

*Head & Galloway, 302 Strand.*

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

Contents :

<b>REVIEW OF THE WEEK—</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Imperial Parliament .....	602
The Educational Conference .....	605
State of Trade .....	606
Accidents and Sudden Deaths .....	606
America .....	608
The French Elections .....	608
Continental Notes .....	607
Ireland .....	607
In Remembrance of the late Mr. Douglas Jerrold .....	608
Our Civilization .....	608

Gatherings from the Law and Police Courts.....	609
Naval and Military.....	610
Obituary.....	610
Miscellaneous.....	610
Postscript.....	611
<b>PUBLIC AFFAIRS—</b>	
The French Elections .....	612
Mr. Roebuck's Circular.....	613
The Education Conference.....	613
The Duchy of Lancaster .....	614
Education in the Army.....	614

'Something like a Majority' .....	615
<b>LITERATURE—</b>	
Summary .....	616
Little Dorrit.....	616
Herschell's Essays.....	617
The Greek Historians .....	618
The Englishman in Mormonland .....	618
A New Novel .....	619
New Editions .....	619
<b>THE ARTS—</b>	
Madame Ristori.—Camma .....	619

Fazio .....	620
Her Majesty's Theatre .....	620
Rubinstein .....	620
Mr. and Mrs. Webb's Entertainment.....	620
Theatrical Notes.....	620
<b>COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—</b>	
The Gazette .....	621
City Intelligence, Markets, &c.....	621

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SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1857.

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## Review of the Week.

**SUBJECT** to the friction of parliamentary interruptions, Lord PALMERSTON'S Government is pursuing the course which it laid down, and without much practical disturbance. When Lord DERBY could have beaten the Government on the question of Ministers' Money, he flinched. Proxies, which are available at other stages of a measure, are not available in committee. The second reading had been carried by a majority of proxies against a majority of peers present; Lord CLANCARTY accepted that as a proof that the bill had not been decided by the deliberate decision of the House listening to the arguments; he thought that if the proxies who had voted with Ministers had been present, they might have been convinced by the arguments of his leader. Lord DERBY, however, repelled the idea of disusing proxies. It would not, in fact, be very convenient for a DERBY Ministry, and he knows it. It would also be very inconvenient for a DERBY Ministry, if Lord DERBY had, in a very trifling matter, done his best to keep up those sectarian feuds in Ireland which, as Lord STANLEY, he really did much to diminish in 1833. He saw that he might have beaten Ministers; he tried to keep up his Conservative repute by pretending to try to beat them on the second reading when he couldn't; and now, on the stage when he could, he let them triumph!

It was the same in regard to the Oaths Bill in the Commons. The opponents of Ministers have lain down before them as the Hindu before the car of Juggernaut, only with a more semi-voluntary helplessness. Lord BLANDFORD stood hard against the third reading, Sir FREDERICK THESIGER protested, but the bill was carried by a great majority. Before that, at the last stage but one, Mr. FITZGERALD had discerned an artistic blemish in the measure. Unlike the Roman Catholic Relief Act, it permitted gentlemen of the persuasion now relieved, the Jews, to enter into the posts of Lord Chancellor, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Lord High Commissioner of the Church of Scotland—posts connected with Church preferment; and Mr. FITZGERALD proposed a set of amendments excluding a Jew from these offices, or from advising the Crown on ecclesiastical subjects. It is highly improbable that any Jew would accept such offices; one might almost as much expect to see Baron LIONEL DE ROTHSCHILD Archbishop of Canterbury. But Lord PALMERSTON thought it wiser to give

way. He accepted the amendments, frustrating division in the House of Commons, and lending a new proof of his imperative desire to conciliate the House of Lords.

The Divorce Bill has passed the House of Lords after all, with several amendments, some of the latest being actual improvements. The Bill no longer gives the Marriage Court power to imprison those who are convicted under its operation, and thus it is stripped of that provision which might have deterred husbands from seeking the relief of divorce, lest they should consign an unhappy woman to the imprisonment of a felon. Some of the latest debates in the House of Lords turned upon amendments proposed by Bishops, or by Peers that emulate the pietism of Bishops, in order to exclude those who are convicted under the Bill from re-marrying either each other or strangers under the spiritual sanction of the Church. But every amendment only served to show how preposterous it is to make such distinctions in the general law of marriage; and how futile it is to construct a means of carrying out the distinction.

Where the House of Commons has shown its independence, the selection appears to us not to have been happy. There is an immense increase in the miscellaneous estimates; some of the items would have been very fair subjects for reconsideration; but the House of Commons has already suffered the opportunity to pass. The strangest case for inquiry challenged attention in the large Army Estimates; among other points, the House really knew nothing as to the principle on which the Aldershot encampment is to be maintained. Mr. CAIRD showed that the purchase of that heath had been effected in a very imprudent manner, at a considerable price for waste land, when the Crown already has waste land of little value, and more suitable for the purpose; one instance is the Crown land near Portsmouth. The House declined to support Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY in demanding a more stringent control over the expenditure for the new Houses of Parliament; but it supported Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS in virtually refusing 50,000% towards the park at Finsbury, in which it was supported by metropolitan members whose own districts are already supplied! This is a most unhappy example of resistance. If the House had granted this 50,000%, it might have saved the same sum out of Aldershot, out of the Houses of Parliament, or out of many another item where money will be expended without any benefit to the people of this country. But it has been open-handed towards the War

Department, stingy to the people of Finsbury, and, in that perversely discriminating stinginess, it is supported by metropolitan members!

Lord RAYNHAM moved for a committee of inquiry into workhouse administration, showing how abuses exist such as those which we have witnessed in Marylebone, while the Poor-Law Commission is seen, by the fact that the abuses continue, not to possess sufficient power of controlling them. What is the official answer? That such an inquiry would be 'extended over three years!' and, as a quicker process, Mr. BOUVERIE proposed to conduct it himself, single handed, and through the Poor-law Board whose very incapacity is in question! The House supported Mr. BOUVERIE, because, although it might be ready enough for the Poor-law Committee, it wants to end the session.

Out of doors we have had the Education Conference, which set for the first and third days in Willis's Rooms, on the intermediate day at the Thatched-house Tavern, in sections. The second chairman at one of these meetings was the same Education Minister, Mr. WILLIAM COOPER, who made the official statement on the progress of education for the year in the House of Commons. But the out-of-doors people clearly beat the House of Commons, both in the completeness of their information, and in the scope of their discussion. Prince ALBERT was the first chairman, and he delivered an admirable speech. Lords, bishops, and distinguished persons of all classes, adorned the platform—adorned that platform on which—Prince ALBERT was away—there did not exist sufficient tact or kindly feeling to manage the claim of ROBERT OWEN for a hearing, without inflicting upon the aged man a species of studied insult, to which the ridicule of the polite and 'educated' meeting gave point!

The question of cotton supply has been rendered serious by the state of the supply from America. The rising price has not only embarrassed the manufacturing trade, but has made some manufacturers turn pale with the prospect of being unable to continue their business, while the working classes are threatened with being thrown out of employment. For some time past there has been an effort 'to turn attention' towards other cotton fields besides America; and in the debate on Friday, India was the field at which Mr. J. B. GOSWAMI pointed. Various causes were stated to explain the decline of a cultivation once indigenous to India, but we do not see any complete explanation of the reasons which have prevented a natural



NEWSPAPER

American species in India—of those species which are sure to find their market in Manchester. But a claim has been put forward for other countries. At the meeting of the Cotton Supply Association in Manchester, of which, we believe, Mr. J. B. SMITH is the father and the organ, a late member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales put in a claim for Australia; and the claims of British Guiana and Jamaica have also been revived. It appears to us, however, that none of the persons who have been discussing these subjects grapple with the real difficulty. Even the Americans admit that it would not be undesirable to create an auxiliary supply from other countries, in order to keep the great machines of Lancashire going. But it has been shown that in India the cultivation cannot be hoped for, unless the consumption be secured; and how can that be in a market already preoccupied; unless, indeed, free traders are now going in for 'protection'?

Queen VICTORIA yesterday distributed the crosses of the Order of Valour—the new cross bestowed upon the bravest of the brave. The ceremony may be regarded as the final scene of the Crimean war. It is one of the signs of the new management of the British Army. In receiving the crosses from the hands of the QUEEN, officers and men stood on an equal footing—brothers in valour.

We couple this display with the hearty speech of the Duke of CAMBRIDGE at the Junior United Service. He urged British officers to study their profession, and announced that he intended to do his best to make the British officer equal in instruction to his foreign rivals. We may consider, from these outward signs, that public opinion, lay and professional, has fairly produced an impression on the Horse Guards; so that with a little more persevering agitation, the abuses of Army mismanagement will be reformed.

Upon the French elections we have made our comment in another column. They are significant of a powerful opposition in Paris, and of a people stifled in the provinces. LOUIS NAPOLEON could not co-exist with real representative institutions.

Our criminal record is eventful and interesting. It includes parliamentary matters, for the House of Commons has had its finger in that pie this week. Certain persons stated that one PETER JOHNSON had come from Rochdale on purpose to bribe one ABRAHAM ROTHWELL out of the way, ROTHWELL being able to state something damaging to the sitting member, Sir ALEXANDER RAMSAY. At the close of last week the House took up the subject with warmth, entered quite into a chase of the delinquents, but referred them to a select committee. The select committee sat, found that the witnesses were extremely foggy in their statements, and made a report that it could discover nothing, except the fact that Sir ALEXANDER RAMSAY really had nothing to do with the case of bribery.

The conviction of MAY and TAYLOR has brought out a strange tale. They are the two men who entered into a combination in order to defraud Mr. LAWSON, an Irish cambric manufacturer. TAYLOR was LAWSON'S agent; he proposed to sell some goods to MAY, but objected, as MAY was well known to be untrustworthy. The two men then hit upon a new expedient: MAY put on a new avatar, purchased the goods, and 'levanted,' leaving TAYLOR apparently in the position of a dupe, who had only to report a 'misfortune' to his principal. But the point of the story lies somewhat on one side of this criminal fraud. Wanted, a purchaser for the goods thus obtained, and one was soon found in the City, where a firm purchased them at about two-thirds of the 'manufacturing price.' Very severe reflections have been passed upon that firm, who reply that the practice in the City is common.

Murder, they say, will out. The murder of Mr. LITTLE at the Broadstone station seems to have been discovered, and the discovery is characterized by several strange circumstances. SPOLLEN, the murderer, a painter employed at the station, exercised a singularly cold brutality, both in the mode of killing his man, and in the manner of concealing his crime—painting over the bloody stains on his jacket. But the informer against him was his wife! You would suppose that the motive would be some conjugal quarrel; not at all: the woman informed against her husband in order that he might be called to account for the crime in this world; and that so, 'unhappy man,' as she called him, he might be compelled 'to repent.'

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, June 22nd.

### THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY inquired whether the opinion of the law officers had been obtained respecting the legality of the opium traffic in India.—The LORD CHANCELLOR said that a case had been prepared and submitted to the authorities at the East India House for their revision. It was corrected by them according to their views of the facts; but the President of the Board of Control, and those who thought with him, conceived that the facts referred to by the Earl of Shaftesbury in his notice of motion last session, should be appended to the case as it came from the India Board. The case was still under consideration.

### BREECH-LOADING GUNS.

LORD PANMURE stated, in answer to Lord RAVENSWORTH, that an invention for fabricating breech-loading cannon having been offered by an American gentleman to the Government two years since, and approved, upon examination by a committee, six specimens were ordered for further trial, and had lately arrived in this country from America, where they had been cast at the desire of the inventor. The large gun intended for use in the Crimean war would not be sent out to China, where so considerable a piece of artillery would not be needed.

### ALLEGED GRIEVANCE.

The Earl of ALBERMARLE moved for a copy of the memorial of Frederick Beverley Dixon, of Castlewoodhouse, Durrow, Queen's County, to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, delivered to his Excellency on or about the 13th of July, 1854, praying for an inquiry into the conduct of David Brudenell Franks, stipendiary magistrate, who arrested and imprisoned the memorialist's son, a child of between six and seven years of age, in order that he might give evidence against his father and mother, and committed other acts contrary to law in connexion with the prosecution of the memorialist and his wife on a false charge of conspiracy, to murder one Thomas Brophy, of which charge they were acquitted at the Spring Assizes, at Maryborough, in 1854; also a copy of the memorial of the aforesaid F. B. Dixon to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 6th December, 1856, praying that the police tax of 174l. 13s. 9d., which had been levied on his property under the Crime and Outrage Act, in consequence of the said charge, may be refunded; and also a copy of the answer of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury thereto, dated the 1st January, 1854.—Earl Sr. GERMAINS (who was Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland at the time) denied that Mr. Franks had acted from any unworthy motive; and the Earl of DONOUGHMORE complained of such imputations being made when they could not be proved.—The papers were ordered.

### STATUTE LAW COMMISSION.

The LORD CHANCELLOR called the attention of the House to the third report of the Statute Law Commission. From one hundred to one hundred and fifty statutes are added to the mass of our laws every year; and no lawyer, however eminent, could undertake to make himself acquainted with them all. It was necessary that an attempt should be made to systematize and consolidate the statutes upon some well-defined principle. The commissioners endeavoured to divide the statutes into groups, each group embracing kindred subjects. For instance, they grouped together the statutes relating to the army and navy; the statutes relating to revenue and financial subjects; and those relating to England and Ireland, or to Ireland only, or Scotland only. With regard to the criminal laws, they were gone through with great care; they had tried to consolidate all the laws relating to indictable offences; and the result was, that he had eight criminal bills to which he would ask their Lordships to give a first reading that evening. They had thought it proper to make some delay with regard to the laws relating to treason. The eight bills to which he referred applied to offences against the person, larceny, malicious injury to property, forgery, offences against coin, game laws, libels, and the law relating to accessories and abettors.—The bills were read a first time.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

LORD ABERNETHY, in moving for some returns in connexion with the property held by Roman Catholic charities, enlarged upon the necessity of providing some legal check to the bequest of property, personal as well as real, to the Roman Catholic priesthood for religious purposes.—Some conversation ensued, but the motion was finally withdrawn, at the request of the LORD CHANCELLOR.

### MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion for going into committee, the Earl of CLANCARTY remarked that the second reading had been carried by the votes of peers who were not present, and who knew little or nothing about the subject, but it was rejected by a majority of six of the peers present. This was a measure for the spoliation of the Church. He moved that the bill should be deferred for six months.—The Earl of DUNRY, though opposed to the bill, thought the then state of the House (which was thinly attended) would render the motion brought forward, to say the

least of it, injudicious. He threw the whole responsibility of the measure on the Government.—The Earl of CLANCARTY withdrew his amendment, but signified his intention of renewing it on the third reading.—The Earl of WICKLOW moved that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners should be heard by counsel at the bar against the bill. He expressed his surprise at the manner in which the Earl of Derby had withdrawn his opposition to the measure.—After some discussion, this motion was negatived without a division; and the bill then went through committee.

The reports of amendments on the SMOKE NUISANCES (SCOTLAND ACT AMENDMENT BILL) were brought up and agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

### THE ROCHDALE ELECTION COMMITTEE.

IN the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Colonel FRENCH, referring to the exclusion of members from the proceedings before the committee on the petition of Mr. Newall, which met on Saturday, inquired of the Speaker whether a select committee appointed by that House possessed, either directly or indirectly, such power.—The SPEAKER stated that the rule had been distinctly laid down that, unless the committee were a secret one, members were privileged to attend committees.

### BAB-EL MANDEB.

MR. J. WHITE inquired whether, as the island of Perim, in the Straits of Bab-el Mandeb, had been recently occupied in the name of the British Crown, the privileges of a free port had been, or would be, accorded to it?—MR. VERNON SMITH said the question involved a misstatement of fact; and replied that it was not intended to make the island a free port.

### OATHS BILL.

On the order of the day for considering the Oaths Bill, as amended, Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD rose and said, he understood that the Government, which had at first signified their intention to oppose the introduction of the clauses he proposed, had agreed to withhold their opposition. He would, therefore, without troubling the House with observations, simply move—"That persons professing the Jewish religion should not be enabled to hold the offices of guardian and justices of the United Kingdom, or regents, or Lord Chancellor, Lord Keeper, Lord Commissioner of the Great Seal, Lord Lieutenant, &c., of Ireland, High Commissioner of the Church of Scotland, or any other place or office belonging to any of the Ecclesiastical Courts of Judicature in England or Ireland, or in any Courts of Appeal, or review of such courts, or in the Commissary Court of Edinburgh."

LORD PALMERSTON said he attached no importance to those provisions, but he was ready to adopt them, because they would probably facilitate the passage of the bill.—The clause was added, as were likewise two other clauses, one transferring the presentation to benefices in right of offices held by Jews to the Archbishop of Canterbury; the other prohibiting Jews from advising the appointment to offices in the Established Church.

### SUPPLY.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates.—The first vote, of 102,851l., to complete the sum necessary for the works and expenses of the new Houses of Parliament, gave rise to a long discussion, chiefly with reference to the allowance to Sir Charles Barry; and Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved to reduce the vote by 20,000l.; but the proposition was rejected upon a division by 175 to 65.—In the course of the discussion, Sir BENJAMIN HALL, in reply to inquiries, admitted not only the decay of the stone, but that, notwithstanding the galvanizing process, rust had appeared on the iron in the roof of the building.

On the proposal to vote 15,145l. for Woods, Forests, and Land Revenue, Mr. CAIRD went into a detailed examination of the items. He urged that the cheapest plan of obtaining oak for the purpose of ship-building was to get it from the forests of Central Europe.—Mr. WILSON defended the vote.—Mr. WISE thought that, if the Crown revenues were properly managed, they would realise 600,000l. a year, whereas the balance between receipts and expenditure from 1803 to 1856 gave a total of only 465,498l., or less than half a million in fifty-three years; and the New Forest, which was valued by Mr. Webster, in 1848, at 2,334,507l., had realized only 47,000l. in five years.—After some observations from Sir H. WILLOUGHBY, Mr. BRISCON, and Mr. COWAN, the vote was agreed to without a division, Mr. CAIRD withdrawing a motion he had made to reduce the vote by 148l., the excess beyond that of last year.

On the vote of 6484l. for the establishment of the Lord Lieutenant, Mr. ROENUCK hoped that was the last time that trumpery vote would appear upon the estimates.—Mr. WILLIAMS complained of the item of 1674l. for horse-racing, and moved the reduction of the vote by that amount; but this was defeated by 202 to 55.

On the proposal to vote the sum of 300,745l. for stationery and printing in the public departments, Mr. WILSON said in a few days papers would be laid on the table, giving a detail of these items under their proper heads; and the papers were intended to be published annually in future.

Several other votes were agreed to; and, the House having resumed, various bills were advanced a stage, and an adjournment took place shortly after one o'clock.

Tuesday, June 23rd.  
CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE asked for information from the Government respecting the results of the exploring expedition to Central Australia under the direction of Mr. Gregory. He desired to know whether the Government would lay the information they had obtained on the table, or adopt other measures to give it publicity.—Earl GRANVILLE intimated that, with the exception of the interior, the results of the exploration were satisfactory. A great deal of fertile land had been discovered on the banks of the Victoria and in the vicinity of the gulf of Carpentaria. The Colonial Office would take care that every information at their disposal should be communicated to the public.

DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

On the third reading of this bill, Lord REDESDALE proposed, as an amendment, the omission of the words, "and divorce" from the title of the bill, with a view to depriving the new court created by the bill of the power to grant divorces *à vinculo*.—This was opposed by Lord CAMPBELL, and supported by the Earl of MALMESBURY, who condemned those provisions of the measure which attach penal consequences to a conviction for adultery. He argued that adultery is not a public crime, but a private wrong, which ought not to be treated as a matter of police, like theft or murder. Surely no man would like to see his wife imprisoned as a criminal, however she might have dishonoured him. The woman is sufficiently punished by society turning its back on her. What the public requires is, not to be revenged on a woman for what she has done, but to remove her from the general eye. The bill, he thought, did not effect that object, nor did it give proper facilities for divorce, as the poorer classes would be shut out from that privilege by reason of its expense.—Lord WICKLOW lamented the evil consequences which he felt sure would flow from making marriage dissoluble; but Lord BROUGHAM reminded him, by way of 'administering relief' to his mind, that marriages have always been dissoluble in this country. He recommended their Lordships to pass the bill, with the exception of that clause which entails the punishment of the adulterers.—Lord WENSLEYDALE denied that divorce had ever been the law of the land, a special act of the Legislature being required on each occasion. He had had considerable doubt as to the propriety of substituting a regularly constituted judicial body; but, considering that the bill had been twice sanctioned by their Lordships, and once previously by a commission consisting of many learned men, he did not feel justified in supporting the amendment of Lord Redesdale.—The Earl of CARNARVON supported the amendment, though approving of the bill generally.—The Bishop of OXFORD said the question was whether those of their Lordships who believed the words of our Lord perfectly plain, and who were prepared to vote against the amendment, were not about to determine that the law of England should be in contradiction to the law of Christ.—Lord LYNCHURST: "No such thing."—The Bishop of OXFORD said he would make the matter plainer. If this bill passed without the amendment, an adulterous woman would be entitled to marry again in the lifetime of her husband. By voting against the amendment without voting also against the bill, they would make the law of England contradict the law of Christ.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, before the question was put from the woolsack, desired to remove some erroneous impressions which the view expressed by the last speaker was calculated to create out of doors. The right rev. prelate said that many of their Lordships disapproved of that portion of the bill which enabled the adulterer to marry the adulteress.—The Bishop of OXFORD: "The adulterous woman to marry."—The LORD CHANCELLOR: "That is the same thing."—The Bishop of OXFORD: "To marry during the lifetime of her husband?"—The LORD CHANCELLOR: "Of course." But this amendment was not directed to remedy that state of things, except as it would reject the bill altogether. He thought the course taken by his noble friend in proposing this amendment an inconvenient course, and either went too far or did not go far enough. The amendment would be idle and useless if it ended in the result that the new court should be called, not a Court of Divorce, but a Court of Marriage. He denied an assertion of Lord Redesdale's, that the country had been taken by surprise. The question was ripe for discussion and for legislation. The bill was not likely to introduce an undue laxity, nor would the divorce court be an expensive one.—The Bishop of BANGOR having briefly supported the clause as it stood, the House divided, when there appeared—For the amendment, 84; against it, 91: majority, 57.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE moved that the word "incestuous" be omitted from the bill, the effect of which would be to prevent a divorce *à vinculo matrimonii* being granted in some cases. The amendment he proposed was in accordance with the law of God, the Church of Scotland, and the law of all Protestant countries. The only authority against him was the Church of Rome.—Lord CAMPBELL opposed this amendment, which was negatived without a division.—Lord LYNCHURST proposed an amendment, to the effect that, if a woman could show that her husband had deserted her for five years without reasonable cause, she should be entitled to a divorce; but this also was negatived without a division.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, on behalf of Lord St. Leonards, moved that the words "imprisonment and fine" be struck out of the 31st clause. If the former word were retained, the husband would choose to forego obtaining a divorce rather than subject the wife to imprisonment, and to impose a fine upon a married woman would be simply ridiculous; therefore, it would be imprisonment or nothing to her.—The Bishop of OXFORD thought that, if they struck out those words, they would remove from the bill everything which surrounds the purity of life among the lower orders of society.—On a division, the amendment was carried by 49 to 29.

Another amendment, moved by Lord NELSON, and supported by the Bishop of OXFORD, providing that the re-marriage of divorced persons should be only a civil marriage, performed at the office of the registrar, or in any building under the Marriage Registration Act, was also defeated, principally upon the suggestion of Lord CAMPBELL, by a majority of 28, the numbers being 47 to 19.—The Bishop of EXETER then moved to add a proviso to the end of the 54th clause, enacting that, in case the adulterer sought to marry the adulteress, the clergy should not be compelled to perform the ceremony, but that a civil declaration of the parties before a judge of the new court of divorce should have the force and power of a legal marriage. This was defeated by 38 to 24.—On the motion that the bill, as amended, do pass, the Bishop of OXFORD again protested against it as irreligious and immoral, and said he was determined to divide the House on the final issue, in order that the names of those who opposed the measure might stand on record for posterity.—Viscount DUNGANNON having spoken to the same effect, their Lordships divided, when there appeared—

Contents ... ..	46
Non-contents ... ..	25
Majority in favour of the bill ... ..	—21

The bill then passed.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading, and explained the objects of this bill. A doubt had been raised without foundation as to whether the act of William IV. had a retrospective effect on Roman Catholic charities, and it was declared by this bill that it was retrospective. It provided that if a portion of a Roman Catholic trust was considered lawful, and that another part had been created for superstitious purposes, the Court of Chancery should have the power to decide what was lawful and what was not so. Where a doubt existed respecting a charity, a usage of twenty-five years should be held to be conclusive on the subject.—The bill was read a second time; and the SMOKE NUISANCES (SCOTLAND) ABATEMENT BILL was read a third time, and passed; and their Lordships adjourned a little after ten.

FINSBURY PARK (NO. 2) BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill, Mr. WILLIAMS objected to the measure on the ground of its partiality, no scheme having been suggested for a park for his constituents, though they were asked to contribute to the park for Finsbury. In the bill originally introduced on this subject there was to be a payment of 50,000*l.* towards the object out of the public taxes, and he wished to know whether there was any such provision in the present bill. There was a park in Lambeth made by subscription, and he held that the public purse should not be taxed for local purposes.—The amendment was seconded by Sir JOHN SKELLEY.—Mr. COX supported the bill, stating, as an argument for a park in Finsbury, that in his recollection the population had increased from 120,000 to 350,000.—The bill was supported by Mr. CLAY, Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, Mr. DUNCOMBE, Sir GEORGE GREY (who said that those who voted for the bill would not necessarily be pledged to support a grant for the park), Sir CHARLES WOOD and Sir BENJAMIN HALL, who hoped this, 'the first offspring of the Metropolitan Board of Works, would not be strangled at its birth.' It was opposed by Mr. SPOONER, Mr. NEWBEGATE (who objected to 'this aping the Imperial system of France'), Mr. HENDERY, the Marquis of BLANDFORD, Mr. DILLWYN, Mr. AUSTON, Mr. RICARDO (who thought, however, that it might be desirable to vote money for parks all over the kingdom), and Mr. WALPOLE.

Lord PALMERSTON said it had been represented to the Government that it would be impossible for the locality to raise all the money requisite to form this park, so necessary for the health and recreation of the inhabitants; and the Government, feeling it desirable that it should be established, agreed to recommend a vote of 50,000*l.* in aid of the local contributions. As for the objection that, the advantage being local, so should be the payment,—he submitted that that was a narrow view, striking at the root of all great improvements, and unworthy a great nation. Besides, the improvements were by no means local.—On the motion of Mr. MILLER, the debate was adjourned to Thursday, the House dividing on the proposition, which was carried by 214 to 123.

MAJOR-GENERAL BEATSON.

On the motion of Colonel FRENCH, an address was agreed to for a return of the expenses of the Court of Inquiry in the case of Major-General Beatson, including the cost of procuring evidence, the travelling expenses

of officers summoned as witnesses, and the employment of Government steamers for such purposes.

ARMY HALF-PAY.

Major-General WYNDHAM asked whether it was the intention of Government, on reinstating officers in their former regiments, who had been compelled to go on half-pay, to put them back into the position they would have held in the regiment had they never been placed on half-pay. Also, if the officers who had been compelled to go on half-pay for the convenience of the country should be put into regiments in which they had not previously served, did the Government intend letting them take regimental rank according to the dates of their commissions previous to being placed on half-pay.—Sir JOHN RAMSDEN replied to the first question in the negative. The Government, however, was making every exertion to remedy the hardship that would result from the rapid reduction in the army.

THE MUTINOUS REGIMENTS IN INDIA.

Mr. VERNON SMITH, in answer to Mr. BEYDGES WILLYAMS, stated that the 19th Native Regiment had been disbanded in India, in consequence of its mutinous disposition; but that there is no intention to disband any other regiment, unless the like disposition should unhappily appear.

IRISH FISCAL AFFAIRS.

Sir DENHAM NORREYS asked leave to bring in a bill to provide for the management of fiscal affairs of counties in Ireland by electoral boards.—Colonel FRENCH maintained that no case had been made out for a change in the existing system.—Mr. HENRY HERBERT, on the part of the Government, also urged objections, and advised the withdrawal of the motion.—After a long discussion, in the course of which Mr. BAGWELL, Mr. M'MAHON, Mr. COGAN, Mr. MAQUIRE, Mr. GREEN, and Mr. BOWYER, represented the necessity of the proposed bill, and condemned the grand jury system in Ireland, Sir DENHAM NORREYS withdrew his motion.

INDIA.

Mr. JOHN BENJAMIN SMITH moved, that, "in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that Parliament shall direct its immediate attention to the best mode of removing the obstacles which impede the application of British capital and skill to the improvement of the productive powers of India." The obstacles to be removed, he remarked, are the evils of bad government, the absence of security to person and property, the want of roads and bridges, the use of torture in the collection of revenue, and the state of land tenure—evils for which the East India House is accountable. All these circumstances operate against Englishmen emigrating to India, and developing its resources, particularly as regards the growth of cotton. Rain falls periodically in India, and in as great a quantity as in America; but, for want of being preserved, vegetation suffers. Were proper measures adopted, the means of irrigating the soil would exist in abundance. To show the augmentation of value of land arising from roads, Mr. Smith referred to the work of Captain Gordon, of Illinois. Land, which for thirty years was unsaleable at a dollar an acre, after being traversed by a railway, was sold at thirteen dollars an acre. In the little island of Ceylon, which rejoiced in not being under the rule of the East India Company, there are 3000 miles of road, as great a length as in the whole of India; and the result is that rice has augmented in value from 6*d.* to 3*s.*; fish, which could not be obtained before, has become plentiful; rents are well paid; and the half-naked cultivators are converted into well-clothed and comfortable residents. In England, the supply of American cotton is short, and many of the mills are working short time. The present is therefore the right moment for removing the obstacles which exist to the cultivation of cotton in our Eastern Empire.—Mr. TURNER seconded the motion. From long experience, he gave it as his conviction that America could not compete with India as regarded the cultivation of cotton, provided reasonable encouragement were given.

