

Wm Edmund Galloway, Esq. & Co. Printers.

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1857.

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## Review of the Week.

THE postponement of Reform until 1858 has not prevented the introduction of several bills and propositions for effecting particular reforms in our representative system, and this week we have had additions to the list. The conduct of the Government in the matter is remarkable, but is perfectly intelligible; the conduct of the people at present is not so intelligible. The *Morning Star* notices the extraordinary manner in which the Government permits all kind of bills to be introduced, with every prospect, however, that they will be thrown out on the second reading. Lord PALMERSTON has avowed this course. He permits bills to be laid on the table as a subject of 'consideration,' and calls upon the House to support him in deferring every question of Parliamentary Reform until the session of 1858. Mr. LOCKE KING has introduced a bill to abolish the qualification of members of Parliament—a measure which would, indeed, assimilate the law to the fact. It is not requisite that a member should possess a property qualification, but he must *pretend* to do so. Mr. LOCKE KING's bill, therefore, repeals the law for obliging members to pretend that they have a property qualification; and how there can be any danger in removing a mere pretence we cannot understand; but the subject is treated as one of grave deliberation.

Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR has brought in a bill to remedy two defects in the present system. Candidates at elections must bear the expenses for the erection of hustings and polling-booths, as if the members themselves had a private interest in procuring their own election; as if, in fact, the election were a process for the sake of the candidate, and not for the sake of the country. Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR's proposal, therefore, is simply straightforward and just. It is met with various objections, most especially that if the candidates were not answerable for the expenses, all kinds of persons would be able to present themselves to the electors, and to hinder the election by a pretended candidature when they really did not intend to stand. But this objection only shows that there should be some effectual check upon trifling with the business of an election; it does not show that the charging expenses of hustings and polling-booths upon candidates is a proper check. Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR also proposed to make the payment for carriage hire of voters illegal in the same manner as treating and bribing. We are inclined to doubt the whole of

this class of prohibitory enactments. They are inconsistent with the principle of free trade, a principle which may be applied to almost every relation of life, but certainly to every form of exchange. In this instance, complete freedom would be its own protection. If the franchise were extended to every man indicated by the constitution, that is, to every man not in bond, it would be very difficult for the candidate to carry the electors to the poll; since what set of candidates is rich enough to pay the cab-hire of the million—nay, of the seven millions? With regard to this portion of Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR's bill we have no confidence; but it is obviously intended that the whole of these measures shall stand over till next year, with Mr. LOCKE KING's bill for extending the franchise to ten-pound occupants in counties.

In the meanwhile, however, Lord PALMERSTON brings forward his measure for altering the oaths to be taken by Members of Parliament so as to admit Jews. He is going to settle the long-standing question in which Lord JOHN has worked so sedulously without success. This seems to 'cut out' Lord JOHN; but we very much doubt whether the public will not remember how he remained faithful to that measure through the periods of adversity, and kept it alive to the present day, when it becomes an easy triumph for the Elected of 800,000. For our English head man cannot boast that he is elected by seven millions—the Seven Millions in England being disfranchised, and not able to vote 'yes' or 'no!'

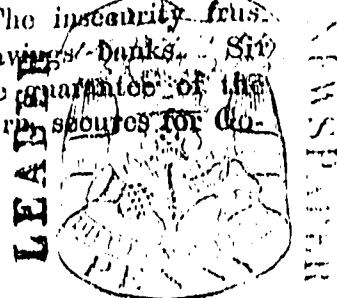
Another little instalment is also permitted for the sake of Scotland; the LORD ADVOCATE having introduced a bill to amend the law for the registration of persons entitled to vote in the election of members to serve in Parliament for counties in Scotland; and although challenged by members to observe the previous rule, of deferring these mere *clauses* until the great Reform Bill of 1858, the LORD ADVOCATE threatened obstinately to defend his measure on the second reading.

Government, therefore, is treating Reform exactly as it pleases—proceeding with it bit by bit, at the same time that it is obliging everybody else to defer separate instalments until the grand measure. The House of Commons offers no resistance to this course; indeed, there appears at present to be no section of the House strong enough to resist, and the country has absolutely acquiesced. Hawick comes forward, and Stroud has shown signs of life; but the Million are asleep on their arms. Two advantages for the Conservative classes might be

anticipated from the delay: they may be able to construct such a measure as will appear to satisfy clamorous demands on particular points, while avoiding every concession which can be prevented by setting one opinion against another; and they obtain all the advantage to be derived from the chance of any disturbance which may absolve them from the responsibility of proceeding. The delay also furnishes an opportunity for the people, or at least for those sincere Reformers who are really anxious to render the bill of 1858 such a measure as *they* would design. It will enable them to consult together, to organise, and to render the Reform Bill of 1858 a national measure.

In the meanwhile the minor reforms commenced are very numerous indeed. The bills for altering the law with reference to matrimonial causes and testamentary jurisdiction have been into the House of Lords, and the second reading of the former is fixed for Tuesday next. The bill comprises a change of the law with respect to the control of women separated from their husbands over their property. In the other House, Sir ERSKINE PERRY has introduced a bill giving married women rights which they do not possess at present over their property and earnings, at least requiring their consent for the disposal of the same. This bill is honoured with much favour from the Attorney-General, who criticizes it but supports it; Sir RICHARD BETHELL being the most learned of lawyers, and one of the most sincere. Still there is no prospect of its passing. The very principle is repugnant to the commonplace dogmas of the day, and if commonplace dogma is not represented in the House of Commons, where it has at least great influence, it resides in the majority of the House of Lords. Still a beginning is made.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER has introduced a Bill to alter the relations of savings banks to the State, with a view of extending savings banks throughout the country. Gentlemen undertaking the office of trustees were, by an Act in 1844, released from pecuniary liability. On the failure of banks more recently, it was discovered that nobody was really liable. The depositor lodges his money—probably his small savings—simply on the faith of the honesty of servants employed by trustees who have no responsibility at all—servants of masters who do not look after the business. It is natural that poor persons should hesitate to trust their wages to such custody. The insecurity frustrates the very object of savings-banks. Sir GEORGE LEWIS's bill gives the guarantee of the State for deposits, and, in return, secures for do-



vernment inspection into the actual solvency of the banks. Gentlemen who like honorary posts, persons of the 'J. P.' order, are offended, and they raise a cry of 'centralization' which depositors in savings banks will know how to appreciate. In fact, we do not see the use of the trustees at all. There is no reason why the savings bank should not be a branch of the State banking business, and should not constitute the depositors a sort of humble fundholders, leaving the power of drawing out their money without the risk of losing as they would by the sale of stock at a time of depression. If the trustees are troublesome, they had better be broomed away.

The Committee on the Bank Charter Act of 1844 is renewed. Of course we shall have no legislation on that subject this year.

Mr. HARDY has revived a measure which is an act of severe interference. He proposes to place beer-shops on a level with public-houses in regard to the stringency of laws regulating them. It is a pretended equality with the fact of gross inequality. The public-house deals not only in beer, but in wines and spirits, and approximates to the inn; offering a variety of trading facilities, with proportionate profits. The beer-shop is a much humbler affair; the liquor which is sold is far less intoxicating. But the true instigator of the bill is the fact that the beer-shops belong principally to the poor; and your severe moralist, who finds the well-to-do classes too strong for his dictation, revels in the thought of dictating temperance, quiet, and every virtue to the poor. All the wealthy HARDYS in the country are intent on picking a beam out of somebody else's eye; and as they will not be so unpolite as to poke their fingers into the eyes of the rich, they try it on with the poor.

Mr. DILLWYN is competing with Mr. FITZROY in preventing aggravated assaults on women and children. We have no sympathy with a man, be he rich or poor, who could raise a hand against a woman or child under any circumstances; but Mr. FITZROY's bill is working very well, and Mr. DILLWYN's is a superfluous luxury.

Mr. HEADLAM and Lord ELCHO are quarrelling in the presence of the House of Commons, their fight being conducted in the form of two bills. HEADLAM wishes to make professional as well as London degrees a sufficient qualification; ELCHO brings forward an old bill proposed by a select committee for purposes not very different, the quarrelling being chiefly about details. HEADLAM belongs to the professional, ELCHO is of the dilettanti class, but being also of the aristocratic class, he treats HEADLAM with very supercilious airs—a demeanour which a servile House of Commons rather relishes than otherwise.

Sir JOHN TRELAWNY has taken up the subject of church-rates, not satisfied with the position or promises of the Government in relation to it, and he appears determined that it shall be discussed.

The meeting at the Society of Arts was only in routine so far as that establishment goes; but so far as it was the appearance of Mr. J. B. SMITH to promote encouragement of cotton-growth in India, it was a demonstration of some importance. Mr. J. B. SMITH was the President of the Anti-Corn-law League, who individually did so much to concentrate the energy of that movement; and when he takes up a subject he means to push it. The difficulty lies chiefly in the state of land-tenure and of law in India; with the fact that the United States can already supply so largely, and can increase their supply so readily, any competitors will find it difficult to meet them in the market for some time to come.

The Grand Duke CONSTANTINE has left Paris officially, and is about to revisit it incognito—sly dog! Yes, that is the way to see Paris and to appreciate it. But suppose the police respected his incognito and arrested the anonymous alien wanderer—perhaps deported him! And then, after all, when he can get released from Paris, he is to visit England—just to touch at Osborne. Our Court, it seems, has felt itself bound to do the civil,

though, it is said, the most illustrious family in this land cannot abide the savour of any work that is 'bound in Russia.'

From China no news of importance; the chief intelligence relating to the Celestial Empire being, that other states join with the Western Powers in their armed demonstration—Sardinia and Austria, and perhaps more. Russia is already there. Is there to be a partition of China?

The Persian news is disastrous. We now know in some degree why General STALKER and Commodore FREREGE committed suicide: their minds gave way under anxiety respecting the position of the troops, arrested in an unhealthy tract of land, unable to advance to the healthier districts which they have already traversed; for they are restrained by the treaty of peace, although Persia has not yet ratified it.

From the West, too, we have rather disagreeable intelligence—that President BUCHANAN is ill. The latest accounts do not appear to be unfavourable; but since his indisposition is traced to accidental poisoning at the hotel, it implies that his ordinary strength for the gigantic labours of the presidency has been impaired.

In the West of Ireland potato riots continue. The uninformed peasantry cannot understand the wisdom of letting their own supplies be carried off by a free trade, which returns large profits to agents of general merchants. The starvation price in Ireland is below the level of London; and London will, of course, always command as many potatoes as it wants, though Oranmore go without. As London has many other things to feed upon, and Oranmore is almost reduced to potatoes, the best chance for the peasantry would be to look out for employment in other parts of Ireland, where agricultural hands are scarce. But the fine weather, which has a tendency to arrest the rise of prices, is the best solace for the poor Irish. The inhabitants are calling upon the High Sheriff of Galway city to convene a public meeting, in order to devise a peaceful remedy—seeming to point to the suppression of free trade. The real remedy would be better information diffused amongst the peasantry, enabling them better to distribute their labour, and to share those higher wages which are given in other parts of Ireland, and compensate the rise of prices.

In finally disposing of the Royal British Bank, under the bankruptcy, Mr. Commissioner HOLROYD has strengthened the demand for the prosecution; and he points to the directors generally, as amenable to the law which they have collectively infringed. This promises a very curious sequel of that drama. Even the British Bank directors, however, will look for substantial justice at the hands of English law, especially after the really fine specimen of it given in the acquittal of BACON. Everybody supposed that that man had murdered his children, laid the crime on his wife, and skulked about to evade the penalty. A patient inquiry, assisted by the freedom of evidence which is the boast of this country, has discovered that the wife really slew the children in a fit of insanity, that BACON was entirely innocent, and that he plunged into a foolish system of lying, partly to shield himself from suspicion, and partly, if possible, to shield his wife.

ROMANTIC YOUNG LADIES.—Two young ladies, a donkey, and a Skye terrier dog, were found early last Sunday morning under a hedge outside the town of Canterbury. The fair ones were closely muffled up, with the hoods of their travelling dresses over their heads; and by their side was a large home-made loaf and a carpet-bag. Two gentlemen's hats were also revealed to sight, but no signs of any male companions to wear them. The police, seeing an advertisement in the *Times* with respect to two fugitives whose description answered to the appearance of the young ladies, detained the latter, who gave but a lame account of themselves. On the following morning, they admitted to the Mayor that they were the persons referred to, but denied that they were sisters, though distantly related. Subsequently, it came out that family differences, 'and other causes,' had induced them to go to France, from which they had just returned, and had been travelling a most night and day. Their friends were telegraphed to, and replied that they would come and claim them.

LORD WESTMINSTER AND THE CHESTER RACES.—Lord Westminster having, after much thought, come to the conclusion that races lead to much immorality, has withdrawn his name from the Chester races; but he means to continue 'the Plate' so long run for as his gift. So far from wishing to put a stop to popular amusements, he desires to see them increased; but he cannot any longer reconcile it to his conscience to encourage by his name a sport which he conceives often results in demoralisation.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, May 11th.

### CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION.

PETITIONS were presented in the HOUSE OF LORDS from the civil servants employed in the ports of Wexford, Dartmouth, and Southampton, by Lords Carew, Fortescue, and Albemarle, complaining of the present system of superannuation.

The Marquis of CDANRICARDE presented similar petitions from the persons employed in the dockyard at Devonport, and from the officers of the Custom-house of Galway, and inquired whether the Government contemplated an early change of the system complained of.

Earl GRANVILLE said the subject mentioned in the petitions had been referred to a commission, and it was expected that the report of the Commissioners would be presented within a week. The Government, of course, did not intend to come to any decision on the question until they saw the report, and had an opportunity of considering it.

### ANSWER TO THE ADDRESS.

The Marquis of BREADALBANE brought up her Majesty's answer to their Lordships' Address in reply to the Royal Speech at the opening of the session.

### SALE OF POISONS, BODILY AND MENTAL.

LORD CAMPBELL called the attention of the Lord Chancellor to the necessity of further regulations for the sale of poisons. He also wished to mention the diffusion of another poison, far more fatal than strychnine or prussic acid—those cheap licentious publications with which the town is flooded. Referring to a trial before him on the previous Saturday, he said he thought it was the duty of the Government to take immediate steps to suppress this growing evil.—The LORD CHANCELLOR said, that the legislative enactments already existing are quite sufficient to put these nuisances down. With regard to the sale of poisons, the subject is receiving the attention of Government.

### TESTAMENTARY AND DIVORCE BILLS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR laid on the table the Testamentary and Divorce Bills, which were substantially the same as those proposed last session.—In reply to Lord CAMPBELL, who said that if the Testamentary Bill were identical with that proposed last session he should oppose it, the LORD CHANCELLOR stated that the new Court of Probate would be entirely separated from the Court of Chancery and Chancery Judges.—The Bills were read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time that day week.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

### THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. SCHOLEFIELD gave notice that, when Mr. Spooner's motion on the Maynooth grant came before the House, he should move as an amendment that it is expedient to withhold all grants of public money for religious purposes in Ireland. (*Hear.*)

### NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON presented a petition from Newfoundland, condemnatory of the proposed convention with France, relating to the Newfoundland fisheries.—Mr. LABOUCHERE, in stating that he would lay the papers on this subject on the table of the House, said that the convention which had been concluded between this country and France had become inoperative on account of the colony having refused to sanction it, in accordance with the optional power granted to them by the Home Government.

### POOR REMOVAL.

In answer to Mr. WISE, Mr. BOUVIERIE said it was not intended by the Government to introduce, in the present session, a bill on the subject of the settlement and removal of the poor.

### HOUSES OF PUBLIC REFRESHMENT.

In answer to Mr. BRADY, Sir GEORGE GREY said it was not his intention to bring in, during the present session, a bill for the better regulation of places of public refreshment which are open for the most part after twelve o'clock.

### CHURCH-RATES.

Replying to Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY, Lord PALMERSTON said he could only give the same answer as to the intentions of the Government upon the church-rate question that he had given on a former occasion—namely, that her Majesty's Ministers had the matter under their consideration, and were not without hope that they would be able to propose some satisfactory arrangements on the subject.—Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY: "Then I give notice that, if I do not receive a more satisfactory answer, it will be my duty to bring the subject before the House in the course of next month."

### SAVINGS' BANKS.

The House having gone into committee upon this subject,

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER proposed the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to amend the laws relating to savings' banks, and to provide for the establishment of savings' banks with the security of the Government." The bill he intended to found on this resolution differed in some respects from the bill of last session. The principal objection made to the former bill by the managers of savings' banks was with respect



to the provision for limiting the maximum deposit to 100%, the amount fixed by law at present being 200%: that clause he proposed to abandon. He designed in the present measure to calculate money invested by the Savings' Bank Commissioners at the price of money on the current day, instead of, as in the first bill, upon an average of the preceding quarter. He proposed to leave the appointment of the local officers to the managers and trustees, and that the daily superintendence of those officers should remain as at present. All he asked was, that the Savings' Bank Commissioners should have power to make regulations as to the duties of the officers, to fix the amount of the securities to be demanded of them, and to dismiss them when found to be incompetent. The solvency of all savings' banks he proposed to have proved by the production of the depositors' books. The condition had been in operation in Ireland, and was not found to be practically inconvenient. He also designed to introduce a clause prohibiting a private individual or private company from establishing any bank under the simple title of a savings' bank.

Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY strongly objected to the mischievous practice of allowing the Chancellor of the Exchequer to use the stock of the savings' banks for the purposes of the state in carrying on operations of finance. He suggested a consolidation of the law, and that the subject should be referred to a select committee: proposals which were also enforced by Lord GODERICH. —Mr. H. HERBERT hoped the Government would not abandon that portion of the proposed bill which provided securities against fraud. —Mr. ESTCOURT approved of the bill, with the exception of the part which removed the existing restriction upon the amount of deposits to 100%. —Mr. SLANEY supported the measure. —Mr. THOMAS BARING dissented from the discretionary power which was lodged in the hands of the National Debt Commissioners. —Mr. HENLEY thought that several points required considerable discussion. —Mr. FAGAN supported the bill, and Mr. CROSSLEY urged the appointment of a select committee. —The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in reply, refused to grant the select committee, which would have the effect of shelving the bill for this session. Sir Henry Willoughby's objections were not valid. —The resolution was then agreed to.

#### TRANSPORTATION BILL.

Sir GEORGE GREY moved the second reading of this bill, which proposes to abolish the sentence of transportation, and to substitute that of penal servitude for a longer period. The measure does not design to alter the power of granting tickets of leave, as a general rule. —Mr. BENTINCK, who thought that the labour of convicts might be advantageously employed in making harbours of refuge, &c., moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. —Mr. ROEBUCK was of opinion that a convict has no chance of obtaining honest labour in this country, where his antecedents are known, and that he should be transported to some uninhabited spot, after being previously qualified to become a colonist. —Sir JOHN PAKINGTON in the main approved of the bill, but objected to the element of uncertainty which would enter into the sentences. —The bill was also supported by Mr. COLLIER, Mr. PHILIPPS, Mr. BYNG, Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. EWART, Mr. LIDDELL, Mr. KEATING, Mr. PACKE, and Mr. HOPE. —Mr. DRUMMOND spoke in favour of extending the use of transportation; to which Mr. BAINES replied that a committee of the House of Commons had shown that, however desirable transportation might be, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to point out any place to which convicts can be sent. —Mr. HENLEY condemned the abandonment of the wholesome punishment of transportation. —Mr. WHITESIDE denounced the bill, which he said permitted the judge to pronounce one sentence, and the Government to substitute another and a severer punishment. —Lord STANLEY argued that transportation is not possible, and that the ticket-of-leave system had never had a proper trial. It was a fair question, however, whether convicts might not be employed on public works at home. —Mr. MANSIE suggested that a convict settlement might be established in the northern part of Australia. —The bill was then read a second time.

#### INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS BILL.

Mr. ADDERLEY moved the second reading of this bill, which is precisely the same as that introduced last session. —Mr. BOWYER opposed the bill on two grounds: first, that it introduced principles new to the judicature of the country, and interfered with the parental authority of the poor; secondly, that the effect, though not the intention, of the measure was to proselytize, since Roman Catholic children would be sent to Protestant schools. —The measure was further resisted by Mr. PALK, Mr. BARROW, Mr. BRADY, Mr. P. O'BRIEN, and Mr. RIDLEY. —Sir GEORGE GREY, while admitting that the bill required very careful consideration in committee, trusted that there would be no serious objection to the second reading. —Lord ROBERT CECIL and Mr. STANMORE approved of the bill, the second reading of which was carried by 177 to 18.

#### THE BANK ACTS OF 1844-5.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER moved for the reappointment of the Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the Bank Act of 1844 (7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32), and of the Bank Acts for Ireland and Scotland of 1845 (8th and 9th Victoria, cap. 37, 38). —After some discussion, the motion was agreed to.

#### INTRODUCTION OF MEASURES.

Sir GEORGE GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill to make other provision for the exercise of the powers of the General Board of Health; Mr. FITZGERALD a bill to Consolidate and Amend the Acts relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency in Ireland; and Lord BLANDFORD a bill to provide further for the mode of securing the incomes of ecclesiastical corporations, aggregate and sole.

The House adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock.

Tuesday, May 12th.

#### PROBATE AND DIVORCE BILLS.

In the House of Lords, in reply to Lord LYNDEHURST, the LORD CHANCELLOR intimated that, if their Lordships had no objection, he was prepared to take the second reading of the Probate and Administration Bill next Monday, and the second reading of the Marriage and Divorce Bill next Tuesday. It was proposed by the present Probate Bill that the Judge of the court should also be the Judge of the Divorce Court; and it was intended that eventually the whole of the jurisdiction now exercised at Doctors' Commons in testamentary and divorce cases should be discharged by one judge, who would ultimately take rank with the judges in Westminster-hall. —The Bishop of OXFORD endeavoured to obtain a postponement of the discussion; but he did not succeed.

#### LAW OF LIBEL.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, the petitions of various journalists which had been presented to the House, complaining of the law of libel in reference to the reports of public meetings, were referred to the select committee recently appointed to consider the subject.

#### TREATMENT OF CHINESE PRISONERS AT HONG-KONG.

The Earl of CARNARVON called the attention of the House to an account given in the *China Mail*, published at Hong-Kong, of the barbarous treatment to which the Chinese prisoners at that place had been subjected. They had been crammed, to the number of fifty, into a room sixteen feet long by fifteen broad, with but a small aperture for ventilation, and with no accommodation for the requirements of nature. In this reproduction of the Black Hole of Calcutta they were kept for twenty days, and, but for the help of the neighbours, who were roused by their cries, they would have starved, having been left without food for eight-and-forty hours. Lord Carnarvon also referred to the extraordinary language reported in the Hong-Kong journals to have been used at the trial of Allum by the Attorney-General. That functionary seemed to have adopted a line of conduct which no Attorney-General for many years had taken, and to have behaved in a manner which caused one of the jury to complain of his conduct. It seemed to him to be one of the most monstrous cases he had ever heard of; and, if those statements were substantiated, he trusted the Government would not shrink from censuring, as they were bound to do, the parties who were to blame. —Lord HARROWBY said he had not previously heard of the speech of the Attorney-General at Hong-Kong; but he believed that justice is administered in the colonies with perfect fairness. With respect to the confinement of the prisoners, he begged to call attention to a report received from the superintendent of police in answer to the charges that had been made. It was stated in the report that the prisoners were placed in a room on the ground floor, fifteen feet square, lighted by an opening from the top; that the chamber contained sufficient accommodation; that none of the prisoners were ill; and that the usual rations had been given to them. (*Hear, hear.*) The charges, he felt bound to say, had been brought in rather unmeasured terms, and language had been used which was not justified by the circumstances. The Government had written for further information on the subject, and in the meantime the papers moved for would be produced. —The Earl of MALMESBURY denied that unmeasured terms had been used. Lord Carnarvon had not expressed any opinion of his own, and had only evinced a desire to elicit the truth. —The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH hoped the Government would think it right to inquire into the conduct of the Attorney-General at Hong-Kong. —The motion for the production of papers was then agreed to, and the House adjourned shortly after six o'clock.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, the Queen's reply to the Address of the House on the opening of the session was brought up by Lord Castlerosse.

#### PASSING TOLLS.

Mr. LOWE, in answer to Mr. HUDSON, said it was the intention of the Government, when the state of public business permitted, to introduce a bill founded upon the recommendations of the committee of 1854 upon Shipping Dues.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

In reply to Lord ROBERT CECIL, Sir GEORGE GREY said he hoped soon to be able to introduce a bill embodying such of the suggestions of the Ecclesiastical Commission as required the sanction of Parliament.

#### THE LONDON CORPORATION.

Sir GEORGE GREY, in answer to Mr. LAURIE as to whether it was the intention of the Government to proceed with the Bill for the Reform of the London Corporation, remarked that, before deciding, he must see the fate of other bills of more pressing importance.

#### NEW GRENADA.

In reply to a question from Mr. WYLD, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Government is about to station, on both sides of the coast of Central America, such a naval force as may be thought necessary for the protection of English interests. He thought the Government of New Grenada much to blame in the dispute with the United States. The Washington Cabinet professes most just and honourable intentions. It disclaims all intention either of occupying any portion of the territory of New Grenada, or of seizing the railway; and merely demands that reparation should be made for the injuries done to American citizens.

#### AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Mr. DILLWYN asked leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act 16 and 17 Vic., c. 30, and to make better provision for the prevention and punishment of aggravated assaults upon women and children, and for preventing delay and expense in the administration of certain parts of the criminal law. —Sir GEORGE GREY, although doubtful of the efficacy of the means proposed, did not object to the introduction of the bill. He thought, however, that the existing law had not so completely failed as Mr. Dillwyn seemed to suppose. —Leave was then given.

#### PLACES OF REFRESHMENT.

On the motion of Mr. HARDY, the House resolved itself into a committee, to enable him to move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the general sale of beer by retail, and to regulate certain places of public resort, refreshment, and entertainment. His main object was to compel the keepers of beer-shops to get their certificates from the magistrates instead of from the excise. The keepers of public-houses had to undergo that ordeal, and it was quite anomalous that the keepers of beer-shops should escape all inquiry into their characters. With the view of meeting the difficulty arising from the capital embarked in beer-shops, he proposed to exempt all existing shops, the exemption to be lost in the event of misconduct. He proposed also to put coffee-shops under the control of the police. —Mr. KER SEYMER opposed the bill. —Sir GEORGE GREY, in answer to Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, said he could not promise to support the measure, but thought its discussion would prove beneficial. —Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

#### ABOLITION OF PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.

Mr. LOCKE KING, in a very brief speech, moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish Property Qualifications for Members of Parliament. He pointed out existing anomalies on this subject. The qualification for counties is 600*l.* a year; for boroughs, 300*l.* But, while this is the general law in England and Ireland, members for the Universities, as well as the eldest sons of peers, and even the eldest sons of knights of the shire, require no qualification, and in Scotland no qualification exists. —Lord PALMERSTON thought it had been the general understanding of the House that all questions connected with a change in its organisation should be postponed till the next session. (*Hear, hear.*) At the same time, if his friend was desirous of laying before Parliament the ideas which he wished to embody in his bill, he (Lord Palmerston) would not oppose the introduction of the measure for which, however, he saw no necessity; but he trusted Mr. King would let the bill, as well as the other of which he had given notice (with respect to the County franchise), lie on the table till next session. —Leave was then given; the bill was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the 10th of June.

#### SUPPLY.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. FITZROY in the chair, and (on the motion of Mr. WILSON) voted the usual estimates. The House resumed; the vote was reported; and the report was ordered to be received the next day.

The House adjourned at a quarter past six o'clock.

Wednesday, May 13th.

#### JUDGMENTS EXECUTION, &c., BILL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. CRAUFURD moved the second reading of this bill, which had been repeatedly introduced and discussed in the last Parliament. Its object is to remove an anomaly in our law procedure, by making a judgment obtained in any court of competent jurisdiction in the United Kingdom available for execution, by simple registry and notification, without action, in any other such court in England, Scotland, or Ireland. —Colonel FRENCH, conceiving that the measure would give facilities to fraudulent creditors, moved that it be read a second time that day six months. —Mr. BLAND seconded this amendment, and the bill was likewise opposed by Mr. AYRTON, Mr. M'MAHON, Mr. WHITESIDE, and Mr. NAPIER. Its supporters were — Mr. NEATE, Mr. MALINS, the LORD-ADVOCATE, Mr. HADFIELD, and Mr. STEUART. —Upon a division, the second reading was affirmed by 137 to 99.

The report of the Committee of SUPPLY was brought up and agreed to.

#### ELECTION EXPENSES.

Lord ROBERT GROSVEENOR moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the law in reference to the payment of conveyance of voters to the poll and the hustings' expenses by the candidates at elections, observing that his proposition was based upon a recommendation of a committee of the House in 1854, and was consistent with the spirit of our

legislation for the last thirty years.—Mr. WILLIAMS and Mr. DRUMMOND objected to throwing the expenses of the polling on the counties and boroughs.—On the House dividing, the motion was carried by 151 to 58.

#### COURT OF CHANCERY (IRELAND).

Mr. WHITESIDE moved for leave to introduce a bill to make provision for the appointment of Registrars to the Masters of the Court of Chancery in Ireland; also for the safe custody of title-deeds and documents lodged in the said court; and to amend the practice. He entered into various details to show the necessity that exists for the bill.—Mr. J. D. FITZGERALD (Attorney-General for Ireland), though regarding the measure as unnecessary, did not object to the bill being laid upon the table.—Leave was then given.

#### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Mr. HEADLAM obtained leave to introduce a bill to alter and amend the laws regulating the medical profession, the object and provisions of which he briefly explained. The measure, in its main features, is the same as that which had been before the last Parliament. The House adjourned about five o'clock.

Thursday, May 14th.

#### THE OPIUM TRADE.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY asked the Lord Chancellor what progress had been made by the law officers of the Crown in the inquiry into the legality of the opium trade in India?—The LORD CHANCELLOR replied that a case had been drawn up by the legal advisers of the Board of Control, which was about to be submitted to the law officers of the Crown.

