume before us is a collection of the literary productions, in prose and verse, of the younger

"Tom Hood," for thus he signs himself in his dedication, though we think it would have been as well not to adopt that distinctive cognomen, especially as he does not give any intimation of his being the son, and not the father—a mistake which the reader might at first sight make, there being such things as posthumous works. Mr. Hood appears to have a fertile pen; but we should judge that he is still very young—at least, we hope so, for he has much to learn. He gives one the impression of a gentleman fresh from college, mistaking his own new perceptions and experiences for things which are new to others, and rather proud of his Latin and of his ability to quote from Horace in Horace's native tongue. We are inclined, also, to object to his sentimentalisms; but, when he writes in a more genial and natural strain, we see some sparkles of the father's wit. More especially have we enjoyed the essay called "A Wreath of Smoke: a Rhapsodical Reverie over our Nightly Pipe, 'Ex Fumo dare Lucem'"—in which the luxuriant, dreamy fancies of the smoker float airily before our eyes, with all the volatile grace and shifting outlines of the fumes that curl upwards from the hookah. Very admirable, too, is the subjoined little poem, which is full of sly, yet jovial, humour, of easy, impulsive verse and unwonted rhymes:—

THE FOUR SEASONS.—A MADRIGAL.

Ring a ding a ding!
In the early Spring
Wooded I the old woman,
Wooded and wed her too, man!
She was rich and old,
And, if truth be told,
I did wed her gold!
Well—and would not you, man?
Ring a ding a ding
How the bells did ring
When I wed in Spring!

In the summer days,
With the sun a-blaze—
Sickened the old woman;
As old women do, man!
Spite of draught and pill
Grew she very ill.
Sick and "sicker" still
All the time she grew, man!
In the summer days,
With the sky a-blaze,
She got worse always!

Ding a dong a dong!
Autumn came ere long!
Died the poor old woman!
Well—what could I do, man?
Why, I put on black,
And, as tears did lack,
In a cup of sack
Wetted mine eyes two, man!
Ding a dong a dong,
With a funeral song
Autumn came ere long!

Ring a ding a ding!
Let us quaff and sing!
So died the old woman!
And for me and you, man,
Left her wealth untold;
And this vintage old
Of her guineas gold
Cost me not a few, man!
Well, she died in time!
For by Christmas chime,
Ring a ding a ding,
We can drink and sing—
We good fellows two, man!
Ring a ding a ding,
Let the joy-bells ring!

An idle hour may be pleasantly whiled away by several of Mr. Hood's sketches, which, we should add, are here and there illustrated by grotesque woodcuts, some of them marvellously like the father's pictorial drolleries, though for the most part they exhibit more executive mastery.

Here is a shilling volume which, though it be merely a parody, exhibits real genius and original power. *The Song of Drop o' Wather, a London Legend*, by Harry Wandsworth Shortfellow (Routledge), is, as the reader will see by the title, a travesty of Longfellow's "Hiawatha," and wonderfully it mimicks the characteristics of that fine American poem. But this is not done irreverently; for Mr. "Shortfellow" expresses his real admiration for the Red Indian epic, and says he merely seeks to put forth a "sportive trifle." Drop o' Wather is a London thief, born in the kennels of St. Giles's of Irish parents, and retaining something of their peculiar notions of the English language, while he is 'up' to all the 'dodges' and slang of the city of his birth. The knavish adventures of this worthy, from his childhood down to his self-decreed reformation and departure for Australia, are told in the singular versification of the original, and with an amount of humour, of rollicking fun, and even of occasional tragic power and a sort of vagabond poetry, indicative of no common hand. The knowledge of London life in its squalid and criminal aspects is remarkable. The dim alleys and thieves' dens, the dirt and slime, the grotesque merriment and foul picturesqueness, of Seven Dials rise before us in this London Legend. The author has the happy art of touching pitch without defiling himself. He is a master of slang, and uses it with the most artistic effect; but he does not disgust the reader. He awakens our sympathies for a strange development of humanity lying all round us, yet cut off by a great gulf—not a morbid sympathy with crime, but a humanizing regard for our outcast brethren. Here is his description of the birth of his hero:—

Downward through the darkening twilight,
In the days long time ago, now,
In the last of drunken stages,