Mr. MANGLES defended the East India Company from the aspersions of Mr. Smith, whom he accused of making incorrect statements. Premising that the Company is paying interest on 80,000,000*l.* for the purpose of constructing railways and cross-roads, running right and left from the station; that already a pound of cotton is conveyed six hundred and fifty miles for one farthing; and that the works of irrigation in India are larger than in any other part of the world,—he came to the cotton supply. There was no continuous demand for cotton in India. Manchester looks to America; and only about once in five years, when there was a 'cotton famine' in the West, did they look to the East, and say, 'Where is our cotton?' India cultivates cotton for her home consumption; she would not cultivate an extra quantity for the chance of a demand once in four, five, or six years. The Company is expediting the construction of railways to the utmost; but operations are somewhat retarded by the want of means of transport.

Lord STANLEY contended that there would be a demand for Indian cotton in this country if the cotton-growing districts were so open to the seaboard that it would be possible to bring it from the interior cheap enough to compete with American cotton. With respect to the public works we had executed in India, he was greatly mistaken if the native dynasties had not, in proportion to their resources, provided better for material

wants than we. There was too strong a tendency to a war policy in India; and, if we were to wait for a surplus of Indian revenue before internal improvements were made, the delay would probably be a very long one.—Mr. SEYMOUR, in moving the previous question, said that the facts on which Mr. Smith had erected his theory were mostly obsolete. What is wanted to promote the growth of cotton in India is capital and European superintendence.—On the motion of Sir ERSKINE PERRY, the debate was adjourned to that day week.

#### SALARIES OF SCOTCH OFFICIALS.

Mr. BLACK moved a resolution, that the salaries of the Scotch inspectors and surveyors of taxes are inadequate for the duties they have to discharge, and that the remuneration for their services should be placed on the same scale as those of England and Ireland.—Mr. WILSON could not consent to a motion which would impose upon the House a function properly belonging to the departments connected with the revenue of the country.—The motion was negatived.

The ALEHOUSE LICENSING BILL was read a third time, and passed; various other bills were advanced a stage; and the House adjourned about half past one o'clock.

Wednesday, June 24th.

#### JUDGMENTS EXECUTION, ETC., BILL.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS went into committee on this bill, when a good deal of discussion took place—firstly, as to whether the Chairman should report progress (a course proposed by Colonel FRENCH, but negatived on a division by 93 to 31); secondly, whether the Government would adopt the bill (a question which elicited from the SOLICITOR-GENERAL a favourable opinion of the measure); thirdly, a return to the question whether progress should not be reported (a proposition again defeated, this time by 141 to 50, and once again by 175 to 54); fourthly, whether the bill should not be committed *pro forma* and recommitted (a suggestion to which the LORD ADVOCATE agreed); and lastly, whether Ireland should not be excluded from the measure. The Irish members contended that Ireland ought to be excluded, and offered so much opposition to the progress of the measure that the LORD ADVOCATE accused them of factious conduct—a charge which they warmly denied. At length (only two clauses having been passed), Mr. CRAUFURD, with whom the bill originated, consented to progress being reported, and said that, on the first open Wednesday, he would bring forward the measure again.

The House then resumed, and went into committee on the SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETIES BILL; but, before the second clause could be disposed of, the time for discussion had expired.

#### ROCHDALE ELECTION.—REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

Mr. HENLEY brought up the report of the select committee appointed to inquire into the charges contained in the petition of John Newall. The committee stated that Peter Johnson was not produced before them, though it appeared that means had been taken to find him in Rochdale and in London. They found that Abraham Rothwell was served with the Speaker's warrant on the 12th of May, to give evidence before the election committee on the Rochdale petition, and that the fact of his being a person likely to be examined as a witness on the election petition was well known in Rochdale, and before the 18th of June was known to John Lord. That John Lord and Peter Johnson having come to London, Peter Johnson personally applied to John Lord for the address of Abraham Rothwell, and from what passed between them, it appeared that Peter Johnson requested John Lord to tell Abraham Rothwell that if he wished to leave the country, he would find money to the extent of 50*l.* to enable him to do so. That, through the agency of John Lord, Peter Johnson and Abraham Rothwell met, and that in the presence of John Lord, Peter Johnson, on the evening of Thursday, the 18th June, offered Abraham Rothwell to supply him with money to the extent of 50*l.*, if he would quit the country and go to America. Under the circumstances, the committee were of opinion that the necessary inference would be, that the purpose of Peter Johnson was to prevent the examination of Abraham Rothwell on the trial of the Rochdale election petition, and that such purpose of Peter Johnson was known to John Lord; but the evidence was so inconclusive, and the manner of the witnesses in giving their testimony was so unsatisfactory, that the committee were unable to state that inference as being the clear result of their investigation. The committee desired to add that nothing appeared in the evidence before the committee to connect the sitting member, or the agent of the sitting member, with the transaction in question.

The report was received, and the House adjourned a little after six o'clock.

Thursday, June 25th.

#### DIVORCE BILL.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord REDESDALE introduced a bill on the subject of divorce, which he said was so framed as not to be liable to the objections which were contained in the bill which had recently passed that House.—The bill was read a first time.

#### THE PROBATE AND DIVORCE BILLS.

The Earl of WICKLOW wished to ask a question with reference to the Probate and Administration, and the

Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Bills. Neither of them was extended to Ireland; and, as regarded the latter, he wished to know if the action for damages in cases of criminal conversation, and all the other proceedings which had hitherto been necessary for the procuring a divorce, were to continue in force in Ireland.—The LORD CHANCELLOR could only say, in reply, that it was not only the intention of Government to introduce similar bills for Ireland to those which had just passed their Lordships' House, but a bill for remodelling the Court of Probate had been prepared (he did not say it was ready to be introduced), and the Attorney-General for Ireland hoped to be able to pass it this session. It was impossible to make the present bills applicable to the two countries, because it would be necessary to create two new tribunals.

#### OBSCENE PRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS BILL.

Lord CAMPBELL moved the second reading of this bill, by which he proposes to give power to the police, after obtaining a warrant on affidavit, to enter any house where improper publications are sold, and to seize and carry them away.—Lord BROUGHAM, while heartily agreeing that the trade sought to be suppressed is of a most infamous and disgusting character, suggested that it would be impossible to define clearly what an obscene book is. Many works of art, and many of the writings of modern and ancient poets, might be objected to on the ground that parts of them are obscene.—Lord CAMPBELL said he by no means designed to extend his measure to such cases as had been alluded to by his noble and learned friend, but only to such publications as have the single purpose of corrupting the morals and shocking the decency of any well-regulated mind, sales of which are imported into this country. He would take as a test only books for the sale of which an indictment would lie.

The LORD CHANCELLOR and Lord LYNTHURST spoke to the same effect as Lord Brougham; and Lord Lyndhurst put some imaginary, but at the same time possible, cases, to prove his assertion that the bill was impracticable. Having given Doctor Johnson's definition of 'obscenity,' which turns chiefly on the idea of immodesty and unchastity, his Lordship continued:—"Under this bill, a policeman might apply to a magistrate for a warrant authorizing him to seize anything which might happen in his view to be obscene. He would go to a magistrate, who would issue his warrant, and, armed with that, he might go to Colnaghi's, and say, 'I want to look at a print of Jupiter and Antiope'—a picture which represents a woman asleep—very beautiful—with a strange expression in her countenance, herself perfectly naked, and a satyr standing by her side, with an expression in his face showing most distinctly what are his feelings. The policeman seizes it. 'By what authority?' asks the shopkeeper. 'Lord Campbell's Act,' he replies; and, despite all remonstrance, the print and printseller are carried before the magistrate, who, if he took the same view as the policeman, would probably sentence the one to be destroyed, and the other to imprisonment. (*Hear, hear.*) There are many other valuable prints of the same description—'The Rape of Danaë,' for instance, which would come most distinctly within this act, and be liable to seizure. The shopkeeper might be imprisoned for exhibiting it, while the painting from which it was engraved would be hanging in the large square room in the Louvre, in front of an ottoman on which the most delicate-minded women in the world might be seen daily assembled contemplating its beauties. (*Hear, hear.*) But this was only one part of the case. Suppose the policeman happens to go inside the studio or residence of a sculptor; he might see the statue of a man perfectly naked, or a naked group—a cast, perhaps, from one of Palladio's groups—and, as all the statues from the antique are naked, and some of them in attitudes which he (Lord Lyndhurst) did not choose to describe, of course they would be seized, and the artist would be liable to punishment. There is a third class of works that would be liable to seizure under his noble and learned friend's bill—those of the poets. Not a circulating library in the country but would be open to an information, and their books to seizure. The policeman looks over the catalogue, and finds Rochester's poems, with which his noble and learned friend was doubtless familiar (*hear, hear, and a laugh*): those might be seized. He (Lord Lyndhurst) admitted that there is as much difference between the licentiousness of Rochester and that of the ancient classics as there is between the nakedness of an Indian and that of a common prostitute. But they might go further: there was the great master of English poetry—Dryden. He had translated some of the worst parts of Ovid—some of the most licentious epistles of Ovid to his mistress; but, beyond these, there was not a single volume of that great master which would not come under the denunciation of his noble and learned friend's bill. And what would his noble and learned friend say to the bulk of modern French novels? Was there anything, either ancient or modern, calculated to excite licentious desires equal to those? There was nothing that he had mentioned that would not, under this bill, be liable to seizure. Every library and every bookseller's shop would be exposed to expurgation at the hands of the police; not even 'Don Quixote' could be retained." He moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

At the conclusion of Lord Lyndhurst's remarks,

Lord CAMPBELL rose and said, speaking with great emphasis:—"My noble and learned friend's argument goes to this, that all remedy for this evil should be put an end to. He says—'Here Lord LYNTHURST rose to order. His noble and learned friend had no right to reply until the end of the debate. To this, Lord CAMPBELL replied that, as an amendment had been moved, he was privileged to speak. Lords BROUGHAM and REDESDALE thought differently, and a somewhat excited and angry controversy ensued; Lord CAMPBELL frequently beginning his observations afresh, and being as constantly interrupted. At length, the LORD CHANCELLOR decided the rule in his favour, when Lord CAMPBELL said that, having asserted and maintained his right, he was perfectly willing to waive it.—Lord WENSLEYDALE then opposed the bill on the same ground as that assumed by its other opponents.—Lord WYNFORD spoke in favour of the measure.—Lord CAMPBELL replied, and observed that the very word 'obscene,' to which Lord Lyndhurst objected, is the word used in the form of indictment under the existing law, and it was left for the jury to determine the application. 'His noble and learned friend seemed under great apprehension lest that choice collection of literature, which had evidently made a deep impression on his mind, should be seized. He could dispel his noble and learned friend's fears. His collection, whether literary or artistic, would be in no danger; for his noble and learned friend, he imagined, did not mean to sell it or exhibit it, but to keep it for his private gratification and the amusement of his leisure hours.' (*Cheers and laughter.*) There would be no difficulty in introducing words which should draw the distinction required.—Earl GRANVILLE said that, as his noble and learned friend was ready to introduce words removing objections, he thought the best way would be to permit the bill to be read a second time.—This was accordingly done.

#### VEXATIOUS SUITS PREVENTION BILL.

Lord BROUGHAM moved the second reading of this bill, and cited many examples showing the necessity of repressing frivolous and vexatious actions at law. It was not, however, his intention to press the measure during the present session, and after some remarks from the LORD CHANCELLOR and Lord CAMPBELL (who thought the bill would be ineffectual), the debate was formally adjourned.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes past seven o'clock.

#### PASSING TOLLS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. LOWE, in reply to Mr. INGHAM, said that he feared there would be no chance this session of carrying the measure of which he had given notice with respect to passing tolls. It must therefore be deferred to next session.

#### GOVERNMENT STORES.

Major SIETHORP asked the Under-Secretary for War whether it was true that large quantities of gunpowder were stored in various places in the immediate neighbourhood and town of Waltham Abbey, and if so, whether they were to remain there; also, if it was true that any persons connected with the Government had threatened with instant dismissal any of the workmen or others at the mills, if they divulged anything relative to the quantity of gunpowder stored there.—Sir JOHN RAMSDEN replied that there was no amount of Government stores in the neighbourhood and town of Waltham Abbey, and that no Government official had been threatened with dismissal.

#### THE CHURCH IN CANADA.

Replying to Mr. COLLINS, Mr. LABOUCHERE said the Royal assent had been given to a bill passed by the Parliament of Canada to enable the members of the United Church of England and Ireland in Canada to meet in Synod, in order that they might exercise the rights of self-government; and, without giving an opinion upon a difficult point of law, he believed that the act vested the appointment of Bishops of that Church in the Synod.

#### PAYMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICERS.

In reply to a question from Sir JOHN TROLLOPE relative to the payment of medical officers in poor-law unions, Mr. BOUVERIE said that the committee which had considered the subject had made three recommendations—firstly, that the medical officers' appointments should be more permanent than they had previously been; secondly, that from time to time opportunities should be taken of increasing the amount of their remuneration; and, thirdly, that means should be taken to diminish the area of the districts which they were required to superintend. The first recommendation had been substantially complied with, under an order issued by his predecessor in office, and by a subsequent one issued by himself. The other two recommendations could not be acted upon conveniently at the same time.

#### OATHS BILL.

On the order for the third reading of this bill, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved to defer the third reading for six months. His fundamental objection to the bill was that the crown of this realm was avowedly held 'by the grace of God,' in the Christian idea of God. The Divine Being was ignored by the measure, which did not recognize the national religion (he did not merely mean the Established Church), though in the old oath Christianity was distinctly recognized.—The amendment was seconded by

Mr. DRUMMOND, though "he differed from the gentlemen who opposed the bill on the ground that it would un-Christianize the House. He did not think the measure could have been entertained until the House was already un-Christianized. (*Laughter.*) The expression no-doubt required explanation. They had by Liberalism completely obliterated all the essential principles which had hitherto guided this country in ecclesiastical and political matters. When the amendment was introduced by hon. gentlemen opposite, the question was asked, Why not, in a religious matter, appeal to your Bishops? Why, because they knew they would have six Bishops on one side and six on the other. What did they see every day? The enormous cathedral of St. Paul empty, and Westminster Abbey empty, and Bishops going to an unconsecrated concert-room to preach, and then having the impudence to go down into the country and squabble with dissenters about unconsecrated burial-grounds." (*Hear, hear.*)

The O'DONOGHUE objected to the bill, not because it admitted Jews, but because it refused equal rights to Roman Catholics, and virtually re-enacted the Act of 1829, making the measure, in his opinion, a mere Ministerial job.—Mr. BAIL spoke in support of the bill, but obtained a very reluctant hearing.—Mr. DILLWYN, who was likewise very unwillingly listened to, condemned the concession of the Government in admitting the clauses excluding Jews from certain offices, which imposed a disability.—Mr. COLLINS objected to the retention of the Roman Catholic oath, and Mr. BOWYER opposed the bill because it reaffirmed and re-enacted that oath.—Mr. DEASY said, with the deepest regret, he could not vote for the third reading of this measure, which, in his view, created for the first time an invidious distinction between the Roman Catholic subjects of her Majesty and those belonging to all other religious persuasions. At the same time, he could not bring himself to vote against the bill.—Upon a division, the third reading was carried by a majority of 123, there being 291 Ayes to 168 Noes.—The bill then passed.

THE METROPOLITAN WORKHOUSES.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Viscount RAYNHAM moved, as an amendment, that a select committee should be appointed to inquire into the condition and administration of the metropolitan workhouses, and into the arrangements made and carried out by the parochial authorities of the metropolis for the relief of the poor.—After a few words from Mr. WILLIAMS (who disputed some of the facts alleged by Viscount Raynham), Mr. BOUVERIE deprecated the appointment of a committee, promising, at the same time, that the Poor-law Board should fully investigate every case of mismanagement in a metropolitan workhouse which might be submitted to them.—Some further discussion ensued, and the House divided, negating the amendment by 73 to 52.

The House then went into Committee of SUPPLY.

The discussion on the Civil Service Estimates was resumed, when, on the vote of 361,233*l.* for education, Mr. COWPER detailed the progress that had been effected in providing means of instruction for the community. During the past year, grants of public money had been issued towards building 242 new schools and enlarging 262 existing establishments, supplying altogether additional accommodation for 32,000 pupils. In all, 7508 schools had been built, and were now subject to inspection; the corresponding number in 1854 having been 4788. Out of five million children now computed to be living in the United Kingdom between the ages of three and fifteen, the national inspectors reported that at least three millions were attending or had attended schools of some kind or other.—A prolonged discussion followed, of a very discursive character. Ultimately, a division took place upon an amendment, moved by Lord MELGUND, reducing the vote by 91,020*l.*, being the amount of increase on this year's estimate as compared with 1856-7.—The amendment was negated by 168 to 7. The original vote was then carried.

Several bills having been advanced a stage, on the House resuming, an adjournment took place at a quarter-past two.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE first of the three general Conferences held with a view to discussing fully the Educational question, especially with reference to the early age at which the children of the working classes are removed from school, took place at Willis's Rooms on Monday. Prince Albert presided, and several noblemen and gentlemen of distinction were present. His Royal Highness addressed the meeting as follows:—

"Gentlemen, we have met to-day in the sacred cause of Education—of National Education. This word, which means no less than the moral and intellectual development of the rising generation, and, therefore, the national welfare, is well calculated to engross our minds, and opens a question worthy of a nation's deepest interest and most anxious consideration. Gentlemen, the nation is alive to its importance, and our presence here to-day gives further evidence (if such evidence were needed) of its anxiety to give it that consideration. (*Hear, hear.*) Looking to former times, we find that

our forefathers, with their wonted piety and paternal care, had established a system of national education, based upon the parish organisation and forming part of parish life, which met the wants of their day, and had in it a certain unity and completeness which we may well envy at the present moment. But in the progress of time our wants have outstripped that system, and the condition of the country has so completely changed, even within these last fifty years, that the old parochial division is no longer adequate for the present population. This has increased during that period in England and Wales from, in round numbers, 9,000,000 to 18,000,000, and, where there formerly existed comparatively small towns and villages, we now see mighty cities like Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Leeds, Birmingham, and others, with their hundreds of thousands, springing up almost, as it were, by enchantment, London having increased to nearly two and a half million of souls, and the factory district of Lancashire alone having aggregated a population of nearly 3,000,000 within a radius of thirty miles! This change could not escape the watchful eye of a patriotic public; but how to provide the means of satisfying the new wants could not be a matter of easy solution. While zeal for the public good, a fervent religious spirit, and true philanthropy are qualities eminently distinguishing our countrymen, the love of liberty, and an aversion from being controlled by the power of the State in matters nearest to their hearts, are feelings which always most powerfully influence them in action. Thus the common object has been contemplated from the most different points of view, and pursued often upon antagonistic principles. Some have sought the aid of Government, others that of the Church to which they belong; some have declared it to be the duty of the State to provide elementary instruction for the people at large, others have seen in State interference a check to the spontaneous exertions of the people themselves, and an interference with self-government; some, again, have advocated a plan of compulsory education based upon local self-government, and others the voluntary system in its widest development. While these have been some of the political subjects of difference, those in the religious field have not been less marked and potent. We find, on the one hand, the wish to see secular and religious instruction separated, and the former recognized as an innate and inherent right, to which each member of society has a claim, and which ought not to be denied to him if he refuses to take along with it the inculcation of a particular dogma to which he objects as unsound; while we see, on the other hand, the doctrine asserted that no education can be sound which does not rest on religious instruction, and that religious truth is too sacred to be modified and tampered with, even in its minutest deductions, for the sake of procuring a general agreement. (*Much cheering.*) Gentlemen, if these differences were to have been discussed here to-day, I should not have been able to respond to your invitation to take the chair, as I should have thought it inconsistent with the position which I occupy and with the duty which I owe to the Queen and the country at large. I see those here before me who have taken a leading part in these important discussions, and I am happy to meet them upon a neutral ground; happy to find that there is a neutral ground upon which their varied talents and abilities can be brought to bear in communion upon the common object; and proud and grateful to them that they should have allowed me to preside over them for the purpose of working together in the common vineyard. I feel certain that the greatest benefit must arise to the cause we have all so much at heart by the more free exchange of your thoughts and various experience. You may well be proud, gentlemen, of the results hitherto achieved by your rival efforts, and may point to the fact that, since the beginning of the century, while the population has doubled itself, the number of schools both public and private has been multiplied fourteen times. In 1801, there were in England and Wales, of public schools, 2876; of private schools, 487—total, 3363. In 1851 (the year of the Census), there were in England and Wales, of public schools, 15,518; of private schools, 80,524—total, 46,042; giving instruction in all to 2,144,878 scholars; of whom 1,422,982 belong to public schools, and 721,896 to the private schools. The rate of progress is further illustrated by statistics which show that in 1818 the proportion of day scholars to the population was 1 in 17; in 1838, 1 in 11; and in 1851, 1 in 8. These are great results, although I hope they may only be received as instalments of what has yet to be done. But what must be your feelings when you reflect upon the fact, the inquiry into which has brought us together, that this great boon thus obtained for the mass of the people, and which is freely offered to them, should have been only partially accepted, and, upon the whole, so, insufficiently applied as to render its use almost valueless? (*Hear.*) We are told that the total population in England and Wales, of children between the ages of 3 and 15, being estimated at 4,908,000, only 2,046,848 attend school at all, while 2,861,152 receive no instruction whatever. At the same time, an analysis of the scholars with reference to the length of time allowed for their school tuition shows that 42 per cent. of them have been at school less than one year, 22

per cent. during one year, 15 per cent. during two years, 9 per cent. during three years, 5 per cent. during four years, and four per cent. during five years. Therefore, out of the two millions of scholars alluded to more than one million and a half remain only two years at school. I leave it to you to judge what the results of such an education can be. I find further that of these two millions of children attending school only about 600,000 are above the age of nine. Gentlemen, these are startling facts, which render it evident that no extension of the means of education will be of any avail unless this evil, which lies at the root of the whole question, be removed, and that it is high time that the country should become thoroughly awake to its existence and prepared to meet it energetically. To impress this upon the public mind is the object of our conference. Public opinion is the powerful lever which in these days moves a people for good and for evil, and to public opinion we must therefore appeal if we would achieve any lasting and beneficial result. You, gentlemen, will richly add to the services which you have already rendered to the noble cause if you will prepare public opinion by your inquiry into this state of things, and by discussing in your sections the causes of it as well as the remedies which may lie within our reach. (*Cheers.*) This will be no easy matter; but even if your labours should not result in the adoption of any immediate practical steps, you will have done great good in preparing for them. It will probably happen that, in this instance as in most others, the cause which produces the evil will be more easily detected than its remedy, and yet a just appreciation of the former must ever be the first and essential condition for the discovery of the latter. You will probably trace the cause of our social condition to a state of ignorance and lethargic indifference on the subject among the parents generally; but the root of the evil will, I suspect, also be found to extend into that field on which the political economist exercises his activity—I mean the labour market—demand and supply. (*Hear.*) To dissipate that ignorance and rouse from that lethargy may be difficult, but with the united and earnest efforts of all who are the friends of the working classes it ought, after all, to be only a question of time. What measures can be brought to bear upon the other root of the evil is a more delicate question, and will require the nicest care in handling, for there you cut into the very quick of the working man's condition. His children are not only his offspring, to be reared for a future independent position, but they constitute part of his productive power, and work with him for the staff of life; the daughters especially are the handmaids of the house, the assistants of the mother, the nurses of the younger children, the aged, and the sick. To deprive the labouring family of their help would be almost to paralyze its domestic existence. (*Cheers.*) On the other hand, carefully collected statistics reveal to us the fact that while about 600,000 children between the ages of 3 and 15 are absent from school, but known to be employed, no less than 2,200,000 are not at school, whose absence cannot be traced to any ascertained employment or other legitimate cause. You will have to work, then, upon the minds and hearts of the parents, to place before them the irreparable mischief which they inflict upon those who are entrusted to their care by keeping them from the light of knowledge, to bring home to their conviction that it is their duty to exert themselves for their children's education, bearing in mind at the same time that it is not only their most sacred duty, but also their highest privilege. Unless they work with you, your work, our work, will be vain; but you will not fail, I feel sure, in obtaining their co-operation if you remind them of their duty to their God and Creator. (*Cheers.*) Our Heavenly Father, in his boundless goodness, has made his creatures that they should be happy, and in his wisdom has fitted his means to his ends, giving to all of them different qualities and faculties in using and developing which they fulfil their destiny, and, running their uniform course according to his prescription, they find that happiness which he has intended for them. Man alone is born into this world with faculties far nobler than the other creatures, reflecting the image of Him who has willed that there should be beings on earth to know and worship Him, but endowed with the power of self-determination, having reason given him for his guide. He can develop his faculties, place himself in harmony with his divine prototype, and attain that happiness which is offered to him on earth, to be completed hereafter in entire union with Him through the mercy of Christ. But he can also leave these faculties unimproved, and miss his mission on earth. He will then sink to the level of the lower animals, forfeit happiness, and separate from his God, whom he did not know how to find. (*Much cheering.*) Gentlemen, I say man has no right to do this, he has no right to throw off the task which is laid upon him for his happiness; it is his duty to fulfil his mission to the utmost of his power; but it is our duty, the duty of those whom Providence has removed from this awful struggle and placed beyond this fearful danger, manfully, unceasingly, and untiringly to aid by advice, assistance, and example, the great bulk of the people, who, without such aid, must almost inevitably succumb to the difficulty of their task. They will not cast from them the aiding hand, and the Almighty will

bless the labours of those who work in his cause." The Prince then resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

The Secretary having read the report, Lord Brougham, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Rev. Canon Moseley, made some observations on most of the topics touched on in Prince Albert's speech, and expressed themselves to much the same effect as his Royal Highness. The Prince then declared the Educational Conference opened, and adjourned the proceedings to the next day.

On the second day (Tuesday), the various sections met at the Thatched-house Tavern. The greater number of persons attending were clergymen. Various papers referring to education were read; but our space does not permit of our analyzing them.

The final meeting took place on Wednesday, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Earl Granville filled the chair, and the various sections presented their reports, and resolutions based on them. Among other speakers, the meeting was addressed by the Bishop of Oxford, Sir John Pakington, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Right Hon. William Cowper, M.P., Sir John Kay Shuttleworth, the Dean of Salisbury, the Dean of Bristol, and the Bishop of Sodor and Man, all of whom, with the exception of Sir John Pakington, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Bishop of Sodor and Man, had presided over the various sections. The upshot of the resolutions was to the effect that children in England are taken away from school when too young; that this is not the case on the Continent; that registration, certificate, and prize schemes have been applied in certain localities with advantage, and are worthy of a more extensive trial; that the voluntary half-time schemes are also worthy of a further trial; that the Conference considered the encouragement of industrial education in elementary schools, especially among girls, to be very desirable, and that such instruction is peculiarly important in the reformation of juvenile offenders. All these resolutions were carried unanimously.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man then moved—"That this Conference be now adjourned, and that it be referred to the general committee to prepare and publish a public report of the proceedings, with a selection of the papers, and determine as to the time and place of its next meeting." After considerable discussion, this was carried, and the Conference came to an end.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports of the week ending last Saturday show a continuance of comparative inactivity, although the various markets have been favourably influenced by the reduction in the rate of discount. At Manchester, from this cause combined with a further slight advance in cotton and the limitation of production, prices have been firm, but there is as yet no temptation for the manufacturers to resume active operations. The Birmingham advices state the iron trade to be in a very satisfactory condition, while with regard to the general business of the place the manufacturers of articles in copper and tin are beginning in some degree to experience the advantageous effects of the late partial reaction in those metals. At Nottingham, the purchases of lace have been on a slightly increased scale, but for hosiery the demand remains very dull. In the woollen districts and the Irish linen-markets there has been no alteration.—*Times*.

In the general business of the port of London during the same week, the total of ships reported inward was 198, showing an increase of 24 over the previous week. The number cleared outward was 138, including 26 in ballast, being the same as in the previous week. The total of ships on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 66, being 19 more than at the last account. Of these 19 are for Adelaide, 2 for Geelong, 5 for Hobart Town, 8 for Launceston, 3 for Melbourne, 5 for New Zealand, 21 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland Bay, 1 for Port Fairy, 14 for Sydney, and 1 for Swan River.—*Idem*.

#### ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A SHOAL of porpoises having gone up beyond the Earl of Morley's bridge, which crosses the estuary of the Laira, above Catwater, Plymouth, a few days ago, were attacked by a number of men in boats, and several of large dimensions were destroyed. This unusual sport attracted many spectators, and a shot from one of the rifles appears to have hit the head of a porpoise. Flying up, it then wounded the arm of a young man named Poppleton, and passed through the body of Jonathan Corker, a shipwright, who died shortly after his admission to the South Devon Hospital. At the inquest, held before Mr. Edmunds on Friday week, it was found impossible to identify the person who fired the fatal bullet, and an open verdict was accordingly returned.

The Royal yacht Victoria and Albert entered the Mersey on Friday week, and remained at anchor off Rock Ferry until Saturday evening, when she proceeded to Milford Haven. During her stay, Captain Denman gave *carte blanche* to the public for inspection, and on Saturday the yacht was crowded with boatload after boatload of visitors, so that several accidents occurred. One lady had her leg broken, and others were much crushed.

Another sad calamity has taken place off the Shetland

Islands. Several boats were out fishing, when a very severe gale of wind came on suddenly, and three of the boats belonging to Hist, and one to North Mavine, were lost with all hands. Four-and-twenty men were thus drowned, and the greater number have left families behind them. These, of course, are destitute; but subscriptions are being opened on their behalf.

Two men have been killed by lightning a few miles from the town of Hungerford, Berkshire. Some labourers were at work mowing, when a thunder storm came on, accompanied by rain. It was suggested by two of the men that they should shelter themselves under some trees; but a third, knowing that foliage attracts lightning, objected, and went to a neighbouring cottage, where he was safely housed. The other two, however, ran beneath a large lime tree, where, about half an hour afterwards, they were found quite dead. The hair of one was much scorched, and the clothes of the other were on fire.

Sir James Eyre, the physician, and author of the work called 'The Stomach and its Difficulties,' has died suddenly, while he and his wife were staying at the residence of a friend at Clapham. On Thursday week, he attended the Queen's levee, and sat up late that night, playing whist. When he went to bed, he was in his usual health, but in the morning he was found dead in the bed by the side of his wife. An inquest was held last Saturday, when it was suggested by the surgeon who was called in that some vessel in the head had given way. A verdict of Natural Death was returned. Sir James was sixty-five.