#### ALLEGED INJUSTICE OF AN ANGLO-INDIAN MAGISTRATE.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for a return of the appointments held by Mr. Thomas in the civil service of the East India Company, in the month of September, 1854, and of the appointments he may have since held, up to the date of the latest accounts, distinguishing judicial from other appointments; also copies of any correspondence that may have taken place between the Governor, or other superior authorities, at Madras, and Mr. Thomas, relative to the case of Bhawanny Lallah v. Thomas, and the judgment delivered thereupon in the Supreme Court of Madras by Chief Justice Sir Christopher Rawlinson. His Lordship then proceeded to state the facts of the case, according to which, Bhawanny Lallah, a wealthy merchant and tradesman, was taken into custody, kept fourteen days before his examination came on, and then charged with being instrumental in collecting a mob on the 30th of September, 1854, during some religious ceremony. He denied the charge; but was bullied by the magistrate, and told to hold his tongue. Next day, the depositions were read over to him, and he was called upon to sign a paper, purporting to be a statement of what he had said; but he refused, because it was not a true account, and he offered to produce a witness to prove that he was not at the riot at all. The magistrate insisted that he should sign the paper; and, on again refusing, he was sent to gaol, with orders that he should be locked up all night without food. He was brought before the magistrate the next day, and, as he still refused to sign the document, the magistrate said, "Very well; you shall have solitary confinement for twenty hours more, with nothing to eat." The man, under that threat of starvation, at length consented to sign the paper, and was then told he was to deposit 10*l.*, or give security. He offered to pay the money; but the magistrate said, "I know you are a wealthy man; I will not take the money; I will remand you." For seventeen days and eighteen nights, that man was kept in gaol without trial or any legal charge being made against him, and without being convicted of any offence at all. At length, he was admitted to bail for 10*l.* The case was afterwards brought before Sir Christopher Rawlinson, when a verdict for 1000 rupees was obtained by Bhawanny Lallah; but, a point having been raised, the injured party had not up to this time got any redress whatever.

Earl GRANVILLE said the case was not yet ripe for discussion, and he therefore begged Lord Clanricarde to withdraw his motion.—This was agreed to, after a few remarks by Lord CAMPBELL, to the effect that throughout the great area of the Indian Empire justice is unsatisfactorily administered. The Queen's Courts in Madras, Calcutta, and Bengal, are exceptions, however.

The House adjourned about six o'clock.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. ROEBUCK gave notice that on that day fortnight he should draw the attention of the House to the state of our relations with Brazil, and move for a select committee to take into consideration those relations.

Sir CHARLES NAPLIER gave notice that on that day fortnight he should move for a committee to inquire into the Board of Admiralty; with a view to render it more efficient.

Mr. MACKINNON gave notice that on that day fortnight he should move for a select committee to consider the expediency of adopting a more equitable division of the land tax, and of allowing a further reduction of the same.

#### EMIGRATION OF CHINESE COOLIES.

Mr. DUNLOP put a series of questions to the Colonial

Secretary, in reference to the overcrowding of the John Calvin, and the consequent disasters of the voyage from Hong-Kong to Havannah.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said the questions related to a subject which had lately very anxiously and painfully occupied the attention of her Majesty's Government—namely, the emigration of Chinese coolies to Cuba. The John Calvin left Hong-Kong with a cargo of Chinese coolies, and, though the number was much greater than she was permitted, after inspection, to carry, it was much less than she was authorized to carry in reference to her size. There was, therefore, some doubt whether the letter of the act, though there was no doubt that the spirit, had been violated. He should consult the law officers of the Crown whether a prosecution under the circumstances would probably lead to a successful termination, and, if so, he should take measures to enforce the act. On the other hand, if there was a defect in the law, it would be his duty to see it rectified.

#### GUANO.

In answer to Mr. BAXTER, Sir CHARLES WOOD said there was no intention of sending vessels to search the coast of Africa for guano.

#### THE PEACE AMNESTY.

Mr. DUNCOMBE asked why William Cuffey had not participated in the general amnesty granted in the spring of last year by her Majesty to the political prisoners?—Sir GEORGE GREY said the name of William Cuffey had been included in the general amnesty; but, perhaps, at the date of the hon. member's advice, the list had not arrived at Hobart Town.

#### EDUCATION.

In reply to Mr. SLANEY, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON said he did not intend to move for leave to introduce any Education Bill this session, because he thought it would be quite useless for any independent member to attempt legislation on the subject at that period of the year. But it was his intention to call attention to the present state of popular education in England, and to move resolutions on the subject.

#### MARRIED WOMEN AND THE LAW OF PROPERTY.

Sir ERSKINE PERRY sought leave to introduce a bill to amend the law of property as it affects married women and their separate earnings. He observed that the state of our law on the subject is an anomaly and a departure from the law of all other civilized nations. A wife by the common law of England has no property whatever; and cases of great hardship arising out of this are of frequent occurrence.—The motion was seconded by Mr. DRUMMOND, who, however, doubted whether the measure would be effectual without greater facilities for divorce *à mensâ et thoro*.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it was not the intention of the Government to oppose the introduction of the bill. But it must not be forgotten that the laws relating to married women are intimately bound up with our social institutions, and he doubted the advisability of making a woman stand in the strong-minded position of being independent in all her acts, and responsible for them. He would say, however, let personal property be placed on the same footing as real, with regard to the husband; and he would make this enjoyment of the wife's property conditional on the discharge of his duty to maintain and protect his wife: if this duty were not discharged, the property should revert to the wife. (*Hear.*) As to the earnings of the wife, courts of equity already recognise her separate property in them. There is a third class of property belonging to the wife, namely, that acquired by her after marriage by gift or bequest; and this the law ought to secure her without an expensive application to Chancery, giving the husband the rents only, and on the condition he had named.

Mr. BAKERSTON HOPKINS objected to the bill; Mr. MONCKTON MILNES thought more discussion was needed, as it is notorious that cases of great hardship to the wife occur; and Mr. MALINS assented to the principle of the measure only so far as it relates to married people under legal or voluntary separation, not while they cohabit.—Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

#### CONTRACTS FOR THE PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS.

Colonel BOLDERO moved for a select committee to inquire into the principle adopted for making contracts for the public departments, and the effect which the present system has upon the expenditure of public money.—The motion was agreed to.

#### MINISTERS' MONEY.

Mr. FAGAN moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act 17th and 18th Victoria, chap. 11, with a view to the abolition of Ministers' Money in Ireland.—In reply to Mr. STAFFORD, Lord PALMERSTON said that, as far as regarded the principle of this bill, the Government is prepared to concur in it.—Mr. DISRAELI observed that the principle struck at the root of all Church property. If that were approved by the Government, the measure should be brought forward, not by a private member, but by Ministers, who were bound in fairness to take care that the House should have an early opportunity of expressing its opinion upon the subject.—After some further discussion, leave was given to introduce the bill.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

### THREE VISITS TO THE MANCHESTER ART TREASURES EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

#### II.

#### CHAOS OR COSMOS.

OUR contemporaries have so thoroughly exhausted all the statistics that can be given in connexion with the Art Treasures Exhibition that nothing is left for us to glean after them upon that ground. Doubtless our readers are by this time perfectly informed as to the length, breadth, and altitude of the building, its cubic contents, the superficies of glass in the roof, the gross weight of iron, the sum total of planking, how many pipes there are in the organ, how many persons pass through the turnstiles per hour, and how many ladies are admitted through the entrance which has been constructed for the special benefit of crinoline: all these are valuable facts, and more, must be by this time stored away in the note-books of nine-tenths of our readers, and we do not entertain the slightest doubt that they have given them a very clear idea of the Exhibition—as far as they go.

A few figures may, however, be useful in order to give some notion of the extent of the collection. The catalogue divides the mass of articles exhibited into nine great families:—1. Paintings by Ancient Masters; 2. Paintings by Modern Masters; 3. British Portrait Gallery; 4. Historical Miniatures; 5. Museum of Ornamental Art; 6. Sculpture; 7. Water Colours; 8. Engravings; 9. Photographs. Of these the catalogue specifies the separate items of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8, and these contain a grand total of 4975 articles; how many separate specimens are contained in the collections of Historical Miniatures and Photographs we cannot state precisely, but the (so-called) Museum of Ornamental Art consists of about 10,000 objects, which have been furnished by about 350 contributors. The general result is, that the collection brought together in the Art Treasures Exhibition contains altogether about sixteen thousand separate articles.

To arrange such a mass of materials in a proper manner, so as to make it useful to an educational end, required, it must be admitted, a systematising power of no mean order. It was for this purpose that the Manchester Committee obtained the assistance of several gentlemen from London having some reputation for skill in such matters—Messrs. Scharf, Cunningham, Holmes, Egg, Waring, Redford, Dudley, Chaffers, Planché, Delamotte, and Dr. Royle. These gentlemen divided the work between them, according to their specific qualifications; Mr. Scharf taking the Ancient Masters; Mr. Cunningham the Gallery of British Portraits, the Collection of Historical Miniatures, and the editing of the catalogue; Mr. Egg the Modern Masters; Messrs. Waring, Redford, Dudley, and Chaffers, the Museum of Ornamental Art; Mr. Redford the Tapestry and (in conjunction with Mr. Dudley) the Sculpture; Mr. Planché the Armour; Dr. Royle the Indian Collection; Mr. Holmes the Water Colours and Engravings; and Mr. Delamotte the Photographs. It is necessary to state this division of labour, because it involves also a division of responsibility, and if the work in any of the departments has been executed more or less well or ill, there should be a fair distribution also of the praise or blame. Thus it would be very unfair to bring Mr. Egg to account because the arrangement of the Ancient Masters is anything but satisfactory, or to accuse Mr. Redford because the Collection of Historical Miniatures is rendered all but useless, or to make any but the right person responsible for the terrible want of editing which has spoiled every page of the catalogue. Every shoulder must be made to bear its own fault, as well as every brow its proper laurels.

We have indicated that the arrangement of the Collection of Old Masters is anything but satisfactory. In the first place, as it is at present catalogued, it is almost impossible to determine with certainty the identity of any particular picture. Considering that the pictures have been previously very well known, and, for the most part, have been selected from celebrated collections, we do not understand what was the difficulty of ticketing them off properly. Yet some of the pictures are without any numbers on the walls, and others are without any description in the catalogue; upon others three or even four numbers (which have been previously affixed) confuse the inquirer. Thus we find a fine old portrait ticketed 203 (which stands in the catalogue as a 'Judgment of Paris'—G. Giorgione), 340 (which is described as a 'Venus'—G. Guido Reni), and 1092, which happens to be the right number. The plan of dividing the numeration of the pictures into separate classes is, in itself, very inconvenient; for, if they had been simply ticketed from 1 onwards, as they were received into the building, nothing would have been easier than to have divided them afterwards into schools and subdivisions; an index being added, consisting merely of the names of the masters and the numbers of the pictures, in order to show at a glance how many specimens of each painter there are in the Exhibition. But, confusing as the arrangement which has been adopted necessarily is, it is rendered still more so by the want of adherence to the plan such as it is. Thus, when we refer to Ward's magnificent 'Bull,' the catalogue tells us to look for it in Vestibule 1; but, after searching for it there in vain, it turns up unexpectedly in Vestibule 8; then again, in



the same vestibule, the catalogue describes Lawrence's portrait of Kemble in *Coriolanus*, as a 'Dance in the Open Air at Sans Souci,' the picture which really has that title being introduced as the veritable Lawrence. There are, perhaps, minor matters, but they betray carelessness; they will doubtless be remedied, but they ought never to have existed. Here is another example of the same careless editing. Nos. 17 and 25, in Saloon D, are both scenes from the 'Beggar's Opera,' by Hogarth. The former (which belongs to Mr. Willett) is in the original frame as designed by Hogarth himself, with a portrait of Gay, in colours, on the top; but the note indicating that fact is appended to No. 25, of which it is not true, and is omitted from No. 17, of which it is. In many cases the descriptions given in the catalogue are to the highest degree unsatisfactory. Thus, No. 32 in the Hertford Gallery is described as 'Cardinal Fesch,' from which one would imagine that it was a portrait of that worthy ecclesiastic, but certainly not that it is a charming example of Greuze, representing a Nymph upon her knees before the altar of Love, offering up the toys of her innocence and virginity. The only way of explaining this curious fact is by supposing that the picture once formed part of Cardinal Fesch's collection. Equally unsatisfactory is the definition of Lord Hertford's beautiful Poussin, as 'Mythological Subject,' somewhat vague, it must be admitted, for an admirable composition of Old Time playing to a band of Nymphs dancing before a Terminus, with the Hours flying overhead, and Cupid blowing bubbles in the foreground. Surely some such a title as 'The Bright Season of Youth' would have been much better than the bald and meaningless one 'Mythological Subject.' About the worst specimen of this insufficient naming, however, is also in the Hertford Collection: "No. 43, 'Exterior'—Decamps." Exterior of what? Of a church, a cottage, or a pigsty? The picture, in fact, represents a public execution of criminals outside the walls of Tunis. It is well known, and has been engraved. The figure of the wife of one of the unfortunate wretches is celebrated, and that of a boy who is suffering a beating at the hands of a horseman. Yet the catalogue has nothing to say about it, but simply—'Exterior!'

Another capital fault in the catalogue is the absence of any means whereby to discover what examples of any particular master are to be found in the collection. A painful search through the whole volume is the only means of effecting this. How that might have been contrived we have already pointed out; and here we would suggest that the space which has been ostentatiously filled with biographical notes upon the old masters might have been profitably employed for that purpose, leaving it to the visitors to look up these not very recedite facts there imparted in their Lanzis and their Pilkingtons, at leisure and at home. It scarcely needs an argument to prove that the most serviceable function of a catalogue is to show distinctly and at once what is and what is not in the collection. Suppose, for example, an amateur pays a hurried visit to the Art Treasures Palace: he has but an hour to spend and wishes to examine two or three pictures of world-wide celebrity. Say that he has set his mind upon Lord Overstone's splendid Murillos, the "Three Maries" of Annibale Caracci, Rubens's "Rainbow Landscape," and Gainsborough's "Blue Boy." How will the catalogue assist him in discovering them at once? Not at all. He must search quite through the volume for each of the desiderata; and the more hurried he happens to be, of course the less likely is he to gain his object.

An obvious inconvenience in the arrangement of the collections is perhaps not attributable to the executive; we refer to the manner in which the works of the same master are scattered about the building. This is (we are given to understand) mainly due to the pride of ownership which some of the contributors have exhibited by insisting that their collections should be kept all together. In the disposition of the Hertford Gallery this is very obvious, for nothing can be more incongruous than to find Murillo in juxtaposition with Greuze, Hobbema with Philip de Champagne, Velasquez with Rubens, Vandyke with Watteau, Rembrandt with Lancret and Paterre. In the Museum of Ornamental Art the same defect is to be deplored. Against the south wall, for example, we find some cases containing a magnificent series of carvings in ivory, but the Mayrick Collection of armour (at the north-east corner of the transept) contains what is perhaps the earliest known specimen of ivory carving, a specimen perfectly unique. This is a box, or casket, of the sixth century, and it would have been certainly much more in its place at the head of the collection of ivory than in the middle of daggers, toledos, and cuirasses.

But although the executive may be fairly held excusable in this matter, there is another objection which touches them more nearly; which is, that in this, which professes to be a collection of Art Treasures (a title which requires much for its fulfilment), there is far more rubbish than can be defended upon the excuse that it was desirable to illustrate every school of Art. The collection of pre-Raphaelite Masters is uniformly excellent; indeed, we doubt whether that interesting era was ever so richly illustrated in any other collection; but when we get to Raphael himself there is a manifest falling off. Perhaps it is not too much to say that there is not a

single *chef d'œuvre* by this master in the whole Exhibition; yet, in one batch, the catalogue sets down twenty-nine pictures under that honoured name, some of which are of more than doubtful authenticity, and others have been obviously retouched. The Titians, again, are numerous and inferior; one of them (Lord Darnley's "Europa") ought certainly to be never exhibited. Both Tintoretto and Paolo Veronese are very badly represented: so is Salvator Rosa. But of all the old masters, perhaps Rubens is the most hardly dealt with, for why should such real treasures as the 'Rainbow Collection,' the portrait of himself and wife carrying fruit and game, the "Prometheus" (with the vulture by Snyders), the "St. Martin," be shamed by such positive trash as is entered under his name? The names of many other masters suggest similar observations. The masterpieces of Gainsborough are put to flagrant shame in this manner; so are those of Reynolds (and even Sir Joshua perpetrated a daub *sometimes*), so Laurence, so Turner, so Landseer, and so a greater number of our living artists than we care now to specify by name. Suffice it to say that, in most cases, not only the treasures of a master are illustrated upon the walls, but representatives of his failures are not absent. Let it be distinctly understood, however, that we do not wish this criticism as to inequality to apply to the British Portrait Gallery. Where the object was to get a *portrait* (and the plan of this collection is not only laudable, but is well carried out by Mr. Cunningham), the quality of the work became a matter of secondary importance.

One more objection to a matter of arrangement, and we have come to the end of our catalogue of defects: the engravings might have been much better displayed. This is, perhaps, the richest collection in that branch of art that has ever been brought together. Under the name of Marc Antonio Raimondi we find catalogued eighty-nine masterpieces. It may serve to give those who do not happen to be iconophiles a notion as to what this means when we say that the price of good proofs of this master varies from fifty to eighty pounds sterling. Under the head of Albert Durer there are thirty-three specimens, under that of Raphael Morghen eighteen, under that of Rembrandt seventy-nine. The specimens are, for the most part, good, and in many cases excellent in quality; but here also, as in the pictures, things quite the reverse of treasures are admitted—*banalities* of the modern French and English schools that no one having any pretensions to taste would deem worthy of a frame. The consequence is, that many of the masterpieces are hung in such a manner as to be quite inaccessible for the purpose of examination. The Marc Antonios and the Albert Durers are placed, altogether, occupying a space upon the screen between the level of the foot and three to four feet above the level of the eye. More than half of them are, therefore, practically lost, and, for the purpose of intelligent examination, might just as well have remained in the portfolios of their owners. As an example of the general want of judgment which pervades the arrangement of the engravings, it may be noticed that Sir Charles Price's splendid impression of Rembrandt's "Hundred Guilder Piece," a proof on India paper, is hung in a corner considerably below the line. It may be some compensation, however, to the baffled amateur to find that instead of a satisfactory arrangement the editors of the catalogue have treated him to an essay upon the Art of Engraving, of which the following luminous sentences will serve to give an idea:—

Among those arts which contribute largely as well to the use as to the gratification of mankind, the practice of taking upon some material impressions from surfaces prepared by being cut into or engraved, has for many ages attained considerable importance, and in the galleries of this Exhibition, which have been appropriated for the purpose, the visitor will find himself surrounded with specimens illustrative of the progress of that art from its earliest invention to the present time. In speculating upon the origin of this practice, we may well imagine that the form of even a fallen leaf left casually in the soft ground, the markings there of the feet of animals or of man, would at first naturally only present to the mind the notion of the contact with the passing individual. A few lines, however thoughtlessly perhaps, traced with the finger in the sand, may have given rise to the idea of copying these impressions, and their originals, as well as of ornamenting surfaces of stone or of metal, or of wood, or of clay, as in the instance of the most primitive pottery, with tracery, by means of cutting instruments, and thus we are prepared for the very early appearance of engraving upon those substances; and some such mark from the hand of man, or even the indentation of a tooth, soon became associated with the idea of the use or property of the marked thing being in a person, whence came the invention of the engraved sign or stamp, and the cutting of gems in intaglio—the striking of coined money bearing designs or characters—the cutting in relief or in cameo, and other processes of kindred natures.

Of course, we do not mean to deny the advantage that might have been derived from clear, succinct statements, briefly and intelligibly explanatory of the origin and progress of the various arts illustrated by this exhibition; but the reader will judge as to what kind of, and how much, benefit is to be expected from such a lucubration as that which we have just quoted.

From the general tenor of the above observations, it will be gathered that the Art Treasures Exhibition has many defects in form and detail; some of which were, perhaps, unavoidable, some of which have arisen from causes out of the reach of the executive committee, and some of which (if fairly chargeable against the officials) are more than atoned for by the excellent service which

they have rendered in other respects. A more logical arrangement of the works of art would certainly have rendered them more available for educational purposes; and if that had been found absolutely impossible, a well-framed catalogue would have gone far to amend the evil. The latter is not yet impossible, for we perceive that the word 'provisional' stands upon the back of the edition originally issued. This, however, we tell the editor frankly: that the whole work must be entirely remodelled, and each part thoroughly revised, before the catalogue can at all equal what the public has a right to expect.

Let it not be supposed, however, that fault is the only thing that can be found in the magnificent Art Palace at Old Trafford. On the contrary, it teems with excellencies and beauties of which it will be our pleasure to give a brief account in the next section of this sketch. In the present article we have fairly stated all that appears objectionable to us in the organisation and working out of the scheme, and we have done our utmost in that respect; deeming that, in a great national scheme of this importance and magnitude, severe criticism, if honestly applied and without malice, is likely to be of better service than fulsome, indiscriminating praise.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

THE reports of the trade of the manufacturing towns during the week ending last Saturday show no alteration. At Manchester, the dulness has been increased by the firmness of the Liverpool cotton-market, which further diminishes the relative profit on manufactured goods, and induces a limitation of production. The Birmingham accounts describe steadiness in the iron trade, and confidence with regard to its prospects. For the general manufactures of the place, the foreign and colonial orders are in most cases satisfactory, and there is also a fair home demand. In the woollen districts there has been a slight increase of activity; but the Irish linen-markets are without change.—*Times*.

The general business of the port of London still remains very inactive. This is owing to the easterly wind. A large number of vessels are now overdue. The total number of vessels reported inwards during the week ending last Saturday was 131, being 18 less than in the previous week. These include the American ship *Swallow*, with a cargo of 26,084 packages of tea. The number of ships cleared outward was 135, including 12 in ballast, showing a decrease of 19. The total number of vessels on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 47, being 5 less than at the last account. Of those now loading 4 are for Adelaide, 3 for Geelong, 3 for Hobart Town, 3 for Launceston, 1 for Melbourne, 4 for New Zealand, 12 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland Bay, 15 for Sydney, and 1 for Swan River. Of these, 1 was entered outward in January, 2 in February, and 9 in March.—*Idem*.

Certain persons connected with the London General Omnibus Company, called horsekeepers, whose duty it was to attend to the horses every morning and night, have struck on a question of pay. This put the drivers and conductors to some inconvenience, but they groomed their beasts for themselves, and so matters went on. The strike was not general, though the disaffected tried to make it so by going about to the various yards, urging their brethren to join them. None of those on strike will be again received into the company's service.

The pitowners in the neighbourhood of the Lundhill Colliery have resolved to enforce on their workmen the use of the safety-lamp. The colliers, however, cannot get through the same amount of work with the guarded as with the naked light; and, as the masters will not make a corresponding advance in wages, the pitmen struck. The masters, contrary to the usual custom, have offered to supply lamps and oil at their own expense. At a meeting of the men, it was unanimously resolved to resume work, and give the lamp a fair trial.

The shoemakers at Rotherham have also struck. The cause is thus stated in the daily papers:—"Owing to a pressure of business, one of the master shoemakers at Rotherham a day or two ago hired some men who were not connected with the operative union of that branch of trade; whereupon the union hands immediately struck work, and refused to resume their employment until the non-union men were discharged. A meeting of the masters was subsequently held, at which it was resolved to support their brother tradesman in the course he had adopted, and also to discharge every union hand in the town unless his men went back to their work. This was refused, and the refractory workmen were all discharged, the masters adopting a resolution never in future to employ any workman connected with the Journeyman Boot and Shoemakers' Union."

#### IRELAND.

A MADMAN IN A COACH.—A person named Wilson, while travelling in a coach near Fermanagh, suddenly drew a razor, brandished it about in a menacing manner at a young lady with whom he was riding, and would have stabbed her had she not warded off the lances with a basket. She screamed loudly, and a militia captain who was on the box seat, coming to her assistance, removed her in safety, though not without receiving several wounds himself.

**JAMES SADLEIR.**—A letter to the *Dublin Evening Post* from Mr. James Saddleir, in answer to some statements by Mr. James Scully, has been published. The writer says: "I never owed the bank or any bank a shilling, but always had a considerable sum to my credit in the Tipperary Joint-stock Bank, and during the run 5900*l.* due to me, which I might have drawn out, or even after Mr. John Saddleir's death. I never had any connexion, directly or indirectly, with any one of the numerous speculations Mr. John Saddleir appears to have been mixed up in, or any other speculation. From the moment I discovered in London, late in 1855, the extent of the land transactions he was mixed up in, and railways in England, France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and Italy, I denounced him in the strongest language I could, for having allowed himself, under any circumstances, to be engaged in so many undertakings, though I had the strongest assurance from himself, and some of his friends, that large and immediate payments were to come to him from each undertaking; and I have got the sums in a return given to me that were to come from each. From all the information I could collect a short time before his death, from himself and some of his friends, I was fully satisfied the worst was over, and that he was fast getting out of the temporary difficulties he had got into, and that he would have a considerable surplus after paying all debts that I had any knowledge of." The letter is dated Paris, May 8th.

**THE POTATO RIOTS.**—Further disturbances to prevent the exportation of potatoes have taken place at Ovanmore. It was found necessary to bring out the police and soldiery; and one or two persons were injured by the violence of the mob.

### THE ORIENT.

#### PERSIA AND INDIA.

SOME very important intelligence from the seat of war in Persia has been communicated by telegraph to the Peninsular and Oriental Company's agent at Alexandria, and by him to the London papers. We here read:—

"Before the news of the conclusion of peace with Persia could reach us, an expedition to Mohammerah sailed from Bushire on the 19th of March, under the personal command of Sir James Outram. The force arrived in the mouth of the Euphrates on the 21st. On the 24th, it moved towards the fort, and opened a brisk fire at daybreak on the 26th. The Persians replied with spirit, but in the end the superiority of our squadron was manifest, and our troops having landed, advanced upon the entrenched camp of the enemy, who fled immediately, leaving behind them their tents, stores, &c. The loss of the enemy has been estimated at 200 killed.

"As a truly tragic episode of this war, we have to mention the death, each by his own hand, of General Forster Stalker, Commander of the Forces, and Commodore Etherege, of the Navy. The verdict on General Stalker's body was, that he came by his death from a pistol-shot inflicted by his own hand in a fit of temporary insanity. There was no paper left to indicate this. He was merely heard to complain that the 3rd Cavalry was not given him, and he was also uneasy about the responsibility of sheltering the European troops during the approaching hot weather. The verdict on Commodore Etherege was, that he destroyed himself with his own hand while suffering under mental aberration, brought about by long-continued anxiety connected with the duties of his command.

"A mutiny of the Sepoys of the 19th Bengal Native Infantry has ended in the disbanding of the corps. The Governors of the Presidencies are at the seats of their administration. A further improvement has taken place in our money-market, and we have to report a further rise in four per cent. paper. The business transacted in the import market during the fortnight has been to a fair extent. Freights have fallen in value, and exhibit a downward tendency."

Advices from Constantinople state that, after taking Mohammerah, the English commander learned that the treaty of peace had been concluded, and ordered a suspension of hostilities.

### AMERICA.

THERE is very little political news from the United States this week. President Buchanan is indisposed. The Filibusters continue to pour back from Nicaragua; but another expedition is talked of at New York, in the interest of Santa Anna, the ex-Dictator of Mexico. Generals Wheat and Hornsby were among a party of one hundred and ten of Walker's adventurers who arrived at New Orleans on the 6th of April. Others belonging to Colonel Lockridge's force had been left behind at Aspinwall, where they were taken off by a vessel of the English fleet. The Costa Ricans have taken possession of Punta Arenas, together with the steamer *Rescue*, a quantity of ammunition, and six pieces of artillery. The transit route is said to be open to the Pacific. Two thousand troops have been despatched from Vera Cruz to the Mexican capital.

An insurrectionary movement, in which Senor Agoular, a former minister of Santa Anna, is implicated, has been detected and suppressed at Mexico. The *Mexican Extraordinary*, of April 4th, says:—"We hear it stated

that the Chargé d'Affaires of the British Legation has presented his ultimatum to the Mexican Government, stating that if in nine days his demands are not satisfied he will close the Legation. Six days of the aforesaid nine have expired already; so we may expect in the course of the next few days to learn the result of this demand. The road from Vera Cruz to Mexico city is now safe. Throughout the whole distance, small parties of mounted guards are posted, who ride from one station to the other and protect the road from robbers. A tax of half a dollar on each passenger by the diligence is levied to defray a portion of the expense incurred by this road guard."

According to a despatch of General Mora, commander of the allied forces of the Costa Ricans, Rivas is invested, the Filibusters are being slowly starved, and desertions from their ranks frequently take place. Some accounts say that symptoms of dissension between the Costa Ricans and Nicaraguans had already shown themselves on the Atlantic side and in the interior.

"From Kingston, Jamaica," says the *Times*, "we learn that on the 16th ult. a schooner, evidently American, was towed into port by her Majesty's brig Arab. It was soon ascertained that the schooner was a slaver, and that she had on board a large number of captives. She had been closely pursued by the Arab, and the captain, finding there was no possibility of escaping, deserted, taking with him in a shallop his crew, money, chronometer, and other useful articles. The commander of the Arab despatched his gunboat with fifteen men, under the command of his first lieutenant, with orders for the capture of the shallop. The chase continued for nearly three hours, and, a shot having destroyed the rudder of the shallop, the captain, who was owner of the slaver, surrendered. Two of his principal slaves and an interpreter were taken from the shallop, and the crew left in it, to make the best of their way to Cuba. The first lieutenant then boarded the schooner, and found her filled with young Africans, males and females, to the number of three hundred and seventy-three, no less than one hundred and twenty-seven having fallen victims to the horrors of the middle passage during a voyage of twenty-nine days. The poor captives were in a wretched condition; all of them were naked, and the greater part seemed to have been half starved. They were packed closely together, and covered with dirt and vermin."

Yellow fever is producing great ravages at Montevideo. Serious dissensions are reported to have broken out among the Mormons, both at San Bernardino and the Salt Lake.