By the Half-Moon fell poor Norah,
On the pavement fell poor Norah,
Just about to be a mother.
She'd been tipling with some women,
Just within the Wine-Vaults' swing-door,
When her Gossip, out of mischief,
Partly idle, partly spiteful,
Pushed the swing-door from behind her,
Pushed in twain the Wine-Vaults' door flap,
And poor Norah tumbled backward,
Downward through the darkening twilight,
On the gangway foul, the pavement,
On the gangway foul with mud-stains.
"See! a wench falls!" cried the people;
"Look, a tipsy wench is falling!"
There amidst the gaping starers,
There amidst the idle passers,
On the gangway foul, the pavement,
In the murky darkened twilight,
Poor drunk Norah bore a boy-babe.
Thus was born young Drop o' Wather,
Thus was born the child of squalor.

Drop o' Wather is thus accoutred for his street avocations:—

He had bludgeon, Millemlikefun,
Good strong bludgeon, made of ash-wood;
When into his hand he took it,
He could smite a fellow's head off,
He could knock him into next week.
He had ankle-boots so jemmy,
Good strong ankle-boots of calf-skin;
When he put them on his trotters,
When he laced them up so tightly,
At each step three feet he measured.
From his lair went Drop o' Wather
Dressed for roving, armed for plunder;
Dressed in shooting-jacket natty,
Velveteen with pearl-white buttons:
On his head a spic-and-span tile,
Round his waist a vest of scarlet;
In his mouth a sprig of shamrock,
In his breast a dashing brooch-pin,
Gold mosaic set with sham stones;
With his bludgeon, Millemlikefun,
With his ankle-boots so jemmy.

Another parody of "Hiawatha" is *The Song of Milkanwatha: translated from the original Feejee* by Marc Antony Henderson, D.C.L., Professor of the Feejee Language and Literature in the Brandywine Female Academy (Cincinnati: Tickell and Grinne).—This is also a very clever production, though not equal to the London Legend. It is a story of hydropathy; but the scene being laid among wild people and wild localities, the contrast between the parody and the original is not sufficiently great. Several other parodies on living poets (chiefly English) complete the measure of this Cincinnati volume, the author of which, in his travesties, shows a remarkable power of retaining something of the poetry of the originals which he is mouthing at.

A very pleasant book for boys is *The History of Jean-Paul Choppart; or, the Surprising Adventures of a Runaway* (Lambert).—This work, which is translated from the French, and illustrated by French woodcuts, forms one of the volumes of "The Entertaining Library," and, in its red and gold cover, would form a pretty present at Christmas. Jean-Paul is a bad boy, who runs away from his father, and (like every boy in a story who runs away) falls in with a rascally travelling showman, but is eventually restored, repentant, to his forgiving parents. The tale is professedly a moral tale, but is genial instead of canting, and pervaded by a cheerfully religious tone, altogether free from sectarianism.

Some charmingly written tales for the young are issued by Messrs. Smith and Elder, under the title of *Round the Fire: Six Stories*, by the Author of "The Day of a Baby Boy," &c. The writer (a lady, we are convinced) has the art of telling a story in a manner which we should say would be certain to interest those for whom she works, and which assuredly is capable of interesting us. Her action is dramatic, her command over our emotions considerable, and her descriptions beautifully felt. The stories are supposed to be narrated by children; and this is made apparent in the language, without injuring the effect of the narrative. A little less melancholy and a little more cheerfulness, however, would be an improvement.

A little quarto pamphlet, called *The History of our Cat Aspasia*, by Bessie Rayner Parkes, and illustrated by Annie Leigh Smith (Bosworth and Harrison), is a trifle from which we have derived great pleasure: firstly (to be gallant as well as truth-speaking), because it is written by Miss Parkes, of whose poem about Shelley we retain charming recollections; secondly, because the scene is laid mostly in Wales, the home of romance and legendary poetry; thirdly, because it is about cats, for which sleek and elegant vermin we confess, like Miss Parkes (and also like Dr. Johnson and Voltaire), to have a partiality; fourthly and lastly, because here is chronicled, besides Miss Aspasia, "a young cat called Tobias, and, for short, Toby"—the very style and title of a piece of black mischief on four legs owned by our awful selves; for why should we not, when on these genial grounds, abandon the cold disembodiment of reviewers, and confess to something of a warm hearth-rug personality? "Toby," says Miss Parkes (and we ratify the description), "was a very handsome fellow, with strong little legs, covered with the thickest, softest fur." The adventures of Aspasia are told in this little book with delightful vivacity, playfulness, and truth. The incidents are all of the simplest kind; yet Miss Parkes interests us from the first page to the last by her own enjoyment of her subject, her bright good humour, and her little bits of description of Welsh scenery, in which, with her reminiscences of King Arthur, Sir Launcelot, and Queen Guenevar, we detect the hand of the poet. Miss Smith's illustrations are quaint and pretty; and altogether here is a very pleasant eighteenpennyworth.