A little boy, nine years old, and a girl a little older, were gathering eggs from a cliff near the Land's End. The boy's feet suddenly slipped, and the girl caught hold of him, and held him for some time; but, finding her strength failing, she was compelled to relinquish her hold, and the boy fell a depth of between two and three hundred feet, and was dashed to pieces.

A man employed at Price's Patent Candle Manufactory has been burnt to death, owing to his apron catching fire at the stove in the cooling-room, the bottom of which was out of repair. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and considered it blamable on the part of the managers not to have a proper stove in the cooling-room.

A Mr. Albert Keel, a young man of eighteen, the son of a gentleman residing at Bath, has been drowned in the river Avon. He was rowing in a skiff, which came into collision with another boat. The youth was at once thrown head foremost into the water, and never rose again. The body was recovered in about five minutes, but life was quite extinct. It is supposed that Mr. Keel struck his head against the bottom, and was stunned, for he was a good swimmer.

Another horrible death by drowning has occurred to a youth of eighteen. He was the son of a toll-keeper near Glasgow, and, being near the old quarry, he sprang from the bank into the water. After swimming about for a few minutes, he dropped his feet and stood upright. His feet, however, stuck in the thick soft mud at the bottom, and he gradually sank. His cries attracted a man and woman to the spot, and the former jumped in, and did his best to rescue the youth. But by this time the water had covered his head, and life had flown. The body was only got out with great difficulty.

Two young men have been drowned in the Aln, Northumberland, while bathing. One, observing that the other was sinking, went to his rescue; but both were lost. A neighbouring clergyman, hearing them cry, went to the rescue, but arrived too late.

#### AMERICA.

THE Central American question yet looms in the papers of the United States. The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* asserts that, in a despatch of twelve pages to Lord Napier, Governor Cass had declined to reopen for the present negotiations on that much discussed question. Another correspondent of the same journal understands that the Secretary of the Treasury will recommend the repeal of all laws requiring the coasting trade to be carried on in American ships. Lord Napier has kept the Queen's birthday at Washington with great *éclat*. The ball was attended by many of the notabilities of the Federal capital; but General Cass was absent, which is attributed to his invariable habit of going to bed at ten o'clock. The *New York Herald* gives an enthusiastic account of the celebration, in which he utters the most lavish praise of the high-bred courtesy of the English Ambassador, the beauty and suavity of his wife, the unequalled moral and intellectual qualities of the various American functionaries present, and the magnificent busts and shoulders of his fair countrywomen.

The President is said to have declared that in matters relating to the Nicaraguan transit he will not recognize Costa-Rica as having any control over it. At Caracas, Venezuela, an occurrence of some interest has taken place, the British Chargé d'Affaires having solemnized a marriage between two native Roman Catholics, contrary to the rules of the church. The bride being stepdaughter to her husband, the Archbishop and Pope had previously refused their sanction. Lord Palmerston has been written to on the subject. General Jose Mucagas has

renounced his title of General-in-Chief, and resolved not to recognize the new General appointed by Government. Great excitement prevailed.

At New York, trade continued dull. There was more activity in the money-market, though rates were not materially changed.

#### THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

THE elections commenced last Sunday, and all passed off peaceably, though, of course, very different accounts are given of the degree of interest excited among the people. The Government papers say that the Mairies were crowded; the Liberals affirm that a great deal of apathy was shown. On the first day, many of the Republican electors held back from voting, out of a fear of the ballot boxes being tampered with during the night. At the close of the second day, the boxes were opened in public, and the result at once declared; so that there was no longer any fear of foul play. The following are the issues of the several Paris elections:—

##### FIRST CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Delphin .....	10,070
Laboulaye .....	4,676
Reynaud .....	1,682

Majority for the Government candidate..... 5,394

##### SECOND CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Devinc .....	10,472
Bethmont .....	9,070

Majority for the Government candidate ... 1,402

##### THIRD CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

General Cavaignac.....	10,345
Thibaut .....	10,108

Majority for the Republican candidate..... 237

##### FOURTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Varin .....	9,632
E. Ollivier .....	6,741
Garnier Pages .....	3,749

Majority for the Government candidate ... 2,891

##### FIFTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Carnot.....	12,034
Monin-Japy .....	8,426

Majority for the Republican candidate..... 3,608

##### SIXTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Goudchaux.....	13,042
Perret .....	10,464

Majority for the Republican candidate..... 2,578

##### SEVENTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Lanquetin .....	10,609
Darimon .....	6,826
Bastide .....	3,647

Majority for the Government candidate ... 3,783

##### EIGHTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Lepelletier .....	13,820
Vavin .....	9,033
Jules Simon .....	2,268

Majority for the Government candidate ... 3,787

##### NINTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Königswater .....	11,507
F. Lasteyrie .....	8,110

Majority for the Government candidate ... 4,541

##### TENTH CIRCUMSCRIPTION.

Dr. Véron .....	15,417
Eugène Pelletan.....	7,220

Majority for the Government candidate ... 8,197

The voting on the second day (Monday) was brisker and more animated than on Sunday. The working classes came out in force, and from many of the departments marched in large bodies to the voting places in their tuckered-up shirt-sleeves, *sabots*, and ordinary working-dress. Some issued from the wine-shops, and were a little noisy and flushed with drink; and it was found necessary to eject a few from the voting rooms. "In many cases," writes the *Times* correspondent, "difference of calling seems to influence political tendencies. For instance, the ornamental papermakers, cabinetmakers, metal founders, and enginemakers, will have most probably voted against the Government candidate; the market gardeners rather in favour; the copper-smiths (who are, I believe, principally from Auvergne) the same; the dealers in old ironware rather divided; but the journeymen brewers generally favourable. On Saturday and Sunday, additional carriages were put on to the trains, for the considerable numbers who are located in the country, in the neighbourhood of Paris, and who were coming in to vote."

In the third, fourth, and seventh circumscriptions, as the successful candidates did not obtain an absolute majority of the whole number of registered electors, a second election in each of those divisions will take place.

\* The names of the Government candidates are printed in *Italics*.

In Paris, M. Garnier-Pagès has addressed the following letter to the electors of the fourth circumscription, pending the fresh election:—"I return my sincere thanks to the electors who have been pleased to honour me with their votes. In the interest of my democratic principles, to which I have devoted the whole of my life, I request my supporters to transfer their votes to M. Emile Ollivier."

"The Opposition, up to the present time," says a daily contemporary of yesterday, "has obtained only six nominations in all—namely, MM. Carnot and Goudchaux in Paris, Dr. Hénon at Lyons, M. Cure at Bordeaux, M. Migeon at Colmar, and Viscount Rambourgt, in the Aube. There are certainly some other nominations of persons not comprised among the Government candidates, but these gentlemen cannot be claimed by the Opposition. As a set-off to the six candidates named above, the Opposition has lost the five deputies belonging to it in the last Chamber, viz., the Count de Montalbert, the Duke d'Uzès, and MM. de Civrac, Charlier, and Desmolles. The Opposition had brought forward 115 candidates in 58 departments, so that it has been defeated in 111 places. A somewhat remarkable fact of the late elections is the very limited number of cases in which a second ballot will be necessary, being in fact as yet only six in all—three in Paris, and the three others in the Maine-et-Loire, the Mayenne, and the Somme. In the last three, the contest took place altogether between candidates fully supporting the policy of the Government."

The following circular was sent round on Sunday evening from the Hotel de Ville to many of the electors who had not then taken out their tickets:—

"Prefecture of the Department of the Seine, Paris, June 21.—Sir,—the elections for deputies to the Legislative Body commenced this day. Each person is at liberty to exercise or not the rights which the constitution confers on him. Now, as certain parties have systematically advocated abstaining from the vote, many electors would, perhaps, regret being involuntarily associated with them, either through forgetfulness, or in consequence of their occupations. I therefore take the liberty of reminding you that the voting will remain open to-morrow (Monday) from eight o'clock in the morning till four in the afternoon.—Receive, Sir, &c., G. E. HAUSSMANN, Prefect of the Seine."

"M. Senator Vaisse, exercising the functions of Prefect of the Rhône," says the *Daily News* Paris correspondent, "wrote a circular to the mayors against the candidatures of MM. Bacot, Hénon, F. Morin, and Jules Favre, which, for its open disregard of the promises of the Government that the elections were to be free, transcends anything that has yet been seen of the like kind. He says:—'Emissaries have been sent round the country to canvass in favour of republican candidatures. Their ardour and activity have redoubled within the last few days. In informing you of their intrigues, I make a fresh appeal to your zeal and vigilance to entreat you to use all the means in your power to prevent, and if necessary to destroy, the effect of these intrigues among the electors at your command.'"

"A deputation of the electors of the third arrondissement, in order to put an end to the doubt about the Opposition candidates taking the oaths," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "called on General Cavaignac in order to ascertain whether it was his intention to do so. The General was rather puzzled what to reply. To answer in the negative was to trifle with the electors, and to answer in the affirmative he could not do without taking counsel of his ordinary advisers. He said that he could not give an answer then, and asked for time to consider."

M. Billault, the Minister of the Interior, previous to the elections, addressed the following circular to the prefects of departments:—

"Monsieur le Préfet,—It is not sufficient that universal suffrage should be free; it must likewise be enlightened. The law in granting the candidates exceptional facilities freely to proclaim and explain themselves during the twenty days which precede the ballot wished that the country, being thus perfectly instructed, should decide. We are arriving at the conclusion of this period of instruction and discussion. The Government has scrupulously watched over the maintenance of the franchise of all; some have endeavoured to abuse it, and, under pretence of distributing voting tickets, wished to revive among the mass of the population the leaven of old democratical passions. The Government, which, if it were necessary, could show that it has lost none of its force, or of its energetic will for the maintenance of public peace, has allowed these impotent sallies to pass. It would not give even the slightest pretext for bad faith to calumniate that liberty which our laws secure to the electoral struggle. Candidates, journalists, instigators, or propagators of candidatures have all written and acted freely. It is now for the country to meditate and to vote. Everybody has given his advice to the people—the Government owes them its opinion, and charges you, M. le Préfet, to make it known in all your communes."

"In the midst of this perfect tranquillity, produced and maintained by the vigour of the Imperial power, and by the absolute confidence which the people repose in the Emperor—in presence of the general measures which

proposed for re-election all the deputies whose loyal concurrence in public affairs offered in the past security for the future—it appeared that, with the exception of some individual pretensions without political bearing, no serious difference of opinion would agitate the ballot; but a small number of persons, setting themselves up exclusively as democrats in the face of a Government established on the most democratic basis which ever existed, has thought proper to commence a contest. Sheltering themselves under a formula of liberalism, sufficiently vague that its elasticity might save them from the danger of their own dissensions, they endeavoured to supply the want of numbers by activity, and are making unheard-of efforts everywhere to raise up opposition candidates. But what, then, is the object of this opposition? The country must know it; you, Monsieur le Préfet, must explain it to the people."

"The majority of the candidates brought forward formerly professed Republican or Socialist opinions, and certainly none of them would declare to-day that he had repudiated them. What, therefore, do they want? To present again the question of the Republic to universal suffrage, which has three times solemnly condemned it? That is not serious. To take the oath to the Empire, and by submitting to the constitution honourably to fulfil the mission of deputy? Nobody will believe it. Then, what remains? To endeavour to sow trouble and agitation, to embarrass the action of the Emperor, and to enfeeble, both at home and abroad, the feeling which all Europe entertains of his power, the prestige with which he has done so much during the last six years for the glory and prosperity of the country. But they will not succeed; their efforts will be shattered against those electoral masses whose good sense and patriotism founded the Empire; it will suffice that these masses present themselves at the ballot. Explain to them well, Monsieur le Préfet, how they have put the question. One of their journals said that it would be resolved by the country centralized in Paris. Paris will disappoint their hopes, and the 350,000 electors of the department of the Seine will not separate themselves from the 9,000,000 electors inscribed in the eighty-five other departments. Remind those who possess property of the security which the Empire has given them; those who labour, of the marvellous conditions of activity created for them; those who suffer, of the incessant anxiety of the Emperor on account of the distress of the people; all, of the glorious and respected position to which he has restored our country. Let them all, therefore, come and give their opinion on affairs which are their own. They are well aware that the Empire repays them with usury in glory and in prosperity that which they give it in confidence and self-devotion."

"Repeat to them, Monsieur le Préfet, that their duty as well as their interest calls them to the ballot. The verification of their votes will prove that if the enemies of the Empire hoped to find a point of support in the electoral urn, they have once more mistaken the power of the bonds which unite the Emperor to the people, and calumniated universal suffrage. Receive, Monsieur le Préfet, the assurance of my very distinguished consideration.—BILLAULT."

It is stated that the distributors of Opposition bulletins at several of the provincial elections have been set upon and beaten with bludgeons by bodies of ruffians, and that the police have acted in the most arbitrary manner, arresting any one who rendered himself distasteful. The *Ere Nouvelle* of La Rochelle publishes a complaint by M. Fabius Filippi, an Opposition candidate, setting forth that the men employed by him to placard his address had been threatened with arrest by the commissary of police, who, assisted by the garde champêtre, had torn down his addresses from the walls in the presence of many witnesses; that his son, having called on the Mayor to complain of these outrages, could obtain no redress, but had been called a mountebank; and that, for all these and many other still more serious reasons, he protests against the election of General Vimeux, the Government candidate.

The Prefect of the Gers has suspended M. Gounon, the Mayor of Eauze, for coming forward as an Opposition candidate.

### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

#### FRANCE.

The Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, England, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey met on the 19th inst. at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of signing the treaty for the frontier settlement in Bessarabia, and for regulating the question of the Isle of Serpents and the Delta of the Danube.

The *Moniteur* confirms the fact that a treaty of commerce was signed between France and Russia on the 14th of the present month.

The Emperor left at ten o'clock on Thursday morning for Plombières, by way of Châlons.

The Council of the Bank of France has reduced the rate of discount on commercial bills (*escompte des effets de commerce*) to 5½ per cent. It maintains the interest on advances at 6 per cent.

#### AUSTRIA.

A Paris correspondent of *Le Nord* speaks of the augmentation to 5000 men of the Austrian contingent of the

garrison at Rastadt, which has given rise, he says, to various conjectures as to what can be the cause of such a reinforcement on the frontier.

A grand festival has been held in Vienna in honour of the hundredth anniversary of the Austrian Military Order of Maria Theresa. The ceremonies included a grand 'military mass' outside the Franzens-gate, at which the Emperor was present, a banquet in the galleries and garden of the Palace of Schönbrunn, at which the Emperor presided, and an appropriate theatrical performance at the chief theatre. Here the Emperor was again present. The Empress, who is completely prostrated by the death of her daughter, passed the whole day in retirement at Laxenburg.

#### ITALY.

The number of young persons at Milan who present themselves to receive ecclesiastical orders has fallen this year from seventy, which was the average, to thirty-two only. This is ascribed by a correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* to the disrepute into which the priesthood has fallen since the Austrian concordat.

Some interpellations addressed to Count Cavour by Signor Brofferio in the Chamber of Deputies on the 16th inst. have led to certain statements by the Foreign Minister. With respect to the journey of the Cavaliere Boncompagni to Bologna at the time the Pope was there, Count Cavour said that the only errand of Boncompagni was to pay his respects to the Pontiff as the supreme head of the religion professed by the grand majority of the Sardinian people; he had not been invested with any authority to say a word about an arrangement with Rome, or to seek anybody's good offices with the Court of Vienna. As regards certain persecutions of the press, of which Signor Brofferio had complained, Count Cavour said that the laws must be executed as they stand. Those laws, he admitted, are not altogether good, and the institutions of the country require that they shall be improved; but Government could not, by its own authority, suspend the course of justice in accordance with existing laws.

The Pope has granted pardons to Advocate Francesco Sturbinetti, President of the Constituent Assembly of Rome in 1849, and to Count Antonio Mariscotti, who commanded a military body under the Republic. The latter has already returned to Rome.

Some sanguinary and fatal conflicts have taken place between the French and native Italian troops at Rome.

There are reports, requiring confirmation, of the King of Naples having been again attacked and wounded.

#### BELGIUM.

A hundred electric clocks are about to be established in Brussels. The municipal authorities have acquainted the inhabitants of some of the streets that the wires will run along the top of their houses, and have called upon them to allow the workmen to make the necessary arrangements.

#### SPAIN.

The Government has decided upon accepting the resignation of Marshal Serrano, the present Ambassador at Paris.

The *Epoca* states that, in consequence of intelligence relative to the Spanish question which had reached Cuba, General Concha had ordered the departure for Vera Cruz of part of the Spanish squadron; and, accordingly two steamers, Colon and Isabel II., had sailed on the 13th. The hopes of a pacific arrangement diminish every day. In Cuba it was feared that the United States would excite Mexico to hostilities against Spain.

Catalonia is in a very disturbed state.

#### PRUSSIA.

The Thorn steamer, belonging to the Vistula Navigation Company, blew up on the 17th near Wiszograd. All the persons on board were either killed or wounded.

Several Italians were arrested in Paris last week on suspicion of being concerned in a political plot. Arms, it is said, were found upon them.

Count Paul Kisseleff went last Saturday to St. Cloud to deliver to the Empress, on the part of his sovereign, the Grand Cordon of the Order of St. Catherine.

#### GERMANY.

The Diet of the Duchy of Saxe-Gotha, in its sitting of the 18th, adopted unanimously the proposition for a complete union of the two Duchies of Gotha and Coburg. The Diet was immediately afterwards prorogued. It is supposed that the Diet of Saxe-Coburg will vote in the contrary sense.

#### IRELAND.

THE MURDER OF MR. LITTLE.—The perpetrator of that atrocious deed which filled Ireland with consternation in the course of last year, would seem at length to be in the power of the police. A house painter, named Spollon, has been arrested on the evidence of his own wife. He was employed about Mr. Little's office on the day of the murder, and at night brought home (as his wife now alleges) a quantity of gold and silver, and told her that he had robbed and murdered Mr. Little. She says that she saw him burn a pocket-book and also his cravat; that she saw him cover with paint the bloodstains on his clothes, and that he told her he had

made his escape through the roof, after committing the murder. She assisted to conceal the money, and she further states that the bag of silver found was Spollen's, and that the bag was placed in the trunk by him; that the hammer found was her husband's, and she believed the razor also, as he appeared very nervous the day it was found, and said he had thrown it in with the case on, and, if the case were discovered, it would no doubt be identified. The woman promised to show the police the place where the money was concealed; and at two o'clock on Wednesday, Superintendent Guy accompanied the woman, and found between two walls, within the precincts of the railway terminus, some of the money, consisting of gold, notes, and silver. The notes were nearly destroyed by the damp. On being examined before the magistrate, Spollen's wife was present, and appeared to be greatly affected. She said, addressing him—"Confess your guilt, you unfortunate man; what I have done was to save your soul, and that you may repent of your crime." On the charge being read to him, he only said, "I deny it." He was then led back to his cell. Mrs. Spollen, and Spollen's ather, are in charge of the police.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE LATE MR. DOUGLAS JERROLD.

COMMITTEE: John Blackwood, Esq.; Shirley Brooks, Esq.; John B. Buckstone, Esq.; Peter Cunningham, Esq.; Charles Dickens, Esq.; John Forster, Esq.; Charles Knight, Esq.; John Leech, Esq.; Mark Lemon, Esq.; Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P.; William C. Macready, Esq.; Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P.; William H. Russell, Esq.; Albert Smith, Esq.; Clarkson Stanfield, Esq., R.A.; William M. Thackeray, Esq.; Benjamin Webster, Esq.; W. Henry Wills, Esq. Honorary Secretary: Arthur Smith, Esq. Office at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, handsomely placed at the disposal of the committee by Mr. Willert Beale.

The committee, in remembrance of their deceased friend, beg to announce the following occasions:—

On Saturday (this) Evening, June 27th, a Concert will take place in St. Martin's Hall, at which Madame Novello, Mr. and Mrs. T. German Reed, Miss Louisa Vinning, Herr Ernst, Mr. Albert Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, Mr. F. Robson, Signor Bottesini, Mr. Osborne, Miss Mary Keeley, Miss Dolby, and Mr. Sims Reeves will assist. Conductors: M. Benedict, Mr. Frank Mori, and Mr. Francesco Berger. To commence at eight precisely. Prices of admission: Stalls, five shillings; body of the hall, centre gallery, and orchestra, each two shillings; back seats and side galleries, each one shilling.

On Tuesday Evening, June 30th, Mr. Charles Dickens will read his Christmas Carol in St. Martin's Hall. The reading will commence at eight precisely, and will last two hours. Prices of admission: Stalls, five shillings; body of the hall and the centre gallery, each two shillings; back seats and side galleries, each one shilling.

On Tuesday Evening, July 7th, Mr. W. H. Russell will deliver his Personal Narrative of the late Crimean War in St. Martin's Hall. To commence at eight precisely, and last two hours. Prices of admission: Stalls, five shillings; body of the hall and the centre gallery, each two shillings; back seats and side galleries, each one shilling.

On Saturday Evening, July 11th, will be represented at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, Mr. Wilkie Collins's new romantic drama in three acts, *The Frozen Deep*, performed by the amateur company of ladies and gentlemen who originally represented it in private. With the original scenery, by Mr. Stanfield, R.A., and Mr. Telbin, and the original music, under the direction of Mr. Francesco Berger. The whole under the management of Mr. Charles Dickens. To conclude with a farce. Prices of admission: Stalls, one guinea; area, ten shillings; amphitheatre, five shillings.

On Wednesday Evening, July 15th, will be represented, at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, the late Mr. Douglas Jerrold's comedy, in three acts, *The House-keeper*. To conclude with the late Mr. Douglas Jerrold's drama, *The Prisoner of War*. Represented by Miss Reynolds, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Howe, Mr. Chippendale, Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Mr. W. Farren, Miss Marie Wilton, Mr. Rogers, Miss M. Ternan, Mr. Compton, Miss M. Oliver, Mr. Benjamin Webster, Miss Fanny Wright, and the company of the theatre. Prices of admission: Stalls, ten shillings and sixpence. The rest of the house as usual, except the private boxes, which may be had at the Committee's office, or at Mr. Sams's Library, St. James's-street.

On Wednesday Evening, July 22nd, Mr. W. M. Thackeray will deliver a lecture on 'Week-day Preachers,' in St. Martin's Hall. To commence at eight precisely, and last one hour and a half. Prices of admission: Stalls, five shillings; body of the hall, and centre gallery, each two shillings; back seats and side galleries, each one shilling.

On Wednesday Evening, July 29th, will be represented at the Theatre Royal, Adelphi, the late Mr. Douglas Jerrold's drama, in three acts, *The Rent Day*. To conclude with the late Mr. Douglas Jerrold's drama, *Black-eyed Susan*. Represented by Mr. T. P. Cooke

(who returns to the stage for one night, for the purpose), Madame Celeste, Mr. Benjamin Webster, Miss Wyndham, Mr. Wright, Miss Mary Keeley, Mr. Buckstone, Miss M. Oliver, Mr. Paul Bedford, Mrs. Chatterley, Mr. Billington, Miss Arden, Mr. Henry Wallack, and the company of the theatre. Prices of admission: Stalls, ten shillings and sixpence. The rest of the house as usual, except the private boxes, which may be had at the Committee's office, or at Mr. Sams's Library, St. James's street.

Tickets for any or all of these occasions are now on sale at the Committee's office, at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, every day between the hours of twelve and four.

## OUR CIVILIZATION.

### CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE court on Friday week and last Saturday were occupied in trying John Hind May, William Taylor, and George David Myers (the last two of whom surrendered in discharge of their bail), for conspiring to obtain property to the value of nearly 1000*l.* from Thomas Gorman and Alexander Lawson. The prosecutors are Irish cambric handkerchief manufacturers, at Lurgan, in Ireland, and Taylor was an agent for the sale of goods of that description, and was considered a highly respectable man. Mr. Gorman took him some samples of handkerchiefs last February, and asked him to endeavour to dispose of them. He agreed to do so, and shortly afterwards Taylor wrote to him stating that he had found a purchaser in Mr. May, of Huggin-lane. Owing to inquiries made by Mr. Gorman, he refused to let May have his property, and Taylor then wrote to him, stating that Myers and Co., late of Ludgate-hill, would purchase the handkerchiefs upon certain terms, and he advised him to let that firm have them. He assented, and the goods were sent to London. All the defendants looked at them, and they were then removed to May's warehouse in Huggin-lane, and two days afterwards were sold to Messrs. Meeking, of Holborn, by May, for little more than half the price at which they had been invoiced to Messrs. Myers. There was some evidence that May had paid two cheques, one for 100*l.*, and the other for 50*l.* to the account of Myers, after this transaction; but it was admitted that Taylor had always been looked upon as a most honourable man. Several witnesses gave him a very high character; but he was found guilty, as also was May. Myers was acquitted. Baron Channell (who said he perfectly agreed in the verdict, and who condemned the conduct of the Messrs. Meeking in buying the goods at half-price, as being a course 'calculated to strike at the root of all honest and fair dealing in trade') condemned May to a year's imprisonment, without hard labour, and Taylor, on account of his being a dupe of May, to half of that term.

### MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

A singular imposture was revealed in the course of a trial last Saturday, when Con. Bayley and Thomas Doyle were indicted for stealing three loaves of bread, and also for a fraud. The men were in the habit of going into the shops of various retail tradesmen, pretending that the scales were out of order, and saying that they were sent by the proper authorities to repair them. They would then do something to the scales, and make a charge of a few shillings. One day, they went to a baker's shop at Haggerstone, knocked a piece of lead into the goods scale with a hammer and punch, and demanded 1*s.* 6*d.* The baker said he would send the money, but they insisted on having it then, and finally, saying they would take it out in bread, walked off unmolested with three loaves. On the same afternoon, they were taken into custody. They were now found guilty, and were sentenced to eight months' hard labour.

Mark Collins, John Collins, and Thomas Eastman, were found guilty of stealing two 5*l.* notes from Thomas Thomas, a sailor, whom they inveigled into a public-house, and induced to make bets. On his producing the notes, they snatched them from him and made off. Mark Collins and Eastman, being old offenders, were sentenced to four years' penal servitude; and John Collins, against whom there was no previous conviction, was sent to prison, with hard labour, for six months.

### A STRANGE HISTORY.

An action for criminal connexion was tried on Monday in the Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Armitage, the plaintiff, is a solicitor, not now in practice; and about ten years ago he was married to a Miss Macdonald. There was a disparity in their years—Mr. Armitage being thirty-seven, and the young lady only seventeen. For some unexplained reason, she refused her husband the conjugal privileges. His conduct appears to have been very kind and forbearing, and she returned his affection with seeming gratitude, but persisted in her strange conduct. He therefore provided her with a home at the house of his brother, a clergyman in Herefordshire; and her letters to her husband, written to him from that house, showed nothing but affection for him, but also expressed her determination not to live with him. In one letter she says she would rather beg; in

another, that she would sooner die. She afterwards went to the house of a relation in Scotland; and while there received from her husband—sometimes at her own request—various presents in the way of articles of dress. Towards the close of 1850, she wrote to say that she was going to return to England, and that she would fulfil all her duties as a wife, and do all she could to please her husband. In 1851, Mr. Armitage lost sight of her, but afterwards discovered that she was in the habit of visiting the defendant, Colonel Macdonald, who is aide-de-camp to the Duke of Cambridge. Notwithstanding the identity of name, it does not appear that the Colonel and the young lady are related. She visited him frequently at his chambers in the Albany, and he visited her at her apartments. About this time, she was acquainted with a Mrs. Pugh, who figured, about a year and a half ago, in an action which she brought against a Mr. Rosenthal, the facts of which appeared in the *Leader* of December 8th, 1855, under the head of 'A Gay Lady.' This person would accompany Mrs. Armitage to Colonel Macdonald's chambers, and used also to see her at the house of a Captain Burslem. Two or three 'cousins' also used to come and see her—"not old ones," said the landlady of the house in which Mrs. Armitage then resided. "When the Colonel going to the Crimea," said Mrs. Pugh in her evidence, "she and I went first to St. James's Palace to see him, and then to the platform of the South-Western Railway. Many were there taking leave of their friends. Colonel Macdonald kissed her; she was much affected. He had her in his arms, and might have kissed her twenty times, for what I know. There were officers of rank in the saloon carriage. Colonel Macdonald got in. She ran up and said, 'Here Jemmy, is my marriage handkerchief,' and threw it to him wetted with her tears." This account of what passed at the station was corroborated by a written statement from 'a distinguished personage,' as the reporters phrase it, who was at that time in the saloon carriage, and which was read by consent.

In 1855, after his return from the Crimea, Colonel Macdonald again frequently visited the lady at her lodgings, till one Sunday evening, when he stayed ten minutes, went away, slammed the door, and never came again. "Several gentlemen," said the landlady, "called on Mrs. Armitage, but none walked out with her but Colonel Macdonald, and that was to church." In May, 1856, Mrs. Armitage—then calling herself Mrs. Macdonald—gave birth to a male child at Little Stanhope-street, May Fair. Here Colonel Macdonald again visited her, and she seemed glad to see him. She afterwards lived at Albert Terrace, and was found one day crying over a religious book.

The way in which she was traced by her husband was thus narrated by Mr. Shaw, the plaintiff's attorney, and his cousin:—"We went all over London after her, and employed detectives, and advertised in the *Times*. Mr. Armitage had seen her at the theatre with a young man, fair and with sandy hair. He went to the box and called him out, and said, 'Are you aware that the lady with whom you are is my wife?' The fair man said, 'No; our meeting was purely accidental.' Mr. Armitage demanded his card, and he gave him one with 'Mr. Lloyd' on it. Mr. Armitage asked for the address, and he wrote 'Palace-chambers, St. James's,' on it. While this was going on, Mrs. Armitage left the theatre in a cab with an elderly gentleman. He gave money to the waterman on the stand, and found that the cab had taken her up to Lord Aberdeen's, but she went in at one gate and out at the other. We found this out from the porter, for, having traced her to Lord Aberdeen's, we inquired there. We saw Colonel Gordon, but he was not the man. The 10th or 11th of March, 1851, was the date of the theatre business."