The Indians continue to give great trouble on the frontiers of Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska. There has been much slaughter of white settlers, and several contests have taken place with the troops, who are pursuing the savages into their strongholds. Some of the New York papers, however, state that these reports are either entirely fabricated or highly coloured, for the purpose of keeping up the price of land in the eastern territories by preventing emigration to the west.

Mr. Stevenson, the newly-elected English Superintendent of Belize, landed from her Majesty's ship Arab on the 30th of March, and was sworn in the next day with much ceremony. On the following day, the Arab took him down to Ruanan, where he was sworn in, in the name of Queen Victoria, as 'Her Majesty's Lieutenant-Governor of the Bay Islands.'

The boiler of a steamer on the Delaware and Haarlem Canal has exploded, killing five persons and fatally injuring three others. A collision has occurred on the Ohio river between the steamboats Rainbow and Julia Dean, owing to which the latter sank immediately, and five or six persons were drowned.

In the New York money market there has been a more cheerful feeling, though trade generally has been dull. The Pacific Express Company (San Francisco) has failed.

### SPEECH OF LORD NAPIER AT NEW YORK.

AT the annual dinner of the St. George's Society of New York, held on St. George's Day, Lord Napier, who was present as a guest, responded as follows to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers and Representatives on this continent:—"

"Gentlemen,—I beg to offer you my very sincere and cordial thanks for the honour which you have done me in associating my name with the toast and with the health of 'Her Majesty's Ministers.' Her Majesty's Ministers will be highly gratified when they learn that their names and their offices are held in such esteem, regard, and memory by their fellow-countrymen residing in the United States. I myself, gentlemen, in my own personal capacity, am sensible that I am undeserving of the acclamations which you have deigned to bestow upon my name; but I see in the manner in which you have received it a warm revulsion of those feelings of sympathy and regard which may be suspended or obscured for a time, and by accident, between America and England; but which are ever deeply founded on the affections and the interests of the two countries. (*Loud cheers.*) The office which I have the happiness to fill, and in which you have done me the honour to wish me well, is one which has been familiar to my hopes and wishes from a very early period of my life and services.

I may still maintain that there is not a more grateful, a more glorious, or a more useful employment than this employment, which I share with my venerable friend, the United States Minister in London—the employment of holding aloft the ensigns of peace and friendship between the two great branches of the English race. (*Loud cheers.*) I feel that I entered upon that employment here at a most auspicious period. I can assure you that I have met, upon the part of the President of the United States, upon the part of General Cass, upon the part of all the ministers and functionaries of the United States with whom I have been brought into contact, every manifestation of that cordial and friendly disposition which animates the Government and the community of Great Britain. (*Cheers.*) There are no questions involving any degree of anxiety or apprehension pending between the two countries—(*cheers*)—and I am sometimes disposed to hope that the time may soon come when there will scarcely be any subjects of official correspondence at all. (*Cheers.*) If I may not flatter myself with this agreeable prospect of official vacuity—(*laughter*)—if I must look forward to my fair and natural share of discussions and debates, surely, gentlemen, we have in the experience of the past the best grounds for believing that there can never be a question so difficult or so complicated that it may not meet with a prompt, with a peaceful, and with an honourable solution. (*Loud cheers.*) There are many questions at once envenomed and alarming which have been settled in a pacific manner in our recent negotiations. Our eastern boundaries have been defined by one treaty. Our western boundaries have been settled by another. The disputed fisheries, which at one time threatened to embroil us, have been converted, by the salutary engagements of reciprocity, into a source of mutual wealth. Finally, gentlemen, the question of the privileges of neutral trade in time of war—that question which for so long was the constant cause of complaint and recriminations—has now obtained, by the spontaneous declarations of her Majesty's Ministers during the late hostilities, that liberal interpretation so often desired by the United States, and which no Government of England hereafter will ever be inclined to evoke or to repeal. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, I am justified, then, in saying that by an easy exercise of frankness, of mutual forbearance and indulgence, no question can arise between our countries which will not admit of an easy and an amicable settlement. But, gentlemen, I desire more than cordiality—I desire co-operation. (*Cheers.*) Now, gentlemen, I do not wish to alarm the citizens of the United States who are here present by raising before their averted eyes the phantom of 'entangling alliances.' (*Laughter and cheers.*) Entangling alliances, gentlemen, are a kind of political spectre which seems to have descended with undiminished terrors from the period of the Revolution to the present day. (*Cheers and laughter.*) There may be mutual co-operation where there are no written engagements; and, gentlemen, where the heart is wanting, there may be written engagements without mutual co-operation. (*Cheers.*) All, then, that I wish to say is, that our respective Governments should perpetually make an early and sincere declaration and avowal to each other of their views and intentions with respect to all subjects which involve the common interests of the two countries—(*cheers*)—whereby they will have the benefit of mutual good offices and mutual counsel, and whereby they will be able to avoid those one-sided resolutions and those startling announcements which are apt to disturb the confidence of commerce and calculate to excite the sensibilities and jealousies of two high-spirited nations. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, the only entangling alliance which I shall venture to recommend to your adoption is the submarine cable between this country and England. (*Great laughter and cheering.*) My friend, the hon. chairman, has been so kind as to allude in terms of glowing eulogy and encomium to the services which members of my family have been enabled in former times and generations, to offer to their sovereign and country either in the departments of science or in those of war. The sincerity with which that encomium was pronounced, and the manner in which those observations were received, are certainly exceedingly gratifying to my own pride; and all this is an additional incentive to me to endeavour to render myself not unworthy of those services which were performed by members of my family upon previous occasions. (*Cheers.*) I cannot flatter myself that I possess any peculiar fitness, or any local experience, which could enable me to perform the duties of her Majesty's Minister in a distinguished manner. But this I can assure you, that I undertake those duties with the highest satisfaction and with the happiest anticipations. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) Gentlemen, it was some time ago observed in England, and it was repeated in some quarters in America, that the members of the regular diplomatic profession of Great Britain were not qualified by their previous education and experience to contend with the stubborn and masculine elements of American politics. (*Cheers.*) It was supposed, gentlemen, that we were so injured in the petty acts and in the dark practices of 'cabinet intrigue,' that we were so accustomed to humble ourselves in the twilight of military courts, that we were not qualified nor disposed to meet a free people in the light of day. (*Loud cheers.*) Gen-



tlemen, did you observe any symptoms of this intellectual decrepitude in Sir Richard Pakenham or in Sir Henry Bulwer? I have not the honour of having ever served with those distinguished personages, but, in honour to the profession to which I belong, I am justified in alleging that in my friend and my former chief, Sir Hamilton Seymour, I never observed any want of vigour or capacity. And, gentlemen, I never observed any want of vigour and independence in my later master, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, who has passed thirty years of his indefatigable life in contending against the ambition of arbitrary power in one country, and in mitigating its abuses in another. Gentlemen, I do not wish to say anything unduly and ungratefully depreciatory of any country or of any Government. I have had some experience of despotic Governments. I have lived in Naples, in Turkey, and in Russia. There are elements of happiness in them all. Fortunately, I say, there are elements of kindness, of culture, and of happiness which no political system whatever can exclude from the face of nature and from the hearts of men. (*Loud cheers.*) But neither the retrospective glories of the Italian scene, nor the ancient repose and the picturesque associations of Oriental life, nor the splendid enchantments of social life which have arisen in their most agreeable form upon the borders of the Neva, can ever make an Englishman undervalue or forget those principles of freedom which have been cherished by our common fathers at home, and which by them were sown broadcast upon the soil of the great American continent. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, I have, since my arrival, sometimes observed an impression in the United States that the development of this country is regarded with jealousy by England. That is an erroneous opinion. (*Cheers.*) You will bear me out in the assertion that the last vestige of former prejudice founded on the animosities of two unhappy wars is being very rapidly extinguished. The peaceful and legitimate expansion of the United States forms a matter of satisfaction and pride for every reasonable Englishman. That expansion forms the best resort and relief for our superabundant population; it forms the best market for our increasing industry; it is the triumph of our labour and our arts, of our language, our religion, and our blood. (*Loud cheering.*) No thoughtful Englishman can contemplate this unparalleled spectacle of future predominance without emotions of thankfulness and praise. No thoughtful foreigner can regard it without a sigh, because Providence has not reserved the future empire of the world for his own tongue and his own race. (*Cheers.*) These sentiments of sympathy and goodwill, to which I give a feeble utterance, are, believe me, not rare or partial in our country, nor do I derive them from obscure authority. (*Hear, hear.*) I have gathered these sentiments in the benevolent pages of a Carlisle, in the wise conclusions of an Aberdeen, and in the eloquent declarations of an Elgin. I have heard these sentiments declared and enforced from the bench of the Government, and I have heard them echoed back from the benches of the Opposition. These sentiments have been inculcated upon me with sincere and careful emphasis by the Earl of Clarendon, and by that noble viscount who is first in the councils and the hearts of the British people. (*Immense applause.*) Finally, gentlemen, I have received these sentiments as a faithful trust from the hands of my Sovereign, and I will not lay up this profitable talent in a diplomatic napkin."

At the close of this speech, his Lordship was loudly cheered.

## CONTINENTAL NOTES.

## FRANCE.

THE abrupt departure of Prince Napoleon for Berlin has been attributed to a mission for the final settlement of the Neufchâtel question, to a desire to return the visit of the Prince of Prussia, and to the necessity of getting him out of the way of the Grand Duke Constantine, to whom he behaves with marked coolness. The last is the most probable reason.

It is whispered in Paris that the Grand Duke Constantine and the French Court do not get on in the most cordial way imaginable, and that the Russian Prince contrives to make it apparent that he does not look upon the present dynasty as likely to be permanent. He is accused of behaving with abrupt haughtiness, of making too many inquiries as to all he sees, and of taking too many notes. He was entertained last Saturday at a magnificent banquet given by Prince Jerome. Prince Napoleon was already off to Berlin, and the two Imperial grantees had therefore no further opportunity for exchanging their mutual coldness and distrust.

M. Duchesne de Bellecourt, First Secretary of the French Legation to the Germanic Confederation, has arrived from Frankfurt in Paris, to take the appointment of First Secretary to the French Commissioner Extraordinary to China.

The *France Centrale*, of Blois, publishes a letter addressed by the Count de Chambord to General Count de la Rochejaquelein, condoling with him on the death of his aged sister-in-law.

The Tribunal of Correctional Police on Friday week brought to a close the trial of fourteen men accused of having got up a secret society for the overthrow of the Government by means of an insurrection which was to

have broken out on the 24th of last February—the ninth anniversary of the revolution of 1848. They were found guilty with three exceptions, and were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment (none, however, of great length) and to fines of different amounts.

The fête commemorative of the deliverance of Orleans by Jeanne d'Arc took place on Thursday week in that city.

The Bank of France Bill presented to the Corps Législatif last Saturday differs materially from the scheme circulated at the Bourse. The capital is to be doubled, and the produce of the new shares, instead of being applied to relieve the immediate wants of the Treasury, will only be so applied to the extent of 100 millions in the course of the year 1859. To cover itself, the Bank will receive a sum of Three per Cent. Rentes at 75fr., from the Caisse d'Amortissement. The privileges of the Bank are to be prolonged for thirty years. In exchange for these advantages, the Bank is to make advances upon Crédit Foncier obligations as well as upon public securities and railway shares. It undertakes, moreover, to make advances to the Treasury not exceeding eighty millions. A very important clause in the bill is that which permits the Bank to add a charge for commission to the interest upon its advances and discounts. This question has been very vehemently discussed. The change amounts in substance to a partial repeal of the French usury laws. Instead of being prohibited from taking more than six per cent., while the Bank of England may be lending at seven or eight per cent., the Bank of France will now be able to charge whatever rate money may be worth in the market.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent.*

The Emperor and Empress, accompanied by the Grand Duke Constantine and a numerous suite, left Paris for Fontainebleau at one o'clock on Monday.

The *Nord* has been seized for a libel imputing to the Emperor, Empress, Grand Duke Constantine, and Court, the vulgar and ignoble amusement of attacking and defending a steep mound at Villeneuve-l'Étang, like a parcel of children let loose from school. In this game, the Emperor is said to have 'manœuvred skilfully,' but to have been ultimately made prisoner after having 'penetrated into the very midst of the enemy.' This pretty little fiction is thought to cover a political allusion.

A grand stag-hunt has taken place at Fontainebleau, whither the Court has gone. The Emperor, the Empress, the Grand Duke Constantine, the Prince of Nassau, and their suite, dressed in all the courtly splendours and absurdities of the reign of Louis XV., followed the chase till the stag gave them the slip, and they were forced to return.

## ITALY.

The garrison of the city of Naples has been completely changed, and is now exclusively composed of Swiss regiments.

The members of the King of Naples' family have made (according to a report from the Two Sicilies) a combined remonstrance with that monarch on the subject of the debased and wretched condition into which the country has been crushed by the despotism which overrides it. The discussion is said to have been very animated, if not warm; but the King of course gave no sign of a disposition to relent. He said that any change would accelerate his fall. On this occasion, it is affirmed that the Count of Syracuse, meeting in the salons of the palace with the members of the council, bitterly (though with great truth) reproached them with their system of administration. The Minister of Grace and Justice replied that the King acted for himself, and that, even when their opinions were asked, they were not permitted to give them with that honour and truth which their consciences dictated. The Prince retorted that innocent men were persecuted simply because they were Progressists. One of the Camarilla expressed his horror at a prince of the blood being a friend of progress, and added that all sovereigns should league themselves to destroy the advocates of Liberalism. To this the Prince replied by inveighing against the Camarilla, and then hastily leaving.

While the Government is strong to restrain and oppress Progressists, it cannot or will not protect life from the assaults of assassins. As a proof of this, a young Englishman has been nearly murdered by a ruffian in the Riviera di Chiaja. The streets, indeed, swarm with assassins and beggars.

Vesuvius is now in a state of active eruption.

At its sitting of the 8th inst., the Sardinian Chamber of Deputies adopted, by a majority of 94 votes against 52, the bill ordering the transfer of the naval arsenals from Genoa to Spezzia.

The Pope started on the 11th inst. on a journey to Loreto—an expedition which, some time ago, at a moment of personal danger, he vowed to make.

## AUSTRIA.

To commemorate the Emperor's visit to Hungary, an amnesty has been granted to all those persons who, having been condemned to imprisonment for political offences, are now in Austrian prisons. All trials for political offences are quashed, excepting those which are pending against the refugees.

The Emperor, in replying to the address of the

Primate of Hungary, said, in the native language:—"It affords me pleasure to have been able to come again, in order to show this beautiful country to the Empress, and to examine in person into the condition and necessities of my well-loved Hungary. It is my continual endeavour to increase the general well-being of this country and of the whole of my empire, and thereby to satisfy my loyal subjects."

On the 3rd inst., the Emperor sanctioned the revised statutes of the Hungarian 'Academy of Sciences,' and at the same time took the institution under his especial protection. "It will be the task of the Academy," says the Imperial rescript, "to cultivate and disseminate learning and literature, and at the same time to develop and enrich the Hungarian language." The Magyars lose no opportunity of bringing forward their national colours. Thus, when the Emperor and Empress went to the theatre at Pesth, the bills placed before them were made of red, white, and green silk.

## RUSSIA.

"The subscription for the 150,000 shares of the railway network scheme," says the *Times* Berlin correspondent, "was opened in St. Petersburg on the 28th ult. In one letter which I have received, the bare fact is mentioned without any commentary as regards the result. In another the rush to secure a place for the subscribers' names in the list of the fortunate shareholders is described as having been very great, and as offering an irrefragable proof of the feelings prevalent among the public on this subject, and the great desire the latter has to promote the construction of railways and other means of communication. The number of shares left open for allotment will hardly suffice to satisfy the great demand." This, however, is a Russian account.

The Empress was safely delivered of a son on Monday.

Two American consuls have just arrived at Irkutsk, which they reached by proceeding up the river Amoor.

## SPAIN.

The Queen still remains in-doors. A few nights ago, the King went to the Italian Opera-house at Madrid; but such is his unpopularity that the audience, instead of rising, as usual, took no notice of him. The same thing occurred on a previous night. Stories are told of very scandalous dissensions at the palace.

A conspiracy has recently been hatched by some Roman cardinals, aided, it is supposed, by Russia, for deposing the present Queen, and placing on the throne the Princess of the Asturias. The cardinals communicated the project to Queen Christina, under the hope that she would encourage it; but no sooner had she obtained possession of some documents connected with the plot (having previously dissembled sufficiently to get at them) than she transmitted them to the Government at Madrid, and then told the conspirators, with much indignation, that she would have nothing to do with their scheme. Among the documents was one by the King; and that unfortunate monarch by courtesy was summoned before the Council of Ministers, lectured by them, told that he had rendered himself liable to trial for high treason, and warned to be more circumspect in future. The French Government has been informed of this strange episode of the Spanish Court.

The *Parlamento* newspaper gives details of a desperate affray in the neighbourhood of Saragossa on the 26th of April, between forty contrabandists and twenty infantry soldiers. The latter were supported by twenty cavalrymen, who had carried them to the scene of action *en croupe*, but the nature of the ground did not allow the horse to act. A lieutenant and a soldier were badly wounded, and an ensign was killed. The smugglers made off, having four of their number killed or wounded. They were escorting forty-eight or fifty loads of contraband goods, the retreat of which they appear to have successfully covered.—*Times Madrid Correspondent.*

The Spanish Government has announced its intention to despatch two ships of war to the China Seas, with an agent specially charged to conclude a treaty of commerce with the Celestial Empire as soon as the situation of the country will permit it.

Five petty officers belonging to the English war steamer *Curlew*, while ashore at Malaga, and indulging in a few harmless practical jokes among themselves, were arrested by the Spanish gendarmes, who thought they were quarrelling, and were conveyed to prison, in which they have lain since the 19th of April. For a day or two, they were kept without food, and might have starved, had not the facts come to the knowledge of our consul, Mr. Mark. Lord Howden, our Minister at Madrid, being informed of the circumstance by the consul, made a complaint before the Spanish Government; but no redress had been offered at the last dates, nor had the men been released.

## PRUSSIA.

Prince Napoleon has arrived at Berlin, and has delivered to the King an autograph letter from the French Emperor with respect to the Neufchâtel question. He was received at the railway terminus by Prince George, second cousin of the King. A tolerable amount of enthusiasm was manifested by the populace. The Prince attended a parade of the Prussian troops last Saturday morning, at which the King was also present. The parade was followed by a grand dinner at the

palace. On Monday, the Prince was present at a grand review at Potsdam in the morning, and in the evening attended a ball at the French Embassy. He is said to be very courteous; but, when General Wrangel called on him, he motioned him and his adjutant to sit down, and received the General's complimentary speeches in utter silence. This is believed to be in revenge for General Wrangel's presence at the *Te Deum* celebrated in the chapel of the Russian Embassy for the capture of Kars.

The King has presented Prince Napoleon with the Order of the Black Eagle.

#### TURKEY.

The *Courier* of Constantinople, dated the 30th ult. (says a despatch from Marseilles), announces that Wilkins's bank has not succeeded in establishing itself. The *Journal de Constantinople* states that another English project on a smaller scale has been rejected. The Turkish bankers have made propositions which are not acceptable.

A dispute has arisen between the Druses of Nauvan and the people of the plain. The latter have already appealed to the Arabs for protection, and it is to be feared that, in spite of the efforts of the Turkish authorities, this disunion may last a long time.

#### OBITUARY.

ADMIRAL LORD RADSTOCK died at his town residence, Portland-place, on Monday morning. He distinguished himself in the navy during the last war with France. His death was almost sudden. On the previous Friday, he attended at the Council of King's College during the distribution of the prizes. On the following day, he was taken unwell, and rapidly sank. He is succeeded by his only son, the Hon. G. A. W. Waldegrave, now in his twenty-fifth year.

MR. DAVID TREVENA COULTON, the founder of the *Britannia* newspaper, one of the contributors to the *Quarterly Review*, the editor, until his death, of the *Press*, and the author of a novel called 'Fortune,' has died at Brighton of bronchitis, after three weeks' illness, in the forty-sixth year of his age. His end is thought to have been precipitated by his attendance, within the last month, on the death-bed of a brother at Macclesfield. He leaves a widow and two children.

#### ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A POOR woman, the wife of a blacksmith, was crossing the London and North-Western Railway, near the Fishergate station, Preston, when a luggage train suddenly emerged from a tunnel close by, struck the woman down, and killed her on the spot, leaving the body horribly mangled. She was in the company of another woman at the time of the occurrence. Her friend managed to leap aside in time; but the deceased failed to do so, owing, probably, to her being heavily laden, for, in addition to her infant, she was carrying two bundles of rod iron for her husband. The child was thrown forward out of her arms, and was not seriously hurt. No blame is attributable to the driver of the train; but the crossing is an extremely dangerous one, and the corporation has sanctioned its stoppage.

Some workmen were on Monday morning making an excavation under a house in Old Ford-road, Bethnal-green, for the purpose of laying down earthenware pipes in connexion with the main sewer, when a large mass of mould gave way, and buried one of the men alive. In order to release him it was necessary to remove the flooring boards of the back parlour, and cut away the rafters; but half an hour elapsed before the dead body was reached. It was found in a crouched-up position.

Two young gentlemen were sailing near Southsea Castle, Portsmouth, on Thursday week, when their boat took a sudden heel, the ballast shifted to leeward, and, the water rushing in, they jumped overboard and began swimming to the shore. A bargeman near sent a boat to their assistance and succeeded in saving one; but the other was drowned.

Colour-Sergeant Edward Barnicoat, of the Royal Engineers, has met with his death while diving for the purpose of recovering the 32-pounder iron gun and carriage which accidentally sank during the experiments with Sir Charles Pasley's newly-invented pontoons at old Rochester Bridge last Saturday. Barnicoat was a highly experienced diver, and the manner of his death is a mystery. When beneath the water, he repeatedly gave signals for more air, but he never replied to the signals made to him from above. In the course of about half an hour, he signalled for less air; and, about ten minutes after that, he was drawn up, quite dead.

The barque *Irene*, just arrived at Plymouth, was caught in a hurricane off the Mauritius, during which four of the crew were swept overboard and drowned.

A porter in the employ of the London and North-Western Railway Company was running along by the side of a train in motion, when he came in collision with a man who was proceeding in the opposite direction. The porter fell between the platform and the train, and was so horribly mangled that he died shortly afterwards in hospital.

#### FALL OF HOUSES.

THREE houses fell down last Saturday morning in Tottenham Court-road, between Warren-street and Grafton-street; an accident which has resulted in the loss of five lives, and injury to several persons. Two of these tenements belonged to Messrs. Maple and Co., furniture warehousemen; the third was occupied by Mr. Hunter, who was in the same way of business. A fire having occurred some weeks since at Mr. Hunter's premises, it was found necessary almost to rebuild them; and this work was in progress when the accident happened. At the same time, Mr. Maple thought he would have some enlargements and alterations made in his houses. The district surveyor, having viewed the latter premises on Friday week, condemned the old party wall on one side of the range of tenements occupied by Mr. Maple, and directed that it should be underpinned, and that new brickwork should be put in from the ground floor to the first floor. It would also seem that the wall of the house No. 147 (the tenement abutting on the party wall) had been much cut about for the purpose of putting in a new bressumer, and that the ties connecting the front of the house with the next door house had been severed. These imprudent proceedings led to the tragical result.

Soon after six o'clock, Mr. Hughes, principal in the carpet department of the Messrs. Maple's house, was roused from sleep by the knocking of the men who were removing the brickwork for the purpose of underpinning the party wall. He rose, called up the young men connected with the business, and, about seven o'clock, went down stairs to see what was being done to the wall. At that time, two of the carpenters, named Turner and Garnett, now dead, were working on the second floor. On reaching the ground floor, level with the street, Mr. Hughes saw two men with crowbars, knocking a large hole at each end of the party wall. Some bricklayers were also at work on Mr. Maple's side. Suddenly, one of the men called out, "See how the dust is coming from that wall! I don't like that!" The next moment, he exclaimed, "Run, Mr. Hughes! Run for your life! The wall is coming down!" Mr. Hughes and three of the workmen rushed out, and immediately heard a succession of frightful crashes. The three houses had fallen, and several persons were buried in the ruins.

It was not long before a strong body of police arrived. The first persons got out were Mrs. Christmas, the housekeeper at Mr. Maple's, and two young women employed in the drapery department. They were on the second floor at the time, and were but little hurt. The escape of the housekeeper was very remarkable. She was dusting a pianoforte, and, falling in a hollow caused by the instrument and a beam, escaped with a slight graze of the legs. After some three quarters of an hour's work, the dead body of a young man, Frederick Byng, was found lying in bed, and evidently suffocated, no injuries being perceptible on his person. The cook, Anne Briscoe, was next got out; then Mr. Taylor, jun., son of the contractor for making the alterations, frightfully gashed, but not dead; then George Kevill, one of the labourers (dead); and lastly (but not until nearly two o'clock in the afternoon) the two carpenters, Turner and Garnett. Some others were rescued early in the morning, without being much hurt. Mr. Taylor lingered till Thursday, and then died.

The appearance of the ruins immediately after the catastrophe was striking. "On the kitchen range, which yet clings with tenacity to its place in the chimney nearly at the top of the house," say the reporters, writing on the day of the accident, "there are still the kettles, and on the mantelpiece over it the teapots and pewter wares which in a few minutes would have been brought into use for the breakfast of the establishment. For some time after the house had fallen, the fire burnt brightly, and the boiling water streamed forth out of the kettle-spout on to the ruins below. In an adjoining apartment, portions of wearing apparel and a carpet-bag hang on the pegs against the wall. A lad engaged cleaning the knives escaped, although precipitated from the top of the house, with only a few slight scratches. All around the spot where he was found lie piled up in strange confusion the debris of the houses. The thick bressumers, strengthened with iron, which carried the front of the houses, are snapped in the centre like thin laths of wood; girders and beams are broken and mingled in the strangest of forms; flooring boards are wrung from their joists, and sheets of lead, torn off like paper, are rolled and curled up in curious shapes; lath and plaster, brick and mortar, doors and staircases, window-frames and cupboards, bedsteads, chairs, tables, and looking-glasses, are smashed and broken and pounded up into rubbish; and, as the men work among the mass, they fall on a cup or a saucer, or some other fragile piece of crockery, still strangely preserved, secure in its weakness, amid the general wreck."

An inquest on the bodies was opened on Wednesday, when a great many witnesses were examined; but their evidence merely confirmed the account just given. The inquiry was adjourned to yesterday, when, after some additional testimony, it was further adjourned till Tuesday.

#### OUR CIVILIZATION.

##### CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE May session commenced on Monday, when—after a long charge by the Recorder, who expressed his regret at the great increase of crime, especially of burglary, as evinced by the unusually heavy state of the calendar—Joseph Williams surrendered to take his trial for a misdemeanour in neglecting to supply his son, a youth of weak mind, with food and other necessaries. The facts have already appeared in this paper. There was no doubt as to the neglect of the youth; but, as it appeared that the father was much from home during his business, and that the care of the youth devolved on the mother, who was herself somewhat afflicted in her intellects, the jury Acquitted Williams.

William O'Sullivan, a young man of twenty, who had been a policeman at East Dulwich, pleaded Guilty to a charge of stealing a watch from the prosecutor's house. While on duty, he raised the window of the house, and took the watch from the sill. He was sentenced to hard labour for two years.

James Gunn, draper, was found Guilty of stealing some shawls, silks, and gloves, the property of James Peggs and another, his masters. He was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

Frederick Berkhead, a well-dressed young man, pleaded Guilty, on Tuesday, to two indictments charging him with embezzling different sums of money from his employer. He said he had been in difficulties, and, being tempted, he had taken some of his master's money to save himself from arrest. The Recorder sentenced him to penal servitude for four years.

Francis John Maybury, a young man, surrendered to take his trial on a charge of stealing a quantity of boots and shoes from Mr. Louis Neuberg, a wholesale manufacturer. The circumstances of this case have already appeared in these columns. Several other persons were accused before the Lord Mayor of being concerned with Maybury in the robbery; but they were all discharged by the City magistrate. The evidence against Maybury rested almost entirely on the word of an informer, one James Desmond; but he admitted that he was an accomplice, and that he had been discharged from Messrs. Moses's for robbing them. Maybury was Acquitted.

True bills have been found by the Grand Jury against the persons charged with conspiring to injure and defame the Bank of London. A writ has since been granted to the prosecution, authorizing the removal of the indictment by *certiorari* into the Court of Queen's Bench, in order that it may be tried before a commercial jury.

Eliza Higgins was found Guilty of the manslaughter of her illegitimate infant by dropping it down an area. The jury recommended her to mercy. She was sentenced to penal servitude for six years.

John Sullivan, a young man, a labourer, was found Guilty of the manslaughter of a boy, whom, in the course of a quarrel, he had knocked down and kicked in the side. He also was recommended to mercy, and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, the last two days to be solitary. The Judge took into consideration that he did not design to kill the boy.

Barnet Greenhow and Mark Robinson, waterproofer, were indicted for threatening to accuse Asher Stern of setting fire to his dwelling-house with intent to extort money. They were found Guilty, but sentence was postponed.

Louis Leroy was convicted of uttering a forged cheque for the payment of 92*l*. In this case also sentence was deferred.

Thomas Genge, a beershop-keeper, was Acquitted of a charge (with the details of which our readers are acquainted) of robbing a Prussian, named Simon Nelson, of 40*l*. He had formerly been a policeman, and bore a very good character.