Another delightful book for the young is Lady Wallace's adaptation "from the original"—though she does not tell us in what language that is—of *Voices from the Greenwood* (Bell and Daldy).—The authoress supposes the trees and flowers to have a language, and to tell to one another stories of their own life and experience. The idea is very pretty, and is wrought out with a good deal of bright and sportive fancy.

SIR ROBERT PEEL AS A TYPE OF STATESMANSHIP.

Sir Robert Peel as a Type of Statesmanship. By Jelinger Symons, Esq.

Longman and Co.

We have, on more than one occasion recently, devoted considerable space to a consideration of the public career of Sir Robert Peel. The forthcoming volume of his Memoirs, announced for January, will again bring him under notice. It is not, therefore, from any want of respect to Mr. Symons that we decline to discuss with him the merits and failings of the statesman whose character he has undertaken to analyze in this volume. But we cannot give him credit for all the impartiality he attributes to himself, or even for that faculty of appreciating the acts and motives of public men which could have enabled him, under any circumstances, to become the biographer of Sir Robert Peel. Mr. Roebuck has said that Peel's strongest sympathies were with the nation; Mr. Symons affirms that they were not. "His idol was power." In justification of this remark, Mr. Symons adduces no evidence whatever. This is simple assumption:—

For some time previously to his death he was pondering even on further parliamentary reform: and there is reason to believe that the great difficulty which perplexed him and embarrassed his schemes, was how to propitiate the Church without offending the people. There is little doubt that had his life been prolonged, he would have successfully carried sweeping reforms; while the latest act of his official life would have been perchance to resign the Premiership to the Right Honourable Richard Cobden, then and long previously a member of his Cabinet.

Nor is this a fair statement,—it is not fair, because it is imperfect:—

If Sir Robert Peel was deficient as an orator, he was equally so in the creative faculties of Statesmanship. He never originated a single great measure; but no man equalled him in accomplishing them: and he was signally skilled as an administrator. Such is the dispensation of Providence in the division of labour. It is designed that one man should conceive, and another execute: that one should be the man of vision, the other of action. Sir Robert Peel performed the latter function with devoted zeal. His mission was that of Alexander: he was no philosopher, least of all an Aristotelian philosopher. It was said of him by Wilberforce, who estimated his powers less highly, that no man could drive a pair better than Peel, but that he could not manage four in hand at all. Mr. Doubleday falls into a similar mistake, and says that he was timid in dealing with abstract questions of magnitude. No man showed less timidity in dealing with them when they became the road to office, or the means of retaining it: Catholic Emancipation and the Repeal of Corn Laws to wit. But during three-fourths of his life he was the Minister of stationary interests, and therefore the opponent of questions of magnitude, which are essentially questions of progress.

But we are not arguing with Mr. Symons. To represent in general terms his theory of Sir Robert Peel, we will quote the last paragraph of his laborious essay:—

Though we are removed from the vices and fatuities of the Liverpool and Newcastle Cabinets, and the minor profligacies of later dynasties, we are bereft of the elements of any order of power essential to the fruits of legislation and the functions of Government. This is the natural result of that subjugation of principles to the chances of Parliamentary majorities, of which Sir Robert Peel's career was a type and a sanction. It is the harvest we must expect to reap from the misjudgment which attempts to raise that able administrator, that dexterous debater, and useful man, to a reputation which history and the maturer wisdom of other times will hold sacred to an order of Statesmanship, characterized by the greatness of CHATHAM, the talents of BURKE, and the consistent probity of LANSDOWNE.

We, on the contrary, undertake to say, that however great was Chatham, and however eloquent was Burke, there was never a more honest statesman than Peel.

The Arts.

THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

Four or five new characters have been added to Miss P. HORTON's lively and clever entertainment. The name alone of this delightful actress and admirable singer is a pledge of success; and now that, as we understand, the entertainment is under the auspices of that ablest and most popular of *impresarios*, Mr. BEALE, an additional guarantee of excellence is offered to the public. The added scenes are divided into two parts, and supported by a somewhat feeble *dommée*. Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED are supposed to be setting off on a musical tour round the world à la CATHERINE HAYES, and are on the look-out for a fashionable governess to superintend the education of a 'ward,' in their absence. Miss P. HORTON personates the 'parties' who offer for the situation with infinite spirit and humour, and transforms herself with astonishing rapidity. We cannot say very much in praise of the dialogue; and the songs and accompaniments are unfortunately the weakest part of the entertainment, quite unworthy of the noble voice and accomplished vocalization of Miss P. HORTON, whom we can never hear without regretting that she is not at the OPERA. Mr. T. GERMAN REED is a little shy and uneasy at times dramatically, and his accompaniments are not altogether to our taste. But, on the whole, the scenes are well sustained, and the *Mrs. Carrickfergus O'Conolly* is a masterpiece of faithful and lifelike personation, without the slightest exaggeration, of which any one familiar with Irish society will attest the reality.

The SURREY company have been performing *Romeo and Juliet*, with Mr. CRESWICK as *Romeo*, Mr. SHEPHERD as *Mercutio*, and a new actress, rejoicing in the not very romantic name of BIDDLES, as *Juliet*.

A little piece by Mr. ROBERT BROUGHTON, based upon a trifle recently produced at one of the Paris theatres, first saw the light in an English dress at the OLYMPIC on Thursday evening. Dress, by-the-by, is the subject of it, since it treats of, and is entitled, *Crinoline*. Mr. ROBSON has here one of his favourite parts—a jealous husband; the audience laugh and sympathise alternately; and the farce is successful.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

DUKA.—On the 24th of October, at Moughyr, Bengal, the wife of Theodore Duka, Esq., M.D., of the Bengal Medical Service: a daughter, stillborn.

WYNN.—On the 14th inst., at No. 20, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, the wife of Henry Bertie Watkin Williams Wynn, Esq.: a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SYKES—WALTER.—On the 11th inst., at Trinity Church, Marylebone, William Henry Frederick Sykes, Esq., of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry, younger son of Colonel Sykes, Chairman of the Court of Directors of the E.I.C., to Julia Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Charles Walter, Esq., of Devonshire-place.

DEATHS.

CHURCHILL.—On the 12th inst., the Lord Almaric Athelstan Spencer Churchill, son of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, by the Hon. Charlotte Augusta Flower, second Duchess of Marlborough.

WALLER.—On the 12th inst., at his residence, Fulham, John Waller, Esq. (late Cashier in the Office of Woods and Forests), aged 77.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 16.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—WILLIAM WIGGINS, Hawley-mills, near Dartford, Kent, and St. Paul's-church-yard, paper manufacturer.

BANKRUPTS.—HENRY CHRISTIAN, Mincing-lane, coffee merchant—MORRIS ROBERTS SYERS, JAMES WALKER, and DANIEL BACKHOUSE SYERS, Ball-alley, Lombard-street, merchants—WILLIAM EAMES HEATHFIELD and WILLIAM ABURROW, Prince's-square, Finsbury, manufacturing chemists—ROBERT YALLOEY BARNES, City-road, floor-cloth manufacturer—ABRAHAM, JOHN, and HENRY JACOBS, Crown-street, Finsbury, merchant—RICHARD GRIFFITHS, sen., and RICHARD GRIFFITHS, jun., Hatton-wall, and St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell, brass founders—HARRIET ROSE, Lynn, milliner—SAMUEL GIFFORD, Mark-lane, sailcloth merchant—CHARLES HENRY DAVIS, Deptford, builder—JOSEPH LOADER, Walworth-place, Walworth, upholsterer—THOMAS CLULEE, Aston Manor, juxta Birmingham, victualler—JOHN JONES, Aberystwith, draper—TOM FOWLER SLATER, Bradford, Yorkshire, grocer—WILLIAM FRASER, Leeds, cabinetmaker—RICHARD WILLIAMS, Liverpool, tailor—JOSEPH LEEMING, jun., Hartlepool, white-smith.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—W. SIMPSON, Perth, plasterer—D. S. COLLINS, Perth, clothier—R. WATSON, Campbelltown, upholsterer—A. BANNATYNE, Glasgow, merchant.

Friday, December 19.