Mr. Serjeant Shee, for the defence, said that Colonel Macdonald was entirely ignorant of the fact of Mrs. Armitage being married, and that, at any rate, he ought only to be obliged to pay very small damages. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff: damages, 100*l.*

### 'CELESTIAL' PROFLIGACY.

A glimpse into the horrible profligacy of the Chinese colony established at Bluegate-fields, Shadwell, was afforded on Tuesday at the Thames police-court, where Lemn Apoo, a 'Celestial,' was charged with assaulting a countryman, named Sangtoo, by striking him on the head with a hammer. Apoo keeps certain houses of ill-fame for the accommodation of his countrymen—houses to which they give a very straightforward designation. Sangtoo formerly lived in one of them; but latterly he has set up business on his own account. This led to bad blood; and at length Apoo set upon Sangtoo, bit him, and finally knocked him down with a hammer. The assault was fully proved. The Chinese beggars, it appears, often collect from two to four shillings a day. Sangtoo keeps two disreputable houses, with three girls in each, for the special society of the Chinamen, who spend their evenings with them.

Mr. Yardley said, this case disclosed a strange feature in our social system, but it was not the first time he had heard of and commented upon it. There is a colony, or nest, of from fifty to ninety Chinamen in Bluegate-fields, who leave that vile and filthy place every morning to solicit alms, distribute themselves and rove about the west-end of London in the daytime, and come back in

the evening to their city of refuge, where they have an establishment for indulgence in luxuries not to be named, but suitable to their peculiar tastes. A dreadful state of things exists, and, if not curbed by vigorous and rigorous measures, the Chinese vagrants will make themselves known to all the world by a horrid pestilence. As far as his duty and his authority went, he would not hesitate to do all in his power to put down such a nuisance, which exists only through the mistaken charity of people at the west-end, who give money to Chinese mendicants, which they expend in the infamous houses described by the witnesses. The charitable people at the west-end do not know the incalculable mischief they cause by giving money to Chinese vagrants, who ought to be closely looked after by the police. He knew that serious crimes were committed in Bluegate-fields. He was not disposed to be lenient to Apoo, although he was a foreigner, after the revolting details he had heard; and, considering that the defendant was the proprietor of two houses in which he kept women for the especial solace of fifty or ninety Chinese beggars who resort to them nightly, and considering also that Apoo had been most ably defended, and that he was realizing large gains by his immoral and pestilential trade, he did not think he should be treating him with excessive rigour if he ordered him to pay a fine of 3*l.*, or be imprisoned for one month.—The penalty was instantly paid.

**MURDER IN ESSEX.**

Chingford Hatch, situated a few miles from Woodford, Essex, has been the scene of a very mysterious murder and robbery. On Sunday morning, Mr. and Mrs. Small left their house to attend the parish church at Chingford. As they left, they observed a man standing near the house; but, having previously seen him at or near the same spot, they took no notice of the circumstance. The house was left in charge of an old woman of seventy-two, who acted as a confidential housekeeper and cook. This woman, whose name was Mary White, had previously sent an invitation to her niece, who reached the house between eleven and twelve o'clock. The niece passed through a back gate in the lane, and, having entered the back kitchen on the ground floor, found her aunt with her head nearly severed from her body, the throat being cut in two places, and the wound extending almost from one ear to the other. The body was lying in a pool of blood, and, from the general appearance of the room, there was evidence of a violent struggle having taken place between the murderer and his victim. On the floor were marks of blood, and the clothes of the woman were torn to pieces. These circumstances were not at first observed by the niece, who thought her aunt was lying in a fit. She therefore called in a woman who was in the garden, when, an alarm having been given, several of the neighbours came to the spot, and the police were also soon in attendance, as well as medical aid. The poor creature, however, was quite dead, but the body was still warm.

The police then searched the house. It would seem that the murderer, after committing the act, must have gone to Mr. Small's bureau in one of the upper rooms and taken from it a hammer and chisel, with the aid of which he forced open the whole of the drawers and robbed the place of money, watches, and jewellery.

The constables, while prosecuting their search, found a knife smeared with blood in a salt-box, and a clasp-knife with a buckhorn handle, rather rusty, in a bowl; and it is supposed that, failing to accomplish his purpose with the aid of the first-named weapon, the murderer had recourse to the second; hence the two wounds in the throat. The London police were at once telegraphed to, and efforts were set on foot to trace the assassin. An inquest was opened on Monday evening, and was adjourned.

**ILL-USAGE OF WIVES.**—Several cases of ill-usage of wives have come before the magistrates within the last few days. Isaac Saunders was charged at Westminster with assaulting his wife. It appeared that he entirely neglected her and the children, and that the wife had to find the means of subsistence for them. He also beat her with great severity. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour.—Mr. George Young, the landlord of the Trinity Arms Tavern, Trinity-street, Borough, was charged with a ferocious assault on his wife, who presented the appearance of being constantly ill-treated. He could only allege in his defence that he had been in the cellar, drinking champagne, and that he was very sorry. He was sent to the House of Correction for two months.—Thomas Ives, waiter at a tavern in the vicinity of the Southwark police-court, has been sentenced to six months' hard labour for stabbing his wife in the face. On hearing the sentence, he exclaimed, laughing, "That's just what I want. That'll serve her out!"—John Snow, a labourer, was on Tuesday condemned by the Westminster magistrate to a couple of months' hard labour for an assault on his wife.

**THE DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.**—The directors of the late Royal British Bank already in custody or liberated on bail are at present five in number. Mr. Owen, Mr. Stapleton, M.P., and Mr. Macleod have put in bail for their appearance; Mr. Humphrey Brown is at present in the Queen's Bench Prison, not having completed his bail. Mr. Alderman Kennedy is on his way to this country, in custody.

**THE MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS.**—Henry Rogers, the captain, William Miles, the chief mate, and C. E. Seymour, the second mate, of the British bark *Martha* and Jane, of Sunderland, have been committed for trial at the Liverpool Assizes, charged with the murder of Andrew Rose, one of the crew of that vessel. The facts of the case were related by us last week.

**MURDER NEAR HACKNEY.**—Michael Crawley, a labourer, aged sixty-two, has murdered his wife, a woman of the same age, by beating in her skull with a bill-hook. He was of drunken habits, and frequently quarrelled with the woman, who went about selling small parcels of greengrocery. On Saturday, he had a dispute with her, owing to her refusing to give him eighteenpence he had asked for. At night, she was found by her daughter in her bedroom, lying in a pool of blood, with her head fearfully battered and mangled. She was still breathing, and lived till Sunday morning, when she died. On Monday, Crawley was apprehended, when he observed that it was 'a bad job,' and that he was going to give himself up. He was remanded. The inquest has terminated in a verdict of 'Wilful Murder.'

**A DRUNKEN TETOTALLER.**—A tall, raw-boned man, named Andrew Morton, was charged at Lambeth, on Monday, with creating a disturbance at the Obelisk. He was lecturing on tetotalism, and was at the same time practically exhibiting the evils of intoxication, for he was himself excessively drunk. After enlarging for a considerable time on the virtues of total abstinence, and calling the crowd to witness how well he could do without spirituous liquors—to all of which his auditors only answered with jeers, laughter, and hooting—he was taken into custody and locked up. He then abused the police in very filthy language. When asked by the magistrate what he had to say, he admitted that he was intoxicated; and he was fined twenty shillings.—It was mentioned by some of the witnesses that the Sunday preachings at the Obelisk are an intolerable nuisance. The different partisans shout and howl at one another, abuse their mutual doctrines, and make blasphemous and impure observations. Crowds of disreputable characters assemble, and robberies are of frequent occurrence.

**FORGING A COUNTY COURT PROCESS.**—A singular case was heard before the Exeter magistrates a few days ago. A respectable tradesman, named William Downey, of Topsham, was committed for trial on a charge of forging the name of Mr. John Daw, registrar of the Exeter District County Court, to an illegally concocted summons. It was stated that persons travel about the country and make a good living by selling documents in imitation of County Court summonses, which are printed in Holywell-street, London. These are purchased by small tradesmen, who send them to tardy debtors in order to frighten them into payment. To make the process complete, it is necessary to forge the signature of the registrar. This Downey did, and posted the letters in Exeter, so that it might appear to the debtor that they came from the office of the registrar. By the County Courts Act, the offence is one of felony. The magistrates committed Downey for trial at the ensuing Quarter Sessions.

**ASSAULT ON A HUSBAND.**—Mary Anne Barton has been examined at Marylebone on a charge of striking, kicking, and biting her husband. She was furious with drink at the time, and, on being taken into custody, she swore she would 'remember' her husband when she came out. She was sent to the House of Correction for a month.

**MURDEROUS ATTACK ON THE POLICE.**—James Harrington and James Waltho are under remand at Southwark, charged with a murderous attack on the police in the course of a drunken row outside a public-house in Kent-street. The officers were unable to attend, being in hospital in a serious state; and the case was remanded. The landlord of the public-house behaved very courageously in defending the police, and all his windows were broken by the mob.

**ROBBERY THROUGH BETTING TRANSACTIONS.**—A young man of twenty-one, named Thomas Somerville, was charged at the Worship-street police-court with robbing an alehouse-keeper in the neighbourhood, with whom he lodged, of 4*l.* One night, about eleven o'clock, he suddenly absconded from his lodgings, when the landlord's suspicions were excited, and he went to his bedroom, and found that his cash-box had been broken open and a considerable portion of its contents abstracted. He then proceeded to Somerville's room, where he saw some money amounting to 5*s.* lying on the bed. He informed the police of the occurrence, and, about an hour afterwards, Somerville was brought back to the house, when 1*l.* 15*s.* more of the landlord's money was found on him. Somerville confessed to the magistrate that he had committed the robbery. He had done so because he was quite penniless, having lost all his money through being persuaded by a man to go into a public-house, where probably there was also a betting-office, in Bishopsgate-street, and where he had been induced to make bets on the Hampton Cup and some handloaps. Having lost all these bets, and being compelled to pay the various sums he had staked, he gave up every farthing he possessed, and had then committed the robbery. He had only been in England a month, having just returned from a situation which he held for about five months, in the office of a Greek merchant in the Ionian Isles, but which he had been obliged to re-

linquish in consequence of being affected with violent palpitations of the heart. Mr. Hammill sent him for six months with hard labour, to the House of Correction.

**ASSAULTS.**—Two Irish labourers named Thomas and James Fletcher, brothers, were charged at the Westminster police-office with committing a ferocious assault on a charwoman named Mary Anne Lawley, and likewise severely injuring a man who came to her assistance. Mrs. Lawley was sitting one night by the bedside of her mother, who was dying, when she heard a knock at the street door, and, on opening it, saw the two brothers Fletcher, who rushed into the house. They then knocked the candle which the woman held out of her hand, and one of them then struck her on the head with the poker and otherwise ill-used her. A friend who was in the house, hearing her cries, ran down stairs to her assistance, when he was also savagely attacked by the two ruffians. While endeavouring to force the poker out of the hands of one of them, the other struck him a violent blow with a pair of tongs. Mrs. Lawley said that the assault on herself was wholly unprovoked, and she could only account for it by supposing that one of the Irishmen 'owed her a grudge' in consequence of her endeavouring, on a previous occasion, to defend her sister from his violence. Both men were remanded until Thursday, when they were committed for trial.—A Frenchman of the name of Lascelles was charged at Marlborough-street with assaulting and attempting to garotte Pierre Sartori, manager of the Turkish Divan in the Haymarket. The latter was proceeding down that street about two o'clock in the morning, dressed in Turkish costume, when Lascelles suddenly grasped him round the throat with both hands, from behind, apparently with the intention of committing a garotte robbery. His victim, however, contrived, after a brief but violent struggle, to shake him off, and he then called out for the police. A constable shortly afterwards came up, and took Lascelles into custody. When brought before the magistrate, the Frenchman declared that he never meant to rob the other man, adding that the whole affair was nothing but a joke, and that he only intended to frighten Sartori by pinching him. Mr. Bingham believed this, but, as Lascelles had nevertheless committed a rather serious assault, he must either pay a fine of 5*l.*, or be imprisoned for two months.

**CARD-SHARPING.**—The man recently taken into custody for swindling two foreign gentlemen on the Windsor Railway has been sentenced by the Windsor magistrates to three months' hard labour. Notice of appeal to the quarter sessions was given, and bail was accepted by the bench.

**MURDER AND SUICIDE.**—A Mrs. Corner, the wife of a postman at Wallingford, has drowned her three children and herself in the river. She was a very respectable and industrious woman, and the motive for the act is not known.

**EMBEZZLEMENT OF 1000*l.***—Mr. George B. Gurney, principal salesman and cashier to Mr. Milner, a manufacturer at Liverpool, has been committed for trial on a charge of embezzling 1000*l.* from his master. His wife was some time ago charged by a boot and shoe seller with stealing a pair of boots from his shop. The case was dismissed at the time, and Gurney subsequently recovered damages in an action for false imprisonment.

**THE LATE ASSAULT CASE AT BIRMINGHAM.**—Mr. Collis, solicitor, has been found guilty at the Birmingham Borough Sessions of the assault on Mr. Hodgson, another solicitor, which we related in our paper a week or two ago. He was fined 50*l.*, which was paid.

**BETTING GENTLEMEN IN TROUBLE.**—A large number of persons were placed before Alderman Wire at the Mansion House on Wednesday, charged with being found in betting-houses. They were placed at the bar in batches, and some were discharged, while others were fined 25*l.* and costs.

**A STORY OF NORTON-STREET.**—A man and a woman named Osborne, and another woman named Jane Henrick, were brought up at Marlborough-street on Wednesday, charged with committing a murderous assault on William Ward, an engineer. Ward, who is quite a young man, picked up Henrick in the neighbourhood of the Haymarket, and accompanied her to a notorious house in Norton-street, where, fancying he had been cheated of some money, he attempted to leave, but was attacked so savagely that he lost his consciousness. The people outside, hearing his cries, at length made their way into the house. He was beaten on the head with a poker, and Henrick tried to throw him over the banisters. The case was adjourned till Monday.

**SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A BUTLER.**—Mr. Arnold was occupied a considerable time in investigating charges of a revolting description against Stephen Fryer, between fifty and sixty years of age, butler to Mrs. Gordon, 47, Wilton-crescent. The practices complained of would appear to have been carried on for a considerable time. The case was adjourned for a week.

**GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.**

At the sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday morning, the Prince of Wales accompanied Lord Campbell into court, and took his seat by his Lordship's side. His Royal Highness remained during the trial of the case of *'Slidebottom v. Adkins,'* and paid great attention

to the proceedings. At the close of the trial, he shook hands with Lord Campbell, and, having bowed to the jury, left the court, accompanied by his tutor.

The case of *Sidebottom v. Adkins*, at which the Prince was present, was an action to recover the sum of 6520*l.* for money received by the defendant to the plaintiff's use. The defendant pleaded the general issue, the Statute of Limitations, and a set off. The action arose out of certain gambling transactions which were brought before the public in the case of *Culverwell v. Sidebottom*, which was tried in the same court last November. John Sidebottom is a young man who carries on the business of a cotton manufacturer at Manchester, and who inherited considerable wealth from his father; and the defendant, James Adkins, kept a gaming-house, known as the Berkeley, in Albemarle-street. The plaintiff, when about twenty-five years of age, visited London, and was introduced by an acquaintance to the Berkeley, where he became acquainted with Adkins. He played at hazard for large stakes, and in his first visit lost as much as 8000*l.* He continued afterwards to come to London about four times a year, and on each occasion he went to the house, and between 1848 and 1853, over which years his visits extended, he lost altogether 25,000*l.*, part of which he paid in cash, and part in F O U's and promissory notes. He subsequently discovered that loaded dice had been used, and other unfair practices adopted in the game, by Adkins and those in his employ; and he therefore brought this action. Mr. Macaulay, who appeared for the defence, said that his client was willing to return all the money which Mr. Sidebottom had paid on securities, having already given up the securities themselves. Lord Campbell therefore directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff, with 6520*l.* damages.

In the Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved, on Monday, Lord Chief Justice Cockburn delivered judgment in the case of the Queen v. Gray, in which Mr. Justice Erle had reserved the point, whether the prisoner, who had exposed her child, whereby inflammation of the lungs had taken place, was liable to be convicted under the statute. The Court was of opinion that the conviction could not be sustained, for, looking at the other offences provided for in the statute, it did not seem that this case came within it. The conviction was therefore quashed.

In the case of *Innes v. Mitchell*, argued before the Vice-Chancellor, Sir R. T. Kindersley, on Tuesday, the point was raised whether a person in England could bring into this country a suit properly a Scotch one, proceedings being at the same time on foot in Scotland. It was contended that, in such matters, Scotland is the same as any other foreign country. The Vice-Chancellor, however, ruled that the Scotch suit did not prevent proceedings in an English court. That such a point could be raised shows the anomaly of having two sets of laws in one empire.

An action was brought in the Court of Common Pleas, on Tuesday, to recover possession of a wharf and premises on the banks of the Thames at Chelsea, which, it was alleged, were forfeited on the ground of a nuisance—the place having been used as a receptacle for all the dung collected from the neighbourhood. This was complained of by the neighbours as being sickening and very prejudicial to health; but a Mr. Gregory, the landlord of the White Hart Tavern, which is exactly opposite the wharf, on being asked whether the wharf was a nuisance to him, said, "I have never smelt the dung since it has been there." (*Laughter.*) A healthy-looking woman, a carman's wife, who lived in a house adjoining the wharf, said, "I smell nothing." (*Laughter.*) She also said she liked the smell, and she was sure it promoted her health. (*Laughter.*) Miss Gregory, also of the White Hart, said she felt no nuisance or annoyance from the business carried on at the wharf; and two other witnesses from the neighbourhood spoke to the same effect. A verdict was given for the defendants; so that the carman's wife will be left in the enjoyment of the odours, and her health will not be made to suffer by the invasion of pure air.

A Dr. Jones, an English physician residing at Paris, has obtained a verdict, with 150*l.* damages, against the *Daily News* for a libel. At the latter end of last October and beginning of November, he attended an English gentleman, named Brettie, who had been thrown from his dog cart. He had previously attended him for *derrum tremens*, for he was a very intemperate person. In consequence of the accident, and his previous drinking habits, he died; and the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* wrote a paragraph which seemed to impute that Dr. Jones had poisoned his countryman; but Dr. Jones said that he had only given Mr. Brettie three-quarters of a grain of tartarized antimony, which he considered necessary, as he believed there was extravasation of blood in the head. There was a *post mortem* examination by order of the police, and it terminated satisfactorily for Dr. Jones. The jury, therefore, conceived that he had been injured, and returned a verdict as already stated.

Lord Chief Justice Cockburn and the other Exchequer Judges have affirmed the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench on the disputed points in the case of Mansell, the murderer. The convict is therefore again handed over to the executioner.

A meeting took place in the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday, to receive the accounts of the directors of

the bank and pass their last examination. The directors, upon whom has been imposed the obligation of preparing the accounts, duly surrendered, with the exception of Mr. Gillott, who is suffering from illness, and whose absence was excused on that ground. Mr. Alderman Kennedy and Mr. Macleod, two of the directors, came into the open Court. After considerable discussion, Mr. Commissioner Holroyd directed that the last adjournment should stand to the 23rd of September, and that the balance sheet should be filed on the 1st of September.

The case of *Barber v. Potter* was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Monday and Tuesday, before Mr. Baron Martin and a special jury. It arose out of certain allegations of fraud made by Mr. Potter against Mr. Barber in connexion with the Samaritan Institution in the City. Our readers are already in possession of the facts of this case, as they came out at Guildhall last December. The charges against the institution were that it was a sham and an imposition, which did not really administer relief, but gathered together a number of disreputable characters, and was carried on for the personal benefit of Mr. Barber and his family, who, it was stated, consumed the donations of food sent by the charitable. The jury, after an absence of some hours, returned a special verdict, finding the written statement to be libellous, but true, and that the defendant did not act maliciously.

#### ARMY EDUCATION.

By command of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Adjutant-General G. A. Wetherall has issued the following important General Order, dated Horse Guards, June 19th:—"His Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief calls the attention of officers commanding regiments, depôts, and depôt battalions, to the condition of their regimental schools. It is scarcely less essential to the soldier to be able to read and write and keep his own accounts than to be acquainted with his drill. Without these elementary acquirements no soldier is capable of profiting by the instruction given him in the use of the rifled musket, his promotion is rendered less probable, and he is deprived of the interest and improvement derivable from the excellent libraries now placed within his reach. His Royal Highness is pleased to direct that for the future every soldier, after being dismissed from drill, shall attend school as a duty until he is reported upon as sufficiently advanced in reading, writing, and arithmetic. With the concurrence of the Secretary of State for War no fees are to be required for this attendance at school. It will be desirable that commanding officers should so arrange the duties of the men as to give, if possible, at least four hours' attendance each week to all men of the above class. No man is to be considered eligible for promotion to corporal, unless in the field, who has not been dismissed the above class. For promotion to the rank of sergeant higher qualifications may be expected. It is not intended at present to lay down an absolute rule on the subject, but the attention of commanding officers is particularly called by his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief to the importance of carrying the education of non-commissioned officers to a higher point than the mere acquisition of the arts of reading and writing. With this view it must be well understood that those men who avail themselves most intelligently of the means of improvement within their reach will be generally preferred for promotion, where, in respect to conduct and soldierlike bearing, they are eligible for it; and that neglect so to do will be regarded as a disqualification. It is not, however, intended hereby to fetter the discretion of commanding officers in the promotion of men who display conspicuous courage, or show the tact and moral influence which give non-commissioned officers weight with their comrades."

The Duke of Cambridge made some observations on the subject of Army Education at a banquet given by the Junior United Service Club last Monday. In acknowledging the toast of his health, he said:—

"Gentlemen, we live in peculiar times, and while I have the honour of presiding at the highest post, I am convinced that you will every one aid me, and all try to do your duty. (*Cheers.*) I feel the difficulty of my position, and I expect your cordial support. We live in a country that is perfectly free, and where every man is permitted—and not only permitted, but encouraged—to say anything he likes. I should be sorry to see any change in that respect. (*Hear, hear.*) We must, however, take care that we are not carried away too far. We live in a time when the education of the army has been placed on a sounder footing than ever it was before, but I should feel extremely sorry to see that carried to such an extent as to be a permanent injury to the army. Such a course would, without doubt, do great injury to both services. (*Hear, hear.*) As regards the general efficiency of the army I may be permitted to make one or two observations. I may revert to what my gallant friend said about myself, and add that it is only by studying our profession that we can hope thoroughly to understand and qualify ourselves for the position in which it may please Providence to place us. (*Hear, hear.*) Nothing can be of such value to the military service as carefully studying all its details in a practical way. I can speak with some knowledge when I say that, from the attention which I have given to details, I feel in the proud position of having confidence in myself. (*Cheers.*) Most

strongly do I feel that the officers of the army should follow the same course. I have heard it said that it would be too much of 'the shop' to do that. (*Laughter.*) Gentlemen, if we do not do that we are not officers; and what is the use of telling a man that he is doing wrong, when we ourselves do not know what is doing or what is right? (*Hear, hear.*) I am afraid, gentlemen, I shall be thought an extreme bore, but I assure you that I intend to make every officer in the army study every branch of his duty. I am determined, with the support of my friends and the country, to carry out all those principles to the utmost extent as far as in me lies—that is my firm determination. (*Cheers.*) It has been said that British officers will not take the trouble of detail to which I have alluded; but I know they will. I have seen their gallantry in the field, and, with a good knowledge of the details of their profession, we shall have one of the most splendid bodies of officers in the world. (*Cheers.*) With this knowledge of our duties, gentlemen, I see no reason why the military service should not be as highly educated as any other. We have officers to lead and troops to follow—I will not say where, for I have seen what they can do—and there need be nothing to fear. I have been led into these observations by seeing so many branches of the service around me, and I trust, in conclusion, that, when any of you bring anything before me in justice, you will always find me doing my duty and supporting you in yours."

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**A WARNING TO SHIPPERS.**—The shipping at St. Katharine's Docks had a narrow escape of being burnt on Friday week. A lighter, with a quantity of packages from the East India Docks, shut out from the Nile, was taken into St. Katharine's Docks, about two o'clock in the morning. About three o'clock, the policeman on duty saw smoke passing out under the tarpauling, and at once gave the alarm. On opening the top, fire burst forth from the packages in the fore part of the lighter. This was subdued, but not until some of the packages had been burnt, and many others more or less destroyed. The cause of the disaster appears to have been the breakage of some bottles of nitric acid in one of the packages.

**SEBASTOPOL TROPHIES.**—Two Russian guns, iron 24-pounders, captured at Sebastopol, and presented by the Government to the corporation of Bradford, have been placed in the Peel-park, Bradford. Their reception was celebrated by a gala, attended by several thousand persons, last Saturday evening.

**STRANGE ADVENTURE OF A BOAT.**—Upwards of a year ago, one of the Arctic ice-boats, belonging to Lady Franklin, was lost at Liverpool, and no trace of its whereabouts was discovered until a few days ago, when Bates, a detective of Liverpool, into whose hands the case had been placed, discovered it in an old 'pound' or pin-fold, on the Welsh coast, almost hidden under dirt and sand. He had it conveyed to Menai-bridge in a cart and taken to Liverpool in a steamer, and on Thursday week it was sent by rail to Aberdeen to take part in the fresh expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

**COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.**—The screw steamer Queen of the South, Captain Beale, from Bremen, came into collision on Sunday night with the brig *Atalanta*, of Southampton, belonging to Mr. Bowman, coal merchant, and commanded by Captain Allen. The latter vessel was cut in two, and sank immediately; but all hands were saved, with the exception of a boy.

**CADET PRACTICE AT WOOLWICH.**—The half-yearly examinations at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, having been brought to a close early on the 15th instant, the remainder of the term has been occupied in giving the gentlemen cadets of that institution a practical insight into the different drills and exercises considered necessary for officers of Artillery and Engineers.

#### OBITUARY.

**ADMIRAL THOMAS BROWN**, of the Blue, died at Southampton on the 17th inst., aged eighty. He was actively and usefully engaged in the various wars at the commencement of the present century.

**MAURICE RETSCH**, the well-known German artist, whose illustrations of Goethe and other poets have a European celebrity, has just died at the age of seventy-seven years.

**LORD ALVANLEY** died of gout, at his residence in Bruton-street, Berkeley-square, on Wednesday morning, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. The peerage is now extinct. His lordship was only the second bearer of the title.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen held a Court last Saturday afternoon, for the reception of two addresses to the throne. The first address was from the Convocation of the province of Canterbury, and was presented by a deputation from that body, headed by the Archbishop. This document, after the usual preliminary flourish of loyal expressions, sets forth the importance of "extending the blessings of the Church to the increasing population, which has far outgrown the actual provision both of the number of clergy and of the funds available for

their support." The address adds, however, that "it is a gratifying reflection that, through private munificence, with little assistance from public sources, your Majesty's reign has been signalized by the erection of new sees in every quarter of the globe—from Africa to New Zealand, from Victoria to Rupert's Land. We have observed with satisfaction that your Majesty has been pleased to appoint a commission to consider the boundaries of some of the dioceses in England, and we earnestly pray that their inquiries and recommendations may be so directed as to promote the efficiency and well-being of our Church. In the promotion of public education—a question which intimately concerns us as ministers of religion—we thankfully acknowledge the liberal aid afforded us by public grants. The attention directed towards the instruction of the young is a marked feature of the present age, but we deeply deplore the difficulties which, in too many cases, induce the labouring classes to remove their children from school at a very early age, before they have received the full advantages of a sound education and been properly instructed in their duty towards God and man. It is difficult to suggest the remedy, but if it should please your Majesty, in accordance with the spirit of that general summons in your Majesty's writ, 'to treat of certain difficult and urgent affairs concerning your Majesty, the security and defence of the Church of England, and the peace and tranquillity and public good of your kingdom and your subjects of the same,' to commit to our special deliberation this or any other question affecting the interest of our holy religion or the usefulness of the Church, we trust that we shall not be found unmindful of the solemn character of the functions we are called to discharge, and shall conduct our proceedings in a spirit of reverent dependence upon the Divine blessing, and with the diligence which would become us in obeying your Majesty's commands. Hitherto the shortness of time given to our consultations has in a great measure frustrated the advantages which we humbly trust would result if fuller opportunity were afforded for ascertaining the opinions of the clergy by discussion in Convocation." The Queen's reply was of the ordinary formal kind. The Lord Mayor, heading a deputation from the City, then presented an address, congratulating the Queen on the recent birth of a Princess.—Her Majesty has commanded a private representation of Mr. Wilkie Collins's drama *The Frozen Deep*. It will be given on Saturday week at the Gallery of Illustration, the characters being sustained by the original corps of amateur ladies and gentlemen who played in it at Tavistock House.—The Queen held a Drawing-room at St. James's Palace on Tuesday afternoon, and gave a state ball at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday evening.

**THE PRINCE CONSORT.**—At a Council held on Thursday, an order was passed for publishing a letter patent, by which the Queen grants to Prince Albert the title of Prince Consort during their joint lives. He thus becomes legally a member of the British Royal family, which he was not before, and acquires a definite English rank.

**THE DUKE AND DUCHESS DE MONTPENSIER** arrived at Plymouth on Tuesday afternoon in the Spanish frigate Isabel la Catholique.

**A RUSSIAN AT COURT.**—A lady of distinction writes to the *Times* an account of an adventure which befel her at the drawing-room held by the Queen a week or two ago. When in the thick of the 'crush,' she was recklessly pushed on by "a tall, athletic, burly, red-faced biped, in a deputy-lieutenant's uniform, with a short lady on his arm." This individual, after much wrestling, struggled through the crowd to some more advantageous place, but in doing so threw the fair correspondent over a bench, breaking the skin, blackening the temple, destroying a brooch and bracelet, and tearing the dress. In that flustered and disordered plight had the lady to present herself before the Queen. In the meanwhile the red-faced deputy-lieutenant passed on without offering a word of apology. Surely, on that day, St. Giles must have been visiting St. James's!

**THE REV. G. C. GORHAM** died a few days ago after a long and painful illness. The rev. gentleman was attended by Dr. Thomson. Up to the last day of his life he was engaged upon a work entitled *Reformation Gleanings*.

**LADY EVERSLEY**, the wife of the late Speaker of the House of Commons, died at an early hour last Saturday morning, at his lordship's residence, 69, Eaton-place. Her demise was very sudden. About four days previously, she caught a severe cold, attended with sore throat; and from this she never rallied.