##### TRIAL OF BACON AND HIS WIFE.

Thomas Fuller Bacon, and Martha Bacon, his wife, were placed on their trial on Wednesday at the Central Criminal Court on the charge of murdering their children. The husband appeared anxious, but the wife exhibited the most entire indifference, contrary to her demeanour before the police magistrate, during her numerous examinations. The reception of evidence occupied the whole day, and the trial was then adjourned to the following morning for the speeches for the defence. The first address was that of Mr. Sleigh for Martha Bacon. It rested chiefly on the alleged tendency to insanity on the part of the woman, of which there had been considerable proof during the trial. Mr. Metcalfe then addressed the jury for the husband. We do not here repeat the dismal story, because our readers are already familiar with its details; but the leading points of the defence of the man Bacon must be given. Mr. Metcalfe said:—"Luckily for the prisoner, one fact, according to his (Mr. Metcalfe's) view of the matter, was quite conclusive of his innocence, and this was that it appeared that on the day before the murders were committed he had gone to Mrs. Payne, accompanied by his poor insane wife, and requested that she would allow her daughter to be with his wife during his absence, because he thought she was not fit to be trusted alone on account of



her previous insanity. The prisoner appeared to have been most anxious that Mrs. Munro should go to his house at an early hour on the following morning, and, if the suggestion on the part of the prosecution was the true one, he could have had no other object than to fix the crime upon himself. Mr. Bodkin, who conducted the prosecution, had told them that, although the male prisoner might not have been present when the deed was committed, yet that if they should be of opinion he was aware what was going to be done by his wife, and counselled and sanctioned the proceeding, he would be equally guilty in the eye of the law as an accessory. He was ready to admit that his learned friend was quite right in his statement of the law, but where was the evidence to show that the male prisoner had so acted? He should not, perhaps, be justified in asking the jury to stop the case, because the prisoner had told a number of lies, and he ought, perhaps, to give some explanation upon the subject. He should not for a moment attempt to deny that the prisoner had told a great many lies relating to the alleged loss of the watch and money and other property; but the jury would not forget that he did not say a word of the kind until after Mrs. Payne had told him that the story told by his wife could not be credited, as no property had been stolen, and if any stranger had committed the crime the object must have been plunder; but the very next day he made the representation to the police inspector about the house having been robbed, and his making this representation was the only reason why the prisoner now stood at the bar charged with murder. What, however, was clearly the motive of the prisoner when he made these statements? Why, it was evidently his intention to protect his wife, and to support her statement that a stranger had come in and committed the dreadful deed, and by so doing he had laid himself open to the present horrible charge. Was it done to screen himself? Why, at this time no one suspected him,—the officers were satisfied that he had exhibited the most genuine grief and affliction at the sad event that had taken place, and there was not the slightest suspicion that he had anything to do with the murders. A good deal of evidence had been given in reference to the manner in which the prisoner was supposed to have dealt with some watches, and for his own part he really could hardly say what was the effect of that evidence or what was the object of it; but, supposing that the prisoner had endeavoured for some purpose or other to hide a watch in the cellar, what could that possibly prove in reference to the present charge? It was evident that he was in great distress of mind—he had lost both his children—he was afraid he should lose his wife also, and under these circumstances he did a number of absurd things to screen her, and this appeared to have been the object of all his proceedings. Another circumstance that appeared to be relied upon as showing the guilt of the prisoner was the evidence that blood was upon his clothes, and with reference to this he would ask them in the first place whether it was made out to their satisfaction that it really was blood that was upon the prisoner's clothes. But, supposing it was, what did it amount to? It was clear that the prisoner had worn the trousers upon which the stains of blood were supposed to be for several days in the presence of the police, and if he had thought there had been anything wrong, he asked the jury whether it was likely that he would have so worn them? If they were really stains of blood that were upon the trousers, it was very easy for the blood to have come there when the prisoner went into the rooms where the dead bodies were, and in which there were pools of blood in various places."

Lord Campbell summed up in favour of an acquittal; and the jury, after withdrawing for about ten minutes, gave a verdict of Not Guilty as regarded Thomas Fuller Bacon, and Acquitted Martha Bacon, on the ground of insanity.

Lord Chief Justice Campbell, when the jury had delivered their verdict, said, that he entirely concurred in it, and he then stated that he thought it right to inform them that since the female prisoner had been confined in Newgate she had stated to the ordinary that she alone committed the murder.

The prisoners were then charged, upon the second indictment, with the wilful murder of Sarah Anne Bacon. Mr. Bodkin said that, after the decision that had been come to by the jury, he should of course offer no evidence upon the second indictment. The jury consequently returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

His Lordship then ordered the female prisoner to be detained in safe custody during her Majesty's pleasure.

The other prisoner is still detained in Newgate under a warrant charging him with the murder of his mother at Stamford. Mr. Reed, the chief constable of Stamford, was in attendance to convey the prisoner into the country to take his trial at the Assizes; but no order for his being delivered up was made up to the rising of the court.

#### THE MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

The general sessions for May having opened on Monday, several cases of no great interest were tried, and Richard Glover was found Guilty of a ferocious assault on four policemen. He was sentenced to a year's hard labour. Henry White, aged eighteen, was indicted for

having received a pocket-handkerchief, knowing it to have been stolen. The prosecutor, who was a police-constable, attended a fair recently held at Camden-town in plain clothes. He watched the proceedings of some boys in the crowd, and saw them go to White, whose pockets increased in bulk after their visits. He took him into custody; and found in his possession eleven pocket-handkerchiefs, one of which he identified as having been stolen from his own pocket about two hours before. The prisoner, it would seem, therefore, was stationed outside the crowd to receive the property stolen by a gang to which he belonged. The jury found him Guilty, and it was proved that he had been previously convicted of felony. He was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

Eliza Williams, a well-dressed woman, was found Guilty, on Tuesday, of several robberies of furnished lodgings. She appeared to act upon a system, and to extend the field of her labours by getting situations in respectable families. She was sentenced to penal servitude for six years. On hearing this, she smiled, and walked out of the dock.

#### HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND ASSAULT NEAR CARLISLE.

—A garotte robbery of a very serious character has taken place on the road leading from Carlisle to Longtown, the victim being a farmer and cattle-dealer named George Nicholson, who was riding to the latter place to purchase cattle. He was suddenly waylaid on his road by two men, who dragged him off his horse, and beat him until he was insensible. They then robbed him of his money-bag, containing altogether upwards of 1000*l.*, of which 535*l.* was in Bank of England 5*l.* notes. Unfortunately, the numbers of these notes were unknown. Upon receiving information of the robbery at the county constable's office at Carlisle, the police immediately telegraphed to the head police-office in Great Scotland-yard, London, from which two detective officers were at once despatched to investigate the case. Large rewards have been offered for the apprehension of the robbers, both by the county and by Mr. Nicholson.

IMMORAL BOOKS.—William Dugdale, of Holywell-street, and William Strange, of Fleet-street, were tried last Saturday, in the Court of Queen's Bench, before Lord Campbell, for publishing prints and books of an immoral nature. Both were found Guilty, and, being called up for judgment, William Dugdale, who was allowed to address the Court, proceeded to harangue in a most excited and frantic manner against his prosecutors, and particularly against a man named Stanton, who was sitting near him, and who, he said, some time since had broken into his house and stolen property in books worth 3000*l.* He had brought two actions in the Court of Exchequer, and in one of them, by the award of Mr. C. E. Pollock, Stanton had been compelled to pay him 84*l.* He charged the prosecutors with a conspiracy to procure his conviction upon this charge, which he declared to be false and unfounded, and he read an extract from Lord Campbell's *Life of Lord Camden* to show the illegality of general warrants, &c. In the course of his address, he frequently turned towards the man Stanton in a threatening manner, and, when he had worked himself up to the highest pitch of excitement, was seen to open a penknife which he held in his hand, with the evident intention of doing mischief to himself or somebody; but he was immediately seized by several persons, who took the knife away from him. He continued his address for several minutes in the same infuriated style, at one moment defying the court, and then imploring mercy for the sake of his two beautiful and innocent children; and he vehemently declared he would peril his soul's salvation that he was innocent. At length, being somewhat exhausted by his own vehemence, he asked for some water, which was given to him; and, after declaring that he had not had a fair trial, and that his counsel had altogether mistaken his defence, he implored the court to bear in mind that he had already been fourteen weeks in prison. He was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with hard labour. Strange received a more lenient sentence, this being his first offence. He was condemned to three months' imprisonment, but without hard labour. In his defence, Strange had said that he did not know the nature of the immoral works he was charged with issuing, and that he sold many works of a perfectly unimpeachable character. Lord Campbell expressed his disbelief in the assertion that Strange did not know what he was selling, and added that it was no excuse for him to say that he also sold *Household Words* and other publications of a most interesting, moral, instructive, and beautiful character, for which the country was indebted to Mr. Charles Dickens.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A SUPERVISOR OF EXCISE.—The city magistrates at Rochester were occupied last Saturday in investigating a series of frauds and embezzlements committed by Thomas Redsell, late supervisor of Excise for the Rochester district. The frauds were committed as far back as 1853, at the latter end of which year Redsell suddenly absconded from Rochester, and went to reside on the Continent. An investigation of his accounts took place, when it was found that his defalcations were so considerable that the Board of Inland Revenue offered a reward of 100*l.* for his apprehension. Nothing, however, was heard of him until a few days ago, when he was accidentally seen disguised in Rochester by a gentleman named Naylor, to whom he was in-

debted in about 300*l.* This led to his apprehension, and he has now been committed for trial.

A CREDULOUS SCOTCHMAN.—James Cahill, aged 39, a respectably dressed man, described as messenger at the Admiralty-office, Somerset House, and residing in Grafton-street East, Tottenham-court-road, and Mary Josephine Cahill, of Fitzroy-place, Kentish-town, who stated herself to be the wife of the male prisoner, are under remand at Clerkenwell, charged with obtaining by fraudulent pretences the sum of 250*l.* from Alexander Duncan, of 6, Charlwood-street, Tachbrook-street, Pimlico, a gentleman, under the plea of obtaining him a situation in the Admiralty. Mr. Duncan had advertised that he would pay from two to six hundred pounds to any one who would obtain for him a good situation. A correspondence with an anonymous writer—apparently a woman—ensued, and, ultimately, on promising to pay 250*l.*, he received a letter written on official paper, and sealed with the Admiralty seal, appointing him to a second clerkship in the storekeeper's department of the Admiralty. The next day, he sent 250*l.* to the direction named. The letter was signed "Thomas Phinn." It was not long before Mr. Duncan discovered that he had been duped. Last Saturday, he received a letter which contained these passages:—"This will be posted for me when I am on my way to a foreign country. The document you received on Monday is useless. I was employed in the department temporarily during the war, but before answering the advertisement had received notice to leave on the 31st of March. Such is the reason that I have put off the matter. Before leaving the department I provided myself with a seal, cover, &c., in service, and you know the result. If I am successful in a new country you shall not lose by me. I do not leave from fear of you, as you could not injure me; you, being guilty yourself, would be severely punished. . . . I answered a dozen such advertisements, but no one would pay men or women money whom they did not know.—THOS. PHINN." The case was adjourned for a week.

CHILD MURDER.—Martha King, the daughter of a tradesman at Homerton, was on Tuesday examined on remand with respect to the alleged death by her hands of her illegitimate infant. Our readers are already in possession of this melancholy story. At the end of the previous examination (which was abruptly terminated owing to the exhaustion and distress of mind of the accused), bail was accepted. The girl, who is only nineteen years old, was now scarcely any stronger or better; she was seated during the examination, and wept continually. The chief additional fact was that round the throat of the infant there was tightly tied a black string. There was some doubt, however, whether the child had been born alive. "The ligature," said one of the medical men, "might have been secured to the infant's throat by its mother while in her painful position." She was committed for trial, and ordered to be conveyed to Newgate.

A BURGLAR SHOT BY A CLERGYMAN.—The Rev. J. F. Green, of Erdington, was aroused from his sleep early on the morning of the 6th inst. by a noise beneath his bedroom window. He looked out, and observed a man moving about the garden. The clergyman awoke his servant, provided himself with a gun, and, hearing a further noise at his front door, fired at the man in the garden. The man made off, but marks of blood were found on the earth.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—Samuel Charlton, an elderly man, a widower, and lately an assistant bailiff, living at Lidget-green, near Bradford, was recently paying court to Mrs. Hannah Holroyd, a middle-aged widow. Both had several children. Mrs. Holroyd's friends persuaded her not to encourage Charlton, as he was a man of indifferent character; besides which, there was another suitor. Charlton and Mrs. Holroyd went together on Monday night to a temperance meeting, where they met the other man, with whom the widow had some conversation, Charlton in the meanwhile going forward to Mrs. Holroyd's house. He remained there with the widow during part of the night; but, at a quarter past twelve, Mrs. Holroyd's eldest daughter found her mother weltering in blood and on the point of death. Charlton had gone; but the police were speedily put on his track. They found that he had gone home, kissed all his children, told them he should never see them again, and then left. Subsequently his dead body was discovered in a dam about a mile from Bradford.

OUTRAGES BY 'TURN-OUTS.'—Some 'turn-outs' at Manchester, Sheffield, and other parts of the manufacturing districts, have recently thrown explosive bottles through the windows of their employers, or of fellow-workmen refusing to join them. One of these men was captured on Monday night. A policeman, finding two men standing near the house of Mr. Redman, a rope-maker at issue with some of his workmen, questioned them, but received no satisfactory answer. He then proceeded to take them into custody, and a struggle ensued, in which the officer would probably have been worsted had not Mr. Redman issued forth with a sword in his hand. With this weapon he put one of the men to flight, and inflicted a scalp wound on the other, who was then taken to the station-house. He turned out to have been the father of one of Mr. Redman's disaffected workmen. An explosive bottle was found on Mr. Redman's bedroom window-sill. The prisoner is now under remand.

**MURDER BY A BOY.**—John Howell, a boy fifteen years old, living at a village nine miles from Preston, has stabbed Betsy Titterington, a girl one year his junior, while in a fit of exasperation induced by another girl throwing a stone at him. He had a clasp-knife open in his hand at the time; and, turning round, he gashed the neck of the unoffending child. She was taken home, and died almost directly. Howell spent the night in the fields, and next day delivered himself up to the police. He and his father are hawkers.

### GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

**THE will cause, 'Kemm v. Garbutt and others,'** came before the worshipful Granville Harcourt Vernon, M.A., Chancellor in the Ecclesiastical Court held in York Cathedral on Thursday week. The will in dispute was that of the late Mr. Richard Simpson, of Hull, timber merchant, whose property amounted in value to from sixty to seventy thousand pounds. The witnesses were examined *vidæ voce*, in accordance with the new Act of Parliament in reference to business in the Ecclesiastical Courts. It was imputed on the part of the promovent, Mr. Kemm, that the testator was incapable of making a will, owing to his having, during the year in question, indulged in intoxication; but this was so satisfactorily disproved that Mr. Kemm's counsel had a consultation with his client, who expressed himself satisfied with the proof that had been given of the validity of the will, and therefore withdrew, but at the same time applied for costs out of the estate. This was opposed by the other side; but the Chancellor, in decreeing the validity of the will, ordered that the costs should be defrayed as requested by Mr. Kemm. The defendants, to whom the greater part of the property is left, were not related to Mr. Simpson.

The 'Circumlocution Office' exhibited itself in all its most glaring colours at the Bow-street police-office last Saturday, when the Board of Inland Revenue prosecuted three grocers for selling coffee mixed with chicory for pure coffee. In the first of these cases, the defendant, being unable to disprove the charge after the lapse of more than three months from the alleged purchase, was fined in the mitigated penalty (one fourth of the total) of 25*l*. In the other two cases, the officer of the court gave such confused and contradictory evidence that the charges were dismissed. One of the supervisors explained the routine of the Board, showing the number of hands through which the samples had to pass, and the time consumed in the necessary reports, minutes, orders of the Board, &c., before the magisterial summons could be formally applied for and served; from which, combined with the extensive jurisdiction of the Board and the number of cases occurring, it was contended that a delay of three months at least was inevitable. This is indeed a most admirable example of 'how *not* to do it.'

Henry Taylor, a rectifier, living at Brentwood, Essex, brought an action on Monday in the Court of Queen's Bench against Edmund J. Cox, a Birmingham auctioneer, for false imprisonment. One Sunday, a few months ago, both the litigants were staying at the George Hotel, Birmingham. They were smoking in the kitchen, and Taylor, who seems to have been drunk, began quarrelling with the servant maid, whom he called a cat. The girl went crying to bed, and Cox then took her part. A quarrel ensued; the police were called in, and told by Cox to take Taylor into custody, but they refused; ultimately, on their making their appearance a second time, they conveyed Taylor to the lock-up on a charge of assaulting Cox. The next day, no one appeared against him, and he was discharged. The jury, after vainly proposing that the plaintiff should consent to the withdrawal of a juror, gave a verdict in his favour, with one farthing damages.

An officer employed on the Eastern Counties Railway, named David Dale, was charged before Mr. Hammill, at the Worship-street police-court, with committing an assault on Mr. James Russell, a solicitor living at New Wanstead, Essex, but carrying on business in Eastcheap. It appeared from the evidence that the Eastern Counties company make a practice of extorting an extra sixpence from all holders of day tickets; and, with the view of securing the payment of that sum, the doors of all the carriages in the train are invariably locked until the hour of starting. Mr. Russell, together with several other gentlemen, had repeatedly appealed against such a proceeding, and it was while the former was endeavouring to resist it on the present occasion, that he was assaulted by the railway officer in the manner he complained of. The solicitor to the railway company stated that Mr. Russell had conducted himself in a very improper manner, and had not only greatly endangered his own life, but had likewise caused much annoyance and inconvenience to the other passengers, and had delayed the train at the station nearly three minutes through his refractory behaviour. He proceeded to show that such an action was strictly illegal according to Act of Parliament, and that all persons convicted of that offence were liable to be subjected to a fine of 5*l*. The same Act also authorized the railway officials forcibly to eject all such offenders. Mr. Hammill thought that Mr. Russell had acted wrongly in opposing the railway officer, who was obviously only performing his duty in accordance with the rules of the company. The case was therefore dismissed.

The neglect of an attorney to carry out the provisions of the Common Law Procedure Act of 1854, in connexion with a suit in which he was acting as the agent of a Mrs. Van Toll, has led to the loss of his fees, amounting to 48*l*. 2*s*. 10*d*. Mrs. Van Toll had commenced proceedings against a Captain Roberts for the recovery of money lent; a Mr. Chapman acted as her attorney, and he neglected to have the matter referred, under the act already specified, to a judge, by whom, as the point in dispute was only one of account, the question might have been at once determined. Ultimately Captain Roberts became a bankrupt, and paid nothing. Mr. Chapman, last Saturday, brought an action in the Court of Queen's Bench against Mrs. Van Toll for payment for his services; but, on the grounds just stated, the jury, in accordance with the direction of Lord Campbell, gave a verdict for the defendant. A cross action was brought by Mrs. Van Toll against Mr. Chapman on Tuesday, to recover damages for the loss she had sustained from his negligence. The jury brought in a verdict in her favour, and awarded her damages to the extent of 64*l*.

Miss Fitzpatrick, the actress, made her appearance last Saturday in the Court of Common Pleas, as the plaintiff in an action against Mr. Charles Dillon, the manager of the Lyceum Theatre, for the recovery of 113*l*. 14*s*. 4*d*., the amount of her salary during the first season of Mr. Dillon's lesseeship. The lady was engaged at the rate of 8*l*. a week, to perform high and fashionable comedy. However, at the very commencement of the season, she was cast for the part of *Zephyrina in Belphegor*—an exceedingly low character, which she at once refused to perform. She was then desired to play in a piece called the *Wedding Day*, which she did, though the drama could not commence till twenty minutes after one o'clock in the morning, when most of the audience had left. She refused several low comedy parts. She only performed twice at the Lyceum, the second time being on the occasion of her benefit, when, though there was an excellent house, the expenses were run up so high that she made but little. Mr. Conquest, the father of Mrs. Dillon, wanted her to play, at a salary of 10*l*. a week, at the Grecian Saloon; but, that being an inferior position, she declined. She agreed to perform at the Sheffield Theatre, of which Mr. Dillon was the proprietor; but, after seven nights, she was told that her services were not further required. On the 13th of December, the Lyceum closed, but only for a few nights, in order to prepare for the pantomime. Mr. Dillon, however, wished to make it appear that the first season was then really at an end, and that he was not liable for Miss Fitzpatrick's salary after that date. This, said the fair plaintiff when in court, was a mere subterfuge. Ultimately, a conference took place between the leading counsel on both sides, and it was announced by Mr. Warren, Q.C., who appeared for Mr. Dillon, that a verdict would be taken for the amount claimed, subject to terms as to the period of payment. Lord Campbell said this was a wise determination, as no one who had heard the evidence could doubt that the season was not closed on the 13th of December.

In the Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved, on Monday, the case of a man who had professed to sell eighteen hundred weight of coals, and had only sold fourteen, was again considered, and the conviction affirmed.

In the Arches Court, a suit for divorce, on the ground of adultery, has been promoted by Mr. Crawley. There was no opposition, and the Court granted the husband's prayer.

Mr. Lawrance, in the Court of Bankruptcy on Monday, during an audit meeting in the case of Leopold Redpath, the convict, stated that the Crown had not interfered in the disposal of the bankrupt's estate, and that a sum of about 3000*l*., as realized from the sale of his furniture at Chester-terrace and Weybridge, was in the hands of the assignee.

A glimpse of the smuggling life which still goes on along the eastern shores of England was revealed on Monday in the Court of Exchequer, in an action brought by the Crown against three persons named Russells, Clark, and Page, who were accused of smuggling. Page was the only one who appeared. He is an old man, nearly eighty, and almost blind, who has acquired some house property at the village of Shotley, which is situated at the confluence of the Orwell and Stour, not far from the German Ocean. The neighbourhood is noted for the smuggling propensities of its inhabitants. One of Page's cottages, near the shore, is inhabited by a person named Samuel French; and it appeared on the testimony of this man and his wife that, at the request of their landlord, they had, on the night of the 23rd of May, allowed a quantity of tobacco to be deposited in an outhouse by one Webber, who, with the other defendants, had smuggled it over from Belgium. Mrs. French also proved that the defendant Page had cautioned her 'not to know anything' if any inquiry should happen to be made, or they would all go to gaol. For Page it was urged that the evidence of Mr. and Mrs. French was false, and arose from his having threatened to 'County Court' them for his rent, while it was likewise contended that the great years and infirmities of Page would incapacitate him for such pursuits. The jury, however, returned a verdict for the Crown for the value, 579*l*.

The case of *Bromer v. Freeman and Bromer*, after

being argued at great length before the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, was again brought forward last Saturday, in order that Lord Wensleydale might deliver judgment. The main question at issue was, whether or not probate should be granted to a will made by an English lady in France, the bulk of her property being in England. She was the daughter of General Calcraft, and was born in India. When ten years of age, she was brought to England, where she remained for twenty years, after which she travelled about the Continent, residing a good deal in Italy. After some ten or twelve years spent in this manner, Miss Calcraft and her sister settled in Paris, and from 1838 to 1853, when she died, she did not quit France. She made a will in the English form; but, before admitting that will to probate in this country, it was necessary to determine two points:—Firstly, had she acquired a French domicile? Secondly, if she had, was a will made according to the English form sanctioned by the municipal law of France? With respect to the first of these, Lord Wensleydale decided that the testatrix had clearly acquired a French domicile. As regards the second point, it appears that there is great doubt, even on the minds of French lawyers, whether a will made in France in accordance with foreign forms is valid, even though it refer to property in the foreign land of which the testator is a native. In this perplexity, Lord Wensleydale felt compelled to interpret the law of France by that of England. According to the law in this country, a will must be made with the forms and solemnities of the domicile at the time of death. The will made by Miss Calcraft was therefore set aside, and the previous judgment of the Prerogative Court, in favour of admitting the will to probate, was reversed.

The Rev. Charles Geary, described as a Baptist minister, of Alperton, near Acton, Middlesex, and Secretary of the Indigent Sempstresses' Home in Fitzroy-street, was to have been heard on Wednesday in the Insolvent Debtors' Court. Mr. Sargood opposed for the detaining creditors, and for four other creditors at Bath, some of whom were proprietors of newspapers, for advertisements of 'The Distressed Needlewomen's Home.' Several witnesses were called, including Mr. Ferguson, the chief clerk of the Mendicity Society, who described the insolvent as being a well-known swindler, and as having taken to the society after the notorious Roper had given it up. A good deal more evidence was given, and the case was adjourned. Geary was subsequently arrested, and brought to the court.

### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**NOT USING THE LEAD.**—About three weeks since, an inquiry, instituted by the Board of Trade, was held in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, before Mr. J. S. Mansfield, the stipendiary magistrate, and Captain Walker, R.N., into the circumstances attending the total loss of the barque Emperor, Captain Mitchell, and the grounding of the ship Lady Ebrington, Captain Hulman, on the 29th of March, on the Blackwater Bank, on the coast of Ireland. In neither case had the lead been used between the time the vessels left Liverpool, on the 28th of March, and a few minutes before they struck on the bank. Captain Hulman, however, succeeded in getting his ship off the bank with the next tide, while the barque was a total wreck. At the termination of the inquiries, the masters' certificates were withdrawn from Captain Hulman and Captain Mitchell, for the purpose of being forwarded to the Board of Trade. On Friday week, at the police-court, Mr. Mansfield said the Commissioners of the Board of Trade, considering the successful efforts made by Captain Hulman to save his ship, had thought that the justice of the case had been met by the temporary withdrawal of his certificate, which was then returned. As to the case of the Lady Ebrington, however, their Lordships felt compelled to suspend Captain Mitchell's certificate for six months.

**THE LOSS OF THE CURLEW.**—Captain Charlewood, R.N., and Commander Robertson, R.N., the officers who were appointed to institute an inquiry into the loss of her Majesty's revenue cutter Curlew, presented their report last Saturday. They here say:—"After a careful consideration of the evidence adduced on the inquiry (a copy of which is annexed), we beg to report that in our opinion the loss of the Contaguard cutter is entirely attributable to the neglect on the part of the master of that vessel in not taking the ordinary precaution of exhibiting a light, in accordance with the Admiralty regulations, which require 'that all sailing vessels at anchor in roadsteads or fairways shall be bound to exhibit between sunset and sunrise a constant bright light at the masthead.' We exonerate the master, officers, and crew of the Belgian steamship Baron Ozy from all blame, as every necessary precaution appears to have been taken by them under the circumstances."

**ADMIRAL LORD LYONS** arrived in the port of Malta on the 30th of April. On the 1st inst., Lord Elgin, plenipotentiary to China, accompanied by his suite, arrived at the same place, from which he departed on the following day.

**A GALLANT SOLDIER.**—The whole of the troops belonging to the Provisional Battalion at Chatham were on Monday marched to the Lines, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. N. Phillips, for the purpose of witnessing the presentation of a French War Medal, which had been awarded by the Emperor of the French



to private John Byrne, 52nd Light Infantry, late of the 18th Royal Irish, for distinguished conduct while serving with the allied forces in the Crimea. He had behaved with great gallantry in the attack on the Redan on the 18th of June, going out under a heavy fire and bringing in a wounded soldier, who, however, afterwards died. During the whole time he was in the Crimea, Byrne was never absent from any of his duties a single day. He also served in the Burmese war, for which he has a medal, and has now volunteered to proceed to India.

**THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.**—The members of the Royal Commission on the Medical Department of the Army met for the first time on Monday, at No. 1, Whitehall-yard. Mr. Sidney Herbert, M.P., was the president. The other commissioners present were Mr. Augustus Stafford, M.P., Colonel Sir Henry K. Stocke, K.C.B., Dr. Andrew Smith, Mr. Thomas Alexander, C.B., Sir Thomas Phillips, Mr. James R. Martin, Sir James Clarke, and Dr. John Sutherland. Dr. Balfour is secretary to the commission.

**THE EXMOUTH AGROUND.**—The screw steamship, Exmouth, 90, Captain Harry Eyres, which arrived with the Colossus at Plymouth on Wednesday morning from Lisbon, struck the ground about three miles north of the Lizard, on Tuesday morning, during a dense fog, and was for a short time in some danger; but she was speedily backed off.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE COURT.**—The Duchess of Kent has been out of health; but she has now almost completely recovered. —Viscount Castlerosse, Comptroller of the Household, had an audience of the Queen on Monday, to present the Address from the House of Commons in answer to the Speech from the Throne at the commencement of the session.

**THE NATIONAL REFORMATORY UNION.**—A meeting of the friends of this institution took place last Saturday afternoon at No. 3, Waterloo-place. The Hon. Mr. Liddell, M.P., occupied the chair. Mr. Gladstone said the chief object of the meeting was to hear a suggestion from M. de Metz as to the propriety of establishing a normal school in this country for reformatory schoolmasters; and he trusted that the society would take that subject into consideration, and communicate with the Committee of Education of the Privy Council upon it. The qualifications for reformatory schoolmasters as laid down by the minute of the Privy Council were much too high, and the consequence was that the sort of men that were really required at such institutions could not be obtained. —After some discussion, it was resolved, on the motion of the Rev. Sydney Turner, that a committee should be appointed to consider the matter. A great many gentlemen having spoken, it was finally agreed that a joint meeting of the Law Amendment Society and the National Reformatory Union should take place.

**PORTENDIC AND ALBREDIA.**—A convention was signed on the 7th of March between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French relative to Portendic and Albreda. Her Majesty relinquishes for her subjects the right, hitherto enjoyed by treaty, of trading from the mouth of the river St. John to the bay and port of Portendic, inclusively, and his Imperial Majesty of France cedes to her Britannic Majesty the French factory or *comptoir* at Albreda, on the north bank of the Gambia, on the west coast of Africa, with all possessory and other rights to the said factory appertaining. French subjects will have free access to the river Gambia for purposes of commerce, and be allowed to reside at Bathurst Town, but not elsewhere, except as regards Albreda, where actual French residents may remain if they wish. French vessels in the Gambia will pay the same duties and tolls as British ships, and all imports and exports will pay the same duty in French as in English vessels. The French Government may maintain a consular agent at Bathurst, to be approved by the English Government.

**SOUTH AFRICA.**—A great deal of anxiety was felt, at the time of the departure of the last mails, with respect to the state of the Kafir frontier. Several of the colonists have been killed by the savages, and reprisals have been taken by the troops. There have been fights among the Kafirs themselves, who steal from one another, as well as from the whites. The condition of affairs in the Orange Free State is ominous, President Boshof having exhibited great animosity to his English subjects. The President of the Trans-Vaal Republic has made a demand for the territory.

**PLANS FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.**—The commissioners selected to act as judges of the designs now being exhibited at Westminster Hall are—the Duke of Buccleuch (to represent the House of Lords); Mr. Stirling, M.P. for Perthshire (for the House of Commons); Lord Eversley, the late Speaker (on account of his experience in the chief requisites for Government offices); Earl Stanhope, President of the Antiquarian Society; Mr. David Roberts, R.A.; Mr. Burn; and Mr. Brunel, the well-known engineer. The first meeting of the judges took place on Wednesday. All were present.