BANKRUPTS.—GEORGE WILLIAM BRENNER, Stockwell, Surrey, oil merchant—JOHN PROUT DAVIS STEPHENS, Brabant-court, Philpot-lane, City, wine merchant—WILLIAM HENRY GRIMSDALE and THOMAS HART GRIMSDALE, Uxbridge, brewers—MOSES LIEMAN, Liverpool, tailor and outfitter—JAMES LONGMORE, Liverpool, provision dealer—JAMES REID, Liverpool, tailor and draper—FREDERICK PULBROOK, Surbiton, Surrey, grocer—EDWARD RICHARD NASH, College-hill, City, wine merchant—JOHN COTCHING, Hail Weston, Huntingdonshire, farmer—FRANCIS JONES, Walter-villas, Hackney, timber merchant—FRANCIS NICHOLLS, Thornhill-crescent, Islington, merchant—WILLIAM PORTER, Nottingham, builder—ROBERT HENRY ADAMSON, John-street, Berkeley-square, wine merchant—ROBERT PRUDHOE, Durham, grocer—HENRY TAYLOR and HENRY HOYLE, Manchester, cotton spinners—GEORGE JOHNSON, Billingham, county of Durham, corn merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JAMES HAMILTON, Muir's-buildings, Edinburgh, dentist—ALEXANDER KIRKWOOD, Charing-cross, Glasgow, plumber—JAMES MARTIN and Co., Glasgow, wholesale grocers—JOHN TERM, Partick, draper.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, December 19, 1856.
Most unexpectedly the Bank Directors have thought fit to lower the rate of discount this week to 6 per cent. Their proceedings are inexplicable, for if it were ever necessary to raise the rate to 7 per cent., all the reasons that made such a step imperative remain in force now.

The Bank of Holland has on the contrary raised its rate, and those cautious Hollanders generally understand when to shorten sail.

The immediate effect on the funds was to send them up to 9½, previously they had been drooping, the Persian war, and the French autocratic manifesto to Switzerland on the Neuchâtel prisoners, being the depressing causes. Foreign stocks are very quiet. Turkish Six per Cent. about 95½, and the guaranteed Four per Cent. 102½, 103.

The Foreign railway market is languid—a depression in Luxembourgs, Lombardo-Venetians, and Ceylons. East Indian shares of every description maintain their prices. Great Western of Canada and Grand Trunks are rather in demand. The new Bonds of the latter railway, of which there will be two millions issued, are at a slight premium. American Stocks and States securities are better supported this week. The land sales on the Illinois Central Railway have been so favourable that the stock has advanced considerably. Canada Land fell some 15½ per share, but has again recovered since the meeting of the Company took place.

In the home railway market there has been no great amount of business. London and South-Westerns are a shade flatter, the traffic returns being on the decrease. Westerns are also on the wane. The best supported market is in South Eastern and Caledonian. In Foreign mines there is no business; a good amount of business in Cornish and Welsh mines. All those in the Bassett and Tavistock districts that show promise, are in demand, while Liskeard has Wheal Trolawny, Wheal Mary Anne, Caradon, Wheal Wrey, and Treveatha increasing in price. A new adventure, brought out with influential names, for working certain coal mines in Belgium, has attracted considerable attention. The shares are dealt in prospectively at about 10s. per share premium.

Next Thursday, being Christmas-day, will be a holiday in the Stock Exchange, and the amount of business will be probably crowded into the three first days of the week.

At Four o'clock Consols close for the opening, 93½, 94; Turkish Six per Cent., 95½, 95½; Turkish Four per Cent., 102½, 103½.

Aberdeen, —; Caledonian, 92½, 93½; Chester and Holyhead, 37, 39; Eastern Counties, 91, 92; Great Northern,

88, 88½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 112, 114; Great Western, 69½, 69½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97, 97½; London and Blackwall, 6½, 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 111, 112; London and North-Western, 105½, 106; London and South-Western, 107, 108; Midland, 82, 82½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 83, 84; South-Eastern (Dover), 73½, 74; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½, 7; Dutch Rhenish, 1, 1 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 32, 32½; Great Central of France, 44, 44 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 5, 5½; Northern of France, 37½, 37½; Paris and Lyons, 54½, 55; Royal Danish, 18, 20; Royal Swedish, 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 9, 9½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, December 19, 1856.