**NEW ZEALAND.**—This colony appears, by the latest advices, to be in a very flourishing condition. The loan of 100,000*l.*, originally contemplated by the Government of the province of Wellington, is not, it appears, sufficient to enable the Superintendent to carry out without delay all his designs for the public benefit, and a bill has therefore been passed by the Council, authorizing the Government to borrow an additional sum of 25,000*l.*, of which 10,000*l.* is to be expended in erecting a lighthouse at Pencarrow Head; 5000*l.* in building a bridge over the Wanganni river; 2000*l.* for a bridge at Wat-ohina; and 5000*l.* for survey contracts. Of the original sum, the largest proportion will be spent on immigration. Public works are prosecuted with great spirit. The House of Representatives has voted 4000*l.* as a reward for the discovery of any means which would render the flax and other fibrous plants of New Zealand available for export.

Other rewards have also been offered for the development of commerce. The anticipations with respect to the discovery of gold have been disappointed, only a very small quantity of the precious metal having been discovered. Captain Mundle, of the *Oliver Lang*, has given an entertainment to the native chiefs, about forty in number, resident in the Wellington district. Many of these chiefs are now actively engaged in commerce and trade.

**THE ROCHDALE ELECTION COMMITTEE.**—It was decided last Saturday that the proceedings of this committee should be strictly private. Even the members of the House not forming the committee were excluded. This excited great indignation; and Colonel French undertook to plead the cause of his fellow members before the committee, but in vain.—On the committee re-assembling on Monday they resolved to admit the public again. Several witnesses were then examined. Their testimony confirmed the original assertion of Mr. Newall, that a voter named Rothwell had been offered 50*l.* to keep out of the way, so as not to give evidence before the committee. The inquiry was adjourned to Tuesday, when the proceedings were once more secret. The report of the committee was presented to the House of Commons on Wednesday, and will be found in our parliamentary columns.—Committees have also been sitting during the week to inquire into the Mayo, Cambridge, Pontefract, Wareham, and Marlborough; but they have not yet concluded. The Mayo evidence exhibits a singular scene of priestly interference and intimidation to prevent the election of Colonel Higgins.

**THE OXFORD COMMEMORATION** took place on Wednesday. The Sheldonian Theatre was crowded, and several ladies, as usual, graced the scene. The writer in the *Times* says:—"The 'cries' were rarely political. The names of Lord Derby, Mr. Gladstone, and Lord Clarendon were received with favour. The names of Palmerston and Russell attracted little notice. The Bishop of Oxford was cheered, as were the Bishops of Kentucky and Victoria. Three vigorous rounds of applause were given to Miss Nightingale. 'The Ladies' received the usual amount of polite attention, the chief variations of the captivating theme which met our ears being 'the ladies in white,' 'the ladies in blue,' 'the ladies in pink,' 'the ladies in love,' 'the young ladies,' 'the old ladies,' 'the ladies with hoods to their cloaks,' 'the ladies with no hoods to their cloaks,' &c." The candidates for degrees were—Sir Colin Campbell, Sir William Fenwick Williams, Baron Hochschild (the Swedish Ambassador), Mr. Dallas (the American Minister), Lord Powis, Sir George Cornwall Lewis, Sir John M'Neill, Sir Charles Nicolson, Mr. Sotheron Estcourt, Mr. Robert Stephenson, Mr. I. K. Brunel, Dr. Waagen, Dr. Livingston, and Dr. Farr. Some of these gentlemen were received with tumultuous applause, more especially the Hero of Kars and Dr. Livingston; but Mr. Dallas met with some coldness—perhaps out of an anti-slavery feeling. The other ceremonies passed off with the usual enthusiasm. The prize founded by Lord Stanhope for the encouragement of the studies of law and modern history has been awarded to Mr. Herbert Cowell, of Wadham College.

**THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.**—The Queen made a private visit to the schools and Museum last Saturday evening. Her Majesty was received at the doors by the Lord President of the Council and the Vice-President of the Committee on Education, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Lord Stanley of Alderley, and Sir Benjamin Hall; by the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Rosse, Sir Charles Lyell, Sir Roderick Murchison, Sir Charles Eastlake, Sir William Cubitt, the Chairman of the East India Company, Mr. Bazley, Mr. Gott, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Dilke, and other Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851; the Earl de Grey, Mr. G. Scott, and other members of the Architectural Museum, the Committee of British Sculptors, the Attorney-General and other authorities of the Patent Museum, and the officers connected with the administration of the museum and schools. The Queen was accompanied through the buildings only by her suite and the Cabinet Ministers. All others who were admitted were stationed in those parts of the building with which they were officially connected, when her Majesty passed through them.—On Monday and Tuesday evenings, the nobility and members of the Legislature had a private view; and on Wednesday the doors were thrown open to the general public.

**SIR WILLIAM MAGNAY.**—The Committee of Privileges of the Court of Aldermen, at a sitting on Wednesday, presented their report in connexion with the case of Sir William Magnay. They state:—"We have been advised by our law officers that the proceedings against Sir William Magnay in the Belgian courts cannot be judicially investigated under the City Election Act, and that this committee does not possess any legal means to compel the attendance of witnesses from whom the facts relating to the transactions referred to our investigation might be ascertained. We therefore communicated to Sir William Magnay our intention to report the documents to your Hon. Court, with the expression of our sympathy and regret at the position in which he is placed." Sir William has consequently resigned his gown, and his resignation has been accepted.

**ELECTION OF SHERIFFS.**—Alderman Lawrence, and Mr. Allen, citizen and stationer, have been elected Sheriffs of London and Middlesex for the ensuing year. Sir John Kay has been re-elected Chamberlain of London.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, June 27.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE KING OF OUDE.

THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE gave notice of his intention to bring forward the case of the King of Oude, and to move to refer it to a select committee of the House.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE complained that he had been unable to obtain a ticket for a place to witness the distribution of the Victoria Cross.—Lord PANMURE said that many members of both Houses had obtained tickets and got good places. Some allowance should be made when it was known that 20,000 applications were made for tickets.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE had no formal complaint to make, but he thought special accommodation ought to be provided for members of both Houses of Parliament on occasions of this kind.

THE KILKENNY MAGISTRATES.

Viscount DUNGANNON called the attention of their Lordships to the conduct of a certain Justice of the Peace for the city of Kilkenny. The noble Lord condemned the conduct of Mr. Smithwick, one of the Justices, in adjudicating upon a charge of assault preferred against a Roman Catholic and two Protestant Scripture readers. He concluded by moving for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the subject.—The Earl of GRANVILLE defended the conduct of the Lord Lieutenant. The Irish Government had made inquiries into the case quoted by the noble Lord, and it was decided not to interfere. Under these circumstances, it would ill become his Lordship to grant the committee asked for by the noble Viscount.

INDIAN RULE.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE, in presenting seven petitions from English merchants and residents in Bengal, remonstrated against the injustice committed and the evils occasioned by extending the jurisdiction of the Company's courts over British subjects in India.—The subject was followed up by the Marquis of CLANRICARDE, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, Lord CAMPBELL, and the Duke of ARGYLL, and then dropped.

MINISTERS' MONEY BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of this bill, the Earl of CLANCARTY moved that it be rejected; and, after a brief discussion, the House divided:

For the third reading—Contents ...	24
Non-contents ...	7
Majority ...	17

The bill was read a third time, and passed. The House adjourned at half-past nine.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

COMMON LAW COMMISSION.

In answer to Mr. M'MAHON, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON said that the Common Law Commission was considering its report, which would soon be presented.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE VICTORIA CROSS.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER complained that, although every branch of the army had been adequately represented at the distribution of the Cross of Victoria that morning, the Navy had been neglected, especially those who had served before Sebastopol.

Colonel FRENCH said it was only just to the Chief Commissioner of Works to say that all the arrangements on this occasion were most admirable.

INDIAN REFORM.

Sir ERSKINE PERRY inquired whether any steps were to be taken towards judicial reform in India, founded on the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into that subject, and whether the Legislative Council in India were to be allowed to reject any such projects proposed by the Home Government?

Mr. VERNON SMITH defended the Legislative Council, and said that a measure which had been presented to them on the subject would be ultimately passed.

THE ORDNANCE SURVEY.

Mr. LIDDELL asked the Secretary of the Treasury whether it was competent for the proprietors of land in Durham to obtain, by paying the expenses, maps on the twenty-five inch scale after the vote of the former night; and whether there was any objection to present a return of the names of the parishes and places in Northumberland and Durham on the twenty-five inch survey, distinguishing those persons already furnished from those not furnished.—Mr. WILSON said that there could be no objection to the return, nor to supply gentlemen with maps of the estates at their own expense.

PROBATE AND LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of this bill, which has been passed by the Lords, and which proposes to abolish all the present Probate Courts over the country, and vest the proceedings with respect to wills in one court, which should administer its business by a simple and equitable procedure.

Mr. HENLEY expressed his approval of the bill, which he believed would remove the complication and reduce the costs attending the present system of testamentary jurisdiction.

Mr. COLLIER pointed out some defects in the bill which were matters of detail.

Mr. ROLT supported the bill; as did Mr. MALINS, who urged that some compensation should be given to the proctors whose business had been destroyed by it.

After a discussion in which Sir E. PERRY, Mr. WESTHEAD, M. HUDSON, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, Mr. HEADLAM, Mr. CAIRNS, Mr. AYRTON, and other members took part, the bill was read a second time.

#### FRAUDULENT TRUSTEES BILL.

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

#### THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE VICTORIA CROSS, YESTERDAY.

Hyde-park was thronged from eight o'clock yesterday morning by crowds of persons, fashionable and humble, waiting for the arrival of the Queen and the distribution of the Victoria Cross to the heroes of the Crimean war. The day was intensely hot, and, before the proceedings were over, many ladies fainted. A lustrous sunlight gave additional splendour to the military dresses, and showed the picturesque masses to the best advantage.

The Queen's Pavilion was in the centre of one side of the square. On either side were galleries, one for the accommodation of foreigners of distinction and members of the *corps diplomatique*, and the other for members of the Legislature. Beyond these, again, were larger galleries, for the friends of the parties decorated and for the general public. The total accommodation did not give seats to more than seven thousand persons, and the applications for places were sixteen thousand in number.

The troops, numbering about 8000, commenced taking up the respective positions assigned them on the ground at nine o'clock, preceded by their bands. The Queen entered the park at ten o'clock. Her Majesty was on horseback, and was dressed in a scarlet jacket with a gold band across it. After the lines had been inspected by the Queen, the recipients of the decoration passed before her Majesty, and received from her hands the mark of distinction, which they placed on their breasts, by the side of those they had already obtained.

The distribution of the crosses occupied about ten minutes, and on its termination the recipients defiled past the Queen, and took up a position in front of her Majesty and suite, and by the side of the staff officers. The infantry then marched past the Royal party in open column, followed by the artillery and the ambulance waggons. Then came the cavalry, and then the sailors.

At the conclusion of the review, a Royal salute was fired, and her Majesty left the ground amidst the cheers of the populace.

#### CIRCASSIA.—REPULSE OF THE RUSSIANS.

The Circassians have repulsed an attack on the banks of the Chabacha. A thousand Russians were killed. The Circassians who assassinated General Tokonoff have effected their escape.

**MANSLAUGHTER AT READING.**—Some haymakers in the King's Meadows, Reading, had a violent quarrel on Thursday, and got to fighting. The contest lay more especially between one named Appleton and another named Lawrance. The former at length struck the latter two severe blows under the ear, and knocked him down, and in two minutes he was dead. Appleton and two others were taken into custody.

**ATTEMPTED MURDER IN DRURY-LANE.**—A man, named Thomas Berry, made an attempt yesterday to murder the woman with whom he cohabited. He plunged a knife into her breast near the heart, and then made his escape. The woman remains in hospital, in a very precarious state.

**SUICIDE.**—A gentleman drowned himself from Southwark bridge yesterday about noon.

**THE MURDER IN ESSEX.**—A man who was formerly in the service of Mr. Small, at Chingford Hatch, has been apprehended by the police on suspicion of being the murderer of the housekeeper last Sunday, the details of which will be found in another part of our this day's paper. It is stated that the suspected person has only very recently been liberated from Springfield Gaol, where he had been imprisoned eighteen months for horse-stealing. He was seen near the house a short time before the murder was committed.

**A STEAMER WRECKED.**—Intelligence has been received at Penzance that the screw steamer Maas, of and for Rotterdam, from Cardiff and Bristol, ran on shore during a thick fog at night, about one mile east from Pendean Cove, near the Land's End. The crew saved themselves in the boat belonging to the vessel. Assistance is being sent down to save the cargo, &c.

**THE VOTE BY BALLOT.**—A meeting in promotion of the ballot will be held at the King's Arms Tavern, New Palace-yard, Westminster, on Thursday evening next. Mr. George Wilson, of Manchester, will take the chair at six o'clock.

**THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE** reached St. Petersburg on the 15th, on his return from his tour in Western Europe.

**CRISTAL PALACE.**—Return of admissions for six days ending Friday, June 26, 1857, including season ticket holders, 84,144.

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. R.—The letter on the London University, is unavoidably postponed until next week.

STATE POLICY OF MODERN EUROPE.—The author complains we have not read his book; he has evidently not understood our review. We are glad that he disclaims Alison.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 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.

#### THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

PARIS has declared against LOUIS NAPOLEON. The Empire is condemned by the head and heart of France. This important result will be manifest to any one who bestows a moment's thought on the circumstances of the late elections. Without any means of influence whatever, except the circulation of a mutilated, persecuted, and divided press, a few hundreds of placards, and the necessary bulletins, the Liberal Opposition, although disorganised, mustered more than ninety-six thousand votes. The Government obtained a hundred and ten thousand; but from this number serious deductions must be made. We will lay no stress upon rumours, but will confine ourselves to absolute and unquestionable facts. We will, therefore, suppose that there were not—as we have heard, upon excellent authority—several thousands of blank bulletins deposited in the balloting-urns, every one of which was counted in favour of the Government. Such is the belief in Paris, as well as that the boxes were illegally opened after the first day's voting; but we will dismiss these surmises altogether. The Government, then, with a body of fifteen thousand paid electoral agents in the capital alone—who all voted, unlimited pecuniary resources, a complete command over the press, and innumerable facilities for acting upon public opinion, may be assumed to have obtained the suffrages of a hundred and ten thousand citizens. Deduct from these six thousand *sergents de ville*, the municipal guard, the religious corporations, the multitude of servants attached to the Imperial household, to the grand officers of state and ceremony, to the Senate, to the Legislative Corps, and to the Hôtel de Ville, the candidates for the cross of the Legion of Honour, the tradesmen of the several palaces and public institutions, the workmen in official employ, the keepers of pumps and parks, and the military garrison of Paris; say nothing about the votes of cowards who were intimidated, and of imbeciles who were bewildered, and fifty thousand suffrages may be set down as official, semi-official, or compulsory. On which side, then, is the triumph? On that of the Government, with fifteen thousand paid agents, regiments of military voters, vast establishments of men obedient to its will, which polls a hundred and ten thousand; or on that of the Oppo-

sition, which has not a single free organ, which worked its agencies in secret, which held no meetings, which dared not publish its manifesto, which could not compel a single vote, which was unable to expose the character of the Imperial candidates, and which received the tribute of ninety-six thousand voluntary, unpurchased suffrages? There were a hundred and fifty thousand abstainers. By some they are claimed in a body as belonging to the Opposition. We prefer not to go so far; let half of them be conceded to indifference; we will set down seventy-five thousand as not eager to denounce the Empire, though certainly not anxious to support it, and the other seventy-five thousand as enemies of LOUIS NAPOLEON, too inveterate and too determined upon his overthrow to recognize his political existence by taking part in the electoral actions of the Empire. We regret the policy of abstention; but, wherever adopted, it signifies the deepest hatred of the despotism that rules in France. The fairest calculation, therefore, gives the following result:—

354,000 electors in Paris—

200,000 hostile.

75,000 indifferent or doubtful.

50,000 official, or officially compelled.

25,000 or 30,000 Bonapartists.

Add forty thousand struck off the electoral lists as 'suspects,' and imagine whole quarters full of voters under threat of transportation, and such is Paris 'satisfied.' We ask again, on which side is the victory?

By few persons, even politicians, was a movement of opinion so clear and powerful anticipated. It has cheered the minds of those who since 1851 have been desponding, and it comes at a time when, instead of being alone, as during the Russian war, we perceive our own invariable estimate of the Empire, to which we have adhered through good and evil report, asserted by an overwhelming majority of journalists in Great Britain. In France, whatever have been the results of the elections in the provinces, the example of Paris cannot be without a lasting and far-spread effect. Should the imperial system survive five more years of financial difficulty, of dear food, discontented workmen, and official quarrelling, we shall see whether LOUIS NAPOLEON will dare once more to confront universal suffrage. He cannot conceal, even from the dead-eyed peasantry of the Doubs, the return of CAVAIGNAC, CARNOT, and GOUDCHAUX; the rural population will take a hint from the metropolis, and it cannot be many years before the spirit of opposition stirs even in the Legislative Chambers of the Empire. It may be expected that, when another opportunity occurs, the policy of abstention will be almost entirely abandoned. Every one now admits that, had the Paris opposition voted *en masse*, a majority of the circumstances must have been carried against the Government; as it was, the Liberals gained a positive majority *intra muros*; perhaps the three districts which have to renew the contest may now amend their tactics and struggle for one or two additional successes. The recent election, in spite of long preparations, was managed in a hurry, in consequence of an unfortunate misunderstanding which arose between the independent committee and certain conductors of the Opposition press; under the present régime, as is well known, it is difficult to form political combinations; the police agent and the spy are too active, and corruption has crept too far into the vitals of society. Have we exaggerated, then, in saying that Paris has declared against LOUIS NAPOLEON? Modify the calculations as you please, it does not give him a *bond fide* majority; it will not be denied, we suppose, that his *sergents-de-ville*—municipal officers, military garrison, the servants of his house-

hold, of the Senate, the Legislative Corps, the religious body, the officers of public institutions—a compact mass of thirty thousand paid officials—the Court tradesmen and the persons engaged on public works, account for at least fifty thousand votes. Even by Imperial sympathizers, that supposition is allowed. But what influenced the hostile electors? An intense and deep-seated antipathy to Bonapartism and arbitrary government. LOUIS NAPOLEON has built a throne upon a revolution; it is the revolution, not of 1793, but 18—; it underlies Paris, and who knows when it will emerge? The only certain element in the calculation is, that no Government can be durable in France against which is arrayed the intelligence of the capital and its sister cities, and that the movement of opinion to which we know the most distinguished French politicians have looked forward with eager hope has already begun. Not but that the Government has secured an immense legislative majority. The provinces, cut up into petty sections, are altogether at its disposal, and we pledge ourselves to the truth of the statement that in the Doubs the Mayors of villages perambulated the country for weeks previous to the elections, and told the peasants that if they voted for M. DE MONTALEMBERT their property would be burned, and themselves involved in ruin. Of what avail is political intelligence in the capital, when the mind of the rural population, gifted with universal suffrage, is thus flagitiously abused? The Empire, defeated in Paris, triumphs in the Doubs and the Dordogne; but the point for ultimate solution is, how long will a régime of headles, spies, and Zouaves extort a compulsory 'yes,' when the intellect and the honesty of an entire nation say 'no;' and when the capital of France reverts by its vote to the political principles of 1848?

#### MR. ROEBUCK'S CIRCULAR.

MR. ROEBUCK recently addressed a circular to the Liberal members of Parliament, inviting them to assemble at the King's Arms, in New Palace-yard, to concert Reform plans for 1858. We quote his words: "The Prime Minister having pledged himself to bring in a bill next session which shall provide for a Reform in Parliament, some friends of reform have asked me to invite you to a meeting to be held for the purpose of determining whether any, and what steps, shall be taken to ascertain the feelings of the country on the subject of Parliamentary Reform; to decide whether the people generally shall be asked to petition Parliament for such alterations in the existing law as they may deem requisite to make the proposed measure an effective and beneficial change." This is laying a bold hand on political leadership; Mr. ROEBUCK would be the PALMERSTON of his party. He offers to take the undrawn balances of the reformers into his own custody; but we should prefer to have some security that he would not pay them over to the account of any noble lord. Personal objection we have none against Mr. ROEBUCK, yet if he is to be a chief elected by a constituency of politicians instead of remaining merely self-nominated, it would surely be decent to explain the transactions which have rendered him among numerous Liberals a mark of antipathy and suspicion. Perhaps the antipathy is due only to an involuntary failing, since weak men, in spite of charity, resent a display of overbearing arrogance even on the part of so distinguished a gentleman as the chosen of Sheffield. We will not be so ungracious as to mock a moral infirmity; but we have a right to complain if it entices a patriot away from his honesty, and puts his influence

and his dexterity at the disposal of an adroit Cabinet Minister. It would be gratifying to witness any act of public confidence that would assuage the disappointments of Mr. ROEBUCK's desolate vanity; but unless the confidence be complete, it is worse than a public impeachment. Mr. ROEBUCK, then, lies under serious charges; he is summoned to take his trial, and if he challenges our jurisdiction, we appeal to the electors of Sheffield, and ask them to put a few questions to their aspiring representative. Was the Sebastopol Committee so managed as to leave half the truth in the dark? Had Mr. ROEBUCK consulted his Liberal colleagues in the House of Commons when he encouraged the Premier, on the first night of the session, in putting a gag for twelve months between the teeth of the Parliamentary Reformers? When he made a false start in his opposition to the annuity of the Princess Royal, was it by plan or by accident? He shall have his alternative. He proved his want of competence, or his want of integrity; and we think that upon neither ground will he be appointed Captain of the Liberal vanguard. If he can obliterate the doubts that stain his character in connexion with those events, he will of course be anxious to show that when a case of gross administrative injustice, implying unknown depths of jobbery and corruption, was laid before him as Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association, he did not affect to take it up enthusiastically, dally with it for several months, and then abandon it without any justification whatever. There was an allegation made by a public servant, that a certain Peer and Minister of the Crown had entered upon a high office at a time when he was largely involved in debt to that very department. Did not Mr. ROEBUCK cause this charge to be separated from the body of a petition, and entered upon the first paragraph as the point and essence of the whole? Did he not suggest other amendments, cause the accusation to be epitomised, declare that there was reason to go before the Commons of England, warn the petitioner that he must stand by his guns, and then retreat from the subject altogether? We think this is a matter worth inquiring into, especially when the person implicated is applying for new trusts, and assuming new responsibilities. The essential point is, to know whether Mr. ROEBUCK can be relied upon; and he cannot be relied upon unless the whole story we allude to is false. For in what light does it exhibit him? First talking largely about the Commons of England; then, in the style of a Parliamentary NELSON, adjuring his coadjutor to stand to his guns; thirdly, assisting to frame a charge against a Minister of the Crown; fourthly, postponing his motion in the House; and, finally, skulking out by a side door. We hope, for the credit of politics, that he will be able to deny the entire transaction; but, if he does not, and offers no apology for himself, we can tell him that the public tongue will not be silent—it will rifle his reputation, and leave him an empty notoriety. If Mr. ROEBUCK's name be as great as he believes, it is surely worth rescuing from the mire; at all events, should the member for Sheffield have lost his self-respect, the constituency will not shrink from pushing the investigation. The proverb, 'Who excuses himself accuses himself,' does not apply to this case. Mr. ROEBUCK is at the bar, and silence now will be interpreted as the sullenness of an offender.

The ROEBUCK circular to the Liberal members did not meet with that response to which it would have been entitled had not its author stood in the shade of a disgraceful accusation. Only from forty to fifty members attended at the King's Arms; the proceed-

ings were marked by coldness and caution, and nothing was attempted except the nomination of a committee. It is no secret that Mr. ROEBUCK is looked upon in the House of Commons as a pretender, who does the work of the Whigs in the disguise of a Reformer. Trust him with the lead of the party when Lord PALMERSTON brings forward his promised bill next session, and who knows what amicable arrangements may be made in the library, what amendments may stop the way until the convenient moment arrives for withdrawing them amid the cheers of the House and the smiles of the Treasury bench? But will not such a degradation affect the Liberal members as a body as well as Mr. ROEBUCK? Members of Parliament, therefore, who prize their own characters and the interests of their constituents, will not place themselves in the power of a lion's provider, but will concert a Reform policy exempt from the risk of a corrupt surrender. We repeat, the section in the House of Commons and the country that impeaches Mr. ROEBUCK does not desire his disgrace; but can it be denied that when an unsuccessful politician claims the lead of a party, he should at least show that his hands are clean, that he is more than a mere decoy to the Whigs and a scarecrow to the Tories, and that he is not liable to be frightened or befooled either by a Government or a dinner party?

#### THE EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

ON Monday afternoon the upper saloon at WILLIS'S was 'filled to suffocation,' as the phrase goes, though we are happy to say nobody in particular was suffocated on this memorable occasion, only a few were slightly parboiled. Soon after three o'clock there was a murmur in the crowded assembly, which kept on increasing, till suddenly a side door was opened, through which entered the well-known figure of Prince ALBERT. The whole assembly standing, he took his seat in a gilded chair on the platform; on his right, Earl GRANVILLE, Lord BROUGHAM, conspicuous in his yellow waistcoat and his dignified demeanour, the Lord Bishop of OXFORD, and numerous others; on his left, Lord WARD, Lord CALTHORPE, Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, the Bishop of LONDON, and last—not least—ROBERT OWEN. The Prince opened the meeting with a very remarkable speech, creditable both to the speaker and to the country to which it was directed. It was delivered in a frank, unassuming, quiet, yet evidently hearty manner. All England by this time will have read it; but we may draw attention to the last part of it, in which he points out the duty of those 'whom Providence has removed from the awful struggle.' In our philanthropic *laissez aller, laissez faire* time such a stress laid upon *duty* ought to find more than a response.

Except this royal speech, there was nothing remarkable said on the first day of the meeting. On the second day, the Conference divided itself into five sections, which assembled in five rooms at the Thatched-house Tavern. A large number of speeches were read, and it appeared almost as if every member of the Conference had his, or her, own specific remedy for the cure of neglected education. Two parties, however, might easily be traced among this Babel of projects—a party demanding legislative interference, and a party rejecting it altogether, and trying to proceed, as hitherto, by voluntary means. The latter party formed the great majority of the Conference, and managed to coerce the other into nearly perfect silence. As the wisdom of our age seeks to find the philosopher's stone by 'voting,' the *voluntaries*, of course,

carried the day. It is true there is no lack of schemes with this party; prize schemes, and certificate schemes, and half-time schemes, and numberless other appliances for enticing the unwary boy into school. For, as the Bishop of OXFORD expressed it, they want 'not schools for the children, but children for the schools.' In other words, the man must be made to fit the coat, not the coat the man.

Therefore, 'voting' began in all its glory on the third and final day of the Conference. It was of no use whatever that Sir JOHN PAKINGTON told the assembly that one great cause of the children's being taken early from school was the *badness of the schools*, a fact which he proved from the returns of the official school-inspectors themselves. Great cries of "No! no!" received the assertion of the Honourable Baronet. Facts are such disagreeable things to people who only know dogmas; so that if facts cannot be answered, they must be cried down!

Another instance occurred on this same final Conference meeting. Mr. ROBERT OWEN wished to say something about his own educational plans; after great trouble, and only with the reporters' help, he had reached the platform; but here the power to speak was refused him, by a 'vote' of the meeting. How they laughed and sneered at the old man who stood there with his grey beard and his burden of eighty years! At the old man who had *done* more for the education of English workmen than all the rest of the 'voters' put together. For ROBERT OWEN is not only known as one of the many propounders of the 'Socialist' principle—that principle which is already creeping into the books of the political economists, and is admitted by many in conversation who would shrink from avowing their opinion—he was among the first to *prove*, experimentally, that the young can be educated and still employed. And his evidence took possession of the public, high as well as low. Ministers listened to his earnest appeals. Two of the Royal Dukes, KENT and SUSSEX, we believe, sat as joint chairmen at one of OWEN'S many public meetings. But time has passed by, and the philanthropist has grown very old, very deaf, not quite certain of his sight, not quite sure of what is passing around at the moment—his thoughts, always kind, always generous, filled with the past and the future. Whatever parties may think of ROBERT OWEN and his plans, we say, it is a burning shame that men attending *such* a meeting should sneer at him who, above all men, is worthy of thanks as long as New Lanark Schools are remembered.

In justice, however, to the noble chairman, Earl GRANVILLE, and his supporters, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE and the Bishop of OXFORD, it must be mentioned that they treated Mr. OWEN with all possible deference and politeness. Perhaps there was even a slight sarcasm pointed at the meeting, in the opening speech of Lord GRANVILLE, when he said that he expected more *indirect* than *direct* results from the Educational Conference? These *indirect* results, it is true, are 'plenty as blackberries,' and it would be more than wonderful, if out of so much seed, not a *little* fruit should grow.

The question is, what fruit have we, who shall cultivate, and who shall gather it? We do not forget that the first ideas which were mooted at the polite meeting, were propagated by men that would have formed perhaps, little consideration in one of such exalted rank. Among the people—and it is still among the people that the real work must be done—the difficulty is this. You may provide teachers—but they have

not yet been provided; you may provide schools—but they have not yet been either built or opened for the whole; but when all is done, the people cannot send their children, because, not having enough to live upon, needing every help to get them through the work of the week and to earn enough for food and lodging, and clothing if possible, the parents are obliged to let the young assist. In innumerable cases they know well enough—as well as some of the philanthropists in Willis's Rooms—that they lay themselves open to the charge of being undutiful to their progeny; but how can they help it? It is a choice between letting JOHNNY or TOMMY have a better education for his advantage a few years hence, or getting food now, and being allowed to remain in the lodging over Saturday night.

When schools *are* provided, and opened by teachers—and prayers—they are bad. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON says so. If they were good—if JOHNNY or TOMMY had a chance of being really made a man—both father and mother would undergo immense sacrifices to let him remain. But then the instruction should be perfectly free. There is no reason why the whole community should not provide even food for the children of the whole community. In other words, if the Commonwealth, Peers and Parliament as well as Prince and patriots, could be brought to perceive the plain common sense of the subject, in all parts of the country public schools would be open, with teachers paid by the public, and free admission for children of every class; and the schools would be so good that even the working classes would send their children to them. Are we without an example? No; the United States furnished the working model of this great public law; and the United States, be it observed, are now pursuing a career of prosperity under public men educated by that law; while it is well known that, with all the fast life of the Republic, there is a larger and more general consumption of literature than in any country of the world.

#### THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

ONE of the members' tea-rooms in the House of Commons has been made the scene of a pretty exposure this week; the worst, the most dramatic details, are to come; but, so far, the scandal has ripened not at all slowly. We have now evidence, where before we had only rumours. When the inquiry is complete, the entire story will bear repetition: but, apologizing to the BERTOLACCI Committee, we have entered upon our own papers a few minutes of its proceedings. There appears to be no denying that the auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster is, by virtue of his office, entitled to attend the Council, that such has been the regular practice, that Mr. BERTOLACCI took an oath to perform his duties in a certain fashion, and that systematic impediments were put in his way. The officers of the departments legally accountable to him were allowed to treat him with practical contumacy; the Chancellor was in the habit of acting unconstitutionally without the aid of the Council. In fact, illegality was the order of the day. Why, and for whose benefit? Mr. CONINGHAM, we thought, elicited some of the truth when he asked whether Lord BELPER, when Chancellor of the Duchy, had not instructed the auditor 'to see whether any portion of the large amounts of rent then in arrear could not be struck out as irrecoverable.' Evidence was put in to that effect. So that is the way in which they administer the public estates. The auditor is a useful man when he can strike out as irrecoverable the rents due by My Lord and My Dear Sir. At other

times, for any check he was permitted to use, they might have given him a blank paper to sign, and written in the figures afterwards. We cannot understand, however, why public servants, with fair salaries, should have any scruples; at all events, they may as well abandon those diseased habits of mind after the penal example that has been made by Mr. BERTOLACCI. He was intrusive, clearly. He thought that when public property was sold it should be disposed of to the highest bidder; but the idea was scouted. It might give rise to 'malignant or vexatious competition,' and the Crown might make too good a bargain.

Still less can we understand why the auditor, after being rebuked for meddling with the accounts, did not certify, in the terms of his oath, that he had examined and found them correct. We have heard evidence that he was amply chid, even by the faithful Mr. DANVERS. Mr. DANVERS was clerk, and one day he was conversing with the auditor, when Lord WATERPARK, an axe-bearer (not an executioner or a woodman), entered the room. "I wish to speak to you about that wood," he said. Mr. DANVERS answered, hurriedly, "Oh, yes," shut up the dialogue, and introduced the auditor. The auditor was present, consequently there was to be no mention of transactions. We are anxious to know what the noble Lords concerned will have to state in reply, particularly Earl GRANVILLE. It would not be surprising to hear of that great personage being slightly nervous, although a well known expert in affairs of this nature. His agitation, however, is not discreditable to him; the case looks very black at present; neither Mr. ESTCOURT, nor any other anxious friend of the absent, was able to trip up Mr. BERTOLACCI, although two or three attempts were made to surprise him. The evidence becomes more powerful every day that the inquiry is carried on; but, as we have said, we are not yet in the depths of the mystery; let us hope the officials will be searchingly cross-questioned, so that justice may be done.

#### EDUCATION IN THE ARMY.

THE resolutions which Sir DE LACY EVANS is to move on the 30th instant will at least have the effect of bringing the Government and the Parliament decisively to the question whether or not education is to be introduced into the Army; whether or not a knowledge of his profession is to secure admission for the officer. The resolutions might have been couched in other language; we could imagine ten or twenty different forms in which the same propositions, or propositions nearly similar, might have been laid before the House of Commons; but it is felt by the author of the resolutions, and by the eminent persons who are ready to support Sir DE LACY, that the question does not hinge upon the phraseology of the resolutions, as if they were a Parliamentary bill, but upon their coming to the point. They are a form of expression for the broad question which we have put, and, what is more, they will be supported by men within the House of Commons, as they will be watched by the public out of doors, because they are regarded as the lever for putting that broad question. They say to Ministers, 'Are you or are you not in earnest?'

Ministers have professed their willingness to answer the question in the affirmative; indeed they say they are already doing so; and some practical steps *have* been taken. The Commander-in-Chief has issued three general orders, all bearing upon the subject. One directed that officers admitted to the Staff should undergo examination, and again on each promotion, in order to prove their

possession of the requisite attainments for performing the duty of aide-de-camp, quartermaster, and adjutant-general. Another, brought down the expenses of mess to the actual cost of an ordinary table. Now, if these two orders were sincerely followed out, the effect must be that young men of moderate means could join any regiment in the service, undeterred by the absence of a heavy purse to meet 'the usual style of living;' the general order establishing a sort of chivalric rule which places the wealthy and the poor on a level, so that both be good officers. The other general order secures that the officers who are the immediate instruments of the command of a brigade, a division, or an army, shall have the requisite knowledge to assist him in the handling of troops, in distributing them, and in lodging them; shall be able to report to his chief the state of the country; shall, in fact, understand the ideas that the chief intends to communicate and the information which he desires. If the order be sincerely carried out, no man will be admitted to the Staff who is incompetent in those respects. Of course those who have attained to the Staff by the force of wealth and high connexion are astounded at this 'innovation.'

The third general order may equally shock them for its democratic tendency. It obliges every private soldier to attend school for at least four hours in the week, and to acquire some knowledge of reading and writing. Until a soldier shall have been discharged from the class, he will not be competent for promotion, even to be corporal. This will put the screw upon regimental schools, which have actually been discontinued in some regiments. It will also assist all intelligent and improvable young soldiers, who are now rather kept down by the public opinion of ignorance, sneered at if they try to be 'scholars,' and in every way induced to follow the conservative rule of letting alone. But officers of regiments are also charged to appoint the sergeant by his intelligence and his attainments in the way of information as well as soldierly qualities. Now, if *this* order be sincerely carried out, we must have a class of well-informed, intelligent non-commissioned officers: how dangerous it would then be to retain over their heads any number of ignorant and incompetent fools, such as sometimes fill out the regimental coat—with the assistance of padding—and support the regimental hat.

But all turns upon the sincerity with which these general orders shall be carried out; and it is well known that the Commander-in-Chief does not meet with that support from below, or from his side, that his measures merit. The public has been calling out for some account of the late Military Commission on Education in the Army, and printed accounts of it we have. There is the blue-book, which Ministers so long tried to keep unpublished, on the score of 'economy.' 'Economy,' when the civil estimates are increased by 2,000,000*l.* since 1852! It is curious to observe the special objects with which English Ministers usually begin their economies. Then we have No. 1 of the 'blue-books for the people,' giving a very complete abstract of the official book on Army Education;\* and finally the pamphlet published by Clowes and Son, which embodies the pith of the Commissioners' report†—a brief pamphlet of twenty-

\* *Blue Books for the People.* Edited by Edward Walford, M.A., Balliol College, Oxford. *Army Education.* Being an Abstract of the Report of the Commissioners appointed to consider the best Mode of Reorganizing the System of Training Officers for the Scientific Corps. Presented February, 1857.

† *Suggestions with Regard to the Education of Officers in the British Army.*

one pages. "The leading object of Military Education," says this pamphlet, "is to secure a knowledge of military science and tactics among those who are to be the leaders of others, and a subordinate, but scarcely less important object, is the encouragement of an intelligent spirit of professional study among officers in general." This seems so reasonable, that one would have supposed that it had been a 'principle' even before making any army at all; yet it is now an 'innovation;' and commissioners propose that the Staff at all events shall be educated. Although war is the one grand school for the soldiers, it is a school in which the students will be able to improve the opportunity in proportion as they have been trained beforehand. It is proposed, therefore, that there shall be an early course of education in a military college between the age of sixteen or seventeen and eighteen or nineteen; young men being admitted to the army at the latter age through a competitive examination. It is proposed that no officers shall be admitted to the Staff without undergoing a further examination, in order to which they shall be admitted to a Staff College. There is a notion that officers would then be nothing better than literary scholars, with no means of testing their soldierly capacity; but this is a delusion.

A common and a plausible objection to competition in a Staff School is, that it would stake an officer's character for ability on the uncertain result of an examination. But this difficulty, however apparently reasonable, only springs in reality from our own want of experience in such matters. It is easily overcome in the best foreign schools. Let us meet it as they do in the excellent Austrian Staff School, which the commissioners regard as a model from the good sense of its arrangements, or as it is met in the great French School of Application at Metz. The system of the Austrian Staff School is indeed so remarkable, that we shall extract the following from the Report, p. 181:—

"The most striking features in the system of this school, both at the entrance and throughout the course, are, that it is distinctly competitive; that it admits very young officers; and that while the work is considerable the subjects for study are not numerous. In these three points it differs considerably from the Prussian Staff School, in which the pupils are generally older, and the principle of competition is not so fully carried out. In the Austrian school the pupils are placed on entering in the order which their entrance examination has just fixed. They are examined once a month during their stay. On leaving the school, their respective places are again determined; and they have a claim for appointments in the Staff Corps in the exact order in which they were placed on leaving the school.

"Their relative places on leaving the school are assigned to them, as we were assured, very carefully and after much consultation in every case among the professors; but this is not done by marks, nor by any minute system of testing intellectual qualifications, but an estimate is formed upon the whole work of the two years, both on the studies in the school and the practice in the field,—of the pupil's comparative fitness, as an officer, for the work of the Staff. 'We try to estimate the whole man,' was the expression used to us, 'whether he will make a good *Colonnenführer*,' a good man to direct a regiment. This general estimate was preferred to that of marks, on the ground that the latter might give too much weight to simply intellectual qualities."

But with a good Staff, we must have a good standard for every rank of officers in the army. Not only would all be preparing for the Staff, but the Staff itself would greatly influence the character of the whole body, and the admission of young men.

This is the proposal which has been laid before Ministers; they have been assuring us that they have a plan based upon it; but it is always *to be* produced, not produced. Are they in earnest, or are they not?—have they a plan, or only a promise? Are they going to make it a law, or only a delusion, a mockery, and a snare? This is the question actually put to them by General EVANS, on whose side we may reckon, for they have indelibly recorded their opinions, Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS, General WINDHAM, Sir

COLIN CAMPBELL, and though last not least, especially in a parliamentary sense, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, whose name is constantly repeated in the able pamphlet to which we have referred.

'SOMETHING LIKE A MAJORITY.'

MR. HAYTER, who draws his influence from the pure Wells of English (voters) undefiled, rubs his hands at the extreme end of the Treasury Bench and ejaculates, 'Ah! this is something like a majority!' Lord PALMERSTON is perfectly satisfied with the House of Commons. It supports him through thick and thin. The Liberals, whose tongues were fierce upon the hustings, sit abashed in the presence of the big, bold, loud-voiced Minister. Never was there a more servile or worthless House. With a few exceptions, the Liberals, with strong opinions, are men of the weakest nerve, liable to all sorts of jockeying and cajolery. Whether the question before them be political, financial, or administrative, they follow the Premier's lead, and are laughed at by the Tories. As for the bulk of the Whigs, who went in upon the PALMERSTON cry, they are the exclusive property of Mr. HAYTER. What has become of all that was said at the general election? Where is Lord JOHN RUSSELL? Where Sir JAMES GRAHAM? Silent one and silent all, like the dead men at Thermopylæ. 'Next Session' is the promise in every mouth. Perhaps it will then be 'next Parliament.' This year, at any rate, Mr. HAYTER has his gangs in order, and the whip cracks musically over a team of four hundred British representatives.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The Cape Parliament was opened on the 7th of April by Sir George Grey. In the course of his speech he expressed satisfaction with the conduct and appearance of the German Legion. The revenue, which was estimated last year at something less than 305,000*l.*, is estimated for the current year at nearly 387,000*l.* The great increase in the commercial prosperity, which began to develop itself in the year 1855, still continues. Since 1854, the value of exports has nearly doubled itself, having risen to 1,240,625*l.*, as against 666,000*l.* in the former year. With respect to the Kafirs, the Governor condemned the policy pursued at the close of the last war, which left the Kafirs at the mercy of their tyrannical chiefs, and shut out all hope of the introduction among them of civilisation and Christianity. Alluding to recent measures, his Excellency said:—"His first step was to locate a European magistrate in each district in British Caffraria, adopting a simple mode of administering justice, which gave a security to life and property such as had never previously been enjoyed in that country. The fines, which were formerly taken by the chiefs, became a part of the public revenues of the Crown, the chiefs being paid for the duties they performed by a fixed stipend provided by the Government. The result of this was that the influence and authority of the chiefs soon began to decline, and the well-disposed among the Kafirs began to regard the Government with confidence and hope." Letters from the frontier present a melancholy picture of the distressed state of the Kafirs entering the colony for employment. The Colonial Government on the 27th April sustained a severe defeat in the House of Assembly. A bill had been introduced for a system of public education. It proposed to overthrow the first-class schools which are at present maintained solely by the Government, and to grant aid to schools only on condition of local contribution; it also proposed to abolish the office of Superintendent-General of Education, and to place the Colonial Secretary, *ex-officio*, at the head of that department. The Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General warmly defended the bill; but it was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of 25 to 9.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF LIFE FROM FIRE.—The anniversary meeting of this society was held on Monday in the Council-chamber, Guildhall, for the purpose of presenting the various awards to those who had distinguished themselves in rescuing human life during the past year. The meeting was held under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, who was represented in the early part of the day by Mr. Deputy Lott, and afterwards by Mr. Sheriff Mechi, until his lordship returned from attending a deputation to Lord Palmerston. The Council-chamber was quite filled, and fifty-one of the Fire-escape Brigade walked round the room.

THE ARCHDUKE FERDINAND paid a visit of inspection to the docks, ships, Naval Hospital, and Government works at Portsmouth, on Monday.

## 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*.

CARLYLE says, referring to VOLTAIRE, and the numerous memoirs, lives, recollections, and anecdotes that were published concerning him, "We have read great part of these thousand-and-first 'Memoirs of Voltaire,' by LONGCHAMP and WAGNIÈRE, not without satisfaction, and can cheerfully look forward to still other memoirs following in their train. Nothing can be more in the course of nature than the wish to satisfy oneself with knowledge of all sorts about any distinguished person, especially of our own era; the true study of his character, and peculiar manner of existence, is full of instruction for all mankind; even that of his looks, sayings, habitudes and indifferent actions, were not the records of them generally lies, is rather to be commended, nay, are not such lies themselves when they keep within bounds, and the subject of them has been dead for some time, equal to snipe-shooting, or Colburn-novels, at least, little inferior in the great art of getting done with life, or as it is technically called, killing time? For our own part, we say, would that every JOHNSON in the world had his veridical BOSWELL, or leash of BOSWELL! With regard to VOLTAIRE in particular, it seems to us not only innocent, but profitable, that the whole truth regarding him should be well understood." This natural desire seems likely to be fully satisfied. In addition to the Lives of VOLTAIRE by friends and foes, to the authentic documents and recollections published by his secretaries COLLINI, LONGCHAMP, and WAGNIÈRE, to the Baron DE GRIMM's collections, and to the 'six-and-thirty volumes of scurrilous eavesdropping, long since printed under the title of *Mémoires de Bachaumont*,' we have now just issued two thick volumes of *Unpublished Correspondence*. These volumes contain upwards of twelve hundred letters, written by VOLTAIRE to his private friends, and to various public men of his day. The letters, which have been diligently collected from all quarters by M. DE CAYROL, are edited with an introduction and notes by M. FRANÇOIS, and introduced to the world in a preface from the ready and able pen of M. SAINT-MARC GIBARDIN. The editor in his introduction, after explaining the nature of the collection, undertakes what we should have thought a very needless work in France at the present day—a defence of VOLTAIRE's character and influence. The fierce denunciations against the 'Apostle of Reason' as 'a monster of impiety,' 'sophist,' 'atheist,' 'ape-demon,' and the like, once so common on both sides of the Channel, are now rarely heard even in this country. By slow degrees we learn to look upon him and all such men with more toleration, to recognise what was true and worthy in them, and speak justly, if not generously, of their character and work. It is acknowledged now that VOLTAIRE had an important work to do—to expose much that was hollow, and destroy much that was unfit to live both in Church and State, to vindicate forgotten rights, and urge neglected duties—and that, throughout the course of a long life, he did this with unflinching courage, gaiety, and skill. Without large views, profound convictions, or passionate enthusiasm, he had, nevertheless, a marvellously clear and active intellect, a sincere love of liberty and justice, and was, to the utmost extent of his shrewd and brilliant though narrow logic, an apostle of freedom and truth. Any defence of VOLTAIRE is thus scarcely necessary in this country. It seems, however, to be so in his own, as M. BERSOT, who notices the 'Correspondence' in the *Revue de Paris*, hails the introduction as a sign of the times; and hopes it may help to recal attention to VOLTAIRE's works, and revive what was best in his spirit and influence, which on many accounts he evidently thinks is desirable. He points out that of late years ROUSSEAU's influence has been injuriously dominant, and that it would be a great advantage to literature, as well as to the social life of the time, if it possessed more of the perfect clearness, force, and incisiveness of thought and action which characterised the sage of Ferney.

We all know how VOLTAIRE patronised SHAKSPEARE as an interesting savage, who showed occasionally a certain power of expression, and was not without some sparks of genius; how he wondered, nevertheless, with the most polished surprise, that the English could ever endure 'those monstrous farces which he called tragedies,' deciding philosophically that it must be from their singular love of cock-fights, bull-baiting, and bear-gardens. But we ought, at the same time, to remember that it was VOLTAIRE who first introduced SHAKSPEARE to France, and that he got into trouble with some of his countrymen for doing so, being absurdly charged by them with an unpatriotic preference for foreign literature. This called forth his celebrated letter to the Academy, in which he certainly proves with convincing clearness that he has no undue partiality towards SHAKSPEARE. Amongst these unpublished letters is one written to NECKER on this occasion, where he speaks as follows:—"I will never admit SHAKSPEARE to take such rank in France that we must sacrifice CORNEILLE and RACINE to him. I am like those who are called insurgents in America, and will not be a slave of the English. I wrote the letter to the Academy which you have done me the honour to mention, to justify myself 'or having been the first panegyrist of English literature. It is not my fault if the praises I bestowed on the classic authors of that country have been abused, or if some would fain break my head with the censor I used in their honour. My letter was that of a good Frenchman who fights for his country, and will not allow Paris to be subject to London."

In the current number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is a brilliant article

on 'Milton: his Genius and Works,' by M. H. TAINÉ, the author of those happy papers on DICKENS and THACKERAY which have recently appeared in the same journal. The writer has evidently studied MILTON's entire works—his prose as well as his poetry; he shows a minute and critical knowledge of his writings, which is rare even in this country, and gives an estimate of his character and genius remarkably discriminating, just, and, in some respects, even generous. According to M. TAINÉ, 'La science immense et la logique grandiose' form the basis of MILTON's intellectual character. "The facts accumulated by his erudition," he says, "were grouped in logical order. A reasoner indefatigable, he built edifices of demonstrations whose rude foundations and solid buttresses bear witness to an energy that is no more. On that foundation arose his poetry. The objects he saw were not only more numerous and better ordered than those of other men—they were far grander. The whole circle of his ideas and images, disposed in regular order, formed an immense horizon which he embraced at a glance. That magnificent view inspired him, he felt the emotion of the sublime, his spirit overflowed, and the ample river of his lyrical poetry poured from him undivided, impetuous, and splendid as a sheet of gold." "This dominant disposition," he proceeds, "formed his character. Resting on his logic and learning, MILTON was powerful; for the man who continually strengthens himself with solid demonstrations is able to believe, to will, and to persevere, both in his faith and practice. He is not moved with every accident, with every passion, like the facile, changeable being we call a poet. He remains firmly rooted in fixed principles, is able to embrace a cause and hold fast to it to the end, come what may. From the first hour to the last, throughout his entire course, he preserves intact the whole system of his ideas, and the logical vigour of his brain gives manly strength to his heart. With him the serious reasoning awakens the feeling of the sublime, and grandeur is added to strength. He loves his opinions not only with constancy but with enthusiasm. He holds them to be not only true but sacred, and fights for them not only as a soldier but as a priest. He is impassioned, devout, religious, heroic. We rarely meet with such a combination of qualities; but it exists to the full in MILTON." After illustrating this description by an analysis of his prose works, M. TAINÉ proceeds to speak of MILTON as a poet; and quoting at the outset his own description of the object and aim of poetry, the true use and function of the poet, he adds: "MILTON practised what he preached. The profane poems he wrote before the civil war are in praise of virtue; the sacred poems he wrote afterwards in praise of religion. His first work is *An Ode on the Nativity*. His *L'Allegro* celebrates the poetic joys of the soul. Everywhere he praises piety, chaste love, generosity, and heroic strength. He does this not as a matter of duty, but spontaneously; the sublime was his true domain. The perception of the grand is the prevailing need and faculty of his mind. He delights to admire as SHAKSPEARE delights to create, SWIFT to destroy, SPENSER to dream."

M. TAINÉ then gives a minute and critical account of MILTON's minor poems, and this is the best part of his article, showing throughout a genuine and poetical appreciation of the rich, delicate, and glowing imagination displayed in these early works. With *Paradise Lost* he is less satisfied. Parts of the great epic, indeed, he allows to be magnificent, but, as a whole, he not only condemns but laughs at MILTON's greatest work. He satirizes the conduct of the poem, and gives a most amusing account of its leading characters and incidents. ADAM and EVE in their intensely modern theological discussions are evidently puritanic reasoners of MILTON's own time—Colonel HUTCHINSON and his wife! ADAM, he affirms, must have passed through England before he entered the terrestrial paradise. He must have studied *respectability*, and learned the art of moral lecturing. The heroic greatness and sublime strength with which the Genius of Evil is drawn, consoles him, however, for ADAM and RAPHAEL's prosaic dulness. "The most beautiful object in Milton's paradise," he tersely says, "is hell, and in that divine epic the first place is certainly given to the devil." There is a good deal of absolute truth in this; and, relatively to the critic himself, it is, at all events, only what we might naturally expect. In the first place, a Frenchman has no taste for epic poems; in the second, he hates theological dissertations; and in the third, he specially dislikes Calvinism. How, then, can a Frenchman admire, or even fairly estimate, a Calvinistic epic? He cannot jump from his own shadow; and though MILTON be the author, he naturally satirizes it after the fashion of his nation.

## LITTLE DORRIT.

*Little Dorrit*. By Charles Dickens. With Illustrations by H. K. Browne. Bradbury and Evans.

THE completion of one of Mr. Dickens's monthly number books is to the critic what the termination of a year of great events is to the politician, or the close of an epoch to the historian. The general reader may pass from the perusal of the last chapter to the first chapter of some new work without endeavouring to harmonise and arrange the various impressions and emotions he has derived from the whole; but it is the duty as well as the pleasure of the critic to turn the completed globe round upon its axis, and trace the various lines as they converge towards the final result. Even to him, however, the task is not easy. There is such an affluence of life in all Mr. Dickens's books—so vast a range of character and observation of the world—so broad a canvas crowded with so many shapes and incidents—that the effect on the mind is not so much that of glancing over a finished story, as that of looking at an epitome of life itself. If this involves some degree of imperfection in the mere matter of story-telling, it also involves the highest eulogy that can be pronounced on a novelist whose especial calling

is the portrayal of human nature and human action. Mr. Dickens is the most dramatic of the novelists. He reflects the whole round of life, from the richest and most refined circles to the humblest and roughest; and looks with a penetrating eye, and with the intuition of intense sympathy, into all the depths of the human heart, all the secret nooks of the affections, all the crooked subtleties of villainy, all the tangled combinations of good and bad, which make us what we are. We do not exaggerate when we say that his genius possesses some points of resemblance to that of Shakspeare—something of the very thing which, more than anything else, makes Shakspeare the greatest of dramatic poets. It is not merely that Dickens is himself a poet, and in nothing so much as in his exquisite sensitiveness to those fine threads of analogy which connect the animate with the inanimate world, so that the still life of his scenes is constantly made to reflect the dominant emotion of the characters, in a manner which may appear extravagant to matter-of-fact minds, but which is wonderfully true to all who have ever felt emotion—it is not merely that many of his characters have in them such a strong and self-existent vitality that they have already become part of our actual experience, and remain there like remembrances of our own life—it is not merely that Dickens has added phrases to the language, which are to be found in almost any column of a newspaper you may take up to read haphazard—it is not simply on these accounts that Dickens shows some affinity with Shakspeare, but much more on account of that feeling of universal sympathy with human nature which breathes through his pages like the 'broad and general' atmosphere. He soars above all considerations of sect, above all narrow isolations of creed; and, though a more deeply religious writer is not to be found, in all those elements of religion which rise eternally from the natural emotions of love and reverence, he is never disputatiously theological or academically dogmatic. Certain University-bred reviewers, whose shrivelled souls cannot understand the fresh, spontaneous effluence of genius, and who will accept no gold that does not come to them impressed with the college stamp, may affect to despise the large regard of Dickens; but the world will recognise its great ones whether or not they wear the uniform of cap and gown.

As with his other works, so is it with *Little Dorrit*. The whole picture is quick and warm with life. Passing from the hot southern flush and glare of Marseilles, in the opening chapter, to the grim old twilight house in London, with its haunting mysteries and uneasy secrets, in which Mrs. Clennam and Mr. Flintwinch plot and counterplot—changing from the dull prison rooms and yard, with their attendant poverty, made glorious by the divine light and love of Little Dorrit, to the stately palaces of Rome and Venice, glowing with the pomp of wealth—everywhere and under all circumstances, the vitality of the conceptions asserts itself with all the supremacy of genius. A complete character will start before you within the compass of a few lines; as in the case of the little Frenchwoman of whom Mr. Dorrit purchases the gifts for Mrs. General, or in that of the Swiss host whom Mr. Dorrit almost annihilates for a fancied slight, or in that of the landlady of the Break of Day at Châlons. But these are the mere overflowings of the cup. The main characters are those to which we must chiefly look. And first of Mr. Dorrit. What awful truth and solemn voice of warning is there in that weak, selfish, pompous, insanely proud man!—proud and vain in his poverty, while descending to depths of meanness; flaunting his shabby family scutcheon in the face of the visitors of whom he begs, and pretending to a gentlemanly independence while his daughter toils for him, almost starves for him; equally, but not more, proud and vain when he suddenly becomes wealthy, and fancies himself compelled to resort to miserable shifts to conceal his former state, which his daughter's devotion should have made noble in his eyes; proud and vain to the last, though, when the over-excitement of his changed life topples over his reason and his health, he divulges in his mental wanderings the fact of his previous poverty, and dies with the shadow of the Marshalsea upon him. Mr. Dorrit is the very type of flunkeyism; and our time stands in need of a lesson against that sordid vice. But a manly detestation of servility is one of the most prominent elements in this tale. We see it again in the character of Mr. Merdle, the swindling speculator. Mr. Merdle, it is well known, is a portrait from life; but it may be as well to recollect that he is not merely a reflex of one individual. He is true to a very large, and it is to be feared, an increasing, class; a class of individuals not merely corrupt in themselves, but the cause of corruption in others. What matter that the Merdles of real life, like the Merdle of Mr. Dickens's fiction, are poor in heart and brain—mere rattling husks of men, with nothing inside but a few dead conventional ideas and phrases; what matter that they are dull in thought, embarrassed in manner, constantly taking themselves into custody under their coat-cuffs with that intuition of their own villainy noted by Mr. Dickens; what matter that they tremble before their butlers, and move about their drawing-rooms like icebergs that have preserved all their coldness and lost all their sparkle? They are rich, though by the ruin of others; and Bar and Bishop, Horse-Guards and Treasury, Nobility and Commerce, bow down before them, till, as in the typical instance here portrayed, 'the shining wonder, the new constellation, to be followed by the wise men bringing gifts, stops over certain carrion at the bottom of a bath, and disappears.'

Another form of worldly-mindedness and false pretence is exhibited in this romance in the character of Mr. Casby, the Last of the Patriarchs. How often is the world imposed upon by the smooth head, the silky grey locks, the broad-brimmed hat and sober gaiters, the benevolent smile and sleek, revolving phrases, of the Christopher Casbys! while, all the time, the knowing Casbys, intent only on self, are in fact so many ogres grinding the bones of their fellow-creatures to make them bread, and something more. Subtly conceived and executed is this character of a fraudulent patriarch, who feeds himself 'like a good soul feeding some one else;' who smiles at the fire 'as if he were benevolently wishing it to burn him, that he might forgive it;' who, when he sits in the hot summer evening sipping a tumbler of golden sherry, lime-juice, and water, presents 'a radiant appearance of having, in his extensive benevolence, made the drink for the human species, while he himself wanted nothing but his own milk of human kindness;

whose beamy and bumpy head, combined with his suave manners, suggests the idea of his having 'baptismal water on the brain;' and who utters his blundering platitudes with so much calm sweetness that he seems to be giving vent to the choicest specimens of benign wisdom. These are touches, minute in themselves, but showing the finest wit and the deepest knowledge of character.

We find the same courageous independence of thought once more exhibited in the scorching satire directed against our 'Circumlocution Offices' and 'Tite Barnacle' legislators. How much truth there is in that satire is shown by the fact of its being at once adopted by the popular mind.

Against these shadows in the general picture—rendered still more lowering by the blackness of the assassin Rigaud or Blandois—the good characters of the book come out like sunshine. There is little Dorrit herself—one of Mr. Dickens's most beautiful creations; and Clennam, the true gentleman and high-souled hero; and the noble-hearted, chivalric, half-witted John Chivery, most pathetic in his hopeless love for Little Dorrit; and the good-natured, though noisy and flippant, Flora Finching (old Casby's daughter), not at all pathetic in her hopeless love for Clennam, though coming home to our sympathies in the thoroughly kind way in which she gives up Clennam to Little Dorrit, as John Chivery has given up Little Dorrit to Clennam; and Mr. Pancks, the seemingly hard instrument of Mr. Casby in collecting the patriarchal rents, but the final executor of poetical justice on that chief of impostors, and the purely disinterested agent in recovering their fortune for the Dorrit family. These are the golden rays that lighten the story; the chief, of course, being Clennam and Little Dorrit. From those two characters, a soft, mild, grave, sad radiance streams from the beginning to the end of the book. And, by a beautiful sense of poetical fitness, Little Dorrit is brought back again to Clennam, after her long absence abroad, in the very prison and the very room where he had often been so great a friend to her, and where she is now to be so priceless a boon and angelical a comforter to him. And in the neighbouring church they are married, in the calm autumn weather which seems to typify their lives.