**STRANGE CASES OF POISONING.**—A Mr. Legge, a cabinet-maker of Penzance, Cornwall, and four of his household, have been made seriously ill by some loaves of bread prepared by the woman servant out of flour

and yeast she had purchased in the neighbourhood. The bread was submitted to analysis, and found to contain arsenic. In the mean while, two other persons foolishly tasted it, and became very ill. The lives of the people affected appear to have been saved by the very excess in the quantity of the poison, which caused them to vomit. Flour from the same sack, and yeast from the same vessel, were sold to other customers, who felt no ill effects. The servant who made the bread was among those who partook of it, and became ill.—An old woman at Carlisle, nearly ninety years of age, has been accidentally killed by tincture of opium, or laudanum, sold by a chemist's junior assistant in mistake for tincture of rhubarb. The dose was a very small one, but the patient's great age had rendered her so feeble that she sank under the effect of the narcotic. The coroner's jury found a verdict of Accidental Death, and severely censured the carelessness of the assistant; to which the coroner added that the youth might think himself extremely lucky in being so leniently dealt with.

**THE LUNDHILL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.**—A great many more bodies have been discovered. Eleven were buried on the evening of Friday week, when a large procession of relatives, friends, and others followed the coffins to the grave. Many of the mourners were overpowered with grief, and a young married woman, sister to the widow of one of the men, fell down on the road and died. It is believed that she was labouring under disease of the heart, but that the excitement accelerated her end.—Some few of the men making the exploration of the pit have been obliged to leave owing to their health being affected; but the majority hold on. They ridicule the idea of any one being left alive in the pit at the time the shafts were closed.

**REMAINS OF THE MOA.**—The skeletons of three individuals of the Moa species—a huge bird now extinct—were dug up on the 4th of January at Glenmark, New Zealand. They were imbedded in a peat swamp, into which they appear to have sunk in seeking refuge from fire.

**THE BISHOPRIC OF NORWICH.**—A special meeting of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich was held last Saturday at the Deanery, in the Cathedral-close, for the purpose of electing a Bishop in the room of the Rev. Dr. Hinds, resigned. The *congé d'élire*, declaring the vacancy and "recommending" the election of the Hon. and Rev. J. T. Pelham, M.A., having been read, the proceedings resulted in the return, as a matter of course, of that gentleman.

**ELECTION PETITIONS.**—The petitions relative to the Cambridge, Athlone, and Huntingdon elections were issued on Monday. In the first document, Mr. Adair (the petitioner) alleges acts of bribery and treating, on the part of Mr. Steuart (one of the sitting members), the admission of voters on his behalf who were not qualified, the rejection of voters on the petitioner's behalf who were qualified, and voting at the wrong booths. In the Athlone petition, the Hon. Henry Handcock charges the sitting member with bribery, treating, and intimidation. The Huntingdon petition relates to a double return on the score of an equality of votes, and Mr. Fellowes, the petitioner, alleges against the return of Mr. Heathcote, double voting, voting at the wrong booths, fraudulent personation, erroneous entries, and the reception of unregistered and unqualified voters.

**THE NEW READING ROOM** at the British Museum, and some of the libraries of the institution, were thrown open to the general public last Saturday morning. After to-day, they will be closed, except to those having the usual ticket of admission.

**VISITATIONS OF APOTHECARIES' SHOPS.**—A second visitation of apothecaries' shops in the City was made on Thursday week by the Censors of the College of Physicians, assisted by the wardens of the Society of Apothecaries. The censors report that the shops present a generally improved condition, and they have found occasion to express their approval in nearly every instance. Especial care was manifested by nearly all the proprietors of shops to avoid chances of accident when dispensing poisonous drugs.

**RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.**—The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the Ragged School Union took place at Exeter Hall on Monday evening, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, who said:—"The number of their scholars was 22,000, and the number of their schools might be estimated at about 350 in 156 distinct buildings. But there were 22,000 children more still wandering about like the Bedouins in the Desert, with none to care for them in body or soul. Indeed, there were whole districts where thousands were congregated, and where there was not even the semblance of a place in which the rudiments of education could be imparted. He regretted that there was a deficiency of teachers, so that in some districts there were many applicants for instruction whose wants could not be supplied. The ragged school children who had emigrated had done great credit to their teachers, and, notwithstanding former prejudices, a ragged school certificate was found to be a passport to service." Various other hopeful features were mentioned, and the financial statement showed a balance in hand of 872*l*.

**RELIGIOUS TYRANNY IN SCOTLAND.**—Two members of the parish church at Lochrutton have been refused church privileges by the kirk session for leaving the church when the ceremony of 'rebuking' was going on. They appealed to the Presbytery of Dumfries, and stated

that, on the Sunday in question, upwards of forty had left the church at the time alluded to. The Presbytery, with one exception—a gentleman who stickled for the maintenance of 'church discipline'—resolved to reverse the finding of the kirk session, and to reinstate the offenders in their privileges, but without restraining the minister from exercising his right of rebuking.—When will Scotland have the courage to release herself from these degrading and infantine leading-strings?

**THE WAR IN CHINA.**—Further official papers have been issued, relative to our proceedings at Canton. They do not contain any important additional facts; but the following passage from an imperial edict, issued on the 27th of December, may be quoted as an amusing instance of misstatement:—"With reference to the memorial of Ye-ming-chin, representing that the English barbarians had picked a quarrel with us, and that our troops had been victorious in two actions with them:—in the course of the 9th moon (October), some of the Canton marine having seized some pirates on board a lorcha, the English barbarian chief, Pa-hea-be (Henry Parkes), attempted, on pretence that this act was matter of complaint, to revive the question of admission into the city, and ventured to open fire upon the city and to burn the shops. On the 1st and 9th of the 10th moon (October 29th and November 6th), our troops engaged (the enemy), and were victorious in both actions, killing and wounding about four hundred of the barbarian villains and slaying their admiral. The patriotism and enthusiasm displayed by the gentry and volunteers of Canton had already dispirited the barbarians. Land and marine forces numbering 20,000 and more, regulars and militia, had been moved up, and the barbarians, who have been indulging in the greatest arrogance and frowardness, will not, it is to be presumed, after the check they have received, venture on any further display of lawless violence. The Americans, French, and other Western nations, being sensible that the English barbarians are wrong in this quarrel, do not choose to co-operate with them, and, as they are thus wholly unsupported (as well as defeated) there is a reasonable possibility that suffering will induce repentance, and that they will desist from hostilities."

**GROWTH OF COTTON IN INDIA.**—At a meeting of the Society of Arts, held at the rooms of the institution, Adelphi, on Wednesday evening, a paper on the question, "How can increased supplies of cotton be obtained for the manufactures of this country," was read by Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P. for Stockport. As on previous occasions, Mr. Smith directed the attention of his auditory to the vast capabilities for cotton-growing presented by our Indian possessions, if properly managed. A long discussion ensued, in which Sir Erskine Perry, Dr. Livingston, Lord Stanley, Mr. Crawford, Sir John Pakington, and others, took part.

**SUCIDES.**—Emma Bass, the wife of a photographer at Bethnal-green, having had a quarrel with her husband, in the course of which she threw a fork at him, and endeavoured to strike him with a poker, swallowed a large quantity of cyanide of potassium which her husband used in his business, and expired in a few minutes. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity, and at the same time condemned the selling of so dangerous a poison to ignorant persons.—Mr. Charles Stewart, surgeon, of Woburn-buildings, Woburn-place, has committed suicide by swallowing prussic acid.—An elderly maiden lady named Martin, residing at Heavitree, near Exeter, killed herself on Monday by taking essential oil of almonds. She had been in a desponding way for some time.—Mr. John Fife, a medical gentleman of Birmingham, brother to Sir John Fife, has poisoned himself at his lodgings, Surrey-street, Strand, by a large dose of morphia. He went to the Strand Theatre on the previous night, and returned in an excited state, as from drink. According to one witness at the inquest, he had said that family matters preyed on his mind. The jury returned a verdict exonerating him from any intention to take his own life.

**FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.**—The 203rd Festival of the Sons of the Clergy in aid of the funds of the corporation for assisting necessitous clergymen, pensioning their widows and aged single daughters, and educating, apprenticing, and providing outfits for their children, was celebrated on Wednesday at St. Paul's Cathedral, with a full choral service of nearly one hundred voices, at which the choirs of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, assisted.

**LORD ELGIN'S MISSION.**—After having crossed the Isthmus (says a despatch from Paris), Lord Elgin will find the Ava awaiting him at Suez. This ship will convey him to Singapore, where he is to remain till the arrival of the French Commissioner.

**MR. W. H. RUSSELL'S NARRATIVE.**—On Monday last, Mr. W. H. Russell commenced the delivery at Willis's Rooms of a course of lectures descriptive of his personal experience during the Russian war. His narrative was sprinkled with anecdote, and with a few political allusions; but, upon the whole, it was confined to a general account of the progress of operations. Mr. Russell speaks with a little hesitation, but is, nevertheless, spirited and effective. The audience listened with interest, and were warmed, at times, into enthusiasm. On Thursday evening Mr. Russell continued his narrative, which will be concluded this evening (Saturday).

**SANITARY STATE OF THE CITY.**—At a meeting of the

City Commissioners of Sewers on Tuesday, the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Letheby) presented a report, from which the following is an extract:—"Before you there are certificates of the overcrowding of 15 houses that I have visited during the week. In these houses there are 23 rooms, occupied by 36 men, 42 women, and 49 children, in all 127 persons, who are lodged without due regard to health and decency." This portion of the report was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

**PERFORMING IN THE DARK.**—During the performance at the Central Hall, Darlington, of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's entertainment, 'Patchwork,' the gas, from some unknown cause, suddenly went out, and the hall was left in darkness. All efforts to relight the gas were in vain; and Mr. Howard Paul was obliged to throw himself on the mercy of the audience. Should he proceed in the dark? he asked. The audience answered, "Yes;" and proceed he did, introducing as many songs as possible, and dismissing as much as was practicable of what merely appealed to the eye. The audience, tickled with the oddity of the occurrence, vehemently applauded everything they heard, and when all was over, groped their way out of the building.

**FIRES.**—A fire broke out between two and three o'clock last Sunday morning on the premises of a fruiterer and shell-fishmonger, in Middle-row, Holborn. The flames were discovered by a policeman on duty near the spot, and they had by that time got so far ahead, that all egress by the regular way was completely prevented. The fire escape of the Royal Society was therefore obtained; and, as the inhabitants were descending by it into the street, they endeavoured to lower a child of seven months old, which they had previously wrapped in a shawl, by means of the canvas bagging attached to the escape. By some unlucky accident, the poor infant was dropped at the side of the ladder, and it fell from a height of nearly fifty feet on to the pavement below. It was fearfully hurt by the fall, and scarcely any hopes are entertained of its recovery. All the other inmates were brought down safely. Meanwhile, the fire continued to rage with the utmost vehemence, and could not be got under until the premises and their contents were almost consumed. The adjoining residence has also been much damaged by water and smoke.—Another fire occurred the same morning on the premises of a leather-cutter in the Bethnal-green-road. It began in the second floor front, and spread with such rapidity, that a considerable portion of the building and its contents were burnt before the flames could be subdued. Much damage was likewise done to the premises by water.—A fire also broke out in the shop of a hosier and shirt-maker, living in High-street, Borough. It arose from a spark having dropped amongst the light and combustible articles in the window, through the carelessness or awkwardness of the person lighting the gas. The whole of the goods in the shop were greatly damaged, but the sufferer is insured.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.**—Mr. Commissioner Holroyd gave judgment in this case, in the Court of Bankruptcy, on Thursday. He at once declared his intention of directing copies of the examinations to be transmitted to the Attorney-General, so that the Government may be advised as to instituting criminal proceedings. "I do not believe," he added, "that a scene of greater recklessness, fraud, and criminality of conduct in the management of a banking establishment was ever exhibited in a court of justice than is disclosed by the examinations taken in this court under the adjudication of bankruptcy against the Royal British Bank; and I may observe that these examinations will be admissible in evidence against the parties in case of a prosecution."

**SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY.**—After a very long discussion, the Court of Common Council has determined, by the casting vote of the Lord Mayor, to appoint a select committee for inquiring into the charges against Alderman Sir William Magnay.

**TWO MURDERS.**—A man named John Blackwell, about twenty-five, a shoemaker, residing with his grandfather, in Rose-street, Wokingham, has committed a murder, under the influence of mental delusion upon religious matters. He had shown aberration of mind for some time, and on Wednesday night it was arranged that one Thomas Rance should sleep with him on Wednesday night. He did so; but, in the course of the night, Blackwell killed Rance under the belief that he was the devil, saying, when the fact was discovered, that he should 'go to glory' for the deed. When before the magistrates, he said:—"I am charged with wilful murder. I thank my Lord the King of Kings, and founder of the world, whom I have served, that he has freed my conscience from any guilt. He (meaning Rance) volunteered to sleep with me as my protector, and wished me to sleep on. When I had certain evidences in my mind that eternity was coming, 'What!' thought I, 'sleep on!' I got out of bed once or twice, and he pulled me in. He said, 'Don't you feel warm?' I said, 'I don't feel everlastingly warm.' I got out of bed, and could scarcely forbear striking him. I said, 'You devil!' I had had that presentiment on my mind that he was a devil on earth. I thought he was lying in the presence of the 'Prince of Peace and the Son of Righteousness'—that is in Jeremiah. Well, I struck him a blow which almost levelled him to the ground, and the second did quite. I then got a knife and ran after him, and caught him just as he got open the back door, and

I then struck him in the neck. The knife did not cut, and I managed to hag and jag away at it until I had done the job. Blackwell was then committed for trial at the Assizes.—A young woman at Canterbury has been shot by her lover, a young man named Stephen Fox, between whom and the girl there had been a quarrel. Fox is committed for trial.

**FASHIONABLE FRAILTY.**—An action was brought in the Brighton police-court on Wednesday by a Mrs. Thatcher, the widow of an Indian officer and the daughter of another officer, against Colonel Sir George D'Aguilar, charging him with being the father of her illegitimate child, and with neglecting to contribute towards its support. Both the lady and gentleman are well known in the fashionable circles of Brighton. In 1853, Mrs. Thatcher fell in with the Colonel, who promised her marriage, and gave her his portrait, an 'engaged' ring, and a lock of his hair, the last-named of which Mrs. Thatcher produced in court, and kissed. Ultimately he destroyed her virtue, but did not marry her. For a time, he allowed her 30*l.* a year, but stopped it on the lady breaking a promise she had given not to write to him. For the defence, it was sought to show that Mrs. Thatcher was a lady of notoriously light character; but the magistrates made an order on the colonel for 2*s.* 6*d.* a week.

## Postscript.

### LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, May 16.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### ST. JAMES'S PARK.

The Earl of MALMESBURY drew attention to the state of the works going on in St. James's Park, the cost of which was to be 14,000*l.* and more, and he denied that they were necessary. He took occasion to comment generally on the expenditure on public buildings, and the increase of the miscellaneous estimates.—Earl GRANVILLE urged that the works in St. James's Park were most necessary and desirable, and stated that the expense would not be above 11,500*l.* Some discussion followed before the subject dropped.

#### THE PUBLIC ACCOUNT.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH made some complaint of the manner in which the public accounts were kept, in which he was joined by Lord MONTEAGLE.—Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY defended the system, which was well calculated to prevent any misappropriation of public money.

#### THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

The Duke of SOMERSET called attention to the plans now on view for the new Government offices; urging that the works would probably cost five millions—a most extravagant expenditure.—Earl GRANVILLE and the Marquis of LANSDOWNE stated that the plans were only under consideration, and that, before any money could be spent, the subject must be brought before the House of Commons.

The House adjourned at five minutes to seven.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### THE RUSSIA COMPANY.

In answer to Mr. CLAY, Mr. LOWE said it was not proposed to abolish the Russia Company, but to put a stop to certain dues hitherto levied by them.

##### JUDICIAL TRIBUNALS (INDIA).

In answer to Sir ERSKINE PERRY, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that the Legislative Council in India is now considering the judicial procedure of that country, but it was not yet decided whether there would be an amalgamation of the English and Native Courts.

##### THE BRITISH BANK.

In answer to Mr. CONINGHAM, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that he had watched the proceedings of the British Bank from the beginning, and directed a copy of the examinations of the directors to be transmitted to him. But a difficulty had arisen under an Act of Parliament, directing the Commissioner of Bankruptcy to transmit the proceedings to the Board of Trade, who were to lay them before the Attorney-General. That could not be until after the final examination, which in this case could not be before the 24th of June.

##### PRISONERS AT HONG-KONG.

Lord ROBERT CECIL inquired whether forty-two prisoners at Hong-Kong had been confined in a cell fifteen feet square for three weeks?—Mr. LABOUCHERE said that, in reality, there was no foundation for such a report.

##### PARLIAMENTARY OATHS.

Lord PALMERSTON moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the present oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration, taken by members of Parliament. He apologized, in the first place, for taking the subject out of the hands of Lord John Russell; and he had only done so in the belief that a measure of that kind would stand a better chance of passing if it were taken up by the Government. The beginning of a new Parliament was a peculiarly favourable opportunity for the introduction of such a measure, for every member must have felt the anomalous nature of the oaths which they were compelled to take. The sanctity of an oath was so great

that it should be taken seldom, and should not be attached to a declaration which was absurd in itself. He proposed by his bill to enable Christians to be relieved from taking an oath which involved an absurdity, and at the same time to sweep away the last rag of religious intolerance which prevented the admission of Jews to Parliament. He proposed to abolish the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration, and to substitute for them one oath, which contained the oath of allegiance, and such portions of the others as were proper to be retained. On what ground could any one be now called on to abjure the doctrine that princes excommunicated could be deposed or murdered by their subjects? He should leave out that portion of the oath of abjuration repudiating the exercise of any temporal authority in these realms by any foreign potentate. The part relating to the exclusion of the descendants of the Pretender, none of whom were any longer in existence, would also be abrogated. The substance of the rest of the oath would be retained, except the words relating to mental reservation and equivocation, and especially he would omit the last words, "on the true faith of a Christian."

Sir FREDERICK THESIGER did not oppose the introduction of the bill; but, as its avowed object was the admission of the Jews to Parliament, he should in its next stage offer it his most decided opposition. He thought it would have been as well if this bill had been postponed with all other measures of Parliamentary Reform to next session. He admitted that there was a part of the oath of abjuration which was obsolete; but the better way would have been to have struck out that portion of the oath, and left the question of the admission of the Jews to Parliament a distinct question.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL assured Lord Palmerston that he found no fault with him for bringing this subject before Parliament, because he thought it was best brought forward under the sanction of the Government. With regard to the history of this question, which had been given by Sir Frederick Thesiger, he only hoped that honourable member would be able next year to complete the history, by saying that at length, in 1859, a series of attempts was crowned with success by the admission of Jews to Parliament.

Mr. NEWDEGATE opposed the bill.—After a few words from Mr. LOCKE KING, and Mr. HENLEY, who inquired when the second reading would be taken, Lord PALMERSTON said that he would fix for an early day after Whitsuntide.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

##### TRANSPORTATION BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, Lord ADOLPHUS VANE TEMPEST moved that it be referred to a select committee.—Sir GEORGE GREY opposed the motion.—Mr. BAXTER made some observations condemnatory of the present prison system, which he thought was too lenient, and tended too much to the pampering of convicts.

Some further discussion ensued, and the House went into committee on the bill. After a long discussion and several divisions on amendments, it passed through committee.

The House adjourned at a quarter past twelve o'clock.

##### PERSIA.

(By Electric Telegraph.)

Trieste, Friday.

The capture of Mohammerah having created a great sensation among the fanatical population, great excesses were feared, but the excitement subsided on the 16th of April on the arrival of Nehrman Khan, bearer of the treaty of peace.

##### PRUSSIA.

Prince Napoleon left Berlin and arrived in the Saxon capital at two o'clock on Thursday. He was received by the Hereditary Prince. He was conducted to the Royal Palace, and thence goes to the Château of Pillnitz to the King. He will remain several days in Saxony.

**CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT (YESTERDAY).**—George Bave, a seaman, was found guilty of the wilful murder of Samuel Long, a marine on board the Slaney gunboat, on the 23rd of April. He was sentenced to death.

**SIR GEORGE GREY'S TRANSPORTATION BILL.**—A meeting of gentlemen, convened by the Lord Mayor, was held at the Mansion House yesterday, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament to introduce a clause into Sir George Grey's bill, for confiscating and applying to productive uses the labour, skill, and industrial powers of all criminals during the full period of their sentences, &c. After considerable discussion, during which Mr. Pearson, the City Solicitor, expounded his views on the subject (with which our readers are already acquainted), the meeting was adjourned to Monday.

Vidocq, the celebrated French thief-taker and spy, has just died, at the age of seventy-eight. He is the original of Balzac's character of *Vautrin*.

Mr. BLANDFORD, the English gentleman who was assaulted in the Riviera di Chiaja, Naples, is dead.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, May 15, 1857, including season ticket holders, 19,964.



## Open Council.

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

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

## "CANDIDE" ON SCOTLAND.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Although my wallet of English odds and ends is by no means exhausted—for what bounds are there to the rare excellencies peculiar to this favoured land?—I must not presume too far on the patience of your readers or of yourself. And yet I cannot take leave of your columns without bearing spontaneous testimony to the delightful climate, the elegant and musical language, and the exemplary morals that characterize fair Scotia. Hail, Caledonia! Land of tunnels and hotel charges! Land of short petticoats and Pactolian hair! Land of red noses! The delicate flavour of thy "whusky" still lingers on my palate, and inspires my pen to celebrate thy praises.

It was in the afternoon of a close, muggy, premature spring day that I placed myself in a railway carriage at one of the midland towns of England, and that same evening found myself in the full enjoyment of the bracing climate of Auld Reekie. The westerly winds, which are there usually accompanied by fertilizing showers, had changed that morning for a fine breeze from the eastward, which brought with it beautiful flakes of snow and delicious hailstones as large and as hard as sugarplums, but free from the whitelead and saccharine matter that occur in those popular edibles. These two winds reign alternately throughout the year in the Scottish metropolis, with only rare exceptions, when they allow a hearing to the blustering railing of rude Boreas. This invariableness has the great advantage that the inhabitants are thus always prepared for rain or snow, and the city has been expressly built to allow fair play to the declamations of these hearty sons of Æolus. Another advantage is that the spring and summer are not forced on with injudicious haste, as in the southern part of the island. The too fortunate dwellers in the north have snow in April, snowdrops in May, primroses in June, green gooseberries in July, kidney potatoes in August, and in September they would have cherries did not the winter set in about that time. I have not mentioned the blossoming of the hawthorn, because I believe there is only one in the country, originally introduced from France by Mary Queen of Scots. There are no hedges, as is well known—it being thought useless to give them the trouble of coming into leaf for only a few weeks—and stone walls, without mortar, to allow free passage to the wind, have been considerably substituted in their stead. And it is a fine sight to observe the hardy patriotism of the very thermometers. At a degree of cold when the effeminate instruments of this metropolis would be making themselves snug somewhere below zero, their northern brethren boldly hold their own, and disdain to descend even to the freezing point.

Although the temperature is delightfully free from the exhausting heat of the tropics, and the sun has no power to scorch and blacken the golden hair, there is evidently a very remarkable degree of warmth in the ground, probably from subterranean fires. At least in no other way can I account for the difficulty experienced by the unaffected classes—especially by the *beau sexe*, that is, the sex that is fond of beaux—in keeping their feet encased in shoes and stockings. I had previously heard from the lips of young mothers that there is no part of the human frame more exquisitely beautiful than the "tootles" of an infant. And now that I have had the privilege of gazing unrebuked on the untrammelled feet of Scotia's lovely daughters, I can well appreciate the maternal enthusiasm aforesaid. Imagine, sir, a Jennie Deans hurrying across a treeless moor, her symmetrical feet, ten inches by eight, flapping the soft oozy ground like two beavers' tails, and you will understand the treat that awaits my mind's eye when I again read the "Heart of Midlothian."

I was also much struck by the taste displayed by the ladies in the harmony of colours, and in the general arrangement of their costume. In no other metropolis, not even in Paris, would you behold a green bonnet, trimmed with black lace, and surmounted by a scarlet feather, while a more or less real cashmere shawl fell in angles over a brown merino gown. It is strange that these fashions have not yet reached London, for the plumed mushroom hats have already been introduced into Edinburgh. Such, indeed, are the grandest triumphs of the electric telegraph, which thus makes one minute hand do for all mankind.

It would be quite superfluous to offer my humble word of praise to the graceful idioms with which the language abounds. Who has ever taken up a Scotch newspaper without being invited to a "public roup," at which a "self-contained" house with all its "plenishing," would be offered for sale at the "upset price" of so much? Or if you drop in upon a friend at dinner-time he will pro-

bably ask you to "sit down and sup a few broth," and then tell you he has a piece of land to "feu." If you hear people talking about "flats," you must not infer that their conversation is upon musical matters, or even about inexperienced young men. Nor need you be alarmed if, on asking a stranger some question he cannot himself answer, he should bid you "spee at thot indyveedjua!" pointing to some harmless person advancing towards you.

And how beautiful are the Scottish ballads when recited or sung by some venerable spinster, with a voice as sweet and as searching as the highest tones of a Highland bagpipe. The effect is positively thrilling. At the still, starry hour of supper-time, too, with what suggestive melody does that popular refrain "Cal-ler-o-o-o!" pierce through the lamp-lighted air. But there was nothing more touching than the enthusiastic perseverance of a "puir daft body"—Scotch again, sir—in introducing a variation into one of Bobby Burns's—pardon my familiarity, but I saw his farm—most characteristic songs. Thus the crone warbled through her nose,

"A mon's a mon for a' that, an' a' that, an' a' that,  
Aiblins a wumman's a wumman tae—ae."

As for morality, that is undoubted. So great is the value of a spoken word, that if in the presence of a witness you should call your cook your wife, straightway you twain would become one flesh. Or it suffices to address a damsel in writing as "my dear wife," and the pains of bigamy stare you in the face if you lead another bride to the hymeneal altar. In the same manner the fair maiden becomes your wedded spouse should she in loving phrase call you her "beloved" or "darling husband." As Miss Parkes hath expressed it, you might almost ring her with a kiss—the vulgar ceremonial being very properly a matter of secondary consideration.

But there is nothing more cheerful, nothing more refreshing to the mind, nothing more harmlessly jocund, than the Seventh Day as it is observed north of the Tweed. On that day the grass grows in the very streets with gladness. An irascible but very particular friend of mine was sauntering along Queen-street, indulging in a shocking bad habit of half whistling through his closed teeth two bars—he never gets beyond that—of some popular air. It unfortunately happened that the pious worshippers were at that moment hurrying home from church, in all haste, lest they should drop any part of the minister's discourse by the way. A decently dressed mechanic, or small tradesman, overheard my very particular friend in his folly. Could he believe his own ears? Alas! there could be no doubt that hissing sound was a reminiscence of "Bobbing around." But it might be owing to an accidental and momentary forgetfulness of self. So he tapped the shoulder of the irascible man, and sternly inquired, "D'ye nae ken this is the Sawbeth?"—"Confound it! yes, of course I do. It's dull enough for two Sundays rolled into one." The rebuker then rejoined, with solemn harshness—"Ye maunna whistle on the Sawbeth."—"You be —!" exclaimed my very particular friend, with an impetuosity that might have appeared indelicate in a female. For an instant the worthy Sabatarian stared at the wretched man with an astonishment which presently turned into contemptuous pity, as he remarked to the by-standers who were gathering around, "Ech, sirs! he's jist a Pawpist."

The same simplicity of manners, the same austerity of moral discipline, very properly constitute the standard by which is measured any candidate's fitness to represent his countrymen in Parliament. There is a very important town in the north of Scotland chiefly known to Englishmen for its manufacture of marmalade. At the recent election, a gentleman had the audacity to solicit the votes of the electors, though conscious that one of the most heinous offences of which a man can be guilty would very likely be charged against him. It is asserted, and very generally believed, that this ungodly individual, moved directly by Satan, or one of his most potent ministers, actually perpetrated certain saltatory movements on the Sabbath-day, while visiting a friend in foreign parts. It is notorious to every cotter in the land that to dance at a sacred festival is an abominable and heathen practice. The poor benighted pagans were guilty of this grievous folly. And—alas for frail humanity!—even the son of Jesse once so far forgot himself as to assume the character of a "master of capers gay," and to dance to his own fiddling. But mark the consequences. His own wife despised him, and his spoiled child hurled him from his throne. Our Scottish confiseurs, however, would submit to run no such risks as this in a year when a comet is close at hand to punish such laxity of morals, and a murrain on the cattle is only watching for such an opportunity to cross the ocean stream and do deadly despite upon our far boeves and loving kine. All honour, then, to these enlightened citizens, and may their marmalade ever maintain its position on every breakfast-table in the empire.