HERE, the supplies of Wheat have been large, but off the coast they have been moderate, and in the country markets farmers have offered less than usual for sale. A reduction of 1s. to 2s. per qr. has not increased the inclination to get into stock, but cargoes of Taganrog Gliirka have been sold at 57s., 57s. 6d., 58s., and 59s. per qr.

Maize for Odessa has fetched as much as 36s. 6d. Barley has slightly improved; but Oats remain unaltered in value.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	218	218	218	218	217½	217½
3 per Cent. Red.....	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Consols for Account	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
New 3 per Cent. An.	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	94
New 2½ per Cents.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860	.....	2½	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	2 p	2 d	.....	.....	2 p	2 p
Ditto, under £1000	.....	2 p	.....	2 p	1 d	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	5 p	8 p	4 p	7 p	3 p	2 p
Ditto, £500	.....	8 p	8 p	4 p	4 p	.....
Ditto, Small	5 p	8 p	8 p	8 p	4 p	7 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	100½	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents .....	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per .....	.....
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	103	.....	.....
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	96½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	65½	Spanish	42
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	97½	Spanish Committee Cer- .....	.....
Equador Bonds .....	.....	of Coup. not fun.	6½
Mexican Account	21½	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	95
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	77½	Turkish New, 4 ditto	103
Portuguese 3 per Cents. ....	.....	Venezuela 4½ per Cents..	.....

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

Monday and Tuesday will be performed
WIVES AS THEY WERE AND MAIDS AS THEY ARE.

Characters by Messrs. Addison, G. Vining, F. Vining, G. Murray, White, Cooke, Franks, Coney, Mrs. Stirling, Mrs. Melfort, and Miss Swanborough.

After which the new Farce called
CRINOLINE.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Vining, J. Rogers, Danvers, and H. Cooper; Misses Bromley and Maskell.

To conclude with
JONES THE AVENGER.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, Danvers, J. Rogers, and Miss Maskell.

Friday, December 20th, a new Fairy Extravaganza by J. R. Planché, Esq., entitled

YOUNG AND HANDSOME.

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, Four, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton; and a new Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at a Quarter past Eight, P.M.—Admission, 1s.—Catalogues, containing Lectures as delivered by Dr. Kahn, gratis.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.

LIES.—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. The Patentees publish one only of the numerous testimonials they have received from eminent medical professors, relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy.)

“Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
February 19, 1856.

“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.

(Signed)

“A. S. TAYLOR.

“Messrs. Adnam and Co.”

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. O. ADNAM.

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

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HARRINGTON PARKER & CO. are now delivering the October brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by **HARRINGTON PARKER & CO.**, 5½, Pall Mall. November 24th, 1856.

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Certain Remedy for Disorders of the Pulmonary Organs: in Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.

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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 as the most speedy and effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Its leading distinctive characteristics are: COMPLETE PRESERVATION OF ACTIVE AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES.

INVARIABLE PURITY AND UNIFORM STRENGTH. ENTIRE FREEDOM FROM NAUSEOUS FLAVOUR AND AFTER-TASTE.

RAPID CURATIVE EFFECTS, AND CONSEQUENT ECONOMY.

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PEERLESS REMEDIES FOR THE CURE OF SCURVY.—Henry Vaughan, of Portsea, respectfully and gratefully informs Professor Holloway that he was suffering for many years with inveterate scurvy; yellow spots appeared on the face and hands, accompanied with distressing languor, weakness of the legs, fetid breath, days without hope, nights without sleep—the distemper only aggravated by medical advice—when providentially he was induced to obtain Professor Holloway's medicines, by the aid of which he miraculously regained health and strength in a very short time.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Guidicy, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

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This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind, for, during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

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The quality of beds, mattresses, &c., of every description he is able to guarantee; they are made on the premises, in the presence of customers; their prices are in harmony with those which have tended to make his house ironmongery establishment the most extensive in the kingdom.

Feather beds.....	from £1 5 0 to £8 0 0
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Counterpanes.....	0 2 6 " 0 15 0
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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. 10s. Postage, 4d.

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Tea ditto	18s.	24s.	30s.

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The object of this Company is to develop the resources of certain Collieries, situated in the most central and best portion of the well-known Coal Basin of Mons, in Belgium. They comprise two distinct sections, of which part is already in full working operation, and the remainder consists of Concessions from the Belgian Government, granted on condition that the Coal shall be worked.