We must confess to some disappointment at the explanation, towards the close of the book, of the mystery connected with Mrs. Clennam and the old house with its strange noises. It is deficient in clearness, and does not fulfil the expectations of the reader, which have been wound up to a high pitch. Indeed, the woof of the entire story does not hold together with sufficient closeness—a fault perhaps inseparable from the mode of publication. The writing, however, shows all Mr. Dickens's singular union of close observation and rich fancy. A few instances suggest themselves as we write. Of Jeremiah Flintwinch, whose head is always on one side, so that the knotted ends of his cravat dangle under one ear, and who has 'a swollen and suffused look,' we are told that 'he had a weird appearance of having hanged himself at one time or other, and of having gone about ever since halter and all, exactly as some timely hand had cut him down.' The watch worn by the same old man was deposited in a deep pocket, 'and had a tarnished copper key moored above it, to show where it was sunk.' The garret bedroom of the old house contains 'a lean set of fire irons like the skeleton of a set deceased,' and 'a bedstead with four bare atomies of posts, each terminating in a spike, as if for the dismal accommodation of lodgers who might prefer to impale themselves.' Very poetical, also, is the identification of the pent-up fire in Mrs. Clennam's sick-room with the invalid herself. 'The fire shone sullenly all day and sullenly all night. On rare occasions, it flashed up passionately as she did; but for the most part it was suppressed, like her, and preyed upon itself, evenly and slowly.' The light of this fire throws the shadows of Mrs. Clennam, old Flintwinch, and his wife, Mistress Affery, on a gateway opposite, like figures from a magic lantern. 'As the room-ridden invalid settled for the night, these would gradually disappear: Mistress Affery's magnified shadow always flitting about, last, until it finally glided away into the air, as though she were off upon a witch-excursion. Then the solitary light would burn unchangingly, until it burned pale before the dawn, and at last died under the breath of Mistress Affery, as her shadow descended on it from the witch-region of sleep.' This is true poetry; but there are a thousand such touches in the book, as in all Mr. Dickens's books, which every reader of cultivated perceptions will perceive for himself. In *Little Dorrit*, Mr. Dickens has made another imperishable addition to the literature of his country.

#### HERSCHELL'S ESSAYS.

*Essays from the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, with Addresses and other Pieces.*  
By Sir John F. W. Herschell, Bart. Longman, and Co.

THE great name of Herschell will be certain to attract many readers to this volume; yet unless those readers come prepared with a knowledge of what Herschell has achieved in science, and of his vast attainments, they will be seriously disappointed, and ask with some scorn, Is this your eminent man?

We regret the republication of these essays, addresses, and poems, because, being for the most part altogether unworthy of republication, they will certainly lessen the reputation of their author. It is pleasant to think of the laborious student of science relaxing his mind by the composition of verses; be these verses never so feeble they serve to keep his soul young and his sympathies active. But however we may be pleased to see Herschell writing verses, it pains us to see him publishing them—it pains us to see a man of his eminence falling into the error of boys and blockheads, and mistaking the difference between a private amusement and a public act. What would he think of Faraday's appearance as a concert-singer, because Faraday may happen to please himself and his family by occasionally singing to them? What would he think of an Arago's appearance as an artist at the Exhibition of pictures, because Arago might possess a certain knack of drawing, not good enough for art, but good enough for Albums? Yet his own case is precisely analogous. His verses are altogether commonplace; fit for Albums but unfit for print. Take these two short poems as specimens:—

#### THE PARTING DOVE.

Impatient of constraint, around my Ark,  
In short and lowly flight my strength I tried,

But toil-worn, back to that o'ercrowded bark  
 (No home abroad achieved), I sadly bled:  
 There pruned my flagging wing for fresh essay,  
 And launched anew to seek, in purer air,  
 A wider prospect, by a loftier way:  
 And caught one glimpse, and snatched one trophy rare,  
 And bore it home, and mused for many a day  
 On sunny realms, where grew that bough so fresh and fair.  
 Now fare thee well, thou dim and wave-tossed speck,  
 No more for me fit prison or fit lair!  
 No more for me fit cause of dull delay!  
 Though sore 'twould grieve me yet to know thy wreck.

ON BURNING A PARCEL OF OLD MSS.  
 Wrecks of forgotten thought, or disapproved,  
 Farewell! and as your smouldering flames ascend,  
 Read me a parting lesson. As the friend  
 Familiar once, but since less fondly loved  
 (Dire spite of earthly chance), and wide removed  
 With earthquake of the heart! has ceased to blend  
 Warmth with my warmth, and sympathies extend,  
 Where mine are linked and locked! Had I but proved  
 Earlier your weakness! Yet not all in vain  
 Do I receive your warning. On I lie,  
 All unexpressed, though cautious; nor complain  
 Of faint essays in tottering infancy.  
 Enough, if cleansed at last from earthly stain,  
 My homeward march be firm, and pure my evening sky.

The volume is fortunately not made up of verses. Yet even the prose was scarcely worth republishing. The review essays are the best, but they are not of a high excellence. They show, what indeed every one knows, that Herschell is a great master of scientific knowledge; but they show also a more than agreeable proneness to vague, ineffectual rhetoric, and heavy moralising. The review of 'Whewell's Inductive Sciences' is the best, and contains a well-thought and well-written refutation of Whewell's views of *a priori* knowledge. The review of 'Quetelet on Probabilities' also contains a lucid and valuable history and exposition of the 'Doctrine of Chances' as it is called. The review of 'Humboldt's Cosmos' is as ineffectual as an article on such a subject coming from a mind so richly stored could well be. The various 'Addresses' were suitable enough on their separate occasions, though never striking, and might surely have been left with all other occasional matter undisturbed. In a word, this republication must be regarded as a mistake on the part of the accomplished author. About one half of the volume might have been reprinted without objection, not more.

It may suggest some reflections to observe how a mind so eminent as Herschell's could fall into the mistake of publishing pages so poor as the majority of these; and we think the desire to be 'eloquent'—without the power of eloquence—which disfigures the prose, may account both for the composition of the verse and the mistake of supposing it fit for publication. In questions of science Herschell is at his ease; in questions of literature he is without that tact which power and experience give.

### THE GREEK HISTORIANS.

*A Critical History of the Language and Literature of Ancient Greece.* By William Mure. Vol. V. Longman and Co.

WHATEVER may be the differences of sentiment excited by Colonel Mure's criticisms of Greek literature, there can be but one opinion as to the importance and integrity of his researches. Genuine scholars are not common now that so much antiquity is seen through German spectacles by writers who quote classic books and names with almost profane facility. The student, drenched with second-hand pedantry, can do no better than consult this critical history, which is in reality a remarkable work, kindling a grateful light in the libraries of Greece, of Attica especially. The fifth volume contains two elaborate memoirs on Thucydides and Xenophon, with a third, on a smaller scale, treating of Ctesias, Theopompus, Calisthenes, and other Attic chroniclers and biographers. To Thucydides is devoted a long and calm analysis, wanting, perhaps, in sympathy with the master-spirit of Grecian historical art, yet in aim candid, and in effect not unjust. Thucydides, whose biography it would be impossible to write with amplitude and certainty, is to be judged as an historian or not at all, and the first question raised is, whether he was acquainted with the researches of Herodotus? The negative has been asserted in Germany; but Colonel Mure traces clearly a connexion between the works of the authors, and produces a number of parallel passages almost identical in form and purport. The evidence is so overwhelming that we consider the point to have been now set at rest. The question between Thucydides and Cleon is not quite so satisfactorily sifted, yet here also the proof is singularly strong, and the historian is vindicated against the demagogue. But with reference to his knowledge of Herodotus, the scepticism of Dahlmann and Müller is almost unintelligible; the men were contemporaries, citizens of one commonwealth, educated under the same system, wrote on kindred topics; the one practically took up many episodes that were left uncompleted by the other. It may be strange that Thucydides does not name Herodotus, but it would have been marvellous had he not heard of his labours or his existence. We are glad to find Colonel Mure, when comparing the two writers, passing through a personal argument without a display of violence or partiality. It is so customary to meet with libels and flatteries among the modern partisans of Athens and Sparta, that it is a positive relief to meet with a critic not depraved by Mitford's method, and who can deal with a philosopher or a rhetorician of the Periclean age without distilling into his statement the essence of a Pindaric or the venom of a lampoon. Colonel Mure renders full justice to the unbiased honesty of Thucydides, pointing at the same time to his defects of style and plan. It cannot fairly be imputed to him as a fault, however, that he seldom touches on the progress of the liberal and beautiful arts in his country. He describes himself as the narrator of a war, and if he does not mention Sophocles or Socrates, Phidias or Gorgias, it is because they were not actors in the Peloponnesian war. It was no

part of his duty to record that contemporaneously with the crimes enacted at Melos and Mitylene, the humane maxims of Sophocles inspired public applause, and the sorrows of Hecuba drew public tears at Athens. The historian who described the twenty-seven years' contention of the Hellenic States, from its remote origin almost to its close, had a special task to perform, and assigned to his work a special name. After a close, and, upon the whole, satisfactory criticism of the style employed by Thucydides, Colonel Mure passes to Xenophon.

With Xenophon he has even less sympathy than with Thucydides; he considers him to have been an egotist of a mediocre quality, without powerful virtues or vices, wanting in truthfulness as a man and in patriotism as a citizen. His partiality is excessive, unscrupulous, and transparent; he falsifies events, suppresses the actions of those he dislikes or envies, dilates upon whatever is honourable to himself, and conceals what would be creditable to his rivals. We think this criticism too severe, the more so as Xenophon's work is wanting in the proofs of design or regularity which would be necessary to convict him of literary practices so utterly dishonest. We think with Colonel Mure that an account of Xenophon's "Memorabilia" was not the proper place in which to introduce a survey of the life and character of Socrates; but it must be said that he escapes from the law he has laid down, and anticipates the evidence by a verdict indirectly pronounced. At the same time we note a deficiency of critical application which, when Colonel Mure dismisses the "Memorabilia," will leave the student in doubt as to the writer's estimate of their historical value.

It is not on convivial occasions alone, that Socrates is introduced by Xenophon, abetting immorality. Among the didactic dialogues of the Memorabilia, is one between the philosopher and an itinerant courtesan, of the more licentious class of her profession. It having been mentioned to Socrates that this adventuress, by name Theodota, then on a visit to Athens, was very handsome, and her lodging much frequented by artists for the purpose of modelling the more striking beauties of her person, he proceeds, surrounded by his pupils, to make her acquaintance. The reader, whose impressions of his character are derived from other more ideal portraits, will naturally suppose that his object was to reclaim her from her vicious course of life. But on entering he informs her, in highly complimentary terms, that he visits her, as he was in the habit of visiting other professional persons, for the purpose, by his advice and instructions, of improving her skill and promoting her success in her calling. He accordingly, in most untranslatable offensive detail, explains his views of the best modes of turning her allurements, both of body and mind, to account in securing and maintaining her hold on her victims. At the close of the interview, Theodota, expressing her gratitude, proposes, naturally, that he would afford her opportunities, in his own person, of showing how well she had profited by his lecture. But, while admitting that she had inspired him with a desire to partake of her favours, he excused himself on the ground of having more important business on hand. All this passes in the presence of those young friends, whom his biographer describes him as habitually warning against the fascinations of vice and vicious companions. If Xenophon's report of this extraordinary interview be correct, whatever may have been the harshness of the punishment, it would be difficult to impugn the justice of the verdict, which pronounced Socrates 'a corrupter of the Athenian youth.'

The brief notices of the minor Attic historians will be particularly serviceable to the student of Grecian literature.

### THE ENGLISHMAN IN MORMONLAND.

*A Visit to Salt Lake; being a Journey across the Plains, and a Residence in the Mormon Settlement at Utah.* By William Chandless. Smith, Elder, and Co.

MR. CHANDLESS is the first Englishman who has written about Salt Lake. That circumstance confers an immediate distinction upon his book. Moreover, he is almost the first person of any country who has written about them seriously and dispassionately. He was among them for a considerable time, and there is an evident reality in all reminiscences and pictures. Those, therefore, who would understand what Mormonism is, in its actual development, can do no better than read this authentic, though light and lively volume.

We have invariably held that Mormonism is the result of a craving for material luxury, combined with a spirit of ignorant restlessness and passion for excitement among the depressed classes of society. These passions, these desires, this restlessness transported to Utah, become regulated and take a special form; but they exist at home also, and what we witness among tens of thousands of our own uneducated classes is the same yearning without the same restraint, Mormonism without its Joe, polygamy without concord, Brigham Youngism unlimited. Better, we say, be Mormons at Salt Lake than in Lancashire; for the one produces utter demoralization, the other only a peculiarly shaped society. Not that morality takes a high flight beyond the poppy-sprinkled plains, but that Mrs. Ferris, and other foolish though amusing chatterers have gratuitously maligned it, while a deluge of rant has been poured out against it in England by preachers and compilers, who know nothing whatever of its institutional order, or of its practical effects. Firstly, Salt Lake Valley is a well-chosen habitation, abounding in beautiful pastures, with fine fish in its river, a soil of excellent average fertility, and not a few facilities for agriculture, industry, and traffic; of course it is liable to droughts and floods; but the country is in a raw state as yet, and a healthy climate makes up for many deficiencies. Other territories may have been more inviting, but none more safe as an asylum, Utah being encircled by immense unpeopled tracts, more difficult to cross than the ocean. Eight years ago Utah was not; no stick or stone gave promise of a city, generally walled, and glistening with hopes of prospective splendour. About fifteen thousand persons dwell in or near the Sion of Salt Lake—Americans, English, a sprinkling of Scotch, a large proportion of Welsh, not a few Frenchmen and Danes, some Germans and Italians, one Irishman, one Jew, and one negro, among whom the polygamists, says Mr. Chandless, appear to be in a decided minority. The Mormons believe in one God eternal, self-existent and supreme, of corporeal form and substance, in a spirit world inhabited by human souls before their incarnation in the mission of Christ; and in a future state where women will belong to their first, or spiritual husbands; widows marrying appertain to their second spouses duly until death, reverting to the original contract afterwards. Of the Book and its doctrines, Mr. Chandless gives a very

sensible and unprejudiced account. Respecting the particular polygamy of the Mormons also, he puts forward some suggestive and just remarks:—

Apart from the deeper and more social deterioration polygamy must effect, it will, wherever it exists, be abused more or less for mere purposes of sensuality; nevertheless, where it is not regarded as illicit or opposed to religion, and is sanctioned by law and custom, the generality of men (I think) are scarcely more impelled by mere sensual feeling in taking a second or a third wife than others in a first marriage. Of the Mormons, thus much I can say from having mixed with them: first, the community at large—for about the few who maintain large harems I say nothing—believe the custom allowable and good. Secondly, as a matter of fact, they are not a specially sensual people; nor, from the nature of the country, as already described, could an indolent race avoid starving.

Men in Utah cannot obtain divorces except for one cause; women may obtain it upon trifling grounds, such as disagreement with other wives; but family ruptures of this kind are by no means common:—

The wretchedness of wives in Utah has been greatly exaggerated. It is true there can be no position more painful than that of a woman who has come to Salt Lake half ignorant of the existence of polygamy, and, perhaps, a Mormon only because her husband is so, when she finds him about to take another wife. Many actually do live in a continually vague fear of such an event, and, perhaps, by the favour of poverty after all escape it; those again who have been divorced, no doubt, have little love for this 'peculiar institution,' though from more external reasons. But one must look to the average, not to the exceptions.

The Mormons are not generally licentious or addicted to drinking; swearing is rare; and theft is prohibited by one of the most tremendous acts of law ever framed; that is to say, when a man has stolen three or four times, the statute-book declares that 'he may disappear,' and no one will inquire after him.

After several chapters of formal through pleasant description, Mr. Chandless gossips about his personal experience in Utah, and thus sketches the fourth wife of a happy Mormon family:—

The fourth wife was a handsome girl of seventeen; her husband's cousin, and not long married; but she was a vast favourite with all their children whom she petted immensely: perhaps she had been a playmate previously. "Give me a drink, Liddy," "Do toss me, Liddy," "Won't you mend my coat (or my frock), Liddy?" resounded through the household. They never called her "aunt," as they did the others, and as they are taught to do, upon the principle of all the wives being sisters: not but what the rest were fond enough of each other's children—almost as fond, indeed, as if they had been really aunts, and the children were quite as fond of them. The latter, indeed, when they wanted a game at play, always congregated into 'Aunt Elizabeth's' (the eldest wife's) room, for she was less particular about a 'racket' than the others, and her threatenings were long delayed in execution.

We have next a glimpse of their economy. Each wife in this household had a separate bedroom; two shared a sitting-room; but they passed from one to another and took all their meals together; the children were sweet-mannered; but there was a blot upon the polish of the Mormons:

Two or three things one may remark in all discussions with Mormons; they speak of the subject of 'plurality' before their wives without any restraint, argue the physical and mental inferiority of the female sex, and even touch on subjects too delicate, or too indelicate, to be heard without calling up a blush on the cheeks of any modest woman elsewhere. Sometimes the women would become very brusque with their husbands, and half savage with myself, the innocent cause of the argument; but a blush seldom rises in Utah: Mormons rather think it a merit to speak in very plain language of 'those things we know naturally,' and run freedom from affectation into coarseness. Whether or not this springs necessarily from polygamy (as I hardly suppose), it is a sign, and must be a cause, of moral deterioration.

This is, perhaps, the most peculiar account in Mormon manners:—

The one special point of romance here (and you must look close for it), is the relation in which married men and girls stand to each other: elsewhere, the attentions of the former to the latter pass for nothing; here a girl knows that her partner may at any moment be her lover and her suitor, though his wife is dancing in the *vis-à-vis*; and many a flirtation is buoyed up by the circumstance. Men, too, of the brighter sort, love to use their position, and carry on canvas that would capsize a monogamist craft. Second and third wives take little heed of the flirting or the wooing; but you may now and then see a woman glancing too eagerly round, and from her half-concealed jealousy and hatred, and fear predominating over the other two, you may guess, what you will be told, that the watcher is an only wife: other women, if they see her, will come and tell her she is no Mormon to look so after her husband, and laugh at her foolish expectation of keeping an entire husband to herself.

Such scenes are exceptional, for polygamy is not the most prominent characteristic of Mormon society. Without, therefore, commending the institutions of the Salt Lake, we are glad to have a report from a discreet and candid traveller; and we have no doubt that some who read it will be astonished to find nothing said about Memphian revels, the public baptism of 'unrobed ladies lily-white,' or those other horrors and wonders usually comprised in a full, true, and particular account of the Mormons.

A NEW NOVEL.

*Anne Sherwood; or, The Social Institutions of England.* 3 vols. (Bentley.)—Those who read simply for amusement may find what they seek in *Anne Sherwood*. Those who care for the opinions of an unknown writer will find them stated with prodigious emphasis and illustrated with extraordinary boldness; but let no one intent upon studying the social institutions of England be deceived by this title-page. A more artificial or repulsive picture of society has never been drawn: it seems to be the vengeance of a morbid governess; yet while it is designed to excite sympathy for the governess class, it tends to show—if such a book has any tendency at all—that they have almost better opportunities of getting on in life than any other sort of people. We suppose it is generally considered a fine thing to obtain, first, the fortune of an opulent old colonel, and then the title of a countess; but if the heroic Anne had remained at her father's vicarage, would she have had those splendid chances? It would seem to us that, if she becomes a bitter, worldly, mocking woman, the fault is her own; certainly it is altogether false to teach that a young girl must necessarily be distorted into a vitriol-breathing cynic by a few years of dependence. The story of *Anne Sherwood* is a palpable exaggeration. The two sisters are reduced

so far as to strike up a beggar's ballad in the street; but the one, ultimately planted in a curate's cottage, ripens into the sweetest fruit of earthly content and piety, while the other, engaged as teacher in a fashionable family, is insulted by the silent scorn of a white beauty with a perfect bust, and, in the end, hears of that white beauty's elopement with a young peer, and herself marries the deserted husband—but only to punish him. She has previously, however, married an ancient colonel, in his moral dotage, who dies on the wedding-day, and is laid out in his dress-boots and old-fashioned finery; ultimately, her second husband also dies, and Anne sees the repentant young peer at her feet. He goes, however, where glory waits him, at Balaklava, and might have returned at last to marry his own Anne had not some Russian gunner bowled him down. It is impossible to say more of *Anne Sherwood* than that it is an ingenious adaptation of extravagance.

NEW EDITIONS.

We have the following new editions on our table:—Mr. G. P. R. James's romantic novel, *The Woodman*, and Grattan's *Curse of the Black Lady*, with other Tales, reprinted in the Parlour Library (Hodgson); *The Lion of Flanders*, *The Miser*, and Miss Pardoe's *Home*, in the *The Amusing Library* (Lambert and Co.); Bon Gaultier's delightful *Book of Ballads*, now issued, for the fifth time, with illustrations by Leech, Doyle, and Crowquill; *Gossip*, by Mr. Henry Morley, a scholarly and pleasant volume (Chapman and Hall) of Miscellanies from *Household Words*; *Essays and Sketches*, by the late William Pitt Scargill (Hardwicke); and Mr. Hannay's *Eustace Conyers* (Chapman's two-shilling series). Messrs Chapman and Hall have issued the first volume of Lever's *Tom Burke of "Ours"*, with illustrations by Hablot K. Browne, well suited to the bold and brilliant dash of the story. To Mr. Bohn's Classical Library has been added a new literal translation of *The Metaphysics of Aristotle*, with notes, analyses, questions, and index, by the Rev. John H. Mahon, M.A., Gold Medalist in Logic and Ethics. The edition appears meritorious.

The Arts.

MADAME RISTORI.—CAMMA.

*Camma* is a mixed production, written under the influence of two contending theories—a compromise between the Alfierian tragedy and the class of drama to which *Adrienne Lecouvreur* belongs. Signor MONTANELLI was evidently uncertain whether he should adhere to or discard the unities and proprieties; whether he should imitate the grim but grand old model, or take advantage of the licence which modern stage practice allows. The result is anything but satisfactory; and, in spite of the immense talent thrown into her part by Madame RISTORI, we may safely predict that *Camma* will gradually drop out of sight, if it be not definitively condemned, so far as England is concerned. When it was last played on Monday, the applause was purely polite; and intended, it may be, partly to cheer the actress, partly, perhaps, as complimentary to the author, if we can suppose an English audience animated by good feeling so gratuitous. Both Madame RISTORI and Signor MONTANELLI left the impression of great power; but not the power to interest which their reputations promise.

The story of *Camma* is simply one of vengeance, and tends to the death of one man by poison treacherously given as satisfaction for the death of another. The heroine, who has lost her own husband by murder, marries the assassin in order to share the bridal cup made poisonous by her own hands with him; and both perish, one despairing, the other in ecstatic joy. Here was a horrible and repulsive subject, that might reasonably be chosen, however, because it could not fail to supply Madame RISTORI with opportunities to develop the peculiarities of her genius. But it was the duty of the poet to excuse the horror and diminish the repulsiveness as much as possible. When we read his tragedy it seems that he has done so. Great art is expended in raising our sympathy with *Sinato*, the husband, our hatred against *Sinoro*, the murderer. But Signor MONTANELLI has forgotten that on the stage the testimony of the eye often contradicts the testimony of the ear, and impressions struggle victoriously with allegations. This is the general reason why plays, supposed beforehand to be sure of success on the stage, so often fail miserably; and also why plays that appear, on inspection in the cabinet, to possess no dramatic qualities, meet occasionally with signal triumphs. The object of the drama is to produce a series of pictures or groups—animated and eloquent—by means of which a story is evolved. If these are clearly conceived, and the chain is not much broken by soliloquy or bustle, the laws of 'construction'—the despair of young dramatic writers, that often remains a mystery even to the oldest—are complied with. Signor MONTANELLI has not attended to these rules. He introduces interlocutors but not groups—at least in most cases—*Talèse* and *Dionara*, *Gildo* and *Talèse*, and so forth—who narrate incidents and describe the passions and adventures of absent people. When *Camma* comes upon the stage, there is certainly more life and motion. But no one can have failed to remark that, at any rate, her early outbursts of passion and feeling seemed the product rather of some galvanic process than of any natural occurrence. Even the select portion of the audience familiar with the language were unprepared for them. They were not accounted for—so far as the stage was concerned. The fact is, *Camma* ought to have begun, in the good old MASSINGER style, with a grand departure of *Sinato*—a HECTOR and ANDROMACHE parting—a murder on the stage amidst darkness and terror. The despair of *Camma* would then have been, if we may so speak, optically understood and relished; and the audience might have sympathized with her in her projects of vengeance. Signor MONTANELLI was evidently led astray from this simple idea by the absorbing reflection that he had but one great artist to provide for—that he was not expected to give any interesting part to one of the male actors of the company. What is the result? When *Talèse* comes in to tell *Camma* that her husband has been murdered, he communicates in an aside to a rather troublesome fellow called *Gildo* the fact that *Dionara* has been left by him—

La sul cammin dei mirti tramortata;

and then very lengthily communicates his sad intelligence. Madame RISTORI here plays grief, despair, and desire of vengeance magnificently, but does not quite efface the strange impression of an effect without a cause. She does not exactly take *Talèse's* word for it, and the image of *Sinato's* treacherous murderer

is not sufficiently present; so that we are scarcely prepared to conspire with *Camma* to poison him. At last *Sinoro* enters, with an unfortunate winged helmet and red cloak, afterwards exchanged for rich robes and an absolutely comic head of red hair. From that moment we find it impossible to hate him with proper energy. *Ristori* in vain trembles, raves, and expresses with that wonderful power of pantomime and physiognomical play which is peculiar to her, all the gradations of her passion. The idea of exaggeration is ever powerfully present. Indeed, the actress has an intuitive perception that this is the case, and gives a slightly maniacal interpretation to some of the passages. We follow her with interest; but *Sinoro* never rises to a greater tragic height than *Bucklaw* slain in the chamber of *Lucy Ashton*. His admission of crime—even the horrid detail of tearing out the heart of his victim—which comes as an episode in his passionate declaration of love, is, dramatically speaking, insufficient to constitute him a villain. Signor GLECK, whom it is the fashion to speak of disdainfully with Signor BOCOMINI and the rest, but who plays with an energy and a taste that almost make us forget his ludicrous costume—terminating, by the way, for some mysterious reason, in Phrygian breeches, and, we think, yellow leather boots—Signor GLECK, we say, in vain struggles to deserve the summary chastisement preparing for him. We rather pity him as we see him with so much simplicity falling into the toils of a mad woman. The opportunity occurs of justifying *Camma* in accordance with the laws of the stage. Oh! for MARLOWE, artificer of horror, to have taken advantage of it! *Tulose*, the bard, friend of the murdered *Sinato*, beards the new tetrarch, endeavours to thwart his hopes, and in every way shows a contempt for his power. He is only mildly threatened with imprisonment, and allowed to stay and see the wedding; whereas a cruel death, that might have aroused the passions of the audience, should at once have been inflicted on him. Then, indeed, should we have been prepared to behold *Camma*, under the excitement of the new crime perpetrated before her own eyes, lure the monster who had made her a widow to his fall. As it is, nothing but the overwhelming grace of the great actress prevents our sympathies departing from the Druidess, and we cannot help feeling that *Sinoro* is illused. It is with some remorse we see him borne off the stage—a remorse, it is true, forgotten in the splendid death-scene that follows; but that recurs when we look back over the whole story. We scarcely remember to have seen a play that was dramatically so unsatisfactory. It is, moreover, remote from an English audience by its scene, its date, its characters, the ideas referred to—its whole moral atmosphere. Signor MONTANELLI seems to have been influenced to take up some Druidical notions that have acquired an arbitrary value in his eyes. Here and there are transparent allusions to the condition of Italy under the Austrians; but we should not like to suppose that *Camma* is the model proposed for the enslaved. However, speaking from a literary point of view, *Camma* is possessed of true merit. There may be too many figures drawn from physical nature, but the style is warm and flowing—altogether eloquent in fact. In mere diction, perhaps, Signor MONTANELLI is too finicking. He writes *destriere*, which Madame RISTORI, fond of popular words, changes to *corriere*; and, instead of *uomo*, squeamishly in most Italian phrase has *cavaliere*, which, with great simplicity, Mr. THOMAS WILLIAMS translates 'knight.' Yet *Camma*, we repeat, is a remarkable production, considering that it was composed with the not very legitimate object of enabling one actress to display her peculiar powers. This is rather a humiliation for literature. A dramatist must take the company he writes for into account; but his first duty is not to give any particular actor an opportunity of showing off. Indeed, by so doing, he encourages the fatal facility with which actors degenerate into mannerism. Variety of effect is in reality only possible with variety of character. An actor's first, and indeed only, business is to interpret.

## FAZIO.

"ONLY the other day (wrote M. PHILARETE CHASLES in reference to M. FRÉDÉRIC SOULIÉ's drama *Clotilde*) our modern Parisians had no idea that the prose drama being represented before them in French dresses of the day, had its origin in a novel by LASCA, dramatized in the sixteenth century by an Englishman, and worked up again in the nineteenth century by MILMAN under the title of *Fazio*." The English audiences, who were moved to tears by Miss O'NEILL in 1818, who were shaken with terror and emotion by Miss CUSHMAN when she first appeared as *Bianca* in London some years ago, who were struck with awe and pity and admiration by Miss GLYNN'S *Bianca* in 1853, and who now in this present summer are startled into unconventional manifestations of sympathy and compassion by the tragic grandeur and almost ideal beauty of Madame RISTORI'S impersonation—the English audiences, we say, and perhaps we may add the English critics, are quite as much disposed to give Dean MILMAN full credit for the tragedy which we believe he wrote at college, as the French audiences to accept FRÉDÉRIC SOULIÉ'S *Clotilde* for an original drama. An Italian proverb assures us that a tragic work by a priest is rarely good and complete. It would be ungenerous to apply this proverb to Dr. MILMAN'S composition, the imperfections of which belong rather to unripeness and to that propensity to rhetorical redundancy which is commonly found in young dramatic writers who have steeped their pens in Elizabethan ink. It cannot be said that *Giraldi Fazio* is an interesting hero. In the first scene only he engages our interest and sympathy for a moment, as the poor alchemist, rich 'in the wealth of love.' Even here, however, there is a feeble flirting fickleness about the fellow which makes us half angry with his wife for loving such a trifle, and from the moment when he is rescued from his studious poverty by the cheap and easy process of larceny not quite 'petty,' he becomes simply contemptible. As a lover he forsakes the noblest of women for a heartless courtesan, the plaything of his own idle vanity as much as of *Aldabella*'s viperous fascinations. In the last scenes, indeed, after his condemnation to death, he is almost a new man. He has gleams of courage, dignity, and nobleness, which transform the vain, larcenous, fickle *Fazio* of the earlier scenes into a hero worthy of *Bianca*'s love, and not unworthy of her jealous hate; but throughout the tragedy it is to *Bianca* that the supremacy of the scene belongs. And most nobly does Madame RISTORI assert this supremacy, not only in the strong situations of the drama, but in those delicate and subtle transitions, those *subsidences* of emotion which distinguish the true artist from the conventional dauber.