There is perhaps nothing more truly characteristic of the modern Scot—whose ancestors deserted Wallace and for a long time rejected Bruce (the entomological "party" partial to spiders)—than his disinterested patriotism. It is a matter of honest pride to observe how large an amount of public work is undertaken by private individuals working harmoniously together and dovetailed into Boards. There is the

General Prison Board, the Board of Trustees for Manufactures, the Fishery Board, the Bible Board, the Board of Supervision for Relief of the Poor, and I know not how many more Boards besides. And yet with all these onerous duties to fulfil, the hardy sons of the north can still find time to mix sociably with their fellows, and to grace the fashionable promenades with their manly presence. Their magnanimity, however, will be better appreciated, if, instead of indulging in generalities, I set before you the details of any one board taken at random. Let us select that for the Supervision of Relief to the Poor. Here we find a President at 1200*l.* a year, a Secretary at 800*l.*, five clerks at salaries varying from 117*l.* to 235*l.* each, a messenger at 40*l.*, three sheriffs at 100*l.*, and five unpaid members. Now, let us mark the noble return made by these sixteen individuals for this mean and scanty remuneration. I copy from the Edinburgh *Daily Express* :—

"(1.) Investigated charges against 18 inspectors, dismissed 1, accepted the resignation of 4, censured 7, cautioned 2, and found 4 not guilty. (2.) Passed a minute making inspectors responsible for the proper relief of the poor within their parishes. (3.) Issued a circular, explaining the duties of inspectors in regard to elections of local boards. (4.) Sanctioned change in the mode of assessment in 29 parishes, and refused to sanction change in 4. (5.) Increased the number of elected members of board in parish of Elgin. (6.) Approved the erection of poorhouses in 6 parishes, and combinations of parishes. Approved plans and sites for poorhouses in 2 parishes, and alterations or additions in 5. (7.) Prohibited the use of double beds for adult paupers (!) in Aberdeen Poorhouse. (8.) Inquired into the state of the Kirkaldy Poorhouse, and intimated that, until altered, an offer of admission could not be recognised as a legal offer of relief. (9.) Sanctioned or refused to sanction rates for boarding paupers in certain parishes. (10.) Arranged for the eighth distribution of the grant of 10,000*l.* in aid of medical relief. (11.) Decided whether it was necessary that certain *fatuous paupers* (290 in all) should be sent to asylums or not. (12.) Called attention of inspectors to the necessity of attending to certain legal forms in the case of *fatuous paupers*. (13.) Decided 549 complaints of inadequate relief; of these 300 were dismissed on the information contained in the mere schedule of application."

All this for a beggarly 4000*l.* a year. The case of the Fishery Board is even yet more striking. For the small yearly sum of 1500*l.* its members actually take the trouble to dispense 12,000*l.* annually. Yet one more note of admiration, and I have done. In the olden times the wisdom of our ancestors—wise, according to their lights—was content to regard the agricultural counties as efficiently, or rather sufficiently, represented by the peers whose estates were almost coequal and synonymous with those counties. The proportion of county to burgh members was consequently very small, and thus the influence of the great Lords was in some measure restricted to their own House. In these liberal times we have, of course, changed all that, and in our well-directed attempts to give all parties fair play, have very considerably opened the Lower House also to the aristocracy. In a commercial and industrial country it is clear that the best judges of what is beneficial to trade and manufactures must be that impartial class which looks down serenely from its pride of place upon the toils and turmoils of the hewers of wood and drawers of water. It would be strange if this truth were not thoroughly understood by the intelligent, sensible, independent electors of Scotland. Accordingly, out of fifty-three constituencies, twenty-four did themselves infinite honour by returning representatives who bear titles or social distinctions. A Scotch paper, the *Herald*, thus classifies the chosen delegates of the people :—

"There is one Peer, the Earl of Fife, who by virtue of being purely an Irish peer, can, like Lord Palmerston, do that which no British or, perhaps, no Scotch Peer can, viz., sit as a Commoner. In every other respect Scotch Peers are entitled to the privileges of British or United Kingdom Peers as regards precedence, freedom from personal arrest in civil action, &c. An Irish, as contrasted with a Scotch peer (out of the sixteen Representative Peers), has still the extra right, if so inclined, to sit in the House of Commons. Then we have the two eldest sons (Earl of Dalkeith and Marquis of Stafford), and hence heirs apparent to the great ducal houses of Buccleuch and Sutherland; there are four prospective Earls, viz., Lord Haddo, Lord Melgund, Lord Duncan, and Lord Elcho. In addition, to make up this glittering bead-roll of twenty-four, we have the younger sons of Marquises, Earls, Viscounts, and Barons—also several Baronets, and one Knight, being our own worthy and highly-respected citizen Sir James Anderson. To descend, in one sense, in the scale, there are nineteen members returned for Scotland, all more or less of aristocratic lineage, such as Mr. Hope Johnstone, Mr. Sterling of Keir, &c., who can point to several descents, identified with the long possession of castles, mansions, and broad acres."

This leaves just ten members to be elected from among the commercial and industrial classes, and if you, sir, consider that an unfair proportion, you need not expect again to hear from, sir,

Your obedient servant,  
CANDIDE.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1857.

## 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.

### CO-OPERATION OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE admirable speech made by Lord NAPIER at the annual dinner of the St. George's Society of New York seems to have been an authenticated announcement of a new policy on the part of our Government. Lord NAPIER himself is the first to enunciate the happier spirit which reigns on this side in the relations of the two countries; and his declarations confirm what we have said of America, what we ventured to anticipate of himself.

"I can assure you," he said, "that I have met, upon the part of the President of the United States, upon the part of General Cass, upon the part of all the ministers and functionaries of the United States with whom I have been brought into contact, every manifestation of that cordial and friendly disposition which animates the Government and the community of Great Britain."

We have made the same statement respecting the friendly feeling of the President and Ministers of the United States, and we believe we have stood alone in doing so; certainly, a very different impression was given by the official statements, and by those journals which accepted the official statements. We are now confirmed by the authority of the most promising Ambassador sent to the United States in our day. "By an easy exercise of mutual forbearance and indulgence," said Lord NAPIER, "no question can arise between our countries which will not admit of an easy and an amicable settlement." The remark, that he did not intend to inveigle them into 'entangling alliances,' the 'spectre' of American politicians, told well, and showed, at all events, that Lord NAPIER is not prepared to court the prejudices of our cousins; the only entangling alliance which he proposes is the submarine cable between England and America. But he lays down an admirable rule for the conduct of both States.

"There may be mutual co-operation where there are no written engagements; and, gentlemen, where the heart is wanting, there may be written engagements without mutual co-operation. All, then, that I wish to say is, that our respective Governments should perpetually make an early and sincere declaration and avowal to each other of their views and intentions with respect to all subjects which involve the common interests of the two countries, whereby they will have the benefit of mutual good offices and mutual counsel, and whereby they will be able to avoid those one-sided resolutions and those startling announcements which are apt to disturb the confidence of commerce, and calculated to excite the sensibilities and jealousies of two high-spirited nations."

This is the very policy which we have recommended—*co-operation*. With co-operation between the red cross of England and the star-spangled banner, the two countries might—not 'flog creation,' a very profitless employment if it were practicable—but dictate to the world the measures best suited to advance civilization and the welfare of individual citizens as well as of states.

We accept this statement as authenticated, because Lord PALMERSTON seized the occasion of a question by Mr. WYLD in the House

of Commons on Tuesday, to volunteer a declaration on the subject of the United States, which was at once a disclaimer and a guarantee for that disclaimer of English jealousy. Lord PALMERSTON declared that the United States had only applied 'for redress for the past and security for the future,' and he expressed regret that the Government of New Grenada, 'which is not celebrated for accurate recollection of duty or performance of obligations,' refused compliance. In order to appreciate Lord PALMERSTON's declaration, however, we must know the subject in dispute between the United States and New Grenada, New Grenada being one of the states of Central America. In April, 1856, a body of Californian passengers were stopping at a railway station at Panamá. There was some confusion at the place, from the arrival of several parties at once. An American passenger received some injury or indignity, real or supposed, from a native; it was some quarrel about a carpet-bag. He resented the attack, perhaps violently; but the merits of that dispute will never be discovered. The real gravamen of the case lay in the conduct of the officials. When the Americans came forward to defend their comrade, and the natives took part with their countryman, the officials joined in the matter as if it were a war, took part against the travellers as a matter of course, and ultimately shared in the slaughter of eighteen Americans; and amongst the sufferers were women and children. There had, in fact, been old grudges between the people of New Grenada and the passengers; the natives complained that the lower class of passengers were brutal, and frequently cruel or predatory, which is quite possible. The same classes in New Grenada are not distinguished in the world for gentleness or honesty. The old grudges had been nursed, and burst out on opportunity. The same disturbance afforded also the opportunity for plunder, and the native mob ran off with a large amount of property. The Government of the United States did not so much enter into the merits of the particular dispute, as demand compensation on account of the property proved to have been taken, and security for the future, both in preserving the peace on the railway, and maintaining the neutrality of the district through which it passed. That neutrality is essential to the commerce of the whole world as well as of the United States. Two of the four propositions laid down by the United States related to the damage, the other two, which we copy, to the security:—

1. That the cities of Panama and Aspinwall should be erected into two municipalities independent and neutral, to govern themselves, with a territory ten miles wide on each side of the railroad, the United States Consul being empowered at his discretion to take command of the police of the district or to call in the naval and military forces of the United States for its protection; the United States to have the power of modifying or extending the railroad charter at pleasure, and the exclusive right of granting any other charter within the district; the nominal sovereignty of New Grenada to remain, and the neutrality and freedom of the transit route to be guaranteed, other nations being invited into the compact.

2. That New Grenada should cede to the United States in full sovereignty, for an ample consideration, the two clusters of islands in the Bay of Panama for a naval station.

The reply of the New Grenada Ministers is insolent and impertinent. Like YEN, Governor of Quang Tung, they allege the pre-disposition of the inhabitants of Panamá against California emigration; they set up a complaint of filibustering and annexation,—matters entirely foreign to the question; they complain that the American Consul was rude; and in retaliation they set up a counter-claim for damages. Here the dispute breaks off, and the United States Government despatches a strong squadron to the coast of New Grenada, comprising seven war ships

sent to Aspinwall, and three to Panamá, where there is already a considerable force.

Now we can appreciate the declaration from Lord PALMERSTON, which casts so new a light on the relations of Great Britain towards the United States.

"We have been in communication with the United States Government upon this matter—a matter which evidently concerns not merely the interests of the citizens of the United States, but also those of all other nations whose people are in the habit of traversing this isthmus. I am happy to say that the United States Government profess the most just and honourable intentions. They disclaim any desire to occupy or take possession of any portion of the territory of New Grenada, or of the railway. That which they are naturally entitled to expect is security for their citizens in passing and repassing the isthmus by railway; and they naturally also require some redress for the injuries which were sustained upon the occasion to which I have referred. I am happy to say that their requirements are such as would be made by any Government in a similar position, and that they entirely disclaim any intention of taking advantage of this quarrel for the purpose of putting forward any unjust or aggressive demands against the Government of the State of New Grenada."

We hear nothing about the ratification of the treaties with the United States and Honduras, respecting the general neutrality in Central America. What has happened? Have the treaties gone by default? If so, we trust that the new spirit will preside over the further negotiations, and that it will result in the consummation of an 'entangling alliance,' at which our people seem as frightened as if they were Americans, but which would be as beneficial for peace and commerce as the submarine cable.

### THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

PAINFUL rumours are abroad with reference to the Duchy of Lancaster and its administrators, who are responsible to the public. It is said that a very peculiar system is at work behind the double-doors of a certain department presided over at present by Mr. MATHEW TALBOT BAINES, but recently by LORD GRANVILLE, and still more recently by LORD HARROWBY. The public has long been aware that the vast national property, including some of the richest coal-mines in the kingdom, known as the Duchy of Lancaster, is a stronghold of secrecy, and therefore a focus of suspicion; but it is perplexed by the question—who is interested in keeping up the mystery? All we can tell is, that an enormous revenue is deposited Heaven knows where, disposed of Heaven knows how, for the benefit of Heaven knows whom. We say the revenue is enormous, although it does not appear so in the returns; but that is one of the dark corners of the subject. These extensive estates are represented as yielding only 41,048*l.* per annum, or less than the revenue of the Temple. Nearly fifty per cent. of this amount is set down as the cost of collection and disbursement, including certain questionable benevolences; the other fifty per cent. flows into the privy purse of the QUEEN. There seems to be some jugglery here. Ordinary landlords do not pay nearly half their rents to stewards, but two or three glances at the estimates explain this part of the difficulty. The Chancellor has 2000*l.* a year; his clerk has 1342*l.*; the Right Honourable Lord WATERPARK, "axe-bearer, and master of the game at Needwood Forest," receives 200*l.* a year for bearing an axe that has never been seen, probably, since the days of ROBIN HOOD; but the Clerk of the Crown is content with twenty-five shillings per quarter, while the three learned Counsel of the Palatine divide only 8*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* between them—that is to say, they are supposed to divide only that amount. But how is it that public lands, forests, and mines yield less than private mines, forests, and lands? Or are the accounts jobbed? What noblemen hold estates under the Duchy? Do they pay a proper rental, or are they en-



riched out of that fund to which BURKE attributed so prodigious a power of corruption? BURKE endeavoured to find his way through the labyrinth of nepotism and appropriation—he failed: a hundred wands of office were wielded menacingly before his eyes, like a phalanx of Grecian spears; Mr. BERTOLACCI, in our own day, tries the inner doors of the department: the wands again clatter, and, for his presumption, he is expelled from the premises altogether. Between the BURKE and BERTOLACCI cases, however, there is this wide difference,—that BURKE was simply an independent member of Parliament straining his energies to reduce the corrupt influence of the Crown, while Mr. BERTOLACCI had an official right to inspect every item in the estimates of the Duchy. It is said—and we hope the Government will be able to explain away the charge—that Mr. BERTOLACCI, having been appointed Auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster, was first obstructed in the performance of his duties, and finally dismissed for not submitting to the British Bank principle of affixing a dishonest signature to a doubtful balance-sheet, jobbed by a Receiver-General and a staff of permanent officials. The House of Commons is the court in which this allegation should be investigated, and we trust that no time will be lost before an inquiry is demanded by some influential independent member.

The powers of an auditor in the office of the Duchy of Lancaster are clearly defined by Act of Parliament. The question, then, is, was Mr. BERTOLACCI obstructed in the performance of his duties; was he baffled in his attempt to exercise his proper functions of check; was he illegally excluded from the Council; was he, by a conspiracy between the Duchy and Ordnance departments (he being in the Ordnance himself), prevented from giving his attendance at Lancaster-place and carrying on his audit; was his deputy arbitrarily dismissed; was he himself met by systematically false statements, and ultimately displaced in order that a more pliant and less officious servant might be procured? Then, was the nephew, by marriage, of the Receiver-General appointed to audit the Receiver-General's accounts? Who is this Receiver-General, the husband of Lady MARY FOX, a natural daughter of WILLIAM the FOURTH?

We might add a multiplicity of questions, but we will only suggest that EARLS GRANVILLE and HARROWBY should be examined with reference to their connexion with the Palatine of Lancaster. Lord GRANVILLE, we trust, will be enabled to affirm, upon his honour, that he was not in arrear of rent to the Duchy when he became its Chancellor; that, as Chancellor, he did not assume an illegal authority, and ignore an Act of Parliament in order to coerce Mr. BERTOLACCI; that he never tried to conceal the prices at which the Duchy lands were sold; that he did not abet the Receiver-General in keeping excessive balances in hand; that he had no direct or indirect communications with Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN and Mr. MONSELL concerning the inconvenient pertinacity of Mr. BERTOLACCI; that he did not refuse his countenance to the auditor's proceedings, as authorized by letters patent, and by the law. Also, that he has held no public estates at little more than a nominal rent. The Earl of HARROWBY, of course, will in like manner be happy to show that he supported the rights and privileges of the auditor, and was not guilty of artifice and equivocation with the view of closing the accounts of the Duchy against the officer specially appointed to check them. This is a very serious matter, and must be thoroughly investigated.

Unless the rumours alluded to are false, Mr. BERTOLACCI was required, as auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to do that which in an ordinary public company would have justified his dismissal, while, had the company become bankrupt, he would have been liable to stand in Mr. LINKLATER's pillory. We must arrive, if possible, at the bottom of this mystery; we must understand the reasons for all the secrecy and collusion marking the administration of immense public estates. What is there wrong in the management, and for whose benefit is it? We are utterly in the dark. The exact revenue is not known; the sales of land and other property take place behind the scenes; there has never been an effectual audit, and we hope it is not true that, by proposing such an audit, Mr. BERTOLACCI startled into a panic the whole corps—Chancellor, Receiver-General, clerks, counsel, axe-bearer, and bankers. We have more than a public interest in the inquiry. Private character is concerned, and the sooner the scandal is set at rest—if it can be set at rest—the better for the noble and gentle men implicated.

#### REFORM PROCRASTINATIONS.

It is not a settled point that the Liberal party approves of Mr. ROEBUCK's profession of faith in the Government on the first night of the session. On the contrary, we have reason to believe that a number of independent reformers in the House consider him to have acted with precipitaiton and incaution. He might have yielded to the general conviction that a new Reform Bill must be postponed until next year, but at the same time he might have withheld his expression of unreserved confidence in the Premier. Lord PALMERSTON, by saying a few words, has thrown overboard, for several months, every discussion connected with Parliamentary Reform, except, perhaps, the ballot. He may endeavour to suppress that subject, but Mr. BERKELEY will certainly renew his motion, and there will be a serious debate, followed, perhaps, by an important division. We may suggest that Mr. BERKELEY, or the Ballot Society, should summon by circular every member who has declared his intention to support the principle of the ballot, so that, unless its opponents muster in great force, it may obtain a House of Commons victory. We should at least enjoy that success as a compensation for the session which is to be sunk in practical legislation, often the most impracticable of all.

There is a general complaint among the independent members that Mr. ROEBUCK relaxed his hand too suddenly. Lord PALMERSTON made a clear leap over the heads of Reformers; before they had struck a blow, they found that a herald had gone forth and agreed to a long truce. Why so submissive to the policy of procrastination? Lord PALMERSTON has promised nothing distinct. He has not said a word about disenfranchising the rotten boroughs. He neither opposed nor accepted Mr. LOCKE KING's motion to abolish the property qualification, but hinted that he could not see why the qualification should be abolished. Lord JOHN RUSSELL, therefore, stands apart from the Premier in this particular. The rumour grows strong that before the day of reckoning an alliance will have been effected between the powers of Cambridge House and Woburn Abbey, so that, after all, the father of the first Reform Bill may be the proposer of the second. Yet, to satisfy Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Lord PALMERSTON will have to explain more than is publicly known respecting the Vienna mission. The Russian war is now matter of history, and it can do no harm to confess that Lord JOHN RUSSELL has been scandalously misused with reference

to that affair, after having his tongue tied by a bond of honour.

It is true that the independent members are not bound to act with Mr. ROEBUCK, who has never been their leader; but what are they to do? If they stir a political topic, Lord PALMERSTON rises and objects—"I thought it was understood that these discussions were to stand over for next year." So Reform is paralysed by consent. It would not have been surprising had the ballot also been postponed. But that is a distinct principle, which has gained many new advocates in the House; so that the party may fairly expect Mr. ROEBUCK not to intrude with any superfluous generosity, and profess himself 'perfectly satisfied' with some hesitating pledge that 'that topic' shall be considered and reported upon next February.

Nothing is to be done this session in Parliament; but something ought to be attempted out of doors. We are not satisfied with hearing that the question once popular is now only parliamentary. The movement in favour of an amended, purified, and extended representation, should be national; otherwise its results will be defective and disappointing.

#### WOMEN AND WORK.

Among the inmates of Bethlehem Hospital, from 1846 to 1855, were a hundred and ten governesses, and a hundred and eighty-nine dressmakers. Dr. HOOD, in his decennial report—an able and interesting document—remarks: "Among the female patients, the only point which seem to require notice is the large number of governesses and dressmakers, including milliners and sempstresses. It is no wonder that an elegant, accomplished, and otherwise delicately nurtured lady should pass from unhappiness to misery, and from misery to insanity, in a position which too often is not half so desirable as that of a domestic servant; and upon the causes which operate upon thousands of the class of dressmakers, who are driven mad by penury, trouble, and perhaps remorse, it is unnecessary to speak."\* We are inclined to believe that the causes which reduce a lady to the governess's parlour, in which her position 'is not half so desirable as that of a domestic servant,' or to the dressmakers and milliners' workshops, or sempstresses' attics, frequently operate in producing insanity; but there can be no doubt that Bethlehem receives a vast proportion of its female inmates direct from the dwellings of those who treat the tutors of their children as menials, and of those who treat the practical creators of their opulence as slaves.† Well, what is to be done? Mr. LILWALL and the association, which he so ably and disinterestedly serves, are engaged in carrying out some of the necessary reforms. The Home at 44, Great Ormond-street, has been established for day workers; the Clifford-street Society undertakes to deal with the ladies who insist upon superb dresses being completed at twelve hours' notice; but it is a singular proof of the neglect to which women are exposed in England, that the Registrar-General has invariably omitted from his weekly returns an account of the occupations of females who die in London. "I wrote to him," states Dr. LANKESTER, "and he said, in reply, that, unfortunately, that department of their system had not yet been carried out."

To say the truth, women have not yet assumed their right position in society. It is an anomaly incompatible with civilization that a woman, if neither married nor independent, should not be able to pursue a

\* *Statistics of Insanity.* By W. Charles Hood, M.D. David Batten.

† *The Oppressed Dressmakers.* Thirteenth Report of the Early Closing Association. Kent and Co.

career in the world, and maintain a position by her own efforts. So she can, you say. She may become an artist—if she has the faculty. She may become a governess—perhaps to be treated worse than a domestic servant. She may turn dressmaker. So can the son of a clergyman turn journeyman tailor. She may make watches, suggests Mr. BENNET; but suppose she does not belong to the class which makes watches, or does slopwork, or elaborates LUCY's mantle, or builds up the tower of frame and flounce, in which is lost all that was classic in the shape of ARABELLA. Forty-three women out of a hundred are unmarried. Therefore, not being wives or mothers, it is mere irony to talk of their domestic duties; a large proportion of them, at least, have no home or other establishments to administer. And is the unprovided widow, whatever her former station, to become a teacher, or a flower-maker, or a hat-liner, or a map-colourer, or an embroideress, or a button-coverer, such being the principal occupations open to her sex? "At present the language practically held by modern society to destitute women may be resolved into Marry—Stitch—Die—or do worse," says the *Times*. They cannot all marry; it would be disgraceful to compel them all to stitch; 'die' can scarcely be entered among the injunctions of political economy; but 'do worse' is our eleventh commandment.

What else can they do? Miss BARBARA SMITH has prepared a reply well worth consideration:—

Apprentice 10,000 to watchmakers; train 10,000 for teachers for the young; make 10,000 good accountants; put 10,000 more to be nurses under deaconesses trained by Florence Nightingale; put some thousands in the electric telegraph offices over all the country; educate 1000 lecturers for mechanics' institutions; 1000 readers to read the best books to the working people; train up 10,000 to manage washing-machines, sewing-machines, &c.

You may smile at the notions of a female accountant; but is a distressed needlewoman better? Compare the type of a decayed gentlewoman with that of a lady lecturer—why should a woman not cultivate eloquence as well as tragedy? For ourselves, we have a weak conviction that it is more womanly to occupy an independent position in the public view than to be shown into a heavily-furnished dining-room, in which some citizen's lady intimates that four children are to be instructed and walked out morning or evening five miles into the country for half-a-crown a day. The young people must be hardened against all sorts of weather, so that no delicate persons need apply. A few happy instances there are in which a woman of high spirit and rare accomplishments can maintain an independent position, even as a governess; but the reverse is the rule. We shall be satisfied to hear the orthodox language about feminine timidity, shrinking from the gaze of the world, and separate spheres, when all this has been remedied. It seems at least as repulsive to womanly modesty to live among vulgar strangers, who speak of her as a 'young person,' and to tend a flock of children daily in the parks, as to follow out Mrs. JAMESON's views, and develop a higher set of qualities than are essential in an ordinary governess.

This is an old question, and has frequently been discussed; yet it is peculiarly a topic of to-day. Society has been confessing its sins, and pitying the miserable among women. There are, however, gradations in misery, and it would be well to arrest the process before it has reached its last stage, when little remains but remorse, penitence, and death.

\* *Women and Work.* By Barbara Leigh Smith. Bosworth and Harrison.

## TO MARRY OR NOT TO MARRY?

COBBETT once affirmed that he could find an able-bodied man who would competently transact all the business of a prime minister for five hundred a year. Prime ministers do not agree with COBBETT. When Lord JOHN RUSSELL was Prime Minister, he was examined before the Committee on Official Salaries, and stated that he never was in debt before he attained the highest political position in the realm. "I am paying it off now," he added; but complained of being obliged to receive ambassadors with splendour, having tall servants lolling in the hall, and other appurtenances, undoubtedly costly, and supposed to be dignified. Lord JOHN RUSSELL was troubled by the social difficulty of keeping up appearances. We are all doing the same, and we, who are veteran and well-established, are counselling young people not to marry. Not because they could not live comfortably if married, but that their income will pay for no appearances. As to young men who inhabit the colder edge of the temperate zone of the social sphere—with small salaries and slender prospects—we have always held that marriage is economy; but the curse of appearance confronts us. It is all very well for a bachelor to have quietly-furnished rooms so long as his coat is unexceptionable; but an establishment must be an establishment, and he must not risk the happiness of another. Besides, the parents of 'another' have an eye to the dulness of the times, and it is not convenient at this particular moment to 'go in' for a grand wedding. Now, holding special views on that subject, we must allow the possibility of 'being wrong; but why should LAURA, who is about to inhabit a tenement at forty pounds a year, be charioted to the altar at the tail of a train of friends, the cost of whose equipages, for one day only, would redeem GEORGE FREDERICK from two years of taxation? Why should her bridal table glow superciliously with borrowed plate, when her domestic table is to display none but unpretending crockery? Why should DIVES be feasted at the table of LAZARUS? The Rajpoots were accustomed to kill the majority of their daughters to avoid the ruinous expenditure of marriage festivals; it was easier to murder the babies than to mitigate the extravagance. And we have no right to cavil at the Rajpoots if they have one way, and we have another. Costly weddings, then, among people of moderate means, are immoral farces, but the contagion of expensive habits spreads further. Everything now must be costly, and we cannot help saying that Great Exhibitions have given an impetus to the love of superfluity. You cut and carve, you line and lace, you dye and bedeck, you insist on doing 'the thing'; and if you cannot do it, economists warn you not to marry. We might as easily find COBBETT's prime minister as two plighted hearts, in a respectable sphere, that are willing to wear the golden link irrespective of upholstery considerations.

The fact seems to be, that most persons have what are called grand friends, and they must have houses at which these grand friends can call. There is a youthful beauty, but one summer since made a bride, who stints her own and her servant's table, and sacrifices all daily comfort, simply that she may not be ashamed of her curtains when Lady MARY calls. But it is only through an accident that she is married at all. The betrothal took place years ago, but something turned up last spring which allowed of a furnishing speculation, and the two dowdrops melted into one, on the strength of an arabesque floorcloth, a Brussels carpet, and cut-glass decanters. Yet, to keep up the

arabesque floorcloth and cut-glass decanter system, it is necessary to keep down the necessities of life supplies, and my heart's own dwells with my only love, doing things well, but intensely pinched and uncomfortable.

And all resulting from the passion that makes ROBSONS and REDPATHS—the worship of wealth, the craving for display. "He wanted more money poor people for to give," said the sympathetic ballad of the Seven Dials concerning the dealer in transfers, late of Chester-terrace, now of Newgate, and soon, probably, of Bermuda; but he only drank while others thirsted. It is for damask and ormolu, for velvet-pile and brocade, for buhl and marqueterie, that society hungers, and the intellect commits suicide in quest of these illusions. Yet why talk in this commonplace manner? We have the question to answer—Is it right and wise to marry when young?—and on that point perhaps we had better say nothing.

THUNDERSTORM AT READING.—A very violent storm of thunder, lightning, and rain burst over Reading and the vicinity on Monday afternoon. A great deal of damage was done. Wargrave church has been struck, and much injured; and on the Oxfordshire hills a ball of fire fell, which shattered some trees.

ENTIRE REBUILDING OF THE GAOL OF NEWGATE.—Workmen were engaged on Tuesday in making preparations for pulling down and entirely rebuilding the interior of this gaol, and at present it is not known whether the outer walls which front the Old Bailey will not give place to new ones. The interior is to be rebuilt upon the model of the Pentonville prison and the Holloway House of Correction. The separate system will be enforced. At present, the prisoners are confined in one half of the gaol, while the other part is being altered.

THE BALLOT SOCIETY.—At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ballot Society, a letter was read from Mr. Cobden to Mr. Thomas Prout, the treasurer, enclosing his annual subscription of 10*l*. Mr. Cobden remarks:—"Now is the time for agitating your question. Mr. Grote was accustomed to say he was always well supported in the first session of a new Parliament, for that then the wounds of the electors were fresh and green from the electoral battle-field. I hope you will be able to set up branch societies, and to gather in subscriptions all over the country." A letter has been received by the agent of the Ballot Society in Manchester from Mr. Whitehurst, the Vice-President. We here read:—"In reply to an inquiry addressed to you whether the society intends now to make a vigorous effort to obtain the ballot, you may with perfect truth reply, 'Yes.' The degree of the vigour of that effort depends upon the amount of money which the friends of free and protected voting will place at our disposal."

CONVOCATION.—The two Houses met last Saturday. In the Upper, certain formalities with respect to some amendments by the Lower House on the Address (which were ultimately omitted) were got through, and the House was prorogued to the 20th of May. The Lower House was also prorogued to the same day, after discussing several motions. In the course of the sitting the Rev. Mr. Claughton presented a gravamen on the subject of presentments of churchwardens, so far as they relate to notorious offenders. By the canons of the Church, churchwardens are required to present notorious offenders, and the clergy to announce such offenders at the time of service. Such a proceeding has become practically impossible, and the gravamen prayed that it should be reconsidered. The gravamen was referred to the usual committee on such documents.

SIR HENRY RAWLINSON ON MOHAMMERAH.—Sir Henry Rawlinson, on Monday evening, delivered at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society a very interesting lecture on Mohammerah and the Shat-el-Arab, with reference to the late operations at the mouth of the Euphrates. There has been a great deal of dispute as to whether Mohammerah belongs to Persia or Turkey. The very situation is not clearly defined. The town is generally assigned to Persia, and said to be seated on the Karoon river; but Sir Henry believed that the place is situated on the Euphrates, in which case it would belong to Turkey. The Turkish Government, indeed, had entered a protest against our attacking it. The present position of Sir James Outram, in the opinion of the lecturer, would be unhealthy during the summer months; but by moving up the Karoon very salubrious quarters might be reached. Sir Henry referred to the history of Mohammerah from the earliest times. It was not generally known that Mohammerah was formerly a city of a very famous Greek kingdom. Although it might not have been the capital, it formed part of the kingdom of Karaknia and Messina. It was a city of great importance, and there were extant coins which issued from its mint. Alexander the Great founded a colony there, and named it Pellwan, after his native place, Pella, in Macedonia.