The unworked Concession, known as "Bonne Victoire," situated at Asquillies, and those applied for, severally called "Mons Nimy," and "Ghlin," occupy an area of 18,000 acres; 156 well ascertained Coal Seams run through their whole extent.

The Collieries in full work are five, viz., "Bonne Veine," "Bonne Espérance," "Seize Actions," "St. Cécile," and "Midi du Flenu." They comprise an area of 2000 acres, with the right of working sixty-two Seams of Coal. It is calculated that their produce could be largely increased, within four years, at an outlay of 20,000. (See Engineer's Report.) The plant and other stock are ample, well-constructed, and substantial; the Engines now at work give an aggregate power of 939 horses. These Collieries are now yielding a minimum net profit of 40,000. per annum (See Report), and it is agreed that a preferential interest of 6 per cent. per annum on the Capital, now to be raised, shall be the first charge on these returns.

The confidence of the vendors of the working Collieries, in the success of their new undertaking, is further shown by their agreeing to accept in part payment of their property 20,000 Shares (representing 200,000.), denominated B. Shares; which, though considered as paid-up, are only to receive dividends in proportion to the amount paid up on the A. Shares, offered to the public. The remainder of the purchase money, consisting of 254,000. , is to be paid in Cash out of the first funds of the Company, at any time within two years from the incorporation of the Company. Two-thirds of the above 20,000 Shares will be annulled, should the new Concessions, contrary to expectation, fail in yielding Coal of a good commercial quality, and this proportion of the Shares in question will not be handed over to the sellers until such produce be realized.

The Coal is generally of a semi-bituminous quality. It is loaded at the several pit-mouths into the waggons of the Northern Railway of France for conveyance to Paris and the towns and manufactories along the line, at which there is a great demand, and also into those of the Haut et Bas Flouu Railway (which traverses the Collieries of the district, and connects them with the net-work of the State Railways of Belgium) for the supply of the towns and the extensive manufacturing districts of Flanders; the greater portion of the Coal, however, is conveyed by the Condé Canal, on the banks of which there are extensive sheds, where the boats are loaded. The existing facilities for transit will be further extended by the Railway now in construction between Mons, Haumont, and Maubeuge. The constant demand by Railways, Iron-works, Gas-works, and for other manufacturing and household purposes, is more than sufficient to absorb, at all times, the utmost produce of the Collieries.

At the request of the Directors, a detailed report on the present state of the Collieries at work, and to be worked, was prepared by the eminent French Civil Engineer, Mr. F. N. Dudot, which report has been confirmed by Mr. H. Gain, a local Mining Engineer of great experience. Subsequently, Mr. Charles Manby, C.E., was deputed to verify the statements made. A majority of the Directors have also lately made a personal visit to the Collieries, and having taken every means to satisfy themselves of the soundness of the undertaking, and the truthfulness of the above reports, they now feel justified in inviting the investment of Capital in the Association.

The Capital of the Company is divided into 100,000 Shares of 10. each, which are subdivided into two classes, viz., A. Preferential Shares, and B. Free Shares. The deposit will be 2. per Share, and the first call of 2. per Share will be due on the 1st June, 1857.

The vendors consent to waive their claim to any dividend on their B. Shares, till 3 per cent. shall have been paid on all the A. Shares, thus, in fact, giving to the A. Shareholders a preferential dividend to the amount of 3 per cent.; and in the event of the winding-up of the Company's affairs, the amount paid on the A. Shares will be repaid to their holders before any payment is made on the B. Shares.

Dividends will be paid half-yearly at the Company's

Bankers in London, Mons, and Paris, upon whatever amount may be paid-up on the several Shares.

The administration of the Company's affairs in Belgium is carefully provided for.

The various Reports alluded to in this Prospectus have been printed, and may be obtained on application at the Company's Office, as also a Chart showing the position of the Collieries and the new Concessions.

Applications for Shares must be accompanied by the Bankers' Receipt, for a sum equal to one Pound upon every Share applied for. The Deposit will forthwith be returned on such Shares applied for as may not be allotted.

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Each applicant for Shares will be required to pay into one of the Bankers of the Company one Pound (1.) per Share, on the number of Shares applied for, in part payment of the deposit of 2. , in exchange for which a voucher will be given. In the event of the Directors allotting less than the whole number applied for, the amount paid in will be appropriated towards the deposit of (2.) per Share, payable on those allotted. Should no allotment be made to the applicant, the Money lodged at the Bankers will be forthwith returned free of charge.

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