In the course of the tragedy, Madame RISTORI traverses the whole scale of passion—love, hate, tenderness, jealousy, pity, terror, revenge, remorse, rapture, desolation—every chord is touched with the instinct and the impulse of womanly sympathy and commanding genius. In her attitudes, there is at one moment an undulation and a flowing grace; in the intonations of her voice, a sweet persuasion and a caressing tenderness; at another, a flashing desperation and a fateful scorn.

Take heed: we are passionate; our milk of love

Doth turn to wormwood, and that's bitter drinking.

What infinite sweetness in her tone, when, after she has brought the tremen-

dous charge against her husband, she learns that the disastrous gold is confiscated to the State!

Ebbene  
Vivrem poveri ancora, e ti perdono.  
Poveri, ma felici, e i nostri giorni  
Scovveran come pria rapidi e lieti.

When *Fazio* is torn from her—

Oh! non, ancor l'arresta

No tu non dei morir!—

she makes herself a shield between him and death. When *Fazio* is gone, and the solitary prison cell and couch of straw are empty, how the utter loneliness creeps over her sense and spirit! Madame RISTORI does not represent the desolation and the death of the heart in conventional starts and sobs, but by that instinct which is the soul of the highest art, she lets you see the agony, torturing, convulsing, laying waste and blank the worn wan face, and sweeping pallid brow, and trembling mouth, like a wind-harp.

Saran confuse nell'estremo amplesso.

Le nostre vite . . . ed io libera forse

Prima di te . . .

We sometimes hear it said that Madame RISTORI'S propensity to the sculptural gives a certain formalism and sameness to her various impersonations, and that many of her attitudes in *Bianca* are familiar to those who have seen her *Medea*. There is, no doubt, some ground for this criticism; but the truth remains that no living actress (we are no bigoted believers in the dead) can transfix the senses and sway the emotions of an audience like RISTORI. The great *tragédienne* was, on this occasion, better supported than usual by the rest of the company. Signor BELLOTTI-BON, an experienced actor of some standing in Italy, performed the single scene in which *Bartoldo* the Miser appears, with sufficient ability to confirm his continental reputation. Signor VITALIANI is, if not entirely satisfactory, at least a more than tolerable *Fazio*, and Madlle. FERRONI, too cold, perhaps, and not quite distinguished enough for a Florentine Marchesa of the fifteenth century, is not an unattractive *Aldabella*, save that there is too much of the dove and too little of the snake in her composition. *Fazio* will certainly be the success of the present season of Madame RISTORI'S performances in London.

## HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

SIGNOR BELART, a Spanish light tenor, with a sweet, flexible, and elegant voice, not ill-trained nor ill-managed, made his first appearance at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, on Tuesday evening, in the *Sonnambula*, and obtained a positive success by the marked feeling and intelligence with which he sang and acted in the part of *Elvino*. Signor BELART is a real acquisition to the company. Madame ALBONI was the *Rosina*—and if not precisely *Rosina*, she was entirely ALBONI; and what more can be said to justify the delight and admiration of the audience? She sang *Ah! non giunge* as no one else can sing it in the world.

## RUBINSTEIN.

AT the MUSICAL UNION on Tuesday last, the great Russian pianist played for the last time this season in England, but we have little doubt he will be disposed to return to a country in which the most competent authorities are his warmest admirers. RUBINSTEIN (we do not know whether we ought to call him Monsieur or Herr) is by birth a Russian, but as a musician he is essentially German, and at the first glimpse of his head you are sure to exclaim "How like Beethoven!" for it is almost a fac-simile on a reduced scale of that harmonious Titan. A terrible responsibility is such a likeness, but in this instance it is not unworthily sustained. No pianist since LISZT has achieved at so early an age (RUBINSTEIN is not more than thirty) so exceptional a reputation. At a bound he has placed himself in the foremost rank of the musical art. As a composer, we are not able to discuss his merits, but according to the opinion of those whose opinion is sincere and decisive, the works he has already written indicate profound study and singularly ripe accomplishment, rather than the inventive and creative faculty; a mastery of the secrets of the science rather than the possession of those gifts, which no amount of study can bestow, and for which no degree of learning is a substitute. But as an executant, we may honestly and emphatically pronounce RUBINSTEIN the greatest living pianist. LISZT does not excel him in brilliancy, perhaps does not equal him in the perfect union of profound feeling and amazing force, of easy strength and unaffected grace which, in all he touches, marks the hand of RUBINSTEIN. And to all his gifts and powers is added the supreme charm of that unfeigned simplicity which separates true genius from the counterfeit.

## MR. AND MRS. WEBB'S ENTERTAINMENT.

AT the Dudley Gallery, EGYPTIAN HALL, on Wednesday afternoon last, Mr. and Mrs. WEBB appeared under high patronage, and with considerable success, in the entertainment which we noticed some weeks since, when it was privately performed at Camden House, Kensington.

## THEATRICAL NOTES.

Mr. BUCKSTONE announces his annual benefit at the HAYMARKET THEATRE on Wednesday, July 8th, the 1124th night of the season! Mr. BUCKSTONE is too old a favourite with the public, and deserves too well of his country, to require any special attraction for his benefit, but, with characteristic liberality and enterprise, he announces for this occasion the production of a new and original three-act comedy by Mr. TOM TAYLOR, and a new farce. Both pieces bear promising names. *Victims*, the title of the comedy, suggests a predominance of serious and sentimental (probably of feminine) interest. *The First and Second Floor* seems to imply any amount of purely Buckstonean surprises and catastrophes. We wish the worthy manager who has done so much to cheer the public heart a merry-bumper on the 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES KEAN had their benefit at the PRINCESS'S on Monday night, when *Richard II.* was performed. That gorgeous revival will be acted for the last time next Monday; and on Wednesday *The Tempest* will be produced. A night rehearsal of this piece takes place on Tuesday—the theatre being of course closed to the public.

Mr. and Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS again returned to the ADELPHI on Monday night for a brief engagement. They merely played in their stock pieces.

**SIR CHARLES BARRY AND THE NEW PALACE OF WESTMINSTER.**—Copies of further correspondence between the Office of Works and Sir Charles Barry, &c., respecting his remuneration as architect of the New Palace at Westminster up to the present date, have been printed by order of Parliament, on the motion of Mr. Drummond, M.P. The papers refer to the old dispute between Sir Benjamin Hall and the Government, and include a 'protest' made by him last February, to the effect that, as no bargain was made by the Government with Sir Charles Barry in 1839, he is consequently entitled to the usual commission of five per cent. on the outlay. Mr. Henry A. Hunt, a surveyor of works and buildings (to whom the protest appears to have been referred), states his opinion to the effect that Sir Charles Barry has placed his case upon a wrong issue in treating it as a commercial question, and that, how inadequate soever Sir Charles may have thought the remuneration offered him by Government in 1839, he nevertheless agreed to bow to the decision, and to that agreement he should have adhered. The Treasury did not deem it necessary to reply to Sir Charles Barry's protest, as they considered the question as finally settled by their 'minute' of the 4th of July, 1856, to which Sir Charles Barry assented; and thus the matter is to drop.—*Times.*

**SCARCITY OF COTTON.**—A large public meeting of the Cotton Supply Association was held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Friday week, to consider the present inadequate supply of cotton, and the best means of extending its growth. Mr. J. Watts, Mayor of Manchester, presided, and there were present Lord Stanley, M.P.; Colonel W. Patten, M.P.; Mr. W. H. Hornby, M.P.; Mr. Kershaw, M.P.; Sir A. Ramsay, M.P.; Mr. James Platt, M.P., &c. Mr. J. A. Turner, M.P., moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the supply of cotton to this country is inadequate to the requirements of manufacturing industry, and, being almost entirely derived from one source, is uncertain in quantity and unduly fluctuating in price. That this meeting believes the colonial and other dependencies of Great Britain afford ample resources for the cultivation and development of the cotton plant, and that it is the duty as well as the interest of the British nation to aid in the promotion of those efforts by means of which its growth may be extended not only in the British dominions, but in all accessible countries." Several speakers having addressed the meeting (amongst them Lord Stanley, who remarked on the injudiciousness of our depending entirely on the United States for our supply of cotton), Mr. E. W. Watkins, M.P. for Yarmouth, moved the second resolution:—"That this meeting hails with satisfaction the formation of the Cotton Supply Association in Manchester, and pledges itself to use its best endeavours to promote the objects of that association, and that the petition to the House of Commons now read in support of the petition of Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., upon the affairs of India, so far as that motion has reference to an increase in the supply of cotton from that country, be adopted by this meeting." The petition recited the importance of the cotton manufacture, and stated that it amounted last year to more than 88,000,000 lb.; that the raw material last year was 900,000,000 lb., of which 700,000,000 lb. were received from the United States; and that the Legislature abolished slavery without providing for a supply of free labour. It concluded with a prayer for the removal of obstacles to a better supply of cotton from India. Mr. James Platt, M.P., seconded, and Sir A. Ramsay supported this resolution, which was agreed to.

**MEMORIAL TO LORD CLIVE.**—A meeting was held on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's-street, to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the battle of Plassey, and for the purpose of erecting a memorial of the great Lord Clive. Lord Hill took the chair, and was supported by the Duke of Cleveland, Earl Stanhope, Viscount Dungannon, Viscount Newport, Sir James Hogg, Archdeacon Allen, the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, &c. It was resolved to appoint a committee to promote subscriptions.

**THE LATE STORM.**—During the storm which prevailed on the night of Friday week, about thirty feet in length of the wall recently erected to enclose the extension of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, fell with a tremendous crash into the Plumstead-road, the foundations having given way.

**THE WOOLWICH ARTISANS.**—A large batch of emigrants, composed of artisans formerly employed at Woolwich, and thrown out of work by the termination of the war, sailed on Friday week, with their families from Liverpool for Quebec, in the ship Henry Cooke, which had been chartered for the purpose by the agent in Liverpool for the committee conducting the emigration. The total number of emigrants was two hundred and seventy-six, all of whom are provided with railway tickets, which will enable them to travel to Toronto, where work will be provided for them.

Mr. PALMER, M.P. for Bucks, is now convalescent. ARCHBISHOP M'HALE has arrived in town in pursuance of the warrant from the speaker, directing his attendance before the Mayo committee. He is staying at the residence of Cardinal Wiseman, and is accompanied by a large body of Tuam priests, who are also to give evidence.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

**BIRTHS.**  
**ADDINGTON.**—On the 22nd inst., at Crondall, Farnham, prematurely, the wife of Captain the Hon. L. Addington: a daughter.  
**UNWIN.**—On Monday, the 22nd inst., at Hurstpierpoint, the wife of E. W. Unwin, Esq.: a daughter.  
**MARRIAGES.**  
**BRUTON.**—ANDREW.—On the 20th inst., at the Church of St. Nicholas, Brighton, Stephen, fourth son of the late Mr. Bruton, of Colston-terrace, Bristol, to Frances, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Andrew, of Brighton.  
**GANTILLON.**—BUCKLE.—On the 20th inst., at St. Paul's, Cambridge, the Rev. P. J. F. Gantillon, M.A., Second Master in the Collegiate School, Leicester, to Elizabeth, third daughter of the late R. Buckle, Esq., of Cambridge.

**DEATHS.**  
**FITZROY.**—On the 23rd inst., aged 86, the Lady Charlotte FitzRoy, second daughter of Augustus Henry, third Duke of Grafton.  
**CUTLER.**—On the 20th of April, 1857, at Port Louis, Mauritius, Hiram, son of Hiram Cutler, Esq., Sheffield, England.  
**SEYMOUR.**—On the 8th of May, Mrs. Margaret Seymour, in her 79th year, at her nephew's, Mr. William Jeffery's, Old Wardour, Wilts.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

*Tuesday, June 23.*  
**BANKRUPTS.**—THOMAS THOMPSON PONSONBY, 42, Piccadilly, carver and gilder—ENOCH HUGHES and WILLIAM ADAMS, Princes-end, Sedgley, Staffordshire, ironfounders and hurdle manufacturers—EDWARD BANNISTER, Woodsetton, Sedgley, Staffordshire, maltster—WILLIAM LINDOP, New-road, Talk-o'-th'-Hill, Staffordshire, miller and grocer—WILLIAM PALMER, Nottingham, lace manufacturer—EDWARD STRANGE, Swindon, Wilts, draper—AUGUSTUS SALTER, Swansea, Glamorganshire, grocer and provision dealer—JOSEPH EDWARD BLECH, Liverpool, merchant—WILLIAM HENRY BROWN, Sheffield, steel roller and merchant—WILLIAM MORRIS, Liverpool, grocer and provision dealer.  
**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—D. SWAN, 50, Cowcaddens-street, Glasgow, confectioner—H. SMETHURST, Glasgow, hat manufacturer—C. H. HAIGH, Glasgow, manufacturing chemist.

*Friday, June 26.*  
**BANKRUPTS.**—THOMAS HAWKES, Dudley, Worcester-shire, glass manufacturer—JOSEPH SELE, Stanhope-street, Clare-market, builder—WILLIAM HENRY FLUX, Heston, Middlesex, grocer—FREDERICK HOLLOCK, Campbell-road, Bow, manufacturing chemist—GEORGE ARCHER SMITH, Chapel-street, Bedford-row, brick maker—RICHARD SMITH, Salehurst, Sussex, butcher—JOHN BARTON, Manchester, silk manufacturer—GEORGE HENRY MARTIN, Cow Cross, Middlesex—DAVID ARTHUR SINGER, Oxford-street—WILLIAM DOWNES, Great Dover-street, Newington, smith—GEORGE ARCHER, Colchester, seed merchant—LEAH ISAACS, Piccadilly, trading as PICARD and Co., tobacconist—CHARLES THOMAS MOON, Regent-street, St. James's, bookseller—MORRIS MOSS, Somers-place, New-road, coach-broker—JAMES COOK, late of Queen-street, Cheapside, now of Peckham, boarding-house keeper—RICHARD ROWLINGS, Liverpool, shipowner—GRANVILLE SCOTT WALTON, Wolverhampton, ironmonger—WM. AUDLEY, Newcastle-under-Lyme, auctioneer.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday-Evening, June 26, 1857.  
 THE Funds have failed to exhibit any feature of animation during the week, remaining for the most part at 93½, ¼ x. d. Heavy shares, also, have shown but little, if any, variation in price until this day, when, although Consols opened and closed at 93½, ¼, some ruled at improved prices. Money, although somewhat easier in demand, continues active, and in the event of the next quotations of Eastern exchanges not proving adverse, a further reduction in the rate of interest may be looked for. The directors of the Bank of France yesterday lowered their rate of discount ¼ per cent., making the rate 5½ per cent., in face of the reduction in their stock of bullion—a measure which has failed to produce any favourable impression on French prices.

Blackburn, 7½, 8½; Caledonian, 7½, 7½; Chester and Holyhead, 36, 37; Eastern Counties, 11½, 11½; Great Northern, 90, 100; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104, 106; Great Western, 64½, 65½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 100½, 101; London and Blackwall, 6½, 6½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 112, 114; London and North-Western, 103½, 104½; London and South-Western, 101½, 102½; Midland, 83½, 84½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 92½, 93½; South-Eastern (Dover), 75, 76; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½, 7; Dutch Rhenish, 3, 2½ dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 28½, 29½; Great Central of France, 24½, 25; Great Luxembourg, 6½, 6½; Northern of France, 38½, 39; Paris and Lyons, 50, 50½; Royal Danish, 16, 18; Royal Swedish, 4, 1; Sambre and Meuse, 8, 8½.

**REPORT OF THE SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.**—At the annual meeting held on the 28th of May last, at the head office in Glasgow, the report showed the following results:—Policies issued in 1856, 1156; Sums assured in 1856, 404,676 l.; Capital sums assured, 3,000,000 l.; Accumulated Fund, 645,000 l.; Annual Income, 117,000 l. Minimum rates of this society:—20 years, 1 l. 8s. 6d.; 30 years, 1 l. 10s. 7d.; 40 years, 2 l. 9s. 7d.; 50 years, 3 l. 10s. 9d.; 60 years, 5 l. 7s. 2d.—Spens William Spens, Manager. J. E. O. Koch, Resident Secretary in London. London Offices, 1, Threadneedle-street, E. C.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, June 26th, 1857.  
 THE supplies of Wheat and Oats continue very moderate, and only 380 qrs. of Barley are reported. The fine weather renders the Corn trade exceedingly inanimate, without, however, causing a reduction in the value of any article. Very few cargoes have arrived off the coast for orders. Sales of Odessa Malze are reported at 84s. 6d., cost, freight and insurance for July and August shipment, and of Odessa Oats on passage at 21s. 6d., 22s., 22s. 6d., and 22s. 9d., and of a cargo of Smyrna Barley arrived at 28s. 6d. cost, freight and insurance.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	213	212½	212½	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.....	93	92½	92½	93	93	93
3 per Cent. Con. An.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Consols for Account	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
New 3 per Cent. An.....	92½	92½	92½	92½	93	92½
New 2½ per Cents.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000	7 d	7 d	.....	7 d	4 d	4 d
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	3 d	par	par	4 d	3 d	4 d
Ditto, £500.....	3 d	1 p	1 d	2 p	par	8 d
Ditto, Small.....	3 p	1 p	.....	2 p	3 d	4 d

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	.....	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ...	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents. 87	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	110
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	102½	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	99
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	.....	Spanish.....	26½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	65½	Spanish Committee Cert. of Coup. not fun.....	6½
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf. 97½	.....	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	96½
Ecuador Bonds.....	14	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	102
Mexican Account.....	22½	Venezuela 4½ per Cents..	35
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	78½	.....	.....
Portuguese 3 per Cents. 46½	.....	.....	.....

FRENCH PLAYS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—LES BOUFFES PARISIENS.

**LAST WEEK OF THE SEASON.**  
 Monday, June 29th, and Tuesday, June 30th, the entertainments will commence at half-past eight o'clock precisely, by the Performance of Opéra-Bouffe, en un Acte, L'IMPRESARIO, Paroles de MM. Léon Battu et Ludovic Halévy. Musique de Mozart. Rossignolo, M. Caillat; Lelio, M. Charles Petit; Silvia, Madlle. Dalmont; Zerline, Madlle. Macé. After which will be produced, Opérette, en un Acte, PÉPITO, Paroles de Léon Battu. Musique de Offenbach. Vertigo, M. Pradeau; Miguel, M. Charles Petit; Manuelita, Madlle. Mareschal. To conclude with the new Opérette-Militaire, en un Acte, DRAGONETTE, Paroles de MM. Jaime et Mestepes. Musique de Offenbach. Le Sergent Lambert, M. Guyot; Tytine, M. Tayau; La Mère Schabraque, (Cantinière), M. Leonce; Dragonette, Madlle. Corally Guffroy.  
 In order to ensure the best possible effect to their performances, the Orchestra attached to the Establishment in Paris has been brought over by the Director of the Company, Monsieur OFFENBACH, who will occasionally conduct the Performances.  
 Leader of the Band.....M. JULES OFFENBACH.  
 Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Public Boxes, 5s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 2s. Private Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets, may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM

is now Open to the Public daily from Ten till Four, and on Monday and Thursday evenings from Seven to Ten. Admission on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, free; on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 6d. each person. By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

**MADLE. ROSA BONHEUR'S GREAT PICTURE OF THE HORSE FAIR.**—Messrs. P. and D. COLNAGHI and Co. beg to announce that the above Picture is now on View at the GEEHAN GALLERY, 168, New Bond-street, from 9 to 6, for a limited period.—Admission, 1s.

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.—Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.  
 JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.—THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF Pictures by Modern Artists of the FRENCH SCHOOL, is Now Open to the Public at the FRENCH GALLERY, 121, PALL MALL, opposite the Opera Colonnade. Admission, One Shilling; Catalogues, Sixpence each. Open from NINE to SIX Daily.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL,

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

Its leading distinctive characteristics are: COMPLETE PRESERVATION OF ACTIVE AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES. INVARIABLE PURITY AND UNIFORM STRENGTH. ENTIRE FREEDOM FROM NAUSEOUS FLAVOUR AND AFTER-TASTE. RAPID CURATIVE EFFECTS, AND CONSEQUENT ECONOMY.

**OPINION OF CHARLES COWAN, Esq., M.D., L.R.C.S.F., Senior Physician to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Consulting Physician to the Reading Dispensary, Translator of "Louis on Phthisis," &c.**  
 "Dr. Cowan is glad to find that the Profession has some reasonable guarantee for a genuine article. The material now sold varies in almost every establishment where it is purchased, and a tendency to prefer a colourless and tasteless Oil, if not counteracted, will ultimately jeopardise the reputation of an unquestionably valuable addition to the Materia Medica. Dr. DE JONGH every success in his meritorious undertaking."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; capsuled and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by many respectable Chemists throughout the United Kingdom.  
 WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPOT, ANSAR, HARFORD, & CO., 77, STRAN U, LONDON, W. C., DR. DE JONGH'S SOLE BRITISH CONSIGNERS, By whom the Oil is daily forwarded to all parts of the Metropolis.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. IL DON GIOVANNI.

Piccolomini, Spezia, Ortolani, Alboni, Belart, Belletti, Beneventano, Corsi, Violetti, and Giuglini. Monday Evening, June 29th, IL DON GIOVANNI, to be preceded by the Last Act of LA SONNAMBULA.

Tuesday, June 30th, IL TROVATORE. Thursday, July 2nd, (an Extra Night), LA TRAVIATA and a Ballet Divertissement, in which Madlle. Boschetti and Madame Perea Nena will appear.

Wednesday, July 8th, Mr. Benedict's last Grand Concert. Prices for the Morning Performance as follows:—Boxes, Pit and One Pair, 4l. 4s.; Grand Tier, 5l. 5s.; Second Tier, 3l. 3s.; Half-Circle, 1l. 11s. 6d.; Pit, 8s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 1l. 1s.; Gallery Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 3s. To be had at the Box-office at the Theatre.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. Madlle. PICCOLOMINI

Has the honour to inform the Nobility, Subscribers, and the Public, that her BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY EVENING, July 6th.

The Entertainments will comprise the Second Act of LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO.

Maria, Madlle. Piccolomini. La Marchesa, Madlle. Poma. Tonio, Signor Belart. Sergente Sulpizio, Signor Belletti.

After which the Last Act of IL TROVATORE. Leonora, Madlle. Spezia. Azucena, Madame Alboni. Il Conte di Luna, Signor Beneventano. Ferrando, Signor Violetti. Manrico, Signor Giuglini.

To be followed by the Last Act of Verdi's Opera, LA TRAVIATA. Violetta, Madlle. Piccolomini. Germont Georgio, Signor Beneventano. Alfredo, Signor Giuglini.

After which, for the first time, the Last Act of Donizetti's Opera, I MARTIRI, including the grand duo, "Il suon dell' Arpe Angeliche."

Pauline, Madlle. Piccolomini. Polinto, Signor Giuglini.

with various Entertainments in the BALLET DEPARTMENT, embracing the talents of MADAME ROSATI, MADLLE. BOSCHETTI, MADLLE. KATRINE, MESDLES. PASQUALE, MORLACCHI, AND MADAME PEREA NENA.

Applications for Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets, to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALBERT WIGAN. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, will be revived, Murphy's Comedy of ALL IN THE WRONG.

Compressed into Three Acts. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, Addison, G. Vining, G. Cooke, and G. Murray; Mrs. Stirling, Misses Swanborough, Marston, Bromley, Stephens, and Cotterell.

To conclude with the Drama, entitled DADDY HARDACRE. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Vining, G. Cooke, and Leslie; Mesdames Stephens and Hughes.

To conclude, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, with the new Burlesque Extravaganza, entitled MASNIELLO.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, Danvers, Cooper, White, Coney; Misses Swanborough, Thirlwell, Hughes, Maskell, Marston, Stevens, Mrs. Melfort, Bromley, Cotterell. Commence at Half-past Seven.

TEETH.—Messrs. GABRIEL supply COMPLETE SETS, without Springs, on the principle of capillary attraction, avoiding the necessity of extracting stumps or causing any pain.

SILICIOUS ENAMELLED AMERICAN MINEERAL TEETH, the best in Europe—guaranteed to answer every purpose of mastication or articulation—from 3s. 6d. per Tooth.

Sets, 4l. 4s.—Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent have been awarded for the production of a perfectly WHITE ENAMEL, for decayed FRONT TEETH, which can only be obtained at Messrs. Gabriel's Establishments.

33, LUDGATE HILL, two doors from the Old Bailey; and at 112, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL. Consultation and every information gratis.

TEETH.—Much has been said and written about new inventions in artificial teeth, but hitherto no method for fixing them has been found to answer the purpose of preserving and consolidating the loose teeth and roots remaining. Up to this time to have had a tooth or a set of teeth replaced, springs or wires, on a painful operation, has been considered necessary.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.

A wide-spread popularity, most deservedly testified to the excellence of these remedies.—Emma Stephens, wife of Samuel Stephens, bootmaker, of 20, New-street, Fulgate-street, Whitechapel, thus writes to Professor Holloway:—"I was for a very long time afflicted with scorbatic, and scabby eruptions over my face, chest, and legs; medical men failed to relieve me, when at last, by the aid of your Ointment and Pills, I was marvellously cured, and feel much pleasure in calling the attention of the public to their virtues."

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

TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN. DENMAN'S SOUTH AFRICAN PORT.

DENMAN'S SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY. "Pure and Cheap Wines are introduced by Mr. J. L. DENMAN. Those who have lived in South Africa know well the quality of these wines, and those who do not we recommend to try them."—Vide United Service Gazette, Nov. 22, 1856.

A Pint Sample Bottle of each for twenty-four stamps. Bottles included. Packages allowed for when returned. EXCELSIOR BRANDY, Pale or brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen. Terms—Cash.

Country Orders must contain a remittance. Cheques to be crossed "Bank of London." J. L. DENMAN, Wine and Spirit Importer, 65, Fenchurch-street (Counting-house entrance, first door on the left up Railway-place), London.

GOODRICH'S SISAL CIGARS!

at his Tobacco, Snuff, and Cigar Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Box, containing 14, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 109, 12s. 6d. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

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Manufactured by J. SCHWEPPE and Co., the sole lessees, from the Pure Water of the Holy Well, possesses all the celebrated properties of the Nassau Spring. SCHWEPPE'S SODA, MAGNESIA, POTASS WATERS AND LEMONADE are manufactured as usual. Every Bottle is protected by a Label with their signature.

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GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY, And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED. Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

MAJOR'S IMPROVEMENTS in VETERINARY SCIENCE.

"If progress is daily made in Medical Science by those whose duty it is to study the diseases to which the human flesh is heir, it would seem that improvements in Veterinary art quite keep pace with it, as is manifest on a visit to the well-known Horse Infirmary of Mr. Major, in Cockspur-street. Here incipient and chronic lameness is discovered and cured with a facility truly astonishing, while the efficacy of the remedies, and the quickness of their action, appear to have revolutionised the whole system of firing and blistering. Among the most recent proofs of the cure of spavins by Mr. Major, we may mention Cannobie, the winner of the Metropolitan, and second favourite for the Derby, and who is now as sound as his friends and backers could desire. And by the advertisement of Mr. Major's pamphlet in another column, we perceive that other equally miraculous cures are set forth, which place him at the head of the Veterinary art in London."—Globe, May 10, 1856.

J. W. BENSON'S WATCH, CLOCK, and CHRONOMETER MANUFACTORY.

33 and 34, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON. Established 1749.—J. W. BENSON, Manufacturer of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES of every description, construction, and pattern, invites attention to his magnificent and unprecedented display of Watches, which is admitted to be the largest and best selected Stock in London. It consists of Chronometer, Duplex, Patent, Detached Lever, Horizontal, and Vertical Movements, jewelled, &c., with all the latest improvements, mounted in superbly finished engine-turned and engraved Gold and Silver Cases. The designs engraved upon many of the cases are by eminent artists, and can only be obtained at this Manufactory. If the important requisites, superiority of finish, combined with accuracy of performance, elegance, durability, and reasonableness of price, are wished for, the intending Purchaser should visit this Manufactory, or send for the ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLET, published by J. W. BENSON (and sent post free on application), which contains sketches, prices, and directions as to what Watch to buy, where to buy it, and how to use it. Several hundred letters have been received from persons who have bought Watches at this Manufactory, bearing testimony to the correct performances of the same.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the Morning Post, Oct. 30, 1856.—"Exhibits exquisite artistic feeling in ornamentation, and perfection of mechanism in structure."—From the Morning Chronicle, Oct. 30.—"Excellence of design and perfection in workmanship."—From the Morning Advertiser, Nov. 1.—"The high repute which Mr. Benson has obtained for the qualities of his manufacture stands second to none."—From the Morning Herald, Nov. 3.—"The high standing of Mr. Benson as a London manufacturer must secure for him a large amount of public patronage."—From the Globe, Nov. 3.—"All that can be desired, in finish, taste, and design."

GOLD WATCHES, Horizontal Movements, Jewelled, &c., accurate time-keepers, 2l. 10s., 4l. 15s., 5l. 15s., to 15l. 15s. each. Gold Lever Watches, jewelled, and highly finished movements, 6l. 6s., 8l. 8s., 10l. 10s., 12l. 12s., 14l. 14s., 16l. 16s., to 40 guineas.

SILVER WATCHES, Horizontal Movements, Jewelled, &c., exact time-keepers, 2l. 2s., 2l. 15s., 3l. 10s., to 5l. 5s. each. Silver Lever Watches, highly finished, jewelled movements, 3l. 10s., 4l. 10s., 5l. 10s., 7l. 10s., 8l. 10s., 10l. 10s., to 20 guineas.

A Two Years' Warranty given with every Watch, and sent carriage paid, to Scotland, Ireland, Wales, or any part of the kingdom, upon receipt of Post-office or Banker's order, made payable to J. W. BENSON, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London.

Merchants, Shippers, and Watch Clubs supplied. Old Watches taken in Exchange.

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