## Literature.

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

THE virtue of arbitrary government is seen in its most advantageous aspect when it wears the mask of justice. To say that it controls the licence of thought and suppresses the anarchy of opinion, is to pay an idle and vulgar compliment to its most obvious superiority: but it is in its last expression, in the form of a corrupt Tribunal, that it comes home to the admiration of every man whose soul is not sickened by the prejudices of honour and morality.

In August last (*Leader*, No. 336) we were enabled to celebrate 'a great victory for the cause of justice and of free inquiry.' The battle fought in the French law courts over the literary remains of LAMENNAIS had resulted in a complete vindication of the rights of his literary executorship. We may be permitted to recal to our readers the circumstances of the case:

Instead of his Memoirs (we quote from the *Leader* of August 30, 1856), which he had often been solicited to write, it was the intention of Lamennais to bequeath to the world a complete collection of his letters, as the best possible exponent of his life and character. He made some progress towards the fulfilment of this design during the two or three years preceding his death, and committed its final execution to Emile Forgues, whom he appointed his literary executor by his will, dated December, 1853. The main provisions made in that document were but two: Madame Kertangui, the testator's niece, was constituted his 'universal legatee,' but to M. Emile Forgues were left the copyrights of one published work, and of articles inserted in various journals, together with certain papers, being the materials which Lamennais had collected and arranged for the projected book of his Correspondence. M. Forgues was expressly empowered to choose out of these materials what he should think fit, and to publish them when he pleased, the testator adding, "My intentions concerning them are sufficiently known to him through the verbal instructions I have given him." The personal confidence thus implied was emphatically exhibited in another clause of the will. M. Forgues was to share equally with Madame Kertangui or her daughter whatever sums he might realize by their uncle's literary bequest, but he was not to be called on for any detailed accounts or vouchers, it being the testator's "express desire that his simple declaration should stand in lieu of all accounts for the settlement of the profits to be divided." So much for the implicit trust reposed by Lamennais in the integrity and discretion of his literary executor.

We are in no danger of mistaking the animus of the suit which was instituted against M. Forgues, nominally by Madame Kertangui, but in reality by her brother, acting as the tool of the Jesuits. M. Forgues had intimated his intention of procuring for publication other letters of Lamennais besides those which their author himself had collected. This was strictly in accordance with the verbal instructions given by the latter. The instigators of the suit, however, professing to be actuated by a pious regard for the written commands of the deceased, sought to restrain his literary executor from fulfilling the spirit of his will. They stood upon the letter of that document, which entitled their opponent to all the testator's papers not of a business nature, and stated that the same were to be found partly in a chest and partly in the drawers of a certain bookcase [*et que l'on trouvera en partie renfermés dans une caisse, en partie déposés dans les armoires de la bibliothèque non vitrée de mon cabinet*]. This, they said, clearly indicated that M. Forgues' right of publication was restricted to the papers contained in those two places, and they prayed that he should be forbidden to exceed the limits of his powers as thus interpreted by themselves. The court took a different view of the case, and rejected their demand with costs.

This trial very naturally created an extraordinary sensation in France. But the contradictory result of the appeal will, we dare say, leave a more serious and enduring impression upon the minds of the most indifferent observers of the prevailing regime. Many such victories would go hard with the victors; we trust they may not live to rue the day in which the last refuge from political tempests was degraded and destroyed. "You have observed," writes a friend in Paris, "the decision of the *Cour Impériale* (never better deserving that title!) reversing the judgment of the court below, which had confirmed EMILE FORGUES in his right of publishing the letters of LAMENNAIS at his own discretion. The flagrant iniquity of this decision may be estimated by simply comparing its terms with those of the will which it annuls both in the spirit and in the letter. It has been extorted from the weakness of the Bench—after a resistance which surprised a public not yet aware how pliant even justice may become—by the Premier President DELANGLE, to whom, by the way, the character of M. FORGUES was personally known, since it was under M. DELANGLE that M. FORGUES had commenced his studies at the bar, and had won the first honours of a high and pure reputation, to which even the servant of the Empire could not refuse a tribute of respect." The truth is that, as in the *procès Veron*, the Premier Président has seized an opportunity of paying his court to power, and striking two implacable enemies of the present regime in the persons of LAMENNAIS and his literary executor.

Such an opportunity of disposing publicly of the consciences of his colleagues, and of testifying to his master with what agreeable facility the awkward obstinacy of Law can be taught to bow with grace—such an opportunity was not to be lost. Certainly the temptation was great; yet, if servility were not bereft of sight, M. DELANGLE might well have hesitated to deliver a judgment directly contrary to the conclusions of an honest Avocat-Général, and to the decision of the judges of the lower court. But M. DELANGLE is, no doubt, convinced that an *upright* judge is an anomaly in a Court where an august will is always supposed to preside. For the present, therefore, M. FORGUES is prevented from exercising the full and absolute discretion which LAMENNAIS, by a special clause in his will, expressly desired him to exercise, free from all interference, in the publication of his posthumous works. Much of his correspondence, selected from the documents he left in order at his death, will be published; but, thanks to M. DELANGLE, a few

precious letters will be wanting to the complete discovery of that lofty genius, and to the full exposition of that noble life. The name of M. EMILE FORGUES needs no adorning, but it will receive new lustre from the courage and fidelity with which he has upheld, in the face of corrupt oppression, the cause of free thought, unsullied honour, and incorruptible integrity, speaking from that pauper's grave in which all that was mortal of FRANÇOIS LAMENNAIS reposes.

In the few words we dedicated to the memory of ALFRED DE MUSSET last week, we made a slight mistake in saying that in his latest volume of poems, published in 1850, there was nothing that bore a later date than '39—42. There are, in truth, some seventeen minor poems in that slender volume, with dates ranging from '43 to the year of publication. Among these, the longest are—the stanzas on the death of the DUC D'ORLEANS—"Le Treize Juillet;" the "Réponse à M. Charles Nodier;" the ode "A Mon Frère, revenant d'Italie," and the "Conseils à une Parisienne." In the concluding "Sonnet au Lecteur," dated January, 1850, the poet strikes the key-note of despair:—

En vérité, ce siècle est un mauvais moment.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN and HALL have published the first instalment of the *Memoirs of St. Simon*, compressed in an English translation by Mr. BAYLE ST. JOHN. Mr. ST. JOHN's plan is to abridge the narrative and to leave the anecdotes to speak for themselves. We shall next week present an analysis of the two volumes, which are a close reduction of nine volumes of the original.

The name of MONTAIGNE is beginning to be often repeated in the French press, on account, partly, of a very curious circumstance. His Château and estate, which were worth sixty thousand francs at his death, are now advertised for sale, and are estimated at five hundred thousand francs. A journalist makes the amusing suggestion that some English lord should effect the purchase and make a present of the property to Dr. PAYEN, as a recognition of his praiseworthy and valuable researches into the biography of the Gascon philosopher. Such English lords, alas! so disinterestedly over-generous, exist no longer, save in the imaginations of French men of letters.

An interesting discussion has been carried on recently between the *Siècle* and some royalist journals on the character of HENRI IV. The statue on the Pont Neuf is being undermined. M. PEYRAT, writing some weeks ago in the *Siècle* on M. POIRSON's cumbersome report—it can scarcely be called a history—on the reign of the founder of the Bourbon dynasty, grappled in a remarkably independent spirit with the popular traditions about the good king who thought so much of the soup-pots of his subjects, and stated the final results of modern research. The HENRI IV. of M. POIRSON is nothing but the old legendary personage, with a primmer mien and more pedantic step. The HENRI IV. of M. PEYRAT, who is, perhaps, provoked into a little exaggeration on the other side, is the *vert-galant*, who threw away his most brilliant victories in order to hasten back to the lap of the fair CORISANDRE; who pardoned all his enemies, and sacrificed all his friends; and who was so eager for peace and quietness in his amours, that when he might have inaugurated the reign of toleration in France under the impulse of the sceptical indifference of MONTAIGNE, he hastened towards an ignoble abjuration which prepared the way for the triumph of bigotry, and yet did not blunt the dagger of RAVAILLAC. The Royalist writers are irritated at the clear manner in which the reign of the Bourbons is shown to have been inaugurated by a perjury, and have sharply attacked M. PEYRAT; but they have found their match. That vigorous dialectician, instead of retreating, has maintained his point in such a manner that he will scarcely be assailed again. The *Siècle* does itself honour by the publication of such articles. We may also compliment it on the excellent series entitled *Le Parti Catholique*, by M. LANFREY, in which the most urbane and yet destructive wit is directed against the ludicrous faction founded by M. THIERS. The description of the various sections of this so-called 'party'—an unfortunate designation provoking criticism—competing for public notice, and each calling out "*Ecco il vero Pulcinella*," is infinitely comic and damaging. The Political Church will find another implacable but cautious, and therefore dangerous, adversary in M. LANFREY.

## HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY.

*The Biographical History of Philosophy, from its Origin in Greece down to the Present Day.* By George Henry Lewes. Library Edition, much Enlarged and thoroughly Revised. J. W. Parker and Son.

THIS volume is not simply a new edition of a well-known work. While retaining the substance of his original history, Mr. Lewes, in preparing the present edition for the press, has pruned away its occasional redundancies, corrected its casual errors, supplied its admitted defects, and thoroughly revised the whole throughout. This revision is indeed so complete, the additions thus made are so numerous and extensive, that it would be more correct to consider it as a new work than as a mere reissue of an old one. It thus claims a distinct recognition, to which a reprint would not be entitled. Our readers will, however, understand why a notice in the *Leader* should be historical and descriptive rather than critical; indicating the general purpose and character of the work rather than pronouncing judgment on its special merits. We shall accordingly confine ourselves to a general account of the history and of the main points in which the new and library edition differs from the popular shilling volumes.

The *Biographical History of Philosophy*, as most of our readers will remember, was published ten years ago in four successive volumes of Knight's

weekly series. These volumes were an experiment, the success of which at the outset seemed very doubtful, the History of Philosophy being at that time a drug in the market. The only two works which had recently appeared on the subject had proved auspicious failures. Both were translations, and each, for different reasons, almost equally repulsive to the English reader; the one, a version of *Ritter's History*, being heavy, voluminous, and expensive; the other, a version of *Tennemann's Manuel*, doubly unintelligible, as the translator knew neither the language in which the work was written nor the vocabulary of the philosophical sect to which the writer belonged. These, it is true, were importations, retaining in their laboured dulness and philosophical obscurity a strong smack of their foreign origin, and the history might still therefore be attempted from an English point of view, and in a decent English style. But however well done, it was a question whether the subject could be made sufficiently attractive to justify its introduction into a popular series like that of the shilling volumes. Was it possible to interest the general reader in the history of thought, the growth and progress of ideas, the conflict of rival systems of speculation, the position and prospects of philosophy? Few would have augured well as to the result of such an attempt. Mr. Lewes, however, believing that it would be useful, determined to make the experiment, and the event fully justified his confidence. The work was welcomed by a large class, both amongst students and general readers; it became widely popular, and soon attained a large circulation—larger, we believe, than any popular philosophic work during the present century, not excepting the most popular of all, Dr. T. Brown's *Lectures*. Many causes no doubt contributed to produce this result. The mere circumstance of appearing in a popular series was of course an advantage in the way of introduction, many having thus an opportunity of seeing the work who might otherwise never have heard of its existence. This was an advantage, too, in another way: the book was a small one, and at the worst a small book is but a small evil, while a big book must be very good indeed to avoid being a great evil. Mr. Lewes, in the preface to his first volume, expressed his decided antipathy to big books, and he certainly reaped the advantage of this very rational dislike. That the volumes, while well printed, were compact, portable, and cheap, was certainly a great recommendation. The price placed them within the reach of all, and the size could appal none. Many who had turned away in despair from larger works on such an abstruse and unknown subject willingly speculated on a shilling volume in the hope of adding to their stock of knowledge; while students rejoiced at the innovation which gave them a History of Philosophy digested into pocket volumes instead of being diffused in bulky and unreadable works of reference.

But the real causes of its permanent success are, of course, to be found in the nature of the work itself: its peculiar and altogether novel character determined its unprecedented success. Mr. Lewes's *History of Philosophy* is thoroughly original; a novelty in the exhibition of a subject where novelty seemed almost impossible. His treatment is new in its idea, its point of view, its method, and its style. The peculiarity which thus distinguishes it from every other history is summed up in the one characteristic epithet of the title—*Biographical*. This indicates the new ground he takes up, and sufficiently separates him from the crowd of labourers in the same field. German scholars and thinkers had devoted themselves to the History of Philosophy for more than fifty years, and after their exhaustive labours it seemed hardly possible to impart any freshness to the subject, or look upon it from any point of view that had not already been fully occupied. The number and variety of these foreign histories is something overwhelming; the mere list of titles would fill a volume; they are of all sizes and all kinds—Systematic, Methodical, Critical, Rational, Empirical, Comparative, Literary, General, Special, &c.; Compendiums, Institutions, Elements, Outlines, Sketches, Epitomes, Abstracts, Manuals, &c.; but amongst them all there is no *Biographical History*—none that possesses the title or the character it indicates. In what, then, does this special character consist? The term *Biographical* is no mere fanciful addition to the title; it expresses what is essential to the work, the conception that determines its plan and point of view, its method and style. What is the general plan of the work? It is, as explained by the author at the outset, "To write the Biography of Philosophy through the Biographies of Philosophers; to trace the rise, growth, and development of philosophy as exhibited in the philosophical schools—in a word, the Life of Philosophy." This is expressed in the title. Philosophy is there evidently regarded as an organic, as a living whole, or the attempt to write its life would be absurd. But the whole exists and can be exhibited only through the parts; and individual thinkers with their special philosophies being the vital parts of the living whole, the life of philosophy must be traced through the lives of philosophers. This indicates what is peculiar in the plan of the work. Lives of individual philosophers already existed in abundance, but they did not trace the biography of philosophy; and histories of philosophy were numerous, but in them all the lives of individual thinkers were neglected or distorted, according to the nature of the work, or the special views of the writer. Those who occupied themselves with the parts rarely attempted to seize the whole, and those who seized the whole were too preoccupied to trace with anything like fidelity the natural development of the parts. Mr. Lewes secures the advantages of both plans, by allowing the spontaneous combination of the parts to constitute the whole. He reaches the whole through the parts, thus avoiding the easily besetting sin of biographers and historians respectively, that of attributing too much or too little to individual thinkers. He can allow for the full influence of personal character, temperament, and position in modifying the development of thought; and is under no necessity of reading into any system in order to satisfy the requirement of a logical evolution or the exigencies of a preconceived idea. The advantages of this plan are manifest in every part of the work, but especially in exhibiting the several views and mutual relation of the earlier Greek philosophers, of whose lives and opinions we have such confused and imperfect records. We may instance, as examples, the accounts of Anaxagoras and Democritus, of Parmenides and Zeno, which are more natural and consistent than any we remember to have seen elsewhere.

The epithet *Biographical* also explains Mr. Lewes's point of view, which is certainly a peculiar one for the historian of philosophy to take. How does he regard the subject? Very much as a sceptic, it must be confessed, in relation to the present and the future. Looking on philosophy as practically extinct, he accepts no system, he believes in none. His work may be described as a detailed illustration of the impossibility of philosophy so far as its highest aims are concerned—as a proof that it has accomplished all it can accomplish. It lived a vigorous life, and had an important function once. Speculation was the schoolmaster to bring the world to science, but, having inaugurated the era of positive philosophy its work is done and it departs in peace. This view, is, as we intimated, expressed in the title. We do not write a biography till the subject of it is no more, till the living presence has passed away, and we can look on the finished history in the sculptured stillness of the past. By the very title he has chosen, Mr. Lewes thus indicates that in his view the time for writing the biography of philosophy is come. It is dead, so he writes its life and character. It must not, however, be supposed from this that he is really hostile to philosophy, or regards it in any sense as a delusion or imposture. Some have spoken of his work as though this were the case, but a glance into the volume is quite sufficient to correct such a misconception. His evident sympathy with its difficulties and struggles, its failures and aspirations, is sufficient to show that he looks upon philosophy as having run not only a sincere, but a most noble and useful course. In his pages we trace its progress from vigorous youth, through fervent manhood, to serene age, and see it in the very moment of dissolution leaving a priceless legacy to the world. Though falling short of its highest aims, Mr. Lewes regards philosophy as the guide and benefactor of mankind, well entitled to be held in everlasting remembrance and honour. Were it otherwise, had its life really been vain and useless, this biography would never have been written.

The title also explains the method and style of the work. As it is a biography, the writer chronicles only those leading movements which contributed to the life and progress, the growth and development of philosophy. A vast mass of the tedious and barren detail that encumbers the ordinary histories is thus thrown aside. The representative thinkers of an era, its new ideas and germinant principles are alone considered; to the exclusion of the small sects and weak disciples, who often maintain a principle in a kind of galvanized activity, long after its real life has vanished. This, of course, adds much to the unity, concentration, and power of the work. The special plan of the biography, too, determines the leading characteristic of its style. As the history is the Life of Philosophy, through the Lives of Philosophers, the writer is not only enabled but impelled to combine a rare amount of graphic detail with the highest generalizations. Throughout the volume the individual life illustrates the working of the universal law; the thinkers selected being generally at once the most individual and the most representative, living a life of their own, but cherishing immense sympathy for their fellow-men, and summing up in their efforts and teaching the best hopes and aspirations of the race. The personal sketches of these men are dramatic in their force and vividness, as their lives were often tragic from their fierce struggles and fatal end. More than one of these martyrs of progress are canonized in noble words in the volume before us. We need seek no further for the cause of its success. The proper study of mankind is man. If you can show that philosophy really has a profoundly human interest, if you can exhibit its progress as a biography, you are sure of readers. Mr. Lewes's claim must be allowed. He was the first, as he still remains the only, biographer of philosophy.

Having said so much about the general aim and character of the work, it only remains to add a word or two as to the improvements that render this handsome edition more worthy to retain the place the *Biographical History* had already secured of a standard work. The most important feature of the library edition is the new matter, which, on a rough calculation, must extend to a hundred and fifty pages, and is probably a fourth of the whole. The introduction has been rewritten, and is, to a great extent, new. In particular, the description of Metaphysics, which was widely objected to as narrow and exclusive, applying only to an almost obsolete pursuit, is removed, and replaced by another and truer one. The distinction between Metaphysics and science is no longer confined to the objects, but extends also to the methods of pursuit. The chapters on the Sophists and Socrates, which anticipated Mr. Grote's view of that disputed subject, and were, perhaps, the most original and remarkable sections of Mr. Lewes's History, have received considerable additions, and are a full and valuable, though condensed account of the epoch. The most considerable addition, however, is made under the first section of the second part, entitled 'Transition Period.' The fresh matter here extends to fifty pages, including sketches of the lives and philosophy of Abelard, Algazzali, and Giordano Bruno. The greatest deficiency of the original work, in which the scholastic period was passed over in a few pages, is thus supplied; while the new lives, in interest and significance are amongst the most striking in the volume.

But the most important additions to the history, in a strictly scientific point of view, are those in which Mr. Lewes traces the failure of the Sensational School through its confusion of thought with feeling, and the gradual rise on its ruins of the Physiological Method in dealing with psychological questions. Under the former head—that of the Sensational School—two new names are introduced, Hartley and Darwin, the discussion of Condillac's celebrated system being also greatly enlarged and improved. The latter subject, that of Physiological Method, forms an entirely new section, headed 'Psychology seeking its basis in Physiology,' which, commencing with Cabanis and passing on to Gall, terminates with an estimate of the historical position and scientific value of phrenology. We may instance as good examples of the new scientific discussion, thus enriching the library edition, the refutation of Condillac's system on physiological grounds, and the acute explanation, in the chapter devoted to Darwin, of that much-mooted question, 'How with two eyes we see objects single.' The former is a physiological refutation of a psychological error, and the latter a psychological refutation of a physiological error.



## DR. BARTH'S TRAVELS AND DISCOVERIES.

*Travels and Discoveries in North and Central Africa: being a Journal of an Expedition in the Years 1849-1855.* By Henry Barth, Ph.D., D.C.L. In 5 vols. Vols. I. II. and III. Longman and Co.

DR. BARTH, as an African explorer, was neither the rival nor the colleague of Dr. Livingstone. Between the two pilgrims of science, as they wandered among barbarous nations, lay the immense region from Zanzibar to the mouths of the Niger, embracing the middle continent of Africa. Dr. Livingstone's farthest point north was Loanda, in the ninth degree of south latitude; Dr. Barth's farthest point south was at Yola, in the ninth degree of north latitude. While Dr. Livingstone was tracing the rivers and ridges beyond the Kalahari Desert, and from Quilimane on the east to Congo on the west, Dr. Barth was sojourning in the strange kingdoms between Tripoli and Bornu, Timbuktu, and Darfur. It may remain for one of these adventurous geographers to penetrate the labyrinths that divide those vast countries—perhaps to follow the course of some stream from Ngami to the sources of the Nile, or some highway from Dr. Barth's Adamawa to Dr. Livingstone's Dilolo. Without, however, anticipating the enterprises of the future, we will point to the German companion of Richardson and Overweg as worthy to stand in history in association with the most distinguished of African travellers. His researches extended over the ruin-sprinkled Ham-mada, beyond Tripoli, Fezzan, the kingdoms of Bornu, Baghirmi, Adamawa, Bambara, Songhay, and Gando, and the savage Sokoto Empire. He was everywhere exposed to fatigue, and often to danger; his personal adventures were of the most striking character; but his chief claim to notice is, of course, that he contributes largely to our knowledge of Africa, and lets in a European light upon large spaces of populous territory hitherto only dimly visible through the medium of faintly-drawn sketches and obscure reports.

The three solid volumes now published, out of five which are to complete the narrative, contain such a plenitude of information on the natural and social aspects of interior Africa, that no analysis, however elaborate, could do justice to their contents. Every chapter presents matter of more original interest than an ordinary volume of travels. This is high praise, but it is due to the intelligence and zeal of Dr. Barth, who pursued his adventure with unflinching courage, neglected no opportunities, and added to his written journal a considerable number of illustrations which are now reproduced, some as woodcuts, others as tinted lithographs, creditable to the artist, the engraver, and the colourist. We can only hope, therefore, to indicate the scope of this great traveller's explorations; the educated reader will find himself tempted to share the interest of a daily record of life in the depths of the African interior, the excitement of discovery, the pleasant pulsation that accompanies the recital of past adventures. Dr. Barth having made the Mediterranean coasts familiar to his eye, spent a long period among the Arabs of Barbary, and acquainted himself minutely 'with that state of human society where the camel is man's daily companion, and the culture of the date-tree his chief occupation.'

He journeyed into the desert tracts, round the Great Syrtis, and through the Cyrenaica towards Egypt; he wandered for more than a month in the wild valleys between Aswan and Kosér, and pursued his way overland through Syria and Asia Minor to Constantinople. Thus indurated in travel, he looked wistfully at the unknown or little known expanse of Central Africa, and yearned to tread the soil farther than Carthaginian feet had ventured. "Please God, you shall see Kano," said a Hansa slave to him at Kaf, in the regency of Tunis. Now Kano is a Sokoto city, and we can sympathize with the thrill that vibrated to the traveller's heart when he thought of piercing the immensity of dangerous distance that stretched between him and Kano. When Mr. Richardson was appointed upon an exploring expedition to central Africa, Dr. Barth and Dr. Overweg volunteered to accompany him, and their offer was accepted. Mr. Richardson's travels have already been narrated in two admirable volumes, written as with a literary pencil colouring and animating the entire story; but even to this Dr. Barth has been enabled to add. His stay in Agades opened a deeper view of the life, the history, and the geography of those regions, and brought him into contact with Timbuktu. We beg that such of our readers as are doubtful whether they will send for these three volumes, to note the details in the following extract from Dr. Barth's preface, which is admirable for its modesty, its lucid conciseness—as Gibbon might phrase it, its 'copious brevity':—

Extending over a tract of country of twenty-four degrees from north to south, and twenty degrees from east to west, in the broadest part of the continent of Africa, my travels necessarily comprise subjects of great interest and diversity.

After having traversed vast deserts of the most barren soil, and scenes of the most frightful desolation, I met with fertile lands irrigated by large navigable rivers and extensive central lakes, ornamented with the finest timber, and producing various species of grain, rice, sesamum, ground-nuts in unlimited abundance, the sugar-cane, &c., together with cotton and indigo, the most valuable commodities of trade. The whole of Central Africa, from Bagirmi to the east as far as Timbuktu to the west (as will be seen in my narrative), abounds in these products. The natives of these regions not only weave their own cotton, but dye their home-made shirts with their own indigo. The river, the far-famed Niger, which gives access to these regions by means of its eastern branch the Bénoué, which I discovered, affords an uninterrupted navigable sheet of water for more than six hundred miles into the very heart of the country. Its western branch is obstructed by rapids at the distance of about three hundred and fifty miles from the coast; but even at that point it is probably not impassable in the present state of navigation, while, higher up, the river opens an immense highroad for nearly one thousand miles into the very heart of Western Africa, so rich in every kind of produce.

The same diversity of soil and produce which the regions traversed by me exhibit is also observed with respect to man. Starting from Tripoli in the north, we proceed from the settlements of the Arab and the Berber, the poor remnants of the vast empires of the middle ages, into a country dotted with splendid ruins from the period of the Roman dominion, through the wild roving hordes of the Tawárek, to the Negro and half-Negro tribes, and to the very border of the South African nations. In the regions of Central Africa, there exists not one and the same stock, as in South Africa; but the greatest diversity of tribes, or rather nations, prevails, with idioms entirely distinct.

Observe the significant import of this passage. Dr. Barth discovered the Bénoué; he marks a succession of fertile and populous territories in the heart of Africa, a double line of river navigation extending six hundred miles in one direction and a thousand miles in another; he finds a soil yielding the most valuable produce in abundance, and a people carrying on an extensive system of agriculture and manufactures. His discoveries, in fact, are parallel with those of Dr. Livingstone in the north. We confess that such a relation has for us an intense interest; we are sure that no serious reader will be disappointed in the narrative of Dr. Barth, which, sprinkled with anecdotes, varied by glittering descriptions of landscapes and manners, written with vigour and simplicity, and disclosing amid the gloom of Africa the secrets of centuries, is a rich repertory of knowledge, and deserves to take its place among the classics of travel.

## LONDONERS AT EASE.

*The Night Side of London.* By J. Ewing Ritchie, Author of "The London Pulpit." Tweedie.

It is Mr. Ritchie's misfortune that his intellect has been gagged by a fanatical idea. His lips move, but his mind does not speak. Plainly, he writes from that pillar hung with chains, a special point of view, and pitches his voice to follow the lead of those who revile in language often as impure as the water they praise—the hellish potion of the drunkard. The intemperate advocacy of temperance has been the means of causing a clever writer to spoil a well-intentioned book. Mr. Ritchie seems to live in the abhorrence of gin; consequently, his sketches reek of stale tobacco and poisoned spirits, as such vehemently abstinent sketches usually do. But a still worse effect is produced by this monomania. It seduces him into positive injustice. Were his volume of more importance than it is, we should be inclined to question its morality, not because it treats of the Traviata world, but because it deals in dishonest insinuations. Mr. Ritchie writes with all the bitterness of insincerity; at least, only two classes of men are ever so addicted to the use of words so hard with reference to such topics; those who remember the malignant results of repented excesses, and those who buy cant in the cheapest market to sell it in the dearest. Of course we are not to suppose that the *Night Side of London* is the confession of a sinner; it savours strongly, however, of business-like vituperation. Mr. Ritchie first glances at the miserable aspects of London; but his tendency is towards those which he calls the wicked. He considers our metropolis no better than Paris, Hamburg, or Vienna. Perhaps it is not; but Mr. Ritchie does not prove his case. He attacks things, places, and classes that are respectable, borrows a title for his work from Mrs. Crowe, and appeals intensely and exclusively to such readers as are disposed to improve every occasion by thinking evil of their fellows. This is not his design, of course; perhaps he would not believe that his chapters are susceptible of such an interpretation; but between an author's performance and his meaning there is often a wide difference. We will object to none of Mr. Ritchie's ejaculations against the punishment of death, as carried out in public; his picture is vivid, and, as he phrases it, suggests the idea of a ghastly dream. But what good does he propose to himself, or to civilization, by his notice of Catherine-street? It tells no one anything—unless a stray country visitor in search of life should imbibe its inspirations. Bals Masqués, we all know, are the revels of idiots, buffoons, and profligates; but with what object does Mr. Ritchie point up the Haymarket? "Canterbury Hall," he says, is, "compared with many of the places frequented by both sexes, a respectable place;" but he has an eye of horror for the glasses and tankards. He is welcome to say his worst of the Judge and Jury Clubs, although he advertises those dens of debauchery to the extent of his circulation. But his accounts of the Discussion Clubs and Sunday Music Halls and Gardens are distorted by a weak fanaticism. We do not see why such a volume should be published or read. Its only influence will be exerted upon young people in search of a finger-post to point the way to scenes forbidden by Paterfamilias and to circles in which Mr. Ritchie, by his own account, seems to have figured largely. He brings up the rear of a phalanx, some leaders of which, no doubt, have come to grief without the aid of joy-in-the-heart-of-man-inspiring purple wine, gift of the great Bacchus. Here is a sample of his reasoning:—

Could we not do without lunatic asylums, if society gave up its drinking customs? Not exactly; but their number might be very much decreased. Two-thirds of our lunatics become so through drink. "They are very bad at first, sir," said one of my informants to me, "but after a little while they get quieter, and perhaps they are cured in two or three months." And yet I find all these lunatics are supplied with beer. "They has two half-pints a day, sir, and when they work they gets two half-pints more, and very good beer it is, sir," continued my informant, "as strong as any man need drink." Now is not this preposterous? Men who drink till they become lunatics should be taught to do without it; but they are allowed their beer even in the asylum, and when they go out they begin drinking again, and of course relapse. Thus we keep feeding our lunatic asylums at the very time we profess to cure lunatics. I admit these places are in many respects well managed—that the buildings are commodious—that the attention is good—that the governors are humane, and the medical officers vigilant; but which is the truer humanity, to take care of the man when in a lunatic asylum, or to keep him out of it altogether?

We, quite as much as Mr. Ritchie, abhor the beery fulminations of spouters who nightly crack their own throats, and their listeners' ears, in the parlours of licensed forums, whose efforts are called brilliant, but who to the common eye of the world are for ever as dim as the lost pleiad of antiquity. The orator becomes husky and his audience are muddled, and thus the affair begins and ends. But why all this virtuous indignation? Why attempt to popularise folly under the pretence of inveighing against intoxicating liquors? What secret esoteric difference is there in the moral nature of two men, of whom one will write,

This year the must shall foam  
Round the white feet of laughing girls  
Whose sires have marched to Rome,

or,

O for a beaker full of the warm south,  
Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,

With beaded bubbles winking at the brim  
And purple-stained mouth.  
O for a draught of vintage that hath been  
Cooled a long age in the deep-delved earth,

while the other never thinks of a grape or a goblet but to maunder over the maddening influences of drink, to talk of glazed eyes, suicide, the gallows, and Tartarus? Mr. Ritchie, however, does not confine himself to the temple of that genius which

— with gin, or viler liquors,  
Inspires the Withers, Prynnes, and Vickers

of these latter days. He is also hard upon billiard-players. Why? 'Drink-ing often goes on.' Then why not include the domestic dinner-table among the shadows of the *Night Side*? There was a billiard-room opened in a certain town. Several youths were eventually ruined. The inference is obvious. Dancing fares better:—

Dancing, instead of speech-making, is a sign of the times. Accompanied as it is by less drinking, let us hope it is a favourable sign. Let us judge in the spirit of charity and hope. But let us not be too sanguine,—it was during the terrors of the French Directory, when the

"Streets ran so red with the blood of the dead  
That they blush'd like the waves of hell,"

that Paris became a city of dancers, and that the art reached a climax unknown before or since.

We are bound to say that a great part of this book is fustian, coarsely-dyed in glaring colours. It is the mistake, we repeat, of a clever man, who has fallen among the Philistines, and has been persuaded that Pandora's box was a case of sherry with delirium tremens at the bottom.

#### A BATCH OF BOOKS.

*Oude: its Princes and its Government Vindicated.* By Moullee Mohumud Musselhood-deen, Khan Bahadoor, Hereditary Native of Oude. (London: Davy and Sons.) This is an account of the events connected with Oude, its princes, and its governments, since the first political connexion of that country with the East India Company in 1765, as seen through a native medium. Of course the charges brought against the Government of Oude, and which led to the annexation of the kingdom, are combated. We cannot say that the pamphlet is written with the temper and moderation or knowledge of the subject to which its author lays claim in the preface.

We have to notice the first and second numbers of *The Comprehensive History of England* (Blackie and Son, London), published in parts. The numbers are accompanied by numerous excellent engravings on wood and steel, and bring the history down to the death of Harold and the ascendancy of William the Conqueror.

*The Life and Enterprises of Robert William Elliston, Comedian.* By George Raymond, Author of "Drafts for Acceptance," &c. (Routledge and Co.)—The biographies of some men owe their chief attractions to the imagination and skill of the biographer. Others are intended to give that 'temporary immortality'—we quote the apt phrase of a venerable contemporary—which vain men love to acquire in the small circle of friends to whom alone they have been eminent. A third class owe their popularity if not to the public interest in the subject, at least to the force of anecdote and incident with which the works abound. To this class the *Life of Elliston* belongs. He was not only a public character; he was ever busy in that which interested the public, and made that which was interesting also amusing. Perhaps no person ever realized more the personification of whim and eccentricity than the 'great Lessee,' as Elliston was called. His extraordinary conceit, his superlative vanity, his daring spirit, his ever practical joking, his wit and humour, made him a great favourite with the public, and he treated all alike, peasant and prince, and felt that where he was none could be greater. Mr. Raymond had little more to do when preparing the present Memoir of the departed comedian, some ten or twelve years ago, than to collect the various anecdotes of this 'joyousest of once embodied spirits,' and give them order and shape. The manner in which he discharged his duty is shown in the call for a second edition.

*The Spirit of Travel.* By Charles Packe, of the Inner Temple. (Chapman and Hall.)—Mr. Packe enunciates some heavy platitudes by way of moralising on the 'spirit of travel,' and at Rouen exemplifies how much in need he stood of the care, or at least advice, of judicious guardians. The book is little interesting. It is an egotistic account of an excursion through Switzerland, devoid of pictorial description or scientific utility.

*English and Scotch Sketches.* By an American. (London: William White and Co.)—It is always pleasing to hear an American express sympathy with his old mother-country. We are not of those who imagine that any traditional or hereditary hostile spirit exists on the part of the mass of American people towards this country. We maintain the perfect harmony in heart and interest of the two greatest nations of the earth. A feeling of gratification always steals over us when we find this conviction confirmed by new instances. The present work is written 'to express the thoughts and feelings of an American in visiting some of the interesting scenes of his fatherland;' and as such we recommend it.

*Essays.* By Theophilus Parsons. (London: William White and Co.)—This is a series of essays on religious subjects. The first series was published ten years ago; the success of the former has induced the author to publish a second, from a conviction that 'it is not right to withhold what may do some good, only because it cannot do much.'

*The Old Farm and the New Farm: a Political Allegory.* By Francis Hopkinson. With an Introduction, &c., by Benson J. Lossing, M.A. (Low and Co.)—Francis Hopkinson was among the founders of the American Commonwealth, a Judge of the Supreme Court, a true patriot, a faithful friend of Washington, and this was his fashion of appealing to New England against the injustice of Old England. The allegory is elegant and ingenious, and is rendered doubly interesting by means of Mr. Lossing's notes. It would be difficult to recommend this pretty volume too strongly to the attention of young political learners.

## The Arts.

### ROYAL ACADEMY.

#### II.—THE STORY TELLING.

THE interest of THACKERAY'S *Esmond* lies entirely in the story of the feelings, with a slighter interest in the development of character; to illustrate it the artist should be familiar with powerful emotions, even when kept under restraint, and he should be able to portray the delicate but distinct characteristics of suppressed emotions. In the painting of "Esmond after his return from the battle of Wynndel," Mr. Egg has by no means neglected the emotions of the scene where the young hero is endeavouring to suppress the display of his feelings, and there is a cross play of affections; but the effect is imperfect. In a scene of the kind, the strongest impressions should be produced by the countenances, next by the action or attitude, and comparatively slight thought would be bestowed upon the costume: in Mr. Egg's picture the costume is finished with considerable care; the action of the people, with the exception of Esmond, who stands in an attitude of constrained self-possession, is exceedingly quiescent. More than one of the figures is seen in profile, and the emotion of the countenances is upon the whole placid and indeterminate. It is a delicate and highly-finished painting, which has a general air congenial to the spirit of *Esmond*; the difficulty of painting half-concealed emotion is not quite overcome.

We have already got in the Middle Room, and our account of it is much the same as that which we gave of the first room. Upon the whole, stories are completely told in proportion to their simplicity, in proportion almost to the absence of a story. One perfectly understands FRANK STONE'S passing cartload of French peasantry, which he entitles "Bon jour, Messieurs;" a cartload of simple chattering gaiety. It is not so easy to realize the scenes of "spiritual tyranny in Scotland" in the time of Charles II. from Mr. POOLE'S "Field Conventicle:" a Presbyterian minister seems to be delivering a soliloquy in the presence of half a dozen men, women, and girls, who are grouped around him in attitudes which imply more attention to the painter than to the preacher. Mr. POOLE has a manner of treating all substances in his picture, whether human form, drapery, or ground, as if it were made of crumbling materials, like stale gingerbread—a literal departure from truth which spoils even the moral verisimilitude of a picture. You cannot believe that you see a scene of Presbyterian piety contending with temporal tyranny, when the human beings, the clothing, and the scenery, seem all made of the same materials.

Last year Mr. WALLIS delighted us with a picture of Chatterton as he lay on his bed of suicide. The painting was highly finished; the beauty of the young man, the carking anxiety, the placidity of death, the tarnished dress, the homely furniture, the open lattice window with a delicately touched view of town roofs under the sun, were all portrayed with great force; and the quiet of death was almost audible in the picture. This year Mr. WALLIS seems to have laboured to produce yet greater force in his pictures, but the effect is weaker. "A Sculptor's Shop, Stratford-on-Avon, A.D. 1617," represents a young labouring sculptor executing the well-known half-length bust of Shakspeare, under directions from a friend of the poet's, with the aid of a mask taken after death. Two children are loitering at the sculptor's door, and there is a view of the town without. Much thought has been bestowed on the design. The contrast between the death-like mask and the more living bust gives the key to that struggle between mortality and immortality which the quiet scene is intended to realize, and which to a great extent it does. It is a realistic view of the subject, an endeavour to recal the veritable scene as if it were photographed; hence there is nothing ideal in the artist, who is a comely and intelligent-looking man, but not handsome. The children, who are looking in with a half-perception of the work, fairly enough dramatize the imperfect appreciation of the passing generation for those spirits that are departing from it; while the nobler wisdom of the poet's friend, and the instincts of the artist, help them to a better perception. The picture fails in its execution. It is elaborated with great care and power; but although realistic in its treatment, it departs from fact. The landscape, seen through the open door, is too heavy in its touches, too positive in its tints. The same defects, in a less degree, are shown in the handling of the flesh and the costume; the hair is too red, the tinge in the cheeks too purple. More complete in treatment is "Montaigne in his Library," with Mademoiselle de Gournay at the feet of the philosopher. The handling is more precise, the colouring better mastered, the story more neutral.

It does not suffice to produce with whatsoever historical exactness the persons of a story, or even to handle the general emotion of the scene. In organic life there is always a strong individuality; the emotions in most cases have a fleeting expression dependent upon the play of the features, which cannot be fixed, masklike. Hence Mr. CORE'S somewhat striking group of the "Pilgrim Fathers" pushing off their boat from Leyden, gives a faint impression of the historical scene. More is told by Mr. J. ARCHER'S "Time of War," in which a child is inquiring of his mother about his father; because in this little picture the play of the features is freer. Still more is told in Mr. SOLOMON'S "Waiting for the Verdict"—a family group outside a court of justice. In every action, in every expression of the face, you can see lassitude contending with ceaseless and intense anxiety. The father sits listlessly on a bench, his head buried in his hands; other figures are leaning about, weary, yet unable to rest. The wife sits with her hands grasping her knees—her face contracted with the horror of anticipation, though she listens for the word with an unmistakable greediness. The artist has aimed with great success at exactness in the modelling of the forms; and in the tensivity of the features, especially of the nose and eyes, while the eyes are looking parallel at nothing, one can detect the tensivity of the ear, listening. There is no violence of action in this picture, but much force.

More of the tale is brought out than in Mr. DOBSON'S "Child Jesus going down with his parents to Nazareth." Joseph is bearing the child, who sits upon the man's arm with a certain simple ease intended to imply something higher than common nature. The attitudes of the advancing pair are natural, simple, and designed after the historic manner. The fault of the picture lies in the fact that the expression of the countenances does not rise above the common: Mary might be any young Spanish girl; Joseph any regular-featured, benevolent old man; the chief figure, any promising, studious child.

We have passed the most striking pictures in the Middle and West Room; here are MILLAIS'S two principal works—"A Dream of the Past, Sir Isambard at the Ford," and the "Escape of a Heretic, 1559." Sir Isambard is an old knight mounted on his 'graund destrere' Launcival; a steed so huge that 'Nas hors but by him seemed smalle.' By a 'woode schawe' Sir Isambard sees a 'lyttil knave,' with a 'mayden,' who asks him to carry them over the ford. The old knight places the maid on the saddle-bow, the boy on the horse's crupper, and gets up himself between; and the stout steed strides through the



ford. The middle ages are brought back. The old knight, relishing the display of his horse's vigour, is finely contrasted with the children, so fresh and apprehensive. The obsolete costume of the stiff yellow armour contrasts with the immortality of youth; for the type of childhood is the same in all ages, though the fashions of older people, and the costume of the time, pass by. The picture is finished with all MILLAIS's power and exactness. It is, as we have said, is photographed; but painting can execute motion, colours, and relief, and many things denied to the photograph. In the photograph, too, the drama is always at the mercy of the actors, and can never rise above their pitch. RAPHAEL paints what RAPHAEL sees in his mind's eye; the photograph can only give us a drama dramatized by Jones, Brown, and Robinson; and even of the greater traits of nature it can only attain a colourless engraving. In this picture of Sir Isumbras the figures are brought out under a broad light, which places every line in comparative relief; while the landscape in the distance, the banks of the river, are subdued under the darkening tints of evening. The weakness of the picture lies probably in the fact that the painter has devoted himself too much to its parts one after another, so that there is a certain want of unity in the whole. The figure of the knight is flatter than the rest, as if it were drawn with a pencil and coloured with water-colours. The horse is scarcely finished, and, from its huge size and smooth handling, it might pass for a giant wooden horse. The children are perfect. It might be said that the figure of the knight is like a drawing cut out from illustrations of LITTA's great book of pedigrees, and placed between two living children on the horse of Troy.

The "Escape of the Heretic" is a more stirring tale, and more powerfully told. A lovely woman has been condemned as a heretic; she is garbed in the condemned costume. A young gentleman has come into the prison, has taken by surprise Fra Juan Romero of the order of St. Dominic, and is in the act of cutting off the woman's hair before putting upon her the habit of the Dominican friar. Such, after much study, we interpret to be the occupation of the young gentleman, who wears a Franciscan friar's gown over his gayer clothing. The defect of the picture lies in a certain obscurity in the action of the rescuer. It is not clear whether he is cutting the woman's hair, or threatening with his knife the priest who is crouching behind her. The obscurity is increased by the expression of the lover's face: it is that of a man who is busy in some troublesome and hasty effort, the brows frowning, the lips stuck out; but a certain blooming, almost smiling aspect of the countenance deprives the expression of intensity or reality, and makes you doubt whether some joke is not going forward, and whether the out-thrust lips are intended to inflict a smacking kiss. None of these remarks apply to the woman. She stands, barefooted, in the prison dress, somewhat elevated upon the steps leading to her cell; her action, with the head slightly thrown back, the hands gently gathering her skirts about her, her knees slightly bent, expresses perfect yielding to the hasty and vehement action of the youth. Her face is a *tour de force* on the part of the painter: it is as beautiful as it is gentle; it implies at once extreme fear, sweetness, submissiveness, and trust. Under the power of such emotions, it frequently happens that the lips are somewhat lifted from the teeth, and so it is here; and the flesh of the face dragged back by the hair. It constantly happens in real life, especially under the rough handling of such tragic occasions, that the features of beauty are distorted, and yet the beauty only stands forth more brilliantly through the trouble. To portray perfect female beauty under violent disturbance requires an absolute mastery of painting: in this triumph MILLAIS has attained absolute success.

#### THE OPERAS.

ALBONI's reappearance in the *Barbiere* on Tuesday evening at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE was hailed with delight by a brilliant audience. We have never heard her in better voice (it has recovered its roundness and fulness since last year), or in more complete possession of her prodigious powers. She is emphatically in every sense the *greatest* of singers. Not only is her voice incomparably fine in quality, but her vocalisation is perfection itself. In a word, she is as much beyond criticism as ROSSINI. We have only to record our admiration, and to recommend all other singers to whom nature has been less prodigal to study the secrets of such accomplished art. In the luxury of listening to that melodious fountain of milk and honey (for such it seems), we forget the *invraisemblance* of the *Rosina*. HERR REICHARDT is, we dare say, a very favourable specimen of the German tenor, but he is sadly out of place on the Italian stage. His voice has a distressing poverty and hollowness of tone—how different from that rich, voluptuous vibration which we are accustomed to expect from a tenor!—and although he sings the Rossinian airs in musician-like style, and with graceful flexibility, we listen uneasily, and with a sense of apprehension quite destructive of enjoyment. His attitudes, too, as the gallant *Lindoro*, may be had any day (coloured) for the small sum of twopence. We never heard the *Ecco ridente* and the *Io son Lindoro* go so flatly. BELLETTI has not the *vis comica* of RONCONI, but he is a very spirited *Figaro*, and sings with ease and power. BENEVENTANO (happily subdued by temporary old age) is a more than tolerable *Bartolo*, but to VIALETTI belong the honours of the evening, after ALBONI. His *Basilio* was in all respects a capital performance; elaborately and effectively acted, but always *in keeping*, never unduly prominent; and his singing displayed a fine bass voice, full, strong, and deep, pure and true intonation, and a sound method. He sang the *Columinus* at least as well as FORMES, and without exaggeration. He is a positive acquisition to the theatre, not only for his excellent qualities as a singer, but for that unassuming conscientiousness which marks the genuine artist.

The *Barbiere* is a nice test for an orchestra. We regret to be unable to congratulate Signor BONETTI on this occasion. Instead of improving as the season advances, the deficiencies and faults of his band are becoming nightly more obtrusive. The execution of the overture on Tuesday night was coarse in the extreme, and the accompaniments almost always inordinately loud.

Madlle. PICCOLOMINI, who, as we heard an experienced critic say, "if she cannot sing *Lucia* like PERSIANI, does it delightfully," has performed the part this week with increased confidence and effect, but we are even better pleased to announce that she is to repeat *La Figlia* again on Tuesday, and to hear that she will, in all probability, appear in *Linda de Chamouni* (a charming opera, never, to our thinking, fairly appreciated in England) in the course of the season.

Surely there must be some mistake in the announcement of the new ballet. PEREA NENA, from over the way, to replace POCCHINI? Where did the Spanish dancers come from last? From the ROYAL STANDARD, or from Highbury Barn? They are all very well in their way, but their way is not the way of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. Spanish dancers have never succeeded at the Opera, nor even Spanish dances, save when danced by Italian, or French, or German feet. Will PEREA NENA prove an exception?

*La Traviata* was announced at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA for Thursday evening, and drew an immense house, but on account of the sudden and severe indisposition of GRAZIANI, *Rigoletto* had to be substituted at the last moment. At almost any other opera-house in the world this unavoidable disappointment would have been severe, and perhaps severely resented; but so consummate was the performance of *Rigoletto*, in some respects the *chef d'œuvre* of VERDI, that the audience was not only satisfied, but unusually enthusiastic. From the first note to the last, the opera went *à ravir*. Madame BOSIO—most elegant of women, most delicious of singers—is the true successor of PERSIANI, with a richer voice and a surer intonation. RONCONI's *Triboulet* is as fine as FRÉDÉRIC LEMAITRE's, and on Thursday all the natural harshness of his voice had suddenly disappeared, and that ungrateful organ sounded rich and fresh. MARIO was slightly hoarse, but what a quality of voice! and what distinction in his air and manner! The orchestra at this house is fit to be a normal school of accompaniment. The *Traviata* is in the bills for this evening.

MR. MITCHELL opens the campaign of the BOUFFES PARISIENS at ST. JAMES'S THEATRE on Wednesday evening next with three pieces, two of which, *Les Deux Aveugles*, and (especially) the last, *Ba-Tu-Clan*, an extremely *à propos* *Chinoiserie musicale*, will, we fancy, be the talk of the town. Indeed, the *répertoire* of the BOUFFES is rich enough to keep up a roar of laughter for a month.

THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION, conducted by Mr. BENEDICT, will give a performance at the CRYSTAL PALACE on Saturday, the 27th of June. We trust that, in the meantime, the members of the Association will take the opportunity of attending the performances of the COLOGNE CHORAL UNION, whose perfection has only been attained by constant practice—an example the Vocal Association will do well to remember and to imitate.

MRS. ANDERSON, the Queen's pianist, has announced her Annual Morning Concert at Her Majesty's Theatre for the 18th inst. She will be supported, as usual, by the full orchestra and chorus of the theatre, and the catalogue of solo singers comprises all the names which have become familiar to the frequenters of the opera during the present season. The new prime *donne*, Spezia and Ortolani, and the charming Piccolomini, will be there. Albani will also take part in the performance, and Clara Novello will be added to the operatic company. Of the male voices, Giuglini will probably be the greatest attraction; but Belletti, Beneventano, Vialetti, and Charles Braham will be important auxiliaries. M. Remenyi, her Majesty's violinist, Pezzi, the first violoncello of Sig. Bonetti's band, are among the solo instrumentalists; and Mrs. Anderson herself, Mrs. Jewson, and Mr. Cusins, will undertake the pianoforte performances. On the whole, the concert of 1857 may be expected to equal, if not to surpass, the best of Mrs. Anderson's well-remembered entertainments.

#### THEATRICAL NOTES.

THE PRINCESS'S has produced two novelties this week—a farce and a fire. The farce is entitled *An Englishman's House is his Castle*, and depicts the miseries inflicted on a Mr. Pococke (Mr. HARLEY) by his lodgers. The piece is from the French—of course. The fire made its appearance on Wednesday night. The velvet curtain lowered at the end of the acts caught light during the performance of *Richard II.* Mrs. KEAN was on the stage at the time; but, with great presence of mind, she told the audience there was no occasion for alarm. Plenty of water soon extinguished the blazing phenomenon, and at the same time did some injury to the dresses of the actors. It was found necessary to suspend the performance; but it is now resumed.

*Joseph Chavigny*; or, *Under the Thumb*, is the title of a romance of villany which was on Monday night produced at the ADELPHI, and in which Mr. WEBSTER exhibits one of his minute studies of character. The piece also contains parts for Mr. PAUL BEDFORD, Mr. SELBY, and Madame CELESTE.

DRURY LANE opens to-night with an equestrian *troupe*, American and Continental; and on Monday ASTLEY's produces an English version of *Il Trovatore*, with Miss REBECCA ISAACS, Mr. AUGUSTUS BRAHAM, and other known singers, and, of course, the horses.

THE access of Spring—signalled this week by a sudden burst of midsummer heat, as if the earth were veritably ripening under the approaching comet—has turned the attention of all greenery-loving Londoners to the open-air entertainments offered by 'the Gardens.' The second season of the ROYAL SURREY commenced on Monday, when the Music Hall was crowded by listeners to MENDELSSOHN's oratorio of *Elijah*, performed, under the superintendence of M. JULIEN, by a very large, effective orchestra and chorus, including Mr. and Madame WEISS, Mrs. LOCKEY, Miss LOUISA VINNING, and Mr. SIMS REEVES. This is indeed music for the million—harmonious art brought within reach of the humble; and the audience showed themselves both attentive and discriminating.—Cremorne is about to open for the season. We can wish it no better fortune than a continuance of the present sultry weather.

#### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, May 12.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ALEXANDER DALRYMPLE, Linc.-street, merchant.

BANKRUPT.—SPEGLER MORICE, Coleman-street, importer of foreign and fancy goods.—JONATHAN CRUSE, Kintbury, near Hungerford, Berkshire, builder.—RICHARD GALE, Skirret, Hambledon, Buckinghamshire, grocer.—CASTLE BRANWIN, jun., Blackheath-road, Greenwich, and High-street, Deptford, grocer.—MARY and THOMAS HUDLESTON, Berners-street, Oxford-street, cabinetmakers.—JAMES MAX, Goswell-street, linen-draper.—WILLIAM ORGAN, Walsall, Staffordshire, saddler.—SAMUEL ARMSTRONG, Sedgley, Staffordshire, builder.—SAMUEL STARMER, Wolverhampton, shoe manufacturer.—JOHN EARNES, Dorchester, dealer.—WILLIAM LEAKE, Almondbury, Yorkshire, cattle dealer.—ANTHONY and WILLIAM CROWTHER, Huddersfield, curriers.—HENRY HARRISON, Sheffield, tailor.—NEPTUNE and JOHN SEAT, Dorton, Lancashire, and Birmingham, hat manufacturers.—WILLIAM JONES, Carnarvon, slate merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. TURNBULL and Co., Edinburgh, woollen warehousemen.—A. STRACHAN, Arlary Saw-mills, Kinross-shire, wood merchant.—J. FERGUSON,

Glasgow, grain merchant.—D. THOMSON, Orwell, Kinross-shire, cabinetmaker.

Friday, May 15.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JAMES BASSE and SOLOMON LINDE, 4, Savage-gardens, Tower-hill, wine merchants.

BANKRUPT.—HENRY ROBERTSON, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, commission agent.—GEORGE COCKBURN HYDE, South-parade, Chelsea, surgeon.—BENJAMIN CANTER, York, cloth merchant.—JONATHAN ENTWISTLE, Bury, Lancaster, tailor.—GEORGE TILLEY, Walton-on-Thames, brewer.—JAMES N. KNAPP, Newport, shipowner.—GEORGE GITTINS, Hart-street, Grosvenor-square, Middlesex, ironmonger.—HENRY IVIMEY COX, Shalford, Essex, grocer.—SAMUEL TANSLEY CUNDE, Belgrave-wharf, Pimlico, statuary and stonemason.—ABRAHAM MILNES and JAMES MILNES the younger, Oldham, cotton spinners.—JOHN OWEN and WILLIAM HENRY BOON, Birmingham, silversmiths and jewellers.—WILLIAM THOMPSON, Over Darwen, Lancashire, power-loom cloth manufacturer.—JAMES STAMPS, Handsworth, and WILLIAM FINCH, sen., Tipton, Staffordshire, paper makers.—SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. M'MASTER, Glasgow, draper.—J. WOOD, Edinburgh, merchant.—C. ANDERSON, Arbroath, manufacturer.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

##### BIRTHS.

CAREY.—On the 12th inst., at Gremton Rectory, Somersetshire, the wife of the Rev. Chas. Carey: a son.

WILMER.—On the 11th inst., at Ryde, Isle of Wight, the wife of Major Wilmer, H.M.'s 14th Light Dragoons: a son.

##### MARRIAGE.

STALLARD—COOPER.—On the 12th inst., at Bromsborough Church, Gloucestershire, William Stallard, Esq., of Bromsborough Court, to Sarah Emily, youngest daughter of the late James Cooper, Esq., of Saxville House, Redmarley D'Abbot, Worcestershire.

##### DEATHS.

BLANDFORD.—On the 8th inst., at the Hôtel des Îles Britanniques, Naples, deeply lamented, Thomas Brickenden Blandford, youngest son of H. W. Blandford, Esq., of Weston Bampfylde, Somerset.

FITZ ROY.—On the 13th inst., at East Sheen, in the 75th year of his age, Admiral Lord William Fitz Roy, K.C.B., fifth son of Augustus Henry, third Duke of Grafton.

## Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, May 15, 1857.

THE Funds have not maintained their price. The immense pressure for money has increased and is increasing. Easterly winds retard the arrival of the 900,000. Australian gold, that is actually in transitu for this country.

The settlement of the share account has occupied the attention of the brokers during the week. The rates of continuation were not excessive despite of the scarcity of money. Caledonians have risen to 74½, and look as if they would touch 74. Turkish Six per Cents. are 1 per cent. higher than at the settlement. French and foreign shares are firm, with no amount of business doing. The Great Western of Canada, and Grand Trunk of Canada shares, have fluctuated violently, but now seem to have recovered.

The Russian railway shares are positively unmarketable. Rigas, being under an English company, are still at a slight premium and are dealt in. Ceylons, Royal Swedish, &c., are at the same prices as last week.

A brisk business in mines this week. Wheal Edward, Mary Anne Herodsfoot, Great South Tolgus, Wheal Vor, and Great Wheal Alfred have been inquired after.

At four o'clock Consols close at 93 9-16, 93 11-16 for June account.

Blackburn, 83, 9; Caledonian, 73, 73½; Chester and Holyhead, 35, 36; Eastern Counties, 11½, 12; Great Northern, 97, 98; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 102, 104; Great Western, 67½, 67½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 102, 102½; London and Blackwall, 61, 63; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 110, 112; London and North-Western, 105½, 106½; London and South-Western, 100, 100½; Midland, 83½, 84½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 87, 88; South-Eastern (Dover), 75, 76; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7, 7½; Dutch Rhenish, 1, 0½ dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 29½, 29½ x.d.; Great Central of France, 23½, 24½; Great Luxembourg, 7, 7½; Northern of France, 38½, 38½; Paris and Lyons, 58½, 58½; Royal Danish, 17, 19; Royal Swedish, 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 8½, 8½.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, May 15, 1857.

THE favourable change in the weather has caused a dulness in the trade, but prices have not further declined.

Barley meets rather a slow sale, and Oats come forward in very small quantities, but both are unchanged in value.

Since our last report nine cargoes of Wheat, seven of Barley, five of Maize, and two of Oats have arrived off the coast for orders. The sales have been a cargo of Ibrail Wheat at 51s., Saidi 47s., damage for sellers' account; another of the same with imperfect report at 45s.; and a cargo of mixed Saidi and Beheira at 44s. 6d. Of Maize the sales have been a cargo of Foxanian at 38s.; Odessa, 38s.; Reni, 37s. 6d.; Egyptian, 32s.

A cargo of Egyptian Barley arrived, has been sold at 26s.; and three cargoes of Odessa Barley either just shipped or shipping, at 24s. to 24s. 6d. and 24. 9d.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	213	213	211½	214	214	214
3 per Cent. Red.....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
Consols for Account	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
New 3 per Cent. An.	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 2½ per Cents....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	.....	.....	2 7-16	2 7-16	.....	2 7-16
India Stock.....	.....	221	220	220	221	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 d	8 d
Ditto, under £1000	4 d	4 d	3 d	.....	7 d	3 d
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	par	2 d	par	1 d	1 p	2 p
Ditto, £500.....	.....	1 p	par	1 p	4 p	2 p
Ditto, Small.....	2 p	1 p	2 p	.....	3 p	2 p

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	99½	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ...	...
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	86	Russian Bonds, 5 per	...
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	...	Cents.....	...
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.....	23	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	95
Peruvian 4½ per Cents....	77½	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	100½
Portuguese 3 per Cents.	45	Venezuela 4½ per Cents....	...

## SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER

COLOURS.—The Fifty-third Annual Exhibition is now Open at their Gallery, 5, Pall-Mall East (close to Trafalgar-square), from Nine till dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

## FRENCH EXHIBITION.—THE FOURTH

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Thursday, May 21—LA TRAVIATA—Piccolomini, Giuglini, Beneventano.

Saturday, May 23—IL TROVATORE—Spezia, Alboni, Giuglini, Beneventano, Vialetti.